

# Evacuation Route Planning

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**Note:** Many of the results presented in these slides are summarized in the following paper:  
Evacuation Planning: A Spatial Network Database Approach, *IEEE Data Eng. Bulletin*, 33(2): 26-31 (2010).  
(<http://sites.computer.org/debull/A10june/Shashi.pdf>).



# Transportation Motivation

TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH BOARD  
OF THE NATIONAL ACADEMIES

TRE



## Critical Issues in Transportation

2009 Update

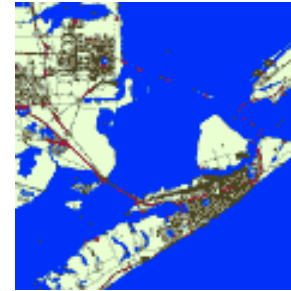
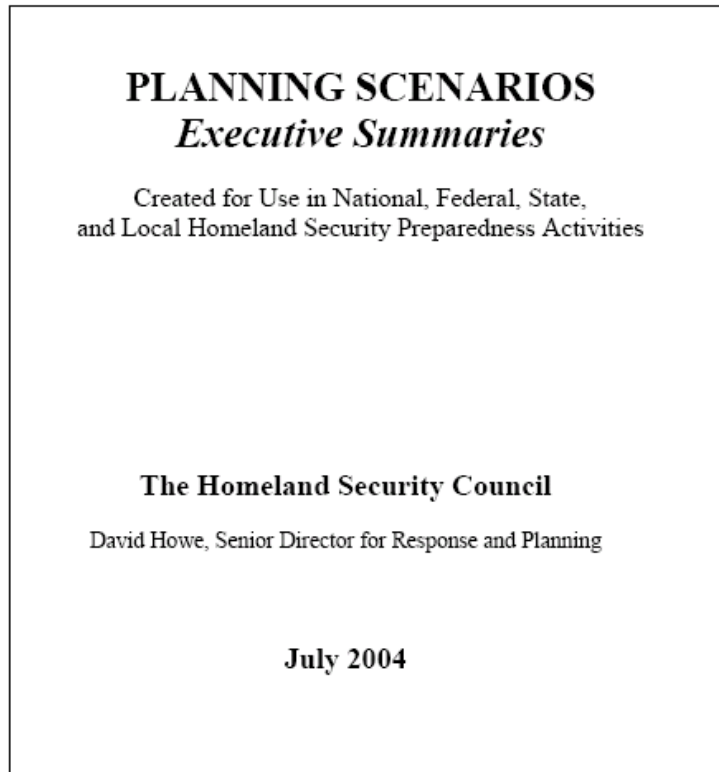
- **CONGESTION**: increasingly congested facilities across all modes;
- **ENERGY, ENVIRONMENT, AND CLIMATE CHANGE**: extraordinary challenges;
- **INFRASTRUCTURE**: enormous, aging capital stock to maintain;
- **FINANCE**: inadequate revenues;
- **EQUITY**: burdens on the disadvantaged;
- **EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS, RESPONSE, AND MITIGATION**: vulnerability to natural disasters and terrorist

The slow and ineffective evacuations from \_\_\_\_\_ ions mismatched to  
Hurricanes Katrina and Rita in 2005 pointed to the importance of having plans that can be executed and  
of ensuring that intergovernmental collaborations are effective. In addition, the evacuations highlighted  
the need to plan and provide for transportation facilities that are adequate for response to, and recovery  
from, terrorist attacks and natural disasters.

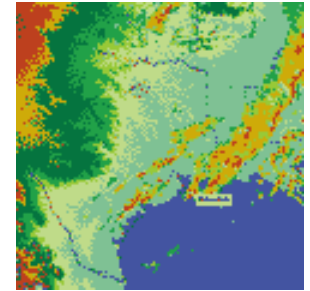
AL: inadequate

# Homeland Defense & Evacuation Planning

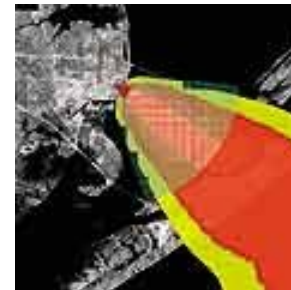
- Preparation of response to an attack
- Plan evacuation routes and schedules
- Help public officials to make important decisions
- Guide affected population to safety



Base Map



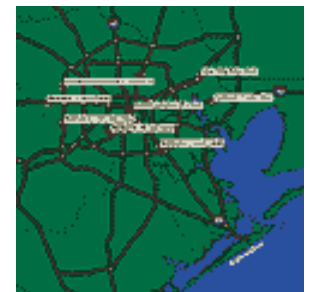
Weather Data



Plume  
Dispersion



Demographics  
Information

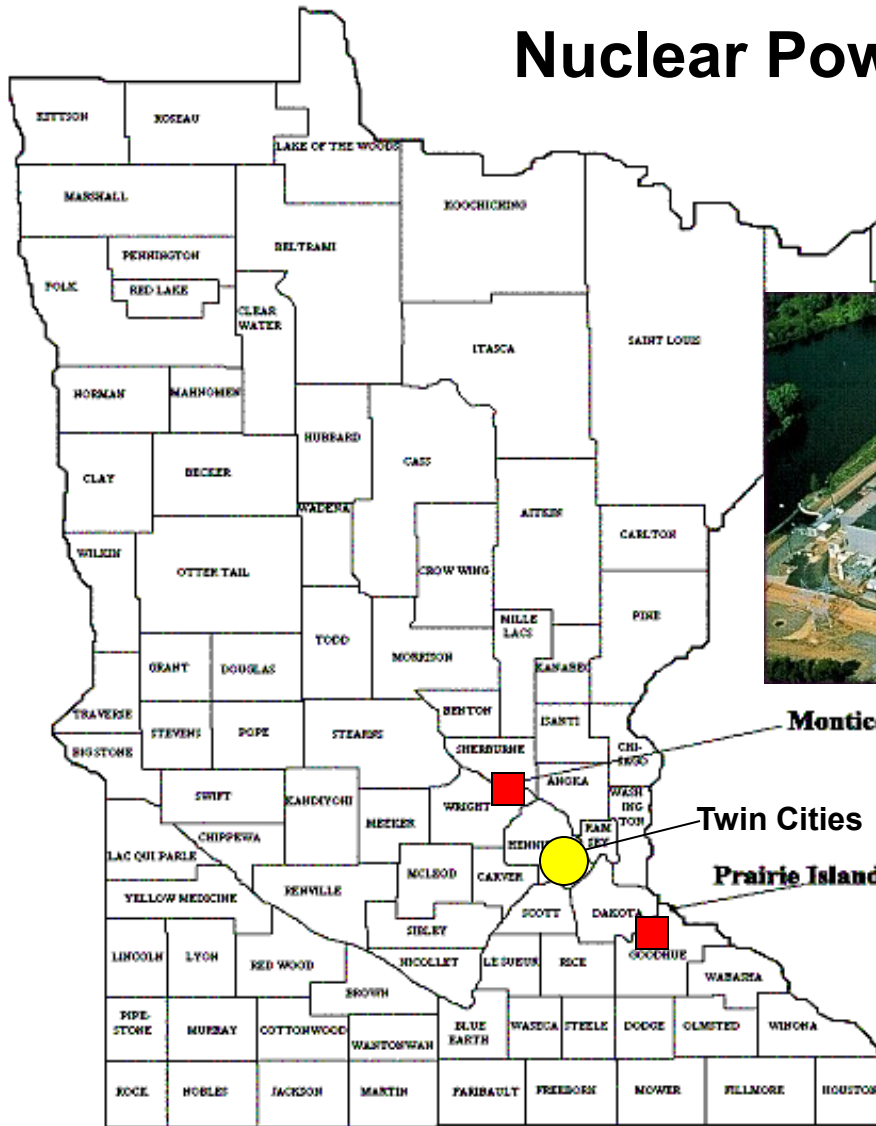


Transportation  
Networks

( Images from [www.fortune.com](http://www.fortune.com) )

