

**APPENDIX VB**

**CITY OF AUSTIN**

**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND**

**TRANSPORTATION INITIATIVE**

**ARTERIAL-STREET SURVEILLANCE AND INCIDENT**

**MANAGEMENT SYSTEM**

### Table of Contents

Introduction..... VB-1

Organization of the Report ..... VB-1

Guiding Principles..... VB-1

Arterial-Street ITS Recommendations ..... VB-2

Enhanced Signal System..... VB-2

Video Surveillance System..... VB-5

Management Center..... VB-10

Traveler Information..... VB-12

Dynamic Lane Control Signs..... VB-17

Advanced Traffic Controllers..... VB-18

Video Image Detection..... VB-19

Adaptive Signal Control..... VB-21

Incident Management Program ..... VB-25

Signal Preemption..... VB-28

Transit Signal Priority..... VB-30

Arterial-Street Travel Time Measurement..... VB-33

Reversible Lanes..... VB-35

Tentative Deployment Schedule..... VB-37

References..... VB-39

### List of Figures

City of Austin Tentative ITS Deployment Schedule\_Table VB-1..... VB-38

## INTRODUCTION

The ultimate objective of the City of Austin Arterial-Street Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) Plan is to define the role of arterial streets in the broader context of the Austin Area-Wide ITS Plan. These plans should compliment one another. The final product of the Arterial-Street ITS Plan are ITS deployment priorities. These priorities allow the City of Austin Transportation Division to focus resources (i.e., funding and personnel) on deploying the Arterial Street ITS Plan. At the same time, the Transportation Division will provide the necessary assistance to other transportation organizations planning, coordinating, and implementing ITS projects.

## ORGANIZATION OF THE REPORT

The remaining Arterial-Street ITS Plan is organized into three sections. The first section identifies the guiding principles used to develop the Arterial-Street ITS Plan. Recommended ITS priorities for the City of Austin Transportation Division are identified in the second section. The final section provides an estimated deployment schedule.

## GUIDING PRINCIPLES

The following principles were used to guide the development of the Arterial-Street ITS Plan. These principles were originally adapted from work performed by the Texas Transportation Institute for the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT)<sup>1</sup>. Although these principles were used to develop the Arterial-Street Plan, they should be reviewed periodically as Austin continues to plan and to deploy ITS elements.

- Clearly identifies, and preferably quantifies problems (problem driven) 0
- Illustrates how ITS recommendations will facilitate the movement of people, goods, and/or services
- Strongly considers proven ITS strategies and technologies
- Involves maximum number of partners
- Minimizes costs
- Pursues compatibility with existing and future systems (open architecture)
- Supports expanded deployment (building block approach)
- Supports other transportation management/planning efforts
- Supports other community desires/priorities
- Maximizes operational efficiency and safety
- Fosters private sector participation

## **ARTERIAL-STREET ITS RECOMMENDATIONS**

### **Enhanced Signal System**

#### Definition

The signal system primarily consists of seven components: (1) central software, (2) central hardware, (3) communication medium, (4) local controller and hardware, (5) controller software, (6) detectors, and (7) database(s). These components require varying levels of enhancement in order to perform the functions/services described in the remaining recommendations. All of the remaining recommendations (video surveillance camera system, management center, traveler information, etc.) should be considered in the design of the enhanced signal system since they will influence the signal system design.

Benefits an Enhanced Signal System Begins to Provide

1. Reduced recurring and non-recurring congestion
2. Reduced emergency response times
3. Improved on-time transit performance
4. Benefits identified in subsequent recommendations

Recommendations

1. Organize a team whose members have a stake in the design of the signal system. This team would provide input to ensure their needs are met in designing the signal system. These organizations can also provide a source of funds for design and implementation. At a minimum, the City of Austin Transportation Division, Texas Department of Transportation, Capital Metropolitan Transportation Authority, public safety organizations, and Travis County should be represented on this team. Consideration should also be given to involving the University of Texas Center for Transportation Research (CTR) since they possess a wealth of knowledge about transportation operations. Although this team should assist with developing the request for proposals, it is essential that they be involved in defining the consultant's scope-of-work to ensure their needs are addressed.
2. Identify funding sources for design.
3. Develop a request for proposals (RFP) to hire a consultant to design an enhanced signal system. Request the Greater Austin Area Telecommunications Network (GAATN) staff to review the RFP. At a minimum, the enhanced signal system should provide the functions (1) described in the remaining recommendations and (2) identified by the Transportation Division staff during 1995. Those desired functions identified in 1995 were:
  - a. Provide integration of signal control, preemption, cameras, dynamic lane control signs, changeable message signs, video from a mobile source, and school zone flashers which utilizes a distributive architecture to support a variety of communication mediums, performing multiple tasks simultaneously, and remote access,
  - b. Provide traffic responsive capability,

- c. Provide real-time traffic volumes (turning movement and directional), speeds, travel times, and queue lengths,
  - d. Continuously updates color coded maps to display problem areas,
  - e. Recommend streets which can accommodate diversion during congestion,
  - f. Enable emergency vehicle signal preemption and transit signal priority while maintaining signal coordination and identifying time, agency, and impact of preemption/priority,
  - g. Share real-time data between City, TxDOT, public safety, and Capital Metro, and
  - h. Perform diagnostics (e.g., loop and bulb failures).
4. Hire a consultant to design the enhanced signal system. The level of detail required in the design should be sufficient to initiate deployment once their design is complete. It may be desirable to retain the consultant should be retained to assist with implementing the design and remaining recommendations (e.g., selection of video image detection equipment). Retaining the consultant should be based on their ability to satisfy our expectations. An element of their final product should include an implementation schedule identifying (a) the order in which to implement the design and (b) when the functions described in the remaining recommendations come on-line. The design should be coordinated with the development of the regional management center discussed later in the text.
5. Identify funding sources for implementation.
6. Implement the design.

### Justification

1. System Design To implement the remaining recommendations requires enhancing one or several signal system components. Designing these components independent of one another may lead to incompatibilities. Subsequent and unnecessary expenditures would then be required to overcome these incompatibilities. Therefore, it is recommended that all components of the signal system be considered in the design.

Potential Partners with the Department of Public Works and Transportation

Texas Department of Transportation  
Capital Metropolitan Transportation Authority  
Public Safety Organizations  
Travis County  
UT Center for Transportation Research

Issues/Questions

1. Are the desired functions identified by the City of Austin Transportation Division in 1995 still current?
2. How do we involve our customers (TxDOT, Capital Metro, public safety, etc.) in designing a signal system that can better meet all of our needs and the needs of the system?

