



MCDOT Employee Examines  
Equipment Before Operating to  
Assure Quality

#### Company Information:

*Highest Ranking Official:*  
Michael Ellegood, P.E.  
Maricopa County Engineer,  
Director of Public Works and  
Transportation

*Contact Person:*  
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*Type of work:*  
The Maricopa County Department  
of Transportation is responsible  
for more than 2700 miles of  
roadway in the county's  
unincorporated areas – from rural  
roads to suburban streets to urban  
multi-lane roadways.

*Workforce:* +/- 450

#### Testimonial of Value of the AZ State Quality Awards Program

“MCDOT has always believed we need to go to extra lengths to provide the best quality roadways to our residents and visitors. Whether it's a program to make the roads smoother and keep them that way, or to get as much public input as possible before we make a final design for a project.

“We truly appreciate this recognition of these efforts.”

-Mike Ellegood, P.E.  
Director of Public Works and Transportation

#### Highlights of Organizational Process:

The road surface quality -- smooth ride – is the one factor that emerges above all others as the most significant in public's satisfaction with the highway system.

The key requirements for this process are:

1. Provide the public what they want, smoother pavements (defined as an IRI less than 60 in./mi.) which reduces maintenance and user costs.
2. Develop an Incentive/Disincentive program that makes this worthwhile to the Contractors by creating a smoothness specification they are willing to perform under.
3. Hold pre-construction and pre-paving meetings, to encourage best practices, achieve the highest quality final product, and receive feedback from the Contractors.
4. Provide preliminary and final IRI evaluations of the ride quality.

5. Require “pavement corrective work” when the work does not meet the minimum project specifications.
6. Collect smoothness data in a manner that is accurate, timely, and expedient with repeatable results.
7. Save dollars for the taxpayers and motorists of Maricopa County.

The performance of the Asphalt Pavement Smoothness Process overall has been outstanding. We have noticed a dramatic difference in the final results depending on the Contractor’s willingness to participate 100% within the guidelines and practice innovative asphalt-paving methods. We have recently received requests from the residents of localized areas to overlay or reconstruct a specific roadway with the smoother, quieter pavement. The Asphalt Pavement Smoothness Process has made major improvements in the quality of paving projects resulting in:

- Smoother, quieter, more enjoyable rides;
- Reduced maintenance costs;
- Reduced vehicular deterioration, and future vehicle maintenance costs;
- Fewer traffic delays, due to surface treatments;
- Smoother roads cost no more than rough roads to build; and
- Long Term Cost savings