# Example – Monticello Nuclear Power Plant

## Nuclear Power Plants in Minnesota



# Monticello Emergency Planning Zone

Emergency Planning Zone (EPZ) is a 10-mile radius around the plant divided into sub areas.

## Monticello EPZ

### Subarea Population

2	4,675
5N	3,994
5E	9,645
5S	6,749
5W	2,236
10N	391
10E	1,785
10SE	1,390
10S	4,616
10SW	3,408
10W	2,354
10NW	707
<b>Total</b>	<b>41,950</b>

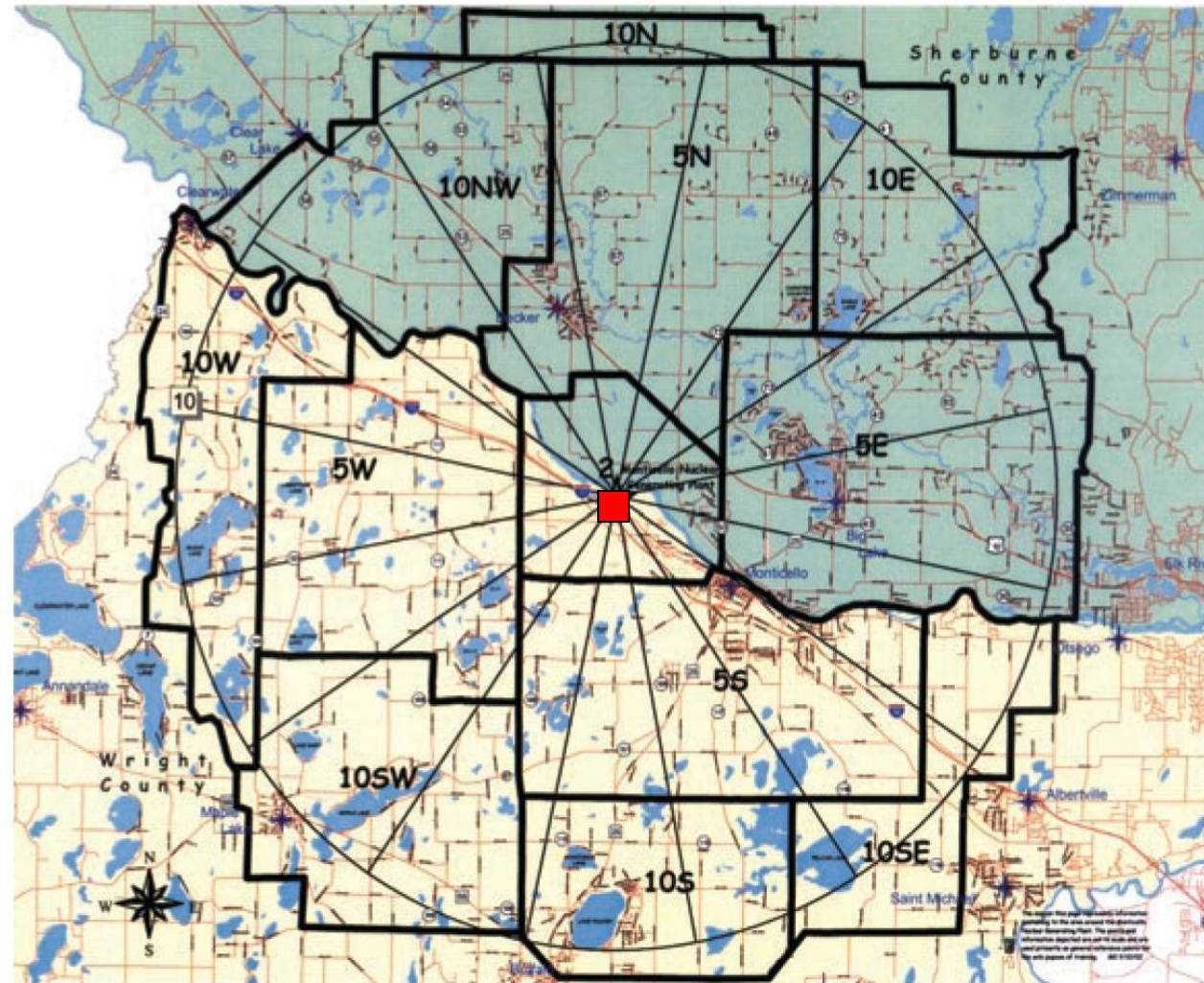
**Estimate EPZ evacuation time:**  
**Summer/Winter (good weather):**

