



### The Hybrid of Base Modification and Stabilization for Rural Roads Grant County Road 12 Project

June 2021 MCEA Conference Arrowwood, MN

Authors: Tracey Von Bargen Dan Wegman Brian Majeska





#### 2) The Need



1) Introduction

## The Hybrid of Base Modification and Stabilization for Rural Roads

4) County Feedback





#### **How Did This Happen?**

- Borregaard is a leading bio-refining company with massive capabilities.
- Grant County has a Need for a better way.
- Braun has critical geotechnical knowledge
- Adventus has a track record for knowledge transfer into diverse markets



**Borregaard has proven stabilization technology** that has been used for decades in Scandinavia and wanted to expand into the US





#### Borregaard

- Biorefining company that is focused on value added products.
- Strong Innovation group with approaching 89 employees dedicated to Research
- Production facilities in Norway and a major facilities in Wisconsin and Florida. Additionally Borregaard has manufacturing in three other countries
- Over 1,000 Employees worldwide
- Major business focus in numerous construction segments

### 1) Introduction









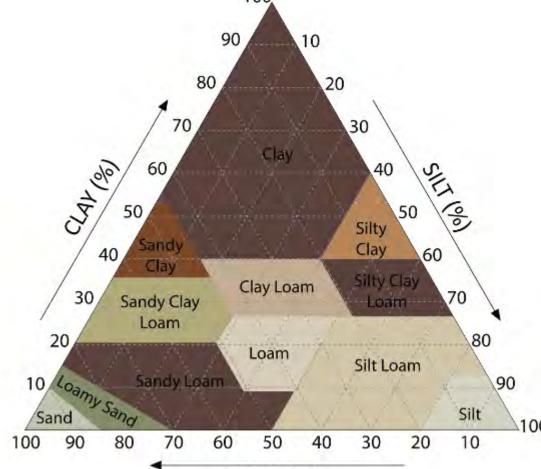




### Market Validation of Norwegian know how in **Minnesota** - Is the Biopolymer a The Hybrid of Base **Modification and Stabilization for Rural Roads**

- **1. Determine biopolymer use in terms of:** 
  - Soil
  - Climate
  - Application
- **2. Determine Engineering Properties** 
  - Strength Numbers
  - **Product Limitations**
  - Correct Placement
- **3.** Develop Marketing & Use Guidelines:
  - Value Proposition
  - Contractor Use Dosing, Mixing, Compaction, Quality lacksquare

