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STATE OF MINNESOTA

DEPARTMENT Mn/DOT - Environmental Services Room 704

Office Memorandum

TO : Jim Reierson Site and Development Unit

'DATE: Jan. 24, 1983

FROM : Thomas Virnig Architectural Drafting Technician II PHONE: 6-7588

SUBJECT: Anchor Lake Rest Area Usage Study, T.H. 53

This rest area usage study was done to provide information on current use patterns. This information will be used in spacing rest areas and providing the proper number of facilities.

The information was obtained by giving each vehicle entering the rest area a questionnaire which was answered during their stay in the area. The questionnaire was then collected as the vehicle left the area. The study was performed for five consecutive days, Thursday - Monday, 8 hours per day.

The mainline traffic was counted and classified according to type of vehicle during the same time period. This allows us to derive averages for stopping of vehicles using the rest area.

The following information was collected:

# SUMMARY

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Date: Aug. 13-17, 1981 Hours: 9 A.M. to 5 P.M. Weather: Cool, partly cloudy, exce Total vehicles on mainline - northe - southe	ound	wy showers Friday P.M. 9,484 <u>11,937</u> 21,421
Vehicles entering rest area		1,522
Percent of vehicles stopping		7.1%
Total number of people using rest a	irea	4,421
Average persons per vehicle		2.9
Average time in rest area		18.3 min.
Percent of out of state vehicles		49.5%
PURPOSE FOR ENTERING REST AREA (VEH)	(CLES)	
Use rest rooms	712	(46.8%)
Travel information	224	(14.7%)
Eat/picnic	176	(11.6%)
Just rest	174	(11.4%)
Others(mostly switching drivers)	71	(4.7%)
Water	63	(4.1%)
Dispose of refuse	52	(3.4%)
Telephone	44	(2,9%)
Dispose of sewage	$\frac{6}{1,522}$	<u>(0.4%)</u> 100.0%
PERCENT OF PEOPLE USING		
Rest Rooms	3,389	(76.7%)
Drinking water	1,861	(42.1%)
PERCENT OF VEHICLES USING		
Travel Information	480	(31.5%)
Trash Receptacle	439	(28.8%)
Picnic Table	223	(14.7%)
Others	112	(7.4%)
Telephone	79	(5.2%)
Picnic Shelter	52	(3.4%)
Electric Outlet	3	(0.2%)
None of these	329	(21.6%)

# NUMBER OF VEHICLES STOPPING 9 A.M. to 5 P.M.

Date	Day	Vehicles Entering	Out of State	Vehicles on Mainline	% Stopping
Aug. 13	Thurs.	270	124 (45.9%)	3,439	7.3%
Aug. 14	Fri.	285	155 (54.4%)	4,211	6.3%
Aug. 15	Sat.	439	237 (54.0%)	5,012	8.1%
Aug. 16	Sun.	261	115 (44.1%)	3,931	6.1%
Aug. 17	Mon.	267	123 (46.1%)	3,306	7.5%
		1,522	754 (49.5%)	19,899	7.1%

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### TIME VEHICLES ENTERED AREA

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	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.	Sun.	Mon.
9-10	28	28	45	18	20
10-11	36	41	56	19	24
11-12	43	40	83	46	30
12-1	39	38	65	28	46
1-2	36	34	49	33	28
2-3	37	31	54	39	40
3-4	26	41	46	45	40
4-5	25	32	41	33	39
	270	285	439	261	267

## AVERAGE INFORMATION FOR EACH TYPE OF VEHICLE THAT ENTERED AREA

Type of Vehicle	Average Length of Stay	Average No. of People	A	<u>B</u>
Car	16.2 Min.	2.8	61.7%	6.5%
Car with camp trailer	21.9 Min.	4.0	1.3%	8.4%
Car with house trailer	25.4 Min.	371L	4.4%	<b>26.</b> 0%
Car with boat trailer	20.5 Min.	3.0	5.1%	7.7%
Car with other trailer	15.9 Min.	4.6	0.6%	5.3%
Single unit truck(pickup or van)	18.4 Min.	2.6	12.9%	6.7%
Truck with camper	24.8 Min.	2.9	3.0%	7.4%
Truck with various trailers	25.3 Min.	3.8	4.5%	51.9%
Truck (Commercial)	17.6 Min.	1.9	0.5%	2.3%
Semi	17.1 Min.	1.3	0.5%	1.0%
Motorhome	28.5 Min.	3.0	3.4%	23.1%
Bus	23.0 Min.	11.0	0.1%	3.7%
Others (Mostly motorcyles)	17.9 Min.	1.6	1.9%	12.0%

A refers to percentage of total number of vehicles using rest area.

B refers to percentage of this vehicle that stopped in rest area out of total number of vehicles of same type passing the area.

Vehicles with pets	191	(12.5%)
Vehicles stopping at other rest areas	590	(38.8%)
Vehicles traveling northbound	810	(53.2%)
southbound	600	(39,4%)
Vehicles spending vacations in Minnesota	709	(46.6%)
Average length of stay in Minnesota	6.8 days	
Vehicles camping or using campground facilities	303	(19.9%)
Vehicles whose plans had been affected by gas pricing	43 <b>5</b>	(28.6%)

We asked motorist "What additional facilities would you like to see in the rest area?"

Pop machine	74
Coffee machine	53
Snack machine	49
Play area	11

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We received general comments from 62% of the people stopping, about the excellent facilities, how clean and well-maintained they were and how attractive the rest area was. Other comments included the following:

The best thing that happened to the traveling public. I would even pay! Perfect. There should be one farther up on 53. Very neat and orderly, better than Indiana's. Need water spigot. Appreciate seeing good use of underground technology. They all are great assets of our state. Pleasant experience. Minnesota needs more rest areas! Very impressed. One of the best in USA. Very unique layout - superb. Need more truck parking stalls. Well above average. Give some advice to Wisconsin. There should be more of them. Should have access from both ends. Drive too long. Excellent! Have to report to Ohio what should be done.