**STUDY OF ROAD CONNECTIVITY IN OGBOMOSO NORTH**

**BY**

**AKINDEERE, ZAINAB ABIKE (182615)**

**BEING A PROJECT SUBMITTED TO**

**THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT MANAGEMENT,**

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# CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that all the activities in this project report was carried out by **Akindeere, Zainab Abike (Matric No: 182615)** of the department of Transport Management, Faculty of Management Sciences, Ladoke Akintola University of Technology, Ogbomosho, Oyo State, Nigeria.

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DR. O.J Babalola Date

Supervisor

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

PROF. Remi Aworemi Date

Head of Department

# DEDICATION

This project is dedicated to the Almighty God who has been my source of Strength, Grace and Wisdom throughout the period of my course, through whose Grace and Favor I have been able to run my course and scale through the hurdles of my academic pursuit.

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The success and the outcome of this project were possible by the guidance and support of many people. I am incredibly privileged to have got this all along with the achievement of my project. It required a lot of effort from each individual involved in this project with me and I will like to thank them.

I appreciate the effort of my supervisor, DR. O.J BABALOLA**,** for granting me an opportunity to do the project activity in and providing us with all support and leadership, which made me finish the project duly. I am really thankful to the entire staff of the departments. You are surely voicing to reckon with in the department of transport management.

My boundless gratitude goes to my loving and caring father and mother**,** who has always been there whenever I need them. I also want to thank them for their moral and financial support. I wish to appreciate all my siblings, project mate, departmental mate for their immense contribution towards the project. May God bless you all.

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# ABSTRACT

# CHAPTER ONE

# **INTRODUCTION**

## 1.1 Background of Study

Roads are essential to sustainable development, especially when it comes to the expansion of agriculture and the regeneration of rural areas. They serve as vital conduits, making it easier for people, products, and services that are necessary for agricultural output to travel. Better connectivity between agricultural hubs, markets, and transportation centers is made possible by efficient road networks, which improves agricultural commerce, productivity, and resource access (Munir *et al*., 2021). There are several ways in which road construction affects sustainable development. While increased worker productivity and mechanization in agriculture can be achieved through improved infrastructure, there are drawbacks as well, including ecological costs and land fragmentation. Therefore, encouraging sustainable agriculture practices in rural regions requires an awareness of the complex balance between road development and its environmental and social effects (Ali *et al*., 2021).

Road network design and organization have a significant impact on urban development because they determine how people and products move through an area and affect the area's general usability and accessibility. The backbone of society, roads are essential to both social connection and economic growth. Convenient transit options are crucial in metropolitan settings, particularly in business locations like marketplaces. Unplanned urban sprawl, however, frequently results in poorly constructed road infrastructure, which impedes traffic flow and reduces road connectivity. Planning regions become more appealing, travel costs are decreased, and economic output is increased when there are good roads and strong connection. Increased motorization and insufficient road networks lead to traffic congestion, which has a negative impact on urban infrastructure and productivity (Akinola, 2023).

Improved road connection is essential for multidimensional development indices to function. It creates job possibilities and greatly enhances access to necessities including markets, healthcare, and education (Munir *et al*., 2021) This increased accessibility spurs economic expansion and raises living conditions in local areas. On the other hand, poor connection is a hindrance to development as it isolates areas and prevents socioeconomic advancement by restricting access to opportunities and essential resources. Therefore, the relationship between development and efficient road connection highlights the crucial role that well-connected infrastructure plays in creating vibrant, inclusive societies (Khuvung & Odyuo, 2023).

Ogbomoso, located in Oyo State, Nigeria, has experienced substantial urbanization since its founding in the middle of the seventeenth century, becoming one of the country's most notable metropolitan areas. Ogbomoso is mostly home to Yoruba ethnic people and has a population of about 645,000. It is known for its important agricultural operations, which include the production of tobacco, maize, yams, and cassava (Olajoke, 2021). One of the two local governments in the city, Ogbomoso North Local Government, is the focus of this study's road connectivity analysis. .

Ogbomoso North's road connectivity now represents a varied topography with both notable problems and strengths. While some segments have excellent connectivity and accessibility, others have inadequate infrastructure, such as inadequate maintenance and small capacity. Road abnormalities cause problems for both residents and companies, making transit less efficient and limiting economic activity. Due to traffic and poor infrastructure, some places—especially residential neighborhoods and important commercial hubs—need to be addressed right away. In order to satisfy the growing demands of urban growth, it is imperative that these concerns be addressed. This will need strategic enhancements and targeted improvements in the road network to promote seamless connection and support the region's increasing socio-economic needs (Oluwaseyi, 2021).

## 1.2 Statement of Problem

A strong and effective road system in Ogbomoso North should ideally connect all of the areas, making it easy for people to get from place to place and do business. However, the region's socioeconomic development is hampered by the current infrastructure, which is characterized by uneven road conditions and poor connection. This problem has a major influence on day-to-day living, making it more difficult for inhabitants to access basic services, restricting their access to employment prospects, and generally degrading their quality of life. The project's goal is to provide a thorough investigation of the existing road networks in Ogbomoso North, identifying the main obstacles to effective connection. Through the identification of these barriers, the study aims to provide well-thought-out solutions that would dramatically improve road connection. In the end, these enhancements are intended to stimulate local economic activity in addition to helping the community.

This solution is significant because it has the ability to spark good change in Ogbomoso North—not just by fixing immediate infrastructure issues, but also by establishing the groundwork for long-term, sustainable development. The study's goal is to unleash the region's economic potential through better road connectivity, which will promote a business-friendly atmosphere and improve the general well-being of the inhabitants. Furthermore, the suggested remedies will function as a model for subsequent urban planning initiatives, establishing a standard for equitable, eco-friendly, and productive infrastructure growth in comparable areas, therefore enhancing its influence beyond the local area.

## 1.3 **Aim**

This study aims to investigate and comprehend the road connection in Ogbomoso North especially.

**1.4 Objectives**

The objectives of this project are as follows:

1. To find regions for better road connectivity and enhanced traffic flow, analyze traffic patterns and congestion points.
2. Determine which major thoroughfares and corridors are essential for establishing connections between the various areas in Ogbomoso North.
3. Examine the current state of the roads, their capacities, and their types (highways, urban, and rural), with the goal of maximizing the region's overall road connectivity.

