

## **Standardization of Life-Cycle Cost Analysis in Florida**

Terrel Shaw and Greg Alford, Reynolds, Smith and Hills, Inc.; and Gary Sokolow and Doug McLeod, Florida Department of Transportation

### **Abstract**

This paper will summarize the result of an effort prepared for the Florida Department of Transportation in standardizing life-cycle cost analyses performed for the Department. This effort was performed in response to the planning requirements of the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 (ISTEA) and the National Highway System Designation Act of 1995 (NHSDA). ISTEA required life-cycle costs to be considered as a factor in metropolitan and state-wide planning. The NHSDA requires that a life-cycle cost analysis be performed for any investment in the National Highway System of \$25,000,000 or more.

This study included (1) the analysis and documentation of existing software available for the economic analysis of transportation projects to life-cycle costing, (2) the development of a spreadsheet based software appropriate for systems planning and project planning applications, and (3) development of a handbook for the preparation of life-cycle cost analysis. The paper will present a summary of the assessment of existing software, including Microbencost (Texas Transportation Institute: 1994), HUCA (New York Department of Transportation: 1993) and BCR (Florida Department of Transportation: 1978). A summary of the input variables, application and use of the FDOT software and recommended practice provided in the FDOT Life-Cycle Cost Analysis Software will also be provided.