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## **8.0 Test Plan for Secondary Research**

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The purpose of this task is to review and summarize other relevant research regarding the benefits and costs of ramp metering and to identify ramp metering strategies employed in other comparable metropolitan areas.

In this task, the CS team will review, verify, and validate a currently unpublished Texas Transportation Institute (TTI) ramp meter comparison study. The CS team will identify any gaps in the TTI study, and make whatever adjustments are required to reflect the most current information regarding:

- A comparison of Minnesota’s ramp metering system to other deployments in metropolitan areas across the country, including the total number of ramp meters, the type of deployment (pre-set, traffic actuated, centrally controlled), hours of operation, ramp configuration strategies (with or without HOV lanes, etc.), benefit-cost, environmental and safety studies undertaken, outreach and educational efforts, user feedback, and plans for expansions or new ramp metering deployments;
- A summary of the trends of ramp metering strategies and use; and
- A summary of the benefits, impacts, and costs of ramp metering from studies done across the country.

The CS team will also identify and search ITS and other transportation agency web sites and relevant domestic and international transportation trade press to find ramp metering information that is current and relevant. Trade press and databases anticipated to be searched include:

- Traffic Technology International;
- Roads and Bridges;
- The Journals of the Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations; the Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE) and American Public Works Association;
- U.S. DOT’s electronic data library;
- U.S. DOT’s ITS costs and benefits database; and
- State and other transportation agency DOT web sites.

The CS team will also interview and/or survey individuals from three sites to fill in any missing gaps in the TTI study. Alternative interview sites will be recommended by the contractor and approved by the State's project manager.

A technical memorandum will be produced summarizing the results of the secondary research.