**Video Surveillance System**Definition

Video surveillance cameras are mounted above the roadway to visually evaluate traffic flow conditions. Cameras can be either fixed on a particular location or equipped with pan, tilt, and zoom capabilities. Black and white or color cameras are available. In the case of arterial streets, video cameras enable transportation managers: (1) to verify non-recurring congestion which ensures accurate traveler information is disseminated, (2) to monitor and evaluate problem locations and progression, (3) to make improvements, and (4) to evaluate how effective the improvements were. For example, in the City of Richardson, Texas, video cameras are used to monitor various problem intersections and freeway ramps, to conduct traffic studies, to observe special event traffic conditions, and in some cases, as a tool to showcase the city to prospective companies relocating to the area.

Benefits Video Surveillance Cameras Begin to Provide

1. Reduced recurring and non-recurring congestion
2. Freeway and arterial street integration
3. Improved staff productivity
4. Improved customer service
5. Improved public safety resource management
6. Improved traveler information

Recommendations

1. Include video surveillance cameras in the consultant's scope-of-work for designing the enhanced signal system. Video requirements should be discussed with the signal design team mentioned in the previous recommendation. The consultant should identify camera locations to maximize coverage (while minimizing the number of cameras required), type of cameras, central software to manage video images from City and TxDOT cameras (e.g., displaying multiple camera views) and to share video with other entities, and all equipment necessary for implementation. Considerations: (a) using the same video equipment specifications that TxDOT uses; (b) during implementation of the freeway traffic management system, TxDOT plans to place surveillance cameras at major arterials that intersect the freeway; (c) using GAATN for video transmission and sharing video among organizations, especially TxDOT and public safety; and (d) placing the cameras in locations where they could be used for video image detection (if desired in the future) to collect intersection (e.g., occupancy, volumes, turning movement counts, queue lengths) and link data (e.g., travel times, speeds).
2. Investigate amending the existing franchise agreement with Austin Cablevision once it expires to transmit video images over their coaxial cable. The advantages of using Austin Cablevision's existing coaxial cable include: (a) minimizing capital costs to install communication lines and (b) minimizing maintenance costs by negotiating the agreement (if possible) to have Austin Cablevision maintain the communication lines to transportation field equipment. The City of Richardson, Texas has included a provision in their

agreement that allows them to transmit video over their local cable provider's coaxial cable. The City of Richardson is using the cable company's coaxial cable to transmit video images to their control center from field cameras.

3. Coordinate with public safety organizations. Ask 911 and public safety dispatchers which quality of video they require. At a minimum, ensure video meets the needs for transportation management. Integrate video into emergency center design for public safety's use.
4. Include plans, specifications, and estimates for video surveillance system in the consultant's scope-of-work for the enhanced signal system design.
5. It may be desirable to retain the consultant for future work on an as needed basis.
6. Develop evaluation procedures for measuring effectiveness of video cameras.
7. Identify deployment funding sources (e.g., partners and federal and state solicitations).
8. Deploy video surveillance system pilot project.
9. Evaluate effectiveness of surveillance cameras and identify areas for improvement.
10. Decide whether to expand system. If the decision is favorable, initially focus at major signalized intersections. Continued expansion to minor signalized intersections and remote locations should be based on the needs of stakeholders and their ability to fund the expansion.
11. Periodically (e.g., annually) reevaluate effectiveness of video surveillance program to ensure the expectations of each organization are being met.

### Justification

1. Traffic Flow Surveillance Surveillance is the required first step in improving the operation of a transportation system. Traffic flow improvements cannot effectively be made unless the current operating conditions are known. Video surveillance cameras enable traffic managers to monitor current traffic patterns (e.g., recurring congestion), thereby enabling them to make real-time improvements that keep traffic moving safely and efficiently. Video cameras supplement other surveillance methods, like inductive loops. Unlike loops, however, video cameras allow a traffic manager to begin to identify why a problem has

occurred and to determine what actions to take. Video cameras should not be used for incident detection due to the strain and boredom placed on a person watching a video screen for extended periods.

2. System-Wide Transportation Management These video images should also be shared with the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT). As a systems approach to daily transportation management evolves in Austin, decisions about freeway and arterial-street operations will begin to be made based on real-time information about both facilities, not only one. For global decisions to be made, information about freeways and arterial streets will need to be shared between those, TxDOT and the City of Austin, responsible for the operation of each facility. Arterial street video cameras can provide real-time traffic information to facilitate these global decisions. For example, arterial-street video cameras can provide information about current operating conditions to TxDOT and City of Austin staff making decisions about whether or not to divert traffic to a particular street when a freeway incident occurs.
3. Productivity Enhancements The City of Richardson has experienced staff productivity enhancements by using video cameras.<sup>2</sup> Their cameras provide immediate observation and response to unusual traffic conditions, which in the past involved long delays and the necessity to dispatch personnel to investigate the problem. After staff arrived at the problem scene and evaluated the situation, he or she would then contact the City of Richardson's Control Center for signal adjustments to remedy the problem. This process required several minutes of costly and unnecessary delaytime which could be eliminated through the use of remotely located cameras. As the City of Austin and traffic volumes continue to grow, the frequency of dispatching staff to problem locations and the distance they have to travel will also grow. Video cameras can reduce the time spent traveling to problem locations. In addition, the cameras can be used for proactive problem identification before they are reported, thereby reducing the frequency of reported problems.
4. Improved Customer Service Video cameras can provide an immediate response to citizen complaints. For instance, when a citizen calls in a complaint about not enough green time,

the transportation manager can immediately view the location and adjust the signal timing, if needed. This immediate response not only provides a quicker response to the citizen but also benefits the hundreds of travelers affected by the lack of green time.

5. Improved Public Safety Resource Management Video cameras can improve public safety resource management. Video images should be shared with public safety organizations-- emergency medical service (EMS), fire protection, and law enforcement. These images will allow public safety organizations to make more informed and quicker decisions about the resources (e.g., number of ambulances, hazardous materials unit, tow truck) needed at the scene of a roadway incident without waiting until a public safety unit arrives or relying solely on the information provided in a 911 call. Video cameras not only expedite the response to the injured, but also the restoration of roadway capacity (i.e., reducing the impacts of non-recurring congestion). Public safety dispatchers could convey information from the video images to emergency response personnel about what to expect at the scene. Eventually, the video image could be sent directly to the emergency unit's mobile data terminal. Sharing the video with public safety organizations ultimately benefits the people involved in and delayed by the roadway incident. Public safety agencies could also use the video cameras to assess their emergency response route (Is the route congested? Should another route be used?).
6. Improved Traveler Information The video images should also be provided to commercial traffic reporters, Capital Metro, commercial fleet operators, and the general public. Disseminating these video images via television, Internet, and/or kiosks enables informed trip decisions to be made about routes and departure times. Vehicle fleets, like Capital Metro and commercial delivery businesses, can use this information to avoid congested locations and thus improve the management of their fleets. For instance, travelers may choose to avoid certain arterial-street sections if they knew when and where it was congested and the magnitude of congestion. Subsequently, recurring and non-recurring congestion could be reduced.

