

# WisDOT Lean Government Initiative Status Update



November 11, 2014

WisDOT Board of Directors



# Lean project results



**Inactive Projects**

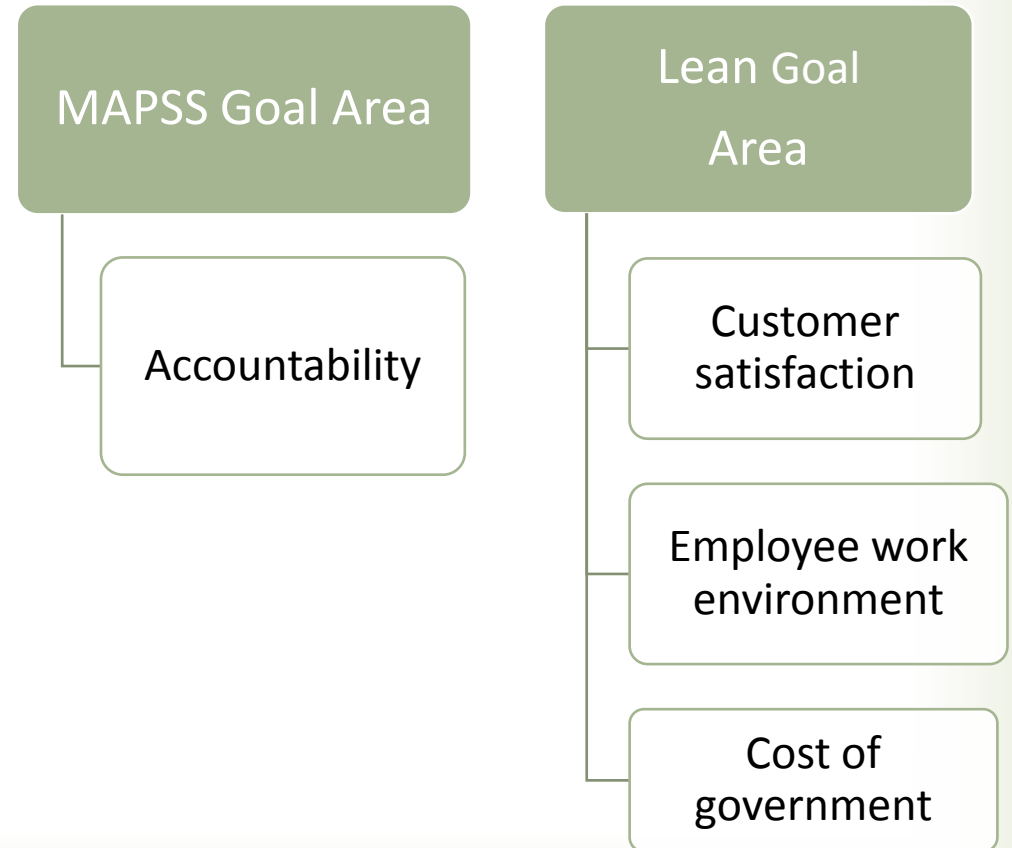
Osas Osemwegie

Division of Transportation System Development

# Issue and goals – Reduce number of inactive projects



- ❧ FHWA tracks project charging inactivity on a quarterly basis
  - ❧ A project is flagged as inactive after 12 consecutive months of no charges regardless of the amount of the project
  - ❧ FHWA identifies two random focus areas for review on projects flagged as inactive with unexpended balances under \$150K
- ❧ Staff time is required to investigate and provide justification for inactive projects
- ❧ Missed opportunity to reallocate funds tied to inactive projects
- ❧ Project goal
  - ❧ To reduce the number of federally funded projects without charging activity for 12 consecutive months to less than 2 percent of the department's total annual federal obligation



