

Office Memorandum

DEPARTMENT Mn/DOT - Environmental Services Annex

TO : Jim Reiersen
Senior Landscape Architect

DATE: March 11, 1977

FROM : Robert B. Doerr, ^{SP}
Highway Technician

PHONE: 296-5781

SUBJECT: Sauk Centre Information Center

Date - July 29-August 2, 1976
Hours - 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Weather - Clear and cool

Vehicles entering Sauk Centre on T.H. 71	10201
" " " " " " 28	4220
" passing " " " I-94	35043

Vehicles entering Rest Area	426
1.61% of T.H. 71	
.63% of I-94	
.55% of T.H. 28	

Total 2.79% of all traffic

Average persons per vehicle	3 people
" time in area	23.3 min.

PURPOSE FOR ENTERING

Use Rest Rooms	31.5%
Tour Interpretive Center	26.6%
Eat	17.1%
Just to rest	9.0%
Get travel information	8.1%
Other	3.2%
Water	2.1%
Telephone	1.6%
Use trash receptacles	0.7%

PERCENT OF PERSONS USING

Rest Rooms	69.3%
Drinking water	42.5%

PERCENT OF VEHICLES USING

Interpretive Center	35.4%
Trash receptacles	29.8%
Picnic tables	23.7%
Little school house	23.7%

Travel information	19.5%
Telephone	1.2%

VEHICLES ENTERING

Passenger car - No trailer	74.6%
" " With trailer	9.8%
Single Unit truck with camper	5.6%
" " " without camper	4.9%
Bus recreational	2.8%
Other vehicles	2.1%

<u>Day</u>	<u>Vehicles Entering</u>
Thur.	66
Fri.	71
Sat.	112
Sun.	111
Mon.	<u>66</u>
Total	426

HOW PEOPLE HEARD ABOUT REST AREA

Road Signs	60.9%
Friends recommendations	6.4%
By themselves	24.3%
Other	8.4%

DIRECTION VEHICLES CAME & WENT

Entered	I-94	52.4%	=	E.B. 32%	W.B. 68%
Rest Area	T.H. 71	39.0%	=	N.B. 30%	S.B. 70%
From	T.H. 28	5.5%	=	E.B. 78%	W.B. 22%
	Other	3.1%			
Went to	I-94	57.1%	=	E.B. 52%	W.B. 48%
After leaving	T.H. 71	33.0%	=	N.B. 46%	S.B. 54%
Rest Area	T.H. 28	5.3%	=	E.B. 69%	W.B. 31%
	Other	4.6%			

DEPARTMENT Mn/DOT - Site & Development Unit
Trans. Annex - Ext. 5773

Office Memorandum

TO : Len Eilts
Office of Design Services

DATE: April 7, 1977

FROM : Jim Reiersen *J. Reiersen*
Site and Development

SUBJECT: Usage Survey Results
Sauk Center Rest Area
S.P. 7319 T.H. 71

Attached are the results of the usage survey taken at the above rest area during the summer of 1976. The Sauk Center Rest Area also contains manned information facilities and the Sinclair Louis Historical Museum. The combined facilities at this rest area was a joint development effort by Mn/DOT and the City of Sauk Center.

The following points of interest can be identified from the survey information:

1. Vehicles entering and using rest area facilities is average or a bit less than average. The primary influence is from I94, which junctions with T.H. 71 at Sauk Center. The low vehicle stopping rate may be the sites close proximity to the city of Sauk Center.
2. The average persons per vehicle (3) and average time in rest area (23.3 min.) is about equal to other rest area facilities.
3. The purpose given for entering rest area was primarily related to using rest rooms (31.5%) and tour Interpretive Center (26.5%). This reflects the primary functions of the facility and indicates that the Sinclair Louis Museum is a significant factor in attracting visitors to the site.
4. The category "How People Heard About Rest Area" is interesting, indicating that the majority of people (60.9%) decide to stop based on highway signing they see. This certainly reinforces the need for adequate highway signing.

In summary, the rest area and museum facility appears to be very successful as a multiple-use, joint development venture with the City of Sauk Center. The facility is being adequately used and should increase in

Len Eilts
April 7, 1977
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usage in the future. A similar review of usage should be made in the future as a basis of comparison. These figures seem to assure us that rest area facilities are being designed in a realistic manner and that joint development projects are successful, both to the Department and to the municipality.

