
EXECUTIVE MEMORANDUM

TO: ALL MDOT SHA
FROM: ADMINISTRATOR TIM SMITH *Tim Smith*
SUBJECT: TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS MANAGEMENT & OPERATIONS (TSMO)
DIRECTIVE
DATE: JUNE 17, 2020

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this Directive is to mainstream the Transportation Systems Management and Operations (TSMO) Program across MDOT SHA to achieve following objectives:

1. Establish an integrated approach to programmatic optimization of planning, engineering, construction, operations, and maintenance in implementing new and existing multi-modal systems, services, and projects to preserve capacity and improve the security, safety, and reliability of our transportation system.
2. Effectively manage and operate existing facilities and systems to maximize their potential and provide safe, efficient, and innovative solutions.
3. Provide solutions and strategies that address capacity limitations due to recurring and non-recurring congestion (crashes, incidents, severe weather, work zones, special events, and other factors) through business processes, ITS technologies, and collaboration.
4. Promote the integration and implementation of a sustainable, organization-wide TSMO Program guided by the most recently approved TSMO Strategic Plan and Implementation Plan.
5. Provide a methodology by which these principles can be incorporated into all planning, engineering, construction, operations, and maintenance activities.

BACKGROUND:

TSMO has emerged as a formal discipline for transportation agencies throughout the country, with the intent of effectively managing and operating existing and new facilities and systems to maximize their service potential. TSMO is not a new concept for Maryland - MDOT SHA has a strong management and operations foundation through the Coordinated Highways Action Response Team (CHART) Program and other multimodal programs. Related efforts such as mobility and reliability programs, transportation performance management, and recent customer-focused organizational modernization initiatives also make up the foundation for the TSMO Program. MDOT SHA adopted its first TSMO Strategic Implementation Plan in August 2016, and a completely revamped Strategic Plan in October 2018.

DIRECTIVE:

1. *Provide TSMO Implementation Guidance and performance-based strategies for planning, engineering, construction, operations, and maintenance.*
2. *Include TSMO as a routine and integral element of all planning, engineering, construction, operations, and maintenance decisions and activities in accordance with the TSMO Implementation Guidance.*
3. *All MDOT SHA employees, contract employees, contractors, and consultants are required to evaluate the feasibility of TSMO strategies and solutions for all applicable transportation needs and projects in accordance with the TSMO Implementation Guidance.*

DEFINITIONS:

For the purposes of this Directive, the following words have the following meanings:

1. TSMO Solutions and Strategies are technology enhancements, operational enhancements, and design treatments that are often used in combination while making improvements to an area in its entirety versus a focus on just one specific location.
2. TSMO Solutions and Strategies identify performance metrics with which mobility and reliability improvements can be measured.

SCOPE:

Applies to all MDOT SHA employees, contract employees, contractors, and consultants.

RESPONSIBLE PARTIES:

Deputy Administrator/ Chief Engineer of Operations in Hanover
Deputy Administrator/ Chief Engineer of District Operations
Deputy Administrator/ Chief Engineer for Planning, Engineering, Real Estate, and Environment

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:

- TSMO Strategic Plan (2018)
- TSMO Implementation Plan (2019)
- TSMO Implementation Guidance (forthcoming)

REFERENCES:

- MDOT SHA Annual Mobility Report (2019): https://www.roads.maryland.gov/OPPEN/2019_mobility_report.pdf
- Federal MAP-21/FAST Act: <https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/map21/>
- Organizing for Reliability (SHRP2-L01/L06): <https://ops.fhwa.dot.gov/shrp2/>

- MDOT Excellerator:
<http://www.mdot.maryland.gov/newMDOT/Planning/Excellerator/MDOTExcellerator>

Cc:

Betty Conners, Deputy Administrator for Administration
Andre Futrell, Acting Deputy Administrator/ Chief Engineer of District Operations
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MDOT SHA Senior Management Team