Leading Management Practices in Determining Funding Levels for Maintenance & Preservation Peer Exchange

Scan Objective

- Identify funding allocation practices that have successfully ensured reliable, adequate funding to support the delivery of efficient and effective maintenance programs

The Scan Explored How…

- Funding levels are determined

- Funds are allocated to districts and regions

- Districts and regions determine the amount to spend on specific maintenance tasks

- Agencies determine optimal allocations

- Performance measures are used to allocate funds

Scan Team

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- **Tim Lattner**, FL DOT (Rudy Powell)

- **Laura Mester**, MI DOT

- **Cory Pope**, UT DOT

- **Lonnie Watkins**, NC DOT

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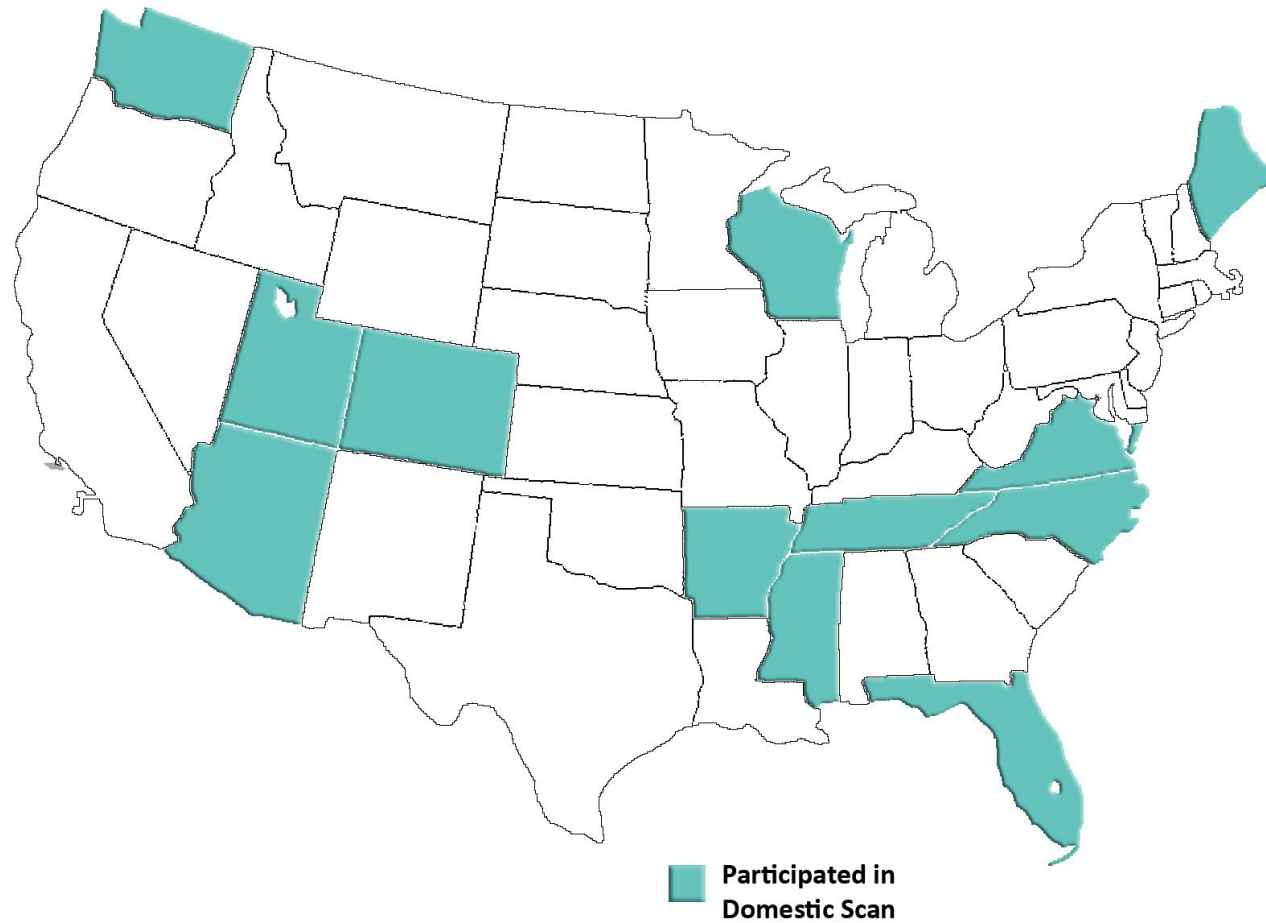
- **Katie Zimmerman**, APTech, SME

