

APPENDIX K

LEVEL OF SERVICE

DEFINITIONS

LEVEL OF SERVICE (LOS) DEFINITIONS

Level of Service (LOS) is a qualitative measure of operating conditions within a traffic stream, and their perception by motorists and/or passengers. A LOS definition generally describes these conditions in terms of such factors as speed, travel time, freedom to maneuver, comfort and convenience, and safety. Levels of Service can generally be categorized as follows:

<u>LOS</u>	<u>Demand/ Capacity Ratio</u>	<u>Congestion or Delay</u>	<u>Traffic Description</u>
<i>(Used for two and four lane freeways and expressways)</i>			
"A"	<.34	None	Free flow.
"B"	0.35-0.52	None	Free to stable flow, light to moderate volumes.
"C"	0.53-0.69	None to minimal	Stable flow, moderate volumes, freedom to maneuver noticeably restricted.
"D"	0.70-0.92	Minimal to substantial	Approaches unstable flow, heavy volumes, very limited freedom to maneuver.
"E"	0.93-1.00	Significant	Extremely unstable flow, maneuverability and psychological comfort extremely poor.
<i>(Used for all freeways and expressways)</i>			
"F0"	1.01-1.25	Considerable 0-1 hour delay	Forced flow, heavy congestion, long queues form behind breakdown points, stop and go.
"F1"	1.26-1.35	Severe 1-2 hour delay	Very heavy congestion, very long queues.
"F2"	1.36-1.45	Very severe 2-3 hour delay	Extremely heavy congestion, longer queues, more numerous breakdown points, longer stop periods.
"F3"	>1.46	Extremely severe 3+ hours of delay	Gridlock

<u>LOS</u>	<u>Demand/ Capacity Ratio</u>	<u>Congestion or Delay</u>	<u>Traffic Description</u>
			<i>(Used for conventional highways)</i>
"B" to	<0.45	None	Free to stable flow, light moderate volumes
"C"	0.46-0.65	None to minimal	Stable flow, moderate volumes, freedom to maneuver noticeably restricted
"D"	0.66-0.85	Minimal to substantial	Approaches unstable flow, heavy volumes, very limited freedom to maneuver.
"E"	0.86-1.00	Significant	Extremely unstable flow, maneuverability and psychological comfort extremely poor.
"F"	>1.00	Considerable	Forced or breakdown Delay measured in average flow. travel speed (MPH). Signalized segments experience delays >60.0 seconds/vehicle.