

Exploratory Modeling for Project Evaluation

TMIP Webinar – December 7, 2021





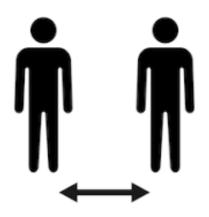
Project 1: Analyzing the impact of <u>COVID legacy</u> on a grade separated LRT extension project



SIGNIFICANT UNCERTAINTIES WITH COVID



Employment?



Willingness to share rides?



Strength of economy and discretional spending?



Auto ownership?



Work from home?





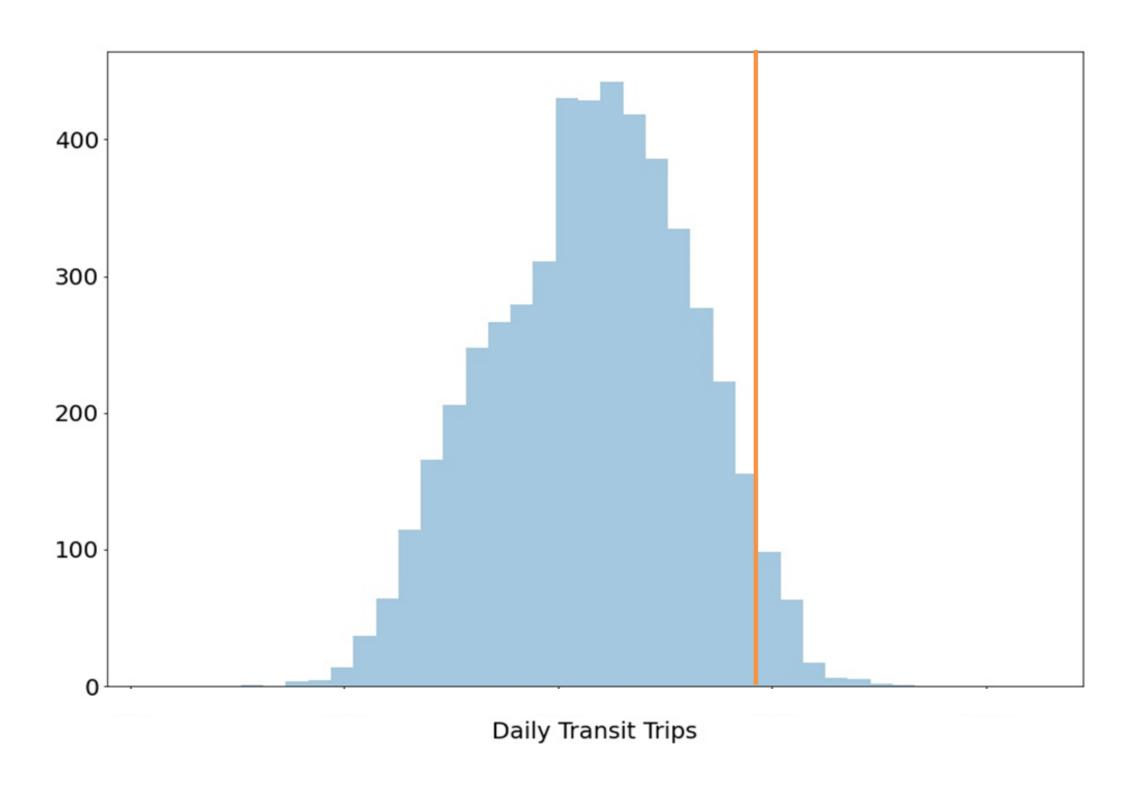
Fuel prices?

COVID LEGACY UNCERTAINTY FACTORS

Factors	Range	Peak	Distribution	Correlations
Work/Learn from Home	0-0.25	0.1		
Commute Distance	1.00 – 1.20	1.07		WFH/LFH



COVID LEGACY IMPACTS ON DAILY RIDERSHIP



- The point estimate is around P95
- Could re-evaluate the design capacity – make design changes to limit the risk of overbuilding the system



Project 2: Evaluating long-term uncertainty in infrastructure projects



Factor	Range	Peak	Distribution	Correlations
University Enrolment	0.65 – 1.35	1		
University Employment	0.65 – 1.35	1		enrolment
Work/Learn from Home	0-0.45	0.1		
Auto ownership Propensity	0.85 – 1.15	1		WFH/LFH
Vehicle operating costs	0.43-4.5	1.35		
Parking Cost Factor	0.5 – 2.00	1		
Bus Route Service	Yes, No			
Options	Option 1,2,3			

Factors	Range	Peak	Distribution
University Employment & Enrolment	0.75 – 1.25	1	
Work from Home	0-0.25	0.1	
Learn from Home	0-0.15	0.05	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
Vehicle Operating Costs	0.45 - 2.0	1.35	
Road User Charges	No, 100% MSC, 50% MSC		
Corridor Development	Low, Medium, High		



OUTSTANDING QUESTIONS

- Should factors be standardized
- How to produce BCR ranges
 - Benefit ranges
 - Combined ranges for benefits and costs
- How to use the distributions for project design
- Could exploratory modeling be used to select between project alternatives – for what projects, how



RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONSIDERATIONS

- A model-computer setup that allows quick model runs
- Ability to automate model runs with programmatic altering of model inputs
- Storage management a concern define required outputs at the outset of each project
- Significant work in
 - Figuring out how to translate the main uncertainties into factors in the model
 - Determining the factor ranges and distributions
- There should be some expectations about output distributions
- Expect a learning curve it will likely take a few iterations, before satisfactory results are available



THANK YOU!

