

‘Making Decisions from Traffic Models’ Workshop Meeting Minutes
Doubletree Hotel, Sacramento, CA March 20-21, 2007

Presentation:

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Case Study: Des Moines, IA I-35 Reconstruction (MITSIM)

Visit <http://www.minitooth.com/wz/index.htm> for full presentation.

Thumbnail: Case study in Iowa with MITSIM: I-35 Reconstruction in Des Moines.

Notes:

Item: A model should be designed to be applicable and/or offer resources well beyond the project at hand

Item: A key lesson is that the MPO and DOT must develop trust.

Item: IA DOT was ultimately commended on this project for management of route diversions – “no surprises.”

Item: The MITSIM experience created an important tool that will be used in MPO/IADOT future.

Q: What about one-route areas, and/or no grid system to fall into?

A: Despite public information, users were surprised for a few days at each change, but within a week they had figured out the flow through the area.

Q: What is the impact of Interstates being used as collectors, not through puts?

A: We may be forcing people onto Interstate, not using our sub road network as well as we could.

Q: What was feedback from the public?

A: No negative feedback. The Chamber of Commerce put together an “Avoid the Rush” group to go out to employers and work with businesses to inform/adjust workers. They also offered signage to businesses as to how to get to the business with construction in place, etc.

Item: It was tremendous to get that kind of collaboration/feedback from so many stakeholders (governments, businesses, etc.).