

# Expanding Your Toolkit – AQ Analysis



Does your project contribute to reduction of NO<sub>x</sub>, VOC, or GHG emissions?

- Qualitative

- *This project's contribution to reductions in roadway volume and delay is expected to reduce idle time, thereby reducing emissions because...*

- Quantitative (NEW)

- [MOBILE Source Emission Reduction Strategies \(MOSERS\)](#)
  - Texas A&M Transportation Institute (TTI)
  - incorporates local Houston/Galveston/Brazoria emissions factors
- [Congestion Mitigation & Air Quality \(CMAQ\) Emissions Calculator Toolkit](#)
  - Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)
  - incorporates national emissions factors

- Both tools use Excel to calculate AQ impact.

- These are **not** H-GAC developed tools.

# Use Cases for MOSERS & CMAQ Tools



## MOSERS

- Transit System/Service Expansion
- Freeway HOV Facilities
- Bicycle and Pedestrian Programs
- Trip Reduction Programs
- Traffic Signalization
- Intelligent Transportation Systems
- New Signals
- Signalized Intersection Improvements
- Shoulder Lane Applications
- Roundabouts
- Park-and-Ride – New Facilities
- Controls on Heavy-Duty Vehicles
- Telecommuting

## CMAQ

- Adaptive Traffic Control Systems
- Alternative Fuel Vehicles and Infrastructure
- Bicycle, Pedestrian, and Shared Micromobility
- Carpooling and Vanpooling
- Congestion Reduction and Traffic Flow Improvements
- Diesel Idle Reduction Strategies
- Diesel Truck and Engine Retrofit & Replacement
- Electronic Open-Road Tolling
- Electric Vehicles and EV Charging Infrastructure
- Freight Modal Shift
- Managed Lanes
- Telework Tool
- Transit Bus Upgrades & System Improvements
- Transit Bus Service and Fleet Expansion


# MOSERS Tool – Main Menu

AQ97

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z AA AB AC AD AE AF AG AH AJ AK AL

## MOSERS

### MOBILE SOURCE EMISSION REDUCTION STRATEGIES



#### Strategy Menu

Currently Loaded Emission Factors: Houston/Galveston/Brazoria [Show Strategy Categories Menu](#)

|  |   |  |  |  |
|--|---|--|--|--|
| Strategy 1.1<br>Transit System/<br>Service Expansion               | Strategy 4.2<br>Trip Reduction<br>Programs                  | Strategy 5.6<br>Option 2 - Signalized Intersection<br>Improvements | Strategy 6.3<br>Park-and-Ride -<br>Onsite Support Services         | Strategy 12.1<br>Telecommuting                                     |
| Strategy 1.2<br>Transit System/Service<br>Operational Improvements | Strategy 5.1<br>Traffic Signalization                       | Strategy 5.7<br>Shoulder Lane<br>Applications                      | Strategy 7.2<br>Control of Truck Movement<br>Option 1 - Reschedule | Strategy 12.2<br>Flextime  |
| <b>Strategy 2.1<br/>Freeway HOV Facilities</b>                     | Strategy 5.4<br>Intelligent Transportation Systems<br>(ITS) | Strategy 5.8<br>Roundabouts  | Strategy 7.2<br>Control of Truck Movement<br>Option 2 - Reroute    | Strategy 12.3<br>Compressed<br>Work Week                           |
| Strategy 3.2<br>Bicycle and Pedestrian Programs<br>Option 1        | Strategy 5.5<br>Railroad<br>Grade Separation                | Strategy 6.1<br>Park-and-Ride -<br>New Facilities                  | Strategy 7.3<br>Truck Lane Restrictions                            | Strategy 14.1<br>Accelerated Vehicle Retirement -<br>Cash Payments |
| Strategy 3.2<br>Bicycle and Pedestrian Programs<br>Option 2        | Strategy 5.6<br>Option 1 - New Signal                       | Strategy 6.2<br>Park-and-Ride -<br>Improved Connections            | Strategy 10.2<br>Controls on<br>Heavy-Duty Vehicles                | Strategy 16.1<br>Clean Vehicle<br>Program                          |