### 2) The Need

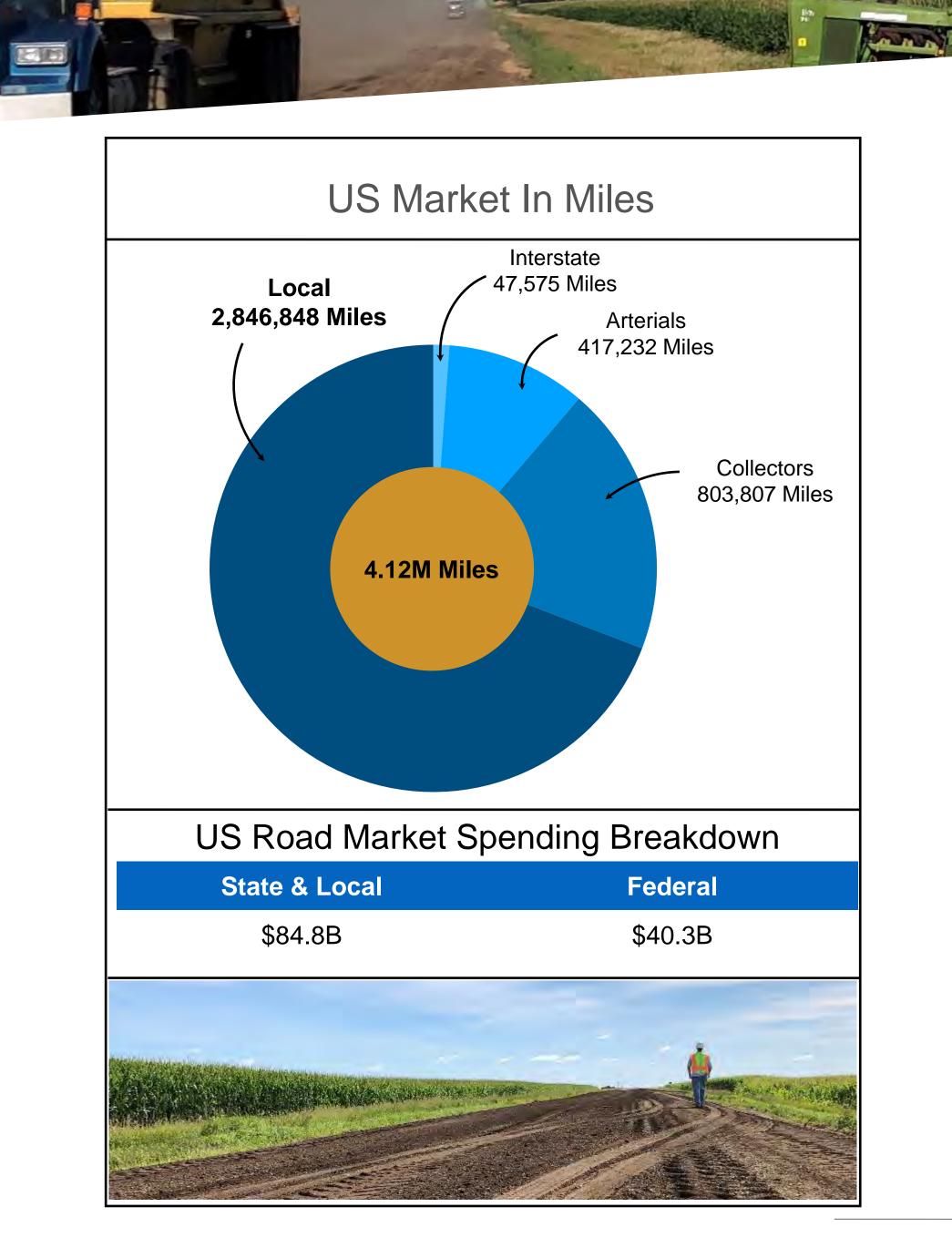












#### The Need 2)

**Insights Confirmed in the Market:** 

- Our market focus are local roads & collectors. This represents almost 90% of the total US road miles in the network.
- These roads have significant need for rehabilitation and need creative solutions
- Discovery: US (and Arguably the World Market) Has a significant technical and product gap in sub-grade modification and stabilization

#### Grant County, Minnesota Case Study

- The Highway Department is responsible for 460 miles of roadways:
- 170 miles are bituminous surfaced,
- **290 miles gravel surfaced**
- 22 bridges.

Station States Bung

- 16 Employees
- Department budget of \$5.5 million
- County Population of 6,289
- 2,534 Households
- Interesting Point: 41.2% of the population is of Norwegian Descent









There is a major gap in the market to have a technology that modifies contaminated base in a manner that allows compaction and provides a stronger base that has flexibility to move with seasonal weather and traffic load.

### The Need

#### Stabilization refers to base/sub-grade soil improvement that includes:

• Long-term reactions which result in a bound layer.

• A laboratory mix design is recommended

• Performance requirements/tests vary between stabilization processes and stabilization additives.

• Performance tests are used to assure the material placed in the field is represented by the

#### **Modification refers to base/subgrade improvements:**

• Usually as a compaction aid during construction or for strength improvement that occurs... after mixing.

• Base modification, the stabilized base layer will remain unbound.

• Soil/base modification currently requires no laboratory mix design or performance testing.



