The City of Visalia has been a longtime member and supporter of the Central Valley Chapter of the Maintenance Superintendents Association, even playing host to previous conferences. The City’s Public Works Department has taken a proactive stance towards their pavement maintenance program. Their strategy includes many different types of pavement treatments.

The City has a long history of using asphalt rejuvenators, dating back to the 1980’s. Up until 2004, that work was generally performed by city forces and using a contractor for the spray application of the asphalt treatment. With the downturn in the economy, starting in 2006, the City suffered staff reductions and downsizing of city forces. Along with these reductions, pavement preservation applications were curtailed.

In 2011, Visalia began exploring suitable Pavement Management Systems (PMS) to utilize and monitor their Pavement Condition Index (PCI). A system was put into place and was ready for applications of various surface treatment methods and applications in 2013. Generally, the PCI’s were good on much of the city residential streets, especially streets located north of highway 198. According to Norm Goldstrom, P.E., Public Works Manager, City of Visalia, the Engineering Departments intent was to extend pavement life of the city’s good roads and prolong that higher PCI. They refer to it as Right Treatment, Right Road, Right Time.

Reclameite asphalt rejuvenator was chosen to be used in their program. In 2014, a pavement project treated 1.8 million square yards. The 2015 project treated an additional 1.7 square yards of both residential and arterial streets. The goal of these projects is to maintain the high streets PCI’s and extend pavement life four to five years.

With the assistance of long time MSA member, Jim Brownridge, Tricor Refining, the city had Tricor perform field tests for product absorption and application rates. The job was to maximize absorption of the pavement rejuvenator, then allowing it to cure for a minimum of one to two hours, followed by sanding and mechanical sweeping within a 24-hour period.

Because of the hard work and cooperation between the City, Tricor and the contractors who applied the treatment, the projects have been a huge success. The City of Visalia Public Works Department and Norm Goldstrom have raised the awareness of pavement preservation through an excellent in house media promotion.

In February 2016, the Western Region Association for Pavement Preservation (WRAPP), formerly known as the California Chipseal Association, honored both the City of Visalia and Tricor Refining, with its “Street Maintenance Project of the Year” for 2015. Norm Golstrom and Jim Brownridge were both presented plaques in recognition of the project.

The City of Visalia’s current 2016 project contains 1.5 million square yards of surface rejuvenation. They plan to continue using effective, low cost, options to help extend the life of their streets and make the most of available funding.

Congratulations to the City of Visalia and Tricor Refining for being honored for 2015 “Street Maintenance Project of the Year”.