Brightly
A Siemens Company

2025 REPORT

Asset Management for Government Trends

A data-centric view of the key trends shaping the state of asset management for government today

The 2025 Asset Management for Government Trends Report

For local government leaders, managing public infrastructure is a delicate balancing act that involves financial oversight, operational efficiency, and long-term strategic planning. **Asset lifecycle management (ALM)** – the ongoing process of ensuring critical systems like roads, bridges, facilities, and utilities remain operational – is crucial for the financial health of the community and the safety and satisfaction of its residents.

As municipalities face growing pressures to maintain aging infrastructure, improve operational efficiency, and limit tax increases, effective ALM solutions are becoming more essential.

This report highlights the key trends and data points shaping the state of asset management for government today, as collected through **Brightly Software's 2025 State of U.S. Asset & Facilities Management Report** and the **ASCE American Infrastructure Consumer Study for 2025:**

Each of these areas reflects the evolving demands of asset management for state and local government and emphasizes the importance of strategic and analytical planning for maintaining and replacement of critical infrastructure. We believe understanding trends can help government leaders shape more efficient, sustainable, and transparent asset management strategies for their communities today and beyond.

A need for reliable data

The necessary shift toward data-driven decision-making in government is transforming how assets and infrastructure are managed and maintained. Gone are the days of relying on outdated methods like spreadsheets and manual tracking.

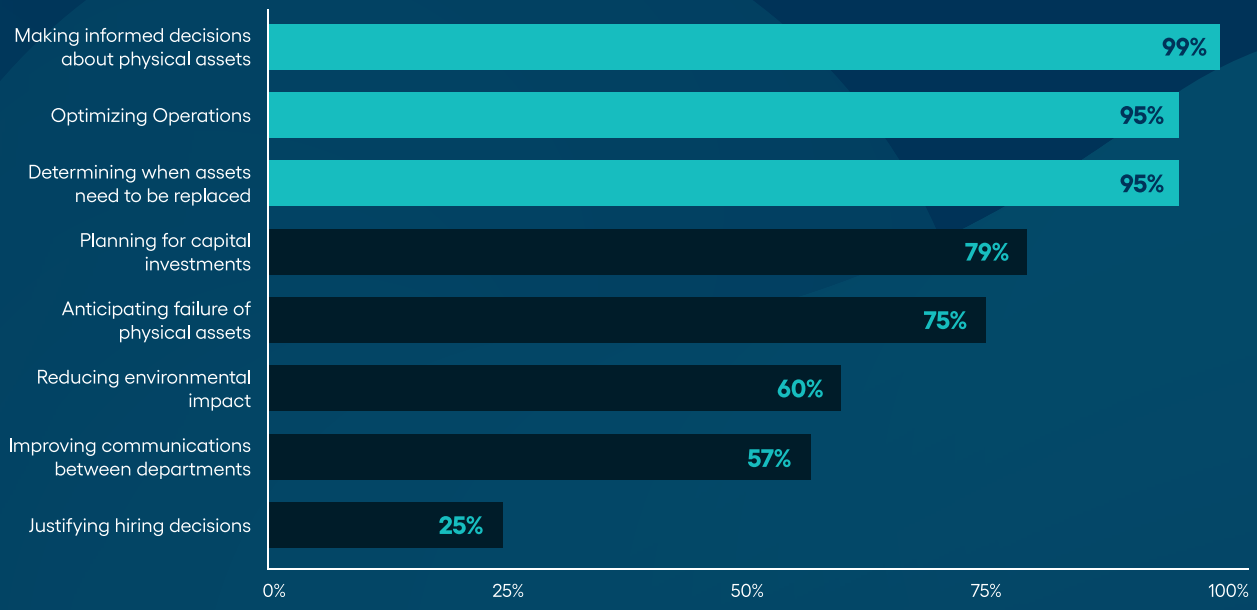
Today, asset lifecycle management is centered on knowing detailed information about your infrastructure (foundational data) that empowers government leaders to make more informed decisions that align with their long-term strategic goals and the needs of their community.

Nearly all **(99%)** government respondents say they use asset management data to make informed decisions about their physical assets and guide operational decisions on how best to improve infrastructure performance.

Beyond operational insights, asset data also plays a pivotal role in budgeting and forecasting, with **86%** of respondents leveraging this data to improve resource allocation, helping municipalities plan more efficiently and avoid budget disruptions. Additionally, **79%** of respondents use asset data for capital investment planning, while **57%** use it to improve communication between departments and **75%** leverage data to anticipate the failure of physical assets.

The growing impact of an asset management plan enables government leaders to better forecast future needs, prioritize maintenance, and allocate resources efficiently and effectively AND have the decisions backed up by internal data.

By adopting modern asset lifecycle management software, municipalities can accelerate and streamline their operations, reduce high costs associated with unplanned asset failures, and make smarter decisions that create more dependable and resilient infrastructure.



