

# War of the Forecasts: Model vs Project

North Carolina Model Users Group

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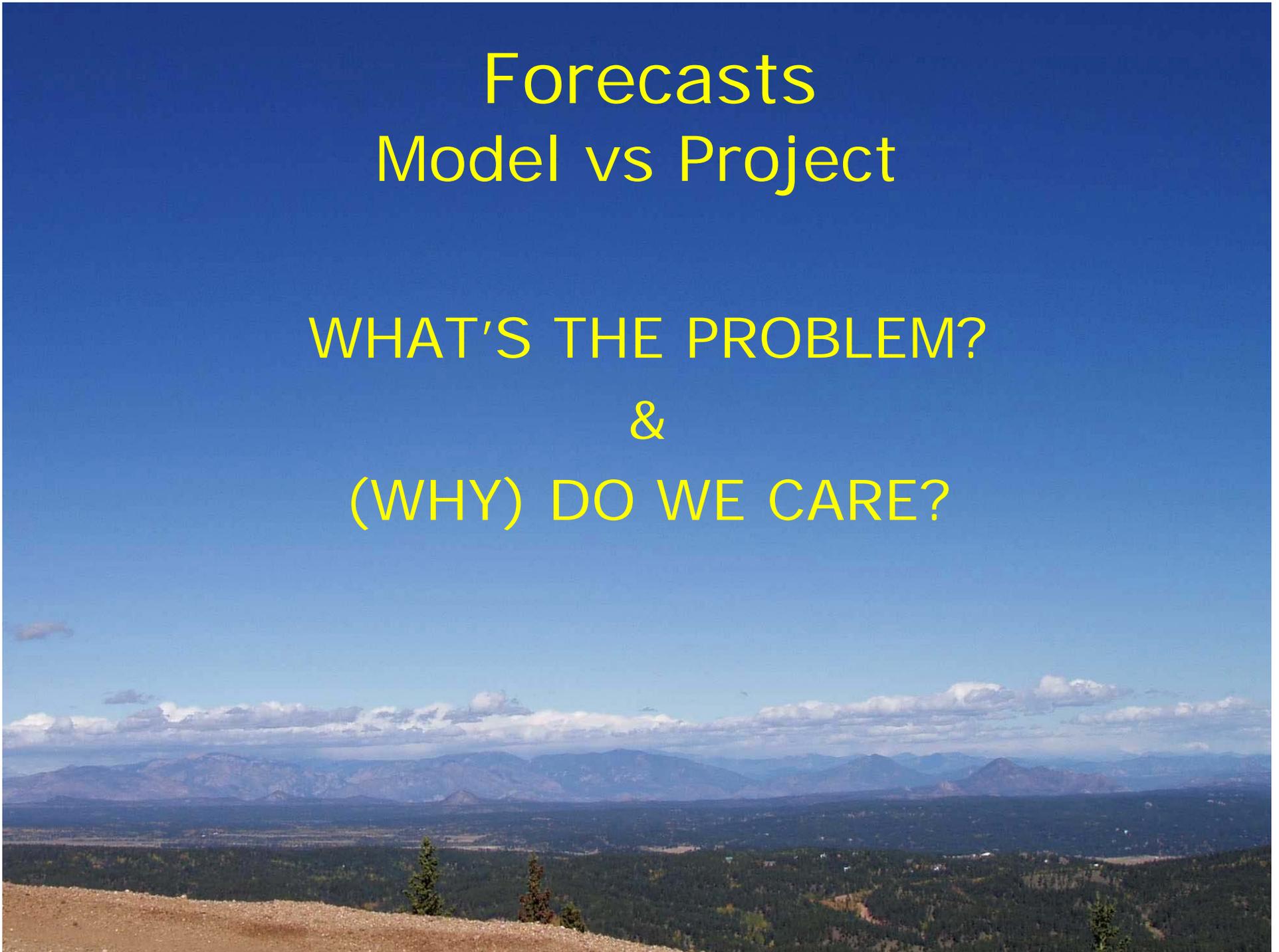
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TRANSPORTATION PLANNING BRANCH

# Forecasts Model vs Project

WHAT'S THE PROBLEM?  
&  
(WHY) DO WE CARE?



