

TRANSPORTATION POOLED FUND PROGRAM QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT

Lead Agency (FHWA or State DOT): Minnesota DOT _____

INSTRUCTIONS:

Project Managers and/or research project investigators should complete a quarterly progress report for each calendar quarter during which the projects are active. Please provide a project schedule status of the research activities tied to each task that is defined in the proposal; a percentage completion of each task; a concise discussion (2 or 3 sentences) of the current status, including accomplishments and problems encountered, if any. List all tasks, even if no work was done during this period.

Transportation Pooled Fund Program Project # <i>(i.e., SPR-2(XXX), SPR-3(XXX) or TPF-5(XXX))</i> TPF-5(190)		Transportation Pooled Fund Program - Report Period: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Quarter 1 (January 1 – March 31) <input type="checkbox"/> Quarter 2 (April 1 – June 30) <input type="checkbox"/> Quarter 3 (July 1 – September 30) <input type="checkbox"/> Quarter 4 (October 1 – December 31)	
Project Title: North/West Passage Transportation Pooled Fund Study – Phase 3			
Name of Project Manager(s): Cory Johnson	Phone Number: 651.234.7062	E-Mail cory.johnson@state.mn.us	
Lead Agency Project ID:	Other Project ID (i.e., contract #): MnDOT Contract No. 91150 CFMS Contract No. B06319	Project Start Date: December 2008	
Original Project End Date: September 2012	Current Project End Date: September 2012	Number of Extensions: None	

Project schedule status:

- On schedule
 On revised schedule
 Ahead of schedule
 Behind schedule

Overall Project Statistics:

Total Project Budget	Total Cost to Date for Project	Percentage of Work Completed to Date
\$435,750.36	\$286,641.39	66%

Quarterly Project Statistics:

Total Project Expenses and Percentage This Quarter	Total Amount of Funds Expended This Quarter	Total Percentage of Time Used to Date
\$86.465.71	\$86.465.71	20%

Project Description:

The North/West Passage Transportation Pooled Fund (TPF) Study is a multi-state cooperative program for the coordination, development, and deployment of Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) along the I-90 and I-94 corridor. The states of Washington, Idaho, Wyoming, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Minnesota, and Wisconsin began meeting in February 2002 to discuss the development of a North/West Passage multi-state transportation program. The states formally established as a TPF Study through the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) in 2003. FHWA serves as a monitoring body, providing strategic and technical input. Minnesota serves as the Program Administrator and a Steering Committee consists of one representative from each of the states that have financially contributed to the effort. The Steering Committee meets monthly or as necessary to provide overall program direction.

North Dakota, Minnesota, and Wisconsin contributed funding for the execution of a Phase 1 work plan. The Phase 1 work plan included eight projects, the purpose of which was to implement and evaluate integrated traveler information systems and coordinate maintenance operations across state borders. Individual reports for the projects completed under the Phase 1 work plan are available online at www.nwpassage.info. A full Phase 1 summary report is also available online.

Additional contributions were made by all of the states for the execution of a Phase 2 work plan, which focused on developing a strategic plan for the corridor. Focusing on traveler information and maintenance operations, the plan presents an inventory of ITS deployments in the corridor; provides a high-level architecture; analyzes targeted concepts/solutions; and, proposes a coordinated deployment and operational concept for traveler information systems and maintenance operations across state borders. The Steering Committee elected to wait until the strategic plan is further developed before identifying a more complete list of projects for further implementation in the corridor.

The balance of funds contributed during the Phase 2 solicitation were applied to a Phase 3 work plan. The Phase 3 work plan included five projects that focused on continuing to develop, expand implementation, and evaluate integrated traveler information systems. The projects also continued the understanding and development of coordinated maintenance operations across state borders.

A Phase 4 work plan was approved and five projects moved forward. Projects included enhancing the traveler information website (www.i90i94travelinfo.com), researching call forwarding between states and exploring regional permitting for the corridor as well as detailing center to center communications between states. All five work plan 4 projects were completed by September 2010.

The Phase 5 work plan was approved in 2010. Six projects were funded from the work plan. The projects included developing a cost/benefit ITS tool, share details of Wyoming's citizen reporting program and identifying enhancements, conducting a workshop to establish a set of consistent phrases to be used on DMS along the North/West Passage Corridor, developing a best practice document summarizing mobile weather and road condition measurement and reporting systems, continuing subcommittee meeting discussions from work plan 4 to explore regional permitting, and educating North/West Passage members on how to acquire, modify, maintain and integrate open source software.

The Phase 6 work plan was approved in September 2011. Seven projects were funded. The projects include marketing and outreach efforts to the commercial vehicle operators on the corridor, conducting an operational test of corridor-wide traveler information, investigating options and promoting consistent application of the federal rule regarding the

real-time management information program (23 CFR 511), and adding another phase to continue the efforts of the citizen assisted reporting project, benefit/cost tool evaluation project, and the traveler information website efforts.

Progress this Quarter (includes meetings, work plan status, contract status, significant progress, etc.):

Phase 5 Work Plan Projects

- Project 5.2 Cost/Benefit ITS Tool Evaluation
Evaluate New York State DOT's Evaluation Model for Freeway ITS Scoping (EMFITS) and determine if it provides a valid and acceptable approach to ITS project cost/benefit determination. In addition the project will look at how the tool can be expanded to typical rural North/West Passage applications.
 - Comments from the North/West Passage states continued to be incorporated in the in the benefit/cost tool.

- Project 5.4: Use of Mobile Sensors & Maintenance Decision Support for Automated Road Condition Reporting
Develop a best practice document summarizing mobile weather and road condition measurement and reporting systems, and research approaches toward automating road condition reporting using Maintenance Decision Support Systems (MDSS) and mobile monitoring devices.
 - A draft Survey has been developed and is being reviewed. The survey will be sent to the NWP states to learn about road condition reports and mobile sensors in their state. A survey will also be developed and distributed to vendors.

- Project 5.5: NWP Regional Permitting – Phase 2
Continue subcommittee meeting discussions from Phase 1, identify opportunities to reduce confusion of regulations/requirements between jurisdictions, conduct a basic permit requirements inventory, research XML permit concepts, and work with the 5 NWP states that are not part of WASHTO to join, not join, or expand WASHTO
 - Project completed. Final report available at: <http://www.nwpassage.info/projects/phase5/?project=5.5>

- Project 5.6: Facilitating the Use of Open Source Software Throughout the Corridor
Educate NWP on how to acquire, modify, maintain and integrate open source software.
 - Develop a draft agenda for the project webinar for review by the Steering Committee.

Phase 6 Work Plan Projects

- Project 6.1: Corridor-wide Traveler Information Coordination – Operational Test