

## ABSTRACT

### **Improving Truck Movement in Urban Industrial Districts: Application of GIS, Accident and Field Data**

This research by the Los Angeles Department of Transportation (LADOT), funded by the Southern California Association of Governments, identifies truck routes, truck circulation and access problems, truck safety hazard locations and corrective measures in the City of Los Angeles. LADOT undertook this research as part of its Goods Movement Improvement Program to identify problems with truck movement and access to inter-modal facilities, distribution centers, industrial land uses and freeways in the City and to recommend street improvement measures eligible for inclusion in the Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP.)

#### Methodology:

1. Select study areas. The research was phased in three parts: 1) the greater Downtown area; 2) Northeast LA and the San Fernando Valley; 3) Hollywood, Mid-City, South LA, West LA, LAX, and the Port of Los Angeles. Sub-areas were established as needed.
2. Collect traffic and truck count data and truck-involved accident data.
3. Map streets and freeways using GIS software (ArcInfo and ArcView.)
4. Add truck volume, truck-involved accident, and land use data into the GIS map.
5. Interview field staff, truck industry representatives and the business community about truck circulation and access problems.
6. Identify trouble spots from the GIS map and field investigation.
7. Document observed problems.
8. Analyze problems using accident data and field observations and identify solutions.

Solutions fall into the categories of Operational Improvement Measures, Engineering Improvement Measures, Capital Improvement Measures and Programmatic and Policy Measures.

The research has produced three LADOT-published reports (1999, 2002 and 2005) and identified 75 truck problem locations: 43 in greater Downtown LA, 20 in Northeast LA and the San Fernando Valley, and 12 in the rest of the City (Hollywood, Mid-City, South LA, West LA, LAX, and the Port of Los Angeles.) The City has signaled a problem intersection for the Union Pacific Rail Road inter-modal yard at the Los Angeles Transportation Center, is beginning RTIP-funded work on six critical problem locations in Central City East and is utilizing the reports for new project development.

Principal Author: Susan L. Bok, AICP  
Supervising Transportation Planner  
Los Angeles Department of Transportation  
100 S. Main Street, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Los Angeles, CA 90012  
213-972-8623

[sbok@dot.lacity.org](mailto:sbok@dot.lacity.org)