

2017-2018 REGIONAL HOUSEHOLD TRAVEL SURVEY

Status Report #2

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Travel Forecasting Subcommittee
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Presentation Outline

- Introduction of new lead survey staff
- Update on survey contractor
- Testing web-based survey data retrieval and survey smartphone app
- Project kick-off meetings 9/16 and 9/22
- Schedule update
- Current project activities and status
- Next steps and next report to TFS

Review of Regional Household Travel Survey

- Collect empirical data on regional travel behavior from individual persons and households
- Primary source of observed data for model estimation, validation, and calibration (both for current trip-based model and future activity-based model)
- Data used for addressing regional growth and transportation planning issues
- Typically performed every ten years (last regional HTS 2007-2008, covered 11,000 households)
- Largest single discrete project (on cost basis) in UPWP
- 2017-2018 regional HTS will cover 15,000 households



New Lead Survey Staff and Update on Survey Contractor

- New COG/TPB staff: Ken Joh, Ph.D., AICP, Senior Statistical Survey Analyst
- Survey contractor: Resource Systems Group, Inc. (RSG)
- RSG has used a web-based survey retrieval system and survey smartphone app for other recent HTS efforts
 - rSurvey: web-based retrieval system
 - rMove: survey smartphone app



Testing rSurvey and rMove

- Two staff tried version of rSurvey most recently used for Connecticut Statewide Transportation Study
 - On-the-fly geocoding engine for trip ends / stops works well
 - Will require customization for our region (more transit operators, express lanes, etc.)
- Five staff tested rMove on iOS and Android
 - Some issues identified with transit trips, particularly mode of access and egress
 - GPS signal loss in buildings / Metrorail tunnels (anticipated, being addressed)
 - App constantly evolving
 - Will see latest version during survey pre-test



Updated Survey Schedule

- Some items still subject to adjustment
- Kick-off: September 2016
- Survey pre-test: January 2017
 - Following election and major holidays
- Main survey: late Spring 2017
 - Following WMATA SafeTrack surges (Surges 12-15 revised schedule expected in December)
- Complete main survey: late Spring 2018
- All deliverables by end of 2018



Current Project Status

- Kick-off meetings with RSG 9/16 (just RSG and data staff) and 9/22 (full consultant team with DTP Department Director and Travel Forecasting Program Director)
- Data development for sampling plan (ACS block group and other data sources, regional activity center boundaries)
- Identification of providers for address-based sample
- Outreach to State DOTs / WMATA for permission to use official logos on survey materials



Next Steps and Next Report to TFS

- Project management plan
- Survey variable identification and inventory
- Continue sampling plan development
- Procurement of sample
- Obtain logo permission and image files
- Draft survey materials (recruitment mailings, questionnaire)
- Next report to TFS: November meeting



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