
Statewide Transportation Planning in Arkansas

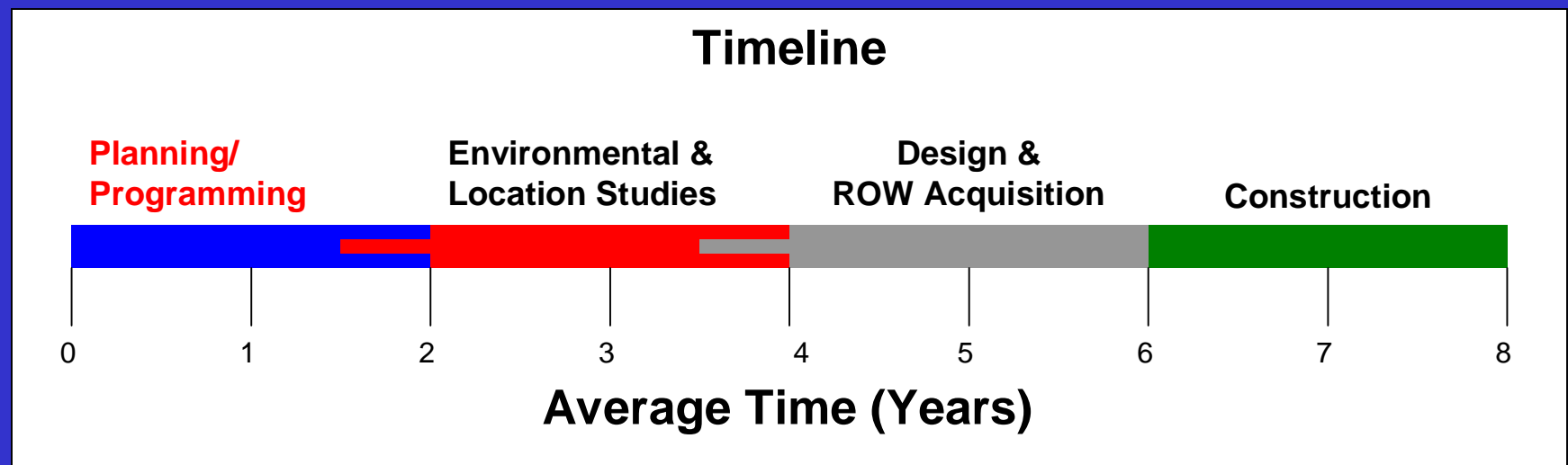


Paul Simms

Staff Planning Engineer

The Planning Process

- **Planning / Programming – 24 Months**
- Environmental & Location Studies – 30 Months
- Final Design & Right-of-Way Acquisition – 24 Months
- Construction – 24 Months



Typical Steps in the Planning Process

- **Determine the Purpose and Need of the proposed project**
- Collect and analyze traffic and crash data
- Identify and analyze alternative solutions
- Conduct public involvement meetings
- Document findings and present to the Highway Commission

Typical Steps in the Planning Process

- Determine the Purpose and Need of the proposed project
- **Collect and analyze traffic and crash data**
- Identify and analyze alternative solutions
- Conduct public involvement meetings
- Document findings and present to the Highway Commission

Data Collection

- Traffic Data
 - 24 and 48-hour Counts
 - Vehicle Classification Counts
 - Turning Movements
 - Weigh in Motion
 - Speed
- Rail Crossing Inventory
 - Vehicle Traffic
 - Rail Traffic
 - Crash History



Data Collection

- Cursory Environmental Review
- Pavement Condition - Automatic Road Analyzer Vehicle (ARAN)
- Falling Weight Deflectometer
- Skid Truck
- Multi-Media Highway Information System



Data Collection

- Census and Other Demographics
 - Population
 - Employment
- Crash Statistics
 - Location
 - Severity
 - Roadway Conditions
 - Environmental Conditions
- Geographic Information System / Global Positioning System

