



COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY  
TRANSPORTATION CABINET  
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MEMORANDUM

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**TO:** Joseph Plunk, P.E.  
Chief District Engineer  
District 3 - Bowling Green

**ATTN:** Stewart Lich, P.E.

**FROM:** Mikael Pelfrey, P.E. *MBP*  
Director  
Division of Planning

**DATE:** January 8, 2021

**SUBJECT:** Simpson County Traffic Forecast  
Improve US 31W from KY 1008 to KY 621  
Item No. 3-8856.00

In response to your November 4, 2020, request, we are providing the following forecasts on the attached report:

- 2020 and 2045 Average Daily Traffic and Design Hourly Volumes
- 2020 and 2045 Truck Percentages

If you have any questions, please contact Jay Balaji of this Division at (502) 782-5045 or David Souleyrette of this Division at (502) 782-5090.

MP/DS/BC

Attachments

C/att: Ben Hunt, P.E.  
Andrew Stewart, P.E.  
Wendy Southworth, P.E.

# *Executive Summary*

**Traffic Forecast Technical Report  
Simpson County  
Improve US 31W from KY 1008 to KY 621  
Item No. 3-8856.00**

Prepared for:



Prepared by:  
**David Souleyrette**  
Division of Planning  
Kentucky Transportation Cabinet  
January 4, 2021

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## **Commonly Used Abbreviations and their Descriptions**

ADT	Average Daily Traffic	Without any adjustment
DHV	Design Hour Volume	30th highest hour of a year
FC	Functional Class	Refers to a road’s importance
GR	Growth Rate	A value normally compounded annually
PHF	Peak Hour Factor	Considers a 15-minute spike in hourly counts
K-Factor	K-30th hour Factor	DHV divided by ADT (DHV/ADT)
D-Factor	Directional Factor	Percentage of dominant flow to total
MP	Mile Point	Miles increase easterly and northerly
ATR	Automatic Traffic Recorder	A permanent & continuous recording station
KYSTM	Kentucky Statewide Model	A computerized representation of KY roads
AADT	Annual Average Daily Traffic	The total volume of traffic for one year/365
AADTT	Annual Average Daily Truck Traffic	The total volume of truck traffic for a year/365
BCI	Bicycle Comfort Index	A Level of Service Concept for bicyclists

