



## Session 13:

### CONTEXT SENSITIVE SOLUTIONS IN TRAFFIC OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE



Context Sensitive Solutions must continue throughout operations and maintenance.

Most transportation facilities last a generation. Some, like bridges, last two or more generations. We measure the time it takes to plan, design and construct a transportation project in years. We operate and maintain that project for decades. Using CSS principles and practices during operations and maintenance is critical to successfully implementing CSS in Michigan for the long term.



## Apply CSS to all Phases of Traffic Operations

### Coordinating Traffic Management

Use CSS to Monitor and Refine:

- Access
- Mobility
- Speed
- Modal balance



Traffic management systems should be closely monitored and public feedback considered.



## Apply CSS to all Phases of Maintenance Operations

### Coordinating Maintenance Activities

Use CSS to Monitor and Refine Maintenance:

- Needs
- Procedures
- Schedules



Expenditures to ensure proper long-term care and maintenance of facilities should be planned early on, as the design is developed. Maintenance and operations staff members must be involved during this time to provide feedback regarding current maintenance practices and identify additional equipment and facility expenditures needed if unique and additional improvements warrant.



## **Apply CSS to all Phases of Traffic Operations and Maintenance Operations**

### **Coordinating with Community Events and Other Initiatives**

Use CSS to Anticipate and Coordinate:

- Community events
- Land-use changes
- Infrastructure changes
- Regulatory changes



Olson Memorial Highway, Minneapolis, MN

Adjacent communities must be involved early in the design phase to help identify the constraints and opportunities that these types of projects bring. Facility improvement and expansion may displace residents and sometimes entire neighborhoods. Social Justice and other related issues continue to be concerns once the facility is built.



## Partnering is the Key to Success

- Creating Positive Impressions
- Fostering Communication
- Implementing the Vision



Working closely with affected communities, agencies, and organizations through partnership agreements can help ensure good working relationships, create open communication channels for now and the future, and provide opportunities for project success.



## **Partnering is the Key to Success**

### **Creating Positive Impressions**

- Community
- Transportation
- MDOT



Following through with good maintenance and operation activities will honor those commitments made to stakeholders during the planning, design, and construction phases of the project.



## **Partnering is the Key to Success**

### **Fostering Communication**

- Engaging Travelers and Neighbors
- Building Trust and Support
- Sharing Burden and Benefits



Open communication between affected parties is vital to future long-term relationships and should be nurtured during operations and maintenance.



## **Partnering is the Key to Success Implementing the Vision**

- Enhanced Environmental Measurements
- Improved Social Measurements
- Increased Economic Measurements



I-696, Oakland County, MI

Accurate measurements of a project's success and its ongoing impacts are critical to fully realizing the potential of CSS.





## Conclusion

Utilizing the CSS approach during traffic operations and during maintenance activities promotes long-term successes.



I-35E, St. Paul, MN

In conclusion, operation and maintenance practices will determine the success (or failure) of a project. If not operated or maintained properly, the most well-funded and well-designed project will quickly deteriorate before the public's eyes. Early planning with and acceptance by maintenance and operations staff is critical to the project's long-term success.

Good partnership agreements are also essential, if cost-sharing continues during the maintenance and operational phases of a project.