Data Needs, Availability and Opportunities for Work Zone Performance Measures

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U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration





Webinar Structure

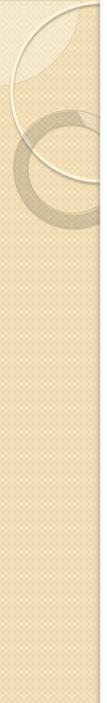
- Introduction (FHWA)
- Guidance Development Challenges and Process
- Structure of the Guidance Document
- Mobility Measures and Data Sources
 - Q&A
- Safety Measures and Data Sources
 - Q&A
- Customer Satisfaction Measures and Data Sources
- Agency/Contractor Measures and Data Sources
 - Q&A



Work Zone Performance Measures

Metrics that help to quantify how work zones impact travelers, residents, businesses and workers.

- * Project-level metrics
- * Agency program-level metrics



Work Zone Performance Measurement

Quantifying work zone impacts Manage work zone impacts Guides investment decisions Identify trends Refine policies and procedures Assists in public information and outreach

Work Zone Safety and Mobility 23 CFR 630.1088(c)

• States shall use field observations, available work zone crash data, and operational information to manage work zone impacts for specific projects during implementation.

• States shall continually pursue improvement of work zone safety and mobility by analyzing work zone crash and operational data from multiple projects to improve State processes and procedures.



Work Zone Performance Measurement Challenges

- Which measures are most important?
- What data are needed?
- Where and how do we get that data?
 - What is available/accessible?
 - How applicable is it?
- How do we compute the measures from that data?





Guidance Development Process

- Initial list of 13 possible measurement categories
- Reduced and collated along three key dimensions
- Practitioner expert panel identified and prioritized performance measures for each category/dimension

Performance Measure Data Needs

Performance data

- Quantifies the amount of the effects
- Dimensions: mobility, safety, customer satisfaction, and agency/contractor productivity

Exposure data

- Quantifies who or what was affected
- Dimensions: counts, distances traveled, durations

Indicator data

• Specifies activities, phases, time periods, or events of interest when effects occurred

Performance Measure Selection

- Step 1. Determine performance measurement categories of interest
- Step 2. Decide which work zones to measure
- Step 3. Decide what work zone conditions to measure
- Step 4. Determine data sources to use
- Step 5. Compute specific measures of interest

Where Can We Get Data?

- Extract it from existing sources
- Collect it (manually, electronically)
- Interpolate it from existing or collected data

Guidance Document Structure

- Introduction
- Selecting Useful Performance Measures
- Data Sources/Methods
 - Mobility-related Performance Measures
 - Safety-related Performance Measures
 - Customer Satisfaction-related
 Performance Measures
 - Customer Satisfaction-related
 Performance Measures

Guidance on Data Needs, Availability, and Opportunities for Work Zone Performance Measures



Prepared for: Office of Operations Office of Transportation Operations

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Prepared By:

Battelle The Business of Innovatio Texas A&M Transportatio



Mobility-Related Performance Measures

Mobility impacts commonly measured as

- Throughput
- Delays
- Travel times
- Travel time reliability
- Vehicle queues

Throughput

Existing Agency Data Sources

- TOC or traffic signal system vehicle count data
- Toll facility usage data
- Automatic traffic recording (ATR) station data
- Planning and programming AADT estimates





Work Zone Specific Throughput Data

- Data from work zone ITS deployment
- Temporary mechanical data collection device
- Manual vehicle count at key times & locations

Person Throughput Data

- Manual sampling of per-vehicle occupancy levels
- Manual sampling or video detection of pedestrian throughput

