

RESEARCH PROJECT DESCRIPTION FORM

Creation of West Virginia Parkways Authority by the WVDOT: 2009 Traffic and Toll

Primary Investigator Contact Information

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Project Objective:

The objective of this project is to estimate toll revenues supporting road and bridge construction and maintenance.

Abstract:

This project conducts updated traffic and revenue analyses to provide comprehensive information for creating the West Virginia Parkways Authority, formerly the West Virginia Parkways, Economic Development and Tourism Authority, as a Division within the West Virginia Department of Transportation. The West Virginia Parkways Authority will manage the designated parkways and collect user fees to be deposited into a fund to expand and maintain the West Virginia roads and bridges. This project will identify alternative toll rate plans and estimate the amount of toll revenues each road or bridge generates. The estimated future revenues will be used to fund the construction and maintenance of the proposed West Virginia roads and bridges. Any excess revenue will be used to fund other highway construction. Specific objectives will include to: 1) present a project overview of the West Virginia Parkways Authority and the scope of study; 2) discuss the benefits of successful turnpike system and demonstrate their economic impacts; 3) describe the proposed toll roads and bridges; 4) provide a summary of current toll rates, traffic, and revenues in West Virginia; 5) identify alternative toll rate plans based on the factors determining toll rate increases; 6) develop a traffic analysis to predict traffic volume of passenger cars and commercial trucks over the 20-30 years; 7) forecast toll revenues for the same period; and 8) highlight the results of predicted toll revenues for the alternative toll rate plans.

Task Descriptions:

Task 1: Alternative toll rate plans

Task 2: Substitution effect of an increase in toll rates on traffic volume

Task 3: Forecasted traffic revenues

Milestones, Dates, Schedule:

This project has a 3 month time frame

TRB Keywords: Traffic and revenue analyses; West Virginia Parkways Authority