Potential Partners with the Department of Public Works and Transportation

TxDOT

Public Safety--EMS, fire protection, and law enforcement

Capital Metro

Private Sector (e.g., commercial traffic reporters--TV and radio)

Issues/Questions

1. What video quality (e.g., full motion video, color) is required to satisfy stakeholder needs?  
What are the costs associated with varying degrees of video quality?
2. Which communication medium (e.g., fiber, coaxial cable, and/or twisted-wire pair) should be used to communicate with field equipment?
3. Are maintenance costs reduced by using one or two communication systems (e.g., fiber only or fiber and twisted wire pair)?
4. Can we use the same video equipment specified by TxDOT? Using the same equipment may facilitate sharing video images and maintenance equipment.
5. Level of involvement GAATN can provide to assist the consultant
6. Expandability--accommodate 100's of cameras
7. How to share video images with TxDOT, public safety, Capital Metro, commercial traffic reporters, other media entities, and the public

**Management Center**Definition

A multi-agency management center is the core of an integrated traffic control system. A management center collects, analyzes, and disseminates real-time traveler information. In addition, coordinated decisions between separate transportation and public safety organizations are facilitated with daily contact required between those agencies housed in the same facility, a management center.

Benefits a Management Center Begins to Provide

1. Improved coordination between transportation and public safety organizations
2. Improved integration between freeways and arterials
3. Safer and more efficient transportation system for Austin

Recommendations

1. Coordinate the creation of a management center with TxDOT and public safety organizations.  
These efforts are already underway.
2. Proceed with the current implementation schedule-design center in FY 97 and build center in FY 98.

Justification

1. Integration As mentioned previously, as a systems approach to daily transportation management evolves in Austin, decisions about freeway and arterial-street operations will begin to be made based on real-time information about both facilities, not only one. Although the people do not need to be face-to-face to make these decision with high-speed communications systems available, like GAATN, cooperative decisions can be expedited. A heightened sense of a "TEAM" is formed when all agencies are in one location. Efforts are focused upon arriving at a unified response, not just what is best for each agency. Obstacles produced by the "them vs. us" syndrome are decreased as members become better acquainted with each agency's capabilities, resources, procedures, and personnel.
2. Cost Savings The equipment required to share data will likely be cheaper if the equipment (e.g., communication equipment) is only needed at one location instead of placing the same equipment at several locations. Task II report prepared by Wilbur Smith Associates estimated the communication equipment costs for a centralized center at approximately \$1527,200 and for a distributed centers at \$432,500 per center. As the number of distributed centers increases so does the cost. Furthermore, a distributed approach requires additional backup equipment to support multiple sites instead of one.

Potential Partners with the Department of Public Works and Transportation

- TxDOT
- Capital Metropolitan Transportation Authority
- Public Safety Organizations

Issues/Questions

1. Which functions should the Transportation Division perform in a center (e.g., signal operation, roadway maintenance, etc.)?

**Traveler Information**

Definition

A real-time traveler information system provides information for selecting the best departure times, routes, and transportation modes. Traveler information would be available for multiple travel modes: freeways, arterial streets, transit, bicycle routes, etc.

Benefits Traveler Information Begins to Provide

1. Reduced recurring and non-recurring congestion

Recommendations

1. Organize a team to oversee the implementation of the following traveler information elements.  
This team would guide the deployment of the traveler information system, coordinate with other projects, establish goals and objectives for each traveler information element, and develop evaluation procedures to measure the effectiveness of the system.
2. If needed, hire a consultant to design a regional traveler information system. Consider including this task as a phase in the design of the enhanced signal system design. The consultant would identify elements of the traveler information system and an implementation schedule.

3. Investigate contracting with a private sector entity, like SmartRoute Systems, Inc., to collect, manage, and disseminate real-time, multi-modal, transportation information. SmartRoute currently provides this service in the Boston and Cincinnati metropolitan areas. SmartRoute primarily provides this information to the public over the telephone. Even if a private sector provider of traveler information is not appropriate, consideration should still be given to providing multi-modal transportation information over the telephone since a telephone is accessible to nearly everyone.
4. Investigate amending the franchise agreement with Austin Cablevision once it expires to provide an additional cable station for 24-hour traffic information.
5. Develop a method to collect real-time traffic flow data on arterial streets that can be provided in a format travelers can use to make informed trip decisions. A consultant may be able to assist with identifying the most appropriate method.
6. Investigate funding through the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)--ITS Operational Test and Innovations Deserving Exploratory Analysis (IDEA) programs. The approach described below to collect and display arterial-street real-time data may qualify as an approach that has not been tried elsewhere. Therefore, the FHWA may provide a substantial portion of funding for the project.
7. Develop an Internet Home Page to display real-time traffic flow data. This same information could be disseminated through kiosks at major trip generators (e.g., office buildings, malls, airport) or a television station. The format of this information could be similar to the real-time traffic report maps available for Houston, Seattle, Los Angeles, Chicago, San Diego, and soon, San Antonio that illustrate freeway traffic conditions. Camera icons could also be located on the map for people to click on to see the latest image of traffic conditions at that location. The home page could also contain information about arterial-street construction zones, transit routes and maps, bike routes and maps, speed hump program, freeway traffic flow map, upcoming Urban Transportation Commission meeting times and agendas, and neighborhood meetings.