## 1.5 Scope and Limitation

The road connectivity in Ogbomoso North is thoroughly examined in this study, with a focus on assessing hotspots for congestion, traffic patterns, and the overall state of the road infrastructure. It aims to offer in-depth analyses of significant transit routes and corridors in order to pinpoint areas that could be enhanced to enhance traffic flow and reduce congestion. The study also evaluates various road types, such as rural, urban, and highways, to understand their capabilities, constraints, and general condition, providing a thorough understanding of the local road network.

The accessibility and availability of data regarding traffic patterns and road conditions, however, places limitations on the study. The complexity of obtaining accurate or current traffic statistics about specific hotspots or trends could affect how broadly these locations are analyzed. Furthermore, the study's focus is mostly on providing strategic solutions rather than implementing them because it is unable to address immediate infrastructure upgrades due to logistical or financial constraints.

## 1.6 Significance of Study

This study is particularly significant since it directly addresses critical issues that have an impact on daily life and economic activities in Ogbomoso North. By examining road connection, it looks to provide workable ideas for increasing the efficiency of transportation, reducing traffic, and promoting general accessibility for people and businesses. The results of the study have the potential to improve economic growth through streamlining trade routes, attracting investments, and streamlining transportation. They can also help optimize the road network. Furthermore, this analysis supports wider sustainable development objectives by offering calculated ways to improve road connections, creating a more resilient and favorable environment for the community's present and future development. Its importance ultimately stems from the potential benefits it could have for the socioeconomic environment of the area, providing avenues for increased connectedness and better living conditions for the community.

# CHAPTER TWO

# LITERATURE REVIEW

## 2.1 Roads as Infrastructure

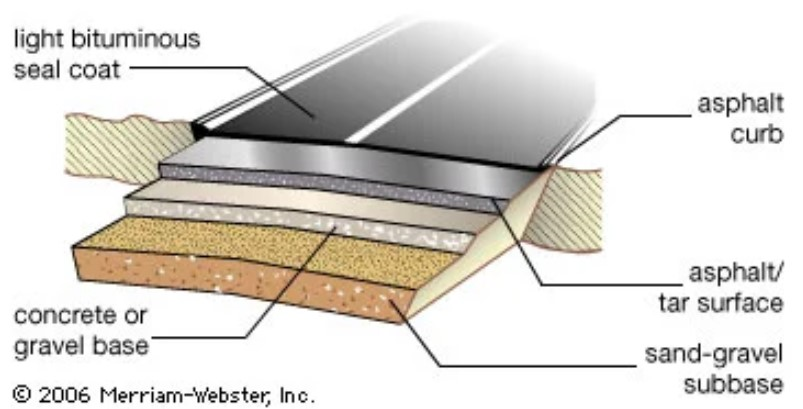
Roads are the backbone of connectivity and are crucial to the socioeconomic underpinnings of communities everywhere. They serve as the infrastructure that supports trade, industry, and prosperity in the economy by connecting producers to markets. These commercial channels promote economic growth, boost market accessibility, and reduce transportation costs by enabling a seamless exchange of goods and services. Highways also connect communities and provide access to needs like healthcare and education, which strengthens the social fabric and serves a purpose beyond just enabling business. They are essential to rural agriculture because they enable the transportation of goods to markets, minimize spoilage, and enhance the quality of life for farmers. Robust road networks serve as the cornerstone of urban development, shaping city plans, managing traffic, and promoting cities' sustainable expansion.



**Figure 2.1:** Understanding the Importance of Road Infrastructure

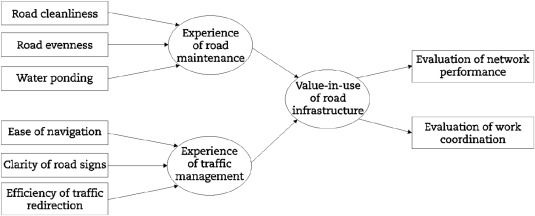
### 2.2.1 Fundamentals of road infrastructure

1. The efficiency of road infrastructure depends on these essential components cooperating:
2. Road Network: Designed to meet a variety of transportation demands, it consists of highways, streets, and country roads.
3. Road width, surface materials, drainage systems, and signage are all part of the design and engineering process, which guarantees longevity and security.
4. Maintenance & Upkeep: Essential to extending the life of a road, this includes routine resurfacing, repair, and inspection.
5. Additional Features: Interchanges, bridges, and tunnels complete the network by promoting connectedness and allowing for smooth transitions.
6. Tools for Traffic Management: Road markings, speed limit signs, and traffic signals control the flow of traffic, guaranteeing efficiency and safety.



**Figure 2.2:** Elements of a modern asphalt road.

Transportation systems are primarily supported by road infrastructure, which comes in a variety of forms designed for certain functions (Parvard *et al*, 2023). Urban roads connect residential, commercial, and industrial zones within cities and densely populated areas, making them an important means of transportation within these areas. In contrast to its urban counterparts, rural roads serve sparsely inhabited areas by connecting farms, villages, and isolated areas. These roads are frequently essential for rural connectivity and agricultural activity (Ganguli, 2020). The main thoroughfares for transportation, highways link cities and areas, promoting trade and long-distance travel. Each kind is essential to the flow of people, products, and services, which promotes economic activity, improves accessibility, and strengthens the social fabric of communities (Heinonen & Czepkiewicz, 2021)



