

# COMPONENT 02 TARGET SETTING

This chapter provides assistance to transportation agencies with the "Target Setting" component of Transportation Performance Management (TPM). It discusses where target setting occurs within the TPM Framework, describes how it interrelates with the other nine components, presents definitions for associated terminology, provides links to regulatory resources, and includes an action plan exercise. Key implementation steps are the focus of the chapter. Guidebook users should take the TPM Capability Maturity Self-Assessment (located in the TPM Toolbox at www.tpmtools.org) as a starting point for enhancing TPM activities. It is important to note that federal regulations for target setting may differ from what is included in this chapter.

# 02 Target Setting

# 2.1 Technical Methodology 2.2 Business Process

**Target Setting** is the use of baseline data, information on possible strategies, resource constraints, and forecasting tools to collaboratively establish a quantifiable level of performance the agency wants to achieve within a specific time frame. Targets make the link between investment decisions and performance expectations transparent across all stakeholders.

#### **INTRODUCTION**

Target setting within the TPM Framework is an evidence-based and data-driven, collaborative process that establishes what an agency desires to achieve within a specific time frame. The target-setting process uses the goals, objectives, and performance measures of the Strategic Direction (Component 01) and determines the anticipated outcomes to be achieved. Targets are used to assess progress toward achieving strategic goals, guide planning efforts, inform programmatic decisions and adjustments, and communicate with the public and other stakeholders. Targets make the link between investment decisions and performance expectations transparent for all stakeholders. In short, the process of setting targets completes the foundation (along with the Strategic Direction, Component 01) from which strategic decision-making is launched.

# The target-setting process is vital to the implementation of TPM and offers unique and powerful benefits to an agency by:

- Driving a conversation about current conditions and how to achieve future outcomes;
- Creating a method for evaluating processes currently in place, particularly data quality and measurement definitions used by the agency;
- Guiding the prioritization and allocation of resources;
- Enabling assessment of strategy effectiveness by focusing on linking goals, objectives, and measure to policy and investment decisions;
- Forming a powerful argument for additional or alternative investments; and
- Managing expectations by clarifying what outcomes are desired.

The target-setting process is intertwined with the tenets of TPM: connecting employee actions to results, motivating and focusing staff, increasing accountability, identifying opportunities for external collaboration, guiding the allocation of resources, and tracking the efficacy of various programs and strategies.

Evidence-based and data-driven target setting is founded on quality data, good analyses (i.e., technical methodology), and solid business processes.

- Quality data are the foundation to observing the baseline, conducting trend line analysis, and estimating forecasts. It is important to know the limits of the data: see Data Management (Component C) and Data Usability and Analysis (Component D). If quality data are not available, what are the strategies that can be applied to improve the usability of the data?
- **Good analyses** are the approaches used to convert data into valuable evidence-based and data-driven information, enabling target setting.
- Without **good business processes** in place and documented for accountability and repeatability, target setting will not be sustainable.

#### SUBCOMPONENTS AND IMPLEMENTATION STEPS

#### Figure 2-1: Subcomponents for Target Setting

Source: Federal Highway Administration

The definition for target setting is: The use of baseline data, information on possible strategies, resource constraints, and forecasting tools to collaboratively establish a quantifiable level of performance the agency wants to achieve within a specific time frame. Targets make the link between investment decisions and performance expectations transparent across all stakeholders. Target setting is broken down into two complementary subcomponents (Figure 2-1).



- **Technical Methodology:** Implementation of an evidence-based and data-driven approach for observing a baseline and evaluating a performance trend.
- **Business Process:** Establishment of an intra-agency process including internal coordination and collaboration to establish and modify performance targets.

The technical methodology relates to the compilation and analysis of historical, current, and projected performance data to guide target setting, while the business process builds internal collaboration, defines roles, and specifies the steps necessary to ensure a strong internal target setting approach is in place. Steps undertaken in the Business Process also determine how, when, and to what extent external collaboration is needed (see External Collaboration and Coordination, Component B). The technical methodology is how the "number" is established that becomes the target. This will involve observing and examining baseline trends, performance data, developing trend lines (i.e., historical and projected trends), and analyzing future scenarios. In addition to establishing a solid technical approach to target setting, agencies should establish and sustain an internal business process to gain agreement on a realistic target. This includes defining the agency's key players and establishing a process that ensures coordination in target setting across different performance areas, and leveraging external collaboration. Through regularly scheduled activities, a continuous cycle is created including target setting, Performance-Based Planning (Component 03), Performance-Based Programming (Component 04), and Monitoring and Adjustment (Component 05) to ensure objectives, goals, and measures (Strategic Direction, Component 01) are linked to policy and investment decisions.<sup>1</sup> Both subcomponents are necessary and implementation steps from each are completed concurrently, as the agency deems useful. Table 2-1 presents the implementation steps for target setting that will be further explored in this chapter.

#### **Table 2-1: Target Setting Implementation Steps**

Source: Federal Highway Administration

Technical Methodology	Business Process
1. Establish a baseline	1. Assign internal roles and responsibilities
2. Analyze historical trends	2. Clarify purpose of the target
<ol> <li>Identify influencing factors and assess risk (internal and external)</li> </ol>	3. Gather information through benchmarking
4. Define target parameters	4. Reflect external stakeholder interests
5. Forecast future performance	5. Document the business process
6. Document technical methodology	

Because target setting relies on a carefully investigated baseline, the development of future scenarios, and an understanding of future programming and resource allocation decisions, a transparent target-setting process creates an open dialogue about specific outcomes the agency wants to achieve and articulates the connection between actions and results. Initially, actions required to achieve established targets are clarified; later, during Monitoring and Adjustment (Component 05), the effects of past actions are re-examined to determine what changes should be made to realign agency strategies toward target attainment. Targets also provide justification necessary to make the case for additional resources and more or better quality

"Target setting should not focus on a single target value for a performance measure, but on achieving improved performance over time. The value of performance management is found in better decision-making, not target achievement."

Source: AASHTO SCOPM Task Force Findings on MAP-21 Performance Measure Target-Setting (March 2013)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> FHWA. (2013). Safety Target Setting Final Report. FHWA-SA-14-009. http://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/hsip/spm/docs/safetyfinalrpt.pdf

data. As transparent target setting percolates through an organization, the relationship between each employee's day-to-day activities and the desired results becomes more real, further imprinting TPM practices across the organization.

#### CLARIFYING TERMINOLOGY

Table 2-2 provides definitions for the target setting terms used in this Guidebook. A full list of common TPM terminology and definitions is included in Appendix C: Glossary.

#### Table 2-2: Target Setting: Defining Common TPM Terminology

Source: Federal Highway Administration

Common Terms	Definition	Example	
Baseline	The observed level of performance for a specified performance period from which implementation begins, improvement is judged, or comparison is made.	2014 fatality rate = 0.83 per 100 million miles of travel.	
Benchmarking	A comparison of two numbers, often historical data, with current numbers or one agency's results against its peer's.	Assessing an agency's fatality rate by comparing it to that of a peer agency, or to historic fatality rates.	
Goal	A broad statement of a desired end condition or outcome; a unique piece of the agency's vision.	A safe transportation system.	
Metric	An indicator of performance or condition.	The annual number of fatalities.	
Objective	A specific, measurable statement that Reduce the number of moto supports achievement of a goal. fatalities.		
Performance MeasurePerformances measures are based on a metric that is used to track progress toward goals, objectives, and achievement of established targets. They should be manageable, sustainable, and based on collaboration with partners. Measures provide an effective basis for evaluating strategies for performance improvement.		Transit passenger trips per revenue hour.	
Performance Period	An established timeframe for monitoring results and collecting data and information for performance reporting.	A calendar year.	
Target	Level of performance that is desired to be achieved within a specific time frame.	Two % reduction in the fatality rate in the next calendar year.	
Transportation Performance Management	A strategic approach that uses system information to make investment and policy decisions to achieve performance goals.	Determining what results are to be pursued and using information from past performance levels and forecasted conditions to guide investments.	

Common Terms	Definition	Example
Trend line	A trend distilled from historical or projected performance data.	The graph depicting annual fatality rate and five-year average fatality rate from 2000 to 2014.

### **RELATIONSHIP TO TPM COMPONENTS**

The ten TPM components are interconnected and often interdependent. Table 2-3 summarizes how each component relates to the target setting component.