Attachment:
Usage Survey

cc:
R. Braun
F. Marshall
L. Korth
D. Durgin
L. Foote
Archie Ball, Sauk Center Chamber of Commerce
R. Doerr



Office Memorandum

DEPARTMENT Mn/DOT - Environmental Services
Annex

TO : Jim Reiersen
Senior Landscape Architect

DATE: March 11, 1977

FROM : Robert B. Doerr *RBD*
Highway Technician

PHONE: 296-5781

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DEPARTMENT HIGHWAYS - Office of Environmental Services Highway Annex Ext. 5781

Office Memorandum

TO : Edward McCulloch
District Traffic Engineer
Brainerd

DATE: June 25, 1976

FROM : Robert Doerr
Highway Technician

SUBJECT: Traffic Count Sauk Centre

As we discussed on the telephone June 25, 1976, I would like a traffic count on I94, T.H. 71 & T.H. 28 on the inbound lanes during July 29 until August 2 (5 days).

We will be working in the Sauk Centre Rest Area on those days 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., interviewing traffic for usage information.

Map enclosed showing approximate locations of where we think counters could be put. If you have any ideas to improve location, we would appreciate. Thank you.

Robert B Doerr

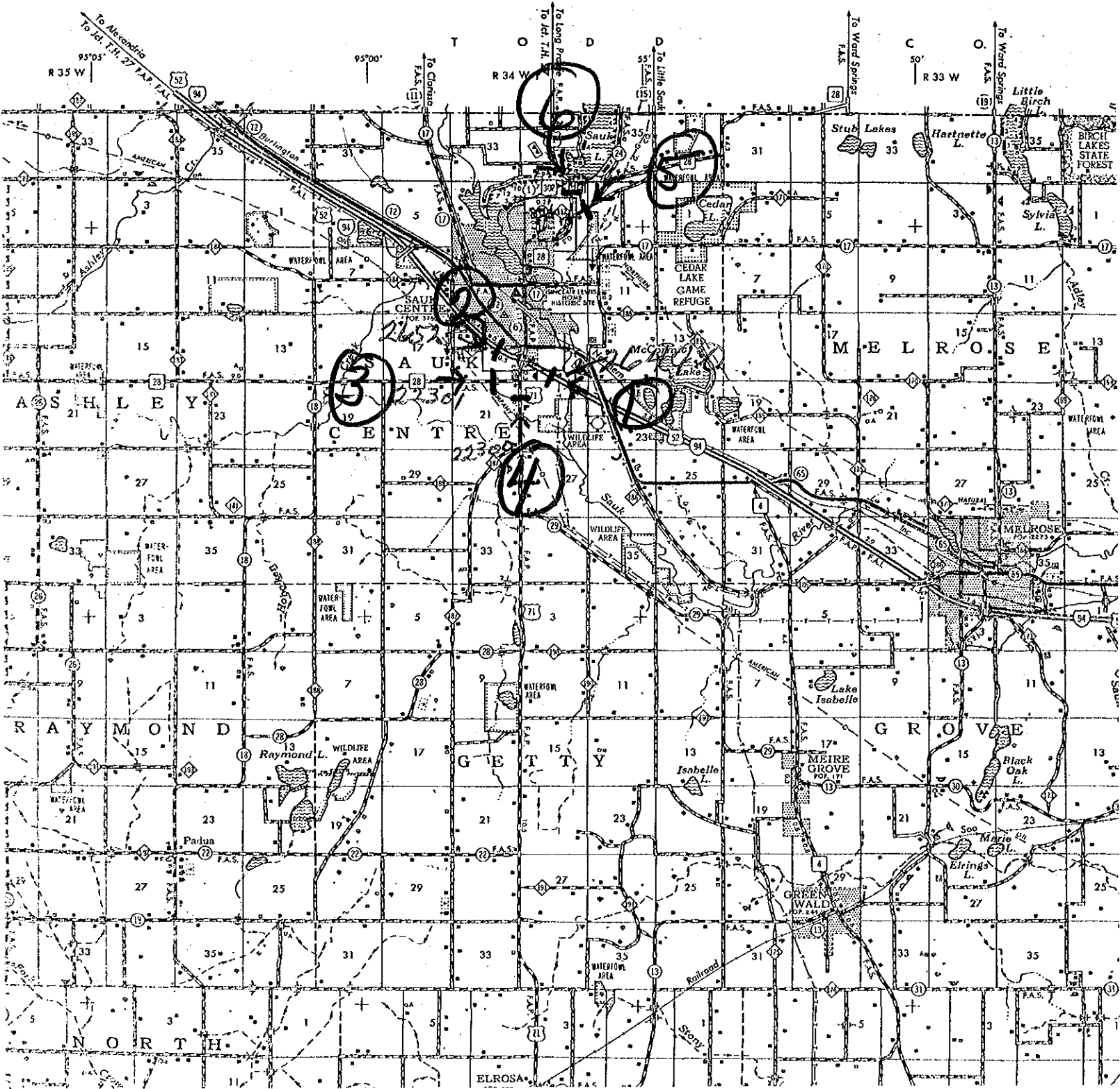
Robert Doerr
Highway Technician
Environmental Services

