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G. Allen Finchum, II and Jonathan				
Department of Geography, Oklahor				
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16 . ABSTRACT

This document summarizes the overall tasks, functionality, and limitations related to the delivered product of this project. Specifically, we present a Geographic Information Systems (GIS)-based database and analysis package for evaluating socioeconomic data of small towns along US 70 in southeastern Oklahoma. This package should aid ODOT in its efforts to make equitable bypass decisions by providing a platform in which pertinent social and economic data can be queried, summarized, and presented for each town that ODOT is considering bypassing.

We have constructed a database for all ten towns along US 70 between the Arkansas state line and Ardmore. The primary bypass candidates of Boswell, Durant, Kingston, Oakland-Madill, Soper, and Valliant are modeled as well as Bokchito, Hugo, Idabel, and Ft. Towson. For each town, current statistics are available on business counts, selected socioeconomic census variables, sale tax collections and rates, and (where available) traffic count totals. Also, projections of business count changes as a result of a new bypass are predicted and presented.

This document serves as an executive summary, and thus does not contain the full detail of every aspect of this project but rather the main points and highlights. Fuller detail is presented as part of the training documentation that was distributed during the training phase of this project.

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