3 hours, 30 minutes

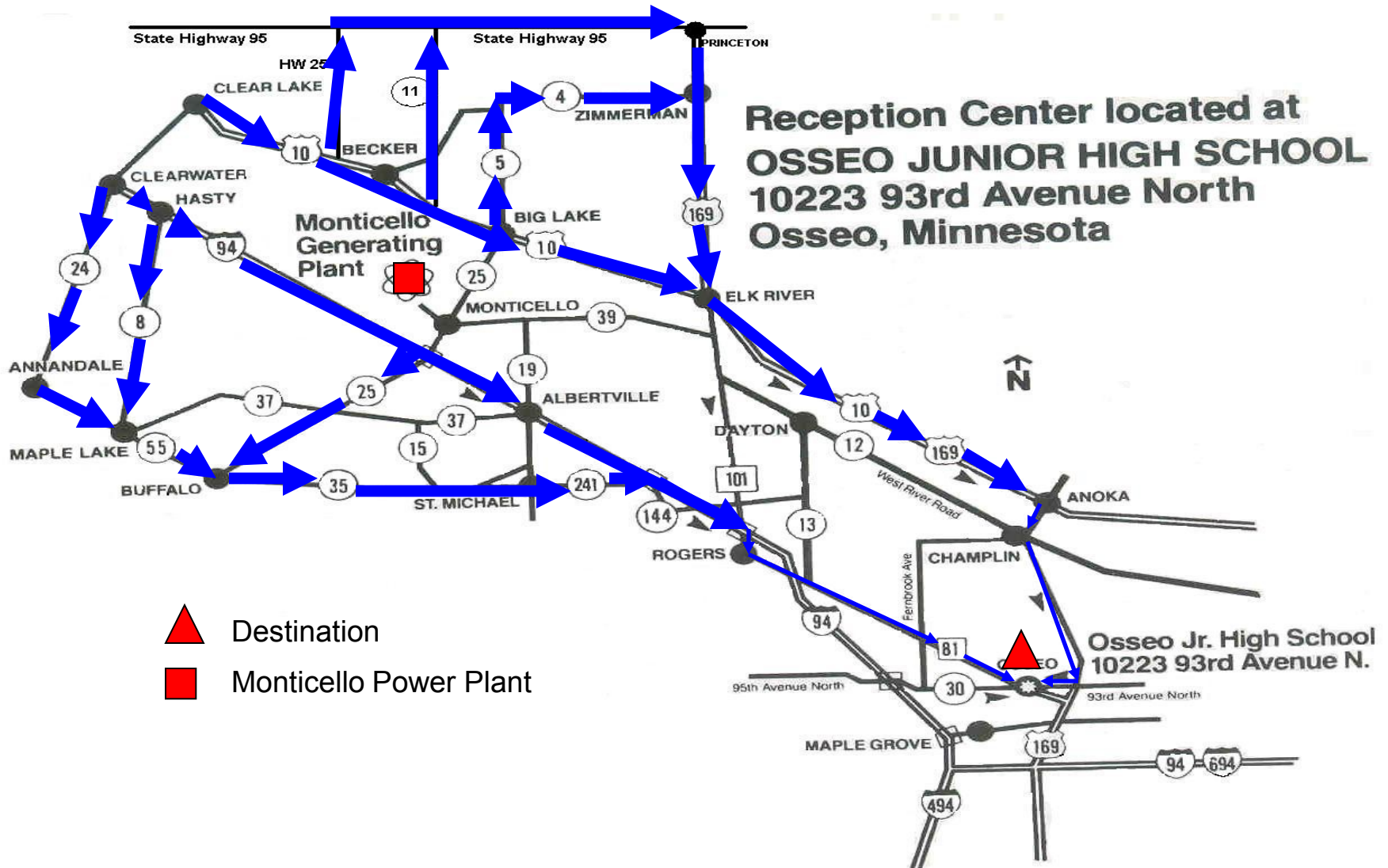
**Winter (adverse weather):**

5 hours, 40 minutes

Data source: Minnesota DPS & DHS  
Web site: <http://www.dps.state.mn.us>  
<http://www.dhs.state.mn.us>



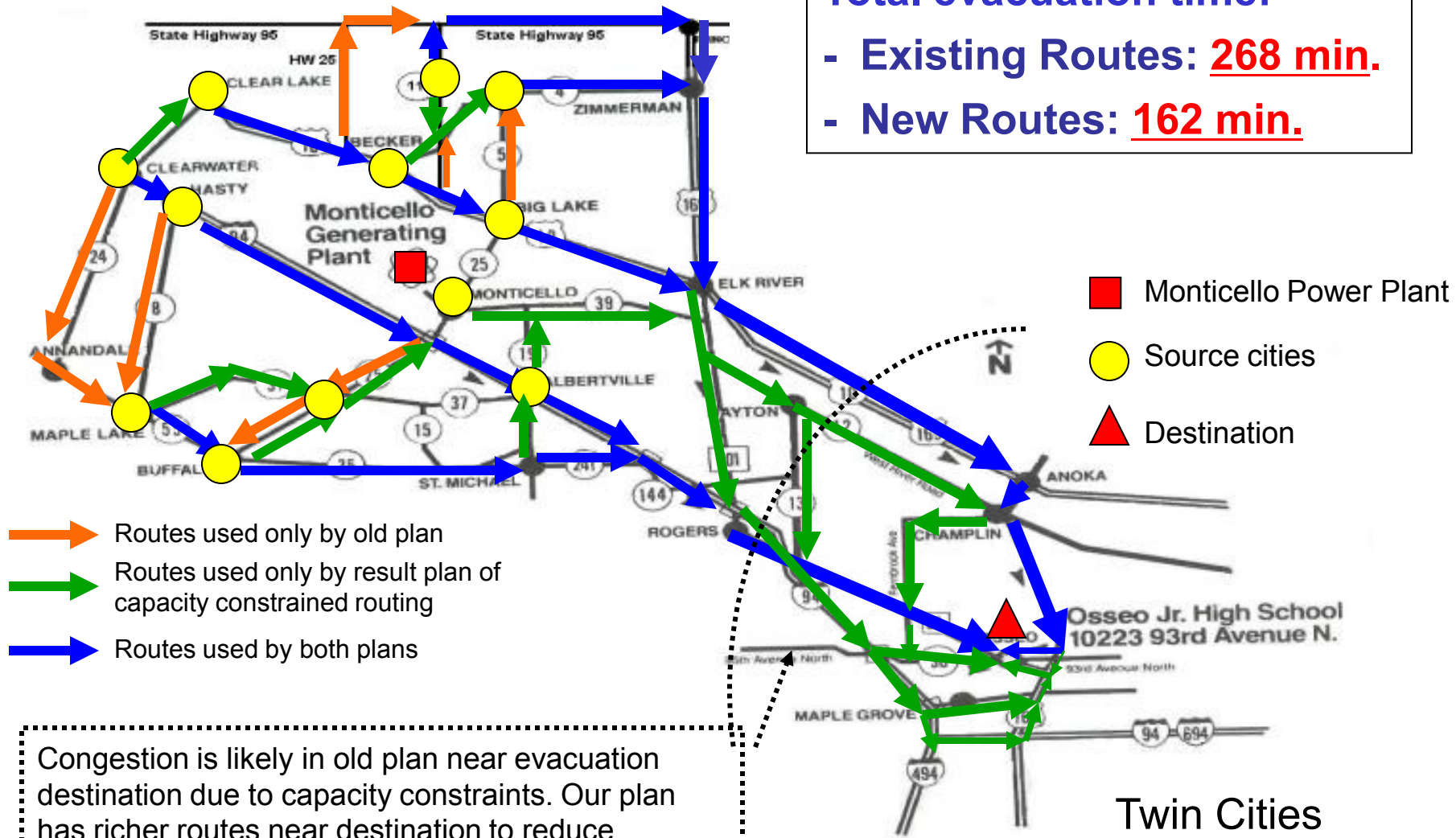
# Existing Evacuation Routes (Handcrafted)



# Our algorithms reduce evacuation time!

Total evacuation time:

- Existing Routes: **268 min.**
- New Routes: **162 min.**



- Routes used only by old plan
- Routes used only by result plan of capacity constrained routing
- Routes used by both plans

Congestion is likely in old plan near evacuation destination due to capacity constraints. Our plan has richer routes near destination to reduce congestion and total evacuation time.

