

5.1.2 A Pavement Management System for Pitkin County, CO

Presenter

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Advancements in computers, software and pavement management technology have provided the tools needed to manage pavements economically. A pavement management system provides a systematic, consistent method for determining Maintenance and Rehabilitation (M&R) needs and priorities, as well as the optimal time for repair, by predicting future pavement condition. An essential concept in pavement management is tracking the deterioration of the pavement surface over time. The Overall Condition Index (OCI) is used in to aid in determining the rate of pavement deterioration. This index is a composite of performance measures such as distress, ride and drainage. Since this is the first model year, the DTS team decided to use the surface distress and some subsurface ground-penetrating radar (GPR) data to evaluate pavement condition.

If maintenance and rehabilitation (M&R) is performed during the early stages of deterioration before a sharp decline in pavement condition, significant repair costs can be avoided. In addition, detours and long periods of closure to traffic can be avoided. The pavement management system alerts the pavement manager to the critical point in a pavement's life cycle where appropriate action can be taken. This presentation will cover the project methodology and results.