#### **Table 2-3: Target Setting Relationship to TPM Components**

Source: Federal Highway Administration

Component Summary Definition		Summary Definition	Relationship to Target Setting	
01.	Strategic Direction	The establishment of an agency's focus through well-defined goals and objectives and a set of aligned performance measures.	Targets turn goals/objectives and measures identified in the strategic direction into statements of desired outcomes.	
03.	Performance-Based Planning	Use of a strategic direction to drive development and documentation of agency strategies and priorities in the long-range transportation plan and other plans.	Targets describe the anticipated outcomes the strategies and priorities in these plans are striving to achieve.	
04.	Performance-Based Programming	Allocation of resources to projects to achieve strategic goals, objectives and performance targets. Clear linkages established between investments made and their expected performance outputs and outcomes.	Targets can influence and be influenced by the prioritization of the projects included in the STIP and TIP and agency budgets. Targets are needed to track progress toward expected performance outcomes.	
05.	Monitoring and Adjustment	Processes to monitor and assess actions taken and outcomes achieved. Establishes a feedback loop to adjust programming, planning, and benchmarking/target- setting decisions. Provides key insight into the efficacy of investments.	Targets provide the "stake in the ground" around which to evaluate the effectiveness of implemented strategies, progress toward goals, identification of unforeseen issues, and potential programmatic adjustments.	
06.	Reporting and Communication	Products, techniques, and processes to communicate performance information to different audiences for maximum impact.	Targets are integral to an agency's performance language and are used to illustrate progress made, challenges incurred, and next steps related to the strategic goals.	
Α.	TPM Organization and Culture	Institutionalization of a TPM culture within the organization, as evidenced by leadership support, employee buy-in, and embedded organizational structures and processes that support TPM.	Targets clearly communicate to all employees what the agency is trying to achieve and where the agency should focus its efforts. For targets to be embraced they also need to reflect the agency's current culture.	

Component		Summary Definition	Relationship to Target Setting	
в.	External Collaboration and Coordination	Established processes to engage and collaborate with agency partners and stakeholders on planning/visioning, target setting, programming, data sharing, and reporting.	The target setting process provides an ideal opportunity to collaborate with outside partners in order to establish targets, gain their support for agency's efforts, and find common areas of interest.	
C.	Data Management	Established processes to ensure data quality and accessibility, and to maximize efficiency of data acquisition and integration for TPM.	The availability of data and the quality of data provide the foundation of target setting.	
D.	<ul> <li>Data Usability and Analysis</li> <li>Existence of useful and valuable data sets and analysis capabilities, provided in usable, convenient forms to support TPM.</li> </ul>		The usability of data to observe baselines, examine trends, and prepare forecasts plays a significant role in the target setting process.	

#### **REGULATORY RESOURCES**

This Guidebook is intended to assist agencies with implementing transportation performance management in a general sense and not to provide guidance on compliance and fulfillment of Federal regulations. However, it is important to consider legislative requirements and regulations when using the Guidebook. In many cases, use of this Guidebook will bring an agency in alignment with Federal requirements; however, the following sources should be considered the authority on such requirements:

#### **Federal Highway Administration**

- Transportation Performance Management: <u>http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/tpm/links\_fhwa.cfm</u>
- Fact Sheets on Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act: https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/fastact/factsheets/
- Fact Sheets on Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century (MAP-21): <u>https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/map21/factsheets/</u>
- Resources on MAP-21 Rulemaking: <u>https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/tpm/rule.cfm</u>

#### **Federal Transit Administration**

- Fact Sheets on FAST Act: <u>https://www.transit.dot.gov/funding/grants/fta-program-fact-sheets-under-fast-act</u>
- Resources on MAP-21: <u>https://www.transit.dot.gov/regulations-and-guidance/legislation/map-21/map-21-program-fact-sheets</u>

#### IMPLEMENTATION STEPS

#### 2.1 TECHNICAL METHODOLOGY

The technical methodology will provide an agency with target options to consider. The following section outlines steps agencies can follow to implement a sustainable technical methodology to target setting.

- 1. Establish a baseline
- 2. Analyze historical trends
- 3. Identify influencing factors and assess risk (internal and external)
- 4. Define target parameters
- 5. Forecast future performance
- 6. Document technical methodology

"Target setting is difficult for many reasons, including limitations in data and tools to forecast expected performance levels, uncertainties due to exogenous factors that may affect performance, concerns about setting targets that are either too ambitious or too modest, and public and elected officials' perceptions, among other issues."

Source: Target Setting Peer Exchange (2014)

#### STEP 2.1.1 Establish a baseline Description Figure 2-2: Characteristics of Quality Data Source: Federal Highway Administration The most important first step in the target setting process is to assemble data to develop a baseline for Timely the performance measures established in the Strategic Direction (Component 1). The baseline Accessible Complete illustrates past performance, and serves as a jumping CHARACTERISTICS off point from which implementation and progress OF QUALITY DATA begins. Developing a baseline means digging into what data the agency has available and how it is Integrated Accurate organized. For new measures, agencies may be Consistent limited to a single baseline value for one point in time, which provides a starting point from which a trend line can be created. As this quote from the Safety Target Setting Final Report illustrates, a chosen performance measure may determine the approach for determining the baseline: The first consideration when setting a target is what will be used for a base-year value against which the target will be compared. According to Traffic Safety Performance Measures for States and Federal Agencies, a three- or five-year rolling average is recommended. Rolling averages show long-term trends more clearly than annual

counts. The longer the time period for which the average is used, however, the longer it will take for trends to show up in the data. If a multiyear average is used, a State or region also will likely track annual numbers.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> FHWA. (2013). Safety Target Setting Final Report, 42. FHWA-SA-14-009. <u>http://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/hsip/spm/docs/safetyfinalrpt.pdf</u>

STEP 2.1.1	Establish a baseline		
	<ul> <li>The baseline will also be critical to informing performance forecasts. Activities involved in establishing a baseline are:</li> <li>Determine data source, ownership, and when updated</li> <li>Assess data quality</li> <li>Identify data gaps</li> <li>Formulate strategies to close data gaps, if cost-effective</li> <li>Use agreed-upon data to establish baseline</li> </ul>		
Examples	Figure 2-3: Example Data Sources to Support Source: Federal Highway Administration Federal Systems Highway Performance Monitoring System (HPMS) Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS) National Bridge Inventory (NBI) National Performance Management Research Data Set (NPMRDS) Census Data Etc.	<ul> <li>5) Management Systems <ul> <li>Infrastructure (bridges, pavements, and other assets)</li> <li>Safety (crashes, injuries, seat belts, nonmotorized, etc.)</li> <li>Mobility (traffic, real-time, congestion, transit, etc.)</li> <li>Economic (freight movement, tourism, jobs)</li> <li>Environment (emission, storm water, etc.)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
	Individual • Access databases • Spreadsheets • Shapefiles • Other	Commercial Sources <ul> <li>Travel information</li> <li>Freight information</li> <li>Weather</li> <li>Geo-spatial data</li> </ul>	
Linkages to Other TPM Components	Component 01: Strategic Direction Component C: Data Management Component D: Data Usability and Analysis	(See TPM Framework)	

STEP 2.1.2	Analyze historical trends	
DescriptionThis step involves examining and analyzing the trend data that has been assembled try and understand reasons for observed variations. The purpose of this step is look past for clues as to where the agency is going. Understanding past results can provi direction for setting future targets; why did the agency get the observed performant Specific activities include:		
	<ul> <li>Confirm that measure calculations are consistent and comparable over time</li> <li>Identify repeating patterns and correlate them with other external trends (e.g., economic upturn and higher congestion)</li> <li>Investigate atypical variations in trend (e.g., severe winter weather)</li> <li>Locate "shifts" in the trend line due to policy changes (e.g., lifting of motorcycle helmet law)</li> </ul>	

	Analyze historical trends
Examples	The importance of confirming that performance measure calculations are consistent and comparable over time was demonstrated at the Washington Metropolitan Area Transportation Authority (WMATA). In December 2013, WMATA reported to their Board of Directors that bus on-time performance had improved to over 80%, a historically unchronicled level. Unfortunately, WMATA had to retract this statement when staff discovered that this result was due to new fleet technology failing to capture all the buses arriving early, thus compromising Bus On-Time Performance results for the latter portion of CY2013. <b>Figure 2-4: Bus On-Time Performance Calculation Error</b> Source: Adapted from WMATA Vital Signs Report <sup>3</sup>
	Bus On-Time Performance 85%
	75% 70% Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec ↔CY 2012 -■-CY 2013 Target
Linkages to Other TPM Components	Component C: Data Management (See TPM Framewo
STEP 2.1.3	Identify influencing factors and assess risk (internal and external)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority. (2013). Vital Signs Report: A Scorecard of Metro's Key Performance Indicators 2013 3rd Quarter Results. Washington, DC. https://www.wmata.com/about\_metro/docs/Vital\_Signs\_Q3\_2013.pdf

