

MICHoud ASSEMBLY FACILITY

Project: Extension of Saturn Boulevard to State Road System

Question. It is stated that vehicular traffic to and from Michoud averages 12,600 vehicles per day with peak surges exceeding 3,000 vehicles per hour. Has any attempt been made to stagger starting and closing hours at the Facility? What is the average delay during peak hours of traffic?

Answer. A staggering of the starting and closing hours at Michoud has been in effect for an extended period. Currently the work force arrives in five staggered groups between 7:00 am and 8:18 am. The outgoing traffic is similarly staggered from 3:30 pm to 4:48 pm. A recent survey showed the average peak period delay to be 30 minutes per vehicle.

Question. What is the estimated traffic volume when the Chrysler and Boeing production rate is reduced from six vehicles per year to a maximum of four per year? Might not much of the current traffic congestion be eliminated by virtue of lower employment levels in the near future?

Answer. If Chrysler and Boeing production is reduced, our analysis indicates the traffic volume will average approximately 11,400 vehicles per day with peak surges exceeding 2,800 vehicles per hour. This traffic has to enter or leave the facility into the high speed network being constructed by the city and the State to accommodate the increasing traffic in the Michoud vicinity. Therefore, the safety hazards and the congestion will still exist even if the employment levels were to be reduced in the future.