

A Presentation on Louisiana's Interchange Justification Report (IJR)

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Questions people have about IJR's



- What is a IJR and what is a IMR?
- What options must be evaluated in a IJR?
- When is one required?
- When is one not required?
- What about frontage road connections to ramps?
- At what point in time must one be prepared?
- How long does it take to complete one?
- Why is one required?

The report is required according to DOTD and FHWA Policy

- The DOTD policy was developed based on a process review that FHWA requested
- It was reviewed by committee
- It was approved by the Chief Engineer on January 27, 2011
- It is located on the DOTD internet website
<http://www.dotd.la.gov>

Deliverables for a IJR

- Initial Travel Demand Models and files, if the proposed change in access is in an MPO area
- Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)
- Revised Travel Demand Models and files, traffic and traffic data (factors, assumptions, etc.)
- Traffic and other analyses, preliminary concepts
- Draft Report
- Final Report

(Note: Work on a subsequent deliverable cannot proceed until the previous deliverable is approved)

IJR's currently being prepared

- I-10 at the Calcasieu River Bridge
- I-10 at Pecue Lane ?
- I-12 at the proposed BR Loop ?
- I-20 @ Barksdale Air Force Base (IMR)
- I-20 @ Franklin Farm
- I-20 @ Kansas Lane / Garrett Road (IMR)
- I-49 @ I-20 (IMR)
- I-49 @ I-220

Some reasons given for requesting new access

- ▶ Economic Incentive to attract new business
- ▶ To serve existing businesses
- ▶ For a new route
- ▶ To relieve interchange congestion

Myth: Access can be approved if my reasons are good or if I can argue my case successfully

Options to study when exit ramp traffic is backing up on to through travel lanes

- Improve crossroad corridor signal timing
- Add left and/or right turn lanes
- Add a roundabout
- Add an acceleration lane on the crossroad
- Increase the length of exit ramp (R/W?)
- Add through lanes to the interchange crossroad

What if none of those options work



- Document what has been done and studied
- Request HQ to prepare a Stage 0 study to investigate options that would address the problem

The most important thing to remember when you are asked about new access to controlled access highways

- There is a new policy & it's available on DOTD's website (<http://www.dotd.la.gov>) under "Doing Business with DOTD" & then "Acquiring Access to Highways"
- Questions?
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