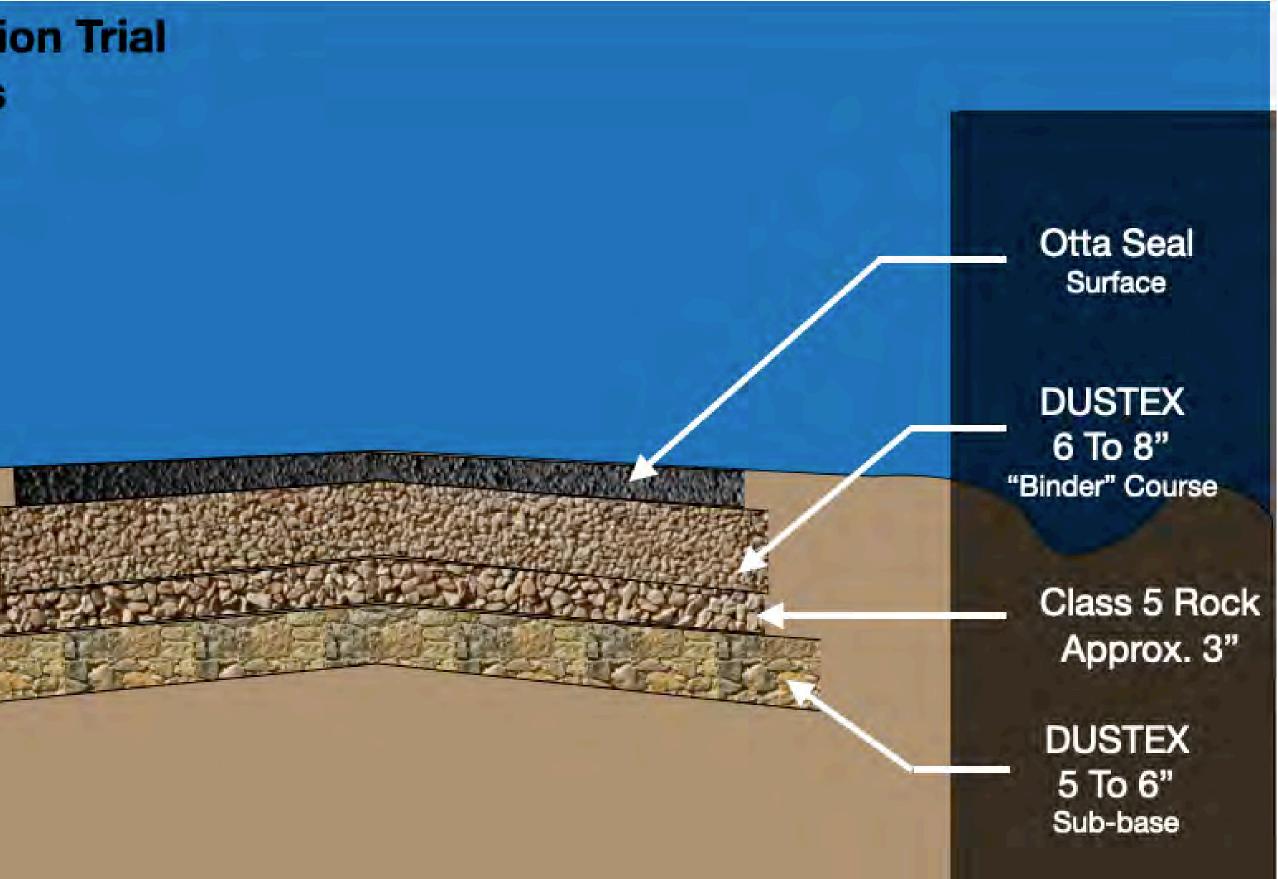
### Road Use and Initial Design

- A gravel road principally used for agriculture
- Low traffic with tremendously high axle weight used by farmers to get in and out of the fields
- Sub-grade (Sub-base) improvement along with add rock and a base stabilization
- A final flexible asphalt seal was initially designed, but due to high bidding costs, the county chose not to cap the pavement