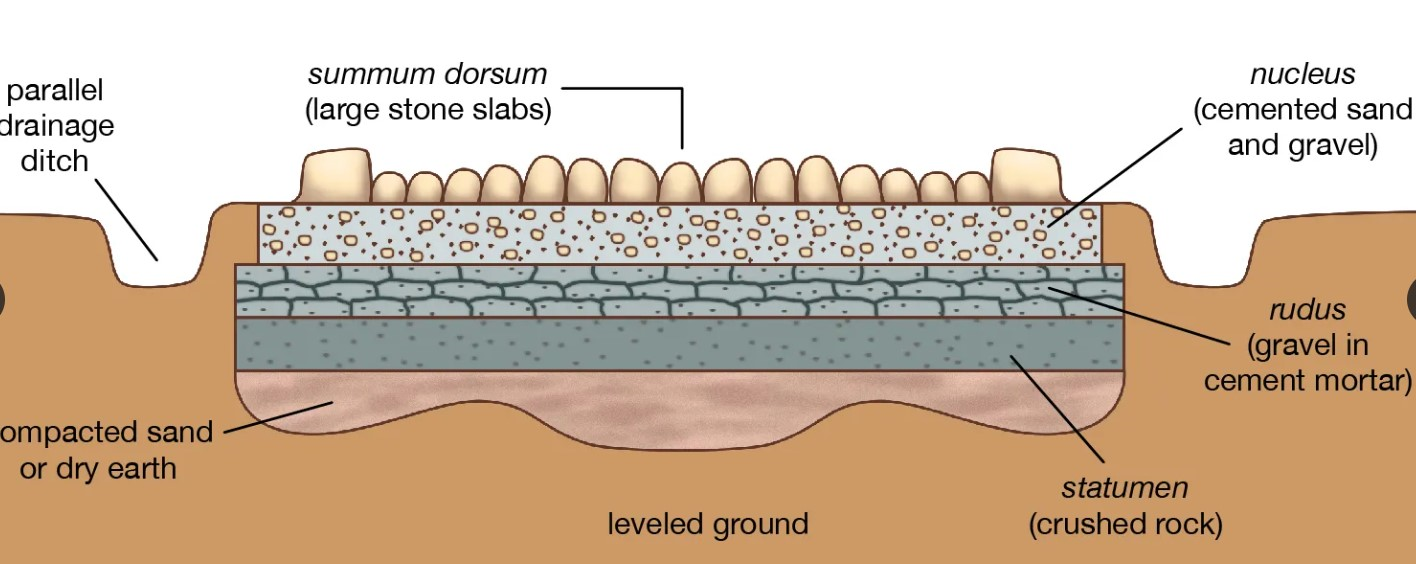
**Figure 2.3**: Road Network Model

### 2.2.2 Roles of Road in Transportation

1. There are several reasons why roads are necessary to support mobility.
2. Connectivity: The primary ways of creating links between rural and urban regions are roads. They facilitate the movement of people, goods, and services, strengthening social and economic linkages across geographical boundaries.
3. Accessibility: They improve access to a wide range of locations, including residences, workplaces, industries, and essential services like hospitals and schools. This accessibility enhances the quality of life for the residents.
4. Trade & Commerce: Roads are necessary to transport goods between production sites, marketplaces, and distribution centers. They facilitate trade by offering a dependable and accessible form of transportation.
5. Mobility: The personalized and adaptable modes of movement made possible by roadways are facilitated by private vehicles, bicycles, and pedestrian walkways.
6. Economic Development: Effective road networks stimulate economic growth by reducing transportation costs, improving market accessibility, and attracting investments due to enhanced connectivity.
7. Support for Agriculture: Rural roads facilitate the transportation of goods from farms to markets, reducing spoilage and providing farmers with access to a greater variety of markets.
8. Travel & Tourism: Roads support the travel and tourism industry and strengthen local economies by providing access to well-liked tourist destinations.
9. Emergency Services: Roads facilitate the rapid access of emergency response vehicles, including fire engines and ambulances, to locations in need of assistance.

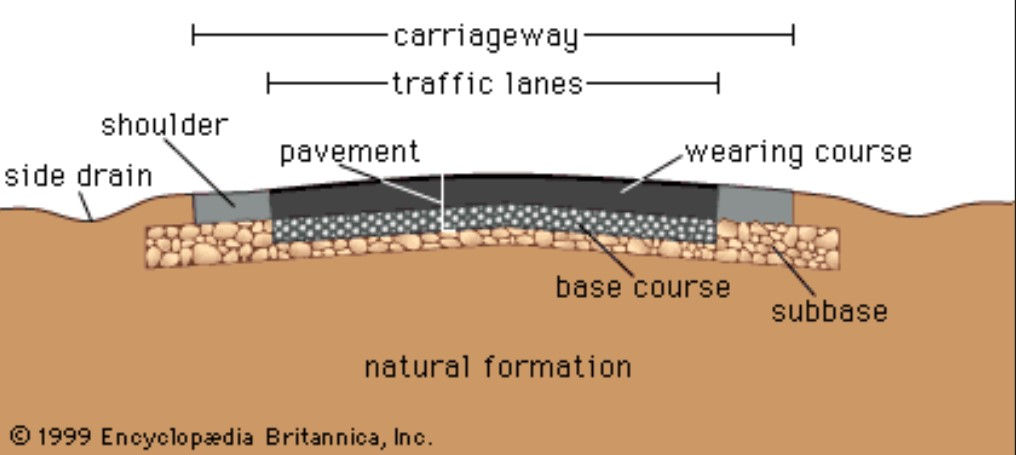
## 2.2 Historical Evolution of Road Networks

Throughout history, road networks have changed throughout millennia, reflecting the progress of civilizations and the growth of their cultures. The earliest human settlements created the paths and trails that later became roads, which evolved over time to accommodate growing trade, communication, and social interactions. Early civilizations such as the Roman Empire made significant advancements in road construction by building a vast network of stone-paved roads that facilitated efficient trade and transportation over vast distances. These ancient roadways facilitated cross-cultural interaction in addition to making it simpler for armies and goods to move around, which had an impact on the formation of civilizations (Chu, 2022).



**Figure 2.4**: Ancient Roman road shown in cross section.

Roads in the Middle Ages were neglected due to political unrest and road deterioration brought on by conflict. To pay for upkeep, turnpikes and toll roads were created. Large-scale road construction was prompted by the industrial and Renaissance revolutions. Road networks were transformed by steam-powered transportation in the 19th century, opening the door to contemporary highways and transcontinental routes. This historical period promoted widespread mobility, increased trade, and urbanization, which promoted social progress and economic prosperity (Wang *et al*., 2020).



**Figure 2.5:** Schematic Cross Section of a Modern Roadway

It is impossible to overstate how important highways have been to society's growth. Better and larger roads facilitated trade, easier access to markets, and more efficient movement of commodities, all of which contributed to economic expansion. Additionally, road networks promoted intercultural communication and the exchange of innovations, knowledge, and ideas. Roads connected settlements and facilitated the flow of people and goods, which influenced the development of society and encouraged regional integration. (Parvard *et al*, 2023).

