



Seminar Announcement

UNIVERSITY OF
SOUTH ALABAMA

FLAGSHIP OF THE GULF COAST.



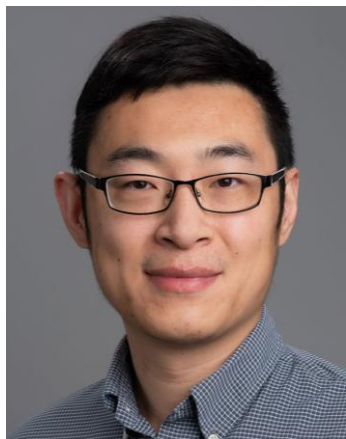
Education
Hub on Plastics
Circularity



Interdisciplinary Center for
Sustainable Engineering (ICSE)

presents

Repurpose Plastic Mulch Waste from Strawberry Farmlands to Asphalt Pavements



Dr. Kun Zhang

Associate Professor in the Department of Civil Engineering at California State University, Chico

Dr. Kun Zhang is an Associate Professor in the Department of Civil Engineering at California State University, Chico. He is the Lantis-Endowed University Professor and Dennis P. Murphy Distinguished Teacher-Scholar-Mentor Fellow in Civil Engineering. His research focuses on numerical modeling (CFD, DEM, FEM) for pavement design and production, strategic recycling of solid wastes as sustainable and low-carbon asphalt paving materials, and the impacts of climate and climate change on transportation infrastructure. He has served as PI/Co-PI for research projects funded by federal and state agencies and industrial companies. Dr. Zhang has published more than 40 peer-reviewed journal and conference papers and received the Best Paper Award in the Journal of Infrastructure Preservation and Resilience. He received the Gerald R. Seeley Early Career Faculty Award by the American Society for Engineering Education (ASEE) and the Outstanding Early Career Faculty Award by California State University, Chico. He also received the Outstanding Reviewer award from three Journals.

Abstract; In this presentation, Dr. Kun Zhang will provide an overview of the repurposing of waste agricultural plastics, especially the plastic mulch from strawberry farmlands, in asphalt roads. The influences of the collected plastic mulch with different levels of contamination on the engineering performance of mulch-modified asphalt binders and mixtures will be discussed. The production guidance of using recycled PE mulch in asphalt roads, such as production temperature, mixing dosage of plastic mulch, and different blending methods (wet vs. dry mixing method), will be presented based on the outcomes from the USDA SCRI Project..

Zoom Link:

<https://southalabama.zoom.us/j/97776252296>

**Wednesday, July 16, 2025, from
11:00 AM – 12:00 PM (CT)**

**More Info: Contact Mrs. Lind at
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