Twin Cities

# Case Study 2 - Metropolitan Wide Evacuation Planning

**Mandate** – US-DHS Requirement

## Objectives

- **Coordinate evacuation plans of individual communities**
- Reduce conflicts across component plans
  - due to the use of common highways

**Timeframe:** January – November 2005

TWIN CITIES METRO  
EVACUATION PLAN

TECHNICAL  
MEMORANDUM #1

UNCLASSIFIED/FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY (FOUO)  
MAY BE DISSEMINATED ON A "NEED TO KNOW" BASIS  
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TRANSPORTATION



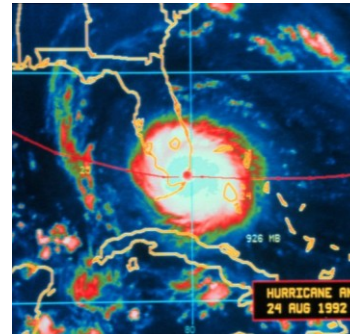
# Why avoid conflicts among local plans?

- No coordination among local plans means
  - Traffic congestions on all highways
  - e.g. 100 mile congestion in Texas (2005)
- Great confusions and chaos

"We packed up Morgan City residents to evacuate in the a.m. on the day that Andrew hit coastal Louisiana, but in early afternoon the majority came back home. **The traffic was so bad that they couldn't get through Lafayette.**"

Mayor Tim Mott, Morgan City, Louisiana  
( <http://i49south.com/hurricane.htm> )

## Florida, Louisiana (Andrew, 1992)

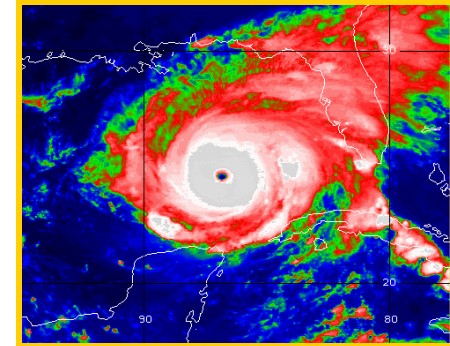


( National Weather Services )



( [www.washingtonpost.com](http://www.washingtonpost.com) )

## Houston (Rita, 2005)



( National Weather Services )



I-45 out of Houston  
( FEMA.gov )

# Acknowledgements

- **Sponsors**

- CTS, MnDOT

- **Key Individuals**

- Univ. of Minnesota - Sangho Kim, Qingsong Lu, and Betsy George
- MnDOT - Sonia Pitt, Robert Vasek, Cathy Clark
- URS - Daryl Taavola, Tait Swanson, Erik Seiberlich

- **Participating Organizations**

- MN-DPS – Minnesota Department of Public Safety
- MEMA – Minnesota Emergency Management Association
- Mpls./St. Paul Emergency Mgmt.
- MN: Dept. of Public Safety, DOE, DOH, DO Human Services
- Coast Guard, FHWA, TSA, Mn National Guard, UMN
- 9 Counties, 4 Cities, Metropolitan Council, Metro Transit
- 3 Fire Depts., 7 Law Enforcements

# Metropolitan Wide Evacuation Planning - 2

## Advisory Board

MEMA/Hennepin Co. -	Tim Turnbull, Judith Rue
Dakota Co. (MEMA) -	David Gisch
Minneapolis Emergency Mgt. -	Rocco Forte, Kristi Rollwagen
St. Paul Emergency Mgt. -	Tim Butler
Minneapolis Fire -	Ulie Seal
DPS HSEM -	Kim Ketterhagen, Terri Smith
DPS Special Operations -	Kent O'Grady
DPS State Patrol -	Mark Peterson

## Workshops

Over 100 participants from various local, state and federal govt.

# Workshop Participants

## **Federal, State, County, City**

Gerald Liibbe, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)  
Katie Belmore, Representing Wisconsin Department of Transportation

## **Airports**

George Condon, Metropolitan Airports Commission

## **Businesses**

Chris Terzich, Minnesota Information Sharing and Analysis Center  
Barry Gorelick, Minnesota Security Board

## **Communications and Public Information**

Kevin Gutknecht, Mn/DOT  
Lucy Kender, Mn/DOT  
Andrew Terry, Mn/DOT

## **Dispatch**

Keith Jacobson, Mn/DOT

## **Education**

Bob Fischer, Minnesota Department of Education  
Dick Guevremont, Minnesota Department of Education

## **Emergency Management**

Bruce Wojack, Anoka County Emergency Management  
Tim Walsh, Carver County Emergency Management  
Jim Halstrom, Chisago County Emergency Management  
David Gisch, Dakota County Emergency Preparedness  
Tim O'Laughlin, Scott County Sheriff – Emergency Management  
Tim Turnbull, Hennepin County Emergency Preparedness  
Judith Rue, Hennepin County Emergency Preparedness  
Rocco Forte, Minneapolis Fire Department – Emergency Preparedness  
Kristi Rollwagen, Minneapolis Fire Department – Emergency Preparedness  
William Hughes, Ramsey County Emergency Management and Homeland Security

Tim Butler, St. Paul Fire and Safety Services  
Deb Paige, Washington County Emergency Management  
Kim Ketterhagen, Department of Public Safety (DPS) HSEM  
Sonia Pitt, Mn/DOT HSEM  
Bob Vasek, Mn/DOT HSEM

## **Fire**

Gary Sigfrinius, Forest Lake Fire Department

## **Health**

Debran Ehret, Minnesota Department of Health

## **Hospitals**

Dan O'Laughlin, Metropolitan Hospital Compact

## **Human Services**

Glenn Olson, Minnesota Department of Human Services

## **Law Enforcement**

Brian Johnson, Hennepin County Sheriff  
Jack Nelson, Metro Transit Police Department  
David Indrehus, Metro Transit Police Department  
Otto Wagenpfeil, Minneapolis Police Department  
Kent O'Grady, Minnesota State Patrol  
Mark Peterson, Minnesota State Patrol  
Chuck Walerius, Minnesota State Patrol  
Douglas Biehn, Ramsey County Sheriff's Office  
Mike Morehead, St. Paul Police

## **Maintenance and Operations**

Beverly Farragher, Mn/DOT  
Gary Workman, Mn/DOT  
Robert Wryk, Mn/DOT

## **Military**

Daniel Berg, Marine Safety Office St.  
Louis Planning Division  
Eric Waage, Minnesota National Guard

## **Planning**

Connie Kozlak, MetCouncil

## **Public Works**

Bill Cordell, Wright County  
Jim Gates, City of Bloomington  
Jim Grube, Hennepin County  
Bob Winter, Mn/DOT  
Klara Fabry, City of Minneapolis  
Mark Kennedy, City of Minneapolis  
Gary Erickson, Hennepin County  
Dan Schacht, Ramsey County

## **Safety**

Thomas Cherney, Minnesota Department of Public Safety  
Doug Thies, Mn/DOT

## **Security**

Terri Smith, Minnesota Homeland Security Emergency Management  
Paul Pettit, Transportation Security Administration

## **Transit**

Dana Rude, Metro Mobility  
Steve McLaird, MetroTransit  
Christy Bailly, MetroTransit  
David Simoneau, SouthWest Metro Transit

