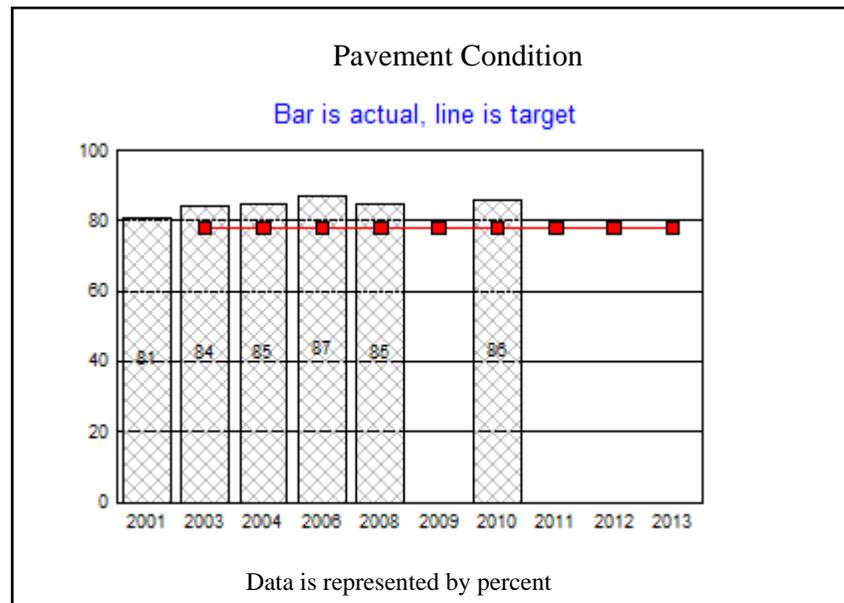


KPM #15	Pavement Condition: Percent of pavement lane miles rated “fair” or better out of total lane miles in state highway system.	2001
Goal	ODOT Goal #2: Preservation -- Preserve and maintain transportation infrastructure	
Oregon Context	Oregon Benchmark #72a: Percent of State Centerline Miles in "Fair" or Better Condition	
Data Source	Pavement Services Unit, Highway Division, ODOT	
Owner	Pavement Services Unit, Highway Division, ODOT, Scott Nelson (Interim), 503-986-3115	



1. OUR STRATEGY

The strategy of the ODOT pavement preservation program is to keep highways in the best condition possible, at the lowest cost, by taking a preventive approach to maintenance. The most cost-effective approach is to resurface highways while they are still in “fair” or "good" condition, which extends

pavement life at a reduced resurfacing cost.

2. ABOUT THE TARGETS

A higher, or increasing, percentage of pavement (centerline) miles in good condition is desired. A higher percentage translates to smoother roads and lower repair costs. Funding allocations to the pavement program are set to maintain pavement conditions at a target of 78% “fair” or better over the long term. Currently, pavement conditions are above target but forecast to drop back towards the 78% long term target by 2015.

3. HOW WE ARE DOING

Pavement conditions on the state highway system are starting to decline, with some portions of the system declining more steeply than others. The statewide overall “fair-or-better” mileage peaked in 2006 and has dropped 1% between 2006 and 2010 despite roughly \$100 million of new investment in pavement preservation projects on state highways as part of the 2009 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) economic stimulus legislation. This one-time funding boost addressed critical preservation needs on over 600 lane miles of highway, or about 3% of the state highway network. If the ARRA projects had not been constructed, the 2010 “fair” or better measure would be 84%, which is 2% less than it is today. The percentage of highways in “good” to “very good” condition dropped 9% since 2006 while the percentage of “fair” pavement in the inventory nearly doubled from 15% to 23%. Although this shift from “good” to “fair” pavement is not reflected in the “fair” or better measure, a large number of highways will decline to “poor” condition in a few years as resurfacing needs outpace available funding.

4. HOW WE COMPARE

No standardized system exists for classifying pavement condition of all highways nationwide. Each state uses a unique procedure for classifying pavement defects and assessing structural and functional pavement conditions. However, pavement smoothness, which is one indicator of pavement condition, is collected by all states using standardized procedures. A smoothness comparison between Oregon and the neighboring states of California, Idaho, Washington, and Nevada based on 2008 reported data shows that Oregon’s Interstate pavements are in better condition than the surrounding states, while Oregon’s remaining highways are mid-pack compared with the neighboring states but better than the nationwide average.

5. FACTORS AFFECTING RESULTS

The cost fluctuation for pavement materials in recent years has had a major impact on the cost of highway resurfacing projects. Due to price spikes in 2007-08, some projects were cut from the program and others were cut or shortened. More recently those costs have come down with the overall decline in

construction, but material costs are expected to fluctuate again in the future. Lower than anticipated federal revenues have also resulted in major funding reductions to the Preservation program, which is the primary program for resurfacing work. Other factors having an impact on the program are standards, mobility, and access management requirements. Often, paving work is conducted in conjunction with other enhancements which can impact project costs and timelines.

6. WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE

The resurfacing mileage is not keeping pace with the rate of pavement deterioration, and is currently less than one-half the mileage needed to maintain pavement conditions over the long-term. Increased funding is required to hold pavement conditions steady on important routes throughout the state. The funding shortfall is most acute in urban areas. The Department has taken several steps to help offset some of the declines, including programming over \$100 million in Preservation projects with ARRA funds, constructing more low-cost chip seal treatments under the Preservation program, and implementing a 1R paving program which focuses preservation investments in the pavement surface.

7. ABOUT THE DATA

Pavement smoothness is a key element of the motoring public's experience when traveling the highway system and the pavement condition is a primary factor in determining the optimum time to program a maintenance treatment or resurfacing to maintain or restore smoothness. Pavement conditions are measured via a combination of automated equipment and visual assessment, and rigorous checks are made on the data to ensure integrity. Oregon has measured pavement conditions on the state highway system since 1976. Pavement conditions are measured and reported on the entire State Highway system every two calendar years, on the even year (2004, 2006, etc.). Measurements are taken in the summer and fall and reported at the end of calendar year. The Department's Pavement Condition Report provides detailed pavement condition data and statistical summaries across various parts of the highway system and is available on line at http://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/HWY/CONSTRUCTION/pms_reports.shtml.