Transit Performance Measures

In July 2016, FTA issued a final rule requiring transit agencies to maintain and document minimum Transit Asset Management (TAM) standards, policies, procedures, and performance targets. The TAM rule applies to all recipients of Chapter 53 funds that either own, operate, or manage federally-funded capital assets used in providing public transportation services. The TAM rule divides transit agencies into two categories based on size and mode:

- **Tier I**
  - Operates Rail Fixed Guideway (Section 5337) OR
  - Operates over 100 vehicles across all fixed route modes OR
  - Operates over 100 vehicles in one non-fixed route mode

- **Tier II**
  - Urban and Rural Public Transportation (Section 5307, 5310, and 5311 eligible) OR
  - Operates up to and including 100 vehicles across all fixed route modes OR
  - Operates up to and including 100 vehicles in one non-fixed route mode

The TAM rule requires states to participate and/or lead the development of a group plan for recipients of Section 5311 and Section 5310 funding (Tier II), and additionally allows other Tier II providers to join a group plan at their discretion. All required agencies (Section 5311 and 5310) and remaining Tier II systems in Pennsylvania, except for the Centre Area Transportation Authority (CATA), elected to participate in the PennDOT Group Plan.

The TAM process requires agencies to annually set performance measure targets and report performance against those targets. Required measures are:

- Rolling Stock – Percentage past the Useful Life Benchmark (ULB) (age only)
- Equipment – Percentage of service vehicles past the ULB (age only)
- Facilities – Percentage of passenger/parking and admin/maintenance facilities that are below a 3 on the Transit Economic Recovery Model (TERM) Scale
- Infrastructure – Percentage with performance restrictions (fixed-guideway only)

Performance targets, and how those targets translate into project prioritization, is the focus of TAM plans. The Pennsylvania Group Plan is available on PennDOT’s website at [https://www.penndot.gov/Doing-Business/Transit/InformationandReports/](https://www.penndot.gov/Doing-Business/Transit/InformationandReports/). The group plan is updated annually with new targets as well as the current performance of the group.

All transit agencies are required to utilize Pennsylvania’s transit Capital Planning Tool (CPT) as part of their capital planning process and integrate it into their TAM process. The CPT is an asset management and capital planning application that works as the central repository for all Pennsylvania transit asset and performance management activities. Transit agencies update CPT data annually to provide a current picture of asset inventory and performance. From this data, PennDOT BPT updates performance targets for both the statewide inventory of Tier II agencies and for each individual agency in the plan based on two primary elements: the prior year’s performance and anticipated/obligated funding levels. PennDOT BPT then reports this information to FTA and shares it with the MPOs/RPOs, along with investment information on priority capital projects anticipated for the following year.

Agencies that are Tier I or non-participating Tier II use similar CPT data to set independent TAM performance targets and report these directly to the MPOs/RPOs.

Consistent with available resources and in coordination with the PennDOT BPT, transit agencies are responsible for submitting projects consistent with the CPT for the development of the transit portion of the Program. This will ensure that projects identified on the TIP are consistent with the TAM approach and respective TAM plans. PennDOT CPDM will update this project information in MPMS and share it with the MPOs/RPOs, PennDOT BPT, and the transit agencies.