A shift toward preventive maintenance

66% of respondents reported that asset management software has helped them **better anticipate asset failures before they occur.**

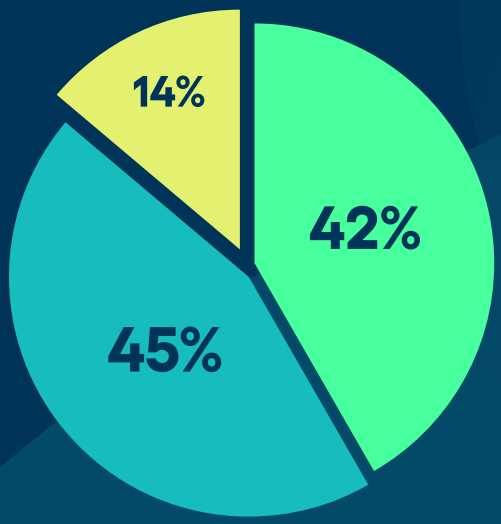
Preventive maintenance is the key activity to increase the longevity of public assets. Having a proactive approach in place can also help reduce the high costs associated with reactive repairs, which can run upwards of **30%** more than scheduled repairs.

Today, **96%** of local governments use asset management software to support preventive asset maintenance activities, recognizing the need to address issues before they arise. The majority **(86%)** of respondents said preventive asset maintenance is a moderate to high priority, while 14% called it a "slight" priority.

Additionally, **95%** of respondents say they use asset management systems to determine if and when an asset needs to be replaced, ensuring that decision-making is based on real-time data rather than guesswork. In fact, **66%** of respondents reported that asset management software has helped them better anticipate asset failures before they occur and **77%** of respondents say they use asset management software to plan for replacements and upgrades, ensuring that assets are replaced at the optimal time before they fail

Despite all this, a majority **(51%)** of government leaders say up to half of their maintenance work orders are still reactive, proving that there is still room to add more preventive strategies.

By shifting to preventive strategies, local governments can improve the reliability and safety of their infrastructure, while extending asset lifecycles and reducing costs. This proactive approach is essential for building more resilient, future-proof communities that can continue to meet residents' needs for years to come.



How Government Leaders Consider Preventive Maintenance

- High priority 42%
- Moderate priority 45%
- Slight priority 14%

Reliance on federal funding

As local governments work to manage critical infrastructure, federal funding has become an essential resource. However, too much reliance on federal support, raises significant concerns about the future availability and sustainability of this funding.

Research found that **80%** of American consumers agree that federal funding is essential for strengthening local infrastructure. Yet just **57%** say they are uncertain about their community receiving sufficient federal funding for future infrastructure projects. And **67%** say they are unsure how their community would fund improvements without federal capital, emphasizing just how critical these resources are for local governments.

Because of federal funding, U.S. infrastructure has seen an improvement in recent years. The American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) released its U.S. Infrastructure Grade for 2025, giving the country a grade of C (an improvement from its C- grade in 2021 and the highest since ASCE began issuing grades in 1998).

While this shows progress – and **62%** of American consumers agree that public infrastructure has improved in their communities over the past four years – there is still work to be done. Just **79%** of government leaders say they use asset management data to plan for capital investments, slightly lower than the **84%** of respondents in other industries who say the same. That means **roughly 1-in-5 decision-makers aren't leveraging the infrastructure data at their disposal when deciding when and where to invest capital funds for improvements.**

As local governments continue to prioritize asset management and the development of long-term capital plans, securing consistent and reliable federal funding will be crucial – and so will using data-driven insights to best prioritize where to allocate available resources. By doing so, community leaders can ensure that infrastructure improvements are not only sustainable but are also aligned with long-term goals for building resilient, future-ready communities.

C-

ASCE U.S. **Infrastructure Grade in 2021**

C

ASCE U.S. **Infrastructure Grade for 2025***

Highest since 1998

79% of government leaders say they use asset management data to plan for capital investments

Limited resources

Working with limited resources can be a significant challenge for local governments as they strive to maintain and enhance public infrastructure. **64%** of respondents said budget constraints are a consideration when determining how best to manage assets throughout their community.

The struggle to allocate sufficient funds to meet the growing demands of aging infrastructure, new projects, and unforeseen repairs creates significant hurdles in asset management. And local governments are facing increasing pressure to make the most out of limited resources. **ASCE survey data found that 57% of American consumers believe their towns are struggling with tight budgets.**

While these financial pressures are apparent, many local governments are finding ways to make the most of the limited resources they have. **55%** of respondents felt that their communities have benefited from government infrastructure bills passed in recent years and that the roads in their town are better than they were four years ago during the 2021 infrastructure study.

Modern ALM solutions can be a powerful tool in navigating budget constraints. For instance, **95%** of respondents in our State of Asset & Facilities Management report say they use asset management systems to determine if and when an asset needs to be replaced. And **79%** use data for capital investment planning, which allows them to allocate funding in the most cost-effective manner, even when budgets are tight.

By using data to inform decisions about infrastructure repairs, replacements, and upgrades, municipalities can prioritize their most pressing needs –bridges, schools, roads, parks, stormwater etc. – and funds are used in the most effective way possible.

