**15761, Darreb Coughlin**

Good Evening Ladies and Gentlemen,

I’d like to welcome all of you to the 2016 International and Western States Workshop on In Place Asphalt Recycling. Ever since September 1976 ARRA’s primary function has been to promote the recycling of existing roadway materials to preserve limited natural resources and reduce costs. We continue this ongoing effort through education, strategic alliances and partnering at both the industry and agency level. To that end we have several great workshops scheduled for everyone this weekend.

I know that all of us have the same goals for recycling asphalt and for preserving our roadways. So, we’ll be looking at how to use different materials in the mixing and recycling, as well as structure and mixture designs. We will look at how temperature affects our methods and efforts. There is a workshop that discusses improved durability by increasing the density of the materials used. We’ll also be looking at how asphalt recycling is used in different states and even different parts of the world. We’re also going to have break out groups for specific subjects from which you can choose.

We have a wonderful venue here for our conference and I hope everyone takes advantage of all the great benefits while you are here. But, I also want to remind you that conferences are about more than just coming and sitting in workshops. The workshops are invaluable. But, the greatest resource for anyone in business is the contacts and connections they make at conferences just like this one.

While you are here you will take time to discuss everything you learn here. But, the great thing is that when you go home you will take with you some of the combined knowledge that you garner from all of your new contacts. And you know that you will be able to utilize one another as resources going forward. I encourage each of you here to take advantage of all the great opportunities available to you this weekend.

Our roadways are important. Our modern lifestyle requires that they be repaired, maintained and improved on a regular basis. This conference and others like it will keep us at the top of our game. By meeting together and sharing our expertise we can help each other to continue to improve our methods and procedures.

I am honored to be the incoming President of the Asphalt Reclaiming and Recycling Association. We have accomplished great things over the past 25 years and it’s my intent to continue to lead us to continue to accomplish great things. All of us must work together to accomplish our goals and I am excited about the future.

It is my hope that as we continue to grow and learn about new ways to do what we do that our organization will continue to outpace any and all competition. Our future growth and accomplishments will be contingent upon your own personal growth and commitment to our goals and our mission. I have full confidence in each and every one of you that you will give your all to our goals and our mission.

Thank you