Project Selection Considerations Checklist

Several key factors should be evaluated when considering thin HMA overlays and associated leveling techniques for a project.

Note that some specifications described in the following content may not be the same as the specifications followed by your agency. Always check with your State agency's standards and specifications when using these guidelines.

- **Evaluate pavement condition**

- **Evaluate the extent of cracking**
  - Raveling and weathering
  - Skid resistance and friction
  - Roughness and the International Roughness Index (IRI)
  - Presence of structural distress

- **Evaluate existing slopes**
  - Measurements
  - Visible signs (rutting, standing water)

- **Evaluate wet weather crash statistics**

- **When compared with certain surface treatments, thin HMA overlays are:**
  - Thicker than many other surface treatments
  - More flexible than slurry seals or microsurfacing
  - Less flexible than chip seals
  - More durable than all other surface treatments

- **Thin HMA overlays and overlay and leveling combinations have different effects on pavement condition**
The chart below illustrates that the incidence of road wear and tear improves when using a thin HMA overlay and milling, as compared with simply using a thin HMA overlay or a thin HMA overlay and a leveling course.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Cracking</th>
<th>Raveling/Weathering</th>
<th>Rutting/Cross Slope</th>
<th>Poor Friction</th>
<th>Roughness</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thin HMA Overlay</td>
<td>Fair</td>
<td>Good</td>
<td>Poor</td>
<td>Good</td>
<td>Fair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thin HMA Overlay and Leveling Course</td>
<td>Fair</td>
<td>Good</td>
<td>Fair</td>
<td>Good</td>
<td>Fair-Good</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thin HMA Overlay and Milling</td>
<td>Good</td>
<td>Good</td>
<td>Good</td>
<td>Good</td>
<td>Good</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>