

Asset Management Background

Managing Traffic Data Assets

On an annual basis, the Michigan Department of Transportation's (MDOT) Data Inventory and Integration Division is responsible for the collection and reporting of traffic data on more than 36,000 miles of federal-aid roads in the state of Michigan, with additional reporting requirements for the 83,000 miles of local roads. The traffic data collection consists of short-term studies as well as year-round data from the continuous count sites. The data collected is provided to the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) on a monthly and annual basis. Additionally, the data is used to drive decisions being made by other MDOT divisions, Michigan State Police, the Transportation Asset Management Council, and local agencies. MDOT's traffic data collection philosophy is to "collect quality data once, use it multiple times."

Traffic data is available publicly and can be searched, viewed, downloaded or printed.

Traffic volume information (TMIS): <http://mdotnetpublic.state.mi.us/tmispublic/>

Annual Average Daily Traffic (AADT) maps: www.michigan.gov/adtmaps

Non-state AADT: <http://www.mcgi.state.mi.us/ntfa/>

Here are some recently proposed data principles developed by the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) and supported by MDOT. They are focused on data as an asset, and that data is valuable, available, reliable, authorized, clear, efficient, and accountable.

- **Data is an asset.** Data is a core business asset that has value and is managed accordingly.
- **Data is open, accessible, transparent, and shared.** Access to data is critical to performing duties and functions. Data must be open and usable for diverse applications and open to all.
- **Data quality and extent is fit for a variety of applications.** Data quality is acceptable and meets the needs for which it is intended.
- **Data is secure and compliant with regulations.** Data is trustworthy and safeguarded from unauthorized access, whether malicious, fraudulent or erroneous.
- **There is a common vocabulary and data definition.** Data dictionaries are developed and metadata established to maximize consistency and transparency of data across systems.
- **Data is not duplicated.** Data is collected once and used many times for many purposes.
- **Decisions maximize the benefit of data.** Timely, relevant, high-quality data are essential to maximize the utility of data for decision-making.

MDOT is required to maintain a traffic monitoring program to meet the reporting requirements of the FHWA, United States Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) title 23, 420.105(b).