Discussion: Integrating Maintenance and Traffic Operations during Weather Events

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Motivations for Discussion

- Persistent differences between understanding, capabilities, and objectives of two groups
- Lots of progress being made in this area
  - Based on relationships
  - Very localized success stories
- Bring forth best practices, ideas and examples to the table.
Ideally.....

Integrated Weather Information (multiple sources)
- Current conditions
- Forecasts

Field Observations
- Sensors
- Field personnel
- Cameras
- Public input

Maintenance Decision-makers
- Dispatch
- Field operations
- Feedback from field

Efficient Maintenance Operations
Operations benefit each other

Traffic Management Decision-makers
- Dispatch
- Field operations
- Feedback from field

Effective Traffic Management Operations

Informed, safe, efficient public travel

Constant Communication
Issues (we have heard)

• Lack of knowledge and understanding of each group’s activities and needs
• Perceived differences in weather data needs
• Little sharing of related information
• Poor communication and lack of coordinated response to weather events
• Inconsistent or inaccurate traveler information dissemination

Not present in all states!
Open Discussion: Issues

- Are the data needs really different?
- Do both groups understand each other’s operations? Is this at the core of the issues?
- Does lack of collocation of dispatching cause any problems?
- What are some other issues that prevent better coordination?
Some ideas...

- Using same information to make decisions
- Avoid conflicting operations/messages
- Resource sharing
- Reduced cost of data collection
- Coordinated response to weather events
  - Efficient clean up operations
  - Consistent messages to travelers
  - Improved safety (keep travelers away from dangerous situations)
Open Discussion: Ideas

• What examples could you provide to illustrate the ideas provided on previous slide?

• What other ideas would you offer (or have you experienced) from coordinated operations (maintenance and traffic)?
Open Discussion: Wrap Up

• How would you adjust the “ideal” situation? What elements are missing?

• How can your DOT get there?

• What circumstances exist at your DOT to assist your efforts to make it happen?

• What are your primary barriers?
  – How can we address/mitigate the barriers?
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**Informed, safe, efficient public travel**

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Ideally..... Operations benefit each other