Scan Approach

Category 1 States	Features
Florida DOT	Adequately funded to address maintenance needs
Utah DOT Washington State DOT	Use maintenance performance data to determine maintenance funding at the state level

Scan Participants

Participated in
Domestic Scan

Organization of Initial Findings

- Agency culture

- Relationship with elected officials

- Performance measures and targets

- Data

- Program support

Photo provided by the NCDOT

Recommendations

1. Establish performance measures and targets that drive the development of a unified agency culture

2. After establishing agency performance measures & targets, allow regions & districts flexibility in planning work activities

3. Develop customer-driven targets to convey need and achievable targets for accountability

4. Develop national guidance on data quality, governance, and utilization

Implementation Activities – Dissemination

- Post products

- Webinars

- Presentations

- Technology showcase

Implementation Activities – Advance Practice

- **Peer exchange**

- Maintenance performance information clearinghouse

- Guides for sharing findings, such as a legislator's guide or a guide on maintenance data collection

- Research statement on data quality, governance, and utilization guidance

- Research statement that leads to parameters for an external process review of maintenance activities

Peer Exchange Proposed Objectives

- Sharing Best Practices

- Re-institute the Maintenance Quality Assurance (MQA) Document Library

- Establish a State Directory of Contacts for MQA Programs

- Development of a Summary Report

Format for Peer Exchange

- One person per DOT funded to attend, FHWA, Scan Team

- Organized by 5 Topic Areas by Session (Discussion and Presentations)

  1. Collecting and Maintaining Inventory and Condition Assessment Data

  2. Selecting Performance Measures and Setting Performance Targets

  3. Using Data to Evaluate Funding Needs and Allocate Funding

  4. Building an Organizational Culture to Support Performance-Based Decisions

  5. The Use of Technology to Support Maintenance Budgeting

Session 1: Collecting and Maintaining Inventory and Condition Assessment Data

- Presenting States: Washington, Mississippi, Tennessee, Maine, Nevada, Montana

- Discussion Topics:
  - Biggest Challenges?
  - How do you keep inventories current?
  - What steps have you taken to ensure quality of data?
  - How are you using this inventory information?
  - What would you like to do with current data you have?

Session 2: Selecting Performance Measures and Setting Performance Targets

- Presenting States: Arizona, Utah, Florida, Colorado

- Discussion Topics:

  ◦ What type of performance measures do you use?

    ◦ Numbered? Pass/Fail?, LOS A-F?

  ◦ Do you use a state-wide health index?

  ◦ Do you adjust your targets?

  ◦ How can you make performance measures more meaningful to you agency?

Session 3: Using Data to Evaluate Funding Needs and Allocate Funding

- Presenting States: Utah, Colorado, Mississippi, Tennessee,   Texas

- Discussion Topics:

  ◦ What are the advantages / disadvantages to allocating funding based on historical rather than performance data?

  ◦ How do you use performance targets in budgeting?

  ◦ What steps would you think are required to better use targets in budgeting and allocation?

Session 4: Building an Organizational Culture to Support Performance-Based Decisions

- Presenting States: Florida, Washington, Colorado

- Discussion Topics:

  ◦ What step has your agency taken to establish a culture that embraces performance-based management levels?

  ◦ Are you regularly making improvements to your Maintenance Quality Assurance Program?

  ◦ If an agency were starting an MQA program, what advice would you give them?

Session 5: The Use of Technology to Support Maintenance Budgeting

- Presenting States: Washington, Utah, Arizona, Colorado

- Discussion Topics:

  ◦ What kinds of tools and technology do you use to support MQA?

  ◦ How have you been able to able to acquire the staffing of funding needed to incorporate technology into your processes.

  ◦ What challenges have you faced with software maintenance, hardware / equipment upgrades

  ◦ Is it feasible for states to pool resources to develop "shared" tools and applications? Why or why not?

Session 6: NEXT STEPS

- Round table from each participant on lessons learned and take-aways

- Discussion Topics:

  ◦ What are you going to try to implement from this meeting?

    ◦ Implement new program, adjust current program, no change?

  ◦ What additional tools or guidance could be developed to help implement any aspects from these discussion?

For More Information

- U.S. Domestic Scan program TRB webpage Scan 14-01: http://onlinepubs.trb.org/onlinepubs/nchrp/docs/NCHRP20-68A_14-01.pdf

- Presentations from Peer Exchange: https://arorapc.sharefile.com/d-s45f3b9453724c09a

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