

County Transportation Metrics: A Roadmap for Setting Priorities



Washington State Association of Counties (WSAC)
Presentation to the Washington State Legislature
Joint Transportation Committee

November 14, 2012

VISION

Improve use of transportation data for external reporting

Benefits

- Accountability
- Transparency
- Best practices
- Informed decision-making

LEGISLATIVE DIRECTION (ESHB 1175)

- FY 11-13 biennium appropriation to “identify, evaluate, and implement performance measures associated with county transportation activities.”
- Must include, at a minimum: safety, system preservation, mobility, environmental protection, and project completion.
- Report due December 31, 2012
- Funded from a portion of state fuel tax revenue

PHASE 1: RESEARCH & BEST PRACTICES

- ✓ Reviewed efforts nationally by other counties and states
- ✓ Met with Washington State Auditor's performance audit staff
- ✓ Met with Oregon Department of Transportation – a leader in performance reporting
- ✓ Met with TIB to review their dashboard
- ✓ Developed draft guiding principles

PHASE 2: OUTREACH TO COUNTIES

- ✓ Established 9-county advisory committee
- ✓ Partnered with County Road Administration Board and State Association of County Engineers
- ✓ Conducted statewide educational workshops
 - 17 counties
 - Identified preliminary measures, feedback and revisions
- ✓ Conducted survey with commissioners, administrators, engineers and planners

PHASE 3: BUILDING THE REPORTING SYSTEM

- Hired performance measure expert team: Lund, Scanlan, IBI
- Regional meetings to refine measures
 - Wenatchee, Olympia, Spokane
- Data analysis
- Revise performance measures
- Sampling and testing
- Advisory committee meeting and commissioner interviews

KEY DRIVERS

- Inform the state's regional and statewide transportation planning processes and the development of the TIP's and STIP.
- Add county information to the state attainment report process
- Integrate with MAP-21, RTPOs, TIPs, & the STIP
- Use data for informed decision-making
- Build the performance measurement capacity of counties

PRELIMINARY FINDINGS

- Diversity of county system
 - Differences from state system may require different reporting
- Wealth of CRAB & WSDOT reporting data
 - Build on success
 - Use existing resources
- Performance measures not benchmarks
 - No comparison between counties
- Discovering issue areas
 - i.e., permitting

PRELIMINARY MEASURES

Preservation

- Pavement condition
- Bridge sufficiency ratings

Safety

- Fatalities and serious injuries on county roads (#)
- Progress - Target Zero Goals

Project/Program Delivery

- Projects completed on schedule and budget (%).

Mobility

- Miles of T-1 – T-5 routes which support all-weather access for farm to market commodity conveyance?

Environment

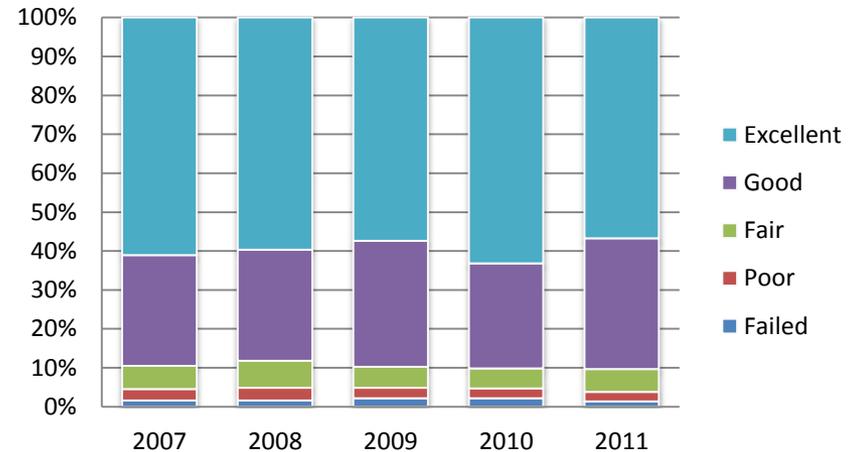
- Stormwater construction projects completed (#)?

