## Compass Advisory Team Meeting UW-Stevens Point February 25-26, 2003

Members present: Mike Ostrenga, Jack Yates, Scott Schnacky, John Kinar, Bruce Fredrickson,

Alison Lebwohl, and Tom Walther

Unable to attend: Jerry Kast, Mike Burns, Brett Wallace, Gary Kennedy, Anne Monks, and Brian

Gaber.

Members stepping down: Mark Wolfgram and Matt Rauch

Guests: Teresa Adams, Tim Nachreiner, and Anne Reis

**Facilitator:** John Nordbo

Topic	Discussion	Decisions, actions & owners
Meeting products	<ul> <li>✓ Recommendations &amp; action plan for next year</li> <li>✓ Completed matrix to evaluate and choose alternative game plan</li> <li>✓ Thoughts toward a long-term vision for program</li> <li>✓ Communication plan</li> <li>→ Team continuity plan</li> <li>✓ accomplished → deferred</li> </ul>	
The Environment	The group brainstormed strengths, weakness, opportunities and threats of the Compass Program. These ideas were then grouped to identify similar themes, and the team selected and addressed those factors that it believed could break the program if they went unaddressed for the next 12 months. (See table on the last page of the minutes for other themes and details.) Those factors are described below.	
New Leadership	<ul> <li>We don't yet know how much information the Secretary's Office would like to get, and at what point. In light of this, it seems wise to:</li> <li>Defer publicizing the program at that level until we have clarified our vision/timeline. This means deferring both asking the Secretary to be in the new video and placing information in the bulletin or secretary's reports.</li> <li>Revisit information delivery strategy in the summer before ratings team starts up again</li> <li>IDIA: Lynne Judd and Mark Wolfgram are already in the loop; we need to bring in Kevin Chesnik.</li> </ul>	Alison will keep IDIA informed.  The Advisory Team will revisit publicizing the program to the Secretary's office in the summer.  Alison will work with Dave Vieth to bring Kevin Chesnik into the loop.
Limited Program Scope	<ul> <li>Compass has only reported out on Shoulders, Drainage, Roadsides and Selected Traffic Devices, which cover only 27% of the operations budget.</li> <li>Expanding to winter (30%) and pavement (25%) would cover 82% of the budget.</li> <li>Cost data is a critical first step in helping people use this information for decision-making.</li> </ul>	Alison will manage the program to report out on winter, pavement and cost data in next year's reports. (See Game Plan for details.)

Topic	Discussion	Decisions, actions & owners
Multiple Visions	<ul> <li>Currently, there are several competing visions for Compass. This may be resulting in overly-large and sometimes incorrect expectations.</li> <li>Some of that confusion may be around the fact that Compass includes both quality assurance and asset management, unlike in other states, where similar programs cover only QA.         <ul> <li>Quality Assurance: what's out there? what condition is it in? what condition should it be in? what does it cost to get there under current practices?</li> <li>Asset Management: trade-offs, uncertainties, customer preferences, best practices.</li> </ul> </li> <li>To ensure the future of the program, a staged vision with a timeline needs to be formulated.</li> </ul>	Alison will work with the Advisory Team, the Ops Managers and Dave Vieth to formulate a staged vision with a timeline. (See The Future for details.)
Other Important Themes	<ul> <li>Limited Data Analysis         <ul> <li>See discussion under Data Analysis heading</li> </ul> </li> <li>Constrained Resources         <ul> <li>This will influence the program in next 12 months</li> </ul> </li> <li>System Upgrades and Integration         <ul> <li>This is a part of the asset management stage of Compass, and will be addressed by clarifying the staged vision of Compass</li> </ul> </li> <li>It takes time to get program up and running         <ul> <li>BHO staff need to communicate the current status of the program to important players: accomplishments and future intentions. Again, this will be addressed by clarifying the staged vision of Compass.</li> </ul> </li></ul>	
Auxiliary Themes	Compass has addressed the following themes already, but staff needs to maintain these efforts in perpetuity.  • Intergovernmental cooperation  • Cooperative Team Effort  • Credibility  • Clear Reports  There is a concern that the program manager is the only person with full knowledge of the Compass program. It is important that others could carry on the program if the need arises. Addressing this theme was deferred until next year.	
The Game Plan	The group used the Compass decision matrix to frame this conversation. See attached matrix for details. We went through possible expansion options for the next 12 months, determined which were dealbreakers, and focused solely on those. The major dealbreakers were Winter and Pavement. See following topics for details.	

