

Call for Papers
85TH TRB ANNUAL MEETING
JANUARY 22-26, 2006
WASHINGTON, DC

The **TRB Moving Activity-Based Approaches to Practice Task Force, ADB60T** is organizing a paper session on valuation, verification, and validation of activity-based models for travel demand forecasting.

As activity-based approaches move to practice a need arises to identify the most appropriate use of these models, policies that are best addressed using the models, and their advantages over more traditional trip based methods. Perceptions and considerations about the value of these models, particularly for policy analysis, continue to evolve and the need arises to survey their design and develop an inventory of the policies they target but also how relevant these models are when compared to their competitors. Related to this *valuation* is also *verification*, which is a procedure designed to test a model's ability to realistically mimic targeted phenomena. Very often models that frequently fail to fit a behavior represented by observed data is adjusted within physically reasonable limits. Many models after this first step of verification are modified, major parts added to them, and their internal structure and representation is changed. Then, model outputs are compared with observed data. At this stage, *validation* is another procedure that focuses mainly on the comparison of output from a verified model with internal and external data and usually and hopefully employs rigorous statistical analyses. Failure at any of these three steps (valuation-verification-validation) triggers model building actions. Each step considers a variety of parameters, employs a variety of methods, and may be highly dependent on the model building context and knowledge/skills of the analysts in charge. Local practice traditions, skills and knowledge about techniques, and project characteristics may dictate parameters and variables, criteria and standards, and methods and procedures.

This session aims to collect papers reviewing definitions, theoretical developments, and examples in valuation-verification-validation for activity-based approaches.

When submitting a paper for the next TRB Annual Meeting please indicate **ADB60TA** on the Paper Submission Review Form.

Papers for the 2006 Annual Meeting must be submitted electronically **no later than August 1, 2005**. **Papers cannot be accepted after August 1 because of the time required for peer review and program development.** Paper submission information is posted on the TRB website <http://www.trb.org/meeting/>.

In addition, **authors who have submitted papers in response to this call** are requested to send the paper number and title by **August 3** to kgoulias@verizon.net.

Additional information about this call for papers may be obtained from:

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