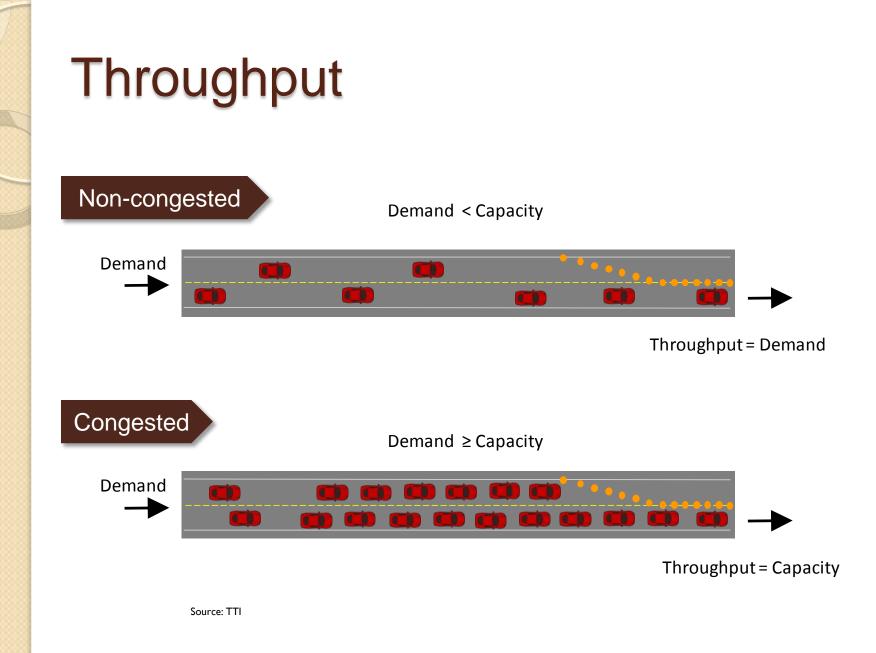
Throughput

Potential Future Data Source

 Connected vehicle technology
 To be useful, sufficient market penetration of V2V and V2I technology is needed.







Considerations and Trade-Offs of Throughput Data Sources

Data Source	Key Considerations and Trade-offs
All data types	 Depending on collection location, data is demand or throughput Multiple days of data is needed to reduce day-to-day variations
TOC sensor data and toll facility usage data	 Important to verify data availability once work has started
ATR station data	Need to verify that counts are "true" values (not adjusted)
Agency AADT estimates	 Reasonable when capacity < demand at any time during the day If diversion occurs, AADT overestimates throughput and exposure
Work Zone ITS data	Data must be archived and available for PM computations
Mechanical counters or manual counts	 May not be practical for high-volume, high-speed roadways Manual counts are labor intensive
Manual collection of person/vehicle occupancy levels	Useful if "green" and HOV travel is part of the WZ management plan
Manual or electronic collection of pedestrian throughput	 Useful if "green" and HOV travel is part of the WZ management plan Pedestrian and vehicle traffic peak hours may not always coincide
Connected vehicle data	Date of availability still uncertain

Delay, Travel Time, Travel Time Reliability

Existing Agency Data Sources

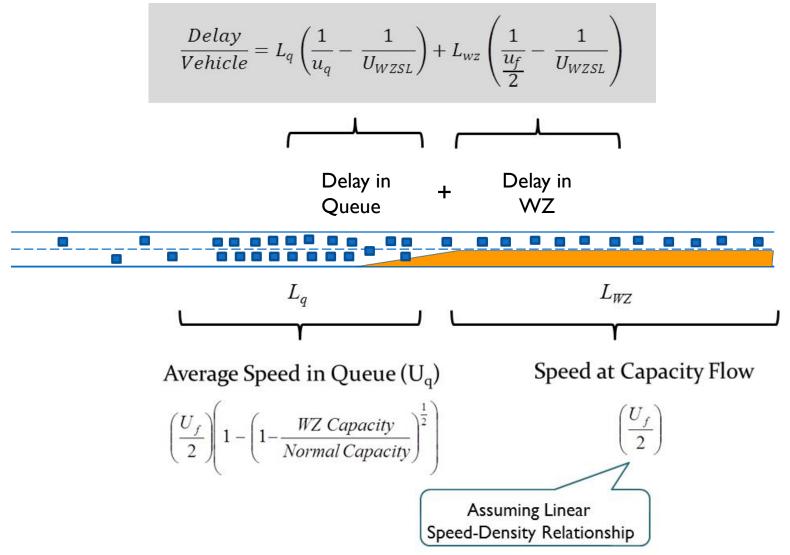
- TOC spot speed sensor data ٠
- TOC tracking of vehicles through use of cameras
- TOC point-to-point travel time data using AVI, AVL, or license-plate recognition technology



