



## Why Use MDW for Asset Management

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*“Public infrastructure provides the foundation for our quality of life and is critical to Ontario’s economic prosperity. It’s the heart and soul of our communities”* (Ministry of Public Infrastructure Renewal, 2007).

Asset Management includes the planning, design, construction, operation, maintenance, renewal and replacement of infrastructure assets used to provide services to municipal customers while, at the same time, carefully managing the scarce financial and human resources needed to achieve the goals and objectives of an asset management plan. All of this is accomplished under the close scrutiny of the public who pay for and are regular users of the municipality’s infrastructure assets and who increasingly demand improved levels of service in terms of safety, reliability, environmental impact, comfort and so on.

Asset Management is not new; it has always been a primary function of local government. What is new is incorporating what we have always done into a comprehensive and transparent asset management plan document that would be available for public review. In order to make decisions that are transparent and based on good information, a key element of asset management is up-to-date and accurate data for all assets included in an asset management plan. Municipal DataWorks provides a relational non-proprietary data repository (and more) upon which a municipality can build and update their asset management plan.