



Full Model Task Force Meeting

December 5-7, 2012
Orlando, FL

MEETING NOTES – December 7, 2012

Florida Travel Surveys Program

Terry Corkery, FDOT CO and Steve Ruegg, PB

- All PowerPoint presentations are now available online at www.fsutmsonline.net
- Discussion items
 - Scott Seeburger (FDOT D4) asked about rolling vs. periodic data collection. The answer to that question depends on the type of survey. Scott Seeburger (FDOT D4) asked if the MTF is going to see more suggestions about how the program is going to proceed and felt that ultimately there is going to be the need to arrive at a more precise decision. Vidya Mysore (FDOT CO) said that when the decision was made to participate in the NHTS add-on program the lesson learned was that the adequacy of the data did not meet the demands of the modeling community. So learning from these lessons is critical to moving forward. The message from FDOT was to justify the funding needs that drove the need to develop a travel surveys program.
 - Denise Bunnewith (NFTPO) mentioned that the fiscal hit is not as much when doing it on a one-time basis.
 - Scott Seeburger (FDOT D4) mentioned it might be worth going through the purpose of each survey.
 - Shi-Chiang Li (FDOT D4) mentioned that it is important that the household survey be done in a timely fashion and the MTF institutionalize how the data feeds into the model stream and decision making. Endorsement of this document will allow FDOT to go forward and request funding.
 - Scott Seeburger (FDOT D4) asked if a legislative budget request (LBR) can be submitted only from CO or from the districts as well. Terry Corkery (FDOT CO) mentioned that it is typically forwarded from the districts and Central Office.
 - MTF members suggested that defining more details into the program will be very helpful.
 - Myung Sung (GF) suggested that it is a worthwhile effort to proceed with this program.
 - Mike Escalante (Gainesville MPO) asked if establishment or commercial surveys collect delivery trucks etc. Krishnan Viswanathan (CDM Smith) mentioned that it is one of the most difficult things to survey as they do not follow regular travel patterns and are more demand driven. Establishment surveys might be an option for them.
 - Neil Lyn (FDOT D6) asked how long are we committed to this program and asked if it is a long-term endeavor? Vidya Mysore (FDOT CO) said that it is a long-term endeavor.
 - Danny Lamb (FDOT D7) asked for clarification on what the MTF was being asked to endorse. Terry Corkery/Vidya Mysore (FDOT CO) said that the need is for endorsement of the MTF to proceed with the program. Scott Seeburger (FDOT D4) also asked for clarification if the group was being asked to endorse the nine types of survey. Danny Lamb (FDOT D7) asked for clarification that the endorsement was flexible enough. Scott Seeburger (FDOT D4) mentioned that while it is obvious to endorse it, more definition is needed to put the program together.
 - Sue Faulkner (Collier MPO) asked for a better understanding of what the MPO contribution would be. Paul Larson (Palm Beach MPO) asked that it might be necessary to present to the MPOAC. Danny Lamb (FDOT D7) noted cost savings in conducting data collection statewide, rather than individual MPO by MPO. Dan Beaty (Atkins) said that having an independent data collection program allows for customization versus the limitations imposed by the nature of the NHTS. All the MTF is being asked to endorse is to proceed with defining the program.



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- Shi-Chiang Li (FDOT D4) mentioned that the composition of the funding is not known at the moment. Clarification is needed on whether funding for the program will be from a new or existing source.
- Shi-Chiang Li (FDOT D4) suggested that the language be modified to not focus only on modeling. He suggested changing the language to focus on other needs of the data, too.
- Mike Escalante (Gainesville MPO) asked if we are using all the existing data adequately and is it an issue. Denise Bunnewith (NFTPO) mentioned that it is incumbent upon the MTF to collect its own data.
- Pam Richardson (Sumter MPO) asked for the change of language to remove the focus on modeling. Doing so would improve the chances of support from the MPOAC.

Action Items

- Paul Larson (Palm Beach MPO) proposed the motion be adopted and Scott Seeburger (FDOT D4) seconded the motion. The motion was supported unanimously. The resolution reads:

“The Model Task Force endorses the development, funding and implementation of a Florida Statewide Travel Behavior Inventory program to facilitate economic growth and development, improvement of the transportation system and improved travel forecasts and analysis throughout the state of Florida.”

Closing Thoughts

Vidya Mysore, FDOT CO

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 - There is a lot of interest from other states on MTF activities. Vidya Mysore (FDOT CO) asked the MTF to give the state a framework of current and future needs.
 - He also exhorted the MTF to come up with better ways to tell the data and modeling story.
 - Vidya Mysore (FDOT CO) said that if we do not build the tool now we will miss the boat and modeling will lose its relevance. There is a need to bring modeling to the forefront of DOT activities.
 - Vidya Mysore (FDOT CO) mentioned that a lot of progress has been achieved in the last four years and commended the MTF for being at the forefront of advancing the state of practice in the state.

Meeting Adjourned at 11:00 AM.