



# Transportation Impact Study Guidelines

## Introduction

The City of Canton has established transportation policies to accommodate growth. The City of Canton Transportation Master Plan, adopted in 2023, as well as the Roadmap to Success, adopted in 2020 place great emphasis on Creating Great Neighborhoods, Celebrating the Diversity of Our Community, Advancing Regional Economic Success, Enhancing Historic Downtown Canton, Sustaining Our Natural Environment, Connecting Citizens to Parks and Recreation, Improving Infrastructure for Future Demands, and Leading with Excellence.

A Transportation Impact Study is a critical element of the development review process. The purpose of this study is to help City Staff understand the effect of a proposed development on the existing transportation network. If required, the study shall address site circulation of vehicles and pedestrians, identify impacts of development generated traffic, and provide recommendations for safe and efficient movement of vehicles and pedestrians.

## Applicability

When a development application is submitted, the City of Canton Engineering Department will determine whether or not a Transportation Impact Study is required. A study will be required for all residential subdivisions containing more than 200 lots, non-residential subdivisions containing 50,000 square feet of floor area, or at the discretion of the Community Development Director and City Engineer. If required, the City will notify the applicant of this requirement and they will be supplied with a copy of this document. A transportation impact study may be required at any stage of development, including but not limited to, Application for rezoning, Application for Conditional Use Permit, Application for Land Disturbance Permit, Application for a master plan amendment, Application for a Planned Unit Development.

## Scope

Depending on the type and size of the proposed project, the scope of the transportation impact study could range from a single intersection to a larger scale study. The applicant shall receive approval of the scope of the study area by the City Engineer prior to conducting the study.

## **Contents**

The Transportation Impact Study shall include at a minimum:

1. Proposed Development
  - a. Location
  - b. Land Use
  - c. Site Plan
  - d. On-site circulation
2. Existing Conditions
  - a. Roadway Characteristics
  - b. Traffic Volumes including peak hour volumes and daily volumes
  - c. Pedestrian Volumes
  - d. Level of Service
  - e. Accident History
3. Projections
  - a. Trip Generation
  - b. Trip Distribution
  - c. Capacity Analysis
4. Conclusion and Recommendations
  - a. Any significant findings regarding safety, change in LOS, etc.
  - b. On-site improvements
  - c. Off-site recommendations necessary to mitigate the effects of the project

## **Data Collection**

All traffic volumes shall be collected during clear environmental conditions, during regular school session, with no adjacent special events. It is the responsibility of the consultant to validate traffic counts prior to their use in the study.

## **Expiration of Study**

If a proposed development does not commence in a timely fashion, changes or updates to the study may be required if any of the following conditions exist:

- Land Disturbance does not commence within 18 months of traffic volume date of collection
- Road improvements have been constructed within the study area and were not considered or change the distribution of traffic
- Development occurs within the study area that is significantly greater than the anticipated background growth
- Change in site, scale or use of the proposed development