

Proposed Transportation Work Program Project

Proposed by: Herzog / Schlappi

1. **Title:** Internal Truck Travel Survey
2. **Brief Description:** Conduct a survey of a stratified sample of employers in the MAG region to obtain data on truck travel patterns. Data would include, but not necessarily be limited to, numbers of truck trips and time of day they are made, trip origins and destinations, types of vehicles used, and commodities hauled. Truck trip making by vehicle classification would be related to socio-economic/land use variables. These variables would be the same ones that MAG has in its database, and for which it develops projections, facilitating the forecasting of future truck trip activity throughout the region. Truck trip length distributions by vehicle classification would be developed for use in truck travel modeling. Base year truck and commodity survey data would be compiled in tables and charts for use in regional freight planning.
3. **How the project fits with MAG's mission:** During 2002-03, MAG expanded its freight planning effort with the development of a Regional Freight Assessment. This study provided an overview of the major freight transportation modes serving the region and assembled data on the nature of commodity flows into and out of the MAG area. One of the key findings of the study was that trucking plays the dominant role in the movement of goods in the region. Therefore, future freight planning should logically focus on trucking. The ability to model truck movements in the region will be a key element in conducting this planning effort. In addition, city and state users of MAG traffic modeling output make use of information on future truck volumes to design new facilities and upgrade existing streets and highways. Improved forecasts of truck travel will enhance the value of MAG traffic model output to these users.
4. **Resources Required:**
 - a. Consultant: \$350,000 study budget.
 - b. Staff: project management - \$30,000 (480 man-hrs.)
 - c. Other:
 - d. Proposed Budget: \$380,000.
 - e. Need for on-going funding or update: periodic update of truck travel data on a 5-10 cycle.
5. **Expected Outcome:** Truck travel data for use in updating and enhancing MAG's truck travel model. Base year truck and commodity survey data for use in regional freight planning.

6. **Benefit to MAG Member Agencies:** A regional freight planning process that includes the capability to assess future truck travel needs, taking into account the location and nature of development growth patterns. Also, data on future truck volumes on highways and streets that will assist in more effective facility designs that address trucking impacts on factors such as: pavements, noise, air quality, safety, traffic management.
7. **Benefit to the Public:** Street and highways that are better able to accommodate the increasing demands placed on them by truck travel.