Identify influencing factors and assess	risk (internal and external)
Figure 2-5: Identific	ation of Factors Related to Performance Outcomes
Source: Risk-Based Transportation Asset	Management: Evaluating Threats, Capitalizing on Opportunities. <sup>4</sup>
Both internal and external factors must be	
acknowledged in order to fully understand	the
context of the target, to anticipate any imp	bace
issues as part of the TPM business approac	h. Strategic
······································	
In short, understanding influencing factors	helps
understand limitations. With a better	Management
targets can be more accurate and in turn n	nore
helpful. Table 2-4 contains a list of internal	and Asset Risk
external factors to consider in target settin	g.
Table 2-4: Internal and External Factors In	nnacting Performance
Source: Federal Highway Administration	
Internal	External
Funding	Economy
Staffing constraints	Weather
Data availability and quality	Politics/legislative requirements
Leadership	Population growth
Capital project commitments	Demographic shifts
Planned operational activities	Vehicle characteristics
Cultural barriers	Zones of disadvantaged populations
Agency priorities	Modal shares
Agency jurisdiction	Gas prices
Senior management directives	Land use characteristics
Policy directives (e.g., zero fatalities)	Driver behavior
Cross performance area tradeoffs	Traffic
Collaboration across agency	
In addition to building a comprehensive lis	t of all potential factors that might influence
performance results and subsequently the	target, agencies should also make an assessment of
two items: 1) which factors will likely have	the largest effect on performance results and 2)
which factors the agency can influence or o	control However quantification (to the extent
	Identify influencing factors and assess Figure 2-5: Identific Source: Risk-Based Transportation Asset Both internal and external factors must be acknowledged in order to fully understand context of the target, to anticipate any imp on performance, and to begin addressing to issues as part of the TPM business approace In short, understanding influencing factors understand limitations. With a better understanding of the performance situation targets can be more accurate and in turn of helpful. Table 2-4 contains a list of internal external factors to consider in target settion <b>Table 2-4: Internal and External Factors In</b> Source: Federal Highway Administration <b>Internal</b> Funding Staffing constraints Data availability and quality Leadership Capital project commitments Planned operational activities Cultural barriers Agency priorities Agency priorities Agency jurisdiction Senior management directives Policy directives (e.g., zero fatalities) Cross performance area tradeoffs Collaboration across agency In addition to building a comprehensive lis performance results and subsequently the two items: 1) which factors will likely have which factors the agency can influence or

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Federal Highway Administration. (2012). Risk-Based Transportation Asset Management: Evaluating Threats, Capitalizing on Opportunities. http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/asset/pubs/hif12035.pdf

"forecasting future performance" implementation step. As agencies complete additional

#### STEP 2.1.3

#### Identify influencing factors and assess risk (internal and external)

cycles of target setting, the ability to identify and understand the effect of various internal and external factors will increase.

Assessing the risk of internal and external influencing factors is a widely accepted method of understanding how such factors might influence a performance target and identifying approaches to mitigate their impact. Risk refers to the positive or negative effects of uncertainty or variability of any threat to achieving strategies, goals, and targets. Given that performance-based planning focuses on future outcomes, the inclusion of risk in the development of strategies and investment prioritization is important. Assessing and managing risk means determining the likelihood of such a threat occurring, as well as understanding and planning for the associated impacts. This is a key consideration in any planning effort, as part of those plans must address impacts that could cause them to derail. Risks may be positive or negative and generally can be defined as hazard, financial, operational, or strategic risks as summarized in Table 2-5.<sup>5</sup> Scenario planning can be an effective tool in assessing risk, among others. Risk is discussed at length in NCHRP 806: Guide to Cross-Asset Resource Allocation and the Impact on Transportation System Performance (2015) and FHWA's Risk-Based Transportation Asset Management: Evaluating Threats, Capitalizing on Opportunities (2012).

#### **Table 2-5: Summary of Key Definitions of Risk Types** Source: NCHRP 806<sup>6</sup>

Risk Type	Definition	Management
	The risk of uncertain performance due to condition and/or age of	Addressed via contingency funding, specific strategies regarding improving condition, or reducing vulnerability to weather events.
Hazard	infrastructure or vulnerability to extreme events.	These may include prioritizing projects to achieve state of good repair (SGR), simulating deterioration probabilities, and constraining project list to the most critical.
Financial	The risk of a financial shift, such as a cut in revenues or a change in project cost.	Addressed via revenue source and trade- off understanding and simulation of various investment levels.
Operational	The risk that a prediction or strategy is incorrectly calibrated, leading to issues such as inaccurate forecasts or a lack of intended impact.	Addressed by a good feedback loop and review of forecasting abilities.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Definitions summarized from *NCHRP 806: Guide to Cross-Asset Resource Allocation and the Impact on Transportation System Performance,* 20. http://onlinepubs.trb.org/onlinepubs/nchrp/nchrp\_rpt\_806.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Definitions summarized from NCHRP 806: Guide to Cross-Asset Resource Allocation and the Impact on Transportation System Performance, 20. http://onlinepubs.trb.org/onlinepubs/nchrp/nchrp\_rpt\_806.pdf

STEP 2.1.3	Identify influer	nfluencing factors and assess risk (internal and external)		
	Strategic	The risk that management or specific programs have unforeseen weaknesses impacting the achievement of their intended purpose.	Addressed by understanding the sensitivity of performance preferences, targets, and resource allocation strategies. Strategy options may include silo versus integrated management, fixed versus flexible budget allocation, and worst first versus proactive preservation.	
	To guide the risk assessment and management piece of performance-based planning, consider the steps outlined as an International Organization for Standards standard (ISO 31000) <sup>7</sup> and used by the FHWA Risk-Based Transportation Asset Management guide. This can be a formal or informal process.			
	<ul> <li>Establish the context: Understand the social, legislative, economic, and environmental factors that may impact the agency or a particular goal, strategy, or target. This is analogous to the factor assessment that takes place for target setting.</li> <li>Identify risk: Determine which type of risk is possible out of the options above.</li> <li>Analyze risk: Understand the probability of the risk and its impact. This can be a basic understanding or rating, or it can be modeled for a more specific analysis.</li> <li>Evaluate risk: Understand the sensitivity of the agency the risk impacts; understand the severity of the impacts that the risk may cause.</li> <li>Manage risk: "Treat, tolerate, terminate, transfer, or take advantage of the risk."<sup>8</sup> In the context of performance-based planning, this means incorporating these steps into the planning process and developing strategies with an understanding of the risks, moving forward into the programming stage with flexibility to accommodate the kind of risks described above.</li> </ul>			
	with influencing	ep in mind as an agency assesses and develops plans to mitigate risks associated incing factors include:		
	<ul> <li>Identify</li> <li>Categori</li> <li>Categori</li> <li>extension</li> <li>Assession</li> <li>Determinication</li> <li>Revisition</li> <li>change</li> </ul>	ving potential internal and extern rizing factors by the extent of cor sive," "moderate," or "limited" co ng potential factors by the degre nining which factors should be co ng, periodically, the list of influer assessment of agency control ar	al influencing factors ntrol an agency has over the results (e.g., ontrol) e of on performance results nsidered in the current target setting effort ncing factors to drop or add factors, or to nd/or degree of influence	
Examples	Degree of Influe	ence over Risk Factors: Virginia F	Performs	
	The degree of in by factor. "Virgir toward seven str or "limited" cont over land use rel more at http://v	fluence an agency has over facton nia Performs" is an on-line, public rategic goals. It includes an asses trol of the results. For example, V lated factors such as population aperforms.virginia.gov/indicators	rs that affect performance outcomes will vary cly available tracker of the state's progress sment of whether the state has "significant" (irginia determined it has "limited" control density and land development patterns. See s/transportation/summary.php.	

 <sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> ISO 31000 – Risk Management. http://www.iso.org/iso/home/standards/iso31000.htm
 <sup>8</sup> New York State Department of Transportation. (2014). Transportation Asset Management Plan Draft v 05-02-14 (External Review).

http://www.tamptemplate.org/wp-content/uploads/tamps/023\_newyorkstatedot.pdf

# STEP 2.1.3 Identify influencing factors and assess risk (internal and external) Internal Factors Assessed for Risk: Escalator Availability

Escalator availability at a transit agency is at least partly within the agency's direct control. From the customer perspective, an out-of-service escalator is an inconvenience and negatively affects travel time and the overall experience of traveling by transit. Customers do not distinguish between an escalator being unavailable due to scheduled maintenance or due to an unforeseen issue (e.g., damage to handrail). Therefore, some transit agencies elect to include all escalator downtime in measuring the percentage of time units are available. In this case, when setting an escalator availability target, it is vital to include the hours necessary to conduct required inspections, preventive maintenance, and modernization activities that must be conducted during operating hours. Table 2-6 and the formula below (Equation 2-1) demonstrate that given required maintenance activities, the BEST availability is 95%:

#### **Equation 2-1: Measuring Escalator Availability Performance**

Source: Federal Highway Administration			
100%	- 4%	- 1%	= 95%
Max availability	Scheduled	Other	BEST
avanabiiity	rehab	maintenance	availability

Looking at past performance trends, some unscheduled maintenance will likely occur and should be reflected in the final availability target. Granted, efforts can be made to improve the speed and quality of both scheduled and unscheduled maintenance activities, but laying out the effect of planned capital activities in an easy to digest manner can greatly assist the target setting discussion.

#### **Table 2-6: Impact of Scheduled and Unscheduled Maintenance on Escalator Availability** Source: Adapted from WMATA<sup>9</sup>

				Year 3	
	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Actual - 6	Year 4
	Data	Data	Estimate	months	Estimate
Max Escalator Availability	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Less availability due to:					
Unscheduled Maintenance	10%	6.5%	5.6%	4.8%	5%
Scheduled Replacements and Rehabilitation	2.7%	3.2%	4.4%	2.9%	4%
Other Scheduled Maintenance	1.8%	1%	1%	0.6%	1%
Average Availability	85.5%	89.3%	89%	91.7%	90%
Target	89%	89%	89%	89%	90%

#### Linkages to Other TPM Components

Component 03: Performance-Based Planning

(See TPM Framework)

Component B: External Collaboration and Coordination Component C: Data Management

Component D: Data Usability and Analysis

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Created from WMATA escalator system availability data.