Last Sheet Visited: 2.1 HOV Facilities

Release: MOSERS Tool - Aug 2022

# MOSERS Tool – Input (HOV Facilities)

## MOSERS

### MOBILE SOURCE EMISSION REDUCTION STRATEGIES



### Strategy 2.1 - HOV Facilities

Main Menu

Save Report as PDF

View Report

Project Information

Open Strategy Documentation

| Input Data                      |   | Press here to clear input values |                              |                 |
|---------------------------------|---|----------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------|
|                                 |   | Variable                         | Value                        | Units           |
| Region                          | Metropolitan area                                     | Select ▼                         | Houston/ Galveston/ Brazoria |                 |
| Year                            | Analysis year   |                                  |                              |                 |
| Road Type                       | Urban or rural with restricted or unrestricted access | Select ▼                         | Urban-Freeway                | -               |
| Facility Geographic Information | Area type   | Select ▼                         | Urban                        | -               |
|                                 | Corridor length                                       | L                                | 5.0                          | mile            |
|                                 | Facility type   | Select ▼                         | Freeway                      | -               |
|                                 | Peak time of the day                                  | Select ▼                         | Both Morning/Evening Peaks   | -               |
|                                 | Separation type                                       | Select ▼                         | Barrier separated            | -               |
|                                 | HOT conversion  | Select ▼                         | Yes                          | -               |
| General Purpose Lane            | Number of general purpose lanes - before              | N <sub>GPL,B</sub>               | 5                            | lane            |
|                                 | Number of general purpose lanes - after               | N <sub>GPL,A</sub>               | 4                            | lane            |
| HOV Lane                        | Number of additional HOV lanes - before               | N <sub>HOV,B</sub>               | 1                            | lane            |
|                                 | Number of HOV lanes - after                           | N <sub>HOV,A</sub>               | 2                            | lane            |
| Volume Inputs                   | General purpose lane vehicle volume - before          | V <sub>GP,B</sub>                | 5,000                        | vehicles / hour |
|                                 | General purpose lane vehicle volume - after           | V <sub>GP,A</sub>                | 6,000                        | vehicles / hour |
|                                 | Existing HOV lane volume (Only for HOT)               | V <sub>H,B</sub>                 | 1,000                        | vehicles / hour |
|                                 | Additional HOV/HOT lane volume                        | V <sub>HA</sub>                  | 500                          | vehicles / hour |

| Default Data          |                            | Default  | Variable               | Value | Units                  | Restore |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|----------|------------------------|-------|------------------------|---------|
| Default Service Hours | Peak service hours per day | 6 **     | N <sub>PH</sub>        | 5     | hour                   | Restore |
| Default Traffic       | Capacity                   | 2,231 ** | C                      | 3,000 | vehicles / lane / hour | Restore |
| Constant              | Free Flow Speed            | 60.00    | V <sub>Free Flow</sub> | 60    | mph                    | Restore |

\*\* - The Default value is dependent on Input Data Value(s) and can vary based on user input data selections.

**Volume, Capacity, and Free Flow Speed data available from H-GAC's transportation modeling group**

# MOSERS Tool – Input (HOV Facilities)

| Input Data                      |   | Pre                      |
|---------------------------------|---|--------------------------|
| Region                          | Metropolitan area                                     |                          |
| Year                            | Analysis year   |                          |
| Road Type                       | Urban or rural with restricted or unrestricted access |                          |
| Facility Geographic Information | Area type   |                          |
|                                 | Corridor length                                       |                          |
|                                 | Facility type   |                          |
|                                 | Peak time of the day                                  |                          |
|                                 | Separation type                                       |                          |
|                                 | HOT conversion  |                          |
| General Purpose Lane            | Number of general purpose lanes - before              |                          |
|                                 | Number of general purpose lanes - after               |                          |
| HOV Lane                        | Number of additional HOV lanes - before               |                          |
|                                 | Number of HOV lanes - after                           |                          |
| Volume Inputs                   | General purpose lane vehicle volume - before          |                          |
|                                 | General purpose lane vehicle volume - after           |                          |
|                                 | Existing HOV lane volume (Only for HOT)               |                          |
|                                 | Additional HOV/HOT lane volume                        |                          |
| Default Data                    |   |                          |
| Default Service Hours           | Peak service hours per day                            |                          |
| Default Traffic Constant        | Capacity  | Facility capacity        |
|                                 | Free Flow Speed                                       | Facility free flow speed |