Work Zone Specific Travel Time and Delay Data

- Data extracted from a work zone ITS deployment •
- Portable point-to-point travel time data collection devices
- Manual spot speed sampling using radar or lidar devices
- Travel time runs through the work zone
- Estimation of travel time delays from observed queue length data

Delay Estimation from Observed Queue



Delay, Travel Time, Travel Time Reliability

Potential Future Data Source

• Travel Times from Bluetooth Address Matching

Several states (e.g., Texas, Indiana) have used anonymous matching of Bluetooth devices in vehicles to track point-to-point travel times in work zones.



Source: TTI

• Private (3rd Party) Sources of Travel Time and Speed Data

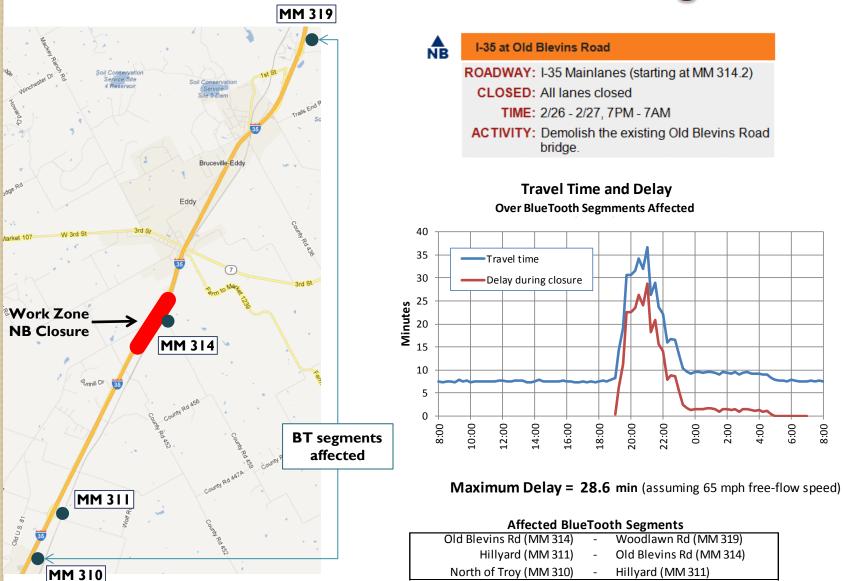


Source: Google traffic map captured with the Snagit

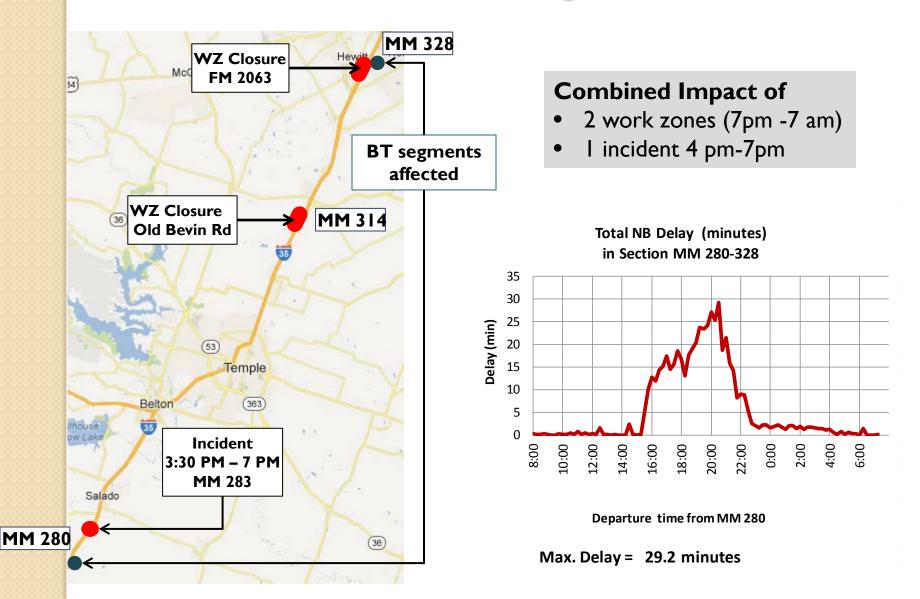
Connected vehicle technology

The Virginia Department of Transportation examined the potential of obtaining historical private-sector traffic data for the purposes of computing work zone performance metrics

Example: Work Zone Delay Estimation from Bluetooth Address Matching



Example: Corridor Delay Estimation from Bluetooth Address Matching



Considerations and Trade-Offs of Delay, Travel Time, and Reliability Data Sources

Data Source	Key Considerations and Trade-offs
TOC spot speed sensor data	 Tend to be less accurate when congestion is present Important to verify data availability once work has started
TOC point-to-point travel time data	 Important to verify data availability once work has started Accuracy depends on market penetration of tracking technology Represents recently completed, rather than current, trip times.
Work zone ITS data	Data must be archived and available for PM computations