STEP 2.1.4	Define target parameters		
Description	Targets can take on many different formats (e.g., percentage, directional, average value), different time horizons (e.g., daily to 10 year targets), and different scopes (e.g., regional, statewide, urban/rural). A key step in the technical methodology for target setting is determining these parameters. For example, in many cases, it may take a number of years for a significant investment to produce noticeable improvements in performance; annual targets may create a sense that progress is not occurring, or when it is occurring on a different time frame. In addition, the target parameters should reflect the purpose of the target (see subcomponent 2.2 Business Process). For example, agencies may elect to establish a set of targets with different time horizons to fill different needs (e.g., long-range to clarify desired policy objectives, mid-range to support management documents like Transportation Asset Management Plans, and short-range to guide annual budgetary decisions).		
	Items to keep in mind as target parameters are being e	evaluated:	
	<ul> <li>What will resonate with the target audience?</li> <li>What parameters capture changes in performant</li> <li>Consider the cost of data collection and present equate to more costly)</li> <li>Reflect federal, state, and/or local reporting reconciliant</li> </ul>	nce results? tation (e.g., more frequent may quirements (e.g., NHS bridges)	
Examples	<ul> <li>Target Format: How the change in performance is portracommunicate a target:</li> <li>Number: The target is aiming for a specific num <i>Example:</i> Achieve 300 or fewer crashes on state</li> <li>Directional: The target is aiming for an increase <i>Example:</i> Reduce the number of crashes on state</li> <li>Percentage or Rate: The target aims for a certa certain number of users. <i>Example:</i> Achieve a 20% decrease in number of <i>Or:</i> Achieve a rate of 1 in 5 roadway users emple</li> <li>Absolute: The target can be "none" or "all." <i>Example:</i> Implement safety measures on all roa</li> <li>Tiered Targets: Targets incorporating by their d allowing flexibility in accommodating various ex</li> <li>Geography/scope: Boundaries and filters applied to the area where performance is observed to set the extent of the target. Consider whether the scope is urban, rural, regional, corridor, one or several modes, NHS/non-NHS, etc. Keep in mind that this part of the scope is directly tied to the external factors discussed above, and that a wider geographic scope likely means more external factors to consider. The scope must resist overextending beyond the realm of responsibility.</li> </ul>	ayed. Below is a list of the ways to aber. e roadways this year. e or a decrease within a measure. te roadways annually. in percent decrease or to impact a crashes over the next 5 years. oying electronic tolling. dways. lefinition a range of outcomes, spected risk of influencing factors. Federal regulations allow agencies to set their individual targets and determine whether to set separate targets for urban v. rural areas under an agency's jurisdiction. However, federal target format and horizon will be set via rulemaking.	

Some co	nsiderations inclu				
•		ude:			
1	Area of influence	: Can the de	cisions you make impac	t the scope you set?	
•	Federal and State	erequiremer	nts may determine scop	e.	
•	What is the intere	est of extern	al stakeholders?	actition (a.g. coross di	atriata
•	lead to incorrect	conclusions?	p	Settion (e.g., across di	SUTICE
•	Can related scope	es that you s	et be aggregated? (E.g.,	because interstate an	d nor
	interstate NHS su	bsets of the	NHS, they cannot be ag	gregated)	
Prior to a	2014 peer excha	ange, State D	OTs were asked if they	planned to set differer	nt
performa	ance targets for ru	ural non-urb	anized and urbanized ar	eas – or for two differe	ent
scopes. T	he majority of the	e responden	its indicated that they w	ere "not sure." <sup>10</sup> For t	he
agencies	that indicated the	ey would set	different targets, the re	easons given included	differ
acceptab	le thresholds for	urbanized ve	ersus rural non-urbanize	ed delay and different	
infrastru	cture condition ne	eeds by road	lway type.		
Figure 2	6: State DOT Sta	ted Desire fo	or Setting Urbanized an	d Non-Urbanized Tar	gets
Source: Ta	get Setting Peer Exch	ange: Summary	Report <sup>11</sup>		
	Question 14: Will you	r agency be settin	ng different performance targets fo	or rural and urbanized areas?	
	70%				
	60%			56%	
	50%				
	40%				
	30%		26%		
	20%	19%			
	20%				
	10%				
	0%	Yes		Not sure	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Federal Highway Administration. (2014). *Target Setting Peer Exchange: Summary Report*. Washington, DC.

https://www.planning.dot.gov/Peer/Arizona/scottsdale\_6-17-14\_FHWA\_target\_setting.pdf<sup>11</sup> Federal Highway Administration. (2014). *Target Setting Peer Exchange: Summary Report*. Washington, DC.

https://www.planning.dot.gov/Peer/Arizona/scottsdale\_6-17-14\_FHWA\_target\_setting.pdf

STEP 2.1.4	Define target parameters		
	Areas where agency has Most useful for Areas where agency has more direct control (e.g., asset condition)	Areas where change occurs very slowly or a long lag time between investments and results	
	Note: the frequency of reporting performance results is different agency may have an annual target for bus on-time performance b	than the target time horizon. For example, an ut the performance data are assessed daily.	
Linkages to Other	Component 01: Strategic Direction	(See TPM Framewor	
TPM Components	Component C: Data Management		
	Component D: Data Usability and Analysis		
STEP 2.1.5	Forecast future performance		
Description	The purpose of this step is to identify a range of potermay lead to a particular performance outcome. These business process (subcomponent 2.2), the Performance Performance-Based Programming (Component 04) processes. Given that targets specify a desired level of future performance, it is preferable (though often challenging) to develop forecasts of future performance to understand what is feasible to achieve. As discussed in Step 2.1.3, forecasting future performance should attempt to account for both internal and external factors that will affect results. A range of tools, models and methods are available to predict future performance.  Activities for development of forecasts include:  Document assumptions List what factors are considered in forecasts Develop future scenarios based on different	otential performance target options that ese options also feed into the target setting nance-Based Planning (Component 03), and "Agencies will need to calculate a baseline of performance and forecast expected performance based on that baseline in order to set targets. For many agencies, this will require an understanding of tools that do not currently exist." Source: AASHTO SCOPM Target Setting Peer Exchange (2014)	
Examples	<ul> <li>Below are examples of analytical tools and methods communicate performance results, which can then be specific targets.<sup>12</sup></li> <li>Bridge <ul> <li>Bridge Management software (BrM), forme</li> <li>Deterioration models to predict future bridge bridge age</li> <li>Algorithms to process National Bridge Inventore</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	that agencies have used to forecast and e used to support the identification of rly Pontis ge condition based on past data and tory (NBI) and Element data to establish	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> AASHTO SCOPM MAP-21 Target-Setting Workshop held in June 2013

STEP 2.1.5	Forecast future performance		
	<ul> <li>targets</li> <li>Forecasting tool that combines historic performance and historical funding level then predicts expected condition using expected funding target for the bridge program</li> <li>Full life cycle (75 year) analysis of bridge condition combined with revenue projections and construction inflations used to maximize the investment's impact on bridge assets</li> <li>A deficit report based upon current investment and condition compared with future investment</li> </ul> Pavement <ul> <li>Pavement Management System (PMS): model future pavement conditions on a set of criteria such as traffic levels, asset type, age of pavement, and resource constraints</li> <li>GIS for data analysis and visualization</li> <li>Business Intelligence and visualization tools</li> <li>The graph in Figure 2-7 below predicts pavement performance as it ages, indicating how costs will increase if maintenance is deferred</li> </ul>		
	Figure 2-7: Pavement Performance Related to Age and Investment Practices Source: 2012 Pavement Condition Report <sup>13</sup> Oregon Pavement Management Investing in the Enture		
	Pavement Performance Perventative Maintenance Minor Rehabilatation Fair or Better Poor or Worse Door or Worse Major Rehab Major Rehab S Pavement Age 15 20		
	<ul> <li>Safety</li> <li>Linear regression, rolling averages, best-fit regression analysis, non-linear regression, time-series analysis</li> <li>An example of a safety trend line is provided below Figure 2-8, which shows that a reduction of 12 fatalities per year would be required in order to achieve the target within the specified time frame. The pink area inside the "tail" shows the range of values that might be achieved. This type of display is helpful for visualizing changes in performance over time. The trend line uses both five- and 10-year rolling averages</li> </ul>		

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> Oregon Department of Transportation. (2012). 2012 Pavement Condition Report. https://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/HWY/CONSTRUCTION/docs/pavement/2012\_condition\_report.pdf

#### STEP 2.1.5 F

#### Forecast future performance

#### Figure 2-8: WSDOT Fatality Forecasting through 2030

Source: Washington State Strategic Highway Safety Plan 2013: Priority Level One, Impaired Driver Involved<sup>14</sup>



#### System Performance

- Travel demand models
- Highway Capacity Manual
- System transportation performance management systems
- Model estimating the economic benefits infrastructure improvements (e.g., Highway Economic Requirement System (HERS), Transportation Economic Development Impact System (TREDIS))
- National Emissions Inventory (NEI), Air Quality System (AQS) and Mobile 6.2

