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State Strategic Plan Review



Section 408 Program Matrix

Systems:

- Crash
- Roadway
- Vehicle
- Driver
- Citation /
Adjudication
- Injury Surveillance
/ EMS

Performance Areas:

- Timeliness
- Consistency
- Completeness
- Accuracy
- Accessibility
- Integration

Major / Common Issues

- Weak evidence of authority of TRCC
- Lack of flow from Assessment deficiencies to Plan Goals and Projects
- The consensus of the Section 408 application review team was that the identification of performance measures was the weakest aspect of most States' applications. Work with each of your States to ensure they have identified and are using measures that actually reflect progress toward *goals*. Just as many States confused project objectives with goals, more than a few confused intermediate, or project-based, measures with real bottom-line performance impact measures.
- Confusion between milestones and performance measures

Major / Common Issues

- Weak or non-existent benchmarks

Concern about state's ability to "show progress" for 2007 funding.

What is a Goal?

A **Goal** is expressed in terms of the status of a Performance Measure:

- Annual levels
- Reasonable / Attainable Levels
- Measurable definitions

What is a Performance Measure?

- Performance Measures impact ***SYSTEMS:***
 - Crash
 - Roadway
 - Vehicle
 - Driver
 - Citation / Adjudication
 - Injury Surveillance / EMS

What is a Performance Measure?

- Performance Measures are:
 - Expressed in terms of a change to a *System*
 - In terms of a *Performance Area*
 - Expressed as something that can be *measured in the system*

What is a Performance Area?

- Performance Measures impact these Safetea-Lu *Performance Areas*:
 - Timeliness
 - Consistency
 - Completeness
 - Accuracy
 - Accessibility
 - Integration

What is a Performance Measure?

- Performance Measures
Measure Something

- Days
- Report Errors identified/changed
- Missing Fields identified
- Number of users with access to the TR system

In terms of an increase or decrease from a
Baseline or starting measurement

- One specific example of a baseline is the States determination of their baseline levels of MMUCC and NEMISIS compliance

What is a Milestone?

A **Milestone** is a step, phase, or reference point in the implementation of a project:

- Number of people trained
- Number of PC's purchased
- Release of an RFP
- Award of a contract
- Completion of a Project Phase
- Hiring a coordinator

Basis for Concern

Legislation –

(c) Successive Year Grants- A State shall be eligible for a grant under this subsection in a fiscal year succeeding the first fiscal year in which the State receives a grant under subsection (b) if the State--

- (1) certifies to the Secretary that an assessment or audit of the State's highway safety data and traffic records system has been conducted or updated within the preceding 5 years;
- (2) certifies to the Secretary that its highway safety data and traffic records coordinating committee continues to operate and supports the multiyear plan;

Basis for Concern

Legislation –

(c) Successive Year Grants- A State shall be eligible for a grant under this subsection in a fiscal year succeeding the first fiscal year in which the State receives a grant under subsection (b) if the State--

- (3) specifies how the grant funds and any other funds of the State are to be used to address needs and goals identified in the multiyear plan;
- (4) **demonstrates to the Secretary measurable progress toward achieving the goals and objectives identified in the multiyear plan;**
and
- (5) submits to the Secretary a current report on the progress in implementing the multiyear plan.

“Progress” – Reality Check

- Most IT projects do not show impact quickly...
- Many states have long lead times on award of contracts/procurements...
- Most states may have difficulty showing traffic records “progress”
- Most Plans contain large projects that will take at least a year or two to show impact...

"Progress" (cont'd)

- Very few state plans contained "low hanging fruit"
- At a *minimum*, every state should identify *at least a few* projects that can show a *measurable* change in the system level performance areas...
 - a pilot project
 - a part of the State

Opportunities for progress...

- Opportunities for “progress”
 - Are there any Projects that are short term or will be completed in the near future?
 - Are there projects that can show short term impacts?
 - Are there projects that can be ‘split’ to show progress on a small scale?

