TMIP ✦ FMIP
Better Methods. Better Outcomes

About TMIP

The Travel Model Improvement Program (TMIP) has conducted research, provided technical assistance, and delivered training to local, regional and state transportation planning professionals since 1994. Much has changed over this period, with shifts in transport policy, advances in modeling theories, and progressions in practical lessons. Throughout, TMIP has worked to advance modeling capabilities and support transportation professionals as they respond to current and future challenges. Today, TMIP continues its mission of improving analysis practices to ensure that transportation professionals are well equipped to inform and support strategic transportation decisions.

TMIP Vision

TMIP provides technical support and promotes knowledge and information exchange in the transportation planning and modeling community.

TMIP Mission

TMIP helps transportation planners provide better information through effective use of quantitative methods and tools.

TMIP Strategic Goals

Outreach: Get transportation planning research into practice and promote best practices in travel data analyses and quantitative methods application.

Agency Support: Build transportation planning agencies institutional capacity to effectively apply analytical tools in the transportation planning decision-making process.

Tool Enhancement: Develop the TMIP Toolbox as a guide for applying travel analysis tools to support data driven, performance-based transportation planning.

Through their cooperation, FHWA's Travel Model Improvement Program (TMIP) and Freight Model Improvement Program (FMIP) work to improve analysis practices to ensure that transportation decision making is data driven and performance based. The close collaboration of these two programs has many benefits. Frequently, the same staff are responsible for both freight and general transportation analysis and modeling, so both programs serve largely the same community. Although each domain has data particular to it, freight and general travel analysis employ many of the same analysis methods, so there are many opportunities for knowledge transfer and cross-application of new methods. Working together, TMIP and FMIP help to continually improve the analysis that supports transportation decision making.

Peer Reviews · Data · Tools · $f(x) = ln\sum$ · Webinars · Analysis

U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Highway Administration

What is FMIP?

The Freight Model Improvement Program (FMIP) is a collaborative effort of the transportation research community, consultants, public agencies and their private sector partners to improve the state-of-the-art and the state-of-the-practice in freight-related data, models, network and logistical analyses, and their application to transportation policy, planning, and decision-making in federal, state, regional and local governments.

FMIP shares goals with FHWA's Transportation Modeling Improvement Program (TMIP) of improving analysis practices to ensure that transportation professionals are well equipped to inform and support strategic transportation decisions. In addition to periodic webinars and online conversations, FMIP offers a web-based collaboration resource with the following components:

Freight Forum: fosters new approaches to designing and implementing freight analytics.

Freight Models: creates a place to promote and disseminate breakthroughs.

Freight Data: provides links to multimodal data sets to populate models.

Bibliography: offers an extensive list of relevant citations.

Contact Us

Please send your feedback, ideas, and comments:

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FMIP: Vidya Mysore - Vidya.Mysore@dot.gov or FMIP@dot.gov.

Email List

The TMIP-L email discussion list is subscribed to by over 1,600 members of the transportation forecasting and simulation profession from around the globe. Users post issues or questions to the list, starting discussions among the membership. Many hot topics in analysis, modeling and simulation are initially vetted through the list. To subscribe to the TMIP e-mail list, go to the TMIP website:

http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/planning/tmip/community/list_serv.cfm.

Webinars

TMIP sponsors regular on-line Web Knowledge and Information Exchanges on topics of interest to the modeling and simulation community. Webinars include both Workshops Over the Web (WOWs) and Web Knowledge and Information Exchange (WKIEs) on relevant topics to the transportation planning community. Typically held monthly, these webinars provide a great opportunity to stay current on all aspects of analysis, modeling and simulation issues. For more information, please go to TMIP website:

http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/planning/tmip/community/webinars.cfm

Peer Review Program

Planning agencies can use peer reviews to ensure that technical processes they are applying or developing meet the agency's needs, and/or the standards of professional practice. Peer reviews of travel forecasting and data collection procedures are crucial to planning agency model development and improvement efforts. TMIP supports peer reviews by assisting agencies in panel assembly, logistics and funding for travel. For more information, please go to TMIP website:

http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/planning/tmip/resources/peer_review_program/

Peer Exchanges

TMIP sponsors peer exchanges, which are facilitated discussions on a focused topic relating to planning analysis. These exchanges are very effective in disseminating techniques being used by those leading the profession on a particular subject. The information is conveyed not only to the participants, but also to others in the profession through the documentation of the peer exchange.

Research

Research serves long-term and short-term needs to both improve current planning tools and create completely new approaches to analysis, modeling and simulation. Research publications are available on the TMIP website:

http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/planning/tmip/publications/

What is the Freight Analytics Community?

FMIP is initiating a collaborative, long-term community of practice that includes all freight modes and serves the analytics-related interests of both public and private sectors. For example, community members' interests in freight analytics could span:

- Demand modeling;
- Data and information management;
- Planning and operation analyses;
- Safety and security applications; or
- Environmental impact and sustainability analysis.

The core group of the Freight Analytics Community has representatives from the 11 agencies that received awards in the Freight Demand Modeling and Data Improvement (C20) part of the Second Strategic Highway Research Program (SHRP2), plus the awardees' contractors, public sector partners and FHWA representatives.

The Freight Analytics Community will:

- Share lessons learned and best practices to accelerate innovation;

- Make resources and knowledge easily accessible to build technical capacity of individuals and agencies;

- Have a diversity of viewpoints (private, public, academic) to bridge the gap between research and practice; and

- Develop a strong, active, and well-connected community to help make a compelling case for improved freight analytic data and methods.

Over the next two years the core group will build on its SHRP2 project experiences and expand to other freight professionals who share their goals of:

- Finding time or cost savings via freight modeling and data analysis;

- Increasing use of new freight-related tools and methods; and

- Making better decision-making.

Over the coming years, the Freight Analytics Community will serve as an interactive forum in which a wide range of practitioners and researchers can collaborate around cutting-edge freight issues, as well as advocate for innovative practices serving freight planning and decision-making.