

MTC Asset, published twice a year, promotes the Midwest Transportation Consortium's research, outreach, and education programs for developing sustainable transportation asset management principles and techniques. This free newsletter is financed by the MTC.

The MTC is the U.S. Department of Transportation's University Transportation Center for Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, and Nebraska. It is located at and managed by Iowa State University's Center for Transportation Research and Education (CTRE).

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# Planning Ahead for Asset Management

In a recent meeting of the American Association of State and Highway Transportation Officials (AASHTO) and Transportation Research Board (TRB) Asset Management Task Forces (July 10–12, 2002) in Providence, Rhode Island, task force members discussed asset management research needs and future directions. The group recommends that AASHTO assume leadership of asset management activities and has identified the following areas for action during the next 24 months:

- Developing data, analytic tools, and information such as comparability, consistency, decision support tools, asset class trade-off analysis, and analytic platforms.
  - Increasing awareness, education, and training through university curricula, re-training of managers, technology transfer, and awareness programs for technical managers.
  - Deploying asset management as industry standard practices such as benefit assessment, lead state/host state, peer exchange, and peer communication.
  - Assisting agencies with implementation in areas such as setting policy goals and directions, business process changes, external communications, and internal alignment.
- increased federal investment levels for transportation infrastructure.
- Form a national partnership for the deployment and implementation of asset management led by AASHTO.
  - Develop an incentive program for state departments of transportation to implement asset management using increased federal match for capital programs developed through asset management and also by increasing eligibility for federal aid.
  - Develop a comprehensive training and awareness program.
  - Develop a deployment master plan including payoffs assessment, model plan development, and business process development based on asset management practices.

The group's recommendations to be presented to AASHTO include

by Omar Smadi, pavement management specialist at CTRE

- Develop an asset management analysis approach for the next reauthorization bottom line report that supports