Session 16:
Addressing the Costs of Design Aesthetics by Measuring the Benefits

David Larson - Landscape Architecture Unit, Minnesota Department of Transportation
Joan I. Nassauer - School of Natural Resources and Environment, University of Michigan
William C. Gartner - Department of Applied Economics, University of Minnesota
Authoritative Basis for CSD, CSS, Visual Quality & Aesthetics

- Highway Beautification Act of 1965
- Historic Preservation Act of 1966
- Federal-Aid Highway Act of 1968 [Section 4(f)]
- National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA)
- Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991
- National Highway System Designation Act of 1995
- Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century of 1999
- SAFETEA-LU of 2005
Aesthetic Initiative Measurement System

- Fall '96 - Research Funding Available
- Spring '97 - Social/Economic Evaluation Aesthetics
- Fall '97 - Methodology Outline
- Fall '98 - Work Plan & Budget Finalized
- Spring '99 - Refine AIMS & Train MnDOT Staff
- Summer '99 - Conduct AIMS Field Days
- Fall '99 / Winter '00 - Final Report
- Spring '00 - Findings Presented to MnDOT
- Spring '03 - FHWA Environmental Excellence Award
- Winter '04 - AIMS Presented @ TRB Annual Mtg.