# MOSERS Tool – Output (HOV Facilities)

| Calculated Data                                  |             |  | Variable         | Value   | Units  |
|--|-------------|--|------------------|---------|--------|
| General Purpose Lane                             | V/C Ratio   | General purpose lane V/C ratio - before              | $V/C_{GP,B}$     | 0.33    | -      |
|  |             | General purpose lane V/C ratio - after               | $V/C_{GP,A}$     | 0.50    | -      |
|  | Speed       | General purpose lane speed - before                  | $v_{GP,B}$       | 60.0    | mph    |
|  |             | General purpose lane speed - after                   | $v_{GP,A}$       | 60.0    | mph    |
|  | Travel Time | Travel time under free-flow conditions               | $TT_{Free Flow}$ | 5.00    | minute |
|  |             | General purpose lane travel time - before            | $TT_{GP,B}$      | 5.00    | minute |
|  |             | General purpose lane travel time - after             | $TT_{GP,A}$      | 5.00    | minute |
|  | VMT         | Daily peak hour general purpose lane VMT - before    | $VMT_{GP,B}$     | 125,000 | -      |
| Daily peak hour general purpose lane VMT - after |             | $VMT_{GP,A}$   | 150,000          | -       |        |
| HOV Lane   | VMT         | Daily peak hour HOV lane VMT - before (Only for HOT) | $VMT_{H,B}$      | 50,000  | -      |
|  |             | Daily peak hour HOV/HOT lane VMT - after             | $VMT_{H,A}$      | 12,500  | -      |
|  | Speed       | HOV lane speed - before (Only for HOT)               | $v_{H,B}$        | 37.2    | mph    |
|  |             | HOV/HOT lane speed - after                           | $v_{H,A}$        | 60.0    | mph    |
|  | Travel Time | HOV lane travel time - before (Only for HOT)         | $TT_{H,B}$       | 8.07    | minute |
|  |             | HOV/HOT lane travel time - after                     | $TT_{H,A}$       | 5.00    | minute |

| Activity Output Data         |                                     |  | Variable     | Value  | Units |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|--------------|--------|-------|
| Peak Hour Summary            | Number of peak hours (AM and/or PM) |  | $N_{PH}$     | 5      | hour  |
| Facility Length              | Length of HOV facility              |  | $L$          | 5.0    | mile  |
| General Purpose Lane Summary | Speed                               | General purpose lane speed during peak hours - before      | $v_{GP,B}$   | 60     | mph   |
|                              |                                     | General purpose lane speed during peak hours - after       | $v_{GP,A}$   | 60     | mph   |
|                              | Peak-hour VMT                       | VMT on general purpose lanes during peak hours - before    | $VMT_{GP,B}$ | 125000 | -     |
|                              |                                     | VMT on general purpose lanes during peak hours - after     | $VMT_{GP,A}$ | 150000 | -     |
| Trip Reductions              | Number of vehicle Trips Reduced     |  | $VT_R$       | 500    | -     |
| HOV Lane Summary             | Peak-hour VMT                       | VMT on HOV lanes during peak hours - before (Only for HOT) | $VMT_{H,B}$  | 50,000 | -     |
|                              |                                     | VMT on HOV lanes during peak hours - after                 | $VMT_{H,A}$  | 12,500 | -     |
|                              | Speed                               | HOV lane speed - before (Only for HOT)                     | $v_{H,B}$    | 37     | mph   |
|                              |                                     | HOV lane speed - after                                     | $v_{H,A}$    | 60     | mph   |

| Daily Emissions Reduction |           | Pollutant       |       |                  |        |                 | Units     |
|---------------------------|-----------|-----------------|-------|------------------|--------|-----------------|-----------|
| Description               | Variable  | NO <sub>x</sub> | VOC   | PM <sub>10</sub> | CO     | CO <sub>2</sub> |           |
| Daily Emissions Reduction | A - B + C | 0.588           | 0.688 | 1.372            | 19,589 | 4,136.891       | kg / day  |
|                           |           | 1.296           | 1.516 | 3.025            | 43,187 | 9,120           | lbs / day |