Basis for Concern

Legislation –

(1) **MODEL DATA ELEMENTS-** The Secretary, in consultation with States and other appropriate parties, shall determine the model data elements that are useful for the observation and analysis of State and national trends in occurrences, rates, outcomes, and circumstances of motor vehicle traffic accidents. In order to be eligible for a grant under this section, *a State shall submit to the Secretary a certification that the State has adopted and uses such model data elements, or a certification that the State will use grant funds provided under this section toward adopting and using the maximum number of such model data elements as soon as practicable.*

Basis for Concern

Federal Register –

When Congress first introduced this performance-based measure requirement, NHTSA received numerous requests from States for technical assistance in identifying performance-based measures applicable to their highway safety data and traffic records systems. In response, NHTSA incorporated into its **Traffic Records Highway Safety Advisory** (the relevant portion is set forth in Appendix 3 to this guidance), a chapter detailing performance-based measures applicable to each of a State's information systems, including its crash, vehicle, driver, citation/adjudication, and injury surveillance systems.

Basis for Concern

Federal Register –

Measurable Progress Requirement

SAFETEA–LU requires that a State demonstrate measurable progress towards achieving the goals and objectives identified in its Strategic Plan. As discussed above, under the section 411 program, States incorporated into their Strategic Plans the performance-based measures detailed in Appendix 3. Consistent with State practice under section 411 and to avoid the imposition of new burdens, in demonstrating measurable progress in a Current Report, ***States should reference performance-based measures identified in Appendix 3, both as baselines or benchmarks for and as gauges of their progress*** in implementing their Strategic Plans.

Basis for Concern

Federal Register –

Strategic Plan Requirement

Among its baseline measures identified in its Strategic Plan States will certify to the Secretary in their Plans which MMUCC and NEMISIS data elements they currently use, or are adding to.

Strategic Plan Guidance

Re-examination of goals

- Each State must reconsider its goals, and modify them to reflect the actual resources available.

Re-examination of goal timing

- Every State, but especially those who received substantially less 408 funding than they sought, should re-examine the timeframe for meeting their goals.

Strategic Plan Guidance

Re-examination of project priorities

- The discrepancies between the funding level sought and what was actually awarded also may force a change in the scheduling of projects, possibly indefinite postponement of some.

Re-examination of performance measures

- The consensus of the Section 408 application review team was that the identification of performance measures was the weakest aspect of most States' applications.

Strategic Plan Guidance

The state needs to ensure they have identified and are using measures that actually reflect progress toward *goals*. Just as many States confused project objectives with goals, more than a few confused intermediate, or project-based, measures with real bottom-line system performance area impact measures.

HQ Guidance to Regions

Establish baseline values for the performance measures

- “Demonstrating improvement” means showing that something has become better than it used to be.
- The FY 2006 408 application criteria did not require that baseline values be reported for performance measures, so many States did not include them in the application. Others reported some baselines, but gave no indication as to how the values were determined.

Strategic Plan Guidance

Establish baseline values for the performance measures

- Without verifiable baselines, progress cannot be demonstrated to qualify for a subsequent year grant.

■ Strategic Plan Progress & Update

- The Plan will need to be updated beyond 2009.
- Is the State prepared to report on progress for all P.M.'s?
- Has there been thought about how to deal with new deficiencies, changing standards...

Other things to worry about

- Model Data Standards

Both NEMESIS and MMUCC are slated for updates – is the State prepared?

- New guidance on MMIRE (Roadway) and Citation/Adjudication in the pipeline...

Areas for Discussion...

- TRCC
- TR Assessment
- List of Deficiencies
- Program Goals
- Performance Measures
- Project Plans
- Opportunities for “progress”
- Monitoring & Reporting

Areas for Discussion...

- Performance Measures
 - Are they related to a System?
 - Are they in terms of a performance area?
 - Are they measurable by an agency?
 - How will they be documented?
 - Is there a process for collecting and reporting measures for progress reports?

Technical Support...

- NHTSA web site:
 - www.nhtsa-tsis.net/workshops

TSASS Tech Support

- State-Specific Workshops Dick Paddock
 - Primary facilitator
- rpaddock@tsass.com
- 614.539.4100
- 614.619.0049

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