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The University of Alabama in Huntsville (UAH), in cooperation with the City of Montgomery, the Montgomery Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), the Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT), and the University Transportation Research Center for Alabama (UTCA) at the University of Alabama, is undertaking an effort to use the power of the Internet to collect needed travel pattern data from residents in the Tri-County/River Region area. The data collected will support a computer regional travel demand model that is used by the MPO to predict where future traffic congestion will be in order to support the advance planning of transportation infrastructure improvement decisions made by the ALDOT and the MPO.

The goal of this effort is to improve the accuracy of the tools available through the collection of data from this survey. There is a mapping exercise that goes along with the survey. The mapping exercise is intended to get a general location of trip origins and trip destinations by each person that drives an automobile in each household.

Trip generation and trip distribution are the first two steps in the urban transportation planning process in Alabama. Trip generation is the step of the process where socio-economic information (housing units, income, employment, and school enrollment) for a local areas are converted into trips into and out of the local area. Trip generation requires data related to:

- Automobile ownership,
- People per housing unit,
- Household make-up,
- Income, and
- Trip rates.

Trip distribution is the step of the process where the trips are allocated to determine the origin/destination patterns for the entire community. These two steps are vital in the development of a quality model to support the long-range transportation plan to identify and justify infrastructure improvements within a region. Trip distribution requires data related to:

- Origin/destination of the trip,
- Time of trip,
- Purpose for making the trip, and
- Number of passengers.

This survey is intended to obtain information about daily driving habits of Montgomery area residents. In order to obtain usable data you will be asked to provide detailed information about your household and daily travel patterns. Please complete the survey in an honest

fashion and be assured you will not be contacted by data collectors asking for additional information. The survey can be accessed at <http://travelsurvey.uah.edu> and you should follow the link at the end of the instruction page for the Montgomery Area.

Thanks you in advance for your time in cooperating with the survey to improve the transportation infrastructure of the Montgomery River Region Area. If you have questions regarding this project please contact **Mr. Robert E. Smith Jr.**, who is the local Transportation Planner with the Montgomery Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) based at the City of Montgomery at (334) 241-2249 or email him at [rsmith@montgomeryal.gov](mailto:rsmith@montgomeryal.gov) or contact **Dr. Michael Anderson** (Transportation Engineering Professor with the University of Alabama at Huntsville (UAH) at (256) 824-5028 or email him at [mikea@cee.uah.edu](mailto:mikea@cee.uah.edu).

Respectfully,

Robert E. Smith Jr.  
Transportation Planner