FMTF Data/GIS Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: **Wednesday, June 30, 2021**

Time: **3:00 P.M. – 4:00 P.M. EDT**

Where: **Web Conference**

Attendee	Agency
Andrew Tyrell	FDOT District 7
Cesar Segovia	Turnpike
Dan Beaty	HNTB
Dan Macmurphy	Traf-O-Data
Danyu Shi	BCC Engineering
David Farmer	Metro Forecasting Models
David Hutchinson	Sarasota/Manatee MPO
Donnie Arbeau	Central Florida RPC
Elaine Martino	Martino Planning
Frank Tabatabaee	FDOT Central Office
Gabe Matthews	FDOT Central Office
Gary Kramer	Emerald Coast Regional Council
Heath Lupton	Cambridge Systematics
Hoyt Davis	Gannett Fleming
Jamie Snow	Stantec
Jason Learned	FDOT District 5
Jeanette Berk	Gannett Fleming
Jongsun Won	PTV
Krishnan Viswanathan	Cambridge Systematics
Richard Pascoe	Stantec
Roberto Miquel	WRA
Sheldon Harrison	Cambridge Systematics
Srin Varanasi	Corradino Group
SungRyong Han	BCC Engineering
Terry Corkery	FDOT Central Office
Thomas Hill	FDOT Central Office
Zhong-Ren Peng	University of Florida

Meeting started – 3:00pm

Introduction
- Gary Kramer opened the meeting.

Employment Data distribution for Districts and MPOs
- Frank Tabatabaee provided presentation on the D&B data availability and protocols for distribution to FDOT Districts and MPOs
  - Employment data is packaged and ready, with one last minute item to take care of internally at FDOT before its released.
  - The acquisition of the data from Dun & Bradstreet (D&B) was followed by a data cleanup effort and data acquisition from the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) to check against.
  - Wanted to ensure that the impacts of COVID-19 were reflected in the data, but there was little difference between January, June, and September D&B datasets.
  - The DEO data was acquired to check the D&B data against and DEO data showed drastic effects that weren't visible in the D&B data.
  - The discrepancies led to the development of an adjustment factor that will be included in the package.
  - There for you to consider, if you decide to.
  - Factors are based on 2- and 3-digit NAICS codes
  - Decided to use the January 2020 D&B data would be best to use for base year employment.
  - Important to note that the data is the intellectual property of D&B, therefore:
  - All requests must come via valid FDOT and MPO email domains.
  - Generic email domain requests, such as Gmail, Yahoo, etc. will not be accepted.
  - Requests from contractors, consultants, and universities are not accepted.
  - All FDOT and MPOs who receive the data can share the data with their contractors, consultants, and universities who work directly on their behalf, on their project and at their own discretion.
  - **D&B data cannot be used for any other projects** unless approved by FDOT or MPO.
  - The license agreement will be part of the data package and recipients of this data should review and adhere to the terms of the license agreement.
  - Email requests should include purpose/usage of the data.
  - Adjustment factors are included in the dataset for the COVID-19 impact.
  - All requests should be sent to Frank Tabatabaee (frank.tabatabaee@dot.state.fl.us).
- Questions/Discussion
  - Are the adjustment factors related to the recommended factors?

- We did not adjust the data
- We used the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd quarter DEO data and created the factors that can then be applied to the D&B data at your discretion.
- ○ Are there any plans to get any data for 2022?
  - We only purchase every 5 years for the base year update.
  - We're getting a maintenance of the data (technical support and data usage) for 3 years, but not a full update of the data.
- ○ Will there be an accompanying tech memo?
  - Yes, we're currently refining it.
- ○ Will the data include address data?
  - Yes, the data has full addresses and latitude/longitude information.

Socioeconomic Data Use Survey

- Krishnan Viswanathan provided a presentation on the results of the data use survey conducted earlier this year, asking individuals what data they plan to use for their next model update cycle.
  - ○ There were 21 survey respondents, with a 50/50 public and private sector split.
  - ○ Most respondents indicated that they plan to use the 2019 traffic and employment data with the 2020 population data.
    - Approximately one-third of respondents haven't yet decided what data they plan to use.
  - ○ Most respondents plan to start their model updates this year (2021) or next year (2022).
- Questions/Discussion
  - ○ Is there anyone who is planning to purchase data for 2019?
    - Users may be planning to use the January 2020 data as a "pre-COVID" benchmark
  - ○ One comment about the 2020 Census data:
    - The pandemic has seen a lot of movement from state to state that may not have been captured in the 2020 Census since it is a point-in-time database as of April 2020.
    - District 5 is likely going to do a 2023 model validation to ensure things are "normal" by that time.
      - Most local governments conduct their traffic counts in odd-numbered years, giving District 5 more traffic data to supplement FDOT counts.
  - ○ Did Turnpike see a decrease in revenue?
    - Yes, but most facilities are back to normal.
    - Some facilities are doing better than others.

Census 2020 Update

- Krishnan provided a brief update on the status of the 2020 Census data.
  - State-level totals released on April 26, 2021.
  - Restricting data expected to be released on August 16, 2021
  - This will be the first dataset with differential privacy, which infuses statistical noise in the data
    - The epsilon serves as a dial that the Census can use to add or reduce noise within the data.
    - Invariants (no noise included):
      - State population numbers;
      - Total number of housing units in each census block;
      - The number of prisons, college dorms and other group-living quarters in each block.
  - Transportation implications:
    - Determine data products in advance.
      - Might not get products relevant to our needs.
    - Invariants can create mathematical impossibilities such as inconsistences between the number of households and the household population.
    - Only positive whole numbers will be released, which can cause TAZ distortions due to state-level invariants.
      - Small blocks will get bigger due to lack of negative numbers or fractions.
- Questions/Discussion
  - Has anyone looked to see, overall once we start aggregating into larger geographies, how much of problem this will be?
    - Don't know the answer, but we have to assume that the inflations will carry over, rather than wash out.
    - Might be worth it to download the datasets and test it once they are released.
  - Will any new MPOs be forming in Florida?
    - Not at the moment, but there are some areas debating whether they'd like to be incorporating into an existing MPO.
  - When will the urbanized area information be released?
    - As of January 2021, it's slated for May 2022
    - FDOT Transportation Data and Analytics Office will be coordinating with the Districts in the smoothing process.
    - For more information:
      - https://ctpp.transportation.org/urban-areas-for-the-2020-census/

Meeting adjourned – 4:00pm