



# **NOAA Surface Weather Program**

Clarus ICC Meeting 1

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# Overview

- Purpose
- History
- Current Activities
- Future Activities
- NOAA Needs
- Key Challenges



# Purpose

- A cross-NOAA program applying weather and geospatial expertise to surface transportation issues
- Mission: Public Safety
  - Identify and implement activities within NOAA's mission to reduce the annual loss of life and productivity from surface transportation crashes and delays



# History

- History:
  - August 2003 meeting between NOAA Under Secretary Lautenbacher and FHWA Administrator Mary Peters
  - November 2003 AMS Forum
  - February 2004 FHWA/NOAA Tiger Team
  - June 2004 NOAA Surface Weather Program created



# Current Activities

- Participating in OFCM led WIST activities
- Developing an MOU and partnering plan between NOAA and FHWA
- Adding an element to NOAA Strategic Plan
- Developing a plan for FY07-11 activities with a focus on:
  - expanding the surface observation base
  - maximizing use of existing products, services, and R&D efforts- both internal and external
  - studies to identify the path for future efforts
  - defining roles with partners



# Future Activities

- Developing the NOAA concept of operations
- Supporting and leveraging existing NOAA-wide activities where relevant



# Future Activities

- NWS
  - Integrated Surface Observing System / COOP Modernization and National Cooperative Mesonet
  - Digital Services including the National Digital Forecast Database
  - WRF, NCEP model resolution efforts
  - NOAA Weather Radio enhancements
- NOAA Research
  - Surface level atmospheric R&D, data assimilation
- Homeland Security
  - dispersion modeling
  - Incident response
- National Geodetic Survey
  - Height Modernization / Survey capability building
  - GPS including Solar Disruptions
  - Shoreline mapping
- Education & Outreach including cross training between the weather and transportation communities



# User Needs - NOAA

- Identification of FHWA Clarus priorities
- Better understanding of transportation operator/manager and private sector surface weather provider needs from NOAA products and services
- Cooperative Observations





# Key Challenges

- Building trust with partners; particularly with the private sector
- Finding resources in a tight fiscal environment
- Collecting and managing data from disparate sources