Traffic Monitoring System Data Services Division Office of Planning & Preliminary Engineering State Highway Administration

Collecting GPS Coordinates for Traffic-Counting Devices

Purpose

The traffic count data that consultants collect for the State Highway Administration (SHA) lays the foundation for the data that SHA submits to Federal Highway Administration and other planning entities. As such, SHA must ensure that exact traffic-count locations are consistent from year to year. This has proved problematic in the past because of changing road conditions and characteristics, consultant counter placement, and other factors. Therefore, SHA is providing this policy to ensure that traffic-count locations are within in the same section of roadway, regardless of changes to roadway characteristics (such as the number of lanes, signals, construction, intersecting roads, or anything else that might impede traffic).

Methodology

Collect GPS points for each traffic-counting counter (box).

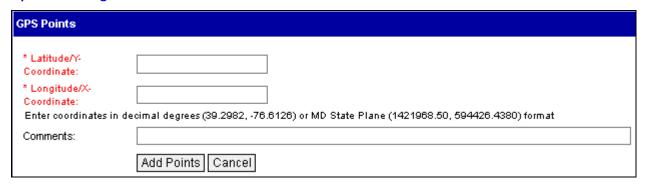
Machine Counts

Take GPS points at the traffic counter (box) is placed. If there are multiple boxes, take one point at each box. See the diagrams on the following page for where to collect the GPS points.

Specifications for the Latitude/Y, Longitude/X Coordinates

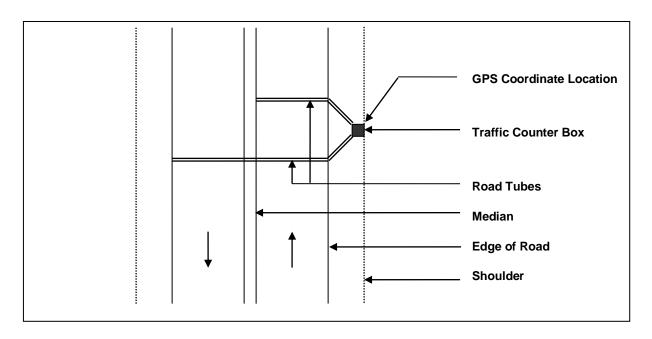
SHA prefers to receive its GPS data in decimal degrees (39.2982, -76.6126) or MD State Plane (1421968.50, 594426.4380). SHA prefers sub-meter accuracy.

Uploaded along with the count data in TMS COUNTS Section

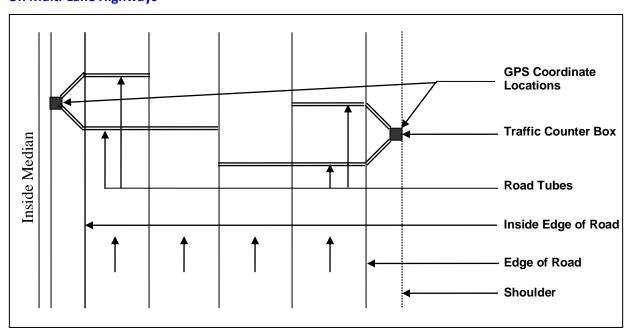


Location for Collecting GPS Points

On Two-Lane Highways



On Multi-Lane Highways



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