Project Title: C-07-15: Econometric Review of Lane Closure Practices
PIN: New Project
Responsible Unit: New York State Thruway Authority (NYSTA)
Project Manager: Monahan, Mike

Project Goal:
Determine how to better balance hours needed to close lanes within work zones with the need to minimize traveler inconvenience.

Actions Proposed:
- Perform a review of work zone policies and practices by other highway agencies.
- Identify the frequency, extent and duration of traffic backups that could be considered acceptable within work zones.
- Determine whether some allowable traffic backups will permit construction work to be completed sooner and the type of work that could be completed sooner.
- Perform an econometric analysis to determine how to balance the costs associated with the work versus the cost of inconvenience to the traveler. Consider traveler delay, bid prices, fuel usage and safety costs.
- Identify possible lane closure chart improvements/changes to implement realized benefits.
- All of the above to consider the type of work zone, area type the work is within, and weekend/holiday periods.
- Perform a safety review of work zone accidents associated with work zone queuing and because the work zone was present to begin with, for example non-work zone queuing (optional, based on a review of the Work Zone Safety Act).

Anticipated Work Products and Accomplishments:
A policy and implementation level document that identifies the optimal balance of work zone flexibility, traveler inconvenience, and costs to the Thruway, State Police and contractors. Also, provide guidelines concerning when extra ordinary Maintenance and Protection of Traffic schemes should be considered.

Proposed Budget: $200,000