



PVAMU RESEARCHERS HELP IMPROVE SAFETY AND SUSTAINABILITY OF TEXAS ROADWAYS THROUGH TXDOT-FUNDED STUDIES

PRAIRIE VIEW, Texas (January 29, 2026)- [Prairie View A&M University](#) researchers are helping improve the safety, durability, and sustainability of Texas roadways through two statewide [research projects](#) funded by the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT).

Led by Texas A&M University with more than \$1.2 million in combined funding, the studies focus on improving temporary road surfaces used during construction and advancing sustainable roadway maintenance practices. PVAMU serves as a co-principal investigator on both projects under the leadership of Dr. Kai-Wei Liu, lecturer in the [Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering](#), with more than \$50,000 supporting PVAMU's role.

The first study examines temporary pavements and detours used during roadway construction. These surfaces are critical for traffic flow but often deteriorate quickly, creating safety risks and added costs. Researchers are evaluating real-world construction practices to develop clearer design standards and testing methods that will help TxDOT improve roadway performance and safety statewide.

The second study focuses on roadway sustainability by testing the use of **reclaimed asphalt pavement (RAP)** in seal coats. RAP is material removed from existing roads and reused during maintenance projects. The research explores how RAP can reduce costs, extend pavement life, and support environmentally responsible practices across Texas' diverse climate conditions.

Findings from both projects will provide TxDOT with research-based guidance for roadway design, inspection, and maintenance practices used across the state.

These efforts demonstrate how PVAMU's applied research directly supports public infrastructure and benefits millions of Texas drivers.

For more on this important initiative and other key research milestones, contact **Liz Faublas-Wallace**, Communications Specialist III, at lswallace@pvamu.edu.

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PRAIRIE VIEW A&M UNIVERSITY, founded in 1876, is the second oldest public institution of higher education in the state of Texas and the third largest Historically Black College/University (HBCU) in the nation. Designated as an "institution of the first class" in the Texas Constitution, the enrollment exceeds 10,000 students and over 80,000 graduates. PVAMU offers academic programs through its ten colleges and schools, boasting degree options leading to bachelor's and doctoral-level degrees. A Carnegie-classified high-research (R2) University and a member of The Texas A&M University System, PVAMU is dedicated to fulfilling its land-grant mission of achieving excellence in teaching, research, and service. For more information, visit www.pvamu.edu.

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