UPDATES AND ENHANCEMENTS TO LOSPLAN TO SUPPORT THE Q/LOS HANDBOOK AND SIS ANALYSIS

PROBLEM STATEMENT

The last major revision of the LOSPLAN suite of software packages was in 2003, concurrent with the release of the 2002 Quality/Level of Service Handbook. Since this time, some issues with the HCM 2000 have been identified in recently released errata, most notably the two-lane highway analysis methodology. Also, the FDOT Systems Planning Office has carried out several research projects in the last few years that impact the level of service analysis methodologies for the handbook and software. Furthermore, the FDOT is currently revising its LOS rule 14-94, which will result in necessary changes to the LOSPLAN software.

OBJECTIVES

The objective of this project was to update the LOSPLAN software to incorporate new FDOT sponsored research results on level of service analysis, errata releases of the HCM 2000, changes in the state of Florida LOS rule, and some selected calculation and usability features requested by current users.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

The objective was accomplished by making updates and enhancements to the ARTPLAN, FREEPLAN, and HIGHPLAN user interface and computational methodologies, as well as to the electronic help and computational methodologies documentation. The updated software can be found at the following URL: http://www.dot.state.fl.us/planning/systems/sm/los/los_sw2.htm#software

BENEFITS

The updated LOSPLAN software implements revisions and corrections to the HCM 2000 to date, as well as the results of several related FDOT projects completed since the release of the previous version. It also reflects numerous updates and enhancements based upon input from the LOS Task Team and other users of the software. The updates and enhancements to the LOSPLAN software support the current requirements for usability, functionality, robustness, and computational completeness and accuracy to support the mission of the level of service program of the Systems Planning Office.

The software developed by this project will be used by districts and Central Office Planning, Environmental Management, Traffic Operations, Public Transportation and Design offices and their consultants. In addition, the software will be used by MPO's and local governments and their consultants for planning, project development, growth management and site impact studies.

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