## **Traffic**

Thomas Bowlin, City of Bloomington  
Jon Wertjes, City of Minneapolis  
Bernie Arseneau, Mn/DOT  
Amr Jabr, Mn/DOT  
Eil Kwon, Mn/DOT  
Paul St. Martin, City of St. Paul

## **Trucking**

John Hausladen, Minnesota Trucking Association

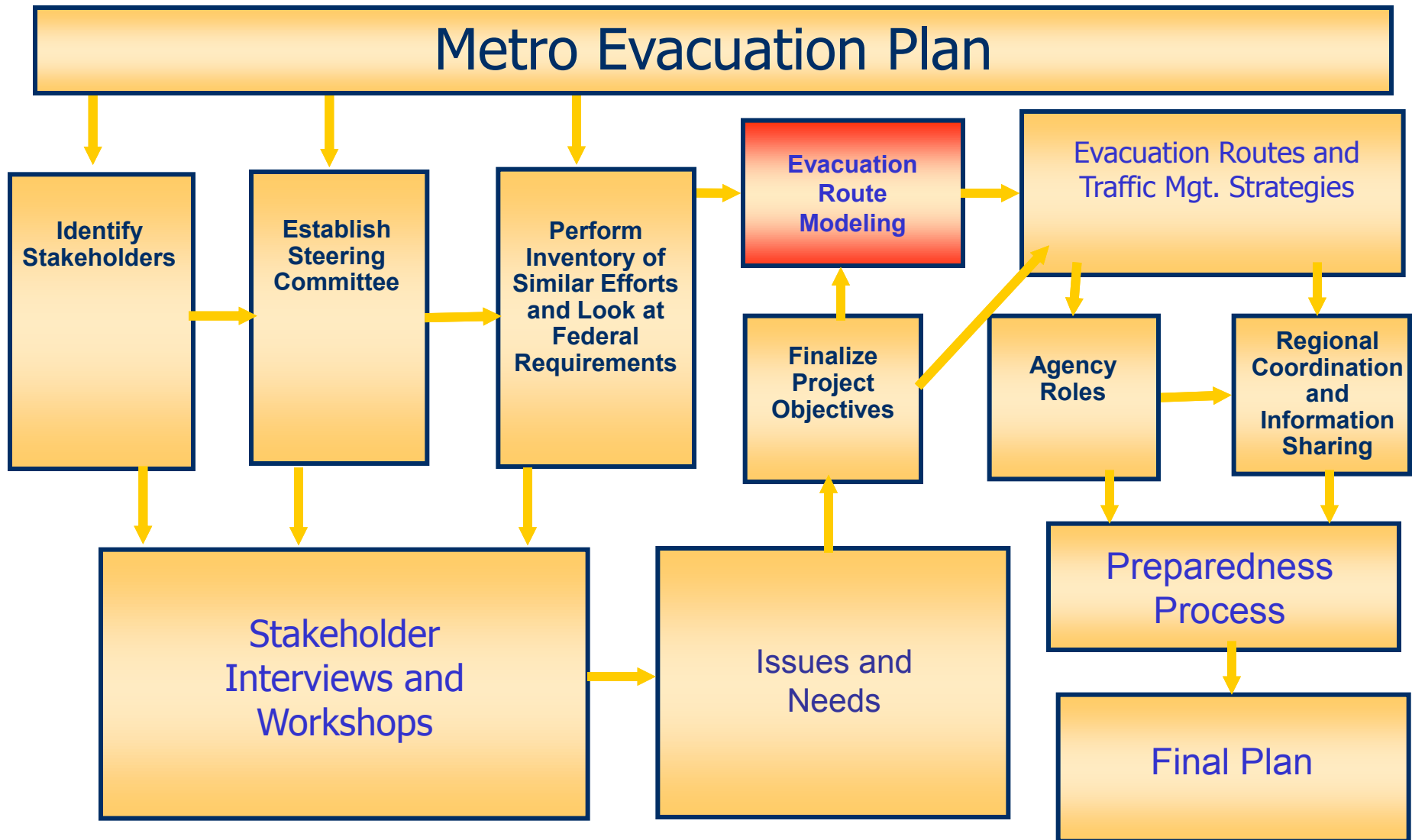
## **University**

Dan Johnson Powers,  
University of Minnesota Emergency Management

## **Volunteer Organizations**

Gene Borochoff, Minnesota Volunteer  
Organization active in Disaster

# Task-structure



# Problem Definition

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## Given

- A transportation network, a directed graph  $G = (N, E)$  with
  - Travel time for each edge (a.k.a. Link)
  - Capacity constraint for each edge and node
- Number of evacuees and their initial locations
- Evacuation destinations

## Output

- Evacuation plan consisting of a set of origin-destination routes and a scheduling of evacuees on each route.

## Objective

- Minimize evacuation time
- Minimize computational cost

## Constraints

- Edge travel time observes FIFO property
- Limited computer memory

# A Note on Objective Functions

- Why minimize evacuation time?
  - Reduce exposure to evacuees
  - Since harm due to many hazards increase with exposure time!
  
- Why minimize computation time ?
  - During Evacuation
    - Unanticipated events
      - Bridge Failure due to Katrina, 100-mile traffic jams due to Rita
    - Plan new evacuation routes to respond to events
      - Contra-flow based plan for Rita
  - During Planning
    - Explore a large number of scenarios Based on
      - Transportation Modes
      - Event location and time

***Plans are nothing; planning is everything.-- Dwight D. Eisenhower***

# Limitations of Related Works

## Linear Programming Approach

- Optimal solution for evacuation plan
- e.g. EVACNET (U. of Florida), Hoppe and Tardos (Cornell University).

### Limitation:

- High computational complexity
- Cannot apply to large transportation networks

Number of Nodes	50	500	5,000	50,000
EVACNET Running Time	0.1 min	2.5 min	108 min	> 5 days

## Commuter Traffic Simulation Approach

- Game Theory: Wardrop Equilibrium among commuters over a few weeks
- e.g. DYNASMART, TRANSIM, ...

### Limitation:

- Requires a lot of data, e.g. traffic signal timing
- Does not scale, Needs tremendous amount of computing



# Proposed Approach

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- Existing methods can not handle large urban scenarios
  - Communities use manually produced evacuation plans
- Key Ideas in Proposed Approach
  - Generalize shortest path algorithms (e.g. Google Map)
  - Honor road capacity constraints
  - Capacity Constrained Route Planning (**CCRP**)

# Performance Evaluation : Effect of Network Size

Setup: fixed number of evacuees = 5000, fixed number of source nodes = 10 nodes,  
number of nodes from 50 to 50,000.