At this time, no locations are known that illustrate real-time conditions on arterial streets. The Home Page recommended here should initially provide access to real-time traffic conditions on a major arterial street. The real question with arterial streets is what information to collect that accurately reflects real-time traffic flow conditions. Houston uses transponders mounted on vehicles to measure travel times between successive points on the freeway. Knowing the distance between these points, travel time are converted to speeds to display. Most other freeway real-time traffic report maps use point speed measurements to represent the operating characteristics for freeway segments. These speeds are then used to determine the color of the freeway segments on the map. Typically, green is used for ideal conditions, while red is used for the most congested condition. Point speed measurements on arterial streets may not accurately reflect true traffic flow conditions. For instance, inductive loop speed measurements at a mid-block location away from a signal will likely be much higher than at the signal. A recommendation for overcoming this obstacle may be to compute volume-to-capacity (v/c) ratios for signalized intersection approaches. Each intersection approach could be displayed in different colors based on the v/c ratio. Another alternative is to display the entire intersection in a single color based on the level-of-service. Approach volumes should be measured at a point far enough upstream to avoid (a) queues stopped at the signal and (b) loosing vehicles to mid-block traffic generators. Volumes are easy to measure with existing technologies (e.g., video image detection or loops). Capacities could either be determined by measuring discharge volumes or estimating them based on green time, cycle length, and saturation flow rates.

Deploy real-time arterial-street data collection method on a selected arterial street. Surveillance cameras should be deployed on the arterial street to confirm the data being disseminated truly reflects real-time operating characteristics.

7. Investigate using Channel 6 as a transportation station during the peak drive times. Images from surveillance cameras and/or the arterial-street traffic map as described for the home page could be displayed. Capital Metro plans to use a television station to disseminate

- information to the public. A partnership with Capital Metro to provide multi-modal transportation information in one location should be explored.
8. Develop a traveler information kiosk pilot project. Partnerships should be formed between those agencies disseminating traveler information to lead the kiosk pilot project. The pilot project should focus around major activity centers. More travelers will be exposed to the kiosks at major activity centers. Therefore, the kiosks may influence the trip decisions of a greater number of people.
  9. Deploy traveler information system.
  10. Develop evaluation procedures and deploy traveler information system. If possible, evaluate each element of the traveler information system independently to identify the most successful means of providing traveler information. Similarly, the entire traveler information should be evaluated to ensure goals and objectives are achieved.

### Justification

1. Improved Utilization of Existing Roadway Capacity Traveler information has had an influence on trip decisions. For example, this influence was documented in Boston with *SmarTraveler*, an area-wide Traveler Advisory Telephone Service covering the metropolitan area. The following statistics highlight the influence *SmarTraveler* had on the trip decisions of 2,000 users:
  - a. 48% of the respondents reported the information they received during the particular call about which they were being questioned, had a direct influence on their travel decision-making.
    - 28% reported making some kind of change in their travel behavior.
    - 14% reported changing their departure time.
    - 12% reported using a different route.
    - 2% reported canceling the trip.
    - 1% reported changing route and time.
    - 20% indicated they used the information to choose between two or more relatively equal alternative routes

- b. Most of the remaining callers in some way used the information they received to verify that their preferred route would be viable.
- c. 8% reported that they contacted others to indicate that they would be delayed, based on the information they received.

By changing departure times and travel routes, travel demand is spread over time and the roadway network. Therefore, providing traveler information to the public in a useable, friendly format can lead to a more efficient use of the existing roadway capacity.

- 2. Initial Results of Houston's Freeway Real-Time Traffic Report Preliminary findings of Houston's real-time traffic map indicate that a peak in usage occurs prior to the traffic peaks. The assumption is that people are using the home page to make decisions before departing on their trip.

Potential Partners with the Department of Public Works and Transportation

- Texas Department of Transportation
- Capital Metropolitan Transportation Authority
- University of Texas Center for Transportation Research
- Federal Highway Administration
- Video Image Detection Vendor

Issues/Questions

- 1. How can arterial-street operational characteristics be collected and displayed to travelers that reflect true real-time traffic flow conditions?
- 2. Are resources (i.e., manpower) available to keep static information on the home page current? When does static information become outdated?

## Dynamic Lane Control Signs

### Definition

Dynamic lane control signs change the designated movements permitted from a lane during either a signal cycle or peak period depending on the need. Mechanical and fiber optic signs are available.

### Benefits Dynamic Lane Control Signs Benin to Provide

1. Reduces recurring congestion
2. Increased capacity to accommodate incident diverted traffic

### Recommendations

1. Identify locations to apply dynamic lane control signs. Begin by having Transportation Division staff suggest locations since they are most familiar with traffic operations throughout Austin. Review turning movement counts (TMCs) and geometries at the suggested locations and signalized intersections along the priority roadways established by the Austin ITS Steering Committee. Use the TMCs and geometries to model traffic operations at candidate locations and to assess the benefits.
2. Develop evaluation procedures.
3. Deploy signs.
4. Evaluate effectiveness of signs.

### Justification

1. Increased Capacity Based on the 1985 Highway Capacity Manual<sup>4</sup>, increasing the number of left turn lanes with protected phasing from one to two lanes increases capacity by more than 93 percent for the left-turn movement. In addition, increasing the number of right-turn lanes with protected phasing from one to two lanes increases capacity by more than 76 percent. Providing additional turning movement capacity would also increase the capacity for other movements by reallocating green time that the turning movements no longer need.

2. Low Cost Improvement Where appropriate, dynamic lane control signs can provide a significant increase in intersection capacity at a low cost. Mechanical signs cost approximately \$1000/sign while fiber optic signs cost approximately \$2500/sign.

Issues/Questions

1. How are traffic regulations written for lane control signs that change during the day?

**Advanced Traffic Controllers**

Definition

Traditional traffic controllers perform the basic signal timing and logic functions at signalized intersections. Advanced transportation controllers, however, provide additional computing power that expands the functions (e.g., video surveillance, adaptive signal control) available at signalized intersections.

Benefits Advanced Traffic Controllers Begin to Provide

1. Increased flexibility to perform additional ITS functions
2. Self diagnostic capabilities
3. Reduced maintenance costs (One 2070 with all internal control units should provide a lower maintenance cost than a 170/AIB and all of its external hardware.)

Recommendations

1. Include the ability to use advanced traffic controllers in the enhanced signal system design.
2. Invite advanced traffic controller vendors to give presentations.
3. Prepare RFP to purchase advanced traffic controller(s) for a pilot project.
4. Select the controller(s) to test in a pilot project. Purchasing a limited number of controllers for a pilot project will likely increase the cost per controller when compared to purchasing

several controllers at once. Therefore, if the Transportation Division staff is comfortable with the controller that they have selected, then a pilot project may not be necessary.

5. Develop evaluation procedures.
6. Deploy pilot project.
7. Evaluate pilot project. Identify issues associated with further use and deployment of advanced traffic controllers.
8. Decide whether to expand advanced traffic controllers to other signalized intersections.

