TO: Jim Reierson  
Senior Landscape Architect

FROM: Robert B. Doerr
Highway Technician

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
Telephone

VEHICLES ENTERING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Passenger car - No trailer</td>
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HOW PEOPLE HEARD ABOUT REST AREA

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<td>Road Signs</td>
<td>60.9%</td>
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<td>By themselves</td>
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DIRECTION VEHICLES CAME & WENT

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TO: Len Bilts  
Office of Design Services

FROM: Jim Reierson  
Site and Development

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

DATE: April 7, 1977

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 I-94, 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
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

DATE: March 11, 1977

FROM: Robert B. Doerr
Highway Technician

TO: Jim Reierson
Senior Landscape Architect

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
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TO: Edward McCulloch  
District Traffic Engineer  
Brainerd

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  
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
During the usage study at the Bank 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 rear. 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 Boerr.

James S. Peterson, Chief
Site and Development Section

c/c
L. E. Foote

J. Robert
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 ___________________

LICENSE 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?
   I-94_________ T.H. 28_________ T.H. 71_________ Other____
   E.B. W.B. E.B. W.B. N.B. S.B. Other____

7. WHAT HIGHWAY ARE YOU LEAVING SAUK CENTRE ON?
   I-94_________ T.H. 28_________ T.H. 71_________ Other____
   E.B. W.B. E.B. W.B. N.B. S.B. Other____

PLEASE RETURN TO PEOPtE AT REST AREA EXIT - THANK YOU