# Vicinity Map

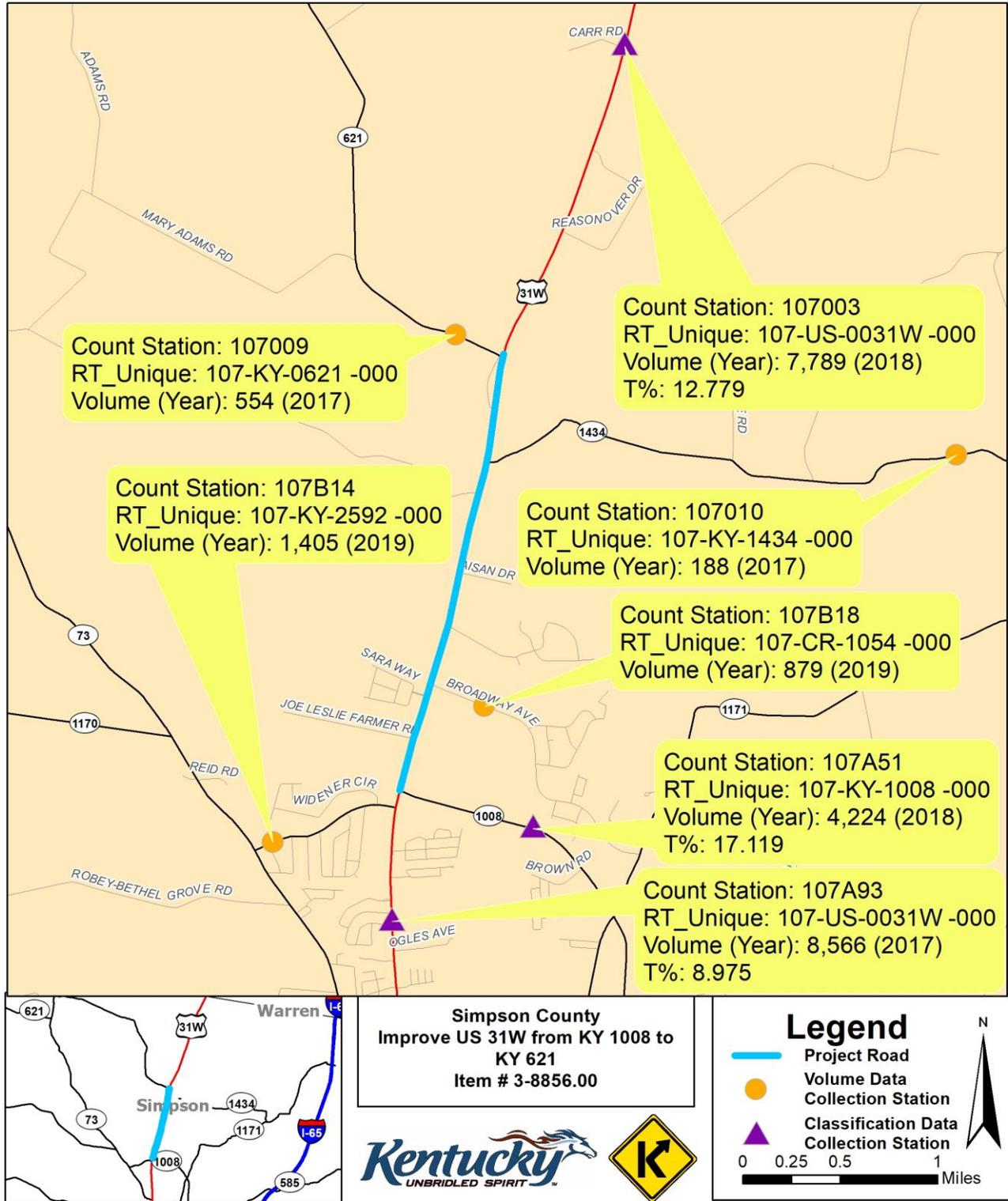


Figure 1

**Traffic Forecast Executive Summary**  
**Simpson County: Improve US 31W from KY 1008 to KY 621**  
**Item No. 3-8856.00**

**FORECAST SUMMARY**

The project calls for the widening of US 31W from two lanes and three lanes to five lanes between MP 8.477 and MP 10.799 (highlighted in blue on Figures 1 and 2). Hence, the purpose of this forecast was to analyze the current and future traffic of the corridor.

**FORECAST TYPE**

The following types of forecasts were developed:

- 2020 and 2045 ADT values
- 2026 and 2045 AADTT values
- 2026 and 2045 DHV values for trucks

**CURRENT-YEAR VOLUMES**

Current year volumes were based upon a 2018 count collected at traffic classification station 107003. Figure 1 shows this station as well as other stations in the project's vicinity.

**DESIGN-YEAR/GROWTH FACTORS**

Design-year growth rates were determined based on the historical traffic GR of 107003 and population projections of the county. Based on the above sources, a GR of 0.5% was used for this forecast.

**TRUCK DESIGN HOUR FACTORS FOR 2045**

In the most recent count, there were 93 trucks observed during the peak hour out of 1,036 trucks for the day, resulting in a K-factor of 8.98%. This K-factor was applied to the construction year AADTT and the design year AADTT, resulting in a construction year DHV of 99 trucks and a design year DHV of 105 trucks.

**TRUCK PERCENTAGE**

The truck percentages were calculated from an hourly classification count at 107003. A GR of 0.5% was used for trucks.

**TURN MOVEMENTS**

Turn movements were not requested and therefore not included.