### Justification

1. Improved Customer Service The Transportation Division should deploy at least one advanced transportation controller. Advanced traffic controllers may be standard in urban areas across the country to perform ITS functions. Hands-on experience provides the opportunity to learn how the additional controller functions can be used to improve transportation services provided to our customers. Although their price may be high when compared to traditional equipment that performs only a limited number of their functions, these items will become more affordable as more are deployed.

### Issues/Questions

1. Installing a single advanced traffic controller may not be possible. The existing traffic controllers may need to be replaced along an entire signalized corridor.

## **Video Image Detection**

### Definition

Video image detection systems detect vehicles by monitoring specific points in the video image of a traffic scene to determine changes between successive frames. Two different algorithms exist to process the video signal. The first algorithm monitors vehicles entering a predetermined area of the video image. This algorithm can provide volume and occupancy data. The second

algorithm actually “tracks” the vehicle as it passes through the video image. Data provide by this algorithm include: volumes, occupancy, speeds, classification counts, and possibly travel times.

### Benefits Video Image Detection Systems Begins to Provide

1. Reduced manpower requirements for collecting turning movement counts
2. Flexibility in construction areas for vehicle detection
3. No need to close travel lanes for installation and maintenance of inductive loops

### Recommendations

1. Include the ability to perform video image detection in the enhanced signal system design.
2. Invite video image detection vendors to give presentations.
3. Prepare RFP to purchase video image detection system(s) for a pilot project.
4. Select the system(s) to test in a pilot project.
5. Develop evaluation procedures.
6. Deploy pilot project.
7. Evaluate pilot project. Identify issues associated with further use and deployment of video image detection systems. The evaluation should also include a comparison between loops and video image detection systems--performance, functionality, and cost--capital, maintenance, and operations (the cost to perform turning movement counts with loops and video image detection should also be compared). Currently, the FHWA is performing a detector comparison study which may provide these comparisons.
8. Decide whether to expand video image detection to other signalized intersections.

### Justification

1. Improved Customer Service The Transportation Division should deploy at least one video image detection system. As with advanced traffic controllers, hands-on experience provides the opportunity to learn how video image detection can be used to improve transportation services to our customers. Although their price may be high when compared

to traditional equipment that performs only a limited number of their functions, these items will become more affordable as more are deployed.

### Issues/Questions

1. Effects on visibility during inclement weather and poor lighting
2. Image stabilization during windy conditions
3. Ability to use cameras for both detection and surveillance
4. How reliable is video image detection compared to other forms of detection?
5. Life-cycle costs compared to loops--are the functions and maintenance requirements of a video image detection system more desirable than loops? When is it more cost effective to use video image detection than loops?
6. Can video image detection provide link travel times?
7. Can detection zones be set in the field and at a central location?

### **Adaptive Signal Control**

#### Definition

Adaptive signal control allows signal timing adjustments to be made based on real-time traffic demand sensed through vehicle detectors.

#### Benefits Adaptive Signal Control Begins to Provide

1. Reduced recurring and non-recurring congestion by implementing traffic signal timing plans to accommodate real-time traffic demand
2. Productivity enhancements for the City of Austin Transportation Division

#### Recommendations

1. Visit other areas using adaptive signal control to learn more about this signal timing approach and whether it is appropriate for Austin. Do not base decision on visit to one site using adaptive signal control.

2. Include adaptive signal control in the enhanced signal system design.
3. Investigate potential partnership with FHWA. The FHWA is currently developing an adaptive signal control system, "RT-TRACS"--"Real-Time TRaffic-Adaptive Control Systems." Eventually, RT-TRACS will need to be field tested. Why not test it in Austin? We would likely receive more consideration if we offered to share the cost of the field test. If Austin is chosen for the field test, it may change the following recommendations.
4. Select a pilot project location. An appropriate pilot project location would be one that experiences significant fluctuations in traffic volumes. Frontage roads experience unpredictable volume changes when traffic diverts from the freeway during an incident. Adaptive signal control would allow the signal timing to adjust automatically to better accommodate the traffic demand. Since the City of Austin operates most of the frontage road signals on TxDOT's right-of-way, these two entities should form a partnership to deploy a pilot project. The pilot project should be deployed in the same area as TxDOT's freeway traffic management system. Arterial streets adjacent to special event centers also experience unpredictable volume changes when traffic is arriving and departing an event. Therefore, the signalized intersections around the Frank Erwin Center and the University of Texas football stadium maybe ideal candidates, for an adaptivesignal control pilot project.
5. Design pilot project (e.g., detector locations).
6. Develop evaluation procedures.
7. Identify funding sources for pilot project.
8. Deploy pilot project.
9. Evaluate pilot project. Evaluation results should indicate whether to continue deployment.

### Justification

1. Reduced Recurring Congestion Providing the most current signal timing plans minimizes delays incurred by motorists. For instance, Toronto's adaptive signal control system, SCOOT (Split, Cycle, and Offset Optimization Technique), during the peak periods, demonstrated a travel time savings ranging from six to 11 percent when compared to their current signal timing plans.<sup>7</sup> Current signal timing plans werethose updated within the past

five or more years. While the quality of these timings was not optimum, it was considered to be typical of the “best effort” that can be expected given the size of Toronto’s signal network (1700 signals) and the current traffic engineering staff. Toronto’s results indicate that there were overall improvements in on-street performance under SCOOT. That is not to say that SCOOT out-performs fixed timing plans for all locations at all times, and under all circumstances, but rather it outperforms fixed timing plans under most of the circumstances studied.

2. Productivity Enhancements Adaptive signal control can reduce the need for additional manpower requirements to develop current signal timing plans. In Toronto, for example, an evaluation of their adaptive signal control program, SCOOT, found that six additional staff would be required to update existing fixed timing plans sufficiently to even come close to the level of on-street performance that SCOOT can provide within their demonstration network of 75 signals.<sup>7</sup> Less than one person was needed to for the same number of signals under SCOOT. The City of Austin typically collects turning movement counts (TMCs) on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday for developing signal timing plans. If TMCs were only performed on these days, it would take a two-man data collection team roughly 3 years and 10 months to collect turning movement counts for the more than 600 signals the City of Austin currently maintains. Additional time is still required to develop and implement the signal timing plans. The need for additional manpower to developing signal timing plans could be significantly reduced by moving to an adaptive signal control system. As Austin continues to grow there will be a more frequent need to update signal timing plans to accommodate the corresponding growth in traffic volumes. Adaptive signal may reduce the need for additional signal timing manpower to keep pace with this growth. Delay and travel time savings may also be seen during the evenings and weekends.
3. Additional Benefits Seen in Toronto, Ontario In Toronto, Ontario<sup>7</sup>, SCOOT was tested in three distinctively different signal environments: (1) 42 intersections within a central business district (CBD) grid network; (2) 20 intersections along a major limited access arterial street that operates parallel and as an alternate to a freeway; and (3) 13 intersections along a major unlimited access commercial arterial. Peak-period before and after studies