Portable point-to-point travel time data collection	 Accuracy depends on market penetration of tracking technology Represents recently completed, rather than current, trip times.
Manual spot-speed data	 Labor intensive Most useful if work zone impacts occur in a fairly small section Most useful for assessing short time periods
Manual travel time data collection by driving through the work zone	 Labor intensive Most useful for assessing short time periods Multiple runs increase accuracy & precision of travel time estimates
3 rd party (private-sector) travel time and speed data	 Level of detail available may vary by vendor Translation to agencies' data mapping protocol is needed
Bluetooth data	 Accuracy depends on market penetration of Bluetooth technology Represents recently completed, rather than current, trip times.
Connected vehicle data	Date of availability still uncertain

Traffic Queue Data Sources

Existing Data Sources

- Speed data extracted from a work zone ITS deployment
- Observation of queues from a permanent or work zone TOC
- Observation of queues by field personnel at the work zone

Queue Length Estimation from Spot-Speed Sensors

Step 1: Divide the Roadway into Regions of Assumed Uniform Speed

Step 2: Examine Speeds and Volumes Hour-by-Hour at each Sensor Location

Step 3: Compare Hourly Speed/Volume Profiles across Sensors to Identify Length of Queue

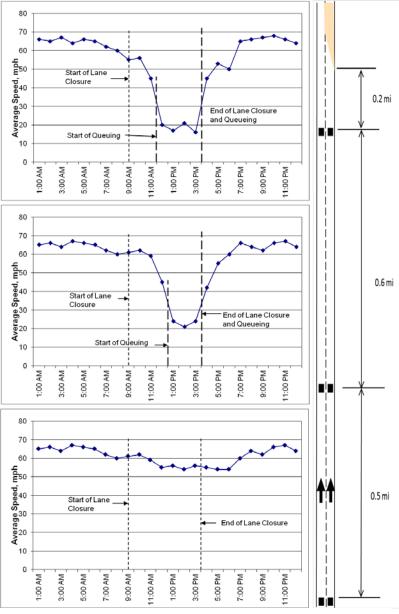
Step 4: Sum Region Lengths where Speeds are below Thresholds

Queue Estimation

Example:

- Spot traffic sensors are located 0.2 mile, 0.8 mile, and 1.3 miles upstream of the temporary lane closure.
- Project diary information indicates that a lane closure began at 9:00 AM and ended at 3:30 PM.

