

**What is a TAMP?**

A TAMP (transportation asset management plan) is a plan which establishes business processes that streamline asset management activities. To get there, we look at current practices in comparison with industry best practice, and then prioritize actions to address the gaps. A TAMP provide a framework to help NMDOT optimize management of the state's road infrastructure.

Why do we need a TAMP?

DOTs around the country are experiencing increasing pressures on their budgets. So it is increasingly critical to choose the right projects in order to minimize costs over the life-cycle of each asset. Trying to make these choices without a plan is like going grocery-shopping without a list: you might end up with food to make three balanced meals for each day all week, but even savvy shoppers are likely to end up eating the same thing three evenings in a row, or with all snacks and no dinner. Maybe you'll have to call for take-out to fill the gap, drastically increasing your food bill. Just as menu planning and a grocery list allow you to feed your family a balanced diet within your budget, a TAMP will allow NMDOT to maximize results by managing the life-cycle of transportation assets strategically to minimize costs. But, just as a grocery list is a tool and not an end in itself, a TAMP is a tool to allow NMDOT to shift to an asset management approach.

What is the goal of creating a TAMP?

As Secretary Church wrote in the November, 2014 issue of ¿Que Pasa?, the goal of creating a TAMP at NMDOT is to 'better maintain our infrastructure, maximize performance, and optimize both human and financial resources. We know asset management will help us apply lifecycle cost analysis to our resource allocation process, making our assets last as long as possible given our limited resources. Data that we have been collecting on our assets will help guide these important decisions.' Secretary Church's goal is to have NMDOT become performance-driven in all aspects of how we plan, deliver and manage our services. A TAMP will help develop policy-driven strategies for managing our assets - strategies that are more transparent, accountable, effective and efficient.

Why do this now?

The federal MAP-21 legislation now requires every state to prepare a TAMP—but that's not the main reason to do it. A TAMP offers NMDOT a far better way of doing business. Transportation asset management allows more efficient application of limited budgets and more confidence in our decisions, both internally and in the eyes of the public. It allows more focused data collection and more clarity on how we can best use our data. In short, it allows all of us to improve how we work together as an agency to deliver on our mission: Set the standard for a safe, reliable and efficient transportation system. We look forward to working with you throughout this process and beyond.