A LOCAL ROADWAY agency can manage pavements more effectively using an objective approach. This involves periodically evaluating all pavement surface conditions and using the information to set priorities and make decisions.

Recognizing the value of this approach, Wisconsin requires local governments to rate all pavements every two years and submit the data to WisDOT (Ch. 86.302(2) Wis. Stats.). The next set of ratings is due in December 2005. (Info on how to submit ratings will be out early next year.)

Nearly all Wisconsin municipalities rate their roads using PASER, a simplified rating system developed by the TIC. The information becomes part of a statewide local road information database called WISLR, managed by the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT). This article helps explain PASER and WISLR.

Frequently asked questions: Pavement ratings, PASER, WISLR

What is WISLR?

WISLR (**W**isconsin **I**nformation **S**ystem for **L**ocal **R**oads) is the statewide database of local road information managed by WisDOT. It is Internet-accessible. Local governments, counties and WisDOT can all use it.

WISLR stores roadway data such as surface type, surface width, pavement rating, shoulder, traffic lanes, functional classification, and more.

Local communities send pavement rating data to WISLR using a variety of methods—electronic spreadsheets, paper reports, PASERWARE (v.3.0 only), and others.

What does WISLR do for me?

Users of WISLR can view both their own roadway inventory data and statewide roadway inventory data.

WISLR provides:

- Local control of data quality. You can update and correct local data.
- View both local and statewide data with location. See trends and display with graphics.
- Tools for rudimentary pavement needs analysis of current year data, and Geographic Information System (GIS) capability to "map" data.
- Immediate access to WisDOT forms/reports: Annual Certification Statements, Inventory Report, Construction Report Form.

Purpose of WISLR

WISLR is used by WisDOT to:

- Distribute General Transportation Aids to local units of government.
- Provide essential information for mandated federal reporting.
- Distribute county forest payments to qualifying counties.
- Store pavement ratings submitted by locals to comply with Wis. Statute 86.302(2).

Who may use WISLR?

Local government officials, county officials, those employed by local governments and counties, and WisDOT may use WISLR.

How do I gain access to WISLR?

Officials can access WISLR at the WisDOT WISLR page: http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/localgov/wislr/index.htm

Scroll down to: *How to access and get started using WISLR.* Once you have received WISLR privileges, access WISLR at: https://trust.dot.state.wi.us/wislr/

What is PASER?

PASER (**P**avement **S**urface **E**valuation and **R**ating) is a simple, objective system used at the local level to visually inspect and rate the condition of pavement surfaces. It is explained with photos and text in reference booklets for each surface type: asphalt, concrete, gravel, and others.

What is PASERWARE?

PASERWARE is a computer program that stores your municipal road data and helps with local pavement management decisions.

What do PASER ratings do for me?

PASER ratings help local officials:

- Balance priorities and make difficult decisions
- Explain options and consequences clearly to citizens and other decision makers

What does PASERWARE do for me?

PASERWARE uses your local computer to:

- Store your local road data after it is downloaded from WISLR
- Update pavement rating data
- Perform needs analysis for 1-6 years
- Help with management decisions

Purpose of PASER ratings

PASER is an objective technique local people use to rate local roads. Reviewing all roads together and using ratings to make choices helps manage pavement more effectively.

Purpose of PASERWARE

PASERWARE provides "what if" charts. It can project up to six years into the future and show the effects on road condition of different budget, project selection, and maintenance decisions.

Who uses PASERWARE?

About 600 Wisconsin towns, villages and cities currently use a version of PASERWARE. The newest version, PASERWARE 3.0, is compatible with the WISLR database, It can send pavement rating data to WisDOT. You do not need to use PASERWARE 3.0 to submit pavement ratings.

How do I get PASERWARE v. 3.0?

Current PASERWARE users who want to upgrade to v.3.0 can get the program only in a TIC training session.

You can continue using older versions of PASERWARE for aiding local management decisions and submit 2005 ratings directly to WISLR as a separate process.

PASER Manuals to help you evaluate and rate roads are available on the TIC Web page or in print (see page 10).

PASER videos show how to evaluate and rate pavement conditions using PASER ratings and manuals (see page 10.)

Asphalt PASER, 46 min. #17761

Gravel PASER, 15 min., #18385

Sealcoat PASER, 13 min., #18386

PASER Series 74 min. #18390 (all three together)

Learn to use WISLR with a computer-based training CD. E-mail your requests to wislrinfo@dot.state.wi.us

Wisconsin LTAP