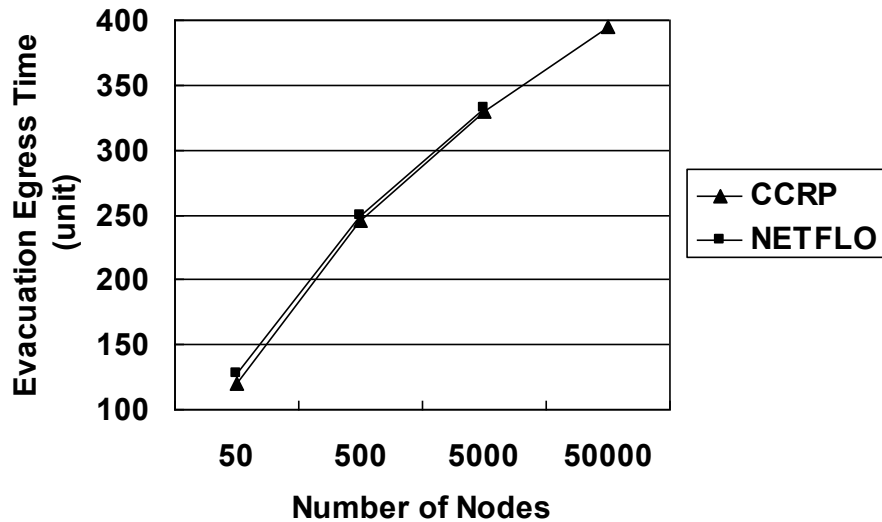


Figure 1 Quality of solution

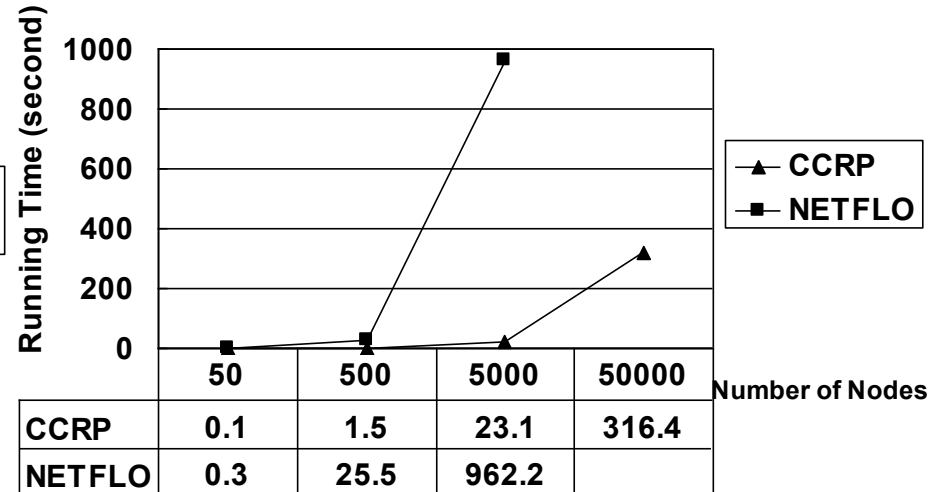


Figure 2 Run-time

- CCRP produces high quality solution, solution quality increases as network size grows.
- Run-time of CCRP is scalable to network size.

# Performance Evaluation : Effect of Number of Evacuees

Setup: fixed network size = 5000 nodes, fixed number of source nodes = 2000 nodes, number of evacuees from 5,000 to 50,000.

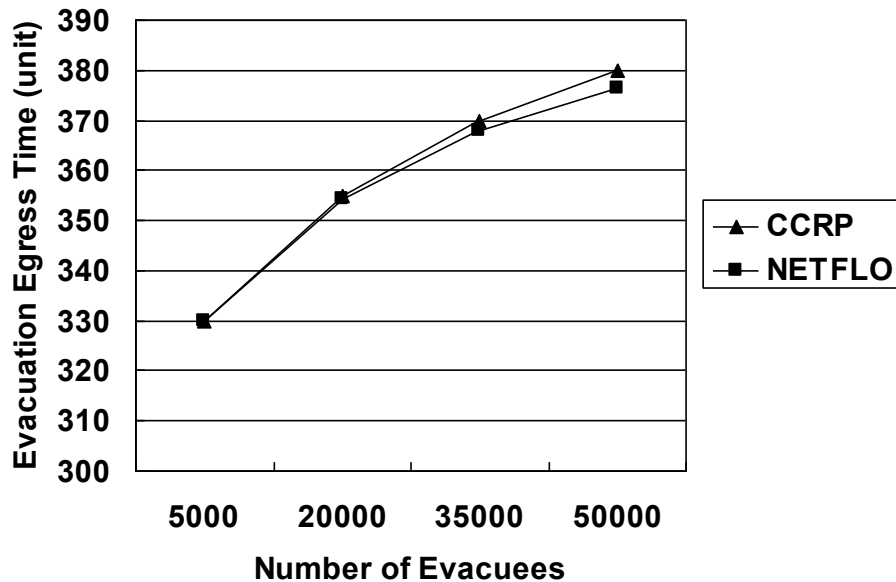


Figure 1 Quality of solution

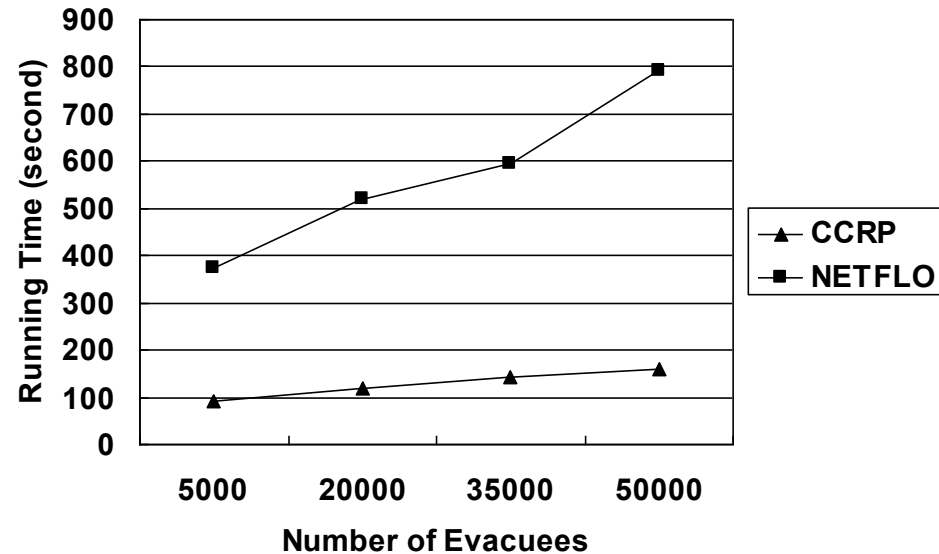


Figure 2 Run-time

- CCRP produces high quality solution, solution quality drops slightly as number of evacuees grows.
- Run-time of CCRP is less than 1/3 that of NETFLO.
- CCRP is scalable to the number of evacuees.

# Road Networks

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## 1. TP+ (Tranplan) road network for Twin Cities Metro Area

Source: Met Council TP+ dataset

Summary:

- Contain freeway and arterial roads with road capacity, travel time, road type, area type, number of lanes, etc.
- Contain virtual nodes as population centroids for each TAZ.

Limitation: No local roads (for pedestrian routes)

## 2. MnDOT Basemap

Source: MnDOT Basemap website (<http://www.dot.state.mn.us/tda/basemap>)

Summary: Contain all highway, arterial and local roads.