Figure 2-9 below depicts the future levels of congestion the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG), the MPO for the Dallas Fort Worth area, forecasted using its travel demand model. It is important to note that the predicted rise in congestion is based on the assumption that all the strategies outlined in their Mobility 2030: The Metropolitan Transportation Plan were implemented. This type of analysis result–that congestion will continue to increase despite implementation of an extensive set of projects, programs and policies–is critical for target setting and establishment of public expectations.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> Washington State Department of Transportation. (2013). Washington State Strategic Highway Safety Plan 2013: Priority Level One, Impaired Driver Involved. http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/partners/targetzero/PDF2/priorityone.pdf



#### Funding Scenarios: Rhode Island DOT and Maryland State Highway Administration

Funding levels are a fundamental level for impacting performance results – and therefore analysis of funding scenarios is a common – and very helpful approach for target setting. The example below (Figure 2-10) shows bridge condition results for the Rhode Island Department of Transportation (RiDOT) based on different funding levels. The trend lines show that future performance results from the baseline are actually moving further away from the target performance. Portraying several different data lines on this chart shows the relationship between annual investment level and performance. This type of representation can be used to understand and communicate what funding levels would be required to achieve a given target. In Maryland, the ability to meet targets for structurally deficient bridges is directly linked to available funding (Figure 2-11).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> North Central Texas Council of Governments. M2030 2009 Amendment: The Metropolitan Transportation Plan, The Transportation Plan for the Dallas-Fort Worth Area, 2009 Amendment. Executive Summary. http://www.nctcog.org/trans/mtp/2030/Mob2030\_09Amend\_ExecSum.pdf



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> Maryland State Highway Administration. (2014). State of the State of Maryland's Bridges. Hanover, MD.

STEP 2.1.5	Forecast future performance	
Linkages to Other	Component 03: Performance-Based Planning	(See TPM Framework)
<b>TPM Components</b>	Component 04: Performance-Based Programming	
	Component C: Data Management	
	Component D: Data Usability and Analysis	

STEP 2.1.6	Document technical methodology		
Description	The data-driven methodology for setting targets has been developed and now must be documented. The completion of this step means that an agency setting a target has a good understanding of their current status regarding data availability and capabilities, risk assessment, and tools to forecast results. This will be a rulebook and record of how the targe methodology was conducted and why this approach was used. Documentation may not soun like the most exciting aspect of target setting, but it ensures the technical methodology is replicable from cycle to cycle, can withstand staff turnover, and establishes an air of transparency around target setting. Material from this document can also be used to communicate with internal staff and external stakeholders about the agency's target-setting technical methodology.		
	As an agency goes through multiple cycles of target setting, update the documentation. For example, agencies may enhance their abilities to identify and understand the effect external factors have on performance results. Similarly, as various strategies are applied to improve performance, a better understanding of the linkage between actions and results can lead to improved target setting. Target setting, like many TPM components, is an iterative process, so will be critical to document steps that were taken and subsequent adjustments made to an agency's technical methodology.		
<ul> <li>Topics to address in the technical methodology documentation include</li> <li>Roles and responsibilities of involved staff</li> <li>Business process milestones and schedule</li> <li>Process flow map</li> <li>Recommended adjustments for future target setting cycles</li> <li>Specific issues related to each implementation step (see Table</li> </ul>		cal Methodology Documentation include:	
	Technical Methodology Step Topics to Document		
	Establish a baseline	<ul><li>Data source and owner</li><li>Data gaps</li><li>Date of last collection/update</li></ul>	
	Analyze historical trends	<ul><li>Measure calculations and any changes over time</li><li>Explain "why performance changed"</li></ul>	

STEP 2.1.6	Document technical methodology	
	Identify influencing factorsDefine influenceand assess risk (internal and external)Categorize ageIdentify factorsIdentify factors	cing factors ency influence is to include in next cycle and why
	Define target parameters • Target format,	, geography/scope, and time horizon
	<ul> <li>Forecast future performance</li> <li>Assumptions</li> <li>Tools and met</li> <li>Define scenario</li> </ul>	hods used io parameters and conclusions obtained
Examples	Documentation of Technical Methodology: PennDOT	
	As part of the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation	o's (PennDOT's) transportation
	performance management approach, the agency	
	developed a set of "Production User Manuals" to document the definition, data source, calculations, reporting cycle, and purpose for each key performance measure (see Figure 2-12 and Figure 2-13, below). These documents also describe how staff can use the Highway Administration Performance Dashboard (HAPD) to access raw data, view results, generate reports, and enter comments. Internal staff and external stakeholders responded positively to this transparent documentation of the data and technical methodology behind the targets posted on the HAPD scorecard.	"The Production User Manuals pulled back the curtain to the technical methodology behind our performance scorecard providing improved clarity and transparency to previously often assumed and frequently misunderstood processes. As a result, people's trust in the data and published results improved because everyone knew where the numbers came from and how they were calculated."

STEP 2.1.6	Document technical methodology
	Figure 2-12: Highway Administration Performance Dashboard Source: Adapted from Highway Occupancy Permit (HOP) Application Review <sup>17</sup> Highway Administration Performance Dashboard
	Clicking the Info link opens a table listing the metric background information. This is the same information as the "Details" section in the Performance Measures Dashboard (PMD).
	Permitting – Goal #1 Quality of Service
	Metric Description This metric monitors the amount of time it takes to review a Highway Occupancy Permit (HOP) application.
	Business Owner Glenn Rowe
	Source Systems E-Permitting System
	Reporting Cycle MONTHLY: 02/01/2015 to 02/28/2015
	Suggested Thresholds Red: <95%, Yellow: 95% to <98%, Green ≥98%
	Selection Criteria All HOP applications where a review was completed in EPS in a given month.
	Formula Applications reviewed in less than or equal to 30 days / total applications reviewed
	Purpose To provide an efficient, predictable, consistent review of all HOP applications.
	Goal ALL HOP applications reviewed in less than 30 days
	Sunset Review Date Evaluate after each fiscal year
	Documents Metric Meta Data.doc
	Figure 2-13: Expanded View for Specific Metric Source: Highway Occupancy Permit (HOP) Application Review <sup>18</sup> Info Tab Expanded View
	(Program Area) Permitting   (Strategic Focus Area) Goal #1 Quality Service
	Metric Description: This metric monitors the amount of time it takes to review a Highway Occupancy Permit application.
	Business Owner: Glenn Rowe
	Source Systems: E-Permitting System  Reporting Cycle: MONTHLY: 02/01/2015 To 02/28/2015
	Red: < 95% Suggested Thresholds: Yellow: 95% to < 98% Green: ≥ 98%
	Selection Criteria: All HOP applications where a review was completed in EPS in a given month.
	Formula: Applications reviewed in less than or equal to 30 days / total applications reviewed.
	Purpose: To provide an efficient, predictable, consistent review of all Highway Occupancy Permit (HOP) applications.
	Goal: All HOP Applications reviewed in less than 30 days.

<sup>17</sup> Pennsylvania Department of Transportation. (2015). Highway Occupancy Permit (HOP) Application Review Time-M. Harrisburg, PA. <sup>18</sup> Pennsylvania Department of Transportation. (2015). Highway Occupancy Permit (HOP) Application Review Time-M. Harrisburg, PA.

STEP 2.1.6	Document technical methodology		
	Process Flow Mapping: Example		
	A process flow map is a useful way to illustrate how the steps of a process are interrelated. The simple act of mapping out an agency's target-setting process can improve the understanding of the process, roles and schedule. There are many approaches to creating a process flow map, but some rules of thumb are to highlight the distinct steps taken, the flow of the steps, and any linkages between the steps. Figure 2-14 below illustrates a starting point for a process flow map for setting targets.		
	Figure 2-14: Process Planning with a Flow Map Source: Federal Highway Administration		
	Establish a baseline Analyze historical trends I Control factors I		
	Who:         Who: <th< th=""></th<>		
Linkages to Other	Component 06: Reporting and Communication (See TPM Framework)		
<b>TPM Components</b>	Component A: Organization and Culture		
	Component C: Data Management		

#### **2.2 BUSINESS PROCESS**

On the process side, staff and stakeholders need to be informed and organized so that they align positively to finalize the selection of targets. The target options identified through the technical methodology should flow into a target setting business process. The business process answers the "who" and the "how" targets will be set. The following section outlines steps agencies can follow to implement a sustainable business process to target setting.

- 1. Assign internal roles and responsibilities
- 2. Clarify purpose of the target
- 3. Gather information through benchmarking
- 4. Reflect external stakeholder interests
- 5. Document the business process

"Montana DOT has adopted a formal process for developing targets. Over time, the state legislature has gained confidence in the process and related funding requests because it provides consistent, quantifiable performance information that is fiscally constrained. The process is well received by the districts because it sets the type of work needed to meet the targets, but provides flexibility in terms of actual project selection."

