

Amy Robben
LSA Associates

Introduction:

The Mountain Plains Consortium (MPC) offers an internship opportunity every spring. I filled out my application and went through the interviewing processes during the spring semester 2007. There were eight different companies looking for interns. I was hired by LSA Associates to work full time during the summer and part time during the school year. LSA is an environmental, Urban Planning and Design company. The Fort Collins office focuses mainly on traffic modeling.

Projects:

The first project I worked on was to figure out the trips generated by a new project in Kansas City, MO. I was given the project map and was then expected to use the Traffic Generation modeling books to determine peak travel rates for the AM and PM hours. I was instructed on use of basic TransCAD and Syncro.

The next project was to assist in developing a traffic study for the expected ridership on RTD. This project was trying to determine if the new Fast Tracks should build a two track light rail all the way to Jefferson County, out west of Denver by Golden. Jefferson County had contracted us to figure out if they were being given the short end of the stick by only being given a one track line. In order to figure this all out TransCAD was utilized. Each light rail station had to be modeled and the expected ridership calculated.

One day I came in and for the whole day I was working on a Project called the Great Park in California. The project is taking a closed marine base and turning into a park comparable to Central Park but bigger. My task was to figure out the traffic that would be generated by adding a 40000 square foot aquatic center to the design. The traffic needed to be known to make sure that the estimated amount of traffic was not exceeded because if it was exceeded a new proposal would have to be submitted to the EPA.