

**TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH BOARD  
COMMITTEE ON PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT (ABC30)**

**STRATEGIC PLAN  
Updated April 2009**

**MISSION**

The mission of the Transportation Research Board (TRB) Performance Measurement Committee is to advance the capabilities of public and private transportation organizations and their leaders through the effective use of performance measurement and performance management by developing and sharing knowledge in the field of transportation performance measurement.

**SCOPE**

The committee supports the development and use of performance measurement and performance management across all modes of transportation, public and private, including passenger and freight transportation systems. The committee promotes the use of performance measurement in all aspects of an organization's responsibilities to support public accountability and effective systems management. This includes planning, programming, budgeting, program and service delivery, and system operations. The scope includes measurement with regard to system efficiency and performance and non-traditional measures of sustainability and system externalities as well as organizational effectiveness and customer satisfaction metrics. The scope also includes the research for implementing performance management in an organization, including the definition of performance data needs and the establishment of data collection, analysis, reporting, and communication methods. The committee also serves as the principal TRB clearinghouse for the integration of activities and exchange of information among TRB committees and other organizations, including international partners, concerned with the various aspects of performance measurement and management.

**GOALS**

**Goal 1:** To promote and contribute to the research, development, and application of performance measurement and performance management in transportation organizations and to help address critical and emerging transportation issues.

**Goal 2:** To improve global communications and dissemination of research findings and best practices applicable to public and private transportation organizations.

**Goal 3:** To enhance the understanding, knowledge and skills of transportation leaders and professionals in the science, methods, and application of transportation system performance analysis, performance measurement, and performance management.

## STRATEGIES

- A. Define transportation research needs in performance measurement and management, with an emphasis on emerging issues, and advocate for the conduct of research and the development of syntheses for these research problem areas.
- B. Solicit and review papers on performance measurement and management for TRB publication and presentation.
- C. Communicate the research findings, best practices, ongoing research, and related information on performance measurement and management to a global audience by using a broad range of information activities and peer exchanges.
- D. Create and sponsor TRB sessions on performance measurement and management at annual and mid-year TRB meetings, and actively seek to co-sponsor sessions on related topics.
- E. Sponsor or actively participate in conferences, workshops, training programs, and other special events that promote the development and implementation of performance measurement and management in transportation, and develop circulars and other products from these events for dissemination.
- F. Promote participation in committee activities with a diverse membership and a large network of friends, with representation from all modes of transportation—passenger and freight, public and private—and a variety of transportation organizations.
- G. Serve as a clearinghouse and resource to others, through cooperative approaches with related TRB committees and other national and international organizations, so that the transportation community knows the full range and crosscutting nature of performance measurement and management activities and the committee stays abreast of the activities of other organizations and TRB committees.
- H. Promote and foster international research, joint activities, and cooperation.
- I. Support the broader application of comparative performance measurement to enable best practice application and shared learning among organizations.
- J. Expand system analysis and measurement capacity and expertise, particularly in the following focus areas:
  - Sustainability measurement and analysis
  - Economic impacts of transportation investments , strategies and programs
  - Mobility and traffic operations analysis and measurement
  - Stimulus (ARRA) project delivery performance and accountability analysis
  - Performance Based Federal Aid Program -Federal Reauthorization

## **ACTION PLAN**

**Strategy A: *Define transportation research needs in performance measurement and management, with an emphasis on emerging issues, and advocate for the conduct of research and the development of syntheses for these research problem areas.***

**Goal(s) Addressed—*Goal 1***

**Subcommittee Responsibility—*Research***

### **Annual Actions:**

- Update a list of key research needs in performance measurement and management.
- Prepare new research problem statements based on emerging issues including joint sponsorship with other committees on crosscutting issues.
- Respond to the call for problem statements for the TRB synthesis program.
- Advocate through American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) committees and other means of support for funding problem statements.
- Maintain a compendium of ongoing research projects and report on their status at the annual meeting and in newsletters.
- Coordinate with the Communications Subcommittee to contribute to and maintain discussion on the Federal Highway Administration's (FHWA's) Performance Measurement Exchange Website.

