Pavement Measures Performance Audit

Michael Eglinski City Auditor

Why audit pavement measures?

- Used to allocate \$5 million a year
- Reliable information needed to make best use of maintenance funding
- Relatively new measures
- Street conditions matter to residents

Pavement management system

- Inspect streets, enter inspections, add new streets and new maintenance work
- Store information in a geodatabase
- Plan work, develop questions, analyze the data, and generate reports to management and the City Commission

Information generally reliable

- Inspection process guided by clear, written procedures
- Computerized reduce data entry errors and automate calculations
- Data users rely on the information

Audit test results

- Compared physical conditions of 40 randomly selected streets to the inspection results
- Compared records of construction and maintenance for 40 streets to the database
- Generally accurate
- Discrepancies could be resolved or had no significant effect

Commit to maintain data

- Several inspection cycles needed for data to be most useful
- Staff resources inspectors and GIS analyst
- Previous pavement management system failed for lack of commitment and staff, and inadequate computer resources

Policies to strengthen data

- Need to better document database
- Need policy on data back-up
- Policies especially important for a system that needs to be maintained and used for years

Enforce excavation permit

- City doesn't issue excavation permits
- Code requires permits to dig in or under streets and sidewalks
- Permits intended to protect public interest and infrastructure
- Could implement broader right-of-way management

Resident v staff perspectives

Residents:

- Focus on bumps and smoothness while using streets
- Conclusions based on trips and experiences
- Generalize to overall government performance

Staff:

- Measure all types of defects while inspecting streets
- Conclusions based on entire street system
- Don't generalize beyond streets

Recommendations

- Public Works should plan to maintain the data, commit adequate resources
- Public Works should better document the database
- IS should develop backup policy
- City Manager should enforce excavation permit or develop r.o.w. management approach