Guidelines to Determine When to Request Initial Formal Traffic Forecast for Bridge Projects.

Purpose
The purpose of these guidelines is to provide guidance on when to request a forecast for a bridge project. In many cases, the bridge project is located on a road with a low volume and the projected travel will not affect the design decision of the bridge. In these cases, requesting a traffic forecast will not be a cost effective activity and the projected traffic can be developed using the AADT maps.

Guidelines
To determine if you should request a traffic forecast for a bridge project use the *Bridge Traffic Forecast Flow Chart* flow chart.
**Bridge Traffic Forecast Flow Chart**

1. **Is the Project in an MPO?**
   - Yes: REQUEST A FORECAST
   - No: Review current AADT maps and AADT maps 5 years prior

2. **Review current AADT maps and AADT maps 5 years prior**
   - Yes: Use current AADT as Base Year Forecast, double for Future Year.
   - No: Does traffic increase by 100% or more over the 5 years?

3. **Does traffic increase by 100% or more over the 5 years?**
   - Yes: Is the larger AADT value 600 or less?
   - No: Does any road in the study area exceed 1,000 vpd on current AADT map?

4. **Is the larger AADT value 600 or less?**
   - Yes: Use current AADT as Base Year Forecast, double for Future Year.
   - No: REQUEST A FORECAST

5. **Does any road in the study area exceed 1,000 vpd on current AADT map?**
   - Yes: REQUEST A FORECAST
   - No: REQUEST A FORECAST

As attached to Debbie Barbour memorandum of 2/24/09