Traffic & Transport Assessment

What is a Traffic & Transport Assessment?

A Traffic & Transport Assessment (TTA) assesses the effect a development will have on the existing infrastructure around the development site. It estimates the additional vehicle trips generated by the proposed development to determine whether the existing road network can cope with the extra demand generated by the development.

The TTA may also look at whether existing and proposed transport facilities are adequate for the proposed development, such as internal and external footpaths, parking facilities, public transport facilities (bus stops etc) and cyclist provision, as well as junction operation and road capacity.

There are three key steps in the process:

1. Determination of the need for a TTA
2. The Scope of the TTA
3. The preparation of a TTA report

Schemes that have had Traffic & Transport Assessments carried out generally provide an improved quality of life for those using the development.

Determination of the Need for a Traffic & Transport Assessment

Where the following thresholds are exceeded, a TTA may be required:

- Traffic to and from the development exceeds 10% of the traffic flow on the adjoining road
- Traffic to and from the development exceeds 5% of the traffic flow on the adjoining road where congestion exists or the location is sensitive
- Residential developments in excess of 50 dwellings.
- Retail and leisure developments in excess of 1,000sqm
- Office, education or hospital development in excess of 2,500sqm
- Industrial development in excess of 5,000sqm
- Distribution and warehousing in excess of 10,000sqm

In addition to this, Monaghan Local Authorities may ask for a TTA for quarry or filling station developments.

TTA are usually requested by Monaghan Local Authorities as Additional Information. Preparing to carry out a TTA may take some time. Traffic counts may be required, as well as detailed information about the development. Given the short timeframe for Additional Information, it is advisable to start work on the TTA prior to the submission of the planning application. Pre-planning consultations can determine if a Traffic & Transport Assessment is necessary.

APPENDICES

Scope of the Traffic & Transport Assessment

To make the TTA process quicker and easier, Monaghan Local Authorities have prepared a TTA Scoping Study (Available through Area Engineering Offices) and on Web site. The scoping study is a comprehensive list of every element that should be considered in a TTA. In some cases certain items may not be relevant to your development and may be termed “Not applicable”.

The purpose of the scoping study is twofold;

- To highlight areas of road design which are often forgotten about or neglected. The scoping study could be viewed as a checklist, ensuring a balanced and well thought out scheme. It may be useful to provide a copy of the scoping study to the design team/architects to ensure all relevant items have been addressed prior to making a planning application.
- To allow agreement on the terms of reference of the TTA. This will ensure the TTA carried out addresses the concerns the Local Authority may have, and can highlight any potential problems at an early stage.

The TTA should be carried out by Consultants who have prior experience in the field of transport planning and mobility management. They should have access to traffic modelling software and traffic generation figures to enable them to produce a technical and reliable TTA report. Local knowledge is an advantage.

Preparation of the Traffic & Transportation Report

Once the scoping study is complete its elements should be formally agreed with Monaghan Local Authorities. After this, the TTA report can be prepared. The TTA report should include site description, existing traffic flows, estimates of future traffic flows with and without the proposed development, analysis of junction operation with and without the proposed development, parking facilities, and an assessment of other modes of transport. Supporting drawings and plans should be included with the TTA report.

What will Monaghan Local Authorities do with this Information?

The information may be used to determine developer contributions or additional work required to facilitate the proposed development. It is also a valuable tool allowing Monaghan Local Authorities to prepare for the future. Estimating future traffic growth allows planning for network upgrades and transportation strategies. It may illustrate the development potential of an area, or it may uncover future infrastructure deficiencies that must be designed for.

TTAs will ensure development in County Monaghan is sustainable, integrated and welcomed into the community.

Further information:

- DECLG Traffic Management Guidelines
- Guidelines for Traffic Impact Assessments - The Institution of Highways & Transportation UK
- National Roads Authority Guidelines.
- Road Design Office, Monaghan County Council

MONAGHAN LOCAL AUTHORITIES
Traffic & Transport Assessment Scoping Study

Development: _____

Client: _____

Planning Application Ref: _____

Date: _____

All elements of the scoping study should be agreed with the relevant local authority before the preparation of a Traffic & Transport Assessment.
Please continue on a separate sheet if required.

Ref.	Item	Requirements
1	Size and description of proposed development	
2	Description of existing land use	
3	Will existing land use be relocated within or off site?	
4	Speed Limit	
5	Sight distance at main road junction Direction 1 Direction 2 Sight distances at internal junctions	
6	Is a Road Safety Audit required?	
7	Existing traffic conditions (traffic counts, proposed traffic counts (include proposed times, days and locations), congestion, etc)	
8	Estimated traffic generated by other proposed developments in the area	
9	What is the potential modal split of the proposed development?	
10	Estimated traffic generation rates (please include reference source), or proposed traffic counts on similar land uses.	

Ref.	Item	Requirements
11	Will the site attract traffic from other adjacent sites?	
12	Development peak hours: Background traffic peak hours Critical time of assessment	
13	Proposed junction type: (If using existing junction will it require modification, upgrade works, etc?)	
14	Will adjacent links or junctions become overloaded? Proposed capacity assessment methods at junctions	
15	What will the area of impact of the development be?	
16	When will the site become fully operational?	
17	Are there significant phases to the development?	
18	What will be the impact of construction traffic? (Please specify the source and route of construction traffic):	
19	What are the assessment years?	
20	Traffic growth factors:	
21	Is the development isolated? Is additional footpath provision required to link into existing footpaths? Do existing footpaths require upgrade works?	
22	Does existing Public Lighting provision extend as far as the site? What additional Public Lighting is required?	
23	Footpath, Tactile paving, dropped kerb provision (Internally and Externally):	
24	Are special pedestrian or disabled provisions required, eg pedestrian crossings?	
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	eg pedestrian crossings?	

Ref	Item	Requirements
24	Are special pedestrian or disabled provisions required, eg pedestrian crossings?	
25	No. parking spaces required (include calculation details) No. parking spaces provided Proposed Parking Bay Dimensions	
26	What disabled parking provision has been made?	
27	What cycle parking facilities are being provided? Are special provisions required for cyclists, eg cycle lanes, showering facilities, etc?	
28	Public transport facilities	
29	Are there any other special circumstances relevant to this proposal?	
30	Will the proposal have an impact on road safety?	

Any other comments: _____

_____

_____

Approved by: _____

Position: _____

Date: _____