Source: NCHRP 551 Performance Measures and Targets for Transportation Asset Management

STEP 2.2.1	Assign internal roles and responsibilities	
Description	A key first step in the target setting process is the identification of who will be involved in picking the final target and what role each person will fulfill. This would answer questions related to who at each agency level is responsible for setting targets as well has how to ke all affected offices engaged. Without clarity about who is accountable for what throughou the process, or who has decision-making control, the business process will likely be ineffe	
	Key roles to determine, include:	
	• <b>Process leadership:</b> Who will lead, coordinate, and marshal the target-setting business process? If target setting is new to an agency, it will be important to identify a strong process facilitator.	
	• <b>Input providers:</b> Practitioners invited to the table for the duration of the process will drive the conversation by making recommendations and suggestions to decision makers. Can include external stakeholders, but are predominately internal agency staff.	
	• <b>Feedback contributors:</b> Group of individuals whose opinion and signoff is helpful, but who, for sake of expediency and organization, do not need to be at the table as part of the input group.	
	• <b>Data trackers:</b> The tracking group may be made up of individuals also serving within capacities on the list above; this group is responsible for collecting and analyzing data used to establish and monitor performance targets.	
	• <b>Decision makers:</b> These may vary at different stages of the process, but it should be clear who has the final decision on what the final target will be.	
	All staff in these roles needs to understand how the baseline and target have been calculated, how they will be used, and how they will be communicated internally. They also need to understand who is in charge of decision-making and accountability, to ensure a clear chain of command and eliminate confusion and dead-ends.	

STEP 2.2.1	Assign internal roles and responsibilities		
	Items to keep in mind as a baseline is developed:		
	<ul> <li>Identify a champion to lead the business process</li> <li>Use input from technical methodology as the business process foundation (e.g., baseline, historical analysis, forecasts)</li> <li>Ensure participants need to represent interest across agency silos (including staff who express resistance to target setting)</li> <li>Link to existing processes as much as possible (e.g., LRTP, budget development)</li> <li>Conduct an open dialogue about how targets will be used internally</li> <li>Clearly identify how targets will be finalized, including formal adoption procedures and incorporation of final targets into performance plans and processes</li> </ul>		
Examples	Internal Roles "New initiatives need good leaders"		
	Internally, roles and responsibilities of key		
	players need to be defined and coordination Data Program Self-Assessment		
	of needs across performance areas must be		
	established. This entails acknowledging that target choices in one performance area may		
	have an impact on safety performance, or increasing mobility targets (increasing average		
	speed for example) could impact safety. While the chance of success is reduced if one or more		
	key people are missing at the table, bear in mind that there is a tradeoff to inviting too many		
	voices to the conversation. A greater number of persons will make the target setting process		
	longer and the business process more cumbersome. A rule of thumb is that when the number of persons doubles, the amount of time required will be squared $(2*P-t^2)$ . Bother than		
	of persons doubles, the amount of time required will be squared (2*P=t^2). Rather than issuing a blanket invitation to all staff, consider their individual roles at the very beginning of the process, including the key decision of who is involved/invited to engage vs. who is		
	informed after the fact.		
	WHO ARE THE INTERNAL KEY PLAYERS?		
	They could include:		
	Agency leader (Secretary, CEO, Chief Engineer)		
	Senior management		
	Planning group		
	<ul> <li>Program managers</li> <li>Finance group managers/budget staff</li> </ul>		
	<ul> <li>Performance measure drivers</li> </ul>		
	Data owners		
	Technical analysts		
	Each of these has a role in data gathering, resource allocation or funding, and/or project		
	selection. The group may change depending on how these tasks are assigned in your		
	organization, and may change as the target setting process is refined. In addition, the level		
	target approval while performance measure drivers would be involved throughout the		
	process).		

STEP 2.2.1	Assign internal roles and responsibilities	
	The word cloud below (Figure 2-15) is a visual representation of State DOT respon survey distributed prior to the AASHTO Standing Committee on Performance Man (SCOPM) MAP-21 Target-Setting Workshop held in June 2013. <sup>19</sup> The specific quest was, "Who within your agency would participate in the target-setting process for b condition, pavement condition, safety, freight, system performance and CMAQ Pro Besides the observation that the range of practitioners involved in the target-setti wide, there appears to be the need to bring together the system performance are and planning staff.	ses to a agement ion asked oridge ogram"? ng process is a experts
	Figure 2-15: Target Setting Stakeholders at a Glance Source: AASHTO <sup>20</sup>	
	With Haming       System Shaning Planing       Bytem Shaning Planing	animental staff tiand Rai trans manager tiand Rai melesions ss nagement allevel vision tage of the staff resonant of the allevel vision the policy around the policy around savet manager brector Engineer mobility staff er for Planning trans Committee magement staff warmanneer the safety staff fice Safety staff fice Safety staff fice Safety staff fice Safety staff
	Once internal staff have been identified and the "involve vs. inform" roles clarified be made clear to all stakeholders how the technical methodology (subcomponent produced potential targets for consideration. Only if all involved are using the sam assumptions and the same set of constraints and factors can a solid process occur	l, it should 2.2) e set of
	Transportation performance management goes beyond the typical amount of coo and collaboration of transportation planning, requiring different practice areas to how targets in each area relate to each other, what tradeoffs there may be, and he support multiple goals simultaneously. <sup>21</sup> As a result, the group involved in the targ business process should pull from many areas of the organization.	rdination consider ow to ;et-setting
Linkages to Other TPM Components	Component A: Organization and Culture       (See         Component B: External Collaboration and Coordination	TPM Framewor

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> AASHTO SCOPM MAP-21 Target Setting Workshop, June 2013. <sup>20</sup> American Association of Highway and Transportation Officials. (2013). Word Cloud from Target Setting Workshop, June 2013. Washington, DC. <sup>21</sup> FHWA. (2013). *Performance-Based Planning and Programming Guidebook* (FHWA Publication FHWA-HEP-13-041). Washington, DC.

http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/planning/performance\_based\_planning/pbpp\_guidebook/

STEP 2.2.1	Assign internal roles and responsibilities
	Component 03: Performance-Based Planning
	Component 04: Performance-Based Programming
	Component 06: Reporting and Communication

STEP 2.2.2	Clarify purpose of the target			
Description	<ul> <li>Targets can take on many different roles within an agency from motivating staff to managing external expectations. A key step in the target setting business process is obtaining an agreed-upon and well-understood purpose for the target by answering two questions: (1) Who is the intended end user or audience for the target and (2) to what degree is the target evidence- or investment-based?</li> <li>(1) Target Audience: Who is the end user or audience of the target? Focusing a target depending on different end users can reflect different purposes, some of which can overlap.</li> <li>Table 2-9: Target Audience and Purpose Source: Federal Highway Administration</li> </ul>			
	Audience	Potential Purpose		
	Internal Staff	Motivate to improve results		
	Partners	Manage expectation and communicate investment needs		
	Leadership (i.e., Governor)	Drive focus on a specific strategic goal		
	Customers	Explain agency decisions		
	Regulatory	Meet legislative requirements		
	(2) Evidence- or Investment-Ba period; narrow; and focused of a set of investments, poli plan. When initially establish its capabilities to forecast fu	ased Target: Ideally, targets are bound to a performance d specifically on what can be achieved within the context cies, and strategies defined within an implementation ning targets, an agency may need a few cycles to develop iture trends. Therefore, as an agency is building its		

forecasting capabilities, the agency may decide to set less aggressive evidence- or investment-based targets to build confidence in the agency's forecast trends.<sup>22</sup> *Example*: Reduction of fatalities and injuries by two % for the next calendar year Together the target audience and the aggressiveness of the

l ogether the target audience and the aggressiveness of the target define the purpose for the target. For example, if an agency has recently experienced lower performance results and did not meet its targets, it would be counterproductive and even demoralizing to staff to set an unattainable target.

A target can be viewed as a promise to the public – so, set them with caution

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> Federal Highway Administration. (2013). Safety Target Setting Final Report.

