

LONG TERM PAVEMENT PERFORMANCE PROGRAM DIRECTIVE



For the Technical Direction of the LTPP Program



Program Area: Traffic Monitoring **Directive Number:** TDP-18
Date: April 18, 2000 **Supersedes:** TDP -10, 11, 12
Subject: Implementation of “Guide to LTPP Traffic Data Collection and Processing”

Attached for your immediate implementation please find the April 11, 2000 edition of the “Guide to LTPP Traffic Data Collection and Processing” (TRF DCG). The TRF DCG supersedes Chapter 4 of the LTPP Data Collection Guide and TDP-10, TDP-11 and TDP-12. Because of the length of the document an electronic version is provided on diskette for contractor use. A hard copy may be printed as needed.

Regional contractors should distribute copies of the TRF DCG to the LTPP and Traffic coordinators within each State or Province in their region. A cover memo similar to the draft provided with this directive should be used. Hard copy and/or electronic versions may be provided to State and Provincial contacts as the region deems appropriate.

Regions may continue to accept sheet data submitted on the old forms. It is expected that this will be limited to sheets 1, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15. No additional historical (pre-1990) data is to be requested from the States and Provinces.

No data modification has been made to any sheet but Sheet 1, which now includes a provision for reporting changes of functional classification.

Submission of Traffic Sheet 16 should be requested for all sites with monitored traffic. This sheet should be included with the first submission of monitored data after calibration for sites at which continuous data is collected. At those sites where only samples are collected, the sheet should accompany the submission of the sampled data, since sites should be calibrated prior to each sample. If calibration information is submitted for calibration sessions prior to the issuance of this directive, those completed sheets will be entered in the LTPP IMS. This sheet is not intended to be restricted for use at core SPS projects as LTPP is concerned about the quality of all of the traffic data it processes.

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SAMPLE COVER MEMO

LTPP Directive TDP-18: Implementation of “Guide to LTPP Traffic Data Collection and Processing”

LTPP has issued to its regional contractors “A Guide to LTPP Traffic Data Collection and Processing”, also known as the TRF DCG. The document replaces Chapter 4 in the LTPP Data Collection Guide dated October 28, 1993. The TRF DCG addresses changes made in the traffic data collection process since this chapter was first published. Emphasis in this chapter is on program’s beginning. The TRF DCG now incorporates, in addition, the guidelines on monitoring requirements and calibration procedures. As a part of these changes, information is now being requested that summarizes the calibration procedures used.

Reflecting LTPP’s emphasis on understanding data quality, a new sheet to record information on calibration has been added to the guide. This sheet, Traffic Sheet 16, is being requested for all monitored data sites from this point in time on. Both a copy of the sheet and instructions for completing it are found in Chapter 6 of the TRF DCG. This sheet should be included with the first submission of monitored data after site calibration for sites at which continuous data is collected. At those sites where only samples are collected, the sheet should accompany the submission of the sampled data, since sites should be calibrated prior to each sample. If calibration information is available to complete the sheet for calibration sessions prior to this data, those completed sheets, if submitted, will be entered in the LTPP IMS.

Summary of sheet changes:

- C Space has been included on Traffic Sheet 1 to report changes in functional class. However, no other information changes are included on Sheets 1 to 15.
- C All sheets have been reworded to reflect the fact that they apply to both GPS and SPS sections. However, no information on traffic prior to 1990 is being requested for either GPS or SPS locations with the distribution of the TRF DCG.
- C The codes used within the IMS have been incorporated on the sheets so that data users have a ready reference to their meaning. This has not affected sheet content or structure.

Since the level of changes to the sheets is minor, submissions will continue to be accepted on the old sheets.