Topic	Discussion	Decisions, actions &
Winter	<ul> <li>Currently, a pilot study to test the feasibility of two winter measures is underway. A Winter Standards Team was convened with members from central office, districts and counties.</li> <li>The team is investigating travel speeds during and after a storm relative to a "normal" speed using Automatic Traffic Recorders (ATRs) and commercial carriers, and will analyze crash data to look for changes in crash rates during and after a storm.</li> <li>In the next 12 months, the winter standards team, and Compass and BHO staff will:         <ul> <li>Report on feasibility of crash data and ATR data.</li> <li>Continue exploring the feasibility of using commercial carriers to measure mobility recovery time.</li> <li>Draft a recommendation of a possible body of measures using existing sources like the storm report</li> <li>As allowed by pilot results and staff time, report out on 2004 winter results, using crash data, ATR data and measures from existing sources like the storm reports. Note: this report will be issued after winter is complete and separately from the general report.</li> <li>Explain/communicate ongoing actions for winter.</li> <li>Plan for customer preferences information/survey.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	winter Standards Team will report on the feasibility of the two winter measures (crashes and mobility recovery time) in 2003.  Alison and John will work with Mike Sproul and Tom Martinelli to:  Report out on the upcoming 2004 winter as described on left.  Gather more info. about drivers' winter preferences.
Pavement	<ul> <li>Pavement data was piloted in 2001 using the field review and the Advisory Team used that pilot to recommend using van data in the future.</li> <li>In 2002, the Traveled Way Standards Team correlated the Compass measures with the van measures, in order to ensure that we were measuring things maintenance could impact.</li> <li>The pavement team and BHO staff will work with TRUAX personnel to acquire and process this data in the Spring/Summer of 2003. Staff will report out on pavement features in the 2003 Annual Report.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Alison, John and Tim will work with the pavement team and Truax to:</li> <li>Acquire and process the pavement data.</li> <li>Report out on pavement features in the next Compass Annual Report.</li> </ul>

Compass Quality Assurance Program Decision Matrix as of February 25, 2002

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		dway		oadsi					50	ons	al	SS			ives	Validate measures	cess	Customized measures	Canned reports	Targeted reports	Customizable reports	Take to legislature	Take to media & public	Use for decision-making	Use for budgeting
	Pavement	Shoulders	Drainage	Roadsides	Rest areas	Winter	Bridges	Signing	Marking	Operations	Electrical	Priorities	Costs	Targets	Alternatives	Validate	QA process	Custom	_	Targete		Take to	Take to	Use for	Use for
Accomplished?		~	~	~				>	<b>\</b>	>									<b>'</b>		<b>'</b>				
Data collection (F/I)	I	F	F	F		?		F	F	F															
Dealbreaker (Y/S/N)	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	N	N	N	S	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N
Our domain (Y/S/N)	Y					Y							Y						Y						
Importance of asset (H/M/L)	Н					Н																			
% of ops budget	25	27 (S	ign &	Marl	k)	30																			
<ul> <li>Critical to leg, public or safety</li> </ul>	Y					Y																			
Importance of tool/info (H/M/L)	Н					Н																			
Help us with key tasks or decisions	Y					Y																			
<ul> <li>Critical to leg., public or safety</li> </ul>	Y					Y																			
Other tools not available	N					S																			
Resources to launch (H/M/L)	M					Н							M						Н						
Ongoing resources (H/M/L)	L					Н							L						Н						
Probability of success (H/M/L)	Н					M							Н						Н						
Builds support (H/M/L)	Н					Н							Н						Н						

