



Instructions

1. Introduction – Pavement Condition

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

- **Interstate Pavement in Good, Fair and Poor Condition based on the International Roughness Index (IRI)**—Percentage of 0.1 mile segments of Interstate pavement mileage in good, fair and poor condition based on the following criteria: good if IRI<95, fair if IRI is between 95 and 170, and poor if IRI is greater than 170.
- **Non-Interstate NHS Pavement in Good, Fair and Poor Condition based on the International Roughness Index (IRI)**—Percentage of .1 mile segments of non- Interstate NHS pavement mileage in good, fair and poor condition based on the following criteria: good if IRI<95, fair if IRI is between 95 and 170, and poor if IRI is greater than 170.
- **Pavement Structural Health Index**—Percentage of pavement which meet minimum criteria for pavement faulting, rutting and cracking.

See the Background Resources document for more information.

1.1.2. Target-Setting Recommendations

- AASHTO supports state flexibility in the setting of targets; as provided in MAP-21. Because IRI testing is not appropriate at low traffic speeds and may be adversely impacted by utilities, we do not recommend establishing targets for urban environments without further study.
- We recommend that a state set targets to increase the % of rural road segments rated good and limit % of rural road segments rated poor. For example, a state may set a goal to increase the % good by 1%, while not allowing the % poor for rural roadways to exceed 20%. If a state has a very low percentage of road sections rated as poor, then a target maintaining current IRI should be acceptable.
- Progress towards meeting state-established targets should be assessed based on analysis of HPMS or state-reported data for the target year.
- Given that MAP-21 requires establishment of a national minimum condition level for Interstates, we recommend that this level be established only for rural interstate segments given the above referenced issues with urban IRI measurement. We recommend that a minimum condition level for rural interstate segments be set at less than or equal to 20% of segments rated poor based on IRI. Based on current HPMS reports, only three reporting agencies will struggle with the percentage poor requirement: Washington, DC, Puerto Rico, and New Jersey. When urban roadways are removed, New Jersey should fall under the 20% poor threshold. Many state agencies have less than 10% of segments rated poor.

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 20th and a second call on June 7th. Most of the work will be done offline and circulated via email.

- Exercise package sent to working group
- Kick-off conference call (May 20th at 10:00AM)
- Surveys filled out
- Conference call to determine recommendations (June 7th at 1:00PM)
- 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 on May 20th 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.