revealed a six percent decrease in the CBD travel times, seven percent decrease on the parallel freeway route, and an 11 percent decrease on the arterial. Weekday evening before and after studies demonstrated a six percent reduction in travel times and a 21 percent reduction in stops. Weekend before and after studies resulted in a 15 percent reduction in travel times and a 34 percent reduction in stops. Vehicle delay decreased on average by 17 percent and ranged between a reduction of 6 percent and 26 percent for the three signal networks. During special events (Blue Jay's baseball game), vehicle stops and delays were reduced by 58 percent and 61 percent, respectively. For the arterial, average overall intersection delay increased by 10 percent with a 22 percent decrease in stops. This increase was due to additional cross-street delays ranging from 25 percent to 35 percent. Approximately five loops were installed per intersection. The SCOOT project began in July, 1990 with a capital cost of \$1,225,000 (Canadian dollars, approx. \$1,000,000 US). Annual fuel and traveltime savings equalled \$1,164,000. Annual maintenance and operations costs increased by approximately \$50,000 (primarily due to increased maintenance requirements for more than 350 system loops required by SCOOT). Based on these figures, the payback period would be just over a year. A comprehensive benefit and cost analysis over 10-years indicated a benefit-to-cost ratio of over 8.0.

#### Potential Partners with the Department of Public Works and Transportation

Texas Department of Transportation

Travis County

FHWA

#### Issues/Questions

1. Is adaptive signal control appropriate for Austin?
2. Where should adaptive signal control be used? Time-of-day plans may be adequate in some locations.

3. How does adaptive signal control effect emissions?
4. What is the driver's perception of adaptive signal control?

## **Incident Management Program**

### Definition

Arterial-street incident management provides the ability to detect, verify, respond, and remove arterial-street incidents while actively managing the signal timing and disseminating information to motorists to avoid delays caused by incidents. These abilities, or functions, ensure aid to those injured arrives as soon as possible and the impact of the incident on the transportation system is minimized.

### Benefits Arterial-Street Incident Management Begins to Provide

1. Reduced emergency response times
2. Reduced non-recurring congestion
3. Improved customer service
4. Reduced roadway incident detection times

### Recommendations

1. Coordinate freeway incident management efforts with TxDOT. When traffic is diverted away from a freeway incident it will likely be diverted to the nearest arterial street. Signal timing can be adjusted on these arterial street to better accommodate diverted traffic. Since the City of Austin operates the signals on parallel freeway routes (e.g., frontage roads), it is imperative that the City of Austin partners with TxDOT to implement the most efficient response to freeway incidents.
2. A consultant may be needed to assist with developing an approach for arterial-street incident detection.
3. Establish an incident management team to coordinate the development, deployment, and evaluation of an arterial-street incident management plan. At a minimum, the City of

- Austin Transportation Division, Texas Department of Transportation, and public safety organizations should be represented on the team. A couple of tasks for the team would be (a) to identify issues with notifying transportation managers about roadway incidents and (b) to establish a method of notification.
4. Develop arterial-street incident management program: (a) to detect, verify, respond, and remove roadway incidents; (b) to manage traffic during incidents; and (c) to disseminate traveler information. Initially, focus on arterial streets with video cameras. Video cameras are necessary for incident verification. In addition, ensure public safety staff are aware of transportation resources available to them to reduce their work load and facilitate the movement of traffic approaching the scene of an incident (e.g., the police do not have to direct traffic when the signal timing can be adjusted to accommodate traffic).
  5. Develop evaluation procedures for measuring the effectiveness of an arterial-street incident management program. Involve public safety organizations.
  6. Involve public safety organizations in video system design. This approach will begin to develop the foundation for the partnerships necessary for incident management between public safety and transportation organizations. It will also ensure they have access to the quality of video images that they need.
  7. Deploy arterial-street incident management program.
  8. Use traveler information recommendations to disseminate information to public about incidents.
  9. Evaluate arterial-street incident management program to identify areas for improvement.

### Justification

1. Improved Customer Service At this time, incident detection typically occurs through 911 calls. 911 calls enable public safety organizations to detect incidents, but not transportation managers who operate the signals. If traffic managers knew when and where roadway incidents occurred, signal timings could be adjusted to better accommodate the traffic impacted by the incident thereby reducing non-recurring congestion. Traffic management also benefits public safety organizations by reducing (a) the need for law enforcement to

direct traffic (signal timings could be automatically adjusted to accommodate demand) and (b) the amount of traffic approaching the incident scene through disseminating traveler information. Therefore, transportation managers need to be informed about roadway incidents in order to provide the best service to the traveling public and public safety organizations.

2. Reduced Roadway Incident Detection Times Reduced roadway incident detection times benefit both public safety organizations and transportation managers. The sooner public safety organization are aware of a roadway incident, the sooner they can begin to dispatch the appropriate response to aid the injured. At the same time, the sooner transportation managers are aware of a roadway incident, the sooner they can formulate a response to manage affected traffic. Measuring traffic flow characteristics (e.g., speeds, volumes, occupancies, travel times) and comparing those to time-of-day thresholds may provide a quicker detection time than 911 calls. This approach is currently used in cities like San Antonio to detect freeway incidents, but has not been applied to arterial streets. Another approach to potentially reduce detection times is to have the existing fleet of public service vehicles with two-way radios serve as “eyes” in the field to report incidents. Any of these approaches may reduce detection times which ultimately benefits those involved and affected by the incident.
3. Improved Response Times In San Antonio, the average response time for police to arrive at a roadway incident, following notification of an incident, averages 18 minutes? More time is consumed as the officer determines the need for EMS, tow trucks, hazardous materials clean-up resources, and other support personnel. The average response time can be reduced, after incident notification, by using video surveillance cameras to determine the resources needed to assist the injured and clean-up the debris to restore traffic flow. These cameras can also be used by traffic managers to verify the incident and to ensure timely and accurate incident information is disseminated to the public.

