

4 Transportation System

4.1 Uttaradit transportation system

The present transportation system of Uttaradit: The overall conditions of transportation of Uttaradit were ranked as of satisfactory levels. One unique character is the variety of transportation choices ranging from highways, roads, planes, trains, buses, and boats, etc. The following topics will indicate present condition of the transportation in Uttaradit.

4.1.1 Highways and Roads

Street networks and road hierarchical system

The street networks and road hierarchical system being studied include the paths to 9 districts within Uttaradit Province.

The major highways can be shown in Figure 4.1-1.

- Highway No.11 connected Northern part and Central part of Thailand. It is the main road to travel from Uttaradit to Phitsanulok. The highway is four lanes divided road, which paved with asphaltic concrete. Traffic volume was 8,651 vehicles per day with 21.98% of heavy vehicles in 2005.
- Highway No.102 is the highway used to connect Uttaradit with Sukothai province. The highway is two lanes road. Traffic volume was 2,959 vehicles per day with 17.61% of heavy vehicles in 2005.

The Principals for road hierarchy:

The hierarchy of the roads is mainly depending on the importance towards the traffics' flow, which can be shown in Figure 4.1-2;

1. Expressways or Principal Arterial Roads focus on the control of the exiting, and the incoming transportation vehicles off or into Uttaradit town which consists of Highway No. 11, Highway No. 102 and Highway No. 119.
2. Main Arterial Roads are the routes that connect with the Primary Arterial Roads and function as the main local routes of the town. Main arterial routes are linked with

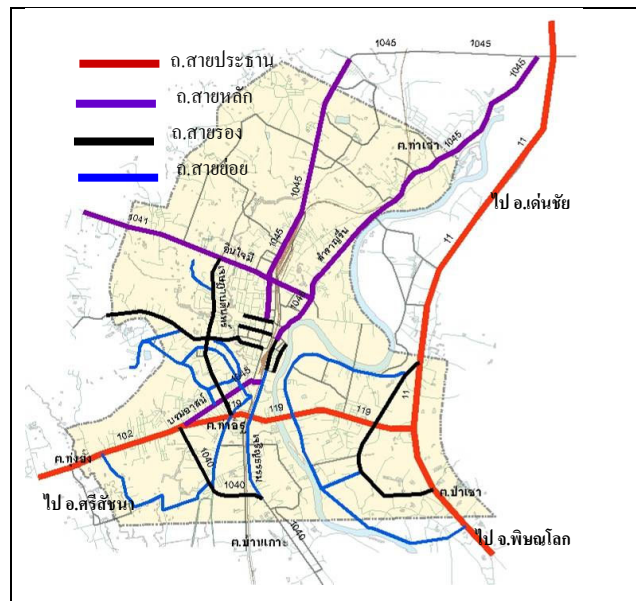


Figure 4.1-2 Road Hierarchy in Uttaradit

4.2 Rail Transport

There are 3 train terminals in Uttaradit, Uttaradit station, Silaart station and Tasao station. It is 485 kilometers far from Bangkok. By taking train, it takes 5 – 7 hours. There are 611,616 passengers per day and 6,175 tons of goods in 2005.

4.3 Water Travel

At present, the water transportation in Uttaradit is not popular. There might be only some small boats passing by. The poor traveling conditions by water transport is due to the uncertainty of the level of the tides. On the rainy season, the tide is too high to commute whereas the summer, the tide is very low.

4.4 Public Transport

In 2007, there are 37 routes of public transport in 4 categories in Uttaradit, according to Department of Land Transport, which can be shown in Figure 4.5-1.

Category 1 has 3 routes, which used for connecting areas within municipality.

Category 2 has 3 routes, which used for connecting Bangkok and Uttaradit.

Category 3 has 21 routes, which used for connecting between provinces.

Category 4 has 10 routes, which used for connecting areas within Uttaradit province.

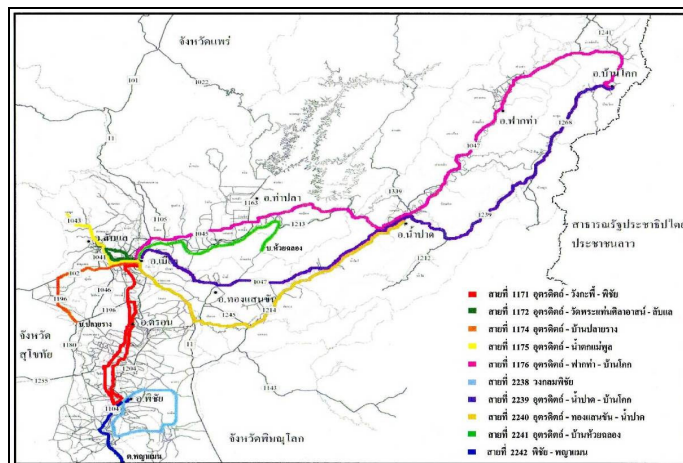


Figure 4.4 – 1 Map of category 4 public transport route in Uttaradit