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	Pavement	Shoulders	Drainage	Roadsides	Rest areas	Winter	Bridges	Signing	Marking	Operations	Electrical	Priorities	Costs	Targets	Alternatives	Validate measures	QA process	Customized measures	Canned reports	Targeted reports	Customizable reports	Take to legislature	Take to media & public	Use for decision-making	Use for budgeting
How many yrs. until start	1	0	0	0	2	1	2	0	0	2		2	1	2	3	1	0	5	0	2	0	3	3	2	2
How many yrs. until acceptable product	2	0	0	0	3/ 4	3	3/ 4	2	3	5		5	3	5	5	3	3	10	5	5	10	7	7	5	5
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Topic	Discussion	Decisions, actions & owners
Key Messages for Operations Managers	<ul> <li>2003 Plan</li> <li>Current actions</li> <li>Use the matrix as part of this conversation</li> <li>Field Review</li> <li>Winter</li> <li>Pavement</li> <li>Outsource data analysis</li> <li>Planning actions</li> <li>Starting dialogue on targets and alternatives</li> <li>Adding cost data</li> <li>Communication steps &amp; tools</li> <li>Outline of the major components of the vision</li> <li>Communication Plan</li> </ul>	
Key Messag	<ul> <li>Take Home messages</li> <li>Compass is moving forward. (We're moving on pavement and winter.)</li> <li>We have a picture of the future. (This is what it looks like.)</li> <li>Compass is rounding out. (It will include cost data, and we're starting the conversation about targets.)</li> <li>Remember that the cost of the program (\$250,000) includes field time and staff time that would have been spent regardless. (73% of raters agreed that this was not new work. Only 5% disagreed.)</li> </ul>	
Communication	<ul> <li>Ratings Teams</li> <li>In 2002, information sent to the district contact didn't always reach the ratings teams. For example, pilot counties didn't all realize they needed to attend training; videos meant for patrol superintendents to show their patrol workers weren't all distributed.</li> <li>However, one contact per district continues to make sense. This contact will receive – and be responsible for distributing – information about training dates and locations, as well as the rating sheets and maps.</li> <li>General</li> <li>Information given to districts may not always reliably reach the counties.</li> <li>Info. given to county commissioners may not reliably reach the patrol superintendents.</li> <li>Improvement in the BHO mailing and emailing contacts database would help this.</li> </ul>	serve as the district contact for Compass information.  Bruce will inform them of this on March 12 <sup>th</sup> .  Alison will work with Tim and Jay Wells (per John) to provide information on what is needed in title and organization fields for the contacts database.  Jay will populate these fields in the database.

Topic	Discussion	Decisions, actions &
		owners
	Segments too close	Alison will work
	• There was a concern that many segments were too near each other	with BAS personnel
	for conditions to be independent. This is in part a concern about	on a Page One project
	data quality, but not a large one. The larger concern is that this	to revise the segment
	reduces credibility with raters.	selection protocol so
	Segments needed to be eliminated	segments are >1 mile
	<ul> <li>Segments could fall on a connecting highway or bridge. In</li> </ul>	apart, if this is
	Milwaukee, especially, this was a problem.	feasible. This project
	<u>County lines</u>	will also eliminate
	• In some cases, a segment that appeared on one county's map was	segments on
	actually in another county. We think this is a problem with the	connecting highways
	GIS county layer.	and bridges.
	Random Selection	<b>Tim</b> will devise an
	• There is a concern among raters that the segments selected for	alternative method to
	rating are not representative of the actual conditions on state	select the segments if
_	roads. Three specific concerns raised by raters were:	BAS cannot revise
ion	o Is the segment selection really random?	the protocol.
Segment Selection	o Is random selection really fair?	the protocol.
Sel	<ul> <li>Is reselection of previous years' segments fair?</li> <li>Road Class</li> </ul>	<b>Alison</b> will inform
ant	<ul> <li>There are two ways of using road class to capture the driver's</li> </ul>	BAS folks of the
3m6	point of view when sampling. We could sample each road class	potential problem
Seg	separately, which is resource intensive. We could also "weight"	with the county maps.
	segments by road class during the random sampling, so that a road	
	with a higher ADT would be proportionally more likely to be	Training Team will
	selected. So we would be weighting by driver miles, not by	address raters'
	centerline miles.	concerns and educate
	• In order to sample by road class, we would need to layer ADT	raters on the
	info. from TRADIS with lane information from STN, something	importance of
	that doesn't yet exist.	random selection.
	<ul> <li>Moreover, weighting segments by ADT would make it more</li> </ul>	C 1: '11
	difficult to capture maintenance costs for alternate service levels,	Sampling will
	however.	continue to be by centerline miles,
	• We are interested in providing critical missing information. Right	without consideration
	now, estimates of maintenance costs for alternate service levels	of ADT.
	are a key piece of info.	OI AD1.
	• Once we have inventory information, we don't have to choose	
	between customer and maintenance points of view. We can have	
	both.	
ಇ	<u>Directions</u>	Alison will work
Markers & Maps	The written directions and location placement on the 2002 ratings	with <b>BAS</b> on a Page
arkers Maps	materials were often confusing. Visible markers could be hard to find.	One project to
Ma		improve map
		directions.