Potential Partners with the Department of Public Works and Transportation

Public safety organizations

Texas Department of Transportation

Issues/Questions

1. How to involve transportation managers in the existing process used by public safety organizations to detect incidents through 9 11 calls and their units in the field. 911 and police dispatchers indicated that their work load during an emergency does not allow them to contact transportation organizations about roadway incidents.
2. Which approach to pursue for arterial-street incident detection (e.g., loops, video image detection, radar, public service fleets with two-way radios)?
3. How do we develop a partnership with public safety organizations and make them aware of our resources that can assist them? How do we ensure new officers are aware of the transportation resources available to them?
4. How do we disseminate traveler information?
5. Staffing requirements to ensure a response is implemented when public safety notifies traffic management personnel.

**Signal Preemption**Definition

Signal preemption results in the signal indication turning green for an emergency vehicle responding to an emergency. Once the vehicle passes through the intersection, the signal returns to its normal routine. Currently, Austin uses 3M's opticom priority control system for signal preemption in a few locations (e.g., Ben White Boulevard, Parmer east of Mopac). Emitters, mounted on emergency vehicles, transmit an infrared signal when responding to an emergency. The infrared signal is recognized by detectors typically mounted on signal mastarms.

Benefits Signal Preemption Begins to Provide

1. Reduced emergency response times
2. Reduced emergency vehicle accident rates
3. Reduced public safety capital and operating costs

Recommendations

1. Incorporate emergency vehicle signal preemption into the enhanced signal system design.
2. Approach the University of Texas to perform an evaluation (possibly through a graduate class) of the proposed central business district (CBD) signal preemption system.
3. Develop evaluation procedures to measure effectiveness of signal preemption system proposed for downtown. EMS and Fire have databases that could assist with the evaluation. The evaluation should also consider whether another form of signal preemption may be more appropriate. For instance, if all emergency vehicles are tracked by global positioning system (GPS) units, their location and emergency status could be linked to the signal system. When a vehicle is responding to an emergency the signal system would know and automatically adjust the signal timing to ensure the vehicle receives a green indication in time to pass through the intersection. A GPS/automatic vehicle location (AVL) system may reduce maintenance costs since field equipment would not be deployed at the intersection. A GPS/AVL system may address line-of-sight issues with the opticom system (e.g., if an emergency vehicle turns a corner, the adjacent signal may not have time to turn green before the emergency vehicle arrives).
4. Deploy signal preemption system in the CBD.
5. Evaluate system.
6. Identify methods that minimize the impact of signal preemption.
7. Make decision to expand system. If decision is to expand, pursue following approach.
8. Identify priority locations. Discuss with emergency organizations to identify priority locations.
9. Develop evaluation procedures.
10. Deploy system.
11. Evaluate system effectiveness periodically (e.g., annually).

Justification

1. Reduced Emergency Response Times Studies in Houston and Denver have realized a 20 percent average improvement in emergency response times with a signal preemption system in place.<sup>6</sup>
2. Reduced Emergency Vehicle Accident Rates A 12-year study in a major metropolitan area reported that the signal preemption system reduced emergency vehicle accident rates by 70.8 percent at signalized intersections.<sup>6</sup>

Issues/Questions

1. What is the impact on the traffic stream?
2. What is the most appropriate form of signal preemption in the long term?

**Transit Signal Priority**Definition

In its simplest definition, transit signal priority provides additional green time to transit vehicles at signalized intersections. The conditions that need to be met for a transit vehicle to receive this green time depends on the criteria established by those who operate the signals and transit vehicles. Some examples of those conditions include:

1. green time is extended every time a transit vehicle approaches a signalized intersection,
2. green time is extended only when the bus is behind schedule and arrives during a certain period of the signal cycle (This approach is currently used in a pilot project in Austin),  
and
3. additional green time is provided to the transit vehicle based on the number of passengers (i.e., the bus is weighted more heavily than a vehicle with only a driver).

Benefits Transit Signal Priority Begins to Provide

1. Improved on-time transit performance which leads to improved customer service
2. Reduced recurring congestion by travelers switching to transit

Recommendations

1. Review the findings from the University of Texas CTR's study of the Transit Signal Priority Pilot Project on Lamar Boulevard to decide whether or not to expand the existing priority system.
2. Integrate smart buses into the design of the enhanced signal system. The City of Austin Transportation Division should work closely with Capital Metro. This integration should allow priority to be provided to all transit vehicles (buses and light rail vehicles) based on the number of passengers aboard. This approach should minimize people delay. The impact that this approach has on progression would need to be considered.
3. Identify potential funding through the FHWA and the Federal Transit Administration.
4. Develop evaluation procedures to assess impacts of passenger weighted signal timing system. People-delay will likely decrease.
5. Deploy pilot study. The City of Austin Transportation Division and Capital Metro should mutually agree on the pilot study location.
6. Evaluate pilot study.
7. Decide on expansion.

Justification

1. CTR's Findings CTR's findings will explain the benefits and limitations seen within the existing approach used for transit signal priority along the Lamar Boulevard Pilot Project. These findings may suggest another approach to transit signal priority.
2. Passenger Weighted Transit Signal Priority Why should a bus with 30 passengers be treated equally as one automobile with one passenger? Providing more green time to transit vehicles based on the number of passengers may reduce existing transit travel times. Reducing their travel times may make transit a more attractive mode of transportation than

the automobile to certain travelers. Attracting people away from their automobiles and into transit vehicles, maximizes the use of existing roadway capacity which in turn reduces recurring congestion, emissions, fuel consumption, and driver frustration. Maximizing existing roadway capacity also prolongs the need for expansion. Therefore, if the travel time savings provided by passenger weighted transit signal priority attracts people to transit who use to drive their automobiles, benefits will be seen throughout the transportation system.

Although existing technologies may require equal treatment between loaded buses and automobiles, technologies will provide these capabilities in the future. At a minimum, for this type of transit signal priority to occur, information about the bus' location and number of passengers will need to be incorporated into the signal timing logic. Systems already exist that provide automatic vehicle location and automatic passenger counting. It is unknown whether integrating this information with the signal system has been performed previously.

Potential Partners with the Department of Public works and Transportation

Capital Metro

FHWA Federal Transit Administration

Issues/Questions

1. What impact does extending the green time for Lamar Boulevard buses have on cross-street buses and automobiles?
2. How beneficial is the existing approach to transit signal priority for buses involved in the Lamar Boulevard pilot project?
3. Does the signal system need to provide adaptive signal control in order to adjust the signal timing based on the weighted passenger value of a bus? The signal system would need to respond to the number of passengers on a transit vehicle. Successive transit vehicles will likely differ in the amount of passengers that they are transporting.