Time	Estimated Location of Upstream End of Queue	Estimated Queue Length
11:00	None	0
am 12:00 pm	Between Sensors I & 2	0.2+(0.6/2)=0.5 mile
l:00 pm	Between Sensors 2 & 3	0.2+0.6+(0.5/2)=1.05 mile
2:00 pm	Between Sensors 2 & 3	1.05 mile
3:00 pm	Between Sensors 2 & 3	1.05 mile
4:00 рт	None	0

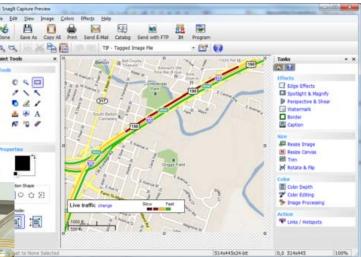


G.L. Ullman, R.J. Porter, and G.J. Karkee. *Monitoring Work Zone Safety and Mobility Impacts in Texas. Research Report FHWA/TX-09/0-5571-1.* TTI, 2008.

Traffic Queue Data Sources

Potential Future Data Source

- Screenshot Captures from 3rd Party Traveler Information Providers
- Private (3rd Party) Sources of Travel Time and Speed Data
- Connected vehicle technology



Source: Google traffic map captured with the Snagit



Source: TTI

Considerations and Trade-Offs of Traffic Queue Data Sources

Data Source	Key Considerations and Trade-offs
All data types	 Definition of queues (e.g., min speed threshold) is critical Both queue duration and queue length over time are important
TOC or work zone ITS da spot speed sensors	 Requires detailed speed data analysis on sensor by sensor basis Important to verify data availability once work has started
Visual queue identificatior operators	• Requires adequate camera coverage upstream of work zone
Collection of queue data b personnel	 Data collection protocol training is needed May be difficult to accurately monitor the end of queue Ensure that field personnel understands its importance
Screenshot of real-time tra condition maps	 Required screen resolution depends on max. expected queue length Time-lapse capabilities do not exist in most screen capture software.
3 rd party traveler informati	 data Level of detail available may vary by vendor Translation to agencies' data mapping protocol is needed
Connected vehicle data	Date of availability still uncertain

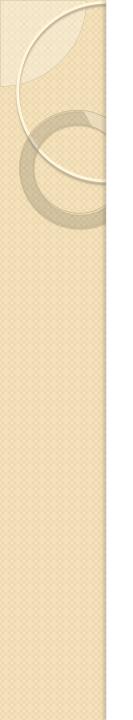
Identifying and Computing Specific Mobility Measures of Interest

Once work zone mobility-related data sources are identified, a jurisdiction will have to make its own decisions as to what performance measures it chooses to track.

Example: In some jurisdictions with TOCs, efforts are underway to develop simple-to-use computer dashboards that can provide current traffic conditions in and around a work zone



Source: Paracha, J. Work Zone Performance Measurement using Probe Data. Presentation of Maryland Work Zone Performance Measurement Project







Safety-Related Performance Measures Safety impacts commonly measured as

- Crashes
- Safety Surrogates
- Worker Accidents



Source: TTI

Crashes

Existing Agency Data Sources

- Statewide traffic crash records database entries
- Crash report forms (hard-copy or electronic)
- TOC incident database entries
- Emergency response/service patrol dispatch logs



Source: Las Vegas FAST

Future Sources

- Agency-collected work zone crash information
- Connected vehicle initiative data

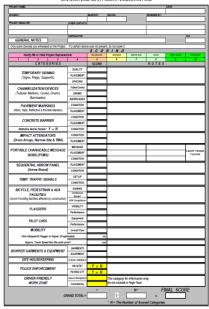
Considerations and Key Tradeoffs

Data Source	Key Considerations and Trade-offs
Statewide Crash Records Database	 Limited work zone features and activities information Time lags in obtaining crash data for a given work zone
Electronic or hard copy crash report forms	 Limited work zone features and activities information Requires manual coding May need to work with multiple enforcement agencies
TOC operator incident logs	 Includes non-reported as well as reported crashes Includes non-crash events
Dispatch Logs of Emergency Response or Service Patrols	 Likely to include non-traffic crash events as well Potential privacy concerns
Agency-collected crash and work zone database	 Significant agency effort required Requires upper agency support and emphasis
Connected vehicle data	Date of availability still uncertain

