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# Development of a National ASCE Standard for Permeable Interlocking Concrete Pavement

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# Interlocking Concrete Pavement (ICP) *compared to PICP*

**ASCE 58-10 ICP  
AASHTO-based  
Structural Design  
Standard  
(non-permeable)**



**Sand joints & 25 mm bedding typical**

ASCE STANDARD

ASCE/  
T&DI/ICPI  
58-10

**Structural Design  
of Interlocking  
Concrete Pavement  
for Municipal Streets  
and Roadways**

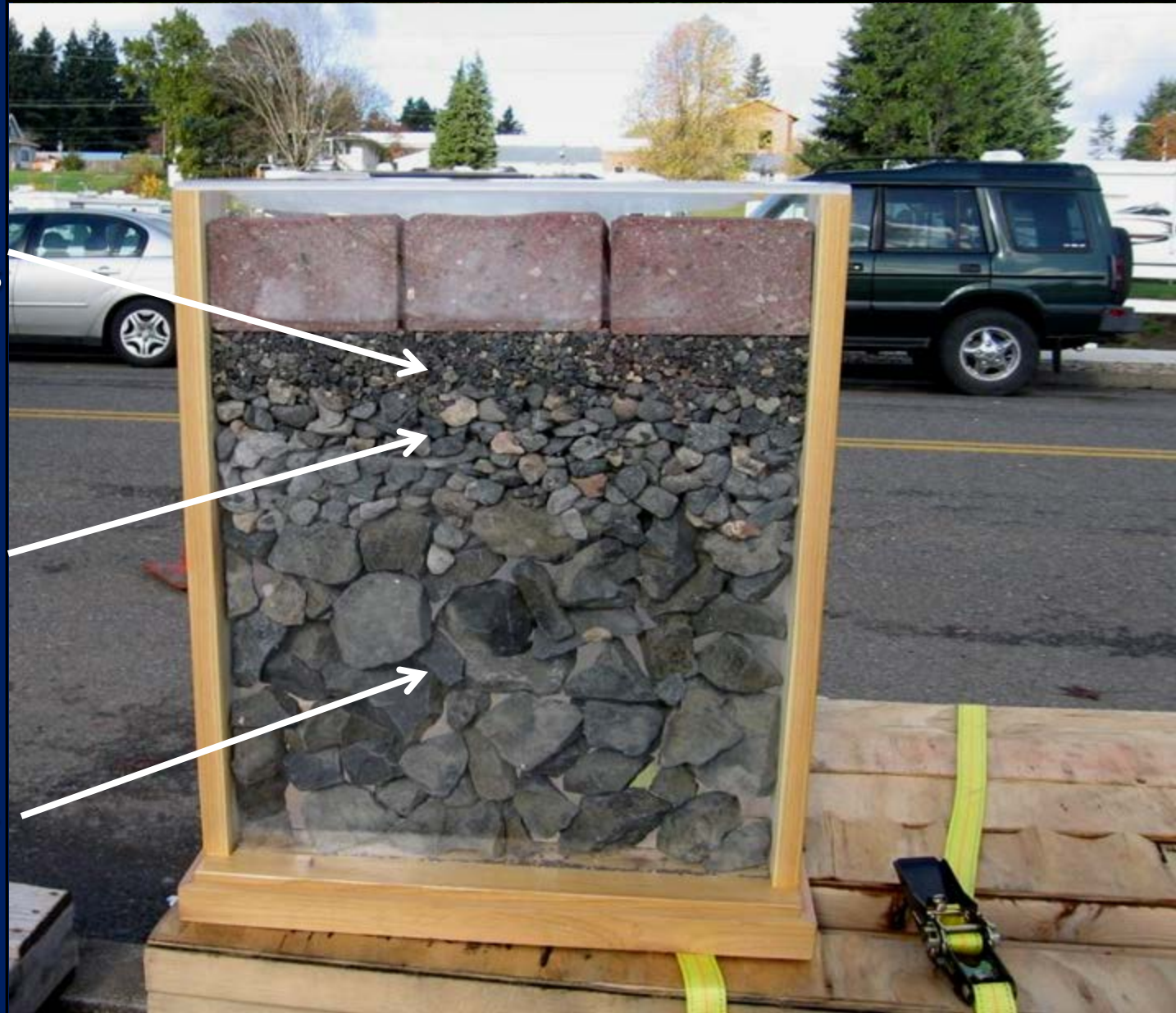
This document uses both the  
International System of Units (SI)  
and customary units