# Summary Map

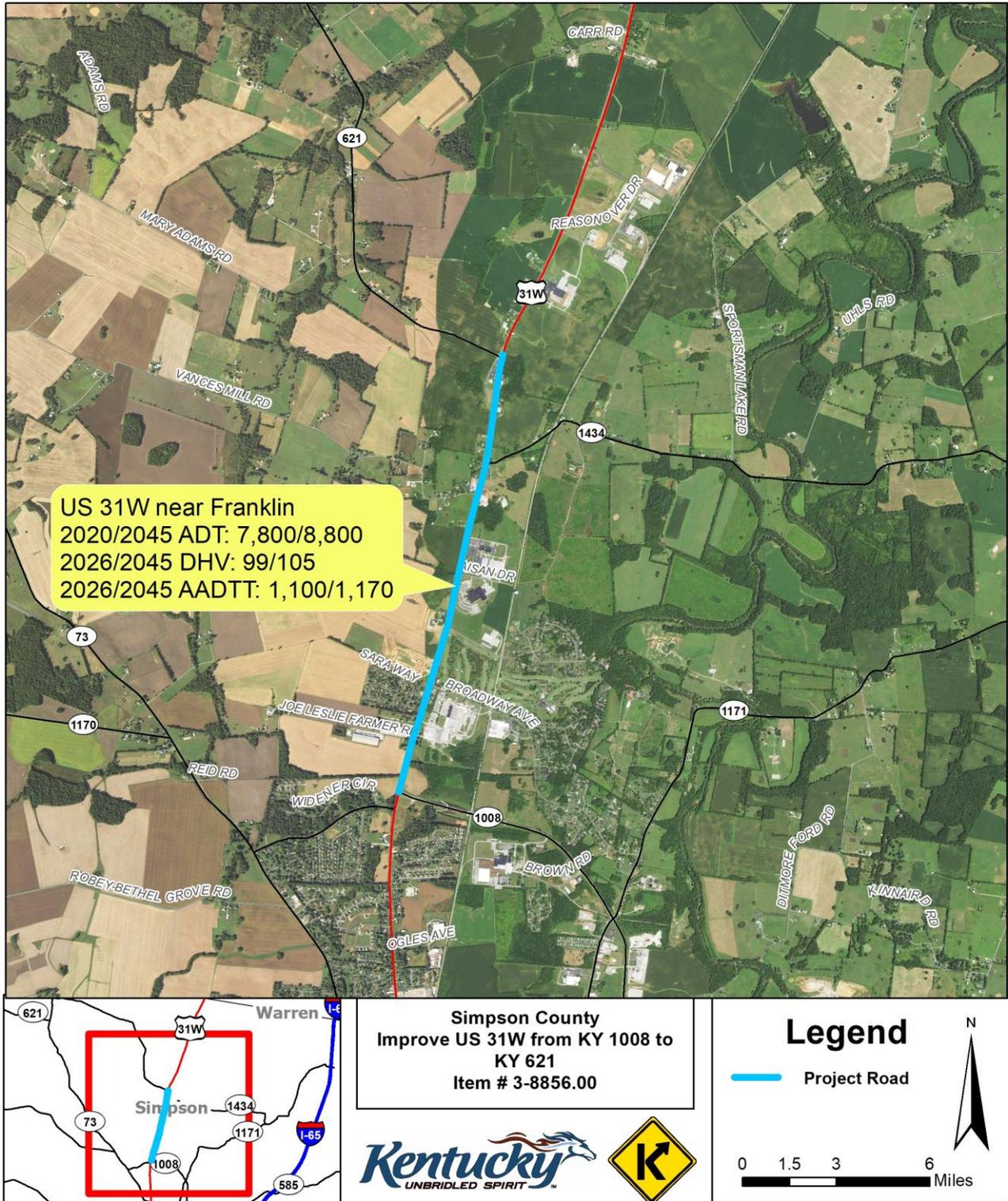


Figure 2

Traffic Forecast Technical Report  
 Simpson County: Improve US 31W from KY 1008 to KY 621  
 Item No. 3-8856.00