**Table 2.1:** Evolution of Road Infrastructure: Historical Milestones

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Era | Key Developments in Road Infrastructure |
| Ancient Times | Emergence of footpaths and trails for travel between settlements.  Roman Empire constructs extensive road networks, such as the Appian Way. |
| Middles Ages | Expansion of trade routes, leading to the establishment of trade roads.  Development of cobbled and gravel roads connecting towns and markets. |
| Industrial Era | Introduction of turnpikes, toll roads funded by users for maintenance.  Advancements in road construction with the use of macadam and paving stones. |
| 20th Century | Rise of automobiles leads to the construction of paved roads for cars.  Implementation of highway systems and interstate networks for long-distance travel. |
| Modern Era | Development of expressways, freeways, and high-speed motorways.  Integration of technology for traffic management and navigation systems. |

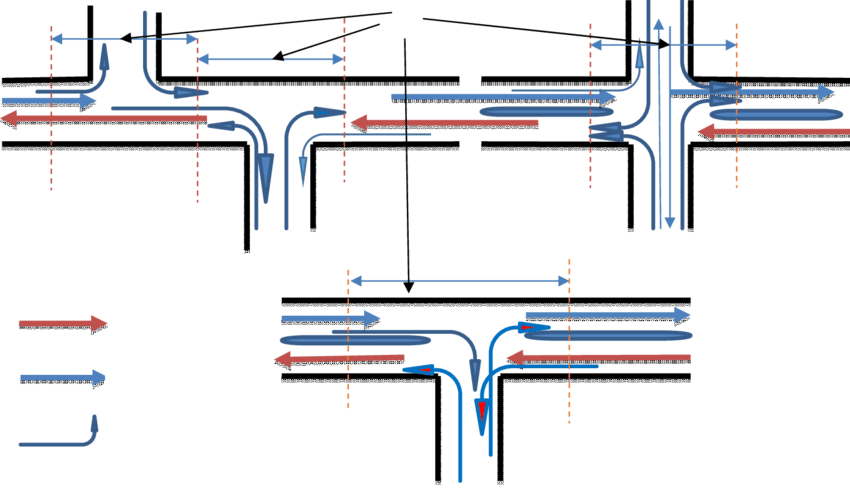
## 2.3 Road Connectivity in Urban Development

The notion of road connection is a cornerstone of urban development, explaining the role that interconnected road networks play in promoting social progress. It is essential to urban environments, facilitating the smooth flow of people, products, and services that drive economic growth and mold the urban fabric. (Maity *et al*, 2021). The fundamental theories and techniques that direct the strategic planning and construction of road networks are emphasized by urban transportation planning concepts. These guidelines are essential for coordinating the methodical placement of road infrastructure to satisfy the changing needs of urban areas, guaranteeing accessibility, and promoting easy movement within cities. (Ali *et al.*, 2021).

## 2.4 Traffic Flow Analysis and Management

### 2.4.1 Traffic Flow

The study of traffic flow examines how people who utilize transportation—vehicles, pedestrians, cyclists, drivers, and their vehicles—interact with infrastructure, such as highways, signage, and traffic control systems. Understanding and designing the perfect transportation network with few problems with traffic jams and effective traffic flow is the aim.



**Figure 2.6:** Schematic diagram of a traffic flow on urban road network

### 2.4.2 Types of Traffic Flow

There are two primary ways that traffic moves. Determining the most appropriate analysis methods and descriptions will be made easier if you have a clear understanding of the type of flow occurring in a given situation.

1. Uninterrupted flow is defined as flow that is controlled by interactions between vehicles and between vehicles and the roadway. For instance, traffic on an interstate highway moves continuously.
2. Flow that has been disrupted by an outside force, like a traffic signal, is known as interrupted flow. Under circumstances of interrupted flow, interactions between vehicles and the roadway and other vehicles play a secondary role in defining traffic flow.

### 2.4.3 Traffic Flow Analysis

Traffic flow analysis is the process of obtaining, examining, and assessing data regarding the movement of vehicles on roadways. Analysts can discover trends, understand the dynamics of congestion, and pinpoint areas that are prone to bottlenecks or inefficient traffic movement by using traffic flow patterns. This study regularly makes use of a wide range of data sources, including sensors, traffic cameras, manual observations, and historical data.

### 2.4.4 Types of Traffic Flow Analysis

Traffic flow analysis categorizes into three primary types, each offering distinct perspectives;

**Table 2.2:** Types of Traffic Flow Analysis: Perspectives and Parameters

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Type | Focus | Parameters | Use |
| Microscopic Traffic Flow | Individual vehicles and interactions | Lane changes, acceleration, overtaking | Understanding detailed driver behaviors |
| Macroscopic Traffic Flow | Collective traffic movement on a larger scale | Average speed, traffic density, flow rate | Assessing congestion, overall traffic conditions |
| Mesoscopic Traffic Flow | Groups of vehicles and their behavior | Interactions within clusters, platooning dynamics | Understanding interactions among clusters of vehicles |

### 2.4.5 Traffic Flow Visualization

Visualizations play a crucial role in understanding traffic flow. The two key methods for visualizing traffic flow are;

1. Speed-Density Diagram
2. Flow-Density Relationship

Experts in transportation and planners benefit from both visuals' ability to convey traffic dynamics. They aid in the development of effective traffic management strategies by helping to identify critical thresholds when traffic conditions change.

### 2.4.6 Speed- Flow- Density Relationship

Density, flow, and speed are all related. The relationships between density and speed are readily apparent in the real world, but the effects of density and speed on flow are less clear.