### **2009-2011 Actions:**

- Review and update membership in the Research Subcommittee.
- Contribute to the planning, preparation, and oversight of the next international conference.
- Produce a redefined list of research priorities (coordinated with the conclusion of the next international conference).

**Strategy B: *Solicit and review papers on performance measurement and management for TRB publication and presentation.***

**Goal(s) Addressed—*Goal 1***

**Subcommittee Responsibility—*Paper Review***

### **Annual Actions:**

- Solicit committee members to provide paper topics to be considered for the annual call for papers.
- Choose a topic for the annual call for papers.
- Develop a one-page call for papers every March for the TRB website and distribution.

- Coordinate and collaborate with other committees during the TRB paper review process in order to share the committee's expertise and make use of knowledge from other committees.
- Assign committee members and friends to review submitted papers.
- Choose papers for presentation and publication.
- Enhance the pool of reviewers by encouraging and mentoring new friends of the committee.

**2009-2011 Actions:**

- Review and update the Paper Review Subcommittee membership.

**Strategy C: *Communicate the research findings, best practices, ongoing research, and related information on performance measurement and management to a global audience by using a broad range of information activities and peer exchanges.***

**Goal(s) Addressed—Goal 2**

**Subcommittee Responsibility—Communications**

**Annual Actions:**

- Publish two electronic newsletters each year, including information about the committee, topics, sessions, updates, news alerts, etc.
- Solicit information from TRB staff on the status of projects from the National Cooperative Highway Research Program (NCHRP) and from other TRB research programs for inclusion in the newsletter.
- Based on the contents of each newsletter, suggest topics for presentations at committee meetings and TRB annual and mid-year meetings.
- Look for opportunities to submit newsletter items to other committee/organization newsletters and to publish their items in the committee newsletter.
- Update an annotated bibliography on performance measurement and management for dissemination in cooperation with the Research Subcommittee.
- Maintain a comprehensive e-mail list of members and friends and an accurate and complete set of meeting minutes.

**2009-2011 Actions:**

- Review and update the membership of the Communications Subcommittee.
- Update and maintain the committee website.
- Revitalize and support the FHWA Performance Measurement Exchange Website.
- Announce the availability of the committee newsletter in the TRB e-newsletter and other communications.
- Explore video conferences for peer exchanges on performance measurement and management, possibly using FHWA division office facilities.

**Strategy D:** *Create and sponsor TRB sessions on performance measurement and management at annual and mid-year TRB meetings, and actively seek to co-sponsor sessions on related topics.*

**Goal(s) Addressed—Goal 2**

**Subcommittee Responsibility—Session Planning**

**Annual Actions:**

- Work with the Paper Review Subcommittee to solicit topics for annual meeting conference sessions.
- Select topics and create an annual meeting paper, and conference and poster sessions including co-sponsorship of sessions focusing on crosscutting issues.
- Identify potential topics for presentations at committee meetings.
- Work to incorporate performance measurement into mid-year meeting sessions and in appropriate association sessions (AASHTO, American Public Transportation Association [APTA], Institute of Transportation Engineers [ITE], Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations [AMPO], National Association of Counties [NACo], etc.).

**2009-2011 Actions:**

- Identify a lead person to help the committee chair coordinate the development of committee-sponsored and co-sponsored sessions.
- Explore inclusion of performance measurement in TRB Executive Committee policy sessions and in annual meeting themes and “spotlight” sessions.
- Develop sessions focusing on reauthorization issues and climate change issues for future annual or mid-year meetings.

**Strategy E:** *Sponsor or actively participate in conferences, workshops, training programs, and other special events that promote the development and implementation of performance measurement and management in transportation, and develop circulars and other products from these events for dissemination.*

**Goal(s) Addressed—Goal 3**

**Subcommittee Responsibility—Session Planning**

**Annual Actions:**

- Consider opportunities for special events that focus on performance measurement; assign a task force to plan and carry out each special event.
- Take appropriate actions each year to maintain a three-year cycle for national or international conferences on performance measurement.

