



## AfPA Welcomes Innovative NSW Road Maintenance Trial to Combat Flooding Damage

Thursday 03rd November 2022

The Australian Flexible Pavement Association (AfPA) has welcomed an innovative new trial by the New South Wales Government in response to mounting road damage in the wake of extreme weather events across the state.

The trial aims to test new methods of fixing rising rates of damaging potholes in record time using cold mix asphalt, allowing faster drying and application in wet weather conditions. This method has become extremely useful as much of the country continues to battle unprecedented flooding.

The NSW Government estimates that since March of this year there have been more than 152,000 potholes filled, including almost 18,500 on Sydney roads alone. AfPA has cited that innovation remains one of its key strategic priorities, as it continues to work alongside government to ensure that the latest improvements in technology, resiliency and sustainability are at the forefront of infrastructure.

Natalie Ward, Minister for Metropolitan Roads, said:

“One of the biggest challenges facing repair crews using traditional repair methods is the need to wait until the road is dry before being able to fill a pothole. The prolonged wet weather also increases the risk of the same pothole re-forming.

“We’ve been used a new ‘cold mix’ product on some of our worst potholes and it has already produced outstanding results – our road crews have not needed to refill a single pothole since they started using this product.”

Carlos Rial, AfPA CEO, said:

“We always welcome the introduction and adoption of road maintenance innovations into government projects. Given the frequency and devastation of flooding events across the state and the country more broadly, there is a clear need to trial new solutions which keep our infrastructure safer for longer.

“We applaud the NSW Government’s commitment to keeping the state safe and moving and look forward to continuing to work alongside Government to deliver these urgent maintenance projects.”