Healthier Road Construction
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Benefits of Asphalt Roads
- It is cost effective
- It is generally safe
- It is generally environmentally friendly, apart from Bitumen

Detriments of Asphalt Roads
- They have a limited lifespan
- They contain bitumen, which is an environmentally harmful crude oil product

Alternative to asphalt
Plastic Roads

What are they?
- Roads that are made almost entirely out of recycled plastic.

Where have they been implemented?
- A bike path in Zwolle, Netherlands.

What are the positives of plastic roads?
- They are environmentally friendly
- They are made from prefabricated sections of plastic, which can be made on site and installed quickly
- It’s cost effective
- The companies that developed the technology claim that it should last up to 3 times as long as a normal asphalt road
- Companies plan to source the recycled plastic from the oceans
- They have sensors in the bike path to test the temperature and the durability of the road

What does the future hold for plastic roads?

If the claims from the plastic road companies are true, then this technology will be readily implemented.
- It would be revolutionary for road infrastructure if the plastic roads can last 3 times longer than asphalt roads.
  o Many more plastic roads are planned on being made in the Netherlands
- The ability to prefabricate the road will revolutionize how quickly road construction projects could be finished.
  o Years shortened to months
- This would significantly decrease the carbon footprint of road construction
- Plastic waste would decrease significantly

Work cited

