



August 26, 2024

Division Street BRT Executive Committee

RE: Traffic Analysis Modeling

SRTC is currently updating the regional travel model to include updated travel information from recent travel surveys conducted by SRTC. The updated model will be used in the next SRTC Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) update. The project team, in consultation with project partners (WSDOT, City, County, SRTC), agreed that the project team's approach to completing the traffic analysis and incorporating the outcomes of the updated SRTC model should be formally concurred to by the Executive Committee. This concurrence will provide an agreed-upon approach by all project partners on how the updated regional model will be incorporated into the Division Street BRT project.

This letter summarizes the approach that will be used by the project team. This approach was developed in collaboration with the project partners and allows the project to continue moving forward until the updated model becomes available and can be assessed and integrated, as needed, into the Division BRT Project Model.

## Background

The project team is using the current and best available tool for regional forecasting. The current project model was recently developed in 2020 using a 2019 base year. Extensive updates to the existing project model have occurred over the past few years. These include updates to the roadway and transit networks, zone enhancements, and validation of transit mode share. The future SRTC model is under development and not currently approved for project use, however the land use from the model has been approved for project use. The project team is proposing a hybrid approach moving forward to allow for the use of the best available data as it becomes available to inform project decisions and inform the public outreach process.



## Approach For Division Street BRT

The project team will continue using the current project model built upon the SRTC 2019/2045 Regional Model. The project team will utilize the current project model to:

- Update existing analysis for the locally preferred alternative (LPA).
- Update screenline reporting to include capacity assumptions, and post-process data using existing count data from the City and County of Spokane.
- Develop draft model outputs for use in traffic operations analysis, included in the Traffic Impact Analysis (TIA).

When the future SRTC 2022/2050 Model becomes available (expected late 2024), the project team will conduct the following analysis:

- Conduct a high-level check of growth and travel patterns.
- Spot check model volumes and travel times.
- Review regional travel statistics.
- Develop a model comparison memo that compares the new model outcomes to the current project model outcomes.

The project team will utilize a Hybrid Model Approach for the project traffic operations analysis (July 2024 through project end). This hybrid approach will include the following:

- Continued use of the current SRTC 2019/2045 Model **as the base model to improve upon** – Including all enhancements made to date (roadway, transit, non-motorized, zone structure, turn movements).
- Update the land use forecasts in the project model with the approved forecast land use as obtained from SRTC and accepted by the SRTC Board in July 2024.

The graphic below summarizes the team’s approach to integrating the new SRTC model.



## Executive Team Concurrence

The undersigned parties, including all members of the Division BRT Executive Committee, concur that the Hybrid Model Approach is reasonable and appropriate for the Division Street BRT project. Signing this document does not infer approval of the project but will allow STA to continue using the current SRTC 2019/2045 Model while the new 2024 SRTC model is under development. STA will integrate elements of the new SRTC model into the project model as described in this letter. This concurrence aids the project team in moving forward with continued design and analysis of the project benefits and impacts.

 _____ Susan Meyer, STA, Chief Executive Officer	Aug 26, 2024 _____ Date
 _____ Karl Otterstrom, STA, Chief Planning and Development Officer	Aug 26, 2024 _____ Date
 _____ Katherine Miller, City, Director of Strategic Development and Initiatives	Aug 26, 2024 _____ Date
 _____ Marlene Feist, City, Public Works Director	Aug 26, 2024 _____ Date
 _____ Steven MacDonald, City, Director of Community and Economic Development	Aug 26, 2024 _____ Date
 _____ Lois Bollenback, SRTC, Executive Director	Aug 27, 2024 _____ Date
 _____ Charlene Kay, WSDOT, Regional Administrator - Eastern Region	Aug 27, 2024 _____ Date
 _____ Larry Larson, WSDOT, Assistant Regional Administrator	Aug 27, 2024 _____ Date
 _____ Kyle Twohig, County, Spokane County Public Works Director	Aug 26, 2024 _____ Date