The following formula links density, flow, and speed in conditions of continuous flow:

q = k \* v

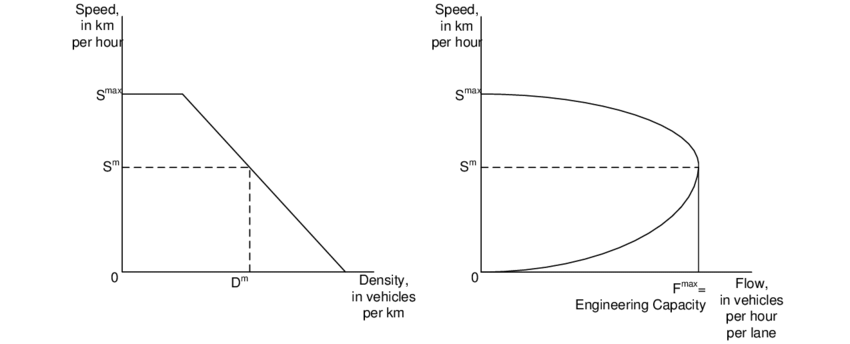
Where q = Flow (vehicles per hour)

v = Speed (in miles per hour or kilometers per hour)

k = Vehicle Density (vehicles per mile, vehicles per kilometer)

Since flow is the combination of density and speed, flow equals zero when either or both of these parameters are 0. It is also possible to conclude that the flow is optimal at a specific critical combination of density and speed.

These concepts are demonstrated by two typical traffic scenarios. The first is the modern traffic gridlock, which is characterized by extremely high traffic density and poor speeds. A relatively low flow is produced by this combination. The second scenario is when there is very little traffic and drivers are able to move at a free flow speed without being unduly stressed out by other cars on the road. The ensuing very low flow is the result of the extremely low density making up for the high velocity.



**Figure 2.7**: Speed -Density and Speed-Flow Curves

The relationship between traffic density and speed is illustrated by the Speed-Density Diagram, which shows that average speed usually decreases with increasing traffic density because of congestion and more vehicle interactions. Conversely, the Flow-Density Relationship illustrates the relationship between traffic flow and density, showing that flow frequently increases with density until it reaches its maximum capacity. After this point, higher densities result in lower flow, which is indicative of the beginning of congestion. These visualizations aid analysts and planners in recognizing critical thresholds where traffic conditions shift, guiding the formulation of targeted traffic management strategies to optimize road efficiency and alleviate congestion.

### 2.4.7 Traffic Flow Parameters

1. Speed (v): Distance traveled per unit of time by a vehicle. Average speed is the space mean speed calculated by averaging individual vehicle speeds.
2. Volume: Number of vehicles passing a point on a roadway in a specified time period.
3. Traffic Flow (q): Rate at which vehicles pass a given point on the roadway, usually measured in vehicles per hour.

q = ρ \* v

where q = Traffic flow rate

ρ = density and v = speed

1. Peak Hour Factor (PHF): Ratio of the hourly flow rate to the peak 15-minute rate of flow expressed as an hourly flow.
2. Density (k): Number of vehicles on a given length of roadway, reported in vehicles per mile or kilometer.
3. Headway (h): Temporal space between two vehicles, measured in seconds from the arrival of the leading vehicle to the following vehicle.
4. Spacing (s): Physical distance between the front bumpers of leading and following vehicles, reported in feet or meters.
5. Gap (g): Time between the departure of the first vehicle and the arrival of the second at a designated point, measured in seconds.
6. Clearance (c): Distance between the rear bumper of the leading vehicle and the front bumper of the following vehicle, reported in feet or meters. It is the spacing minus the length of the leading vehicle.

Traffic flow analysis is a crucial tool for understanding the intricate dynamics of urban mobility. It encompasses an array of methodologies used to assess traffic patterns, congestion hotspots, and their notable impacts on transportation network planning and development. Traffic flow analysis elucidates vehicle movement fluctuations and identifies sites susceptible to traffic bottlenecks through the application of techniques such as density evaluations, speed analyses, and traffic volume counts. Urban planners can strategically deploy resources and infrastructure to lower traffic demands thanks to this empirical knowledge. It also serves as a guide for creating an effective road network. (Kolesov *et al*., 2022)

Traffic management techniques are therefore necessary to reduce traffic and enhance the overall efficacy of road networks. These strategies include, among many other things, traffic signal optimization, intelligent transportation systems, and lane management. Adaptive traffic signals, real-time traffic monitoring, and congestion pricing schemes are some of the tools that urban authorities can use to optimize traffic flow and minimize congestion. Additionally, innovative solutions like bike lanes, pedestrian-friendly infrastructure, and dedicated bus lanes promote a more sustainable and balanced urban mobility scenario. (Kim *et al*., 2023)

In a paper published in 2020, Zheng and Huang addressed urban congestion by accurately predicting traffic flow using deep learning—more particularly, LSTM networks. By utilizing actual traffic data, the LSTM model outperformed conventional approaches in forecasting accuracy, exposing dynamic traffic patterns and assisting in the making of wise traffic management decisions. All things considered, the research demonstrates how deep learning may improve traffic flow analysis and management when it comes to alleviating urban congestion. .

## 2.5 Infrastructure Development and Management

Examining different models is crucial for effective planning, construction, and maintenance of road networks in the field of infrastructure development. A range of approaches, from traditional to innovative, influence road design and management and have an impact on the long-term sustainability and viability of the roadways. Moreover, road infrastructure in Nigeria is significantly impacted by the variety of urban-rural dynamics. Depending on the distinct urban and rural characteristics of the area, developing and maintaining the road network presents a number of obstacles. Customized solutions are therefore required to solve issues with connectivity, uneven resource distribution, and the disparities in infrastructure requirements between urban and rural locations. (Chang *et al*., 2023).

The viewpoint on road infrastructure in Nigeria draws attention to important facets of growth and administration. Numerous issues plague the nation, such as poor upkeep, financial limitations, and a variety of topographical features that affect the quality of roads in both urban and rural areas. In order to sustain economic activity, urban areas frequently need strong and connected road networks, whereas rural areas need infrastructure upgrades to close accessibility gaps. In order to promote national economic growth and social cohesion, Nigeria's infrastructure planning must balance these urban-rural dynamics, highlighting the need for customized methods that take local contexts, resource allocation, and fair infrastructure development into account. (Ali *et al*., 2020).

## 2.6 Environmental Sustainability in Road Infrastructure

Henke *et al* (2020) carried out a study on decision-making in the transportation industry, with a particular focus on a sustainable evaluation technique for road infrastructure. They addressed the serious issue of the detrimental externalities that regular transportation activities create, which have an effect on the environment and people's quality of life. The goal of the study was to provide a sustainable evaluation technique for determining how new transportation infrastructure would affect the environment. They evaluated the social, economic, and environmental sustainability of a "greenway" refurbishment project in southern Italy by a quantitative approach.

