Regional Asset Management Pilot – Release Talking Points

Key message: *Asset management is the foundation of successful infrastructure systems, as it involves planning for maintenance before emergencies arise, resulting in tremendous cost savings and improved security, safety, and public health for our communities. The Pilot project showed that collaboration and coordination between drinking water, wastewater, stormwater, transportation, public and private partners is possible and will add value to local, regional, and state governments.*

- Michigan has over 3,350 infrastructure asset owners that operate and maintain hundreds of thousands of miles of roads, water pipes, gas lines and electric cables, all primarily on an individual basis. In addition, planning and funding cycles for different types of infrastructure are often not coordinated, and public and private infrastructure owners may not be aware of each other's planning and decision-making processes.
- When the 21st Century Infrastructure Commission released its report, they recommended the immediate creation of a regional infrastructure pilot to identify existing infrastructure data and gaps, determine an appropriate comprehensive database system to house this data, and begin to coordinate amongst asset management data and planning across infrastructure sectors.
- To accomplish this goal, the Regional Asset Management Pilot was announced on April 3, 2017 with final report and recommendations due to the Governor April 2018.
- Throughout the past year, the pilot has convened state department, regional, local and private utility leaders across infrastructure assets of transportation, water, wastewater, stormwater, broadband and energy to create a roadmap for a statewide asset management database and asset management culture.
- The joint regional pilot between Region 4 (West MI) and Region 10 (Southeast MI) covered 55 percent of Michigan's urban, suburban, and rural population.
- 201 communities, regional entities, and private utilities participated in at least one area of the Pilot process.
- The data collection process was an incredible success, with the data collected covering the geography of 158 communities.
  - We had over 15,000 miles of drinking water data submitted, 13,000 miles of wastewater, and 6,000 miles of storm water which can now be used to show how a statewide asset management database will allow us to make better decisions on where and how much we invest.
- Coordinating the way we plan for and manage infrastructure across and among levels of government and private utilities will reduce interruptions of infrastructure use by the public and save taxpayer money.
- Michigan can be the first in the country to work toward creating a comprehensive asset management data collection and planning process to drive efficiencies and coordination across all infrastructure asset types.
- Through the work completed in the past two years and the collaborative effort that has taken place, Michigan will have a holistic, integrated and comprehensive strategy across infrastructure types, putting us on the right path toward our bright future.

Key Report Recommendations

- A roadmap to implementing asset management in a standardized and systematic way across infrastructure types and jurisdictions creating better coordination and planning for the state's road, water, sewer, stormwater, electric, gas, and broadband infrastructure systems.
- Ensuring all participants in the statewide asset management database at the local, regional, and state level receive a benefit for participating, make it a 'win-win'.
- Establish a permanent Michigan Infrastructure Council to oversee planning and mapping of statewide coordinated asset management.