

DRISI

CALTRANS DIVISION OF RESEARCH,
INNOVATION AND SYSTEM INFORMATION

Research Notes

Pavement

DECEMBER 2023

Project Title:
Implementation of Environmental
LCA Data and Models for Project-
Level Use in eLCAP

Task Number: 3821

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Implementation of Environmental LCA Data and Models for Project- Level Use in eLCAP

This Task will update Caltrans tools for assessing environmental impacts at the PID and design stages of projects.

WHAT IS THE NEED?

Project Initiation Documents (PIDs) and project design stages need to be able to assess environmental consequences of various project choices.

WHAT ARE WE DOING?

The data and procedures in eLCAP will be updated for use at conceptual PID and design stages using results from continuing tasks and the work of federal agencies (including Federal Highway Administration) in the Federal Commons initiative. User interfaces based on user feedback will also be updated along with documentation for the tool. The compatibility of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and other calculations in PaveM will be updated in eLCAP.

WHAT IS OUR GOAL?

The goal is to update California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) tools for assessing environmental impacts at the PID and design stages of projects.

WHAT IS THE BENEFIT?

The ability to assess environmental impacts earlier in the project PID and design phases will allow Caltrans to make decisions about the cost and environmental aspects and not have to make major changes once the project has started. This will save significant change order costs and avoid any unintended environmental damage that may occur at the start of the project.

WHAT IS THE PROGRESS TO DATE?

This research task was completed on September 30, 2023.



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knowledge that improves
California's transportation system