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Topic	Discussion	Decisions, actions &
		owners
	Rating Personnel	Anne will work with
	Patrol Sup.'s and Area Assistants will continue to rate the roads	John Nordbo and
	Rating Dates	<b>Alison</b> on developing
	Rating will occur two weeks earlier than last year: from August	a more visually
	15, 2003 to October 15, 2003.	intuitive ratings
	Revising Ratings Sheet	sheet, as described to
	The format of the rating sheet caused data collection errors and	left.
	caused BHO staff to discard as many as 280 data points statewide	
	for some features. Reducing these errors should include the	<b>Alison</b> will work
50	following actions:	with <b>BAS</b> on a Page
Rating	o The ratings sheet will be revised to be more visually intuitive	One project to revise
Ra	<ul> <li>Descriptions of Yes/No and None check boxes will be</li> </ul>	visible markers and
	consistent feature to feature	maps, as described to
	Revising Visible Markers and Maps	left.
	<ul> <li>Visible markers will only be in one direction</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>Spares will be in different colors</li> </ul>	The <b>Training Team</b>
	Segment Marking	in training and Anne
	On rating sheet and in training, emphasize that raters should mark	on the rating sheet
	well the segments they rated	will emphasize the
		need to mark the
		segment being rated
		using durable paint.

Topic	Discussion	Decisions, actions &
Data Quality	<ul> <li>Revising QA Protocol</li> <li>BHO staff implemented a Quality Assurance program for the field review on a limited basis for 2002. It serves as a check on bias, and allows us to pinpoint potential training flaws.</li> <li>Doing this in a way that allows us to compare one county to another would be expensive because it would require re-rating 30 segments per county.</li> <li>Instead, we will do a statewide QA, assuming that all ratings teams constitute one large "field team" and comparing their scores to those of a "central team." The protocol will work as follows: <ul> <li>Choose ~100 segments statewide, at least one segment from each county.</li> <li>QA will occur as close as possible in time to the original rating.</li> <li>John Kinar and 1 member of the rating team will re-rate segments. They may contact local maintenance personnel to see if they're interested in joining them.</li> </ul> </li> <li>For future consideration</li> <li>Identify those counties that have scores that are significantly different than the central team's and sub-sample more in those areas.</li> <li>Identify low feature scores and check up with quality assurance. Is it truly a condition problem or a rating/training problem?</li> <li>A more organized system for having District folks and any other people interested ride along on the QA rating</li> </ul>	Alison will work with John K and a member of the Training Team to revise the QA process as described to left.
Data Analysis	<ul> <li>Statistical expertise</li> <li>BHO has limited resources for analyzing the data in-depth         <ul> <li>Look into outsourcing if it's an option. Can report out basic data if only option for 2003.</li> <li>Look into purchasing an appropriate data analysis and/or graphing package for reporting data.</li> </ul> </li> <li>[Note: Since the meeting, this has come up as a likely collaboration with the University through the experimental Traffic Lab. Alison is working with John Corbin on this.]</li> </ul>	Alison will talk to Dave about outsourcing data analysis and/or graphing for reports. If necessary, we will use the same format next year as this year.
Reporting	<ul> <li>Feedback</li> <li>We got extensive feedback on the reports from counties and from district line staff. However, we expect the program reporting to be most useful to managers. We considered soliciting additional feedback from managers, but decided not to.</li> <li>Reporting Format</li> <li>Okay to keep current format for 2003 Report, if necessary.</li> <li>May become more complex depending on data analysis.</li> </ul>	

