2.0 Evaluation Team

The evaluation team assembled for this study is knowledgeable and experienced in the evaluation of traffic management strategies, such as ramp metering. The evaluation team was carefully selected and structured to provide an independent, credible, and objective study.

Two committees were formed to represent the public in the implementation of the study. The Advisory Committee was comprised of legislators, legislative staff, local government representatives, researchers, industry representatives, and stakeholder representatives. The Advisory Committee provided policy oversight, input, and guidance to the study. The Advisory Committee was chaired by David Jennings, President of the Greater Minneapolis Chamber of Commerce. Other organizations represented on the Advisory Committee include:

- Association of Minnesota Counties;
- Department of Public Safety – Minnesota State Patrol;
- Hennepin County Community Health Department;
- Southwest Metro Transit Commission;
- State Legislators (4);
- Federal Highway Administration;
- Murphy Warehouse Company;
- American Automobile Association (AAA);
- Metropolitan Council;
- Minnesota Department of Transportation (Mn/DOT);
- Citizens League;
- Metro Transit; and
- City of Eagan.

The Advisory Committee was assisted in the day-to-day technical oversight and project quality control by a qualified Technical Committee. The Technical Committee was chaired by James Grube, Director of the Hennepin County Transportation Department. Other organizations represented on the Technical Committee include:

- Pollution Control Agency;
- Dakota County Highway Department;
- City of Ramsey;
• City of St. Paul;
• Mn/DOT – Metro Division;
• Mn/DOT – Office of Investment Management;
• Metropolitan Council;
• City of Minneapolis;
• Metro Transit;
• Ramsey County Department of Public Works; and
• Federal Highway Administration.

The relation of the Advisory and Technical Committee to the overall evaluation team is shown in Figure 2.1.

Michael Sobolewski was the Mn/DOT Project Manager selected to provide day-to-day management of the project and provide coordination between the Advisory and Technical Committees and the consultant team.

The consultant team conducting the study was led by Cambridge Systematics, which was responsible for overall project management, as well as the conduct of several specific work tasks (including the development of the evaluation plan, the design and implementation of focus groups and survey market research, the conduct of the benefit/cost analysis, and research of secondary data sources). SRF Consulting assisted Cambridge Systematics in the traffic data collection design and implementation tasks. N.K. Friedrichs Consulting assisted with the market research tasks.

Marc Cutler and Vassili Alexiadis of Cambridge Systematics served as the evaluation team’s Principal-in-Charge and Project Manager, respectively. They were assisted by Douglas Sallman of Cambridge Systematics as Deputy Project Manager and individual Task Managers. These Task Managers provided focused expertise on individual aspects of the workscope. This management approach was developed to adequately support the diverse tasks required of the study, while meeting the rigid time schedule presented by the legislative mandate.

The consultant team was also assisted by an expert panel consisting of individuals selected by the consultant team and by the Advisory and Technical Committees. These nationally-recognized experts provided technical input to the study approach and critical review of deliverables, and helped ensure a credible and objective evaluation. The expert panel comprised of Dolf May from the University of California at Berkeley, Tim Lomax from the Texas Transportation Institute, and Howard Preston from Howard R. Green Company.
Figure 2.1 Evaluation Team