STEP 2.2.2	Clarify purpose of the target		
	Instead, the agency may consider a less this situation, a less aggressive target m the agency can deliver on a "promise." evidence- or investment-based and clea objectives, and goals. The purpose of th parameters defined under subcompone	aggressive target to boost agency staff confidence. In ay also help build trust with external stakeholders that While targets may be less aggressive, they must remain arly linked to relevant performance measures, e target should also be reflected in the target ent 2.1 Technical Methodology.	
	Items to keep in mind as the purpose of	of each target is being determined:	
	<ul> <li>Who is the target audience?</li> <li>What legislative mandates exis</li> <li>How will results be communica</li> <li>To what degree is the target exis</li> <li>How aggressive is the target?</li> </ul>	t? ated if target is or is not attained? vidence- or investment-based?	
Examples	Setting Aggressive, Evidence-Based Ta	rgets	
	The team that manages Minnesota's To partners to establish an aggressive targe injuries by 2020.	ward Zero Deaths (TZD) initiative worked with its et of 300 or fewer traffic fatalities and 850 serious	
	This aggressive number was established through the continued implementation of their Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP), examining data from previous years, determining a trend line, and eventually setting a target number that helps Minnesota DOT and its partners communicate the need to invest in various strategies to address issues concerning:		
	Traffic safety culture and		
	awareness	Minnesota Traffic Fatalities YTD	
	Lane departures	March 20, 2015 52 YTD	
	Unbelted occupants	Dec. 31, 2014 361 tentative	
	<ul> <li>Impaired roadway users</li> <li>Inattentive drivers</li> </ul>	Dec. 31, 2013 <mark>387 final</mark>	
	• Speed <sup>23</sup>	Toward Zero Deaths	
	The purpose of this aggressive target also allows the Minnesota TZD team and its partners to better explain to customers how investment decisions connect to progress.	Target: 300 or less by 2020	
	<b>Figure 2-16: Performance Targeting</b> Source: Minnesota Department of Transportation <sup>24</sup>	2020	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> http://www.minnesotatzd.org/whatistzd/mntzd/mission/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> Minnesota Department of Transportation. (2015). St. Paul, MN. http://www.dot.state.mn.us/trafficeng/safety/

STEP 2.2.2	Clarify purpose of the target
Linkages to Other TPM Components	Component A: Organization and Culture (See TPM Framework Component B: External Collaboration and Coordination Component 06: Reporting and Communication
STEP 2.2.3	Gather information through benchmarking
Description	<ul> <li>Simply stated, benchmarking is a method to improve performance results by looking at (a) one's own historical patterns, (b) peer agency results, or (c) "best in class" practices. In the realm of target setting, all three types of benchmarking can provide valuable insights to the final selection of a target value. The "comparing against yourself" approach, or analyzing historical trends, was covered under the previous section (subcomponent 2.1 Technical Methodology). Gathering target information from peer agencies can clarify regional and national trends in specific performance areas, create a context for a target, and help explain a proposed target's value to external stakeholders. However, to properly bring external target values into an internal agency's target-setting process requires accurately identifying peer agencies (or clearly explaining the differences), confirming that similar data sources were used and ensuring consistent measure definitions were applied.</li> <li>Items to keep in mind as agencies gather benchmarking information for use in target setting:</li> <li>Identify peer agencies based on similar attributes (e.g., infrastructure size, population, weather, topography, economy)<sup>25</sup></li> <li>Beware of benchmarking information being used to incorrectly compare agencies</li> <li>Think through how the benchmark information will be used because the results may not fit the need</li> </ul>
Examples	Benchmarking with Peer Agencies In 2004, several state DOT CEOs requested a multi-year research effort to look into the feasibility of sharing performance measurement results across agencies. As a result, ten NCHRP projects were developed (NCHRP 20-27 (37) Reports A-L) <sup>26</sup> that created peer groupings, compiled detailed performance data, and calculated commonly-defined measures. The research series demonstrated that sharing information between agencies can provide useful insights into target setting. Pavement condition is a good example of this as seen in Figure 2-17 below, which illustrates how pavement condition has similar patterns in each of the four regions. A bar represents the percent of pavement condition in good/fair/poor condition for the participating state by region. The similar results by region suggest some

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials. (2006). *Measuring Performance Among State DOTs. Identifying Peer States for Transportation System Evaluation and Policy Analysis.* Transportation July 2008, Volume 35, Issue 4, pp 445-465.

A Methodology for Performance Measurement and Peer Comparison in the Public Transportation Industry. (2010). TCRP Report 141. <sup>26</sup> <u>http://apps.trb.org/cmsfeed/TRBNetProjectDisplay.asp?ProjectID=543</u>

#### STEP 2.2.3

#### Gather information through benchmarking

factors exist (e.g., weather conditions) that affect performance results. Therefore, when looking to gather peer information for target setting, agencies should reach out to peers in their geographic areas.

#### Figure 2-17: Interstate Pavement Condition (2006 and 2007)

Source: State DOT Comparative Performance Measurement: A Progress Report. AASHTO, 2012<sup>27</sup>



#### Benchmarking with "Best in Class": Missouri DOT

The Missouri DOT (MoDOT) considers customer satisfaction one of the agency's key performance indicators. On a regular basis, the agency conducts a survey where calls are made to approximately 3,500 randomly selected Missourians to gather feedback. These telephone survey results are presented in MoDOT's performance report, Tracker. <sup>28</sup> MoDOT is unique because the agency includes customer satisfaction results from "best in class" private industries compiled by the American Customer Satisfaction Index (Figure 2-18).

"Comparing MoDOT's customer satisfaction results against well-known private sector companies sends the message to our customers that our goal is to provide "outstanding customer service."

- Karen Miller, MoDOT

 <sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup> American Association of Highway and Transportation Officials. (2012). State DOT Comparative Performance Measurement: A Progress Report.
 Washington, DC. http://maintenance.transportation.org/Documents/Progress%20Report%20Final%20Draft-5-10-2012.pdf
 <sup>28</sup> http://www.modot.org/about/Tracker.htm

#### STEP 2.2.3

#### Gather information through benchmarking

#### Figure 2-18: Customer Satisfaction as a Performance Measure

Source: Tracker: Measures of Departmental Performance<sup>29</sup>



#### **Benchmarking: Performance Measure Definitions Matter**

It is not uncommon for elected officials and oversight bodies to ask public agencies how proposed performance targets compare to their peer agencies. When the WMATA Board of Directors asked agency staff to defend the proposed bus on-time-performance targets to peer transit agencies, WMATA staff found themselves in a difficult situation. At the time, no industry standard definition existed for how to measure on-time performance. WMATA staff found wide diversity in the definitions used even by bus systems operating in the same area (see Figure 2-19 below). Given the absence of a consistent definition, WMATA staff recommended that the agency benchmark against itself to document improving or deteriorating on-time performance and establish targets based on baseline trends. The WMATA Board agreed to the staff recommendation.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>29</sup> Missouri Department of Transportation. (2016). Tracker: Measures of Departmental Performance. Jefferson City, MO. http://www.modot.org/about/documents/April2016Tracker.pdf

STEP 2.2.3	Gather information through benchmarking						
	Figure 2-19: Comparative Benchmarking for On-time Performance						
	Source: Bus Performan	ce Board Nov. 201	10 <sup>30</sup>				
	AGENCY EARLY LATE Avg. OTP CY 2009						
		Metro	2 minutes	7 minutes	75.2%		
		Ride On	1 minutes	5 minutes	79.0%		
		The Bus	2 minutes	7 minutes	77.1%		
		CUE	2 minutes	5 minutes	81.5%		
		SEPTA	0 minutes	4 minutes	76.3%		
		MDT	59 seconds	4 minutes + 59 seconds	79.8%		
		MARTA	0 minutes + 30 seconds	5 minutes + 30 seconds	70.7%		
		MTA New York City	1 minute	5 minutes	* Does not report OTP to the Board or public		
Linkages to Other	Component A: Organization and Culture						
TPM Components	Component B: External Collaboration and Coordination (See TPM Framework)						
	Component C: Data Management						
	Component 06: Reporting and Communication						
STEP 2.2.4	Reflect external stakeholder interests						
Description	An important input for the target setting business process is listening to external stakeholders. Reflecting their interests and perspectives in agency targets helps foster positive working relationships and build support.						
	• General public						
	<ul> <li>Elected</li> </ul>	officials					

- Businesses
- Partners, such as MPOs, regional organizations, and local jurisdictions
- Third-party organizations, such as advocacy groups that could shape the reception of the target and/or its public face

Gathering feedback from external stakeholders is a common practice as part of agency's planning processes. However, what is newer is the reflection of those external viewpoints in

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>30</sup> Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority. (2011). Bus Performance Board Nov. 2010. Washington, DC.

STEP 2.2.4	Reflect external stakeholder interests				
	the setting of agency targets. In this new environment, it is important to acknowledge that the level of involvement of an external stakeholder and the nature of that involvement varies. For example, the general public may be "aware" of pavement condition issues, but an elected official could be a "policy changer" through directing additional funds to asset maintenance activities.				
	Items to keep in mind include:				
	<ul> <li>Collecting feedback on tolerable performance thresholds</li> <li>Piggy-backing on existing meetings</li> <li>Developing educational material</li> </ul>				
	<b>Note:</b> Collaboration with external stakeholders to set agency targets will be detailed in External Collaboration and Coordination (Component B).				
Examples	Understanding Public Priorities: MnDOT				
	During the develoment of their 2014-2033 Minnesota State Highway Investment Plan (MnSHIP), the agency conducted nine stakeholder meetings, conducted educational webinars, and created a new online interactive toolkit (see Figure 2-20 below) to better understand what performance levels stakeholders expected. Three scenarios were shared with the public refunding allocation, and outcomes. In addition, t investment categories (e.g., pavement, safety, external engagement efforts was then used to a <b>Understanding tolerable thresholds: MoDOT</b> Missouri DOT's customer report card includes a the percentage of Missourians who indicated a against the percentage of Missourians who were	<ul> <li>"Our public engagement effort gave us valuable guidance on where MnDOT should focus our efforts and in turn how to set our performance targets."</li> <li>Deanna Belden, Minnesota DOT</li> </ul> presenting a different mix of strategies, the public were asked to prioritize all bridge condition). The results from these revise the agency's performance targets. an "importance-satisfaction" analysis that plots service offered by MoDOT is very important re very satisfied (or dissatified) with that			
service. The simple graphic gives MoDOT direction on where to focus transportation resources. For example, in 2010 when the agency was facing a notable funding shortfall, the importance-satisfaction chart highlighted an opportunity to shift resources from one service to another. As the figure below from 2010 illustrates, Missourians were relatively satisfied with MoDOT's mowing/trimming services, but overall this was of less importance to		"Public opinion surveys can also be helpful in the target-setting process to understand the relationship between different transportation system performance levels and the level of inconvenience or discomfort perceived by users." Source: NCHRP 551: Performance Measures and Targets for Transportation Asset Management (Vol II, pg. 34)			



