Iowa's Pavement Management Program: an update

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This is another in a series of periodic articles updating Iowa's local government agencies on the progress of the state's pavement management program. Iowa's pavement management program (IPMP) covers all of Iowa's non-National Highway System (non-NHS) federal aid eligible roads under state, county, and city jurisdictions. The IPMP is managed by the Center for Transportation Research and Education (CTRE) under contract to the Iowa Department of Transportation (Iowa DOT). IPMP policies are set by the IPMP task force, a group of city, county, RPA, MPO, and Iowa DOT officials.

Iowa's Pavement Management Program (IPMP), under development since 1994, has been in the implementation stage since 1999. The project's major tasks (GIS database, distress data collection, pavement management software, and distress data delivery) have been completed. Pilot training workshops on the GIS tools and dTIMS pavement management software began in 2000. More training workshops are scheduled for 2001.

The following sections will provide an overview of current work and also future plans for the IPMP.

Distress data collection (federal aid and non-federal aid)

By the end of 2001, three full cycles of distress data collection will be completed. All of the 18 regional planning associations (RPAs) and eight metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs) are currently participating in the data collection effort. The Iowa DOT Office of Program Management is requesting commitments from all the RPAs and MPOs for the next cycle of data collection (2002-2003).

Throughout the last two years, local governmental agencies participating in the IPMP distress data collection program were given the option of adding the rest of their paved miles (non federal aid eligible) to the distress data collection effort for an extra cost. The IPMP was able to negotiate with the vendor to give cities and counties collecting the extra miles the same advantages as working with the entire state system. Twenty-nine city and county agencies have had distress data collected so far. Several agencies (15 so far) have indicated their interest in getting data collection services for this year.

To enroll in this program, please complete the form on page 11 and mail or fax it to CTRE. The cost for data collection is $40 per mile for rural routes and $55 per mile for urban routes. There will be an additional cost (based on the number of miles added) for CTRE to set up the system, manage the data collection, and deliver the data.

Video logging

Working with the data collection vendor, Roadware Corporation, CTRE is making video-logging capabilities available to local transportation agencies. Roadware can provide video logs of the right of way for the roads where distress data are being collected. Through their VISIDATA software, Roadware integrates video and data into a single desktop application. VISIDATA provides the ideal “vehicle” for driving your network without leaving your office.

Currently CTRE has an agreement with Roadware Corporation to provide this service to local transportation agencies participating in the IPMP at a cost of $7.50 per mile. In addition, a copy of the VISIDATA software must be purchased for $500. This will provide transportation agencies with continuous coverage (160 images per mile) of their highway network integrated with the condition data that Roadware already collects. If you are interested, please fill out the form on page 11.

dTIMS pavement management software
dTIMS was selected by the IPMP task force to help local and regional agencies work with the pavement condition information to develop maintenance and rehabilitation programs and assist in long range...
planning and needs determination. Forty agencies (cities, counties, MPOs, and RPAs) have purchased dTIMS so far. To purchase dTIMS, local agencies pay a one-time fee of $500 and an additional $650 per year for maintenance and update. CTRE still has a number of copies of dTIMS available. If you are interested, please fill out the form on this page.

Section tool
The GIS-based section tool was developed for local agencies to define and convey pavement management section locations and limits. Presently, the roadways requiring section descriptions are designated on hard copy maps and provided to local agencies. Local agencies then provide literal descriptions of section locations and limits. Section extents are interpreted by CTRE staff and translated to geographic coordinate pairs that define section limits. Inconsistencies among road names and incomplete section designations result in data integration challenges. The section tool will resolve many of these challenges.

Currently, the section tool is going through alpha and beta testing. Several large agencies participating in the data collection this year will be using the section tool to define their pavement management sections. Also, the vendor, Roadware, will be utilizing the section tool to locate sections for data collection purposes. Everyone who is currently enrolled in IPMP will receive the section tool, which will be available in early April.

Training
Several training workshops covering the pavement management software and the IPMP GIS tools were conducted in 2000. CTRE is planning a very aggressive training program for 2001. dTIMS training and GIS tools, including the newly developed section tool, will be started in late March. New this year, a general pavement management training workshop will be planned for decision-makers and upper management. A dTIMS users group will also be started where dTIMS users can meet and discuss their experiences and insights with each other. More information about training opportunities will be sent through the Iowa Department of Transportation weekly mailing. Information will also be available online at www.ctre.iastate.edu. •

Agency Name: __________________________________________________
Contact Person: _________________________________________________
Address: _______________________________________________________
Phone Number: _________________________________________________
Fax Number: ___________________________________________________
E-mail Address: _________________________________________________

Distress data collection
We want to enroll in the distress data collection program. For non federal aid eligible paved miles, we have about ______ total miles to add to the network, with about _____ % in rural area and about _____ % in urban areas.

Video logging
We would like to purchase the VISIDATA software. We need _______ miles logged on video.

dTIMS pavement management software
We would like to purchase _____ copy(ies) of this software.

Please complete and mail or fax this form to
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