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Topic	Discussion	Decisions, actions &
		owners
	<ul> <li>Measures</li> <li>We need to start thinking about whether these measures tell us what we need to make decisions; about what appropriate targets would be.</li> <li>Other states' experience tells us it will be a few years until we have targets.</li> </ul>	Bruce and Alison will work with John and Scott to discuss measures and targets with Ops Managers.
	<ul> <li>At some point, we may want to consider examining the element scoring as well.</li> <li>Features</li> <li>Some features will be modified, eliminated, discussed in the future or maintained as is.</li> </ul>	Alison and Training Team will discuss including riprap flumes with other solid flumes before
Measures	<ul> <li>Discuss in future:         <ul> <li>Include Riprap (rock) flumes as well as other solid flumes for flumes feature.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Modify:         <ul> <li>Mowing: This was very controversial in training. ➤ Include check-off for reasons for non-compliance</li> <li>Signing: We suspect this was not being rated consistently because standards were subject to interpretation. There is confusion between regulatory/warning and other signs.</li></ul></li></ul>	John will talk about eliminating the landscaping feature with landscape personnel  Anne will work with Alison to revise ratings sheet and manual to reflect changes discussed on left to feature standards or measures  Training Team will revise training and materials accordingly.
	<ul> <li>Drains</li> <li><u>Shoulders</u></li> <li>Shoulders are currently separated into paved/unpaved. Cost code data</li> </ul>	
	is also separated this way. We will continue to maintain this	
	separation in the rating and reporting.	

Topic	Discussion	Decisions, actions &
_		owners
The Future	Formulating the vision  The vision still needs to be compiled. Below are questions and comments to direct the vision.  Determine:  What is Compass's role in driving, integrating, developing, incorporating all asset management and maintenance management systems?  Compass is a facilitator of these processes, but it is not responsible for them.  What are the best guesses on when we will have targets, costs, alternatives?  Now and then  Mere are we currently?  Maintenance management focus in short term.  Operations management in long term.  Refocus from maintenance management system to operations management system to asset management system (customer view).  Maintenance: What are the inputs and outputs?  Operations: What's it like to drive on the system?  Asset Mgmt: How do you go from outputs to outcomes?  Value  Now: highlighting operations' data needs.	Alison will work with the Advisory Team, the Ops Managers and Dave Vieth to develop a vision as discussed above in Multiple Visions to guide the program, communicate about the program – and eventually inform conversations with the Secretary, Legislature and/or others.
Communication Plan	<ul> <li>Future: Consistency. All maintenance workers understand and follow standards on a statewide basis, especially time sensitive issues (e.g., mowing or winter)</li> <li>How/Who/Where do we distribute the Information?</li> <li>DDs - Report annually (March/April 03)</li> <li>SPO managers - simultaneous with Ops managers(3/03)</li> <li>Modal Administrations - work with Dave to bring in Kevin Chesnik. Keep Lynne and Mark in the loop. (3/03)</li> <li>Area Sup. 's - invite to training before May (1-day). Spring/Fall meetings</li> <li>Patrol Sup. 's - Same as above. Fall conference (9/24)</li> <li>Area Assistants - Same as area sup.'s.</li> <li>County Commissioners - Winter meeting/April Training</li> <li>Ops Managers-see above.</li> <li>BHO staff - Semi-annual: before rating and then report in February/coincide with new brochure before ratings report</li> <li>Hill Farms - new brochure</li> <li>County/District Budget Staff - June 03</li> <li>County/District Office Managers - June 03</li> <li>County/District Office Managers - June 03</li> </ul>	Alison and Bruce will discuss presentation to Ops Managers on March 12 <sup>th</sup> Alison will get on schedules and communicate with groups as outlined to left.  Scott will talk to County/District Budget Staff and Office Managers about charging hours to Compass-June 03

