FirstStep Pavement Management (FSPM) is honored to provide Pavement Management Services to the City of Conway. FirstStep Pavement Management is not a company, but a network level pavement condition & distress assessment technique with subsequent tools allowing agencies to prioritize, plan, budget, and forecast needed resources to manage their independent pavement networks. Utilizing a GIS platform, it was developed by Dr. Stacy Williams (UA Civil Engineering Research Center/Technology Transfer Program), Mike Morgan (Greenberg Farrow), & Darryl Gardner (Ergon A&E) to assist cities and counties with highly effective data & methodology to manage Pavement Networks.

While many involved in pavement data collection utilize ASTM 6433 & focus on a Pavement Condition Index (PCI) to rank pavements within a network, FirstStep Pavement Management associates PCI with actual (not extrapolated) conditions & distresses in such a way that the data it is very transparent, easily sorted, easily understood & communicated throughout Conway’s Administration & Street Department. Similar to “matching a face to a name,” FirstStep Pavement Management gives visual representation to PCI numerical values at any & all locations within the network. Every lineal foot of pavement is assessed with geo-located video. The visual data representation brings with it a high level of Transparency.

Data is viewed in three formats:

1) Condition & Distress Map with Data toggle capability.
2) Geo-located Video with Data Sharing Tools
3) GIS Condition & Distress Attribute Table Tool Book

In addition to Transparent data, another of FirstStep Pavement Management’s major goals was to provide data that is immediately Operational. Conway can not only route their maintenance crews to current potholes within the city, but can proactively plan to reduce future potholes by establishing policy tables related to the isolated structural locations geo-located throughout the city. Policy Tables are established for Mass Structural, Low to High Density Cracking, noted Drainage Issues, and Delay Penalty Prioritization. These Policy Tables enable Conway to plan and prioritize tomorrow’s projects, as well as establish multi-year Pavement Maintenance Plans.

Pavement Management is not a temporary solution. The City of Conway will not be able solve all their street problems because problems continue to develop as pavements age and the PCI decreases. Traffic, Construction Specifications & Guidelines, Quality Control & Assurance, Project Selection, Increased Capacity, Drainage, & Climate-related Distresses all impact the Remaining Service Life (RSL) of Conway’s pavements. In many cases, due to the expense of collecting and reporting pavement condition & distress data, obtaining up-to-date data is delayed. This issue established FirstStep Pavement Management’s next major goal; to provide a sustainable lower cost system so that pavement condition data could be collected more frequently, either annually or biennially. The data collection interval becomes part of Conway’s Policy Table.

FirstStep Pavement Management is Educational. We believe that continued improvement & education in new data-gathering and GIS technologies is vital for both our success as well as the success of our partnering cities & counties. As such, we work collaboratively with city officials to review the Pavement Condition Data, establish Policy Tables, incorporate street priority and Delay Penalties to determine Project Prioritization, and then apply Metrics of Success to track progress.