The integration of data-driven insights into asset management practices can help local governments optimize spending, plan for future capital needs, and avoid costly emergency repairs. This is especially valuable for communities navigating budget limitations, as it ensures that every dollar spent is aligned with long-term community goals and used to enhance infrastructure resiliency.

Individual Infrastructure Grades from 2025 ASCE Report Card

Grade	Category
B	Ports
B-	Rail
C+	Broadband, Solid Waste
C	Bridges, Hazardous Waste
C-	Inland Waterways, Drinking Water, Public Parks
D+	Aviation, Dams, Energy, Levees, Roads, Schools, Wastewater
D	Stormwater, Transit

Source

Transparency and accountability

71% of American consumers want to know the condition of public infrastructure, even if it's uncomfortable

As public awareness of infrastructure conditions rises, so does the demand for transparency in how governments manage and fund infrastructure projects. Citizens expect to know the state of their roads, bridges, and public facilities, along with clear information on how improvements are funded and prioritized.

The 2025 American Infrastructure Consumer Study shows that **93%** of respondents notice the condition of roads and bridges, and **71%** prefer to know the condition of bridges, even if it's uncomfortable. However, **30%** of respondents feel that maintenance and repairs are not handled in a timely manner, highlighting a gap between public expectations and government performance.

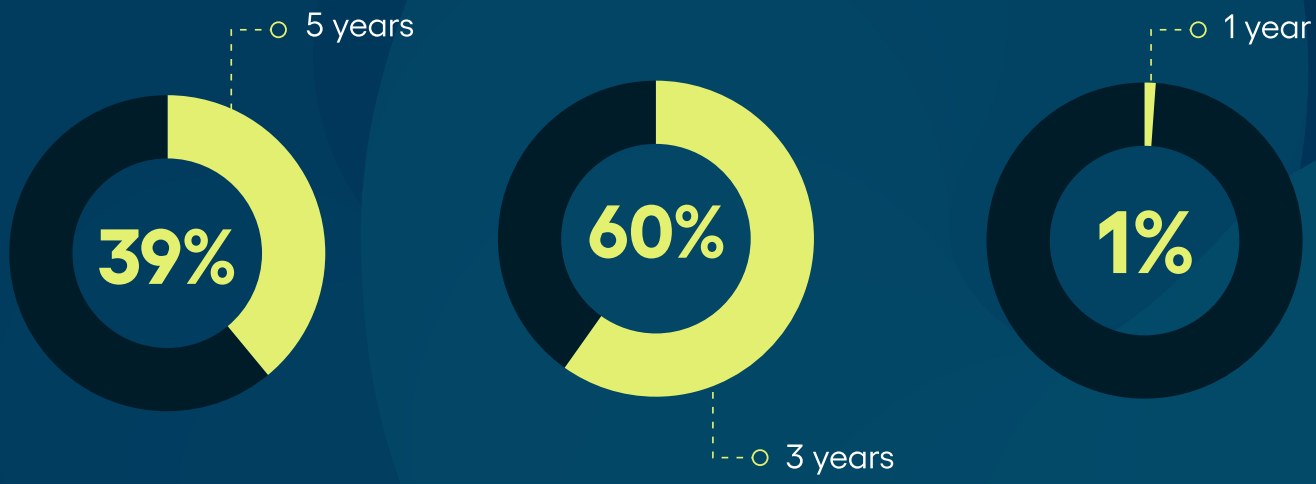
This gap is also evident in funding transparency. While **62%** agree that infrastructure has improved in their communities, **67%** are unsure how these improvements would be funded without federal support, emphasizing the need for clearer communication on funding sources.

Communities that leverage modern asset lifecycle management software can bridge this gap by providing real-time data on asset conditions and offering accurate, up-to-date reports to the public. **86%** of government leaders use ALM software for strategic planning and helping create long-term capital plans aligned with community needs. In fact, 60% have a three-year plan in place, while **39%** have a five-year capital plan.

Create data-driven capital plans can enhance transparency by making it clear how resources are allocated and why future investments are prioritized. This also boosts accountability by providing measurable goals and progress benchmarks.

With a solid, data-backed capital plan, cities and municipalities can show their communities exactly how funds are being used, fostering more trust and ensuring that infrastructure improvements are both well-managed and sustainable.

How Long Are Communities' Capital Plans?



About Brightly Software

Brightly Software, a Siemens company, enables organizations to manage the entire lifecycle of their assets, facilities and infrastructure. As the global leader in intelligent asset management solutions for more than 25 years, Brightly's sophisticated cloud-based platform is expertly designed to improve capital planning through smarter, data-driven decision making, empower technicians to predict, prioritize and manage preventative maintenance activities, and support organizations to achieve sustainability, compliance and efficiency goals. Combined with award-winning training, legendary support and managed services, more than 12,000 clients worldwide depend on Brightly to optimize their teams, operations and strategic planning initiatives. For more information, visit brightlysoftware.com

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