TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT CENTERS

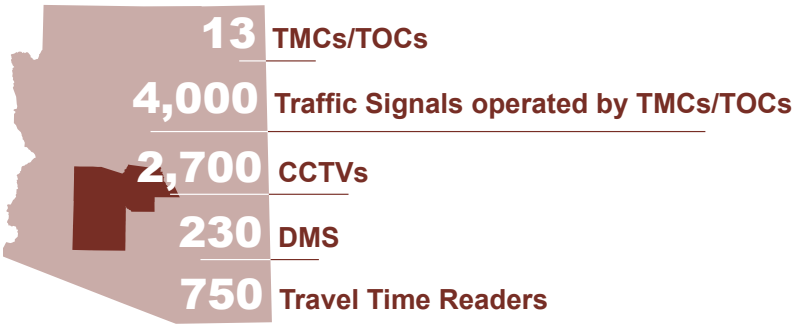
An agency Traffic Management Center (TMC) is the hub or nerve center of a transportation management system, where data about the roadway network is collected, processed, and distributed to stakeholders such as the media, other agencies, and the traveling public.

TMC staff use the information to monitor the operation of the roadway network and to initiate control strategies, such as traffic signal timing or providing traveler messages on dynamic message signs. It is also where agencies can coordinate their responses to traffic incidents.

There are 13 agency TMCs/TOCs in the Phoenix metropolitan area including the Statewide ADOT Traffic Operations Center (TOC).

- ★ Each TMC is staffed, funded, and operated by the respective agencies.
- ★ Every TMC in the region conducts traffic signal operations, closed-circuit television (CCTV) operations, and inter-agency coordination functions.
- ★ Traffic signals are the largest arterial management and operations strategy used by agencies in the Phoenix metro area.
- ★ There are more than 4,000 traffic signals in the Phoenix metro area; almost 90% of signals are monitored, controlled, and operated from agency TMCs/TOCs.

The local TMCs in the region vary significantly in size, activity and level of operations.



For more information: www.aztech.org

BENEFITS OF TMCS

TMCs allow transportation staff to operate the roadway network in a systematic manner which reduces congestion and improve safety and efficiency. Examples of benefits afforded by TMCs include:

Reduced delay caused by stalled vehicles or incidents by monitoring CCTV cameras and sensors and deploying traffic management strategies.

COORDINATION AMONG AGENCY TMCS

Non-recurring congestion is a focus for local agencies. Agencies work together to achieve efficient traffic movement along multi-jurisdictional corridors – particularly prior to a special event or work zone.

Established partnerships within the Phoenix metro area, such as AZTech, have developed regional systems/programs that help agencies collaborate and share information.

- All 13 TMCs/TOCs in the region are connected to a regional fiber optic communication network called the Regional Community Network (RCN), which enables agencies to share real-time CCTV video, roadway condition data, etc. to support interagency incident management and congestion mitigation efforts.
- The AZTech Regional Achieved Data System (RADS) is a data archive for the transportation network in the Phoenix metro area. RADS collects transportation operations data and makes the data available to agencies and others through a web-based interface. RADS is also used to populate Arizona's 511 system.
- TMCs coordinate directly to keep each other apprised of roadway conditions that have cross-border impacts. This includes coordination for construction planning, managing traffic incidents, and when freeway events may impact arterials. This is the foundation for the concept of Integrated Corridor Management (ICM), where there is a coordinated plan in place to help efficiently route traffic along City or Town streets in cases when the freeway is closed.

All 13 TMCs/TOCs

in the region are connected to a regional fiber optic communication network called the Regional Communication Network (RCN).

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