Measuring a pavement's carbon footprint / sustainability GHG-based and life-cycle including end-of-life Allows comparison of different technologies Considers structural and performance characteristics Variety of different models (WB, NIST, UKHA, private) No absolute "protocols" Confusion over energy-based GHG emissions Process GHG / "embodied" energy in context of GHG Companies / agencies using to make "green" decisions Other factors affecting sustainability / carbon footprint: Pvmt smoothness; bio-based binders; other env effects

rbon footprint: topic introductio

## GHG emissions are here to stay

- Offers "off-set" and carbon-cost capabilities
- Allows metric comparison of different technologies
- Strives to reduce overall life-cycle energy

contributions to sustainable pymts

- Should include other environmental factors
  - Other emissions; other releases
  - Stormwater quality issues (permeable and open-graded)
  - May drive smoother pavements based on fuel economy

Lack of specific carbon footprint methodology

- Life-cycle vs discreet components
- Primary energy and process-based GHG emissions
- Treatment of embodied energy in context to GHG emissions
- Authoritative sources of emissions data
- End-of-life treatment
- How to treat the carbon footprint of imported raw materials
- Uncertainty on comparing different pavement structural / performance characteristics
  - Shouldn't use a low carbon footprint pavement designed for small loads on an interstate highway (e.g., chipseal I-95)

Impact of pavement smoothness on vehicle fuel economy





## Identify proper methodology to measure a pavement's carbon footprint

## Transparent, accurate, authoritative

- Total life-cycle: cradle to cradle including raw material acquisition
- Accounts for end-of-life / recycling / pavement reconstruction
- Accounts for all GHG-based processes / primary energy; "embodied" energy in context to GHG emissions
- Accounts for importation of raw (or finished) materials
- How does pavement smoothness affect vehicle fuel consumption

Not part of "carbon footprint", but impacts transportation-related GHG emissions