# Permeable Interlocking Concrete Pavement (PICP)

Pavers, bedding  
& jointing stones

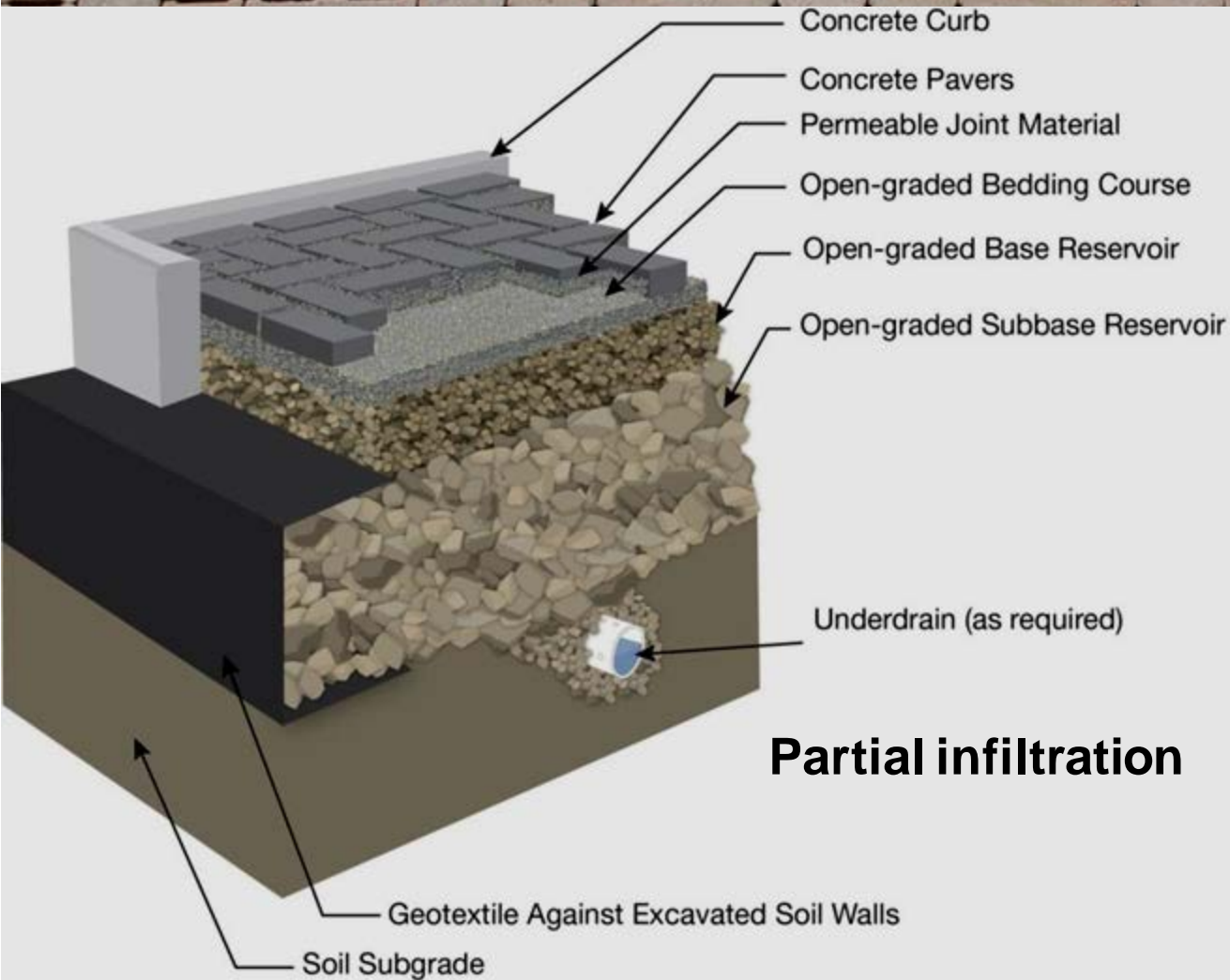
Base reservoir  
Stone – 100 mm

Subbase stone -  
thickness  
varies with water  
storage & traffic





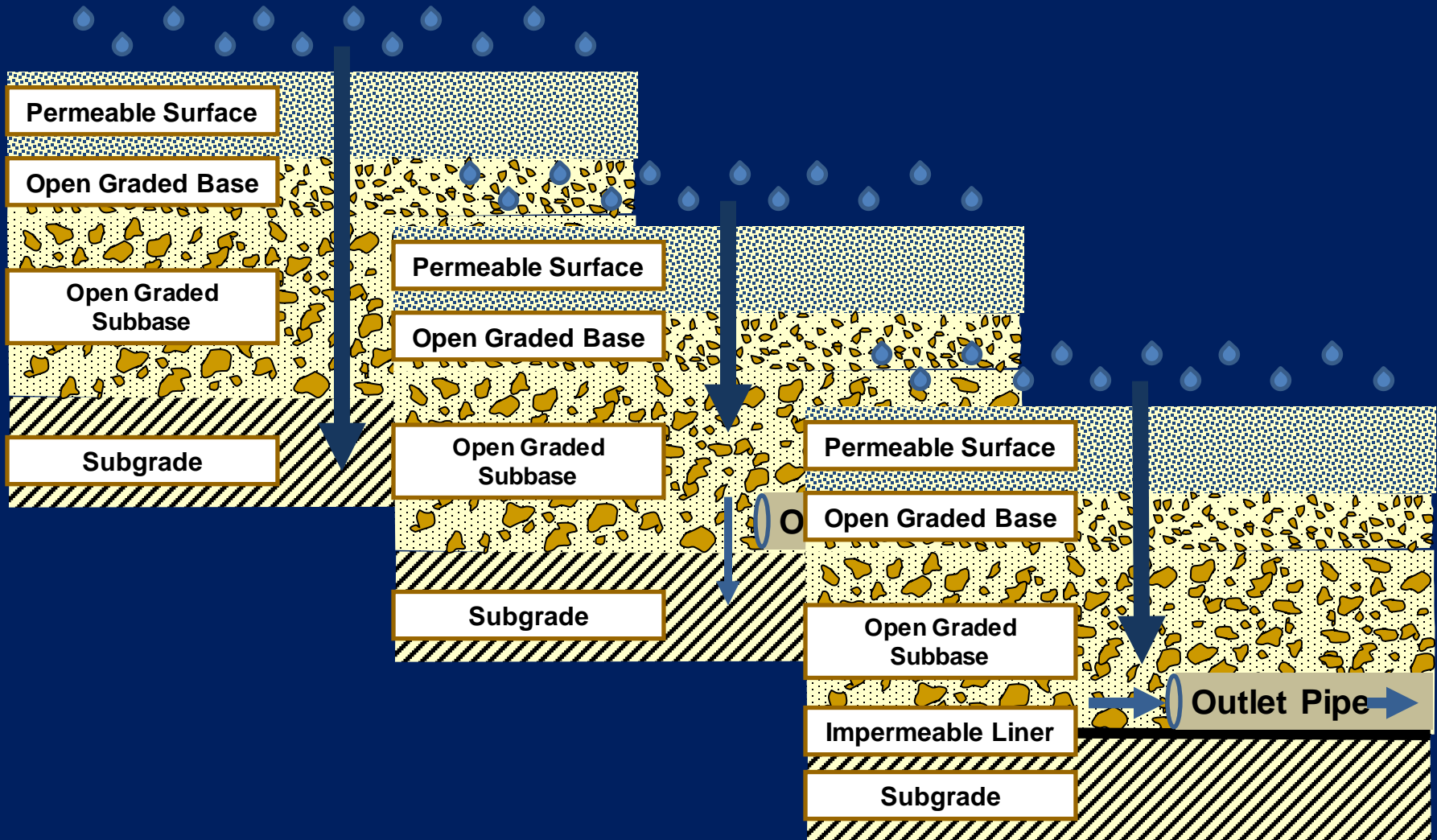
# ASCE PICP Design Standard Highlights



**Partial infiltration**

- **NO sand**
- **Wider joints**
- **Permeable aggregates**

# Permeable Pavement Functions



# Key Decision Factors

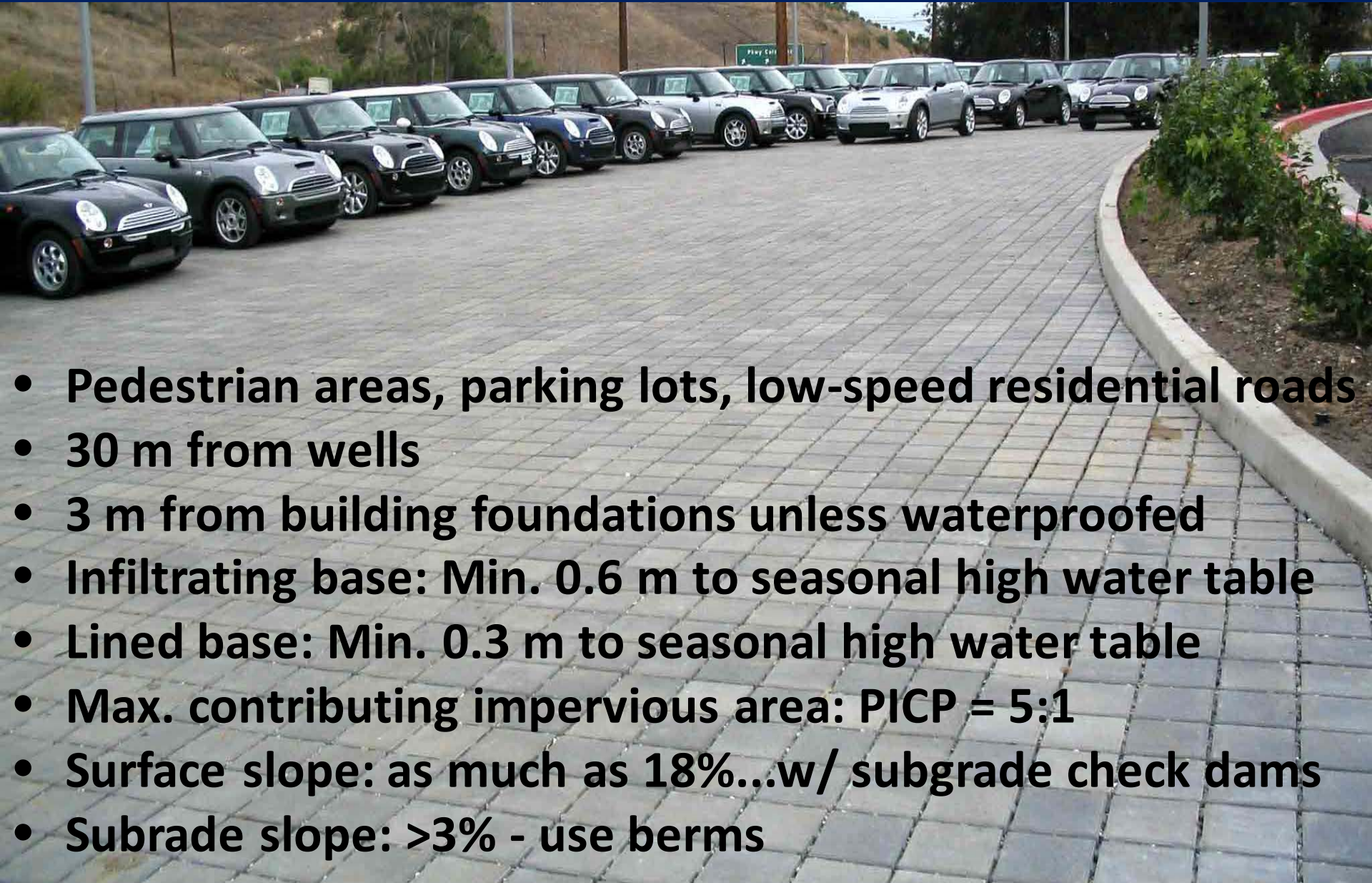
Considerations	Description
Availability of capital funding	The initial capital construction cost of permeable pavement is typically higher than for conventional pavement. Overall long-term life-cycle costs can be very competitive if consideration is given to stormwater quality and quantity benefits are taken into account.
Status of environmental approval	In some jurisdictions, permeable pavement may not be permitted or may require additional environmental approvals.
Proximity to environmentally sensitive areas	The presence of protected watersheds, cold water streams, marshland, etc. may preclude the use of permeable pavement systems or require more extensive treatments.
Safety	Ability to accommodate safety features such as rumble strips, vegetative growth, areas subjected to rapid icing, etc.
Significant longitudinal grades	Not recommended for grades of more than 5 percent as sheet flow may overload the ability of the permeable shoulder to infiltrate water which may cause localized flooding.
Depth of water table	Permeable pavements should not be used in areas where the water table is within 0.6 m (2ft) of the top of the soil subgrade. It must be possible to drain water entering the subgrade.
Significant use of sand and/or salt for winter maintenance	Melting salt will result in higher concentrations of chlorides in the water which may hinder plant growth. Winter sand may clog permeable pavement systems resulting in reduced system permeability.
Risk of accidental chemical spill	Is the permeable pavement location in an area where hazardous chemical transportation is present.