Topic	Discussion	Decisions, actions &			
	Questions to develop plan	owners			
Team Continuity Plan	What we can and can't do with new administration?				
	What we can aid can't do with new administration:     When do we need new perspectives?				
	<ul><li>Do we need new specific skills?</li></ul>				
	TTT - 1 1 1 10				
	<ul><li>What kind of support do people need?</li><li>Should we consider a natural rotation of advisory members?</li></ul>				
	<ul> <li>Should we consider a natural rotation of advisory members?</li> <li>Who replaces members that are no longer on team?</li> </ul>				
	o Traffic (replaces Matt Rauch)				
	o DTIM (replace Mark Wolfgram)				
Ĭ	Do we need more county input?				
	<ul> <li>Who else to include that would be helpful?</li> </ul>				
	Where are we relative to other states?				
	Wisconsin Compass Program is a combination of FL and WA				
	programs. Both programs have targets and costs. Montana has been				
	developing their program parallel to ours. All programs use				
	centralized ratings teams.				
	Florida:				
	Program well-supported.				
	Feature to element roll-up; ignoring problem.				
	Report by road class.				
	Used to monitor private contractors.				
	Washington:				
	Happy with their program.				
>	• Measuring winter on experimental basis (time to bare pavement).				
nar	Use activities instead of features as measures.				
Summary	Costs are somewhat arbitrary.				
TRB Su	Montana:				
	Program hit a large road-block when it lost support of ops				
	managers and lost its program manager soon after.				
	Same as WA program				
	Other states with interesting performance measures and similar				
	prorams: Ohio, New Mexico, Vermont				
	Other interesting things from TRB				
	Alison and Teresa presented a poster on Compass.				
	Heard ideas about alternative sampling methods.				
	Discovered some innovative research on eliciting customer				
	preferences.				
	Gained support from Montana DOT, Washington DOT, FHWA				
	staff and MRUTC for a national peer-exchange on programs like				
	this one. Currently working on developing that and getting FHWA				
	funding.				
1	Schedule Future Meetings for Wednesday, Thursday, and Fridays starting				

Schedule Future Meetings for Wednesday, Thursday, and Fridays starting at 9:30 on the first day if a two-day meeting.

SWOT Analysis Original Brainstorming Ideas				
Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities	Threats	
<ul> <li>Good trainers/committed training team</li> <li>Good raters/many people have been trained</li> <li>Smart diverse advisory team</li> <li>Program Manager</li> <li>Communication districts/county/central office</li> <li>Data on demand</li> <li>Heavy involvement of frontline staff</li> <li>Good startup of program</li> <li>Database startup good/meaningful information</li> <li>Communication</li> <li>Standards being clarified, better understood/ Flushes out deficient procedures policies/process improvement</li> <li>Kept promises and on timeline (credible program)</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Rating sheet confusing</li> <li>Need for more statistical expertise</li> <li>No element data</li> <li>Database not complete to give solid conclusions-We're only at step one/ Reports do not help decision-making</li> <li>No cost data/can't be used for decision making</li> <li>Buy in-what's in it for me?</li> <li>Too much county comparisons</li> <li>Vague program goals/objectives</li> <li>Limited resources (people and budget)</li> <li>Need better graphing tools</li> <li>Who carries the torch if key staff leave/Program Manager only knows ins and outs</li> <li>Too resource intensive</li> <li>Only covers small amount of program/budget-27%</li> <li>Add key elements</li> <li>Can't be used for daily work planning</li> <li>Time constraints/Time to get program up and running</li> <li>Lack of understanding of definitions/element/feature</li> <li>Concern with random selection</li> <li>Link compass with inventory systems</li> <li>Should differentiate between classes?</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Improve existing systems/need for inventory system</li> <li>Budget crisis-help set priorities</li> <li>Expand program/to other areas</li> <li>Reporting/call for performance measures/usable information</li> <li>Identify customer expectations</li> <li>Integrate with other systems</li> <li>Learn from other states</li> <li>Tie measures to budget expenditures/Apply system to top maintenance mgt decisions/ Asset mgt. tool</li> <li>Communicate what we do</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Public perception of value/ Misuse or misinterpretation of data/results</li> <li>Human Resources Limitation</li> <li>District vs. Central Office resource limitation</li> <li>Budget, financial resources cut/limited</li> <li>Time to get program up and running/generate future buy- in</li> <li>New administration</li> <li>Low profile of Program</li> <li>Vague program goals/unclear direction for future</li> </ul>	