APPENDIX E
SYRACUSE METRO AREA ROAD AND BRIDGE CONDITIONS, TRAFFIC CONGESTION AND HIGHWAY SAFETY

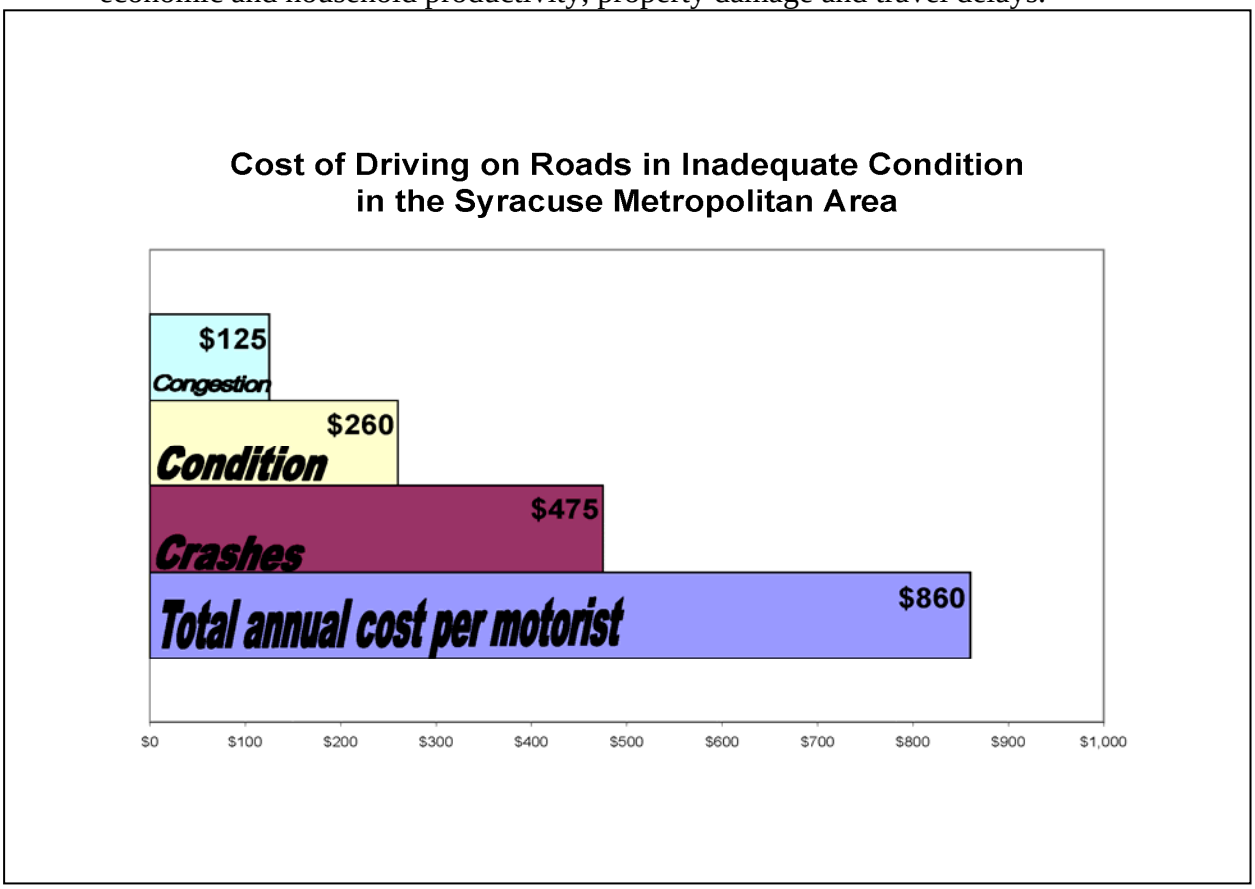
COST TO SYRACUSE MOTORISTS OF INADEQUATE ROADS

TRIP estimates that Syracuse roadways that lack desirable safety features, have inadequate capacity to meet travel demands or have poor pavement conditions, cost the average Syracuse driver $860 annually in the cost of traffic crashes, additional vehicle operating costs and congestion-related delays.

- Driving on roads in need of repair costs each motorist in the Syracuse region $260 annually in extra vehicle operating costs. These costs include accelerated vehicle depreciation, additional repair costs and increased fuel consumption and tire wear.

- Traffic congestion in Syracuse costs approximately $125 per driver in lost time and wasted fuel.

- Traffic crashes in Syracuse in which roadway characteristics were likely a contributing factor cost approximately $475 per driver annually, including medical costs, lost economic and household productivity, property damage and travel delays.



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ROAD CONDITIONS

Nearly one-third of major roads in the Syracuse area are in poor or mediocre condition, costing area drivers $260 each year in extra vehicle operating costs.

- Sixteen percent of major roads in the Syracuse urban area are rated in poor condition. An additional 14 percent of the area's major roads are in mediocre condition. This includes Interstates, highways, connecting urban arterials, and key urban streets that are maintained by state, county or municipal governments.

- Roads rated in poor condition often have significant rutting, potholes or other visible signs of deterioration. Roads in poor condition typically need to be resurfaced or reconstructed. Roads rated in mediocre condition show signs of significant wear and may also have some visible pavement distress. Most pavements in mediocre condition can be repaired by resurfacing, but some may need more extensive reconstruction to return them to good condition.

- Just 50 percent of major roads in the Syracuse area are in good condition. A desirable goal for state and local organizations responsible for road maintenance is to keep 75 percent of major roads in good condition.

BRIDGE CONDITIONS

More than a quarter of bridges in the Syracuse area are structurally deficient or functionally obsolete.

- Five percent of the 487 bridges in the Syracuse area are rated as structurally deficient, showing significant deterioration to decks and other major components.

- Twenty-one percent of the bridges in the Syracuse area are functionally obsolete. These bridges no longer meet modern design standards for safety features such as lane widths or alignment with connecting roads or are no longer adequate for the volume of traffic being carried.

- Bridge deficiencies have an impact on mobility and safety. Restrictions on vehicle weight may cause many vehicles – especially emergency vehicles, commercial trucks, school buses and farm equipment – to use alternate routes to avoid these bridges. Narrow bridge lanes, inadequate clearances and poorly aligned bridge approaches reduce traffic safety. Redirected trips lengthen travel time, waste fuel and reduce the efficiency of the local economy.

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CONGESTION

Traffic congestion in Syracuse is a growing burden, hampering mobility for individuals and businesses and impeding the region's economic development.

- In 2007, 17 percent of urban highways in the Syracuse metro area were congested, carrying traffic volumes that result in significant rush hour delays.

- The average Syracuse driver loses 10 hours per year due to traffic congestion according to the Texas Transportation Institute's (TTI) Urban Mobility Report.

TRAFFIC SAFETY

Improving safety features on Syracuse roads and highways would likely result in a decrease in traffic fatalities in the area.

- In 2008, 31 people were killed in traffic crashes in the Syracuse metro area.

- Syracuse's fatality rate per 100,000 population was 6.8 in 2008. This was higher than the statewide average of 6.3.

- Where appropriate, highway improvements can reduce traffic fatalities and accidents while improving traffic flow to help relieve congestion. Such improvements include removing or shielding obstacles; adding or improving medians; adding rumble strips, wider lanes, wider and paved shoulders; upgrading roads from two lanes to four lanes; and better road markings and traffic signals.

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