# Key Decision Factors

Considerations	Description
Amount and intensity of precipitation	May not be suitable in areas of frequent, high intensity storms.
Presence of utilities	The design and construction of permeable shoulders may be problematic in areas where utilities are present along the roadway shoulders.
Risk of flooding	Areas subject to frequent flooding may require supplemental drainage features to ensure that the roadway surface is properly drained.
Mandates for water quality	Permeable pavements may contribute substantially to water quality improvement.
Mandates for stormwater management	Permeable pavements provide stormwater management alternatives to more costly or complicated practices.
Maintenance protocols	Permeable pavement systems require mandatory non-traditional maintenance practices such as vacuum sweeping.
Shoulder utilization	Some shoulders are used as driving lanes for specification conditions or circumstances, e.g. evacuation routes, rush hour traffic, pullovers for passing, high occupancy vehicle routes, emergency vehicles, etc.
Interest in innovation	Utilizing traditional impermeable surfaces for stormwater management provides opportunities for innovation.
Complexity of geometric conditions	Geometric constraints such as horizontal or vertical grades, presence of bridge structures, curbs, retaining walls, guiderails, etc.
Impact of unknown site conditions	Variability of soil conditions, presence of organics, potential for frost heave, etc. may impact shoulder pavement performance.
Owner experience and resources	The use of permeable pavements for roadway shoulder is very limited a present.



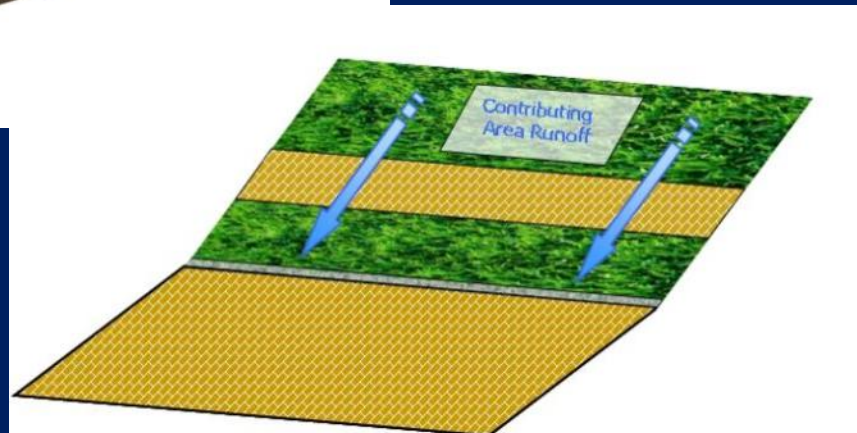
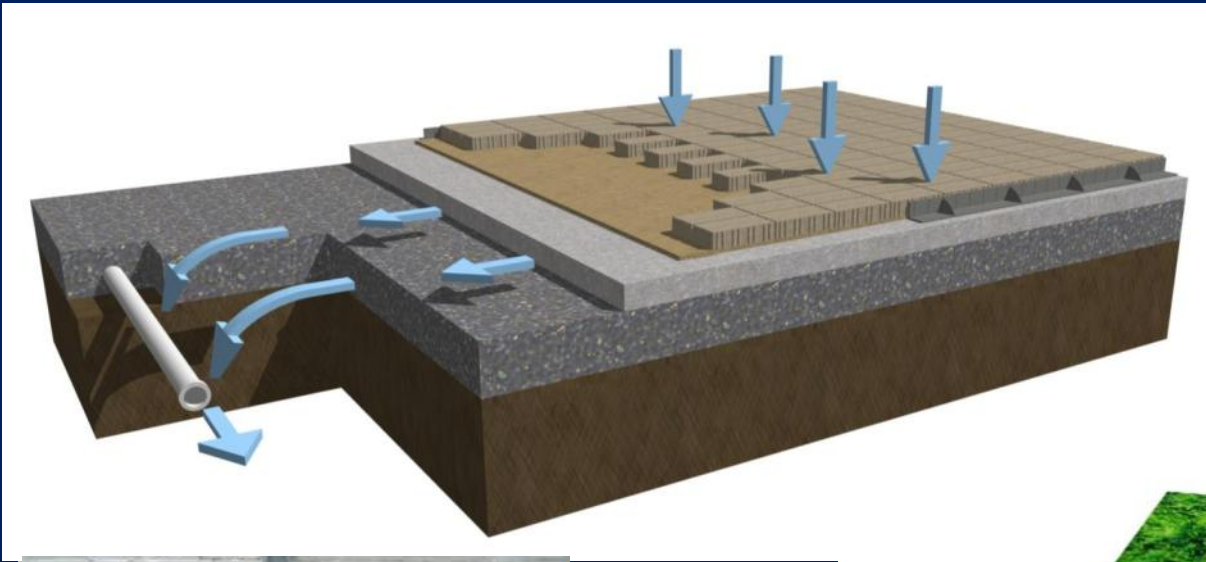
# Site Recommendations



- Pedestrian areas, parking lots, low-speed residential roads
- 30 m from wells
- 3 m from building foundations unless waterproofed
- Infiltrating base: Min. 0.6 m to seasonal high water table
- Lined base: Min. 0.3 m to seasonal high water table
- Max. contributing impervious area: PICP = 5:1
- Surface slope: as much as 18%...w/ subgrade check dams
- Subgrade slope: >3% - use berms

# Key Design Features

- **Site Drainage** - Consider the overall site drainage, rainfall and from surrounding areas





# Key Design Features

- **Contaminant Loading** - Consider potential contaminants such as winter sand, biomass (tree leaves and needles, grass clippings, etc.) and sediment



# Key Design Features

- **Contaminant Loading** – Do not want to see a complete failure before the pavement has been opened to traffic





# Key Design Features

- **Traffic Type and Composition** - Avoid using permeable pavements in high, concentrated traffic areas subjected to many heavy vehicles
- A qualified pavement engineer should be consulted for these specific applications



# Key Design Features

- **Pavement Surface** - Consider the type of surface most appropriate for the traffic and infiltration capacity conditions
- Porous asphalt or pervious concrete may be more appropriate for some slope conditions
- Permeable interlocking concrete pavement may be more suitable for situations where vehicles are turning
- Most permeable pavements should have slopes less than 5 percent

