



DECEMBER 10 – 12, 2024

Sawgrass Marriott | Ponte Vedra Beach, FL

Summary

Objective

The meeting provides an opportunity for FDOT to foster a collaborative learning environment, share valuable resources, and collect feedback on trends and insights in the industry. This year's meeting was focused on broadening modeling engagement and gaining diverse perspectives, including bridging the gap between planning and modeling//forecasting.

Overview

There was a total of 118 attendees who contributed to the success of the forum. Participants ranged from expert modelers to beginners and represented FDOT, FHWA, local governments, MPOs, consultants, and research institutions. The meeting was designed to be interactive and included interactive activities such as polling, live demonstrations, break-out discussions, training videos, and Q&As. Throughout the forum there were lively discussions. Key themes that were discussed:

- Trends: Considering Florida's population and economic growth and the region-by-region breakdown of transportation patterns to plan for the future.
- Systems Forecasting and Trends Office Update: New Hub, shift to VISUM and TRANSCAD, new TDMM, and a new vision following 30+ years of FSUTMS protocol.
- User groups in Florida: How to get involved, creating a new group, and the successes.
- Expanding engagement: Participants responded trucking agencies, transit agencies, freight industry, students, land use planners, among others.
- Visitor and short-term resident data: Presentation on the rMove survey completed in the Tampa Bay region how this data is now being used.
- Freight models and data: SE FL truck trips supported by big data sources such as Airsage and Replica, and there is interest in continued investment in freight models in Florida.
- AI and Innovations: Interest in machine learning to help with development and calibration of individual model components.
- Modeling 101: Confidential land use development data and its incorporation, TransCAD model, predictive safety tools, and the sensitivity of models.
- Emerging industry trends: population dynamics and data challenges, land use and resilience, back casting and forecasting accuracy.
- Modernizing Modeling Standards: Several modeling standard themes were discussed including user interfaces, Auto calibration/Validating using AI, seasonal population, etc.
- Training: Navigating SFT resources, participants shared where they receive their training (online). Some recommendations for training included short explainer videos, re Visum onboarding, office hours, and developing a Florida modeling community page.

Summary

Transportation Forecasting Forum serves as a platform to collaborate, share information within the modeling community, and sought feedback to ensure their initiatives aligned with the latest trends and industry standards. This meeting welcomed all modelers – from seasoned professionals to beginners – giving the opportunity to grow the next generation of modelers through shared learning, interactive discussion, and collaboration. Participants gained valuable insights and practical knowledge to be able to apply to their work, which will continue to keep FDOT and the state of Florida ahead of the curve and leaders in the industry.