Limitation: No road capacity or travel time.

# Demographic Datasets

## 1. Night time population

- Census 2000 data for Twin Cities Metro Area
- Source: Met Council Datafinder (<http://www.datafinder.org>)
- Summary: Census 2000 population and employment data for each TAZ.
- Limitation: Data is 5 years old; day-time population is different.

## 2. Day-time Population

- Employment Origin-Destination Dataset (Minnesota 2002)
- Source: MN Dept. of Employment and Economic Development
  - Contain work origin-destination matrix for each Census block.
  - Need to aggregate data to TAZ level to obtain:
    - Employment Flow-Out: # of people leave each TAZ for work.
    - Employment Flow-In: # of people enter each TAZ for work.
- Limitation: Coarse geo-coding => Omits 10% of workers
- Does not include all travelers (e.g. students, shoppers, visitors).

# Defining A Scenario

## State Fairgrounds, Daytime , 1 Mile Src - 2 Mile Dst,

### Evacuation Planning System for Twin Cities Metro Area

Step 2 of 3: Adjust Scenario Settings [\(go home\)](#)

Scenario Name:

User Defined Refinery

#### Evac. Zone Adjustment

Source Radius:

Destination Radius:

#### Population Adjustment

Original Estimate: 14431 [\(details\)](#)

Adjusted Estimate:

Change time of day:  Daytime  Nighttime

#### Transportation Mode

Driving:  %

Walking:  %

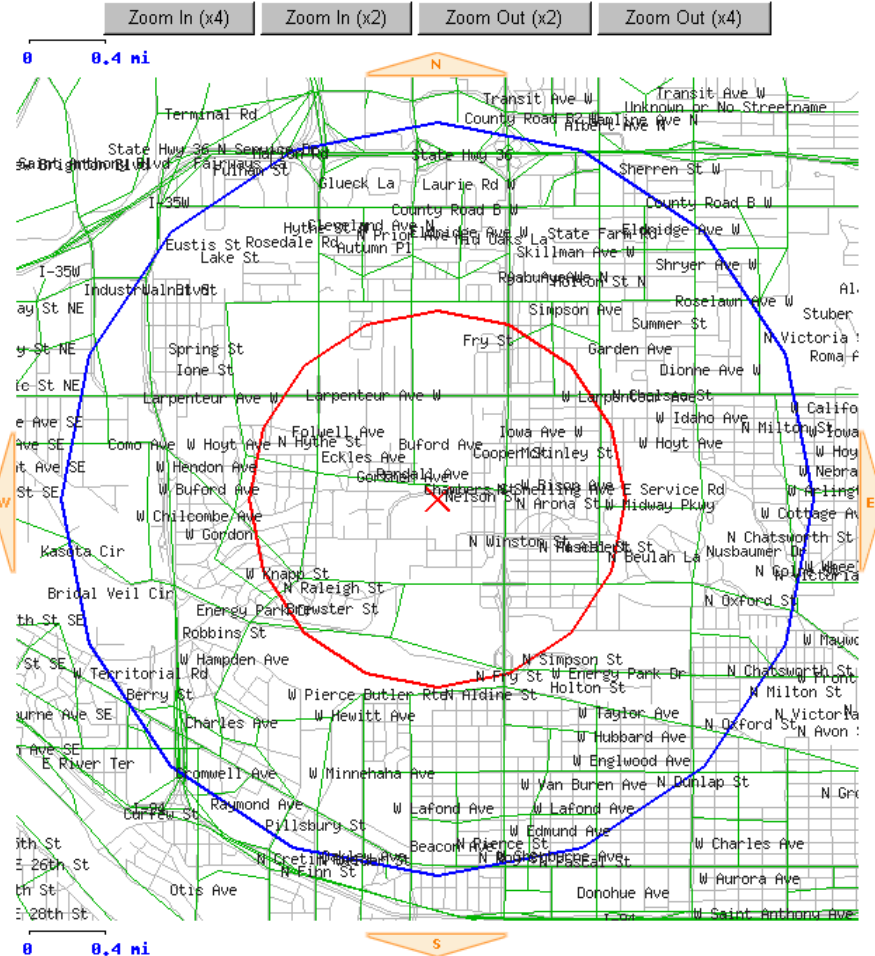
*(if some values of above parameters change, always click 'Apply Parameters' button again.)  
(Adjusted Estimate value may decrease a little after applying parameters due to assignment.)*

Execute Planning Calculation

Set source to 1 mile and destination to 2 mile

Click 'Apply Parameters' and wait for a while

If population estimate is shown, click 'run'.



# Reviewing Resulting Evacuation Routes

## State Fairgrounds, Daytime, 1 Mile Src - 2 Mile Dst,

### Evacuation Planning System for Twin Cities Metro Area

Step 3 of 3: Evacuation Route Plan [\(go home\)](#)

#### Scenario Name:

User Defined

#### Evacuation Radius

Src Radius: 1 mile

Dst Radius: 2 mile

#### Population Estimate

Original Estimate: 14431 [\(details\)](#)

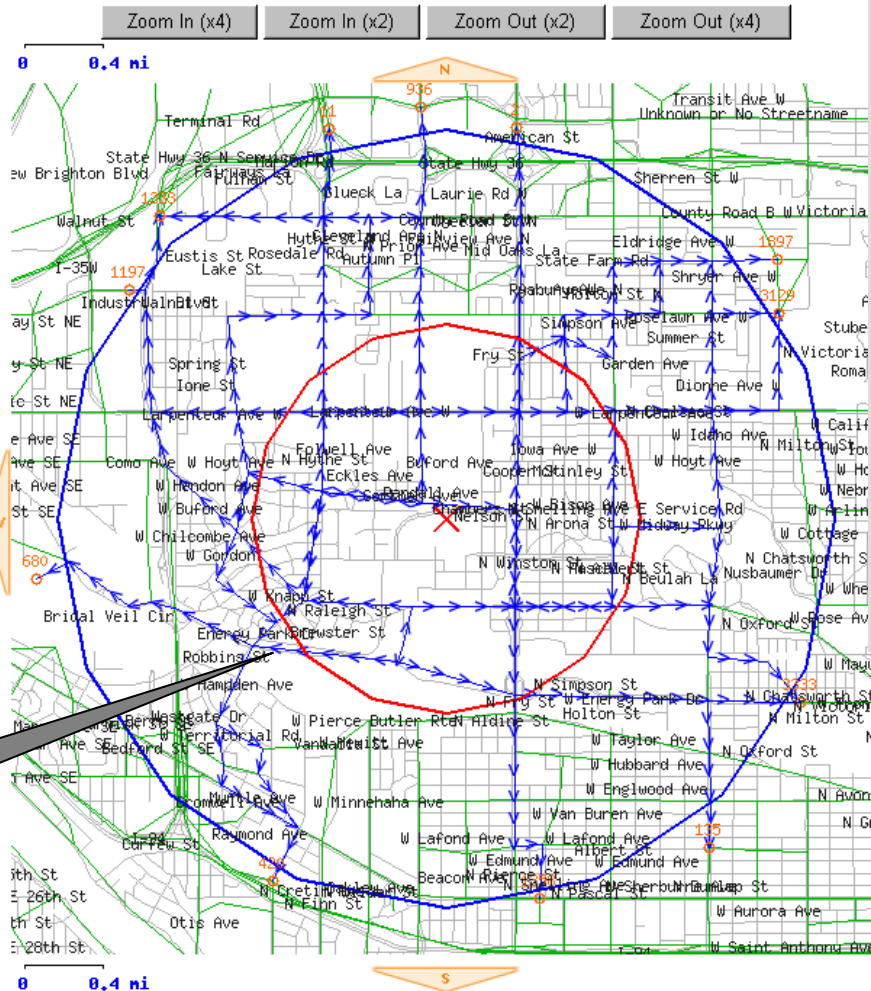
Adjusted Estimate: 14431

Time of Day:

