PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE: THE DARWIN CBD TRAFFIC STUDY

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Abstract
With the expected growth and redevelopment of the Darwin CBD, City of Darwin have commissioned Sinclair Knight Merz (SKM) to undertake a traffic study so that they can predict traffic growth and plan for mitigation measures, including roadworks, that may be needed to cope with the extra traffic. SKM have produced a micro-simulation of the CBD area using VISSIM that allows them to model the traffic impacts of developments across the CBD. The micro-simulation shows the results of the traffic graphically by showing the movement, and queuing, of individual vehicles on the road network. The paper talks about the lessons learnt from putting a large micro-simulation together, covering approx 140 ha, how the micro-simulation works, and how it is used by City of Darwin beyond simply showing what future traffic queues may look like, by working towards a CBD-wide traffic management and developer contributions plans.

Key Words: traffic study micro-simulation VISSIM model planning transport development mitigation roadworks road