### **Grant County Stabilization Trial Dustex Sections**

**Total Cross Section Thickness** 16 to 18" (PRINCIPALLY A COMBINATION OF RAP & BASE)





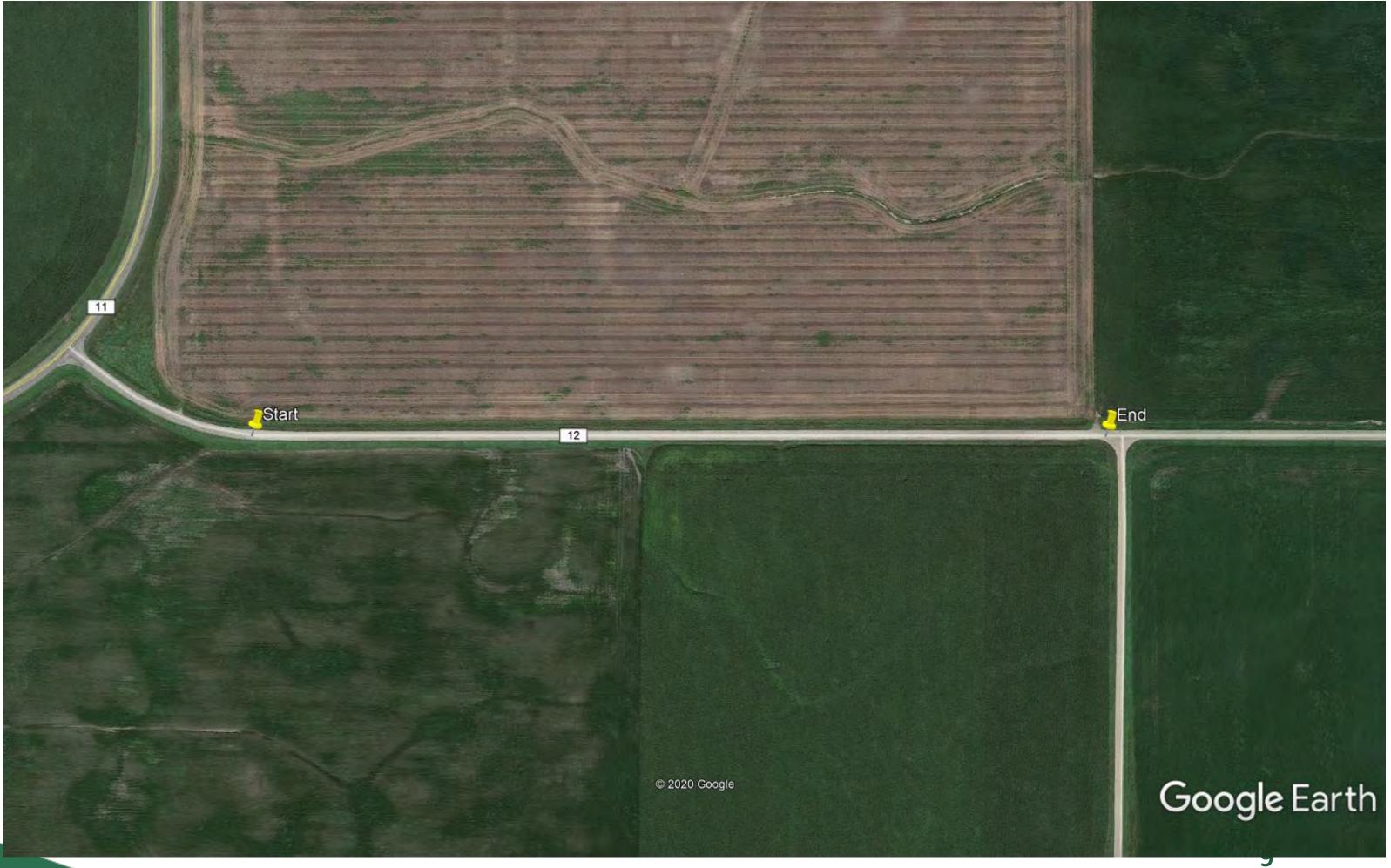






# **Grant County CR 12**

### Test section for subgrade and base modification/stabilization







# **Project Phases**

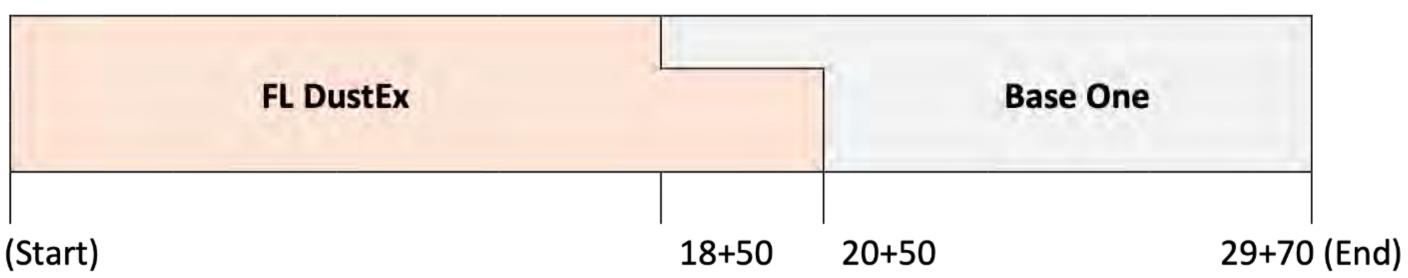
- DCP testing before injection and right after compaction