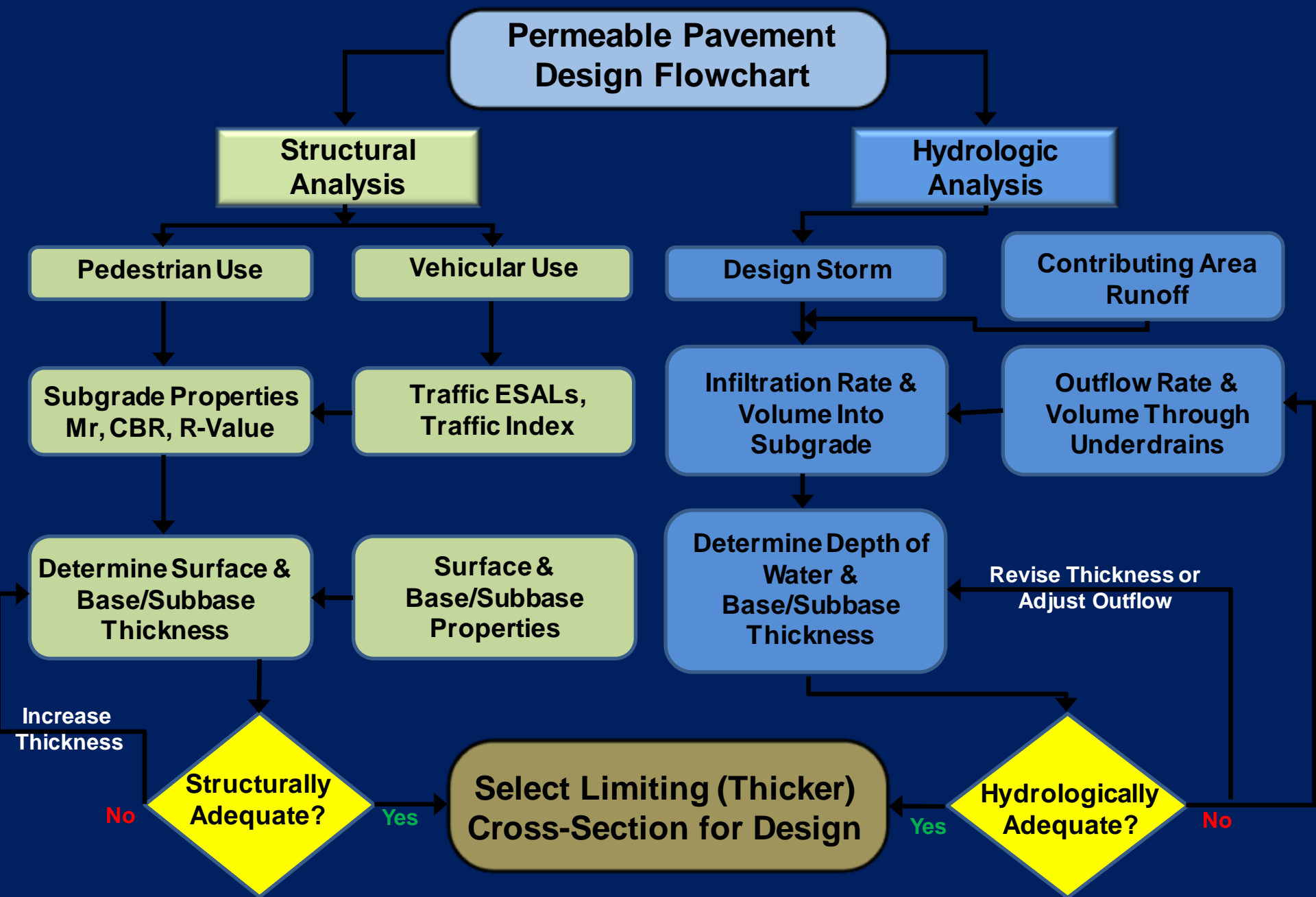


# Key Design Features

- **Aggregate Base and Subbase** - Permeable pavements typically utilize open graded aggregate to provide structural and hydraulic capacity
- Aggregates should be hard, durable and have a low percentage of material passing the 75  $\mu\text{m}$  (ASTM No. 200) sieve size.
- It may be necessary to double wash the aggregate to ensure less than 2 percent fines content
- For heavier traffic conditions, a cement- or asphalt-stabilized open-graded aggregate may be more suitable

# Key Design Features

- **Subgrade Slope** - Infiltration designs should minimize subgrade slope to promote water infiltration
- Sites with subgrade slopes over 3% often require buffers, weirs, check dams, etc. to control water flow
- Supplementary drainage outlets such as catchbasins, stormwater ponds, should be used to prevent the system from flooding in high rain events
- Determine the need for these geosynthetics for subgrade/ aggregate separation, filtration, containment and reinforcement





# Critical Hydrologic Design Factor: Subgrade Infiltration

Double ring infiltrometer test  
Use avg. infiltration rate  
Apply safety factor for clogging  
& construction compaction