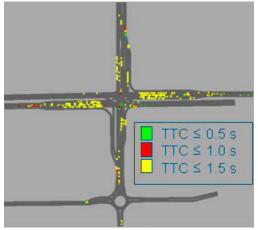
Safety Surrogates

Existing Agency Data Sources

- Speed data collected by hand-held devices
- Speed data extracted from ITS sensors
- Travel times
- Videotaped traffic behaviors at key locations
- Work zone inspection scores



Source: Oregon DOT



Source: Gettman et al. FHWA-HRT-08-051

Future Sources

- Microscopic traffic simulation output
- Connected vehicle initiative data

2012 WORK ZONE SAFETY AUDITS - EVALUATION FORM

Considerations and Key Trade-

offs

Data Source	Key Considerations and Trade-offs
All data types	Correlation to crashes not yet fully verifiedMost can be obtained relatively quickly
TOC or work zone ITS speed sensor data	Value of data depends on the locations of the sensors.Need to verify data availability and archival once work starts
Speed data collected with hand-held radar or lidar	 Data collection easy to accomplish Useful for assessing speed behaviors Inconspicuous data collection techniques required
Travel times through the work zone	 Speed change locations can indicate problems Can be used to assess compliance with wz speed limit
Videotaped traffic behavior	 Can be difficult to find a unobtrusive viewing point Data analysis is labor intensive Requires precise definition of behaviors of interest
Work zone inspection scores	 Requires significant effort to establish scoring/ratings Correlation of scores to actual safety levels not yet verified
Traffic simulation output (analyzed with SSAM)	 Significant coding and calibration effort required Correlation to actual work zone safety conditions not yet verified
Connected vehicle data	Date of availability still uncertain



Worker Accidents

Existing Agency Data Sources

- Agency or contractor worker injury records
- State worker compensation commission accident statistics
- Bureau of Labor statistics database





Future Sources

Connected vehicle initiative data

Source: TTI

Key Considerations and Tradeoffs

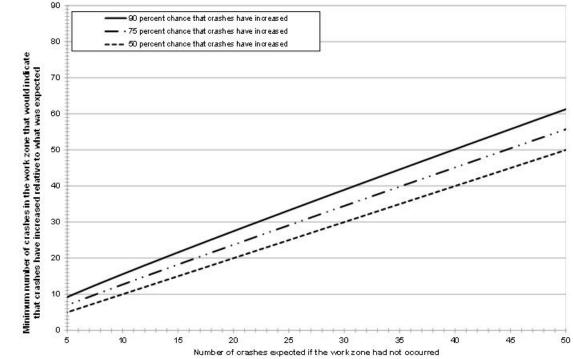
Data Source	Key Considerations and Trade-offs
Agency or contractor worker injury records	 Use must be monitored due to privacy concerns Small sample size for many companies will make it difficult to identify trends
State worker compensation commission statistics	 Useful for comparisons to agency or contractor accident trends Level of detail will be limited
BLS, OSHA worker accident statistics	 Useful for comparisons to agency or contractor accident trends Level of detail will be limited
Agency-collected work zone crash and accident database	 Significant effort required Requires upper agency support and emphasis Use of accident reports must be monitored carefully due to privacy concerns

