SHRP2 SOLUTIONS
TOOLS FOR THE ROAD AHEAD

Regional Operations Forum (L36)

Regional forums expand opportunities to gain expertise and exchange ideas on strategies, technologies for enhancing transportation systems operations

Challenge

Transportation leaders are seeking ways to deliver a transportation system that supports reliable trips for drivers. Although many new strategies and technologies for operating transportation systems are emerging that can help transportation agencies improve travel-time reliability and safety, many are not yet routinely incorporated into practices, business processes, and decision making. Some agencies may experience success with certain approaches, but those successes and associated lessons learned are not regularly transferred to other agencies. Development of expertise through training and peer exchange is needed.

Solution

A new total-immersion forum now offers transportation agency leaders and practitioners the opportunity to learn about leading approaches related to operations and reliability and how to take advantage of the many advances being made in operations. This new curriculum for regional training through Regional Operations Forums allows managers and program leaders at public agencies to build expertise in the emerging field of transportation systems management and operations (TSM&O). The curriculum is designed to help those with TSM&O expertise as well as participants whose expertise is outside the TSM&O field. The in-person, immersion approach to the Forum allows participants to focus on the material with fewer distractions and develop a strong peer network.

Topics such as the principles of building TSM&O capability within organizations, performance measurement, goods movement, workforce development, and building a business case for TSM&O are covered. The Forum also covers core TSM&O topics such as traffic incident management and traveler information, as well as emerging topics such as corridor management and connected vehicles. The Forum contains presentation material, discussion to foster peer exchange, and group exercises to apply the knowledge. By conducting the Forum on a regional basis, neighboring States or jurisdictions can emphasize the topics and issues that are most pertinent to the interests and capabilities of the specific region and develop a peer network that can work together on common issues in the future.

Benefits

The new curriculum transmits the latest strategies and technologies to transportation agency managers and leaders, helping agencies immediately enhance their transportation systems management and operations. That, in turn, results in the economic, environmental, and safety benefits generated by more reliable travel times.

Save Lives

Enhanced understanding by transportation agency leaders of new strategies and technologies for highway system operations can result in greater system safety.

Save Money

Building capabilities at public transportation agencies supports effective operations, business efficiencies, and cost savings.

Save Time

Concentrated curriculum focused on regional needs and the latest advances in transportation systems management and operations save time in gaining valuable expertise for busy public agency managers and practitioners.

RELIABILITY

Products from the Reliability SHRP2 focus area help transportation organizations improve travel reliability by reducing congestion through incident reduction, management, response, and mitigation.

Continued on next page.

Visit: www.fhwa.dot.gov/GoSHRP2
Learn more about products, case studies, and implementation assistance.

The Implementation Assistance Program

Implementation assistance is available to help State departments of transportation (DOTs), metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs), and other interested organizations deploy SHRP2 Solutions. A range of opportunities is available to raise awareness of SHRP2 Solutions and to encourage early adoption of these products. Application periods are offered approximately twice per year. Each product selected for implementation assistance has the potential to deliver more efficient, cost-effective programs to meet the complex challenges facing transportation today.

How can you learn more?

Implementation for this product is beginning in 2015 after a successful series of pilot Forums in 2013-14.

Visit: www.fhwa.dot.gov/GoSHRP2

- Additional product information
- Information about how this product is being used in the field
- Contact information for peers who are familiar with this product
- Links to research reports

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About SHRP2 Implementation

The second Strategic Highway Research Program (SHRP2) is a partnership of the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO), and the Transportation Research Board (TRB). TRB completed the research, and now FHWA and AASHTO are jointly implementing the resulting SHRP2 Solutions that will help the transportation community enhance productivity, boost efficiency, increase safety, and improve the reliability of the Nation's highway system.