



Instructions

1. Introduction – Freight

The goal of this exercise is to delve deeply into the process of national performance measures target-setting and identify the issues that states will encounter in their effort to meet MAP-21 requirements. Each working group will need to take the range of issues identified, synthesize these issues into an AASHTO perspective for all states, and then suggest recommendations to consider for the SCOPM Task Force. These recommendations will be the focus of the discussion at the workshop on June 13th to identify recommendations to FHWA and actions that AASHTO and other partners can take to prepare for MAP-21 target-setting requirements.

1.1. Exercise Assumptions

For the purposes of this exercise, we will assume that all of the recommendations of the SCOPM Task Force have been adopted in the rulemaking. These are the measures recommended in November 2012 and the further target-setting recommendations from March 2013. The timeframes for when the first reporting is delivered and the first monitoring is conducted are included in this package (Reporting Timeline). This reflects the current understanding of the requirements. However, these dates may change once the rules are released.

1.1.1. Measure Recommendations

- **Annual Hours of Truck Delay (AHTD)**—Travel time above the congestion threshold in units of vehicle-hours for Trucks on the Interstate Highway System.
- **Truck Reliability Index (RI₈₀)**—The RI is defined as the ratio of the total truck travel time needed to ensure on-time arrival to the agency-determined threshold travel time (e.g., observed travel time or preferred travel time) on the Interstate Highway System.

See the Background Resources document for more information.

1.1.2. Target-Setting Recommendations

Delay

- AASHTO supports state flexibility in the setting of targets; as provided in MAP-21. To that end, the AHTD target would be set by individual state DOTs and MPOs expressed in terms of the continuous variable of Annual Hours of Truck Delay. This continuous variable will not be

represented through categorical variables of good-fair-poor or similar. Targets could have a negative or positive direction. For example “AHTD should not increase more than 5 percent per year”.

- In addition to urban and rural interstates, other geographic constructs are critical for longer distance freight movements. For example, targets could be set for truck trips on multi-state corridors between major city pairs, and at major international border crossings, using cooperative target-setting between adjacent jurisdictions.

Reliability

- AASHTO supports state flexibility in the setting of targets; as provided in MAP-21. To that end, the targets would be set by individual State DOTs and MPOs expressed in terms of the Reliability Index. Targets may vary by facility, by corridor, by region, by rural or urban, by freight versus commute route or other factors such as investment levels, available transit options, remaining capacity and levels of recurrent versus non-recurrent congestion levels.
- In addition to urban and rural interstates, other geographic constructs are critical for longer distance freight movements. For example, targets could be set for truck trips on multi-state corridors between major city pairs, and at major international border crossings, using cooperative target-setting between adjacent jurisdictions.

1.2. Exercise Process

A working group for each performance area has been formed, representing a range of states in AASHTO’s membership. The current list of members is attached.

There will be two calls scheduled for the working group – kickoff call on May 22nd and a second call June 3rd. Most of the work will be done offline and circulated via email.

- Exercise package sent to working group
- Kick-off conference call (May 22nd 10:30AM EST)
- Surveys filled out
- Conference call to determine recommendations (June 3rd at 10:30AM EST)
- Draft recommendations produced and circulated to the working group
- Finalize recommendations to be used at the workshop on June 13th

1.3. Exercise Background Resources

A collection of all relevant materials for this exercise has been compiled and included in the Exercise Package. It includes the following:

- General Target-Setting Recommendations
- Performance Area Specific Recommendation

- Appendix with Additional Resources

1.4. Exercise Support

Spy Pond Partners staff are available to support you with this exercise. They will participate in all calls and will support the co-chairs of each performance measure area in any way that is needed. Contact Hyun-A Park (hpark@spypondpartners.com or 617-500-4857) or Perry Lubin (plubin@spypondpartners.com or 617-909-7197).

2. Exercise Package

The package will be sent to the working group on Friday, May 17th to review before the kickoff call. It will include:

- Instructions
- Survey document and link to online survey
- Example Reporting Template
- Reporting Timeline
- Exercise Background Resources

3. Kickoff Call

A kickoff call will be held May 22nd and the agenda will include the following topics:

- Exercise Overview
- Survey Step
- Recommendations Development Conference Call
- Final Products of Exercise
- Schedule

4. Survey

Each member of the working group will complete a two-part survey. The first part asks questions regarding their readiness for developing national performance measures and targets and the process they will use. The second part asks what the state will do after the first monitoring period when they either exceed, meet, or do not meet their targets. The working group can choose to ask additional states, not involved on the working group, to fill out the survey.

After the surveys are completed, the consultants will synthesize the survey results for the committee to use at the conference call. The co-chairs will use this document to draft a list of candidate recommendations prior to the conference call.

5. Conference Call

The working group will take the material generated from the survey results and determine the recommendations for their performance area. The goal of the call is to agree on the general set of recommendations.

6. Recommendations

Draft and final recommendations will be produced using email to get input. The co-chairs can determine if another call is needed.

7. Post Workshop

A summary of the workshop will be distributed to the working group. A decision will be made after the workshop on whether further activities are needed.