Portable soil infiltration device



Multiple test holes



Test pit



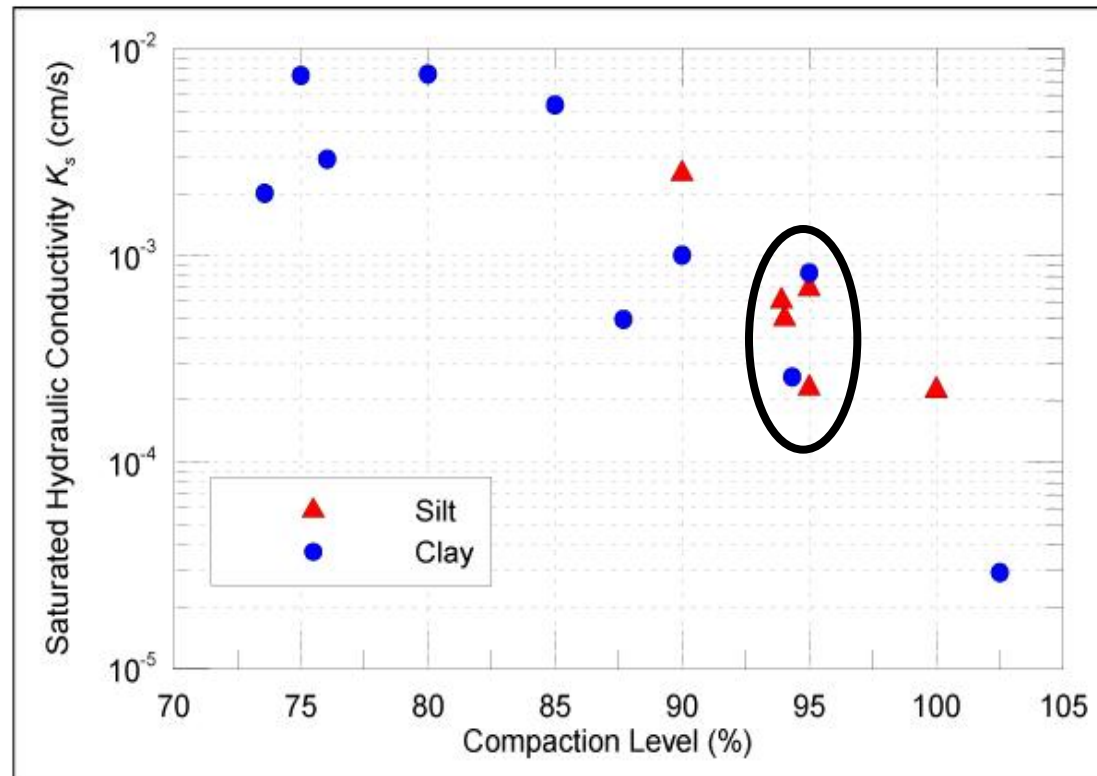
# Infiltration vs Compaction

- Soil classification per ASTM D4287
- Laboratory Proctor density per ASTM D698
- Density tests on compacted soil
- Soil infiltration test on *compacted* soil per ASTM D3385/D5093

Clay soils have some Infiltration when compacted - Laboratory study by UC Davis, Jones, et al. for Caltrans

$10^{-2}$  cm/sec = 14.2 in./hr  
 $10^{-3}$  cm/sec = 1.4 in./hr  
 $10^{-4}$  cm/sec = 0.13 in./hr  
 $10^{-5}$  cm/sec = 0.014 in./hr

Per AASHTO T-215  
constant head test





# Critical Structural Design Factors

Uncompacted or compacted soils...

Strength characterization of *saturated* soils via...

California Bearing Ratio (96 hr soaked)

Resilient Modulus  $M_r$  or R-value

AASHTO layer coefficients

Paver surface &

Bedding = 0.3

Base = 0.09

Subbase = 0.06





# Traffic Loading and Design

Pavement Class	Description	Design ESALs	Design TI
Arterial	Through traffic with access to high-density, regional, commercial and office developments or downtown streets. General traffic mix.	9,000,000	11.5
Major Collector	Traffic with access to low-density, local, commercial and office development or high density, residential sub-divisions. General traffic mix	3,000,000	10
Minor Collector	Through traffic with access to low-density, neighborhood, commercial development or low-density, residential sub-divisions. General traffic mix.	1,000,000	9
Bus Terminal	Public Transport Centralized facility for buses to pick up passengers from other modes of transport, or for parking of city or school buses.	500,000	8.5
Local Commercial	Commercial and limited through traffic with access to commercial premises and multi-family and single-family residential roads. Used by private automobiles, service vehicles and heavy delivery trucks	330,000	8
Residential	No through traffic with access to multi-family and single-family residential properties. Used by private automobiles, service vehicles and light delivery trucks, including limited construction traffic.	110,000	7
Facility Parking	Open parking areas for private automobiles at large facilities with access for emergency vehicles and occasional use by service vehicles or heavy delivery trucks.	90,000	7
Commercial Parking	Restricted parking and drop-off areas associated with business premises, mostly used by private automobiles and occasional light delivery trucks. No construction traffic over finished surface.	30,000	6
Commercial Plaza	Predominantly pedestrian traffic, but with access for occasional heavy maintenance and emergency vehicles. No construction traffic over finished surface.	10,000	5

# Structural Design

Pedestrian Only Use	Soaked CBR (%)	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	R-Value	7.5	9	11	12.5	14	15.5	17	18
	Resilient Modulus (MPa)	36	43	49	55	61	67	72	77
	Base	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150
50,000 (6.3) Residential Driveways	Subbase	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Base	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
100,000 (6.8)	Subbase	175	150	150	150	150	150	150	150
	Base	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
200,000 (7.4)	Subbase	275	200	150	150	150	150	150	150
	Base	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
300,000 (7.8)	Subbase	425	325	275	225	175	150	150	150
	Base	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
400,000 (8.1)	Subbase	500	400	350	300	250	225	200	175
	Base	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
500,000 (8.3)	Subbase	550	475	400	350	300	275	250	225
	Base	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
600,000 (8.5)	Subbase	600	525	450	400	350	300	275	250
	Base	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
700,000 (8.6)	Subbase	650	550	475	425	375	350	300	275
	Base	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
800,000 (8.8)	Subbase	700	600	525	450	425	375	350	300
	Base	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
900,000 (8.9)	Subbase	725	625	550	500	450	400	375	325
	Base	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
1,000,000 (9)	Subbase	750	650	575	525	475	425	400	350
	Base	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
	Subbase	775	675	600	525	475	425	400	375
	Base	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

# Need: Validated Base Thickness Charts



Design Tables for PICP  
Accelerated Pavement Testing  
UC Pavement Research Center  
Sponsors: CA Paver Manufacturers,  
ICPI Foundation, CA Cement Assoc.