- Project Phases:
  - Phase I subgrade modification
  - Phase II base stabilization/modification
  - Phase III long term assessment





# **Base Modification**

### Top view:



#### 6+00 (Start)

### Cross Section:



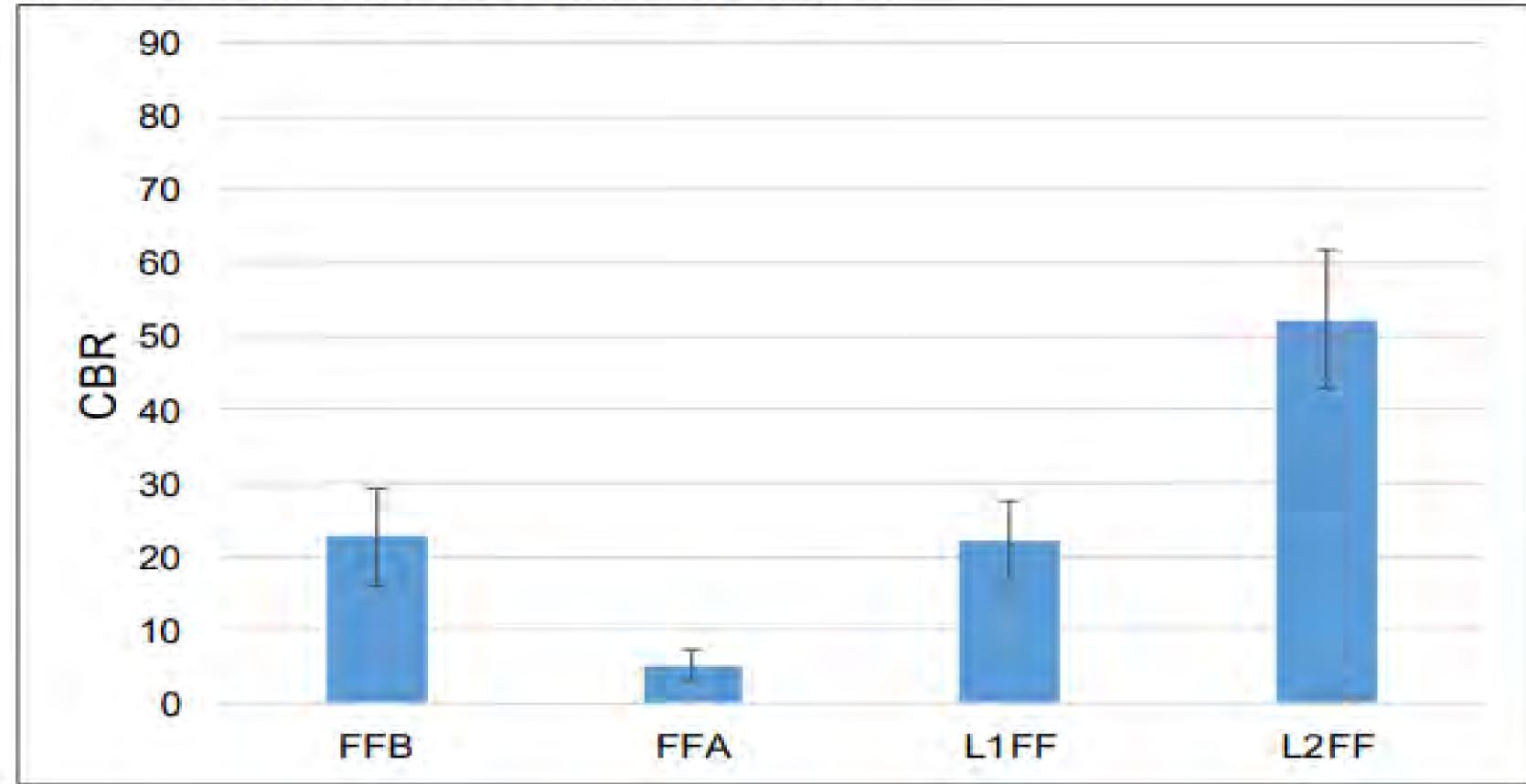
ase One DustEx ern section) ern section)		Base One	
		No Modification	
			-
8+50	20+50	29+70	36+00