**Pavement Design Factors for US 31W Widening**

**Project information:**

Date of Forecast	1/4/2021
Name of Forecaster	David Souleyrette
Item Number	03-8856.00
County Name	Simpson
County Number	107
District	03
eMARS Number	1209701D
Function	FD52
Fund	12F0
Project Type	Major widening
Current Year	2020
Letting Year	
Construction Year	2026

**Project Description: Improve US 31W from KY 1008 to KY 621**

**Route information:**

Route ID	107-US-0031W -000
Road Name	Bowling Green Road
BMP	8.477
EMP	10.799
Functional Class	5 - Major Collector
Total Lanes (Both Ways)	2
1 or 2 Way	Two way
Pavement Type	Asphalt
Are Trucks Prohibited in a Lane?	NO

**Volume Information:**

Volume ADT Station	107003
Current Year Volume	7,800
Design Year Volume	8,800

**Truck Count and Truck Volume Information:**

Truck Count Station	107003
Truck Count Volume	1,036
Truck Count Year	2018
Truck Volume in Design Direction	630
Truck Volume in Design Lane of Design Direction	630
<b>Construction Year AADTT</b>	<b>1,100</b>
<b>Design Year AADTT</b>	<b>1,170</b>

Truck % of ADT	13.3%
FC Average Truck %	13.2%
% of Trucks in Design Direction	57.5%
% of Trucks in Design Lane of Design Direction	100.0%
<b>Truck Volume Growth Rate</b>	<b>0.5%</b>

**Distribution Factors for Functional Class:**

Daily Volume Distribution Factors by Vehicle Class			
Vehicle Class	Truck Volume	Truck Percent	
Bus	4	73	6.66%
2 axle, 6 tire single unit	5	373	33.88%
3 axles single unit	6	168	15.25%
4 or more axles, single unit	7	63	5.69%
3-4 axles, single trailer	8	113	10.23%
5 axles single trailer	9	309	28.09%
6 or more axles, single trailer	10	2	0.19%
5 or less axles, multi-trailer	11	0	0.00%
6 axles, multi trailer	12	0	0.00%
7 or more axles, multi-trailer	13	0	0.00%
All Vehicle Classes		1,100	100.00%

**Coal Haul Information:**

Annual Coal Tonnage:	
Coal Trucks per Day:	
Percentage of Trucks That Are Coal:	
Percentage of All Vehicles That Are Coal:	

**5 - Major Collector**

Hourly Volume Distribution Factors			
Hour	Time	Volume	Percent
0	12 AM to 1 AM	4	0.39%
1	1 AM to 2 AM	3	0.29%
2	2 AM to 3 AM	6	0.58%
3	3 AM to 4 AM	8	0.77%
4	4 AM to 5 AM	16	1.45%
5	5 AM to 6 AM	30	2.70%
6	6 AM to 7 AM	57	5.21%
7	7 AM to 8 AM	72	6.56%
8	8 AM to 9 AM	96	8.69%
9	9 AM to 10 AM	99	8.98%
10	10 AM to 11 AM	91	8.30%
11	11 AM to 12 PM	92	8.40%
12	12 PM to 1 PM	85	7.72%
13	1 PM to 2 PM	79	7.14%
14	2 PM to 3 PM	85	7.72%
15	3 PM to 4 PM	75	6.85%
16	4 PM to 5 PM	81	7.34%
17	5 PM to 6 PM	54	4.92%
18	6 PM to 7 PM	20	1.83%
19	7 PM to 8 PM	21	1.93%
20	8 PM to 9 PM	7	0.68%
21	9 PM to 10 PM	10	0.87%
22	10 PM to 11 PM	6	0.58%
23	11 PM to 12 AM	1	0.10%
	ALL Hours	1,100	100.00%