# Key Construction Features

- **General Construction Site Conditions** - A pre-construction site meeting is critical to the success of the permeable pavement installation



# Key Construction Features

- **Subgrade Preparation** – Most agency guidelines recommend that the subgrade not be compacted in order to help promote water infiltration
- An uncompacted subgrade tends to consolidate when saturated under vehicular loading, causing settlement and possible rutting of the pavement surface
- Placement of the open-graded aggregate base and subbase should be completed as close in time as possible to minimize risk of sedimentation of the permeable pavement system

# Key Construction Features

- **Geotextiles** - Generally placed vertically against the walls of excavated soil to separate the permeable pavement from adjacent soils
- **Geomembranes** – Typically polyvinyl chloride, ethylene propylene diene monomers or high density polyethylene
- Separates the base/subbase from adjacent pavements/buildings
- May enclose the sides and bottom to create a no infiltration design for water storage and flow control





# Key Construction Features

- **Underdrains** - These should be installed in a trench the lowest point of the pavement subgrade
- Pipes are surrounded with open-graded aggregate offering protection during construction
- Pipes should be perforated, polyvinyl chloride (PVC), minimum 0.5 percent slope to an outlet
- Pipe spacing and size should be selected to ensure that the pavement does not flood and become completely saturated during storm events

# Key Construction Features

- **Contractor Certifications and Experience -**  
Require more attention to detail to ensure that a durable pavement is produced
- Contractors working at or near the permeable pavement must be cognizant of the need to not contaminate and clog the pavement with particles
- May require installation of cattle guards and/or washing stations to ensure that the construction traffic does not contaminate the pavement
- Trade groups have training and certification courses

