

National Asset Management Steering Committee (NAMS) Exploratory Meeting

- In April 2005, an Asset Management Scan Team was privileged to meet with officials from around the world to hear about their advancements in Asset Management Practices. The scan clearly showed that the countries, provinces, and cities have not only grasped the concepts but have applied the practices to improve and/or maintain their public works systems. The scan team was particularly impressed with the organizational structures in place that were created to promote effective cross-sector collaborative processes across public work sector. Upon return to the U.S., the team believed this was a message that they wanted to share with other U.S. officials.
- Australia and New Zealand have developed a community of shared practice called the National Asset Management Steering Committee (NAMS). NAMS is a consortium of all levels of government and professional organizations that contribute to and disseminate asset management best practices.
- The Transportation Asset Management International Scanning Review, conducted in 2005, recommended the following:

[Explore] joining with other efforts, agencies, and resources to embed asset management into existing efforts on an ongoing basis. Create a National Asset Management Steering Committee (NAMS) in the United States. Such an effort provides a platform to distribute information, provide training, and document best practices on transportation asset management nationally and abroad. Develop an easy-to-understand toolbox for asset management that can be applied at different levels of government. The tools should look beyond transportation to best practices in other industries. These tools should be available on a Web site for free downloading.

Meeting Objectives

- To learn how and why National Asset Management (NAMS) type organizations were established in Australia, New Zealand, and Canada along with the Pacific Northwest.
- To determine if such an organization for asset management in the U.S. would advance the principles of Asset Management and improve the skills of the practitioners.
- To examine missions, and objectives of such a U.S. clearinghouse.
- To examine the areas or interest that should be incorporated in such a clearing house – highways, transportation, public works, etc.
- To determine the potential roadblocks or obstacles that might hinder the creation of such a clearinghouse.
- To determine possible organizational structures, scope of effort, and funding mechanisms.

When: March 12, 2007 in Washington DC