# Results and next steps –

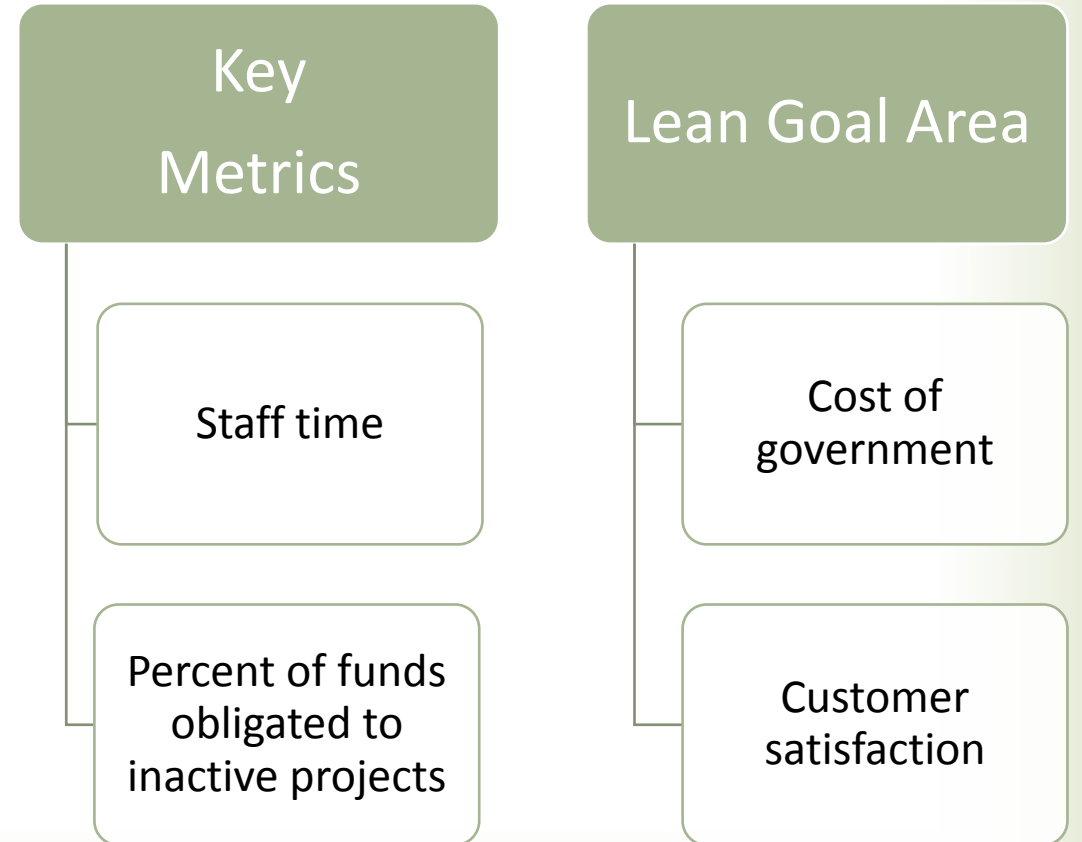


## Results

- Reduced the percent of inactive projects and increased the ability of WisDOT to meet the FHWA target
- Redirected staff time towards critical efforts
- Created an opportunity for WisDOT to use the funds for another purpose

## Next steps

- DTIM chartered a project to reduce turnaround time of project audits
- DBM will review time it takes for closing out projects from charges
- DTSD will continue to proactively monitor and address, on a monthly basis, inactive projects





# Lessons learned



- ☞ Having a cross divisional team, subject matter experts helped in mapping the process and identifying multi-divisional ownership and responsibility
- ☞ Keeping good documentation and work plan for continuity
- ☞ Recognizing the need for a phased execution early

