

Study Number: TPF-5(154)

Study Title: Census Transportation Planning Products (CTPP) from the American Community Survey

Period: April through June 2010

This project is coordinated with AASHTO's overall program for the Census Transportation Planning Products (CTPP) using data from the American Community Survey.

Administrative and General:

The CTPP Oversight Board met on May 4, 2010 via teleconference, and the next meeting is scheduled for August 25-26, 2010.

Technical assistance is provided via telephone, email, and web-based meetings on an on-going basis. CTPP Status Report was completed and distributed in May 2010. "Introduction to CTPP" webinar was held on June 18, 2010 with approximately 110 attending; Urbanized Areas webinar was held on June 11, 2010 with approximately 500 people attending.

Pooled Fund Budget: Of the total amount assigned to the Interagency Agreement with the Census Bureau (\$1,360,794), only \$306,000 remains to be paid as of July 1, 2010. However, the Census Bureau has not spent the funds as fast as originally anticipated, we are working on a modification to the FHWA-CB IAA to shift resources to CTPP coordination activities at the Census Bureau for fiscal year 2011 (using existing funds). The key remaining tasks in the IAA are the completion of the workplace allocation process (imputation of workplace geocodes), preparing for the CTPP 5-yr tabulation, and implementation of the TAZ software and integrating TAZ geography into TIGER for the CTPP 5-year tabulation.

3-year CTPP:

The 3-year CTPP data are expected to be delivered by the Census Bureau to FHWA and AASHTO by July 16, 2010. In this quarter, Census Bureau staff (Melissa Chiu and Brian McKenzie) and CS staff (Liang Long) conducted data reviews, which led to re-runs of the data by the ACSO staff, and then re-reviews.

AASHTO has contracted with Beyond 2020 (and Citygate GIS) for the CTPP data access software system (Note: this is not work performed under The Pooled Fund project). An alpha version of the software was provided and a walk-through held on May 7 elicited many comments that made it clear that additional work is necessary. An "Alpha-prime" version is expected to be delivered on July 21. Beyond 2020 and Citygate are developing software with no real data available for software development and testing. The CB has only delivered empty table shells for them to use in software development.

5-year CTPP:

Jonette Kreideweis reconvened the table sub-committee. The table subcommittee made recommendations about reducing the number of tables. Subsequently, a well publicized table review meeting was held on June 7, and additional feedback was obtained. A "near final" list has been shared with Westat (NCHRP 08-79) with the understanding that Westat may recommend revisions to the tables and collapsing structures to avoid disclosure issues.

Work on workplace allocation has been on hold during the 3-year CTPP data checking phase mentioned above.

NCHRP 08-79 "Producing Transportation Data Products from the American Community Survey that Comply with Disclosure." Westat, the contractor, is progressing well and having regular meetings with the Census Bureau's Disclosure Review Board. Limiting the 5-year CTPP table

list, by eliminating some tables, and reducing the complexity of others (i.e. reducing the number of cells by collapsing categories) will result in an easier process to implement to meet DRB requirements. The current plan is to have two sets of CTPP tables, Set A with tables that do not have to meet the DRB threshold rules, and Set B with tables where DRB threshold rules apply. (Note: this is not work performed under The Pooled Fund project, but it is directly related)

National CTPP:

The Census Bureau provided a cost estimate for a special tabulation for Commuting in America. After reviewing the estimate, AASHTO and FHWA have agreed that it would be more cost effective to prepare any special tabulations for this report using the ACS PUMS dataset. No further work on this is planned until the CTPP research subcommittee convenes.

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