4. How is data from Capital Metro's Smart Bus System integrated into the signal system?
5. When is a bus far enough behind schedule to require signal priority? Should the transit scheduled be altered if the bus is consistently behind schedule?
6. Does passenger weighted signal timing increase ridership?

## **Arterial-Street Travel Time Measurement**

### Definition

Arterial-street travel time measurement permits the collection of travel times on each link (at a minimum, signal-to-signal) of an arterial street.

### Benefits Arterial-Street Travel Time Measurements Begin to Provide

1. Reduced emergency response times
2. Improved traveler information and reduced recurring and non-recurring congestion
3. Improved incident detection (potentially)
4. Productivity enhancements within the Transportation Division and commercial fleets

### Recommendations

1. Meet with CTR to identify most feasible method to collect arterial-street travel time information.
2. Meet with public safety organizations to ensure they can use travel time information. Coordinate with the existing CAD/MDT (computer aided dispatch/mobile data terminal) team to ensure travel time data can be incorporated into their design.
3. Incorporate arterial-street travel time measurements into the design of the enhanced signal system.
4. Select site for pilot project and design pilot project (e.g., detector locations).
5. Develop evaluation procedures to ensure the utilization of real-time travel time measurements are beneficial to the users.

6. Identify funding sources for pilot project.
7. Deploy arterial-street travel time data collection pilot study.
8. Evaluate arterial-street travel time data collection system and decide whether or not to expand.

### Justification

1. Reduced Emergency Response Times The ability to collect real-time travel time data between arterial-street signalized intersections can be used by public safety organizations to determine the shortest travel time route to an emergency. Travel time information may also assist Fire and EMS staff with planning the location of new stations to meet their response time goals.
2. Improved Traveler Information Travel time data can be provided to travelers to make informed travel decisions about routes and departure times, ultimately avoiding the impacts of recurring and non-recurring congestion. This information could be provided through real-time traffic report maps like those used in Houston, Chicago, and Los Angeles. This information could also be provided over the phone similar to what is done in Chicago. Mode decisions can also be made if travel time data is available for comparisons between competing transportation modes (e.g., light rail transit and automobiles). Eventually, travel time information could be linked to in-vehicle navigation systems like those currently used in San Jose, San Francisco, and Miami (real-time traffic information is not incorporated into the navigational systems used in these areas), to direct motorists along the shortest travel time path to their destination. Real-time travel time information was used in identifying the shortest travel time route for test vehicles in the completed TravTek Project in Orlando and the current ADVANCE Project in Chicago.
3. Improved Incident Detection Measuring real-time travel times may provide a means of incident detection. The sooner a roadway incident is detected the sooner emergency resources can be dispatched and traffic delays can be reduced.
4. Productivity Enhancements--Transportation Division Two programs within the Transportation Division require travel time studies to be performed. The first program, Congestion Demand Management, conducts annual travel time studies to monitor changes in roadway

congestion. The other program, signal timing, performs before and after travel time studies to evaluate the effectiveness of signal timing improvements. If real-time travel time data was available, the time required to collect this data would be eliminated.

5. Productivity Enhancements--Commercial Fleets Travel time information could also be input into the process used to develop delivery schedules. In addition, travel time information would be critical to those companies who provide just-in-time deliveries.

#### Potential Partners with the Department of Public Works and Transportation

Public safety organizations

Commercial fleet operators

#### Issues/Questions

1. Identify an accurate method to collect arterial-street travel times, possibilities include:
  - a. mid-block (i.e., system) loops
  - b. high mounted video image detection cameras
  - c. automatic vehicle identification
  - d. ?
2. Will public safety organizations be able to use this information?

### **Reversible Lanes**

#### Definition

Two-way arterial streets, particularly those in urban areas that serve commuter traffic, can experience much greater peak-hour traffic volumes in one direction than in the other. Reversible lane systems involve designating one or more lanes for one-way movement during part of the day and in the opposite direction during another part of the day. The purpose of reversible lanes is to provide an extra lane or lanes for use by the dominant flow of traffic. Providing an additional lane or lanes results in increased capacity in the peak direction without widening the roadway. In

addition, reversible lanes may also be appropriate around special event facilities that require moving a considerable amount of traffic to and from the event.

### Benefits Reversible Lanes Begin to Provide

1. Reduced recurring congestion

### Recommendations

1. The ability to control reversible lane equipment should be included in the enhanced signal system design.
2. Identify locations for reversible lanes. The following process is suggested for identifying locations:
  - a. Review directional traffic volumes for the priority roadways established by the Austin ITS Steering Committee to identify potential locations for reversible lanes. Roadways with evenly split directional volumes during the peak periods are probably not candidates for reversible lanes.
  - b. Ask the Transportation Division staff to identify candidate locations for reversible lanes since they are most familiar with the transportation system
  - c. Inventory roadway geometries.
  - d. Collect turning movement volumes at candidate locations for several days to determine peak conditions for modeling reversible lanes. Conservative traffic volume counts may produce unrealistically optimistic modeling results.
3. Model candidate locations with and without reversible lanes. Modeling (a) identifies whether or not the reversible lanes are feasible or where further analysis may be needed and (b) allows a comparison between with and without scenarios to measure the effectiveness of reversible lanes.
4. Select pilot project locations.
5. Design pilot project (e.g., sign locations).
6. Develop evaluation procedures.
1. Develop consensus among the public to implement reversible lanes.

8. Educate the public about how reversible lanes operate and the signing used to indicate which direction traffic is permitted to flow.
9. Implement reversible lanes.
10. Evaluate pilot project to decide whether or not their use should be continued.
11. Disseminate findings to decision makers and the public.

#### Justification

1. Increased Capacity Reversible lanes provide a method to increase capacity without widening the existing roadway. Increased capacity can reduce the impact of recurring congestion.

#### Potential Partners with the Department of Public Works and Transportation

Texas Department of Transportation

#### Issues/Questions

1. Public support
2. Safety--ensuring motorists know which direction traffic is flowing in the reversible lanes
3. Impact on off-peak direction
4. Operational problems where reversible lanes terminate
5. Method of designating lanes to be reversed and the direction of flow--Three general methods are used: (a) special traffic signals suspended over each lane; (b) permanent signs advising motorists of the changes in traffic flow and the hours it is in effect; and (c) physical barriers (e.g., traffic cones, movable barriers).

## **TENTATIVE DEPLOYMENT SCHEDULE**

Below is a tentative deployment schedule developed by the City of Austin Transportation Division (refer to **Table VB-1**). The schedule reflects the approximate time to begin planning, designing, deploying pilot projects, and continuing with deployment (if pilot study is successful),



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