# Strength Gain with Time

### Figure 12. CBR Change Over Time for FF Section







## **Cross Section CBR Values**

#### Figure 17. Cross-Section Testing in DustEx Modified Section (D1 through D5)







## **Cross Section CBR Values**



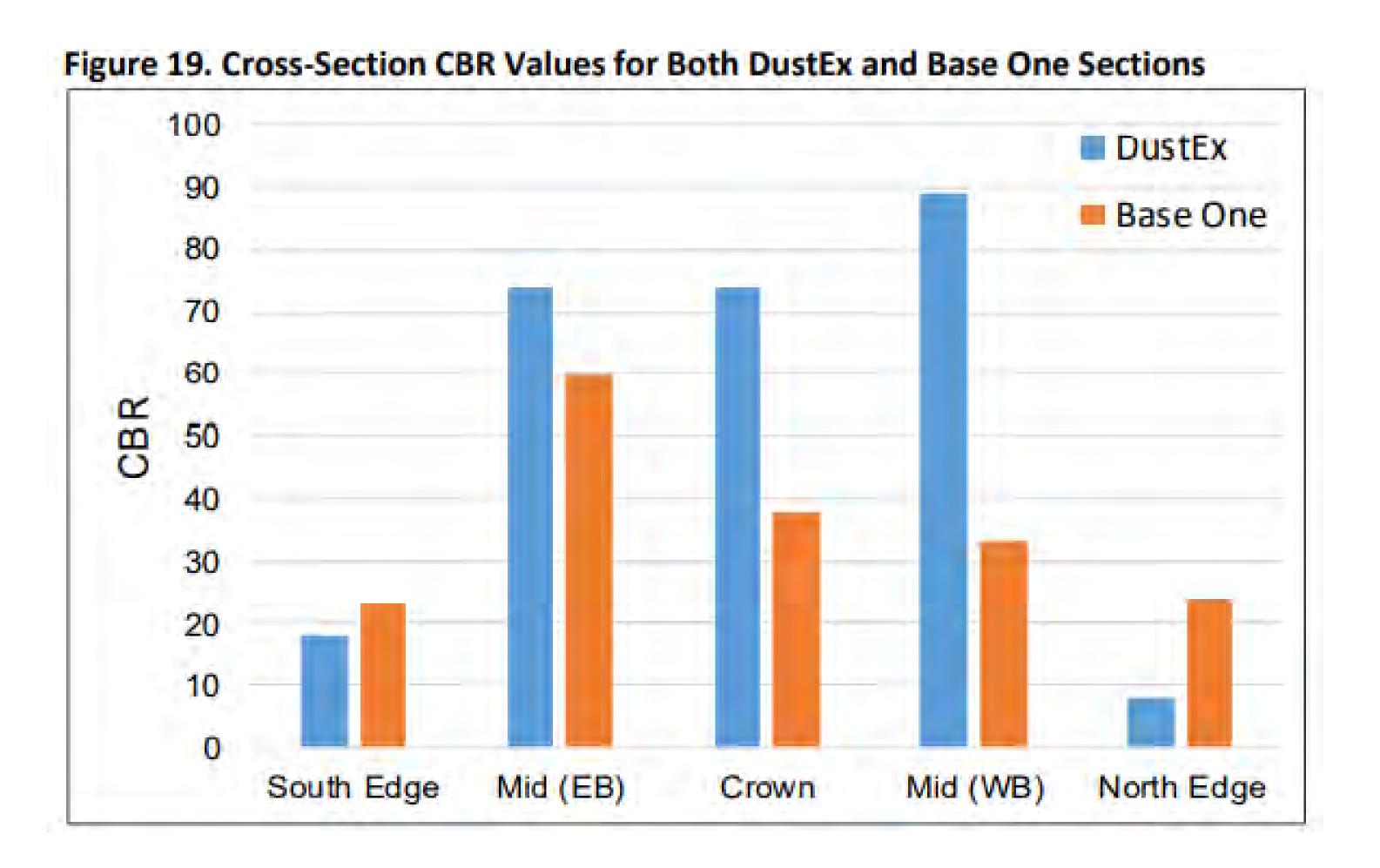
### 3) Project, testing, & Observations

Figure 18. Cross-Section Testing in Base One Modified Section (B1 through B5)





## **Cross Section CBR Values**









1) Reclaimer & Injection

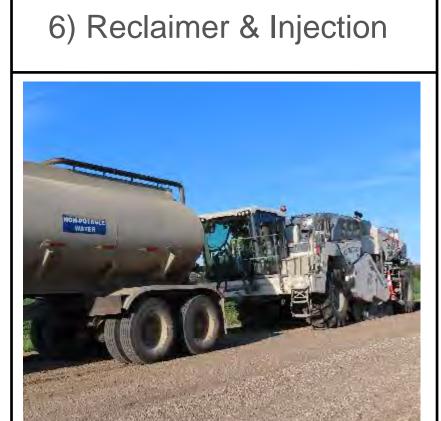




