



RITIS User Group Web Meeting Follow-Up May 2024

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Thanks to those who participated in the RITIS User Group Web Meeting on May 7, 2024. The purpose of these meetings is to help our members understand the tools available in the RITIS platform and to see how other members and peer transportation agencies are using their data and the tools to evaluate mobility, reliability and accessibility, help formulate and assess projects and programs, develop effective communication products and much more.

Please click on the links below for more information about the event or visit the User Group Tab on the RITIS page of the Coalition website (<https://tetcoalition.org/projects/ritis-pda-suite/>).

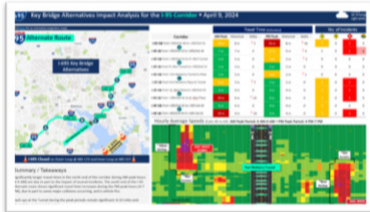
- [Presentation with Audio](#)
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Spotlight Presentation: Impacts of the Key Bridge Collapse

Jason Dicembre of Maryland DOT-SHA and the University of Maryland CATT Lab team highlighted how Maryland DOT-SHA used RITIS and PDA Suite tools to monitor and analyze traffic conditions in and around the Port of Baltimore that was critically affected by the collapse

and subsequent closure of the bridge. MDOT-SHA wanted to understand how the traffic was responding daily to the closure, including: impacts to defined alternate routes; impacts to port-related commercial traffic, signal system performance near the bridge and, maritime vessel detours and regional trends. And once traffic patterns have stabilized, what will the “new normal” be, and what will it mean to motorists and the region?

Overview of RITIS tools & Analysis used



Alternate Route Daily Performance Reports



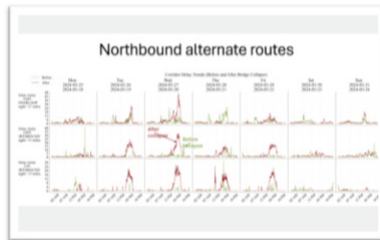
Vessel Tracking / Detour Monitoring & Analysis



Aircraft Tracking / Monitoring



Detour Routing Analysis



Before & After Comparisons



Port Performance Dashboards

Examples of real-time and historic analytics and visualizations used to help MDOT/SHA fully comprehend, and react to, the multi-modal consequences of the bridge closure.

Using the Vessel Tracking tool, MDOT-SHA saw that many cargo ships heading for the Seagirt Marine Terminal were diverted to other ports, anchored, or simply loitered in the area.

The team also generated real-time travel and speed dashboards, airport/port/transit performance dashboards, an alternate route travel time analysis, daily travel time reports, temporal comparison maps, commercial vehicle size/location change comparisons, before and after O/D route analyses, and various other studies.

To present daily performance of alternative routes taken by drivers, the MDOT-SHA team used a customized [After-Action Review](#) report to clearly communicate important travel time changes, congestion hot-spots and incident influences to the DOT Secretary’s Office (this report will be included in the Agency Use Case examples under the [After Action Review templates in RITIS](#)). .

In using the tools provided by the RITIS platform, MDOT-SHA was able to quickly and easily understand local and regional traffic impacts and port operation changes related to the Francis

Scott Key Bridge collapse, and to effectively address them. A full explanation of each tool used can be found in the presentation recording.

Spotlight Presentation: Use of Trip Analytics for Texas DOT

Michael Martin and Joel Thomas of the Texas A&M Transportation Institute (TTI)

