



FDM 2-5-1 Definition and Relationship

December 11, 2014

1.1 Overview

The goal of the Division is to "provide leadership in planning, development and operation of a safe, reliable and efficient multimodal transportation system. Enhancing opportunities for economic development by incorporating local communities' needs and seeking input from diverse stakeholders." This Division goal is achieved through good program and project management.

The word "program" has several meanings in DTSD relative to the context in which it is used. In general, a program is a group of related projects. More specifically, in DTSD the "program" is a collection of projects that individually have a cost estimate and an encumbrance date. As the statewide program is sliced into manageable pieces other programs are created: each region has a program, different types of similar projects make up sub-programs. DTIM, has created subdivisions of subprograms as well as categories that transcend subprogram boundaries. These subdivisions and categories are called WisDOT Programs.

Program management is the process of managing a group of related projects in a coordinated way. Program management provides well defined system goals that are met through the completion of a group of projects. Through oversight of the related projects, program management ensures the overall program goals are met.

Project management is the discipline of planning, organizing, securing and managing resources to bring about the successful completion of specific project goals and objectives. A project is a well-defined sequence of activities that, when completed, result in a tangible product - a highway safety improvement, for example. Projects that are managed well are delivered on time, within budget and meet quality requirements. A group of well managed projects create a program that is easier to manage, increasing program stability. Projects that are not delivered on time create a hole in the program that may or may not be filled by another project. Program goals may be jeopardized when projects are not delivered. Program management also relies on good communication. Program managers and functional areas rely on timely, accurate project information to make program and resource adjustments.

Performance Management and Change Management are the processes by which we track the relationship of Program Management and Project Management.

Each functional area also has a program to manage. Functional areas have either direct delivery responsibilities, deliver products for a project, or assist the project delivery team. The functional area programs may consist of separate projects (e.g. real estate, utility or railroad IDs) or pieces of many projects. Functional areas include utilities, railroads, environmental, structures, survey, mapping, geotechnical, traffic operations, maintenance, consultant contracting and real estate.

DITM has oversight responsibility on several programs and works closely with the DTSD to accomplish program goals. Although the programs have the same general goals and objectives, how they are managed can differ. WisDOT highway programs include:

- Local Highway Programs - Bureau of Transit and Local Roads (BTLR)
- State Highway Programs - Bureau of State Highway Programs (BSHP)
- Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) - BSHP

The goals of Program Management and Project Management are the same. The primary difference between program management and project management is in the number of projects considered in measuring success of each of the goals.

Performance measures are used throughout WisDOT to help us meet program and project goals.