

HRM / HHB Dynamic Message Signs Presentation

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Why DMS?

- Incidents and planned closures create congestion
- Congestion results in lost productivity, safety issues
- More severe weather events



The Vision

Develop a network of real time message signs
to benefit the regional transportation system.



Status

- HHB – Operates six Dynamic Message Signs (DMS)
- Province of NS – operates two DMS signs
- Broadly used throughout North America



DMS Applications

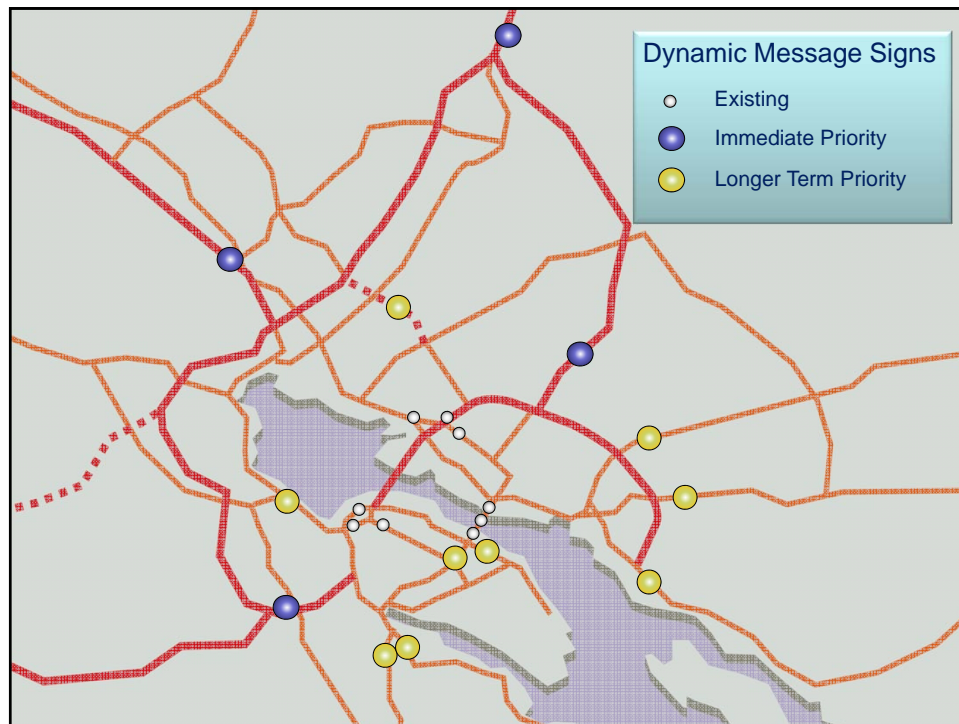
- Improved road safety and traffic flow through real time messaging:
 - Collisions and other incidents
 - Construction and other road closures
 - Weather related events
 - Emergency evacuation
 - Public safety and Amber Alert messages



Benefits of DMS

- Routes traffic away from incidents or closures and reduces congestion. Savings per incident:
 - ☐ 500 – 700 vehicle hours
 - ☐ 10,000 to 30,000 litres of fuel
 - ☐ 30% to 50% reduction in secondary crashes
- Better access to incidents for emergency response





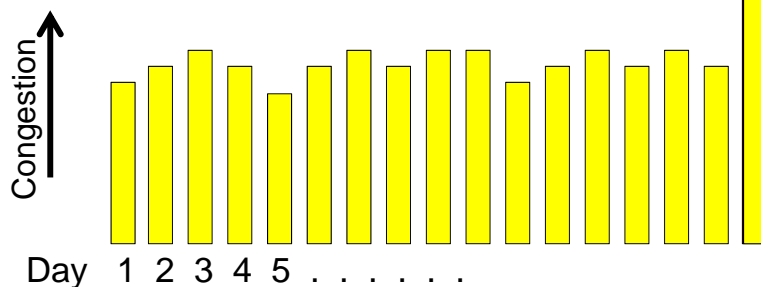
The Plan

- Halifax Harbour Bridges operates the signs from their 24/7 control centre
- Protocol established for message generation
- Signs that are more remote from the harbour bridges are cost-shared

Proposal for 2013-14 is \$2 million for 5 to 6 signs

Congestion Reduction

- DMS **DO NOT** add capacity to the network
They make better use of existing capacity when incidents or abnormalities occur



Summary

- Effective traffic management is required to make best use of road capacity when incidents take place
- DMS are another tool in the kit



Questions?

Thank you!

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