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Using RoadSoft to Create an Asset Management Plan

Local agencies such as the City of Manistee, City of Marquette, and Washtenaw County Road Commission have greatly benefitted from stronger understandings between officials, engineers, and the public. Specifically, each of these counties has used an asset management plan to overcome barriers in communication between these groups.

A formal asset management plan can help agencies communicate their current asset management strategies to constituents like the public and local officials. As many transportation professionals know, creating an asset management plan can be a challenging undertaking. In May of 2011, Michigan's Transportation Asset Management Council (TAMC) released three documents to help draft one of these plans:

 [Local Agency Guidelines for Developing an Asset Management Process and Plan](#)

 [Asset Management Plan for Pavements: A Template for End Users](#)

 [Asset Management Guide for Local Agency Bridges in Michigan](#)

These documents offer detailed sets of guidelines for creating basic, intermediate, and advanced asset management plans that can be tailored to an agency's needs. An organization that has never written an asset management plan before can easily get its foot in the door by creating a basic-level asset management plan. The documents are modeled after highly successful existing plans, and feature a sample asset management plan from Washtenaw County, MI.

In these documents, RoadSoft is named as a software used to "connect the dots" when developing an asset management plan and process. The guides detail a series of six main steps for drafting an asset management plan; RoadSoft is referenced in four of these steps. Most of the steps involving RoadSoft require very little work, since many agencies have already been collecting large quantities of data in RoadSoft.

An agency can enter asset inventories and current conditions into RoadSoft, view deterioration projections, evaluate current treatment options, and generate "mix-of-fixes" analyses. These steps are present in various stages of basic, moderate, and advanced plans outlined by the TAMC. So, the ability to create an asset management plan is decided by how much data you've been collecting, and not necessarily on your level of expertise with RoadSoft.

Whether you've just started managing your roadway data with RoadSoft, or you have been doing so for many years, chances are you are using the data you've collected to make decisions about how to best manage your roadway assets and make the most of increasingly limited budgets. Developing an asset management plan as outlined in the

TAMC documents allows you to display your data in a format that is much easier to communicate, and allows you to get the most out of your RoadSoft data.


Over the next year, the CTT will be adding specific reports to RoadSoft that will make developing an asset management plan even easier.



"RoadSoft is a very good program. We put the symbol in the guide to show that you're not on your own. RoadSoft can produce this for you."

-Brian Sanada

TAMC Asset Management Coordinator

 [Click here to watch Brian Sanada's presentation on the guides and template](#)

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