



I-95 Corridor

Vehicle Probe Data Project

The I-95 Corridor Coalition's Vehicle Probe project is a ground-breaking initiative, intended to provide comprehensive multi-state monitoring of traffic flow within the Corridor. The objective of this project is the acquisition of traffic flow information using probe technology (GPS equipped vehicle fleets, cellular geolocation or a combination of the two) for both freeways and signalized arterials. The information produced by this project will be used to support a number of Coalition activities such as corridor-wide traveler information, incident management and performance measurement. The wide area coverage provided by this project is designed to support the unique planning, engineering and operational needs of a heavily traveled corridor.



Member agencies will benefit from the Probe Project by receiving traffic flow information relevant to their respective jurisdictions. It is anticipated that they will use the information to support the operation of 511, display of travel times on variable message signs, and for traffic management during incidents. Coalition members will also be able to utilize the contract developed for this project to expand coverage within their jurisdictions, website development and interfacing with existing traffic management systems.

This project is unique in that long distance travelers will be able to utilize a single data source for trip planning. In addition, for the first time, information will be available to provide the information needed to support implementation of long distance diversions that are characteristic of major incidents that have a multi-state impact.

Program Description

The Coalition issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) in April, 2007. The RFP specified the type and quality of traffic flow data needed in the corridor. Vendors were encouraged to respond with innovate methods that did not require additional infrastructure to be deployed along roadways, though data from existing sensors could be used as part of the solution. Responses from the RFP were evaluated and a contract awarded in December 2007 to Inrix Corporation. Inrix uses a method to fuse various data sources into a comprehensive picture of traffic flow. The dominant source of data is obtained from fleet systems that use GPS tracking to monitor vehicle location, speed, and trajectory.

The Coalition is proceeding with plans to implement a system that will deliver real-time traffic data on a network of approximately 1500 miles of freeways and 1000 miles of arterials spanning

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New Jersey to North Carolina. The system of roadways was chosen based on the ability of Coalition members to integrate the data into their existing operations, and to reflect the primary routes that contribute to interstate movement along the corridor, and provide cross-links between major through facilities in the event of incidents or heavy congestion. Traffic data for this core system should be available by summer 2008. The contract is based on the purchase of data and does not include procurement of any hardware or software, except for the ancillary services that might be requested by its member agencies.

Coalition funding is planned for the first three years of the ten year contract, with supplemental funding to be provided by Coalition members based on the success of the project, and its critical role in corridor operations.