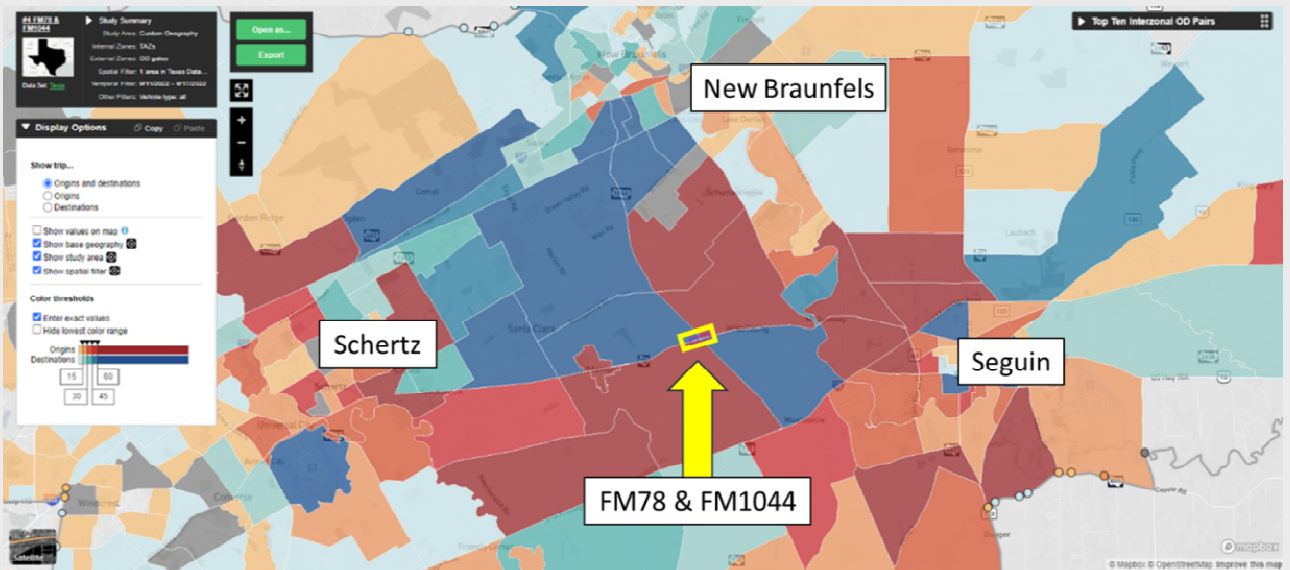
outlined steps taken in the Trips Analytics platform to help Texas DOT evaluate the intersection of FM 1044 and FM 78, which is experiencing long queues, increased crashes, and heavy truck traffic, that is also impacted by an at-grade rail crossing very close to the intersection proper. Given the intersection sits in a high-growth area, TTI wanted to determine if the current traffic was locally or externally based, and whether there were options to rerouting traffic around this intersection.

TTI then did a walk-through of how they used Trip Analytics in a three-step analytical process – Define a Study Area, Set Filtering Criteria and Run the Query – that resulted in a Traffic Analysis Zone (TAZ) level map of origin and destinations in their predefined geography. The results showed that most trips were local.



Looking northbound on FM 1044. Note the close proximity of the RR crossing to the intersection.

By using the Texas DOT and through Trip Analytics, TTI was able to produce a more complete traffic analysis for Texas DOT, and noted through their work the tools could help with operations-type analyses too.



Origin/Destination results from Trip Analytics shows significant localized traffic (dark red and blue-shaded TAZs) traveling through the study intersection.

Want to share how your agency uses the RITIS & PDA Suite tools?

We'd like to thank Jason, Michael, and Joel for their presentations!

Does your agency have a RITIS use case to share with others? The Eastern Transportation Coalition would like to highlight how agencies use the RITIS tools. Please contact Rick Ayers (rayers@umd.edu) to discuss sharing your use case.

RITIS Product Enhancement Working Group Update & Recent Deployments

Bob Frey of Massachusetts DOT provided an update on the progress of the RITIS Product Enhancement Group and their sponsored deployments in RITIS. On April 24, 2024, additional API enhancements for XD data were deployed! Weather data in the Congestion Scan tool was deployed at the end of May 2024. A RITIS Best Practices Handbook that summarizes everything RITIS in an interactive, easy-to-read reference document is expected to be made available to all RITIS users sometime in late June 2024.

During the working group on March 21, 2024, members discussed cost estimates and finalized funding availability for remaining enhancements.

Staff from agencies who are interested in providing funding for enhancements or joining this group should contact Bob Frey (bob.frey@dot.state.ma.us) and Michael Pack (PackML@umd.edu).

Michael Pack of the University of Maryland CATT Lab provided an update and demonstration of major updates on the RITIS platform and explained the current upgrades in progress. Updates include new User Delay Cost algorithms, map-based search for locations of interest, and PM3/NPMRDS certification. To find out more about what's new in the RITIS Platform, visit the “What’s New” section of each major platform area:

- https://www.ritis.org/release_notes
- <https://pda.ritis.org/suite/updates/>
- <https://trips.ritis.org/new>

Agency Feedback

The CATT Lab team is always looking for ways to improve the RITIS platform and the PDA Suite. RITIS users can reach out at any time to the support team at support@ritis.org.

Transportation Data Marketplace

The Transportation Data Marketplace has six data sets and 11 vendors! Visit the [TDM page of the Coalition's website](#) for more information

Follow the Coalition on social media and subscribe to be informed!

Recordings from many of the Coalition's web events are available on [TETC's YouTube channel - take a look.](#)

Follow the Coalition on [LinkedIn](#) to hear about upcoming events, collaborations, and industry news.

Upcoming Coalition Events – stay tuned for more information!

- RITIS User Group Web Meeting – July 25, 2024 – 1:00pm-2:30pm, ET – *more information to come!*

Questions or Comments:

TSMO Program: Sheryl Bradley at sbradley@tetcoalition.org