Identifying/Computing High Priority Safety Measures

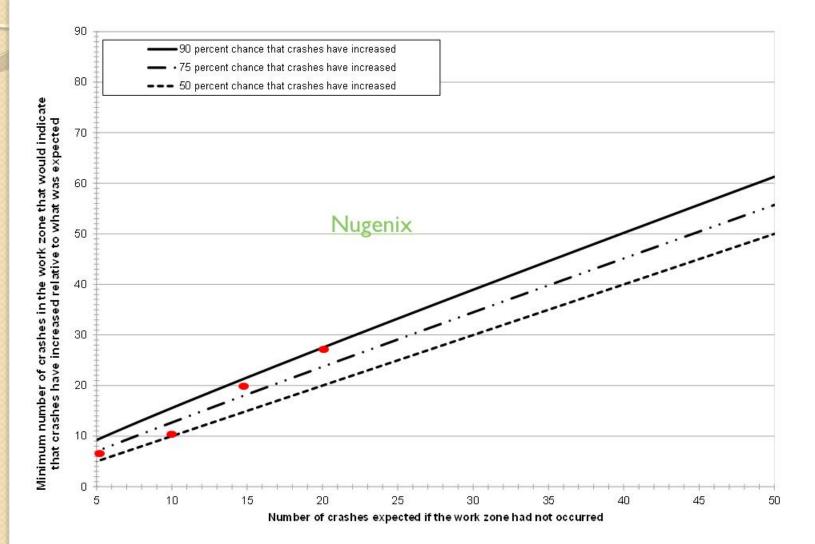
- Change in crash frequency (by type)
- Change in crash rate per vehicle-milestraveled (for a given time period)
- Compliance with work zone speed limit
- Speed variance at a location
- Frequency of worker accidents
- Worker injury rate per hours worked
- Injury type, severity, contributing factor distributions

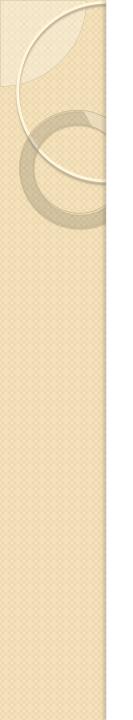
Example: Tracking Crash Frequency Trends at a Work Zone

- Work zone on roadway that normally experiences 5 crashes per month
- Have had 7, 3, 10, 7 crashes in past 4 months during work zone



Example: Tracking Crash Frequency Trends at a Work Zone









Customer Satisfaction Performance Measures

Who are our customers?

• Travelers, residents, and businesses





Impact of Work Zones?

 Delays, congestion, and inconveniences are challenging for maintaining good relationships with customers

Why are measures necessary?

Infrastructure is largely publicly-owned and funded

Therefore...

Measuring customer satisfaction associated with work zones is critical to an agency's or contractors set of work zone performance measures

Existing Customer Satisfaction Data Sources (1 of 3)

- Focus Group Transcripts
- Source: TTI
- Participants opinions, experiences, and suggestions
- Not representative of overall driving population
- Anecdotal findings
- In-Person or Telephone Interview Responses
 - Responses may vary at location over time
 - In-person interviews require short surveys
 - Fairly labor intensive to administer

Customer Satisfaction Data Example

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	 Stayed 	l about the s	ame													
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Source: Bender, D. and J. Schamber. SSDOT 2002 Statewide Customer Survey. Report No. SD2002-07-F.

Existing Customer Satisfaction Data Sources (2 of 3)

- Mail, Email, or Website Survey Responses
 - Quantitative statistical analysis
 - Qualitative assessments
 - Predetermined options
 - Statistically significant findings
 - High cost
 - Slight negative bias



Customer Satisfaction Data Example

ROAD WORK AHEAD		Vork Zone stomer Su				
Eluke 34						
Your Name:	1					
regards to any com	rovide excellent customer ser ments/questions you provide l/or email allowing a staff mer	e with this survey, please				
Phone Number:			1			
Email Address:	1		1			
Are you a MoDOT E	mployee? YES 🗇 NO 🗇					
County:	Select county • If county is unknown, type	Unknown in the field abo	ove.			
Road/Highway Name & Direction:			1			
Nearest Intersection:			1			
Date Traveled:		Time:	AM @ PM @			
1. Did you have eno YES O NO O	ugh warning before entering	this work zone?				
2. Did the signs prov YES O NO O	vide clear instructions?	• •	Vebsites are			
	rrels, or striping guide you th None Present 💿	for C	ustomer Su	irveys/Q	uestionnai	res
4. Did you make it th YES O NO O	hrough the work zone in a tim	tely manner?				
If no, please ex	plain: (2000 characters max)					
			0			
5. Were you able to YES O NO O	travel safely in the work zon	e?				
If no, please exc	plain: (2000 characters max)					
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Source: MoDOT Work Zone Customer Survey. Missouri DOT

