



**Compass Advisory Team Meeting
October 11, 2007, Wisconsin Rapids
Meeting Notes**

Participants: Bob Hanifl, Todd Hogan, Dennis Newton, Doug Passineau, Ken Pesch, Jim Wendels, Mark Woltmann, Jack Yates and Scott Bush.

Other Attendees: Emil Juni, Midwest Regional University Transportation Center.

1. Welcome New Members

Two new members were welcomed to the Compass Advisory Team, including Jim Wendels, a Roadway Maintenance Engineer from the WisDOT North Central Region (replacing Brian Gaber), and Adam Boardman, the Chief of the WisDOT State Highway Program Development and Analysis Section (replacing Joe Nestler).

2. Review draft April 12, 2007 meeting notes

The notes were accepted as written.

3. Summary of 2007 Training

Attendees – 12 people attended the introductory course (6 WisDOT, 6 counties) and 99 people attended one of the five refresher training courses.

Program Status – A handout from the training program was distributed and discussed that highlights the status of key program initiatives.

Evaluation Comments – The training continues to receive positive comments. One challenge is to find ways to keep the refresher training interesting to long-time participants. The price tag project will be discussed at the 2008 training sessions and should provide interesting information to the participants. It was suggested that future evaluation forms include a question identifying how long they have been with the Compass program.

4. Proposed Program Changes for 2008

A handout was distributed that summarizes the proposed changes to the 2008 program based on comments received at the 2007 training sessions and discussions with the training team. No negative comments on the proposed changes were provided at the meeting.

5. Maintenance "Price Tags" Project

A handout was distributed that summarizes the Price Tags project that will quantify costs to improve roadway features to varying levels of service.

6. Quality Assurance Project

The scope, participants and schedule for the 2007 QA effort were discussed. A copy of the 2006 QA report was also distributed. Data variation for three roadway features continue to be noted, including ditches, drop off and cross slope. Additional discussion on appropriate field measurement techniques will be emphasized at future training sessions.

The team discussed the Compass threshold for drop off (>1.5") vs. the FDM (>2"). It was noted that shoulder work could occur between when the county/region team rated the road and when the QA team rated the road. There was also discussion about if a maximum rating could be established for drop off and/or cross slope, similar to paved shoulder cracking.

7. 2008 Summer Maintenance Targets

The maintenance targets were recommended by the WisDOT Maintenance Supervisors and approved by the WisDOT Operations Managers. Since the targets help shape the annual work plans, the information will be distributed to the regions with the Routine Maintenance Agreement data. Scott will also forward the target information to the County Patrol Superintendents and WisDOT Maintenance Coordinators. There was discussion about cost accounting systems and if counties capture roadway or segment level cost data. Ken indicated that Washington County obtains this information to better understand productivity rates.

8. Update on Pavement Van Procurement and Data Collection

The WisDOT Division of Transportation Investment Management (DTIM) is procuring a new van that will obtain the automated pavement condition data for the department. Scott is working with DTIM to see if there is available budget to provide additional functionality to the van. A new side-mounted camera may provide a way to automate the collection of some data that is now obtained through the Compass field rating process. The final costs and budget will determine if additional functionality can be added to the van.

9. Feedback on 2006 Compass Annual Report

The rapid increase in transverse cracking and longitudinal cracking was discussed with the WisDOT Pavement Policy Committee. The committee noted

limitations with the way Compass is illustrating pavement data. Scott will review ways to make the pavement data more meaningful to the regions and counties.

10. Outreach Efforts

Scott mentioned several outreach efforts with the Compass program, including discussing the program at the fall Patrol Superintendent meetings in each region, presenting a paper at the TRB Asset Management conference, and updating the Compass website. Ken suggested that a presentation could be provided at a WCHA conference and highlight both Compass and a similar process that Eau Claire County uses to determine conditions of their county trunk highway system. Ken will discuss this idea with Tom Walther and the WCHA Executive Board.

11. Schedule Spring 2008 Advisory Team Meeting

Adam and Brett have a standing meeting on the second Thursday of the month that conflicts with the typical Compass Advisory Team meeting schedule. Future team meetings will be scheduled on the third Thursday to help avoid the conflict.

12. Meeting Adjourned