Washington’s award-winning road runs between mileposts 195.11 and 198.89 on Interstate 5, close to the city of Everett. The area lies in the tidal delta of the Snohomish River, so soil in the area is soft and variable. The Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) considered flexible asphalt pavement to be the only pavement choice that would perform well in this environment.

The road was built on an embankment ranging in height from 15 to 48 feet. To allow for settlement, the base portion of the road, which consisted of 6 inches of aggregate base and 7 inches of asphalt base, was placed in 1969. Four years later, in 1973, WSDOT placed a 3-inch asphalt binder and surface mix.

Despite the difficult conditions, the road has performed extremely well and has so far required only a 1.5-inch overlay in 1990. Another resurfacing is scheduled for 2009.