Existing Customer Satisfaction Data Sources (3 of 3)

- somewhat when making a work zonerelated complaint
- Customer complaint database entries
 - Databases track complaint arrivals and disposition
 - Some complaints easily associated with a work zone
 - Some complaints may be more indirect
 - Complaints effective for identifying operational or safety problems
 - Not indicative of overall driver satisfaction
 - Small sample sizes

Those who are not unhappy generally do not contact the agency to indicate their general satisfaction

Future Customer Satisfaction Data Sources

- Social Media Technologies
 - Facebook
 - Twitter



- Selection biases and similar traditional survey techniques issues
- Responses negatively skewed
- Web-Based Tools to Conduct On-Line Focus Groups
 - System capabilities may include:
 - Polling group
 - Private chat sessions
 - "Groupthink" area



Considerations and Trade-Offs of Customer Satisfaction Data Sources

Data Source	Key Considerations and Trade-Offs
Focus groups	 Best for gathering opinions, perceptions A properly trained facilitator is critical Data from multiple groups may be needed
One-on-One Interviews	 Best for obtaining responses during or right after drivers have passed through a work zone May need to do surveys multiple times as conditions in the work zone change
Surveys/ Questionnaires	 Multiple dissemination mechanisms (mail, email, website) possible Potential to reach a larger sample size more efficiently Properly designed surveys can yield statistically significant results
Complaints	 Work zone effects may trigger complaints directly or indirectly Customers may embellish the magnitude of the problem Statistical analyses are usually not possible with the data
Social Media Uses	 Important to rely on trained survey designers for these applications Responses will be biased towards younger, more technology-savvy users
On-Line Focus Groups	 Allows participants to remain at their computers to participate Effectiveness of on-line efforts to mimic the interactions that occur in face-to- face focus groups is unknown

Identifying/Computing High Priority Customer Satisfaction Measures

- Ratings of the quality of work zone features seen while driving through a work zone
 - Signs
 - Information provided regarding delays, queues, work activities
- Satisfaction ratings with travel conditions through multiple work zones
 - Multiple work zones
 - Corridor in a region or network
- Frequency/rate of complaints
- Satisfaction ratings for traveling through work zone

Agency/Contractor Productivity Performance Measures

Existing Agency Data Sources

- Construction management system databases
- Lane closure request/approval databases
- Daily project diary notes



Source: Virginia DOT



Future Sources

- Mobile data collection applications of work activities
- Electronic maintenance work databases

Key Considerations and Trade-Offs

Data Source	Key Considerations and Trade-offs
Construction management system databases	 Focus mainly on contract-related data Data elements of interest are often narratives in the system, with minimal consistency in entries across projects
Lane closure request and approval databases	 May include closures across multiple agencies and contractors Normally limited to high-volume roadways only May contain a large number of "phantom" closures that need to be removed prior to analyses
Daily project diaries	Amount and type of data entered often varies by project
Mobile applications for project activity entry	 Use of mobile devices in the field may cause costs and durability of the devices to become an issue An application of this type may not yet exist
Maintenance management system databases	Requires detailed recordkeeping of activities by all maintenance crews and crew members

Identifying/Computing High Priority Agency/Contractor Productivity and Efficiency Performance Measures

- % of allowable or total days worked
- % of lane closure hours occurring outside of allowable "work windows"
- Production rates



Resources

- Guidance on Data Needs, Availability, and Opportunities for Work Zone Performance Measures
- A Primer on Work Zone Safety and Mobility Performance Measurement
- Work Zone Performance Measures Pilot Test
- Domestic Scan on Work Zone Assessment, Data Collection, and Performance Measurement

Available at

<u>http://www.ops.fhwa.dot.gov/wz/decision_support/performance</u> -development.htm