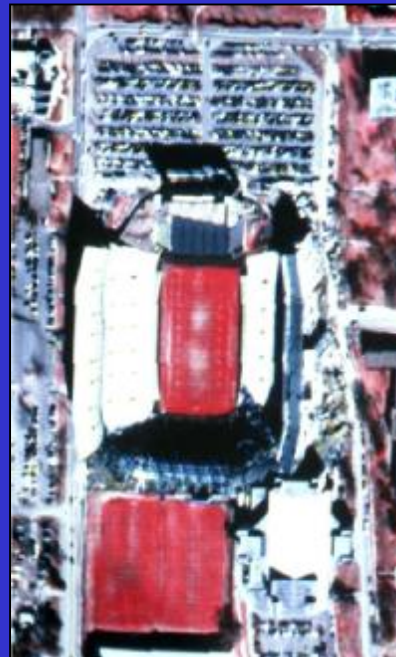


Data Collection

- Evolution of Aerial Photography



2001



2002



2004

Typical Steps in the Planning Process

- Determine the Purpose and Need of the proposed project
- Collect and analyze traffic and crash data
- **Identify and analyze alternative solutions**
- Conduct public involvement meetings
- Document findings and present to the Highway Commission

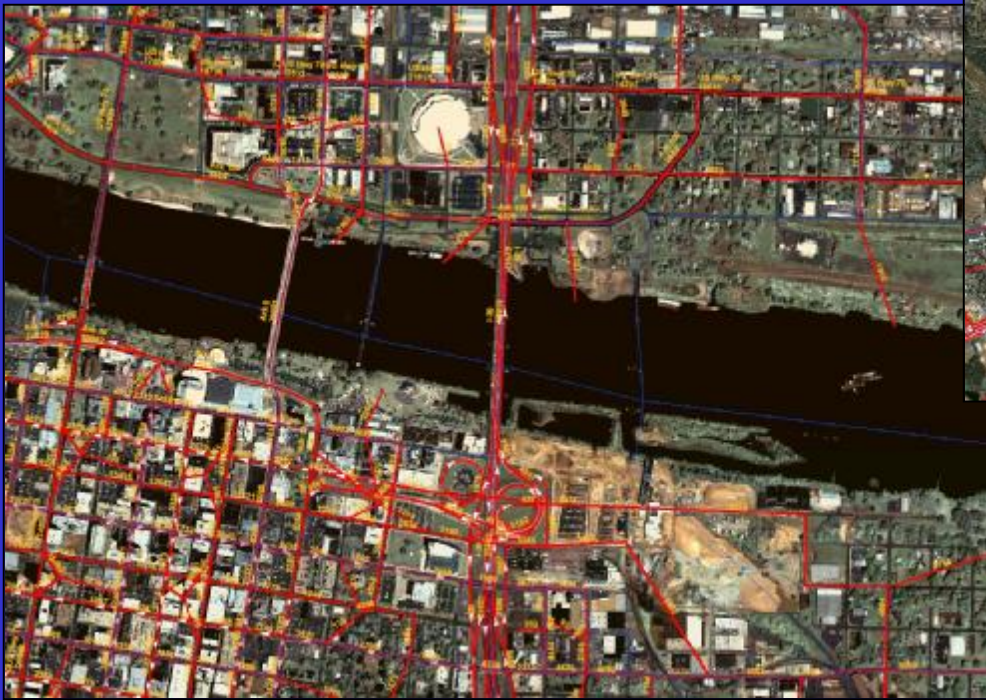
Analysis Tools

- Highway Capacity Manual and Software
 - Freeway Operation Analysis
 - Basic Freeway Segment Operation Analysis
 - Weaving
 - Ramp Capacity and Operation Analysis
 - Urban Arterial Analysis
 - Rural Highway
 - Multilane Highway
 - Two-Lane Highway
 - Intersections
 - Signalized and Unsignalized



