



STATE OF MICHIGAN

GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

JOANNA I. JOHNSON
CHAIR



Michigan
Transportation Asset
Management Council

May 27, 2020

Public Act 51 Agencies, Regional and Metropolitan Planning Organizations and Michigan Department of Transportation

RE: 2020 Pavement Surface Evaluation and Rating (PASER) Training and Data Collection

Dear Transportation Agency Partners,

On behalf of the Michigan Transportation Asset Management Council (TAMC) and in accordance with Gov. Gretchen Whitmer and the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services' [recommendations designed to help prevent the spread of Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\)](#), the TAMC is sharing updated information from the TAMC [March 20, 2020 correspondence](#).

We understand, with 617 Michigan transportation agencies, there are a varying degree of thoughts related to an agency's ability to collect PASER data in 2020. The TAMC is relying on each transportation agency to make the decision on what/if any data collection will occur this year. As is the case in any year, according to any relevant laws, rules, regulations, policies, etc.

All PASER training and certification exams for 2020 have been cancelled. Be reassured the TAMC evaluated various options to deliver PASER training before making this difficult decision. To assist Public Act 51 Agencies, Regional and Metropolitan Planning Organizations and the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT), the TAMC has established the following, one-time contingencies to administer PASER Federal Aid and Non-Federal Aid data collection for the 2020 condensed data collection season:

- Anyone who attended PASER training in 2018 or 2019 *is eligible* to participate in Federal Aid data collection in 2020; anyone that was PASER certified in 2018 or 2019 *is also eligible* to participate in Federal Aid data collection in 2020.
- Anyone who has not attended PASER training in 2018 or 2019 or was not certified in 2018 or 2019 *is not be eligible* to participate in data collection this year.

In the face of our challenges, this is also an opportunity to consider ways we can collect PASER data, while still complying with the [TAMC Policy for Collection of Roadway Surface Condition Data](#).

Joanna Johnson, Chair – William McEntee, Vice Chair – Derek Bradshaw – Christopher Bolt – Gary Mekjian
Bob Slattery – Jonathan Start – Rob Surber – Jennifer Tubbs – Todd White – Brad Wieferrich

- **Federal Aid data collection:** The Governor's executive directives regarding workplaces maintaining social distancing are a limiting factor in the ability to collect Federal-Aid data. At this time, the target date for these restrictions is to be made June 12, 2020.
- **Non-Federal Aid PASER data collection:** efforts and reimbursement can commence as determined by the respective local agency. Regional and Metropolitan Planning Organizations, please ensure you are contacting the local agencies proactively, coordinating the Non-Federal Aid data collection cycles with Public Act 51 agencies with an emphasis on the top 125 agencies, ensure all participants of data collection understand procedures for data sharing with TAMC as well as TAMC policy and procedures for collecting Non-Federal Aid data and make sure the data is supplied to the TAMC timely. Typically, requests for Non-Federal Aid data collection reimbursement authorization are required to be received by the Regional and Metropolitan Planning Organizations by October 1, however due to the circumstances this has been modified for 2020.

We have appreciated hearing the creative ways to collect data from separate vehicles, using larger vehicles, etc. We would appreciate you all sharing these opportunities in the future. If agencies are not collecting Federal Aid data, which is priority, then there should be an opportunity to expand the Non-Federal Aid data collection to those willing to do so. This is an important time to have data to assist local agencies in Transportation Asset Management Plans that are required for some agencies beginning October 2020. **Please keep in mind as you consider data collection; the first day for data collection is typically the first Monday in April of each year; the last day for data collection shall be the last Friday in November of each year. The deadline to submit the data is the first Friday of December.** The TAMC has budgeted and invested in data collection for FY2020. Along with each of you, we are uncertain of the TAMC budget in the future and dollars allocated will not be carried over into future years.

For current and up-to-date information regarding the Coronavirus visit <http://www.Michigan.gov/Coronavirus> or <http://www.CDC.gov/Coronavirus>.

Questions regarding these 2020 policy contingencies can be directed to Roger Belknap, TAMC Coordinator by calling (517) 230-8192 or by email BelknapR@michigan.gov. To learn more about TAMC and to access road and bridge condition data and maps, visit www.Michigan.gov/tamc.

Thank you in advance for all your efforts and patience as we collectively navigate these circumstances. As many of you are essential critical infrastructure workers, thank you for all your frontline efforts during this time. We sincerely appreciate your cooperation in this matter and your public service.

Sincerely,



Joanna I. Johnson, Chair
CC: TAMC Members and Member Agencies