# MOSERS Tool – Output (HOV Facilities)

|                 |       | Pollutant        |        |                 | Units     |
|-----------------|-------|------------------|--------|-----------------|-----------|
| NO <sub>x</sub> | VOC   | PM <sub>10</sub> | CO     | CO <sub>2</sub> |           |
| 0.588           | 0.688 | 1.372            | 19.589 | 4,136.891       | kg / day  |
| 1.296           | 1.516 | 3.025            | 43.187 | 9,120           | lbs / day |

- Please submit estimates in kg/day. This matches the federal and regional reporting standards.
- A project's result is *not* final, in the sense that these projects are *not* final. Recognizing that each project could change substantially this result offers you and your project:
  - a useful baseline metric
  - a guidepost for planning over the lifecycle of the project
  - a first quantitative metric

# Pollutants – NO<sub>x</sub> and VOC

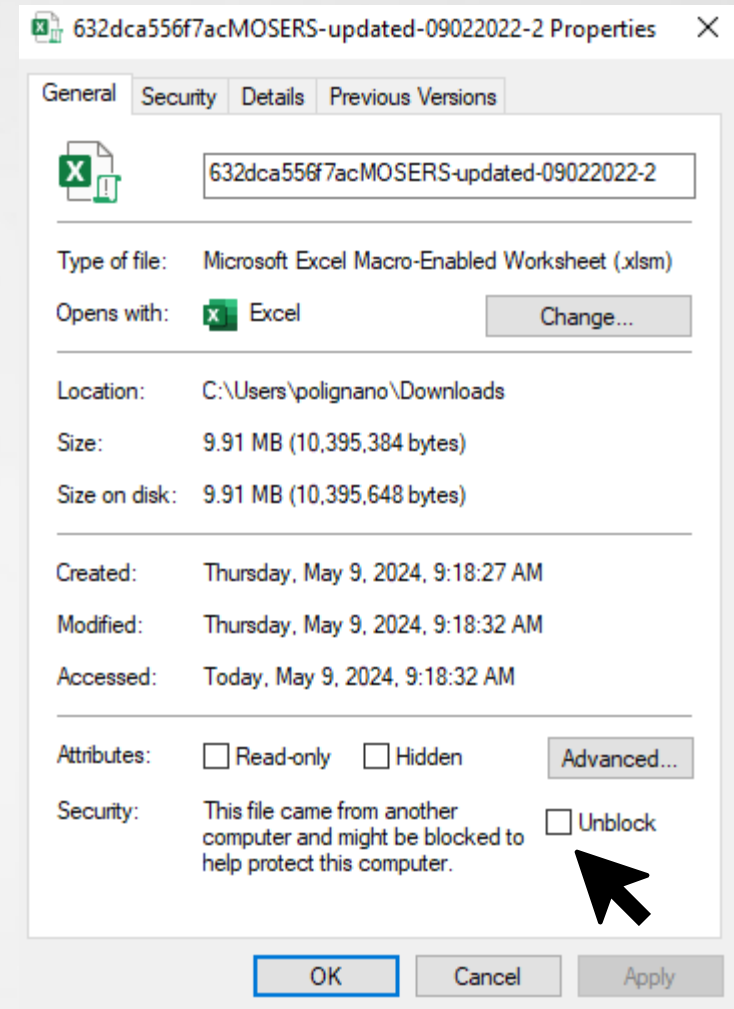


- NO<sub>x</sub> – Nitrogen Oxides
- VOC – Volatile Organic Compounds
  - Both are byproducts of combustion processes
- These are ozone precursors. They form ground level ozone when exposed to sunlight as ozone is not emitted directly into the air
- Reductions of NO<sub>x</sub> and VOC for roadway projects tend to appear low, especially in a kg/day metric.
- Ranges for reductions based on RTP projects could be very small. Emissions of less than 1.000 kg/day are quite common.



# MOSERS tool - Notes

- The Excel spreadsheet is downloaded from the internet. Microsoft and/or any agency or computer security may disable macros (**necessary to run calculations and download emission factors**).
  - Select Unblock and Apply
- The main menu will list: “Currently Loaded Emissions Factor:”
  - Default displays Dallas/Fort Worth
  - Once Houston/Galveston/Brazoria is selected within a strategy for the first time, it will list Houston/Galveston/Brazoria



# Contact Information

## MOSERS and CMAQ Tools & Troubleshooting

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## Requests for data (i.e., volume and speed) & General RTP Process

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