In the investigation of the impact of road infrastructure on economic sustainability, Ben (2021) emphasized the critical role that road infrastructure plays in ending hunger, lowering poverty, and improving the quality of human existence. The study emphasized the importance of road transportation as a door-to-door mode of delivery for getting finished items to customers. It also highlighted how road development may unlock the potential of rural communities by turning subsistence farming into a successful commercial system. In order to understand how road infrastructure contributes to economic growth, the article addressed a number of economic theories, including neoclassical growth theory, endogenous growth theory, growth pole, and growth center theory. In order to disperse demand, lessen traffic, increase reliability, and boost the country's economy as a whole, it suggested that Nigeria use road pricing schemes. The report's conclusion advocated for public investment centered on economic returns.

Ruiz & Guevara (2020) used a system dynamics technique to study the economic and environmental effects of road infrastructure. Their research highlighted the significance of giving sustainable practices in maintenance precedence over green methods in new construction by contrasting traditional and sustainable procedures in road construction and maintenance. Their research highlighted the significant effect of maintenance on costs and emissions, recommending a focus on road maintenance to enhance road network conditions. It proposed their model as a tool for policy development and suggested further research on green interventions in existing road networks globally.

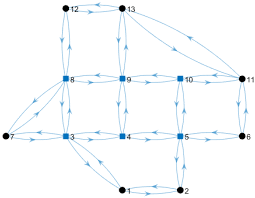
## 2.7 Environmental impact assessment

The study by Mavrin *et al*. (2020) focuses on improving traffic management efficiency through infrastructure modernization in order to mitigate the environmental impact of road transportation. The street and road network of a medium-sized city was examined for trouble regions, and simulation models were created using a discrete-event methodology. Through computer tests and proposed steps for modernization, the study demonstrated significant potential for enhancing traffic flow characteristics and so mitigating environmental effect. This study highlights evidence-based strategies for efficient traffic management and offers doable recommendations for improving urbanized regions' infrastructure.

The goal of the study by Onokala & Olajide (2020) was to draw attention to the difficulties Nigeria's main transportation modes confront in advancing the nation's economic development in the twenty-first century. They went into great detail about how each mode—roads, rivers, trains, and airplanes—was developed historically and how each had previously contributed to economic advancement. The report explores the current issues, focusing mostly on the overuse and improper management of road transportation, the underutilization of rivers' capacity, the antiquated railway systems, and the necessity of substantial improvements in air transportation. These difficulties lead to environmental problems, a high frequency of traffic accidents, inefficient ports, and lost import possibilities in Nigerian seaports. In order to overcome these obstacles and make it possible for different modes of transportation to more effectively contribute to Nigeria's

## 2.8 Sustainable road network models

In Nabeeh's (2023) study, an Intelligent Neutrosophic Multi-Criteria Decision-Making (MCDM) model was used to evaluate sustainable growth in various road transport systems. The study looked at both economic and environmental aspects, highlighting the need to lower carbon emissions, improve energy efficiency, and take into account larger societal goals. In order to reconcile conflicting aspects such as energy efficiency, legislative frameworks, economic influence, and environmental impact, the MCDM model was utilized. The research attempted to completely analyze the sustainability of contemporary road transport systems by including a DEMATEL approach and 14 secondary criteria. This would help stakeholders plan for sustainable transportation in the future.



**Figure 2.8:** Dynamic Road Network Model

Ruiz and Guevara (2020) focused on road preservation strategies in Colombia while delving deeply into sustainable decision-making for road construction. System dynamics (SD) and the analytical hierarchical process (AHP) were used in their hybrid methodology to evaluate several methods to sustainable road maintenance. They used the SD model to analyze road conditions, costs, and emissions in order to evaluate various maintenance policy choices for Colombia's national road network through a case study. The results showed that short-term maintenance methods were frequently influenced by economic factors, which prioritized remedial maintenance over predictive maintenance. Nonetheless, the analysis showed that predictive maintenance made a substantial contribution to both lowering CO2 emissions and keeping roads in good condition.

The authors of the study (Ogryzek *et al*., 2020) provided guidelines and tactics for creating a city's transportation network to be more effective. They examined Vilnius' sustainable transportation policies and mobility, drawing inspiration from cities such as Copenhagen and London. The study investigated a number of factors that affect sustainable transportation, including bicycle and pedestrian trips, automobile usage, public transportation indicators, and car usage itself. It suggested fixes included the creation of bike routes, shared spaces, and changes to policies. Graph theory techniques and geographic information system (GIS) technologies were used to evaluate each of these.

# CHAPTER THREE

# MATERIALS AND METHODS

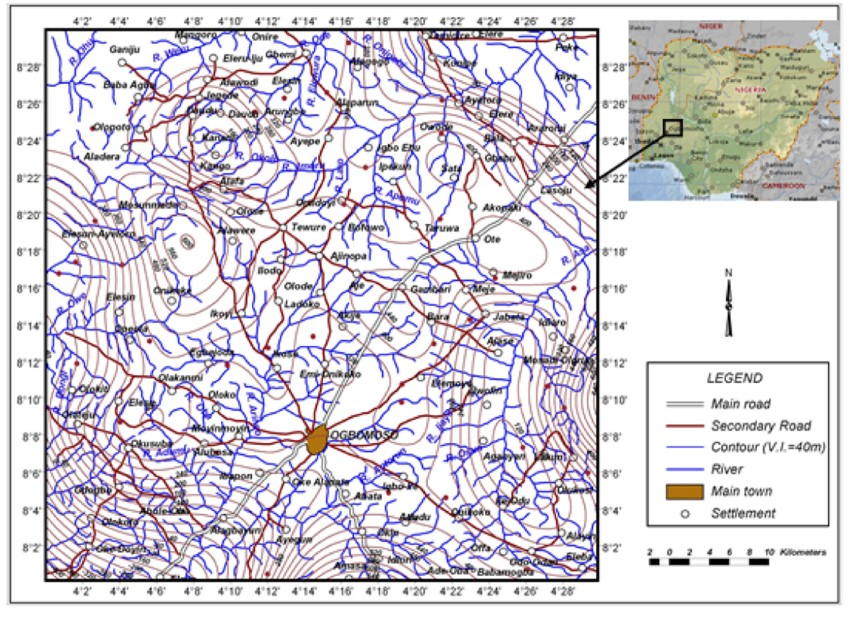
## 3.1 Brief Description of the study area

Ogbomosho North is a Local Government Area in Oyo State. Currently led by Kabir Akanji, the chairman, the organization's headquarters are located in Kinnira. Ladoke Akintola University of Technology (LAUTECH), one of Nigeria's premier educational institutions, and its teaching hospital are housed by the local government

Additionally, located there are the Nigerian Baptist Medical Center and the Bowen University Teaching hospital. The Local Government Area is home to a large Yoruba population, and Islam and Christianity are the two most common religions there. Two notable landmarks at the Ladoke Akintola University of Technology and the Bowen University Teaching Hospital are located in the Ogbomoso North Local Government Area.