Analysis Tools

- Travel Demand Models
 - Central Arkansas
 - West Memphis
 - Northwest Arkansas



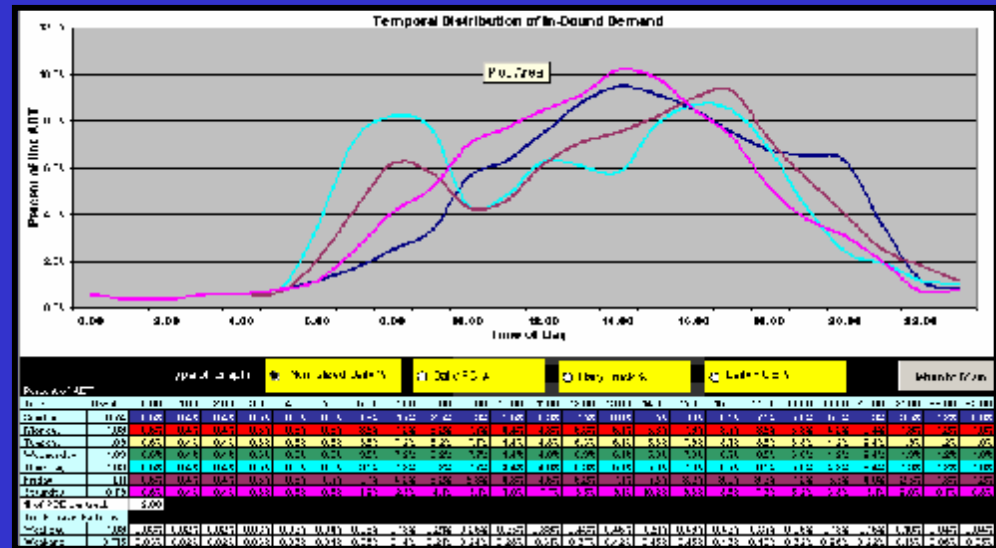
Analysis Tools

- VISSIM – Micro Simulation Model



Analysis Tools

- QuickZone
 - Corridor delay
 - Comparison of delay impacts of alternative project phasing plans
 - Tradeoff analyses between construction and delay costs
 - Impacts of Construction Staging
 - Assessment of travel demand measures and other mitigation strategies
 - Establishes work completion incentives



Typical Steps in the Planning Process

- Determine the Purpose and Need of the proposed project
- Collect and analyze traffic and crash data
- Identify and analyze alternative solutions
- **Conduct public involvement meetings**
- Document findings and present to the Highway Commission

Public Involvement

- Meetings with local leaders
 - local priorities and needs
 - potential solutions
 - gather local information
- Public Meetings –
 - gather local information
 - present preliminary findings and draft recommendations
 - accept comments and questions