STEP 2.2.5	Document the business process
Description	The collaborative business process for setting targets has been developed and now must be documented. The completion of this step means that staff within an agency has a clear understanding of their role in setting targets, the purpose of the targets, and an approach to reflect the interests of external stakeholders. The documentation of the business process will serve as a rulebook and record of how the process was conducted, justification for the final targets, and an explanation about why this approach was used. Documentation is not the most exciting aspect of target setting, but ensures the business process is replicable from cycle to cycle, can withstand staff turnover, and establishes an air of transparency around target setting. Material from this document can also be used to communicate with internal staff and external stakeholders the agency's target-setting business process.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>31</sup> Missouri Department of Transportation. (2010). A Report Card From Missourians – Appendix A: I-S Analysis. Jefferson City, MO. https://library.modot.mo.gov/RDT/reports/Rd08018/or11001apdxA.pdf

STEP 2.2.5	Document the business process				
	As an agency goes through multiple cycles				
	of target setting, the documentation must	largets should not be set in stone, but			
	be updated. For example, as agency stan	periodically re-examined and adjusted based			
	setting more areas of the agency may	on documented reasoning.			
	want to get involved thus enhancing collabor	ration and the integration of transportation			
	want to get involved, thus enhancing collaboration and the integration of transportation performance management practices across the agency. Target setting, like many TPM components, is an iterative process; it is critical to document any steps that were taken and adjustments made to an agency's business process.				
	Topics to address in the technical methodology documentation include:				
	Roles and responsibilities of internal	agency staff			
	<ul> <li>Outline of business process milestor</li> </ul>	nes and schedule			
	Process flow map				
	Adjustments to process to implement	nt in next target-setting cycle			
	<ul> <li>Specific issues related to each imple</li> </ul>	mentation step (see Table 2-8)			
	Table 2.10: Tables to Address in Rusiness Dr				
	Table 2-10: Topics to Address In Business Pr	ocess Documentation			
	Business Process Sten	Topics to Document			
	Business rocess step     Bol	es and responsibilities			
	Assign internal roles and How	w targets will be used internally			
	responsibilities • Apr	proval process for targets			
	• Tar	get audience			
	Clarify purpose of the target • Tar	get type			
	Gather information through • Crit benchmarking • Just	teria used to identify peer agencies (if used) tification for inclusion of "best in class" (if used)			
	• Pub	olic engagement activities			
	Reflect external stakeholder	kage between target setting process and			
	interests exis	sting public engagement activities			
Examples	Business Process Descriptions				
	The following descriptions were adapted from State DOT responses to a survey distributed prior to the AASHTO Standing Committee on Performance Management (SCOPM) MAP-21 Target-Setting Workshop held in June 2013.				
	Description 1				
	In conjunction with each statewide long-range plan, a Governor-appointed external oversight body works with agency staff to determine appropriate targets for five to 25 years. In this iterative process, staff first reach consensus on recommended targets and then engage in back and forth discussion with the Commission over several months. The inclusion of input from othe external stakeholders adds a month or two to the process.				

STEP 2.2.5	Document the business process			
	Description 2			
	System performance area staff use data to identify needs, planning program staff provide traffic growth projections, results based on different scenarios established, final draft targets reviewed and approved by Executive staff with consensus from Chief Engineer/Field Division Engineers, final draft targets submitted to external oversight body for final approval. Process is marshaled along by an internal performance working group.			
	Description 3			
	Technical asset management group develops proposed targets that will be vetted through senior executive steering committee. This is an iterative process allowing functional areas the flexibility of proposing achievable targets while enabling the senior executive steering committee to provide oversight and direction until achieving objectives that are aligned with Department goals.			
	Description 4			
	Technical experts make recommendations to the executive group – which considers policy implications and implementation actions. The Statewide Congestion Working Group discusses the technical and policy aspects of target setting.			
	Description 5			
	Technical asset group at Headquarters works with regional asset managers to review data and ensure accurate reporting before projecting performance at various funding levels. Headquarters group then works with the planning and finance groups to develop forecasts for various long-term funding scenarios. For annual budget setting, these scenarios are initially presented to Senior Management including the Executive Director and Chief Engineer, and once approved to an external oversight body. Proposed targets are revisited when final budgets are established by the legislature, then signed by the Governor. The forecasted condition at the approved budget is by default the annual target. Long-range targets, however, continue to fall back to the most recent Statewide long-range plan.			
Linkages to Other	Component A: Organization and Culture (See TPM Framewo			
<b>TPM Components</b>	Component B: External Collaboration and Coordination			
	Component 03: Performance-Based Planning			
	Component 04: Performance-Based Programming			
	Component 06: Reporting and Communication			

# RESOURCES

General Resources	Year	Link
TPM Toolbox	2016	www.tpmtools.org
Target Setting Peer Exchange	2014	https://www.planning.dot.gov/Peer/Arizona/scottsd ale 6-17-14 FHWA target setting.pdf
Transforming Performance Measurement for the 21 <sup>st</sup> Century	2014	http://www.urban.org/sites/default/files/alfresco/pu blication-pdfs/413197-Transforming-Performance- Measurement-for-the-st-Century.PDF
SCOPM Task Force Findings on MAP-21 Performance Measure Target-Setting	2013	http://scopm.transportation.org/Documents/SCOPM %20Task%20Force%20Findings%20on%20Performan ce%20Measure%20Target- Setting%20FINAL%20v2%20(3-25-2013).pdf
Performance-Based Planning and Programming Guidebook	2013	http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/planning/performance_ba sed_planning/pbpp_guidebook/
AASHTO SCOPM Target-Setting Workshop	2013	http://sites.spypondpartners.com/targetsetting/wor kshop/slides/00-notes.pdf
NCHRP Report 666: Target-Setting Methods and Data Management to Support Performance-Based Resource Allocation by Transportation Agencies	2010	<u>http://onlinepubs.trb.org/onlinepubs/nchrp/nchrp_r</u> <u>pt_666.pdf</u>
A Performance Management Framework for State and Local Government	2010	http://www.gfoa.org/sites/default/files/APerformance ManagementFramework.pdf
NCHRP Report 551: Performance Measures and Targets for Transportation Asset Management	2006	<u>http://onlinepubs.trb.org/onlinepubs/nchrp/nchrp_r</u> <u>pt_551.pdf</u>
Transportation Performance Management Awareness (FHWA-NHI Course #138001)		https://www.nhi.fhwa.dot.gov/training/course_searc h.aspx?tab=0&key=Transportation+Performance+Ma nagement&sf=0&course_no=138001
Introduction to Performance Measurement (FHWA-NHI Course #138003)		https://www.nhi.fhwa.dot.gov/training/course_searc h.aspx?tab=0&key=Transportation+Performance+Ma nagement&sf=0&course_no=138003
FHWA Office of Transportation Performance Management	2011	http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/tpm/

Safety Resources	Year	Link
Urbanized and Nonurbanized Safety Target Setting: Final Report	2015	http://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/hsip/tpm/fhwasa15067/
Safety Target Setting Final Report	2013	<u>http://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/hsip/spm/docs/safetyfinal</u> <u>rpt.pdf</u>
A Compendium of State and Regional Safety Target Setting Practices	2013	http://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/hsip/spm/docs/compendi um.pdf
Safety Target Setting Peer Exchange	2013	<u>http://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/hsip/spm/docs/peer_exc</u> <u>hange.pdf</u>
Performance Management Practices and Methodologies for Setting Safety Performance Targets, Literature Review	2011	http://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/hsip/spm/docs/literature <u>review.pdf</u>

#### ACTION PLAN

- 1. Of the TPM sub-components discussed in this chapter, which one would you like to work on?
  - **2**.1 Technical Methodology
- 2. What aspect of the TPM process listed above do you want to change?

What "steps" discussed in this chapter do you think could help you address the challenge noted above? 3. **Business Process** 

#### **Technical Methodology**

- **Establish a baseline**
- □ Analyze historical trends
- □ Identify influencing factors and assess risk (internal and external)
- Define target parameters
- □ Forecast future performance
- Document technical methodology

Assign internal roles and responsibilities

**2**.2 Business Process

- □ Clarify purpose of the target
- Gather information through benchmarking
- Reflect external stakeholder interests
- Document the business process
- 4. To implement the "step" identified above, what actions are necessary, who will lead the effort and what interrelationships exist?

Action(s)	Lead Staff	Interrelationships

5. What are some potential barriers to success?

6. Who is someone (internal and/or external) I will collaborate with to implement this action plan?

7. How will I know if I have made progress (milestones/timeframe/measures)?

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