# Project Level Traffic Forecast

## Evolving Process and Procedures

- Process
  - How forecasts are handled
- Procedures
  - The technical analysis for developing a project level traffic forecast



# Project Level Traffic Forecast

## Process

- Request is made
- Communicate with Requestor
- Official Review
- Distribution



# Project Level Traffic Forecast

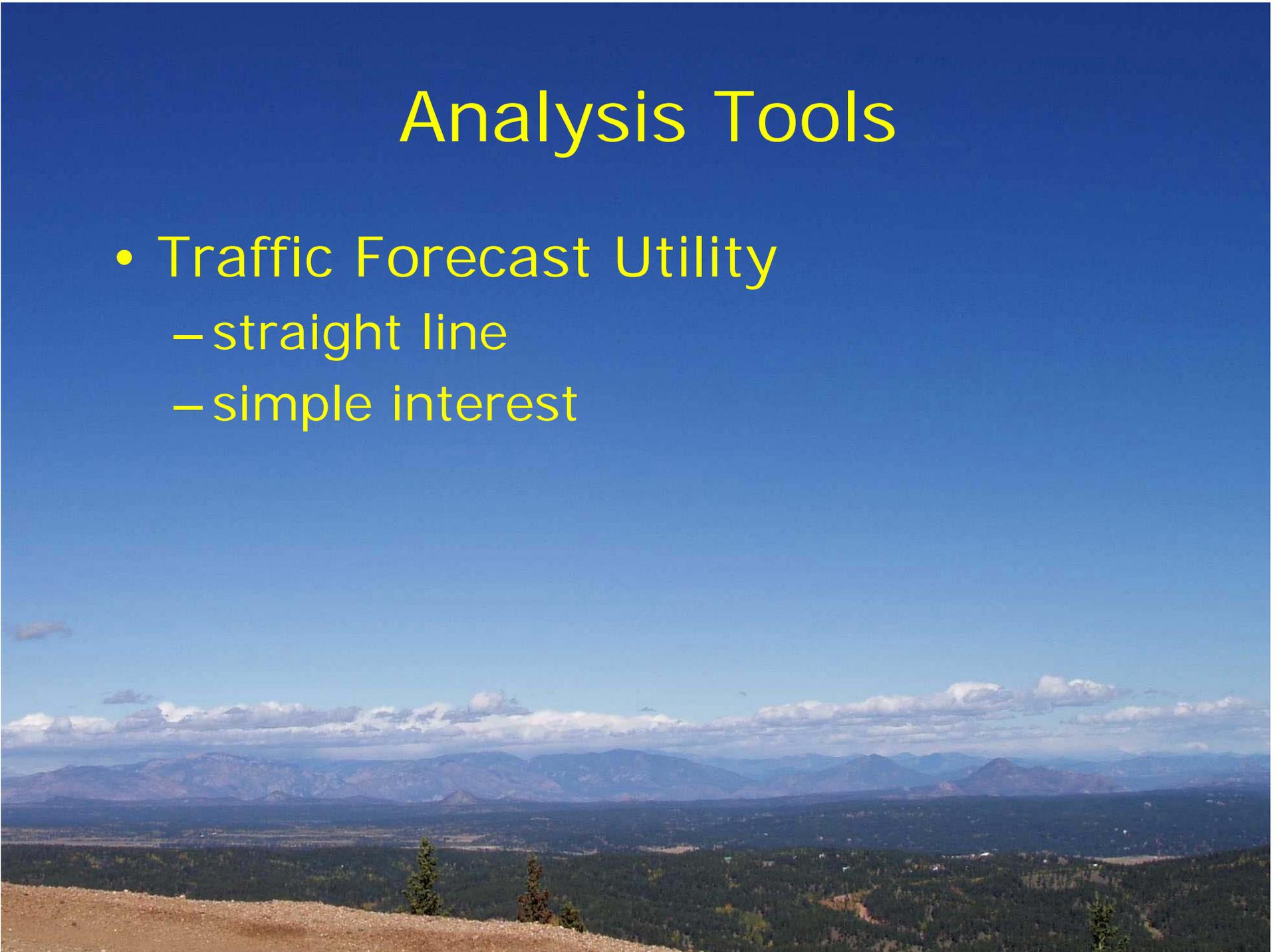
## Procedure

- **Analysis tools and data**
- Scenarios
- Documentation
- Resolution of Issues

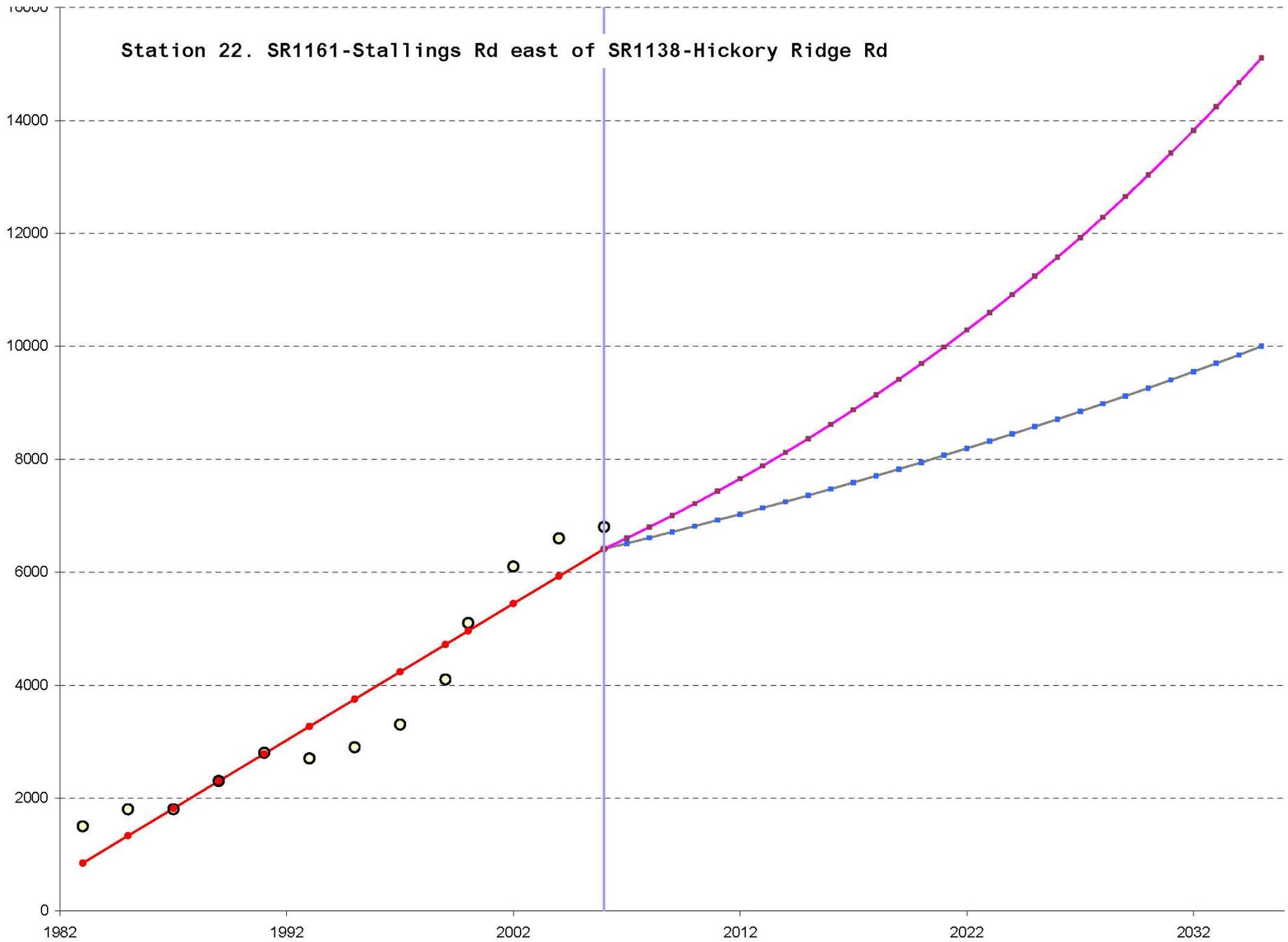


# Analysis Tools

- Traffic Forecast Utility
  - straight line
  - simple interest

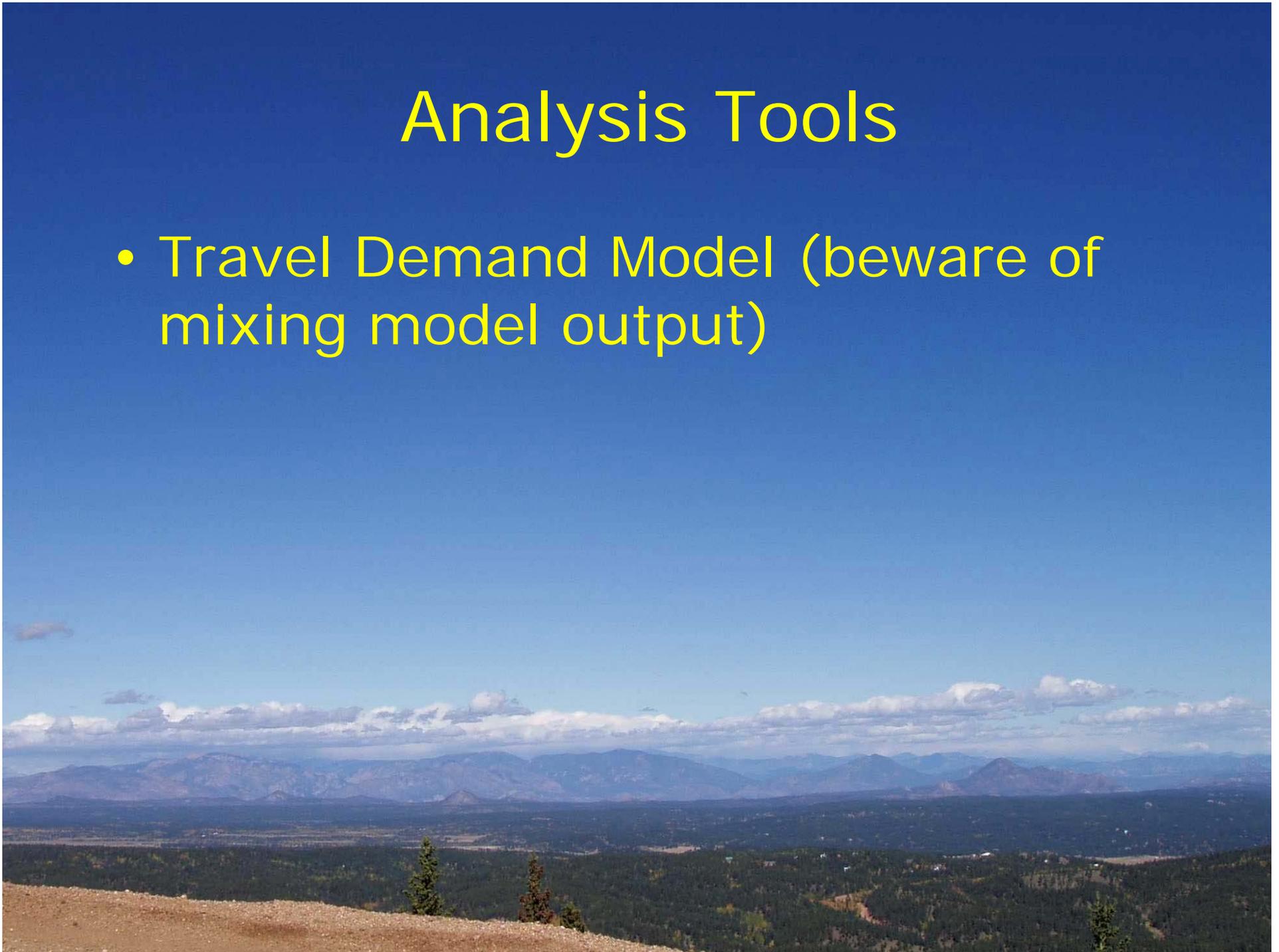


Station 22. SR1161-Stallings Rd east of SR1138-Hickory Ridge Rd



# Analysis Tools

- Travel Demand Model (beware of mixing model output)



# Project Level Traffic Forecast

## Procedure

- Analysis tools and data
- **Scenarios**
- Documentation
- Resolution of Issues



# Scenarios

- Base year no-build \*
- Base year build
- Future year no-build
- Future year build \*
- Other alternatives

\* Required Scenario



# Project Level Traffic Forecast

## Procedure

- Analysis tools and data
- Scenarios
- **Documentation**
- Resolution of Issues



# Documentation

If the goal were inconsistency - we would win the gold!

- Planning Group - random
- Forecast Group - better - standard outline
- Consultants - good - establishing expectations and standards



# Project Level Traffic Forecast

## Procedure

- Analysis tools and data
- Scenarios
- Documentation
- **Resolution of Issues**



# Resolution of Issues

- State Traffic Forecast Engineer



# Model vs Project

- Why are they different?
  - assumptions
  - outputs
  - use
- Who cares?
  - public



# Model vs Project

- What can we do?
  - better labeling/education
  - documentation
- How is NCDOT doing?
  - getting better and heading in the right direction



# Model & Project - Forecasts at Peace

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