

Aerial Photos Capture Vehicle Classifications



In spring of 2002, Skycomp, Inc. conducted a series of aerial photo-surveys of highway traffic conditions in the region. Approximately 575 miles of roadway were surveyed during the peak morning and evening commuter periods. The results include a comprehensive database of the surveyed vehicles on cd-rom. Using this database, reports and customized queries may be printed that detail segment densities, vehicle classifications, and incident information. The CD contains a slide show illustrating areas where congestion was most prevalent. The data can be compared to previous aerial photos taken in 1999, allowing for a trend analysis to better understand traffic congestion in the region.

Updated Out & About Travel Guide

Individuals with special mobility needs can learn about available transportation options in the region in the updated, easy-to-use *Out and About* Travel Guide. The Guide describes the services offered by 88 specialized transportation providers.

In addition to listing each provider's name, address, contact information, and contact person(s), the Guide concisely profiles the characteristics of the transportation service offered by each provider. To further assist the elderly and individuals with disabilities in locating and using specialized travel services, the Guide includes four topical indexes that organize providers by transportation service types, geographic areas served, population groups

served, and ambulatory/non-ambulatory passengers served.

Technology Assists in Collection of Speed Data

Using Global Positioning System (GPS) receivers, travel speed data throughout the region was collected and analyzed. Several drivers were equipped with a GPS receiver to record travel time and speed. Approximately 6,000 lane miles of data were collected. A task report, entitled *Travel Speeds in the Baltimore Region 2001*, details the project and provides analysis of the findings. In addition, a Geographic Information Systems (GIS)-based application was created to improve the processing, management, display and reporting of GPS speed data. The new

Who's Parking at BWI?

Another in a series of BWI parking lot surveys for the Maryland Aviation Administration was completed this past fiscal year. The purpose of the survey was to identify the origins of the trips made to BWI. This survey showed the following:

- 33 percent of trips originated within the Baltimore region;
- 38 percent of all vehicles using the lots originated from Delaware, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia, or the District of Columbia;
- 43 percent of those parked at BWI had traveled more than 30 miles to get there; and
- within Maryland, the largest number of vehicles originated from Montgomery County (1,428).

The high percentage of "out-of-region" vehicles is testimony to the ability of BWI Airport to draw customers from neighboring areas.



GPS/GIS application will allow for the use of speed data for projects such as origin-destination studies, Congestion Management System reporting, and the validation of the travel demand model.