



Model Users and Model Developers


Is it possible for the two to function as one to get the job done well?





- Who uses models?

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- Who has developed a model?

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- Who has developed and used a model?
(same model)

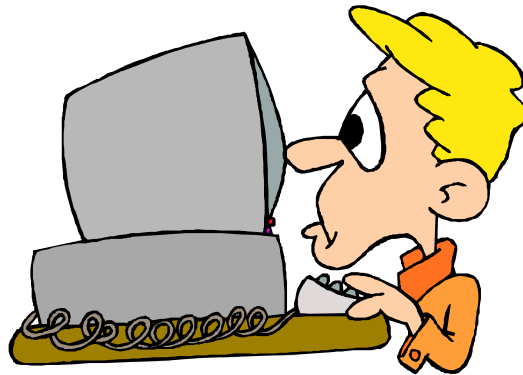


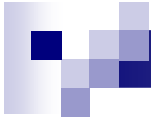
Development depends on Use

How is the model going to be used?

- Long-range planning
- Alternative Analyses
- Air Quality Analysis
- Corridor Studies
- Traffic Forecasts
- Site Impact Analysis
- Policy Analysis
- Economic development Analysis
- Transit
- Toll Analysis
- Evacuation Planning
- Real-time Traffic Management
- Land use Scenario Analysis

- What is the # 1 comment when you ask a user what they need the most when using a model they did not develop?





DOCUMENTATION



What are key items to document?

Everything!! But if you had to list a few, they would be:

- Assumptions – especially those made during calibration. Why were certain decisions made? How was the model fine-tuned?
- SE data – what are key developments planned for in future years
- Sources of data
- Transit links
- Field Name Documentation
- Field Calculations (i.e. how was VHT calculation, ave. speed)
- All Files (Input/Interim/Output – Define Flows; Bill Allen’s documentation of Baltimore Model is a good example)
- Define Parameters and Values
- Lineage (What version of files – New Start requirements)
- Methodology write-ups along the way to eliminate surprises to the user(s)




From the Developer

Users need to communicate facts **BEFORE** the model is developed!

- How will the model be used?
- Who will use the model?
- What is the level of the user?
- What data is needed from the model?
- Are there key areas of concern?
- Upfront conversations between developer and user(s) so there is clear understanding of model expectations from the beginning.





Work together throughout the development process.

- The relationship between user and developer should be ongoing from the very beginning. There should be places in the development where the user is brought in and “brought up-to-date”. The user should help with reasonableness checks throughout the development of the model.

Technical Support is needed after development

- The user won't know what questions may need asking until they start using the model for specific tasks.



Other comments or suggestions?



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