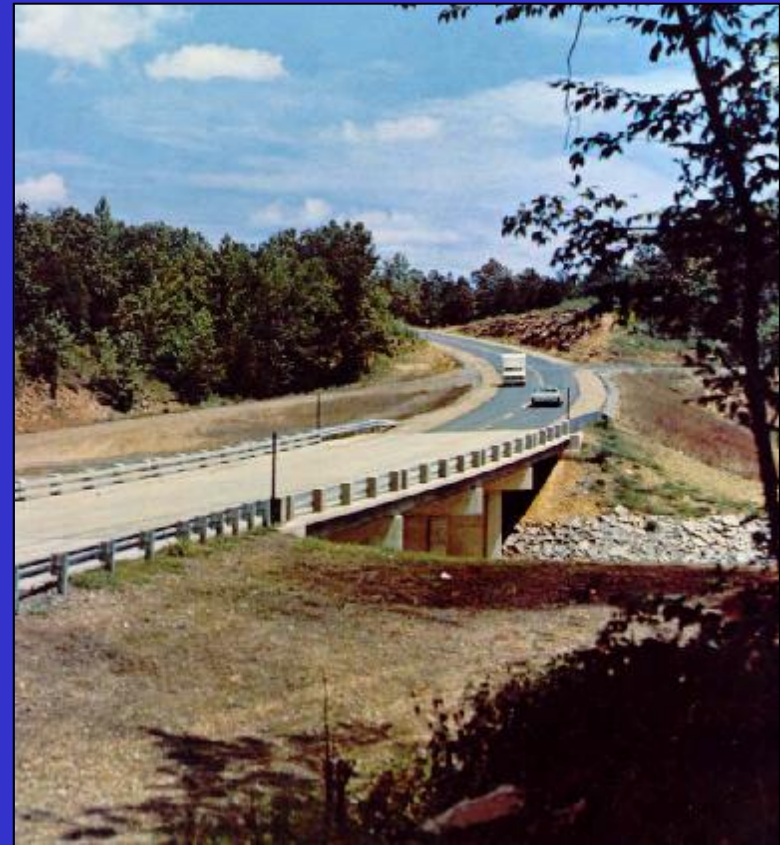


Typical Steps in the Planning Process

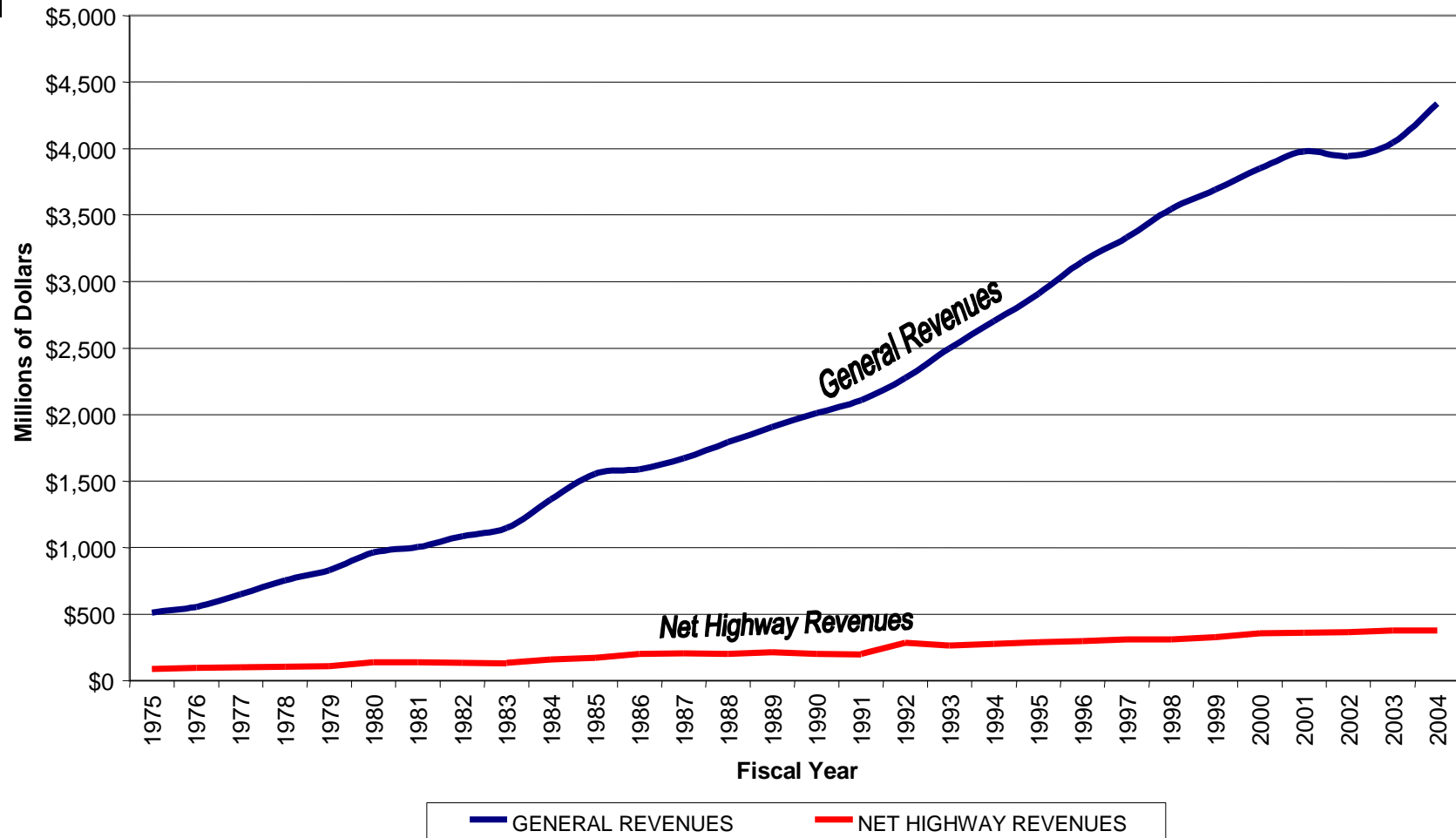
- Determine the Purpose and Need of the proposed project
- Collect and analyze traffic and crash data
- Identify and analyze alternative solutions
- Conduct public involvement meetings
- **Document findings and present to the Highway Commission**

Developing a Statewide Plan

- The Commission and Department are responsible for 16,444 miles of roadway and 7,116 bridges.
- The State Highway System comprises only 17% of the State's 98,607 total public road miles.
- The State Highway System carries 80% of the total traffic and 97% of all heavy truck traffic.



Developing a Statewide Plan



Excludes county & city aid funds

Current and Emerging Issues

- Managing an extraordinarily large highway system -
 - > 12th largest system in the nation
 - > 39th in funds available per mile
- 20% increase in travel over the next 10 years
- Environmental and route location issues
- Increasing construction costs
- Lowest Administrative costs per mile



Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department