# ASCE PICP Standard Guidelines

## Content

Overview & benefits

*PICP for Plan Reviewers – the basics*

Design context & site review checklist

Hydrologic & structural design

Construction checklist

Pre-construction meeting

Sediment control

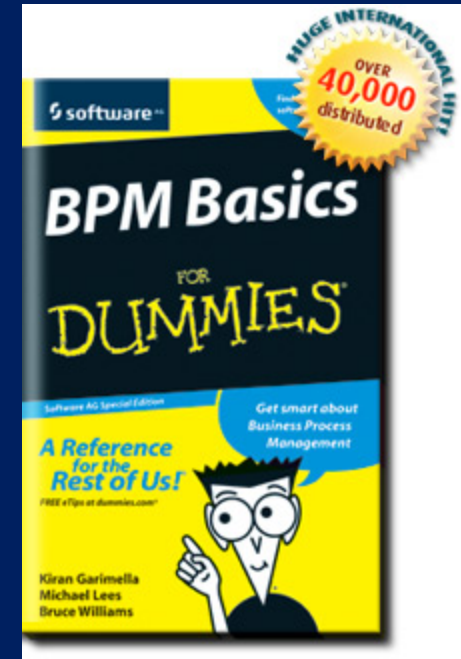
Maintenance inspection checklist

**Goal:** end of 2014 Completion

## Uses

Adoption by state, provincial & local agencies

Design professional & contractor guidance





# Key Construction Factors



**Minimizing  
compaction**

**Maintaining  
clean  
aggregates  
& pavement  
surface**



# Mechanical PICP Installation

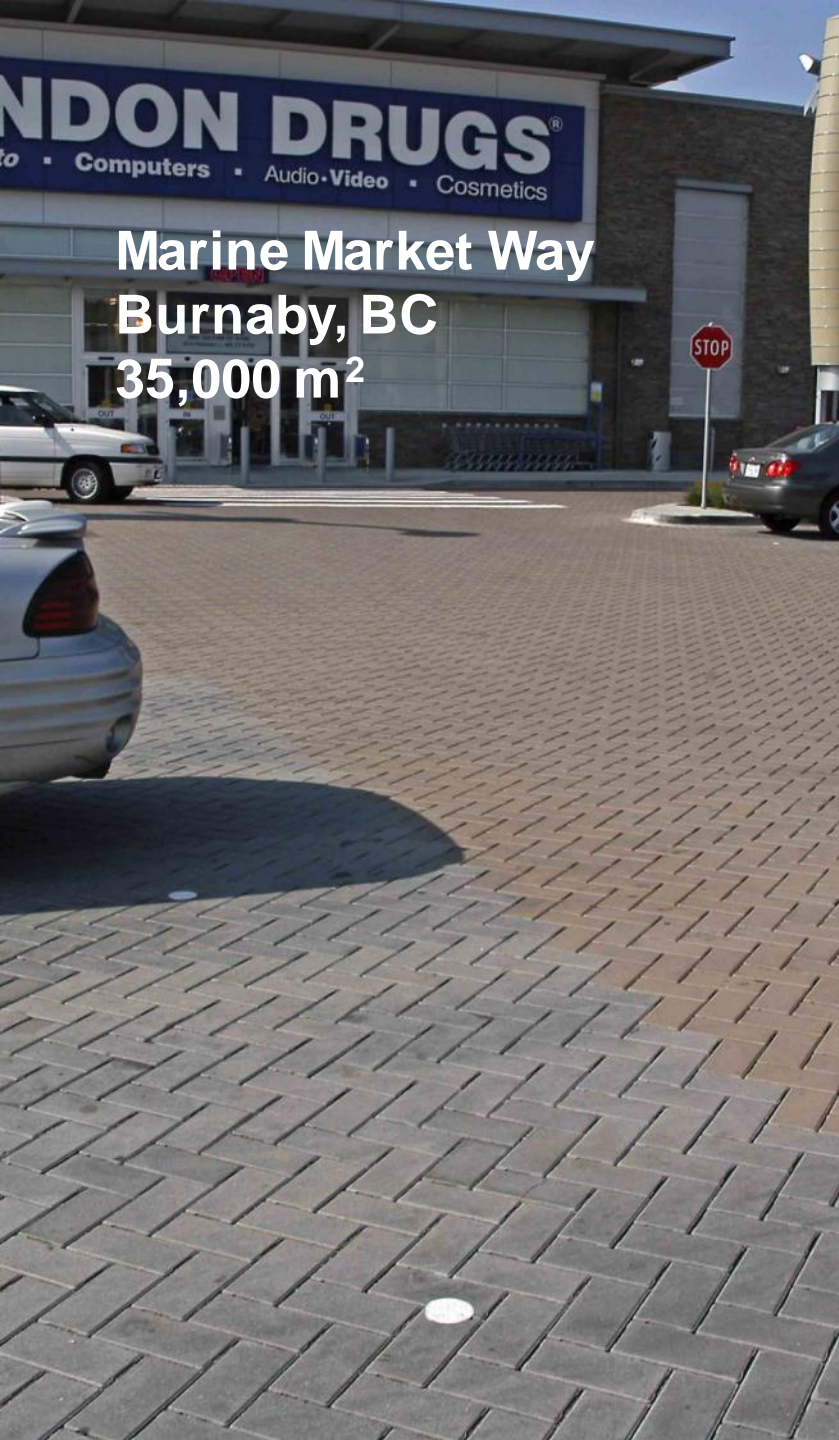




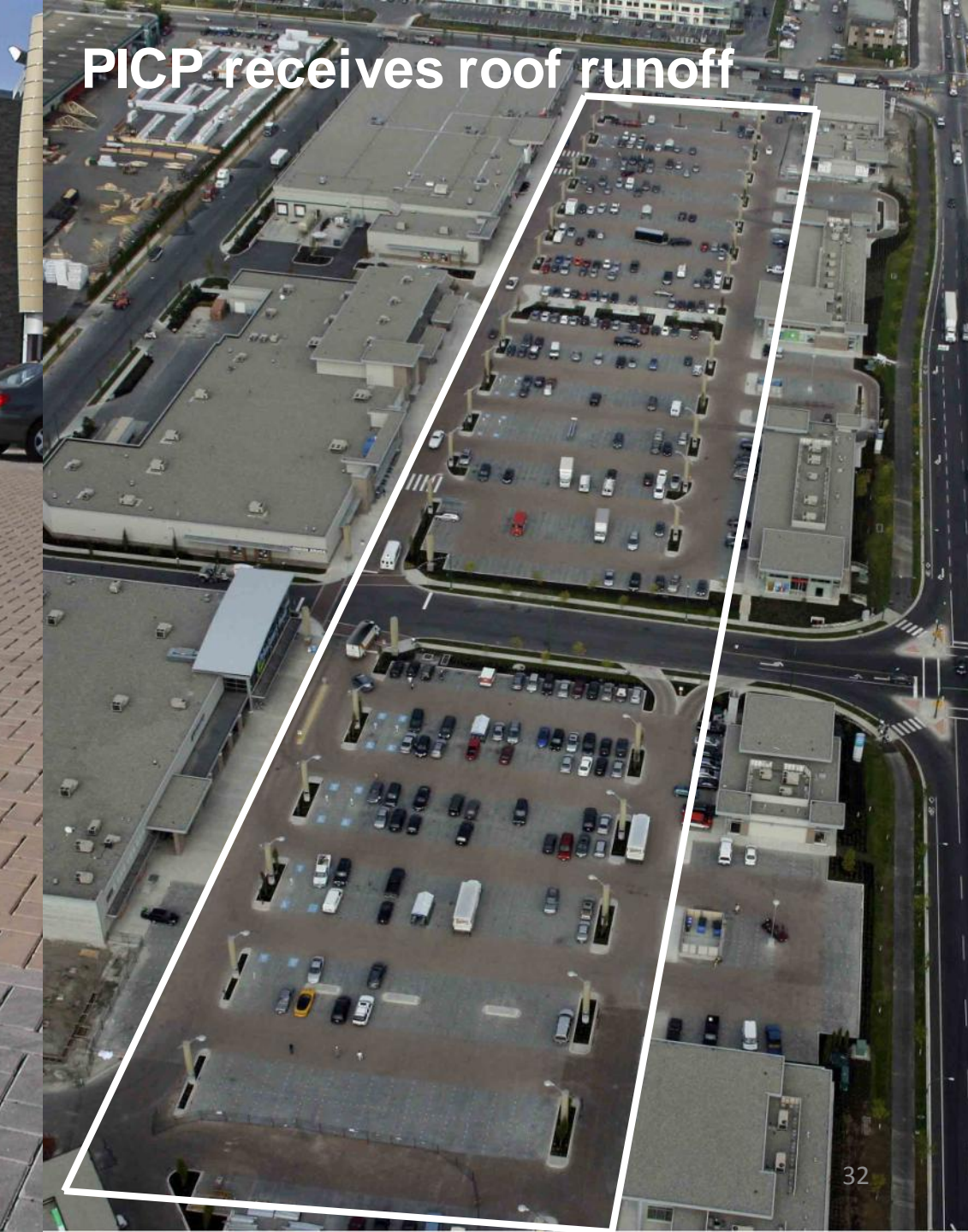


Warrenville, IL





Marine Market Way  
Burnaby, BC  
35,000 m<sup>2</sup>





# Critical Maintenance Factors

- **Regenerative air vacuum sweeper**
  - Routine cleaning
  - Removes loose sediment, leaves, etc.
  - More common
  - ~\$2000/ha
- **True vacuum sweeper**
  - 2X more powerful
  - Restores highly clogged surfaces
  - Narrower suction



# Winter Maintenance

- Snow melts— lower risk of ice
- Does not heave when frozen
- Use normal plows - dirty snow piles clog surface
- Deicing salts okay
- Sand will clog system – use jointing material for traction







**Managing  
dirty snow**

**Must vacuum winter  
sand/sediment  
accumulation**



# Spring 2014: Permeable Pavements Recommended Design Guidelines

ASCE EWRI Committee Report – online only

- Fact sheets
- Checklists
- Design information
- Maintenance
- Standards, guide specs & modeling methods
- Research needs

Establishes common terms  
for all permeable pavements





# Status of ASCE Standard Guideline

- Pre-Standard Committee 2012 (3 meetings)
- Standard Committee 2013 (2 meetings)
- Standard Committee 2014 (1 meeting, 2 more)
- Full standard developed, working some details
- Public comment fall 2014
- Publish date, early 2015