**2009-2011 Actions:**

- Establish a three-year cycle for conferences by meeting with key conference sponsors including FHWA and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) to get a commitment in principle to support a regular schedule of national and international conferences and specific commitments for sponsoring future conferences.
- Select a conference planning committee and begin organizing the next conference.
- Hold the next national/international conference.
- Identify other activities including workshops prior to the annual meeting for committee sponsorship.

**Strategy F: *Promote participation in committee activities with a diverse membership and a large network of friends, with representation from all modes of transportation—passenger and freight, public and private—and a variety of transportation organizations.***

**Goal(s) Addressed—Goal 3**

**Subcommittee Responsibility—Chair and Secretary**

**Annual Actions:**

- Review committee membership and rotate members as needed.
- Update the e-mail distribution list of friends and members of the committee.
- Identify energetic and talented friends, and actively delegate committee activities to such friends.
- Identify friends that should be invited for membership when opportunities arise.
- Recruit friends from a variety of transportation organizations including TRB and AASHTO committees.

**2009-2011 Actions:**

- Identify topics, sessions, and other activities that the committee could focus on or sponsor to attract new members/friends.

**Strategy G: *Serve as a clearinghouse and resource to others, through cooperative approaches with related TRB committees and other national and international organizations, so that the transportation community knows the full range and crosscutting nature of performance measurement activities and the committee stays abreast of the activities of other organizations and TRB committees.***

**Goal(s) Addressed—*Goal 1***

**Subcommittee Responsibility—*Chair and Secretary***

**Annual Actions:**

- Actively seek out co-sponsoring opportunities with other TRB committees for sessions and events including crosscutting issues.
- Hear liaison reports from members working with other TRB committees and with other organizations, both to identify joint opportunities and to keep the committee informed about the activities of other groups.
- Maintain a list of co-sponsored research, conferences, and conference sessions, and make the list available on the Performance Measurement Website.
- Review and update the list of committee and organization liaisons.
- Work with the Communications Subcommittee to inform the transportation community of performance measurement–related activities and resources.

**2009-2011 Actions:**

- Explore whether a more formalized and regular liaison with FHWA, AASHTO, APTA and FTA on performance measurement–related issues is useful and practical.

**Strategy H: *Promote and foster international research, joint activities, and cooperation.***

**Goal(s) Addressed—*Goal 1, Goal 2***

**Subcommittee Responsibility—*International Activities***

**Annual Actions:**

- Work with other subcommittees to integrate international activities, experience, and research into committee activities including sessions for the annual and mid-year meetings, conference planning, research proposals, the newsletter, and other activities.
- Encourage international participation in committee meetings and activities including identifying potential committee members and friends.

**2009-2011 Actions:**

- Establish the membership and international contacts for the international subcommittee.
- Explore international participation and sponsorship for upcoming conferences.
- Establish appropriate liaison with the TRB International Activities Committee, FHWA Office of International Programs, the World Road Association-PIARC, Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), and other organizations.

**Strategy I: *Support the broader application of comparative performance measurement to enable best practice application and shared learning among organizations.***

**Goal(s) Addressed—Goal 3**

**Subcommittee Responsibility—Session Planning**

**Annual Actions:**

- Liaise with appropriate AASHTO committees and other organizations to identify potential for shared learning.
- Promote the application of comparative performance measurement through committee activities and web exchanges.

**2009-2011 Actions:**

- Plan and organize a session related to comparative performance measurement at a future TRB meeting or conference.

**Strategy J: *Expand system analysis and measurement capacity and expertise, particularly in the following focus areas:***

- Sustainability measurement and analysis
- Economic impacts of transportation investments , strategies and programs
- Mobility and traffic operations analysis and measurement
- Stimulus (ARRA) project delivery performance and accountability analysis
- Performance Based Federal Aid Program -Federal Reauthorization

**Goal(s) Addressed—Goal 3**

**Subcommittee Responsibility—Research**

**Focus Area—2009-2011 Actions:**

- Develop project statements for research projects and syntheses under the Cooperative Research Programs dealing with the above topics.
- In conjunction with other subcommittees, develop conference sessions and calls for papers related to the focus areas.

- Keep abreast of federal regulations and guidelines on these topics, and share information that may be of interest to committee members.