#### Analysis Result

Number of destinations: 45

Evacuation Time: 3 hr(s) 16 min



- **Web-based**
  - Easy Installation
  - Easy Maintenance
  - Advanced Security
- **Simple Interface**
  - User friendly and intuitive
- **Comparison on the fly**
  - Changeable Zone Size
  - Day vs. Night Population
  - Driving vs. Pedestrian Mode
  - Capacity Adjustment
- **Visualized routes**

Results with routes

# Common Usage of the tool

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- Current Usage : Compare options
  - Ex.: transportation modes
    - Walking may be better than driving for 1-mile scenarios
  - Ex.: Day-time and Night-time needs
    - Population is quite different
- Potential Usage: Identify bottleneck areas and links
  - Ex.: Large gathering places with sparse transportation network
  - Ex.: Bay bridge (San Francisco),
- Potential: Designing / refining transportation networks
  - Address evacuation bottlenecks
  - A quality of service for evacuation, e.g. 4 hour evacuation time



# Finding: Pedestrians are faster than Vehicles!

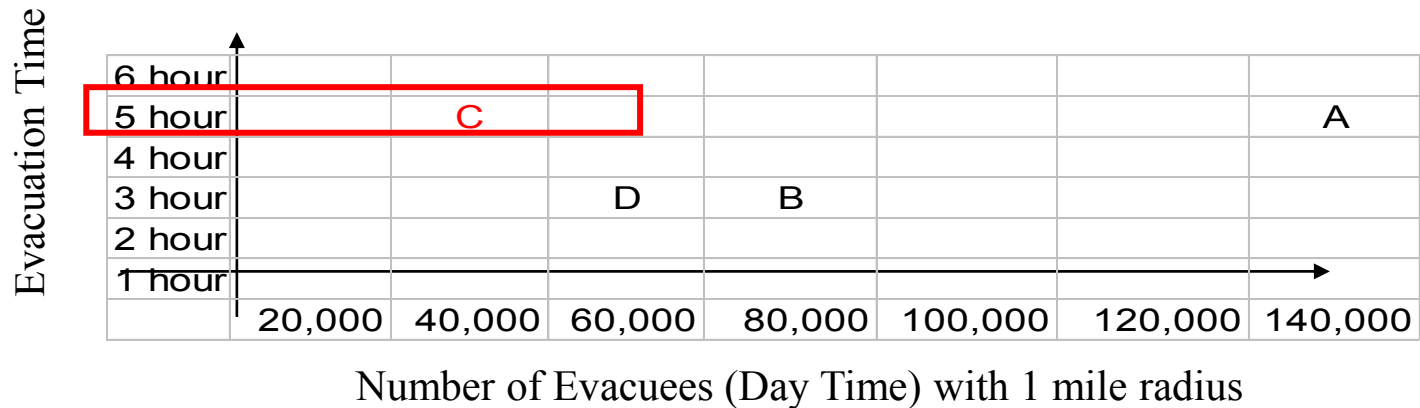
Five scenarios in metropolitan area

Evacuation Zone Radius: 1 Mile circle, daytime

<b>Scenario</b>	<b>Population</b>	<b>Vehicle</b>	<b>Pedestrian</b>	<b>Ped / Veh</b>
<b>Scenario A</b>	<b>143,360</b>	<b>4 hr 45 min</b>	<b>1 hr 32 min</b>	<b>32%</b>
<b>Scenario B</b>	<b>83,143</b>	<b>2 hr 45 min</b>	<b>1 hr 04 min</b>	<b>39%</b>
<b>Scenario C</b>	<b>27,406</b>	<b>4 hr 27 min</b>	<b>1 hr 41 min</b>	<b>38%</b>
<b>Scenario D</b>	<b>50,995</b>	<b>3 hr 41 min</b>	<b>1 hr 20 min</b>	<b>36%</b>
<b>Scenario E</b>	<b>3,611</b>	<b>1 hr 21 min</b>	<b>0 hr 36 min</b>	<b>44%</b>

# Key finding 2 – Finding hard to evacuate places!

- Scenario C is a difficult case
  - Same evacuation time as A, but one-fourth evacuees!
  - Consider enriching transportation network around C ?



# Summary Messages

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- CCRP is better than hand-crafted plans because
  - It provide better routes to reduce evacuation time
  - It can identify bottlenecks
  - It facilitates frequent revisions
- CCRP is better than Google Map
  - It accounts for capacity constraints to reduce congestion
- CCRP is better than Commuter simulation & Math. Programming
  - It needs less data
  - It is (orders of magnitude) faster
    - Usable during emergency response
    - Scales up to larger scenarios, large number of scenarios
  - It has been field tested by emergency managers

# Who cares about evacuation planning ?

- Goal - minimize loss of life and/or harm to public
  - First Responders
    - Which routes minimize evacuation time ?
      - Respond to unanticipated events, e.g. Bridge failure, Accidents
  - Policy Makers, Emergency Planners
    - What transportation mode to use during evacuation ?
      - Example, Walking, Private vehicles, Public transportation, ...
    - Which locations take unacceptably long to evacuate?
      - Should one enrich transportation network to reduce evacuation time?
    - Should contra-flow strategy be used?
      - Texas Governor called for contra-flow on second day!
    - Should one used phased evacuation?
- Goal – Reduce loss of productivity due to congestion
  - Viking's game, major conventions, ... – **move parking 1 mile away?**
  - Long weekends – Fishing opener, July 4<sup>th</sup> - **?contra-flow (I-94 or Hwy 10)**

***Plans are nothing; planning is everything.-- Dwight D. Eisenhower***

# Current Limitations & Future Work

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- Evacuation time estimates
  - Approximate and optimistic
  - Assumptions about available capacity, speed, demand, etc.
  - **No model for public transportation, bikes, etc.**
- Quality of input data
  - Population and road network database age!
    - Ex.: Rosemount scenario – an old bridge in the roadmap!
  - Data availability
    - Pedestrian routes (links, capacities and speed)
- On-line editing capabilities
  - Taking out a link (e.g. New Orleans bridge flooding) !

# Acknowledgements

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- **Sponsors**

- AHPCRC, Army Research Lab.
- CTS, MnDOT

- **Key Individuals**

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