The Helena North and South project was built during the 1960s as part of the Interstate system. This six-mile section of Interstate 15, northbound and southbound, was built on a workable subgrade with high quality asphalt used in the HMA mixes.

The road opened to traffic in 1962. It currently carries approximately 11,560 vehicles each day and has handled approximately 20.8 million vehicles since it was built. The climate in the area is dry/freeze.

The road received a 1-inch HMA overlay in 1984. In 2001, MDT milled the road 2 inches and resurfaced it with 2 inches of Superpave HMA. Since that time it has continued to perform well, with recent rut, ride, and cracking indexes all rated as good.