

ANNOUNCEMENT: Fiscal Management Information System Reports Optimization Project

The Fiscal Management Information System (FMIS) is the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) mission critical system used by all State highway authorities to record financial and statistical data related to surface transportation projects. Additionally, it is used to control the obligation of funds appropriated to the States. As such, the FMIS is critical to the ongoing administration of the Federal-aid Highway Program (FAHP). Its data is used by stakeholders within the federal government, State governments, Congressional Offices and industry groups. The ability to quickly and accurately report on the status of funds and their uses in the administration of the FAHP continues to be a crucial element in our stewardship of the program.

Earlier this year, the Office of the Chief Financial Officer (OCFO) launched a project to modernize the FMIS operating system, its functions and the reporting capabilities. Also, in March 2012, the FMIS Team announced in its newsletter that a project would be undertaken to modernize the FMIS reports. The FMIS modernization project is now underway. In concert with that project, we are now ready to launch the Reports Optimization Project.

The initial phase of the Reports Optimization Project is limited to the current FMIS reports. The FMIS maintains 235 pre-defined reports which were viewed/launched 71,193 times during the 2012 fiscal year. Ten reports accounted for 47,789 or 68% of the annual total. In addition, users generated 7,663 custom reports on the Project Information module's ad hoc reporting tool called Free Form. Conversely, we maintained 81 reports which were generated fewer than 50 times each during this period. It is apparent that users' utilization of FMIS reports varies greatly. For that reason, we will review each report to determine, to what extent, resources should be allocated for re-programming of the report for migration to the new FMIS, its ongoing maintenance and its retention. Reports will be grouped in one of five categories -- Reports which should be:

1. retained without changes;
2. retired (decommissioned) from production;
3. modified to include additional data fields to enhance the report's usefulness;
4. converted to a Business Objects template – only available on demand and customizable; or
5. another action.

All FMIS users are invited to provide feedback on this project. The FMIS User News and Information (FUNI) website has been setup with a folder for viewing of the OCFOs recommendation for the disposition of each report. Report Utilization Assessment forms and report specimens will be loaded onto FUNI at the approximate rate of eight per week. Users may review each assessment and submit their comments on the form provided on the website. The minimum review period for each report will be 14 days.

For additional information on this project, you can access the FUNI website through the FMIS online Help menu. Your points of contact are:

Donna Jones, donna.jones@dot.gov, 202-366-2924
Joy Kelly, joy.k.kelly@dot.gov, 202-366-2922
Charlena Young, charlena.young@dot.gov, 202-366-0165