

SUMMARY

The research is progressing effectively. Each of the three principal study groups has refined its field study procedures and a comprehensive data collection program is well underway. The User Cost Surveys Group is generating vehicle operating-cost data from a wide variety of survey participants and an average of over 6000 vehicle/months of data covering different items of user costs are in hand. Detailed inventory information covering roadway characteristics on over 12000 km of user surveys routes has been developed by two survey vehicles.

The Road User Costs and Traffic Experiments Group has identified 22 experiments to be used in developing a deterministic model to predict speeds and fuel consumption. Preliminary equations developed from the fuel data were presented in this report. A conceptual framework has been developed for a deterministic model to predict time and fuel consumption, and various traffic simulation programs are being examined for use in explaining traffic-composition effects.

The Pavement and Maintenance Studies Group has established 116 sections. They have completed roughness, deflection and condition survey measures on every paved section. Axle-loading data has been collected on over a third of the sections and traffic-classification information is currently being developed.

In summary it can be said that good progress is being made in the project. Several useful interim results have been developed and are presented herein.