

Context Sensitive Solutions Oakland County & Road Commission for Oakland County

Agenda

CSS in Oakland County
Focus Group Summary
Next Steps



What is CSS?

CSS Methods and Principles

- Engages stakeholders
- Utilizes interdisciplinary teams
- Embraces a multimodal approach
- Serves and respects its environmental and social context
- Provides a safe and efficient transportation system
- Applies to all MDOT activities

**When Should the RCOC
employ CSS principals
and/or processes?**

RCOC Project Type

Maintenance Repair (no alteration to operational or physical infrastructure) i.e.

culvert replacement
gravel roadway maintenance
guard rail repair/replacement
joint repair
mowing
pot hole repair
re striping
slab replacement (minor)
snow removal
storm cleanup
swale cleaning
sweeping
trash pickup

**CSS PRINCIPALS
LIMITED APPLICATION**

RCOC Project Type

Minor alteration to operational or physical infrastructure i.e.

Addition of:

driving surface or increased paved shoulder widths
guard rail, vertical barriers or closure of cross-median accesses

Alterations such as:

major vegetation removal/control projects
painting of bridge or other structural elements
replacement of existing fixtures or the addition of roadway lighting
replacement of existing fixtures or the addition of traffic signals
re-striping to alter lane function or increase capacity/movements
whole sale slab replacement or major overlay projects

**EVALUATE FOR APPLICATION OF
CSS PRINCIPALS/PROCESSES**

RCOC Project Type

Significant alteration to operational or physical infrastructure i.e.

Improvements and or alterations that would be governed by NEPA processes

**EMPLOY
CSS PROCESSES**

Conventional Wisdom ?

- A stitch in time saves nine.....
- You can't judge a book by its cover...
- Never a borrower or lender be....
- A penny saved is a penny earned.....

Conventional Wisdom?

- The shortest distance between two points is a straight line.....
- Bigger Wider Straighter Flatter....
- Increase capacity.....
- Safety is our **primary** concern.....

Focus Group Themes

- Funding
- Education
- Organizational
- Local Government
- Culture

Funding

- Federal Aid Point System
- County incentive program for the planning of projects
- County Grants Coordinator
- Pay for Fee services (Provided by County)
- MDOT

Education

- Internal RCOC and County staffs
- External Cities, and Townships
- General Public
- Developers
- Other Agencies

Organizational

- RCOC R.O.W. Master Plan Process
- RCOC Strategic 2-year Plan
- Tri-Party agreements
- Federal Aid Selection Criteria
- Intergovernmental collaboration

Local Government

- Technical Assistance and for whom?
- Education and Training
- Intergovernmental Agreements

Culture

- Define and Adopt CSS Policy
- Identify how and when to employ CSS
- Assemble interdisciplinary teams appropriate for each CSS project
- Leverage Flexibility in design already inherent in the manuals



Images sources PB, Context Sensitive Solutions.org and MDOT

Next Steps

- Identify the tool kit content
 - CSS Principals, MDOT, MNDOT, IDOT
 - Policy and Legal Framework
 - Best Practices Examples
 - Flow Chart Diagram with Recommendations
 - Funding Opportunities
- Visualization Examples
- Technical Appendix
- Software Tool Summary (draft completed)
- Identification of County Resources