Enclosure:
Map

*STA. ARE NUMBERED ON MAP
SO ARE THE TAPES*



All incoming traffic on
I 94, T.H. 71 & T.H. 28



HIGHWAYS - Office of Environmental
Services Highway Annex Ext. 5773

Edward McCulloch
District Traffic Engineer
Brainerd

August 17, 1976

James S. Heierson, Chief
Site and Development Section

Sank Centre Information Center

During the usage study at the Sank Centre Information Center, it was noted that there seems to be a traffic circulation problem with the dead end road to the Starlite Motel. A large portion of the traffic that leaves the rest area by the exit near the building go up the dead end road. This problem could be corrected with a sign saying "Return to Highway" with arrow or a sign that says "Dead End."

The area could also use a "Handicap Ramp No Parking" sign at the ramp. If you could investigate this we would appreciate it. We would also like to thank you for the traffic counts you took for us during the usage study.

If you have any questions, please contact our office, Environmental Services, Robert Doerr.

James S. Heierson, Chief
Site and Development Section

cc:
L. E. Foote

JSR:nh

SAUK CENTRE INFORMATION CENTER USAGE SURVEY

DEAR MOTORIST:

THE MINNESOTA HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT IS DETERMINING WHAT SHOULD BE THE SPACING OF REST AREAS ALONG THE HIGHWAY AND THE FACILITIES THEY SHOULD PROVIDE TO SATISFY YOUR NEEDS. ONLY YOU CAN SUPPLY INFORMATION WE NEED TO PLAN REST AREA FACILITIES.

PLEASE ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS.

DAY OF WEEK _____ VEHICLE TYPE _____
 DATE _____ TIME IN _____ NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN
 LICENSING STATE _____ TIME OUT _____ VEHICLE _____

REST AREA USE

1. WHAT WAS YOUR CHIEF PURPOSE FOR DRIVING INTO THIS REST AREA? (check one)

1. ___ Use rest room 2. ___ Use trash receptacles 3. ___ Water
 4. ___ Just to rest 5. ___ Get travel information 6. ___ Telephone
 7. ___ Eat 8. ___ Tour Interpretive Center 9. ___ Other _____
 (please specify)

2. HOW MANY PEOPLE IN YOUR PARTY USED THE FOLLOWING?

Rest room facilities _____ Drinking water supply _____

3. WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING FACILITIES WERE USED BY YOUR PARTY?

1. ___ Picnic table 2. ___ Travel information 3. ___ Little School House
 4. ___ Trash receptacles 5. ___ Telephone 6. ___ Interpretive Center

4. WHERE IS YOUR PLACE OF RESIDENCE?

State _____ City or County _____ Distance from here _____

5. HOW DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THIS AREA?

Road signs _____ Friends _____ By yourself _____ Other _____

6. WHAT HIGHWAY DID YOU ENTER SAUK CENTRE ON?

I94 _____ T.H. 28 _____ T.H. 71 _____
 E.B. ___ W.B. _____ E.B. ___ W.B. _____ N.B. ___ S.B. _____ Other _____

7. WHAT HIGHWAY ARE YOU LEAVING SAUK CENTRE ON?

I94 _____ T.H. 28 _____ T.H. 71 _____
 E.B. ___ W.B. _____ E.B. ___ W.B. _____ N.B. ___ S.B. _____ Other _____

PLEASE RETURN TO PEOPLE AT REST AREA EXIT -- THANK YOU