

TO: Regional Transportation Commission – Policy Workshop

FROM: Lyle Broschat, Planning Technician
Kim Shultz, Senior Transportation Planner

RE: Updated Pages to the *2004 Transportation Monitoring Report*

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the Regional Transportation Commission accept updated pages to the *2004 Transportation Monitoring Report*.

BACKGROUND

In April 2005, the Commission accepted the *2004 Transportation Monitoring Report (TMR)*. Shortly thereafter, staff became aware that data included in the report had been updated by the respective source agencies.

DISCUSSION

As you know, the *Transportation Monitoring Report* is a compilation of countywide transportation data for reference purposes. It is not a policy document. The *TMR* includes data from traffic counts conducted by the SCCRTC and data from other sources. All data sources are listed in the *TMR*.

Collision Information

As mentioned at your last meeting, through inquiries from the Santa Cruz Sentinel reporter, Genevieve Bookwalter, we found that there was an inconsistency in the coverage area of collision data reported in the *2004 TMR*. Original data reported for 1997 and 1998 was provided by the local CHP office and covered only data for state highways and local roads. Since that time, countywide data has been collected and made available through CHP's website using the Statewide Integrated Traffic Systems (SWITRS) database that includes data collected for city streets and roads, as well as state highways. Countywide data is also now available from that same source for 1997 and 1998. Accordingly, staff has updated Figure 24: California Highway Patrol Collisions Summary, 1997-2003, found on page 23 of the *2004 TMR (Attachment 1)*. All data shown on Figure 24 is taken from CHP SWITRS Annual Report, Table 8A, Collisions, for the respective years shown.

Projected Vehicle Miles of Travel

In response to AMBAG's review of the Draft *2005 Regional Transportation Plan* in late March, updated travel demand data was received based on AMBAG's new travel demand model. This updated material was not included in the approved *2004 TMR* because it was not yet available.

Now that it is available, staff has updated Figure 10: Projected Vehicle Miles of Travel for Santa Cruz County, found on page 15 of the *2004 TMR* ([Attachment 2](#)).

Note there is a significant difference in Total Vehicle Miles Traveled, reported in the far right column of the table, between the updated model results (Year 2000 – 6,059,519 VMT and Year 2030 – 7,764,079 VMT) and the previous model’s travel projections (Year 2000 – 4,472,034 VMT and Year 2030 - 6,278,162 VMT; see [Attachment 3](#)). This difference between the two model results is principally due to inclusion of all local streets and roads in the new model’s roadway network for which travel demand is recorded. AMBAG’s previous travel model did not include minor arterial and collector roads throughout the county, hence travel demand on these streets was not captured in the total vehicle miles traveled. As of this writing, the variations of countywide traffic projections generated by the new travel demand model are limited, so a direct comparison of the old and new model results by roadway classification is not possible.

Copies of the Updated *TMR*

The updated pages will be included in the *TMR* available on the RTC’s website, and in future distribution copies. Commissioners received a copy of the *2004 TMR* in your April RTC agenda and we recommend that you keep the copy for future reference. Please substitute updated pages 15 ([Attachment 2](#)) and page 23 ([Attachment 1](#)), respectively. Commissioners wanting a new corrected copy of the *2004 TMR* should contact staff and one will be provided.

SUMMARY

Updated data for the *2004 TMR* is offered for the California Highway Patrol Collisions Summary, 1997-2003 ([Attachment 1](#), Figure 24, page 23), and the Projected Vehicle Miles of Travel ([Attachment 2](#), Figure 10, page 15). These updated pages should be substituted in the *2004 TMR*, or contact staff for a completely new copy of the *2004 TMR*.

Attachments:

1. Updated Page 23, Figure 24: California Highway Patrol Collisions Summary, 1997-2003, *2004 Transportation Monitoring Report*. Source: CHP SWITRS Table 8A – Collisions
2. Updated Page 15, Figure 10: Projected Vehicle Miles of Travel for Santa Cruz County, *2004 Transportation Monitoring Report*. Source: AMBAG, March/April 2004
3. Original Page 15, Figure 10: Projected Vehicle Miles of Travel for Santa Cruz County, *2004 Transportation Monitoring Report*. Source: AMBAG, December 2003