SAMPLE MEASURE

Arterial pavement condition

- Portion County road system included in this measure
 - **32%** of county road system are paved arterials
 - 64% of county road system **not included & not consistently measured** (unpaved roads & local access paved roads)
- What does this measure show?
 - County arterials in good condition
 - 2011 – 92% fair or better

All Counties - County Owned Arterial Pavement Condition (32% of county roads)



Measures:

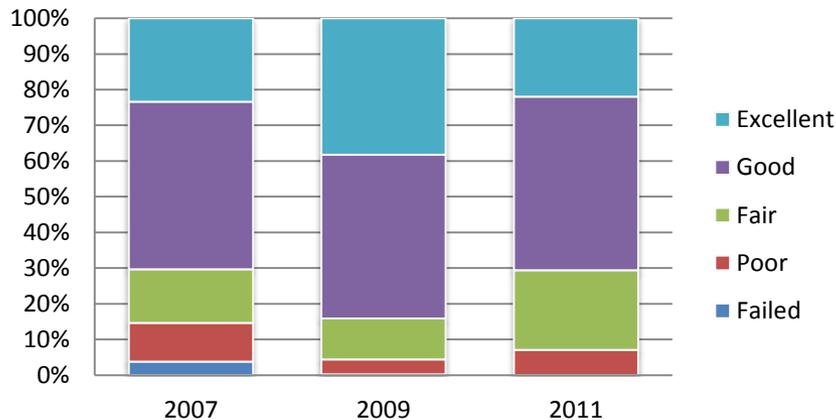
- Condition of pavement measured in a given year (CRAB requires every 2 yrs)
- Does not tell whole story of condition (i.e. seal-coated roads)

SAMPLE MEASURE

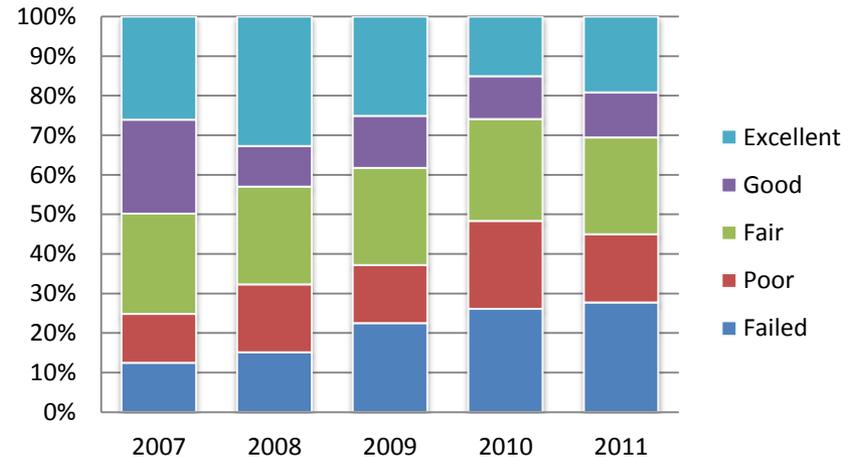
Examples of greater county detail

Douglas County Arterial Pavement Condition

18% of county roads



King County Arterial Pavement Condition
30% of County Roads



Counties vary in the percentage of roads that are paved arterials and consistently measured (18% to 55%)

CHALLENGING MEASURES

Environmental

- Stormwater
 - Regional applicability

Exploring Options

- Department of Ecology
- NPDES Phase 1 and 2 counties
- Relevant maintenance activities

NEXT STEPS

- Stakeholder outreach
 - RTPO's, commissioners
- Web site launch
- Complete data findings on measures 1-4
- Resolve challenging measures
- Technical requirements for online reporting - dashboard
- 2013-2015 budget proviso

POLICY OPPORTUNITIES

- Implement at local level
 - Training
- Opportunities for future measures
- Tie-in with state plan, RTPOs, TIP, STIP
- Opportunities for legislative actions
 - Statutory protection on data use
 - Programmatic permits