



## **Operations Policies and Procedures Management**

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Trapeze Group, Industry Solutions Manager Planning, Scheduling, and Operations (Mississauga, Ontario)





Policy – Sets out your Position on an issue or set of issues to guide decision making. It should be a higher level statement of direction.

Procedure – Sets out specific responsibilities and processes required to implement a particular areas of policy. Supporting documentation such as work instructions and templates, are as detailed as necessary to enable policy implementation

Transit Agencies must have solid Policy and Procedures. However, they must:

- 1) Inventory and Standardize them
- 2) Regularly Review Them
- 3) Train Employees and ensure they have access
- 4) Create New and Retire Old as needed

30B

85%

50%

60%

Documents are used in United States

Are Never Retrieved

**Are Duplicates** 

Are Obsolete

\$1 Spent on Creation

\$10 Spent on Management 15% Of Annual Revenue

### DOCUMENT MANAGEMENT OBJECTS

Creation

Method for envisioning, initiating, and collaborating

Distribution

Into the hands of intended parties

Location

Physical Location
– one version of
the truth

Retrieval

Method to Find documents – index/query

**Approval** 

Vetting process before official

Security

Methods to ensure integrity and security of document

Workflow

Steps to pass document from individual to individual

Retention

Policies and practises that inform everyone how documents are retained

Filing

Traditional or Electronic – Meta Data is Key

Archiving

Long-term retention policy after active life has ended

## DDoc – Description Documents

- Describe the Documents:
  - Focus
  - Content
  - Keyword Descriptions
  - Content Ownership
  - Security
- Time Consuming (and seemingly unnecessary)
- Creates
  - Consistency for Creation, Management, and Expiration
  - Ensures that Documents are Findable and consistent with Laws, Rules, and Regulations
- Ensures
  - Documents are adequately described and categorized so they are Findable (if you can't find it, it might as well not exist)

## Operationalize the Policy/Procedure

- Provide method to utilize the policy in Operation Tools, Systems, and Applications
- Ensure Users have access to and ability to find policy or procedure
- Ensure Users are trained on how to apply policy or procedure
- Ensure Policy or Procedure is detailed enough to leave no room for interpretation
- Provides consistent application of policy or procedure
- Reduces possible liability and/or violation of rules, laws, or regulations

# Example – King County Metro – Transit Operations Procedures

- Up Front Index and Bookmarks with Policy/Procedure number and description
- Each Procedure Document describes the Subject,
   Approval, Date of Issue, Revision Date, and an
   Overview Meta Data
- Contains Step by Step procedure and flow regarding specific implementation and decision tree
- Even Contains the Procedure for Creation and Revision of Procedures!
- https://atu587.org/wpcontent/uploads/2015/02/PoliciesProceduresMan ual2015-04-06.pdf

## King County METRO Transit Operations Procedures #69 Subject: Creating or Revising Policies (Pg. 1 of 2) Approval by Manager: Issue Date: 11/18/09 Revision Date: 11/30/09

Periodically a current policy is revised or a new policy is created. The following procedure should be used when creating or making changes to official King County Metro Transit Operations policies.

#### 1. Request to create or change a policy

When a request is made to create or change a policy that request should be forwarded to an Operations supervisor for an initial evaluation. If warranted, the Operations supervisor then begins the process of revising a current policy or creating a new policy.

#### 2. A draft of the revised or new policy is created

The Operations supervisor writes, or assigns another person to write, the language to the revised policy or the language for a new policy.

#### 3. The draft policy is sent to supervisors for review

Once a draft of a new or revised policy is completed the draft is sent to all Operations supervisors, the Assistant Operations Manager and Transit Human Resources for review. Usually a deadline for comments is established.

#### 4. The draft is accepted or further modifications are suggested

If further changes are indicated by the comments, edits and suggestions of supervisors reviewing the draft, a second rewrite of the revised or new policy is undertaken. New changes are made and the document is again distributed to all Operations supervisors and the Assistant Operations Manager for review. This process continues until a consensus is reached regarding the language in the revised or new policy. At that point a final draft is completed.

#### 5. The final draft is sent to the Manager for review

The final draft of the revised or new policy is sent to the Operations Manager for review. The Operations Manager reviews the policy and either accepts it as written or returns it to the Operations supervisors, with comments, for further revision.

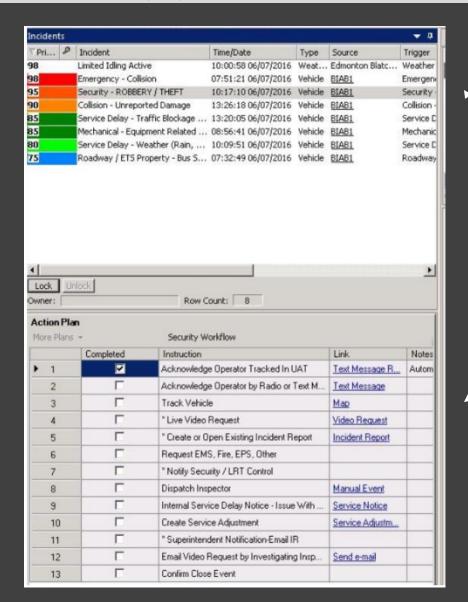
#### 6. Once a final draft is accepted by the Operations Manager it is sent to the policies & procedures editor to be formatted for signature

The policies and procedures editor formats the revised or new policy into the standard policy template with appropriate headers, revision dates and text styles. A printed copy is made and given to the Operations Manager for signature.

#### The final draft policy is sent to ATU 587 for review.

Once the policy is in final draft form, the ATU 587 is sent a copy along with a letter requesting

## **Decision Support in Edmonton**



Action Plans Built are into OCC Software

This ensures that Policies and Procedures as they relate to Incidents are Operationalized

## Take Aways

- Create Policies and Procedures Framework
  - Focus and Content
- Review each Policy and Procedure and ensure it is up to date and "Findable"
- Creation a Searchable and Useful tool to disseminate Policies and Procedures
- Ensures that Documents are consistent with Laws, Rules, and Regulations
- Determine who will use Policies and Procedures and ensure they have appropriate tools to retrieve and apply them
- Ensure Policies and Procedures are Operationalized
- Understand that creating Polices and Procedures is just as important as understanding how you will manage them and ensure they persist



## **THANK YOU**

David Fulton
Industry Solutions Manager
Planning, Scheduling, and Operations
<a href="mailto:dave.fulton@trapezegroup.com">dave.fulton@trapezegroup.com</a>
(905) 629-5463

www.trapezegroup.com