



Compass Advisory Team Meeting
Thursday May 15, 2014
Meeting Notes

Present: Gary Brunner, Lance Burger (*phone*), Scott Bush, Bob Hanifl, Todd Hogan, Todd Matheson, Bill McNary (*phone*), Doug Passineau, Iver Peterson, Dan Raczkowski, and Bradford Winkelman/UW (*phone*).

1. Notes from the May 16, 2013 meeting were reviewed. The meeting notes were accepted as submitted.

2. The draft *2013 Compass Annual Report* was reviewed. The full draft report will be sent to team members and review comments should be provided within two weeks. The draft report has also been reviewed by the WisDOT Operations Managers and WisDOT Maintenance Supervisors. The final report will be discussed with Compass raters at the annual training and a link to the report will be emailed to state and county staff.

Illustration and analysis of region data has been expanded to help regions identify their relative strengths and weaknesses. Region “scorecards” are now developed each year to identify the overall region grade point average, along with calculating region grade point averages by the Compass contribution category and by the Compass element. The scorecards also identify when a region condition level constitutes the highest or lowest region backlog rate in the state. Finally, the scorecard lists region features in worse condition than the maintenance targets and features in better condition than the fiscally-constrained targets. The region “visualizations” illustrate the same information on a continuum, comparing region conditions with other regions, the statewide level, and the maintenance target.

While reviewing marking data, it was noted future self-driving vehicles will require good Edgelines to stay in proper roadway lanes. The discussion also included a reference to the deficiency threshold for unpaved shoulder drop-off/build-up changing over 10 years ago from greater than 2” to greater than 1 ½”. The time to bare/wet pavement is impacted not only by the severity of storms, but also the interval between winter storms.

3. The WisDOT MAPSS performance measures program was discussed. The Compass data is the MAPSS performance measure for highway maintenance. An annual grade point average is calculated based on the individual grades of the 28 Compass features. The calendar year 2013 GPA is 2.57, while the WisDOT goal is 3.0 (on a 0 to 4 scale). Other MAPSS performance measures impacted by maintenance and operations were

discussed, including winter operations, pavement conditions, bridge conditions, incident management, and 511 traveler information. There is a MAPSS webpage on the WisDOT internet site.

4. Generalized maintenance unit cost estimates and other “Price Tag” data was discussed. The information provides general guidance on needs to improved levels of service for each Compass feature. The updated 2014 figures were distributed and used in the state biennial budget discussions.

5. Performance Based Maintenance Initiative. The team discussed their role in the PbM initiative. Potential short-term and longer-term PbM data and analysis were reviewed.

6. 2014 Compass Training Program

- Schedule: A two-day introductory course will be held in early August and one-day refresher courses will be held in each region in late July and early August. About 125 region and county staff have registered for a training session, including 19 people at the 2-day introductory course.
- The training team and their area of focus include:
 - Scott Bush, WisDOT (Program Manager)
 - Dan Raczkowski, Marathon County Patrol Superintendent (Shoulders)
 - Mike VanDeWeerd, Lincoln County Highway Commissioner (Drainage)
 - Leif Hubbard and Christa Wollenzien, WisDOT Landscape Architects (Roadsides)
 - Dennis Newton, WisDOT SE Region Signing and Marking Coordinator (Traffic Control and Safety)
- Curriculum: The training will emphasize unpaved shoulder design widths and new paved asphalt standards. A research project to analyze gravel shoulder treatments will also be discussed. Additional field work will be provided to practice field measurements.

7. Updates:

- 2013 Quality Assurance Findings. QA findings were discussed and will be shared with Compass raters. Emphasis will be placed on properly marking segments, and measuring unpaved shoulder drop-off/build-up and cross-slope.
- WisDOT Pavement Maintenance Management System. PMMS is being upgraded based on changing pavement data from the Pavement Distress Index (PDI) to the Pavement Condition Index (PCI).
- NCHRP Synthesis 20-05/Topic 45-13: *Maintenance Quality Assurance Field Inspection Practices*. The study was recently completed and identifies protocols and structures for Compass systems in other state departments of transportation. Scott was a panel member for the research project and Compass was surveyed as part of the study.
- WisDOT LiDAR Assessment Project. The team received an update on a research project analyzing opportunities to automate and standardize location information through Light Detection and Ranging (LiDAR) technology. A good

primer on the subject was referenced - NCHRP Report 748 – “*Guidelines for the Use of Mobile LiDAR in Transportation Applications*”.

- A poster was reviewed summarizing modifications and enhancements to the Compass program over the last nine years. The “*Are you Maintaining your Maintenance Quality Assurance Program?*” poster was presented at the TRB Transportation Asset Management conference.

8. Next Meeting (third Thursday in May). May 25, 2015 in Wisconsin Rapids.

9. Adjourn