# Lean Project Results



**Reduce Project Audit Backlog and Turn-Around Time**

Jesse Patchak & Justin Kiekhaefer

Division of Transportation Investment Management

# Issues and goals

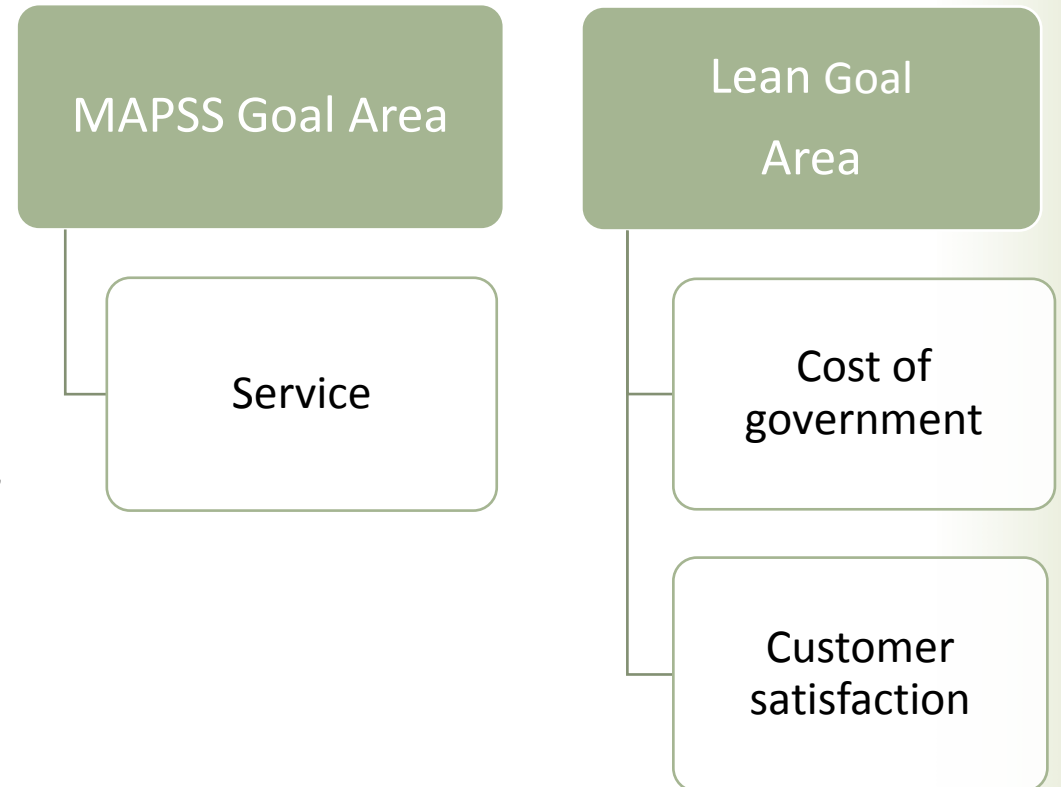


## Issues

- Increasing project audit backlog
- Increasing FHWA inactive projects
- Consultant audit inconveniences due to project age
- Increasing workload with static staff resources

## Project goals

- Reduce turnaround time of project audits to expenditure accounting, FHWA, and Consultants
  - Meet acceptable levels of 65% of projects older than one year, 25% of projects older than two years, and 10% of projects older than three years
- Reduce project audit backlog to healthy and necessary levels
  - Healthy and necessary levels were determined to be the amount of staff hours needed to complete all project audits within one year with current staff (3200 hours)

