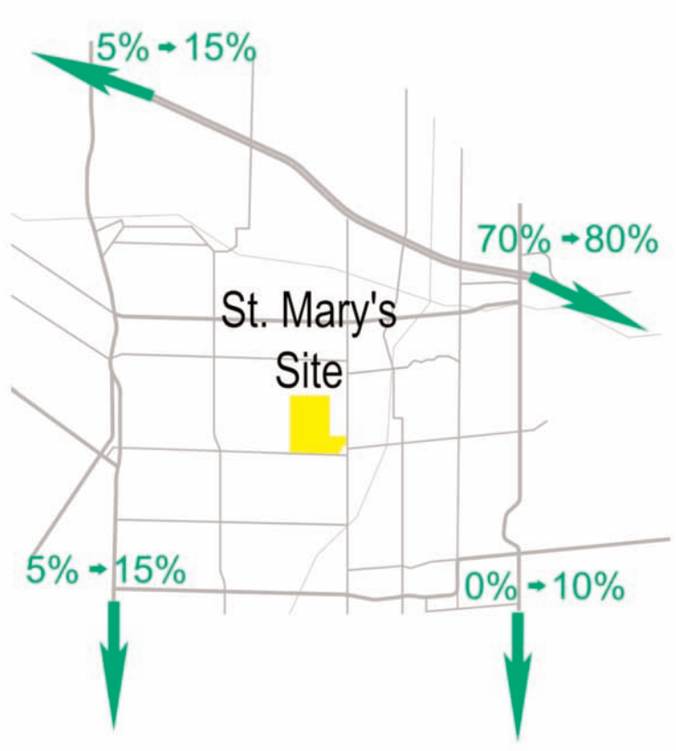
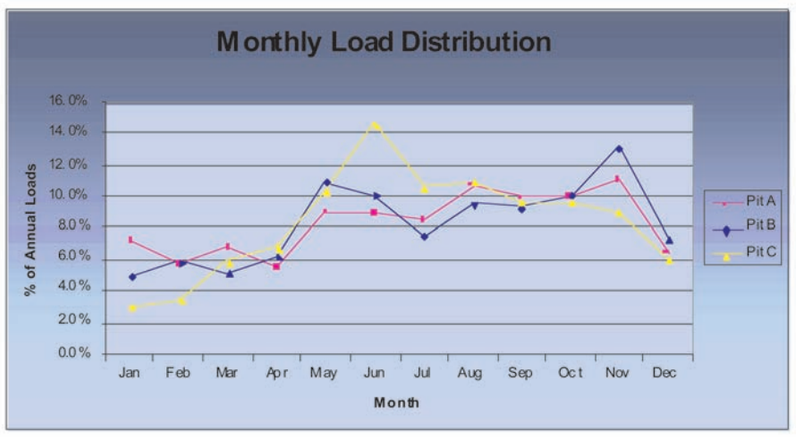
Operational Characteristics

In order to assess the potential scale and directional orientation of the transportation demand created by the proposed quarry, it is important to understand the nature of the demand for the materials produced at the quarry (the market), and the characteristics of the transportation systems typically put in place to move these materials.

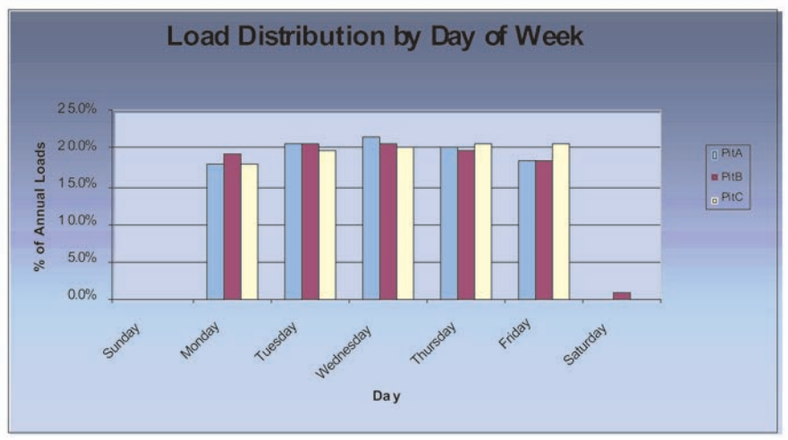


Assessing the directionality of quarry transportation demand can be achieved by assessing the likely market for these materials, using growth forecasts for the Greater Golden Horseshoe area as a proxy for market growth. For example, the directionality of the demand for quarry material shown in the figure to the right was estimated using forecast growth figures from the Province of Ontario's ***Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe*** (June 2006).



The transportation characteristics of existing aggregate operations in this area can be studied in order to understand the temporal variation of transportation demand over the months of the year, the days of the week, and the hours of the day. In the case of trucks, they also provide insight into the variation in the types and sizes of vehicles used to haul the different types of material produced. While "average" or "peak" demand figures are easily computed and communicated, a more true to life depiction of the nature, and impacts, of the expected quarry transportation demand must be based on a realistic assessment and understanding of similar existing operations.

Shown here are the results of some preliminary analysis of monthly variation and daily variation at aggregate operations near the study area.



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