

# **6th National Access Management Conference**

Sept. 1, 2004 Kansas City, MO

## **Inquiring Minds Want to Know :**

## **Starting a State**

## **Access Management Program**

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**Inquiring Minds Want to Know :**

**focusing on the questions that  
will come to mind when you start  
thinking about ...**

**Starting a State**

**Access Management Program**

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## **Inquiring Minds Want to Know : Starting a State Access Management Program**

Kansas DOT - Chris Huffman

Minnesota DOT - Peggy Reichert

Missouri DOT - Eileen Rackers

South Dakota DOT - Rick Laughlin

Texas TTI - Bill Frawley

moderator - Jim Gattis, U. of Arkansas

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**Inquiring Minds Want to Know :**  
**Starting a State**  
**Access Management Program**

**questions & comments WELCOME**

**(please interrupt me)**

# **Inquiring Minds Want to Know : Starting a State Access Management Program**

Realize that organizational and political environments ...

- ✦ can vary from state to state
- ✦ can vary within a state over time

For whatever reason, not every state has had the same experience.

# Starting a State Program

## ⇒ When ?

⊕ = yes	... did the current A M program become effective ?	Was there another program in place before this one ?
Kansas	1997	⊕
Minnesota	2002	⊕
Missouri	2003	
South Dakota	2001	
Texas	2004	

# Starting a State Program

- ➔ Was any kind of “steering committee” put in charge of developing the current A M program ?
  - ✦ If “yes”, then what types of job descriptions were on this committee ?

# Starting a State Program

- ➔ Discuss the meeting or hearing process employed for the recent start or “upgrade” of your A M program .
  - ✦ Were meetings or hearings held ?
  - ✦ How many ? Where were they held ?
  - ✦ Who attended - general public or only invited people ?
  - ✦ Did you “touch base” with key politicians or District Engineers ?

# Starting a State Program

- ➔ Discuss the meeting or hearing process employed for the recent start or “upgrade” of your A M program .

YOUR REACTION TO : *If we announced the intent to start A M, I can't imagine how we could overcome opposition from developers and business owners so that we could even get the A M program off the ground ...*

# Starting a State Program

- ➔ Was any new enabling legislation enacted for the recent start or “upgrade” of your A M program ?
- ▲ Was new legislation something you wanted to avoid ?

# Starting a State Program

## ➔ What office is your A M program in ?

- ▲ Kansas: central - Traffic Engineering  
permit - Area Office (part of District)
- ▲ Minnesota: central - Program Mgmt. (planning)  
permit - multidisciplinary Dist. committee
- ▲ Missouri: central - Traffic Engineering  
permit - Permit Inspt. (under \_\_\_\_\_)
- ▲ South Dakota: central - Planning & Programs  
permit - Operations
- ▲ Texas: central - Design Division  
permit - Area Office (usually; some @ Dist.)

# Starting a State Program

- ➡ What new positions were designated ?
  
- ➡ What new documents were created ?
  
- ➡ What training has been instituted for ...
  - ✦ employees ?
  - ✦ consultants ?

# Starting a State Program

- ➔ Does the current program apply to all roads on the state hwy. system, or just certain categories ? (what about liability concerns?)

⊕ = yes	all roads on the state highway system	just certain categories of state highways	
Kansas	⊕		
Minnesota	⊕		
Missouri	SR ⊕	AA ⊕	
South Dakota	⊕		
Texas	SR ⊕	FM ⊕	some exemptions

# Starting a State Program

➔ Before allowing access, do you require

+	Fees	Traffic Impact Analysis (sometimes)
Kansas		+
Minnesota		
Missouri		+
S. Dakota		+
Texas		+

# Starting a State Program

- ➔ Does your classification system have “rural” and “urban” categories ?
- ▲ If so, how do you set the boundary between rural and urban ?

# Starting a State Program

## ➔ Permits

- ▲ Does the permit application/review process for a residential or a farm drive differ from an application/review for a commercial development ?

+	Does differ
= yes	
Kan	+
Minn	+
Mo	+
S D	+
Tex	+

# Starting a State Program

## ➔ Permits

- How are requests for appeals/variances handled ?
  - Is there some formal difference between a “minor” and a “major” variance ?
- Is it better to write specific, restrictive rules, and have variances; or write general rules and avoid the need for exceptions ?

+	Tough rules	Loose rules
Kan	+	
Minn	+	
Mo	+	
S D	+	
Tex	+	

# Starting a State Program

## ⇒ Permits

- ▲ Does the permit contain wording so that if the land use changes, the permit does not automatically continue in effect and has to be reapplied for ?
- ▲ Do you grant “temporary permits” that expire in the future when alternative access becomes available (such as when a new side road or backage road is finally constructed) ?

# Starting a State Program

## ➔ Land Use Control

- Do you have any land use control powers?
- What has been your experience with circumventing limitations on the number of accesses allowed by subdividing the tract ?
  - How do you deal with this ?

# **Inquiring Minds Want to Know :**

## **Starting a State**

### **Access Management Program**

Realize that organizational and political environments ...

- ▲ can vary from state to state
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Perhaps the relative success of an A M program to some degree varies according to who (the key players) is involved  
[planners may be more comfortable with this than engineers]

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**thank you**