After being created from the original Ogbomoso Local Government Area on April 1, 1973, Ogbomoso North Local Government Area was constituted on September 27, 1991. With an average temperature of 28 degrees Celsius, Ogbomoso North Local Government Area is roughly 207 square kilometers in size. The average wind speed in the area is 9 km/h, and there is about 1830 mm of precipitation annually.

Numerous privately and publicly operated banks, hotels, restaurants, factories, and schools can be found in the Ogbomoso North Local Government Area. With multiple markets, such as Wazo and Ojajagun markets, where a wide variety of commodities are transacted, the Local Government Area has a vibrant trading industry (Adewuyi *et al,* 2020)



**Figure 3.1**: Map of Ogbomoso North (inset map of Nigeria)

### 3.2 Research design

The research design for the investigation into road connectivity in Ogbomoso North adopts a comprehensive mixed-method approach, seamlessly integrating both quantitative and qualitative methodologies. This hybrid design has been deliberately chosen to ensure a nuanced understanding of the intricacies surrounding the road network, traffic patterns, and connectivity challenges prevalent in the study area. By employing this dual methodology, the research aims to capture not only the statistical aspects of road infrastructure and traffic flow but also the contextual and experiential dimensions perceived by the local community.

The research questions guiding this investigation delve into the current condition of road infrastructure, the location of congestion points, the types and capacities of existing roads, and strategic solutions to enhance traffic flow and alleviate congestion in Ogbomoso North.

To guide the investigation, the following research questions have been formulated:

1. What is the current condition of the road infrastructure in Ogbomoso North, and how does it contribute to overall connectivity?
2. Where are the primary congestion points and traffic flow disruptions within the study area?
3. What are the existing types of roads (highways, urban roads, rural routes), and how can their capacities be optimized for improved connectivity?
4. What strategic solutions can be recommended to enhance traffic flow and reduce congestion in Ogbomoso North?

### 3.3 Data Collection

The study model was crafted through an in-depth exploration of the spatial arrangement of the road network, elucidating the varied functions and roles of distinct locations in fostering the comprehensive connectivity and developmental dynamics within Ogbomoso North. The data, sourced from the Ministry of Lands, Housing, and Physical Planning in Ibadan, Oyo State, is instrumental in understanding the infrastructure and connectivity within the region.

**Table 3.1**: Table of Locations and Places in Ogbomosho North (considered in the study)

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Location/Place Type** | **Name** | **Description** | **Significance** |
| Major Towns | Ogbomoso | LGA headquarters, Lautech, Ogbomoso Grammar School, Baptist Hospital, central markets | Key economic and educational hub |
|  | Ilorin-Ibadan Expressway | Major corridor connecting Ogbomoso to other cities | Vital for regional trade and transportation |
|  | Saki | Town known for pottery and historical sites | Tourist destination and agricultural center |
|  | Ayegun | Growing residential area with agricultural significance | Community development and resource access |
|  | Iyana Offa | Junction connecting Ogbomoso to Offa and Kwara State | Access to neighboring region and trade routes |
| Important Landmarks | Ladoke Akintola University of Technology (LAUTECH) | Prominent university attracting students and professionals | Educational and intellectual hub |
|  | Ogbomoso General Hospital | Main medical facility for the LGA | Healthcare access and essential services |
|  | Ogbomoso Central Market | Bustling marketplace for various goods and local produce | Economic activity and cultural showcase |
|  | Soun Ogunlola Palace | Official residence of the Soun of Ogbomoso | Traditional leadership and cultural symbol |
|  | Baptist Seminary | Theological institution training religious leaders | Spiritual development and community influence |
| Road Network Segments | Ilorin-Ibadan Expressway | Major north-south corridor | Regional connectivity and traffic flow |
|  | Ogbomoso-Saki Road | Connects Ogbomoso to Saki and beyond | Access to agricultural and rural areas |
|  | Ogbomoso-Iwo Road | Links Ogbomoso to Iwo in Osun State | Inter-state connectivity and trade opportunities |
|  | Ogbomoso-Offa Road | Provides access to Offa and Kwara State | Regional exchange and cultural interaction |
|  | Inner-city roads | Connect various neighborhoods and landmarks within Ogbomoso town | Local accessibility and community mobility |

### 3.4 Data Profiling

The collected datasets comprise of the road infrastructures and network in Ogbomoso North, encompassing major highways, express routes, and minor roads.

### 3.4.1 Traffic Flow Dataset

The Traffic Flow dataset is a pivotal component of the comprehensive study on road connectivity in Ogbomoso North. This dataset primarily captures the dynamics of vehicular movement across different road segments and intersections in the study area. Key characteristics and features include:

1. Traffic Volumes: Recorded as the number of vehicles passing a specific point within a defined time period (vehicles/hour).
2. Congestion Points: Identifies areas with higher-than-average traffic volumes, indicating potential congestion hotspots.
3. Flow Patterns: Reveals the temporal patterns of traffic, providing insights into peak hours and variations throughout the day.

Units: Traffic volumes is typically measured in vehicles per hour.

### 3.4.2 Road Condition and Maintenance dataset

The Road Condition dataset evaluates the state of road infrastructure within Ogbomoso North. It assesses the physical attributes of highways, major roads, and minor roads. Key characteristics and features include:

1. Road Types: Categorizes roads into different types, such as highways, major roads, and minor roads.
2. Condition Assessment: Provides insights into the current state of roads, highlighting areas that may require maintenance or rehabilitation.
3. Capacity Analysis: Evaluates the capacity of each road segment, indicating its ability to handle vehicular traffic.
4. Units: Condition ratings may be qualitative (good, fair, poor), and capacity is often measured in vehicles per hour.