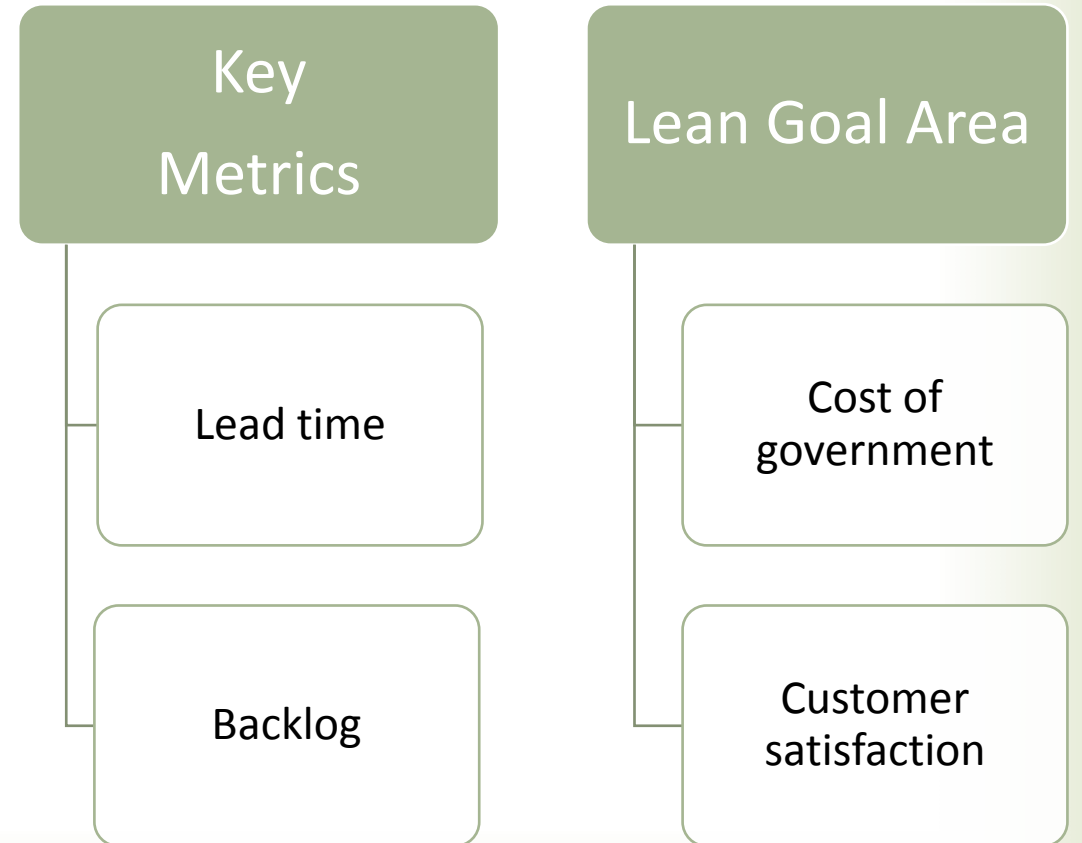




# Process Changes



- Close out of projects not requiring audit
- Upload SAS reports in Audit Database
- Compare FHWA inactive list with current audit workload
- Perform subconsultant audits concurrently with prime consultants
- Project audit procedures by risk assessment





# Results and next steps

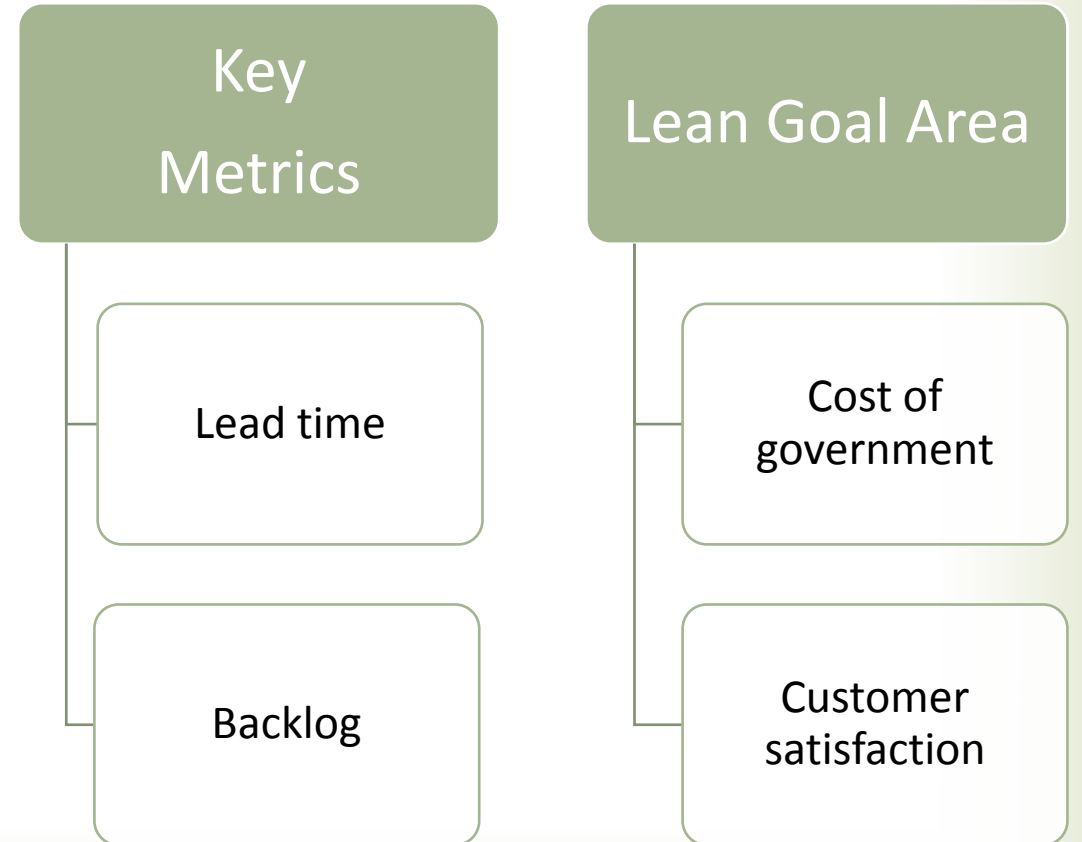


## Results

- As of June 30, 2014, the project age levels were 41.73% for projects older than one year, 15.88% for projects older than two years, and 7.84% for projects older than three years
- As of June 30, 2014, the project audit backlog was 2,116 projects with only 3,174 estimated hours to complete

## Next steps

- Work to ensure that process changes remain implemented and monitor project backlog
- Continually review audit processes and implement improvements to all areas of audit



# Lessons learned



- ☞ Time spent to improve processes has cumulative and impactful results, paying dividends far beyond the initial investment.
- ☞ It is important to update and evaluate process maps as processes evolve over time with new savings measures.