Stabilization Base









#### County Feedback 4)

#### 2) Compaction with a Pad Foot Roller

3) Grooming with a Motor Grader



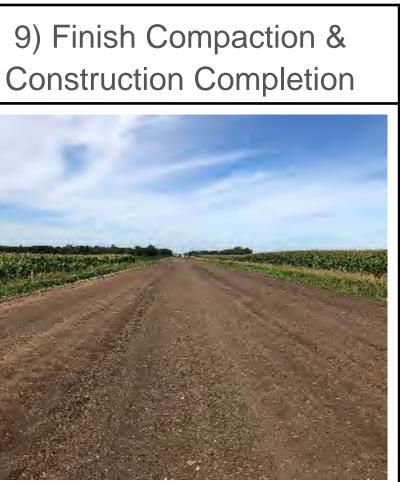
4) Finish Compaction with a Pneumatic Roller

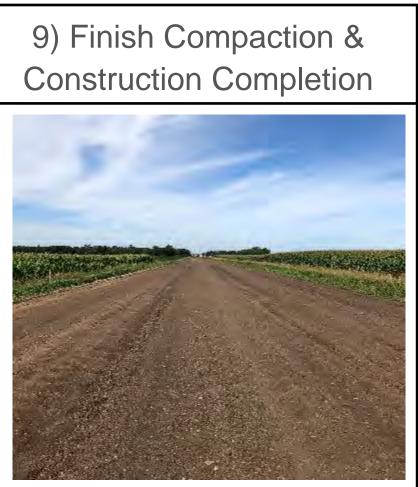


7) Compaction with Pad Foot Roller

8) Motor Grader Grooming











OVERED VI AN AN AND AN AN







### The Past

### 3) County Feedback

### The Present











### IMPROVING THE GROUND BENEATH YOU.



### Questions

