ERP Final Report Appendix D: Review of Regional Model

The Puget Sound Regional Council provides a regional traffic model that incorporates approved and adopted trends involving growth, land use and other community goals. The ERP did not provide a detailed look at PSRC's regional travel demand model, from which global demand estimates were derived. TTI's limited assessment found the demand modeling approach for the corridor-level analysis to be consistent with current industry practice, and the traffic assignment portion that determines where and how the volumes are applied in the corridor appear to be consistent with the observed field data. Within the last five years, the PSRC model has gone through two national expert panel reviews.

In 2005, WSDOT worked with PSRC to enhance the regional model for modeling tolling and value pricing projects. As part of that effort, WSDOT assembled a national modeling expert review panel, which reviewed the model, recommending a series of improvements, which were all subsequently implemented.

The 2005 expert panel members included Ken Cervenka from Central Texas Council of Governments; Alan Horowitz of University of Wisconsin; Guy Rousseau from Atlanta Regional Transit Committee; Kyung-Hwa Kim from Portland Metro; and Bob Harvey of Sound Transit.

In 2008, WSDOT worked with PSRC to assemble another national expert review panel to prepare the model for the SR 520 Toll Financing Study. The recommendations from this panel were implemented and the panel endorsed the improved model before it was used for the SR 520 financing analysis. That same model, with further on-going minor enhancements, was used in the I-405/SR 167 express toll lane analyses.

The 2008 peer review team included Yoram Shiftan from the University of Michigan; Chuck Purvis from the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (San Francisco); Erik Sabina from the Denver Regional Council of Governments; Richard Walker from the Portland Metro MPO; and Teresa Slack from the Georgia State Road & Tollway Authority.