### 3.4.3 Road Network Model Dataset

The Road Network Model dataset offers a spatial representation of the entire road infrastructure in Ogbomoso North. It includes locations, road segments, and connectivity patterns. Key characteristics and features of this dataset include:

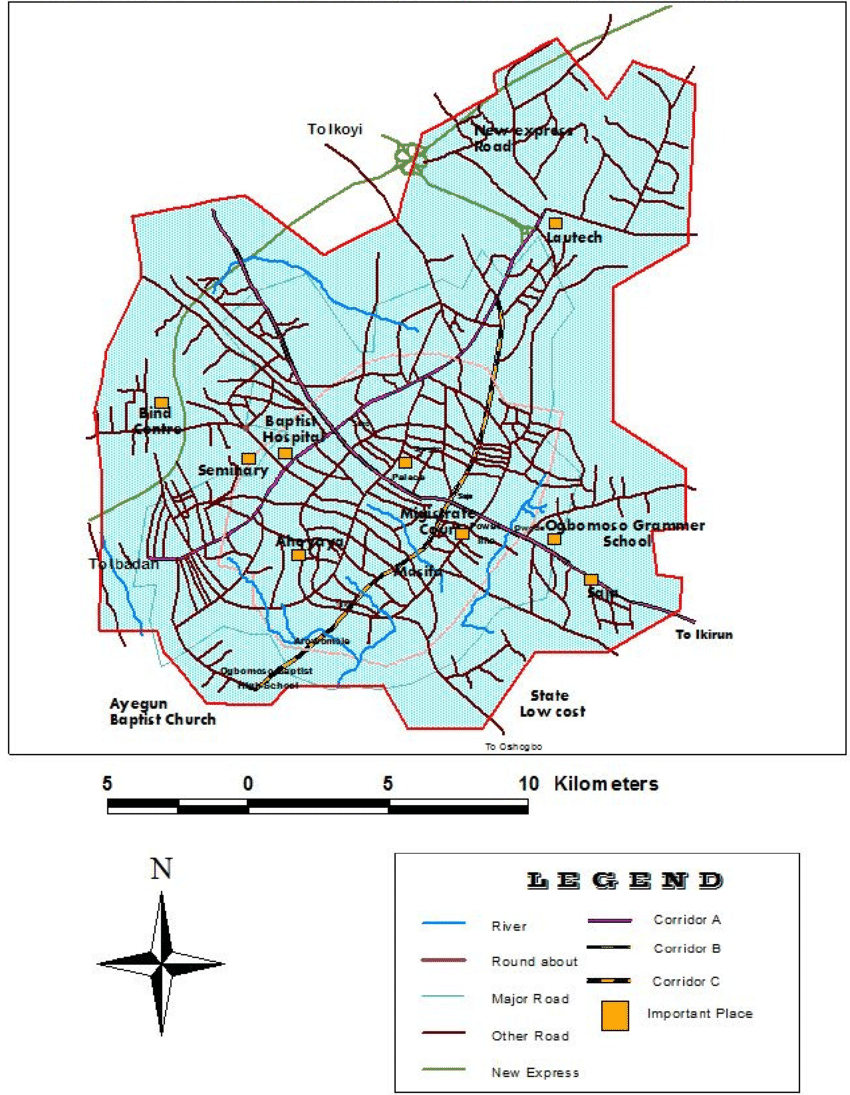
1. Geographical Information: Provides coordinates and spatial data for each location and road segment.
2. Connectivity Analysis: Identifies major road corridors, intersections, and crucial connectors in the network.
3. Landmarks and Towns: Maps out significant landmarks, towns, and junctions within the road network.
4. Units: Coordinates are measured in latitude and longitude.

### 3.4.5 Socioeconomic Impact Dataset

The Socioeconomic Impact dataset delves into the broader implications of road connectivity on the community in Ogbomoso North. It explores economic, social, and cultural aspects. Key characteristics and features include:

1. Economic Hubs: Identifies areas crucial for economic activities, such as marketplaces, educational institutions, and healthcare facilities.
2. Cultural Significance: Highlights landmarks and areas with cultural or historical importance.
3. Traffic Impact on Businesses: Examines how traffic flow (or congestion) influences local businesses.

Units: Impact assessments are both qualitative or quantitative.



**Figure 3.2:** Map of Ogbomoso township showing the road network.

## 3.5 Data Analysis Techniques

The data analysis component of this study is an exploration of the collected datasets pertaining to the road connectivity in Ogbomoso North. The analytical process is facilitated through the utilization of statistical tools and exploratory data analysis techniques such as univariate analysis, bivariate analysis and multivariate analysis. Key software tools employed include Statistical Package for Social Science (SPSS), Stata and Microsoft Excel.

### 3.5.1 Traffic Flow Patterns Analysis

Utilizing SPSS and Excel for Descriptive Statistics this phase involves a detailed examination of traffic flow patterns. Descriptive statistics such as mean traffic flow, standard deviation, and percentile values are calculated to gain insights into the central tendency and variability of traffic patterns within the study area.

### 3.5.2 Road Condition Assessment

Employing Exploratory Data Analysis, the univariate analysis focuses on individual variables, particularly road conditions, using frequency distributions. Bivariate analysis delves into relationships between road conditions and traffic flow, providing a nuanced understanding of their interplay.

### 3.5.3 Spatial Layout Exploration

This step involved a comprehensive assessment of the spatial distribution of road networks. GIS tools were leveraged here to identify key locations that significantly contribute to overall connectivity and developmental aspects within Ogbomoso North.

3.5.4 Hotspot Identification for Congestion:

Spatial analysis techniques and clustering algorithms was utilized here since the focus here is pinpointing congestion hotspots by scrutinizing the spatial distribution of traffic flow. Clustering algorithms are applied to detect specific areas characterized by high traffic density, contributing to a more targeted understanding of congestion points.

### 3.5.5 Multivariate Analysis for Overall Connectivity

Utilizing regression analysis in SPSS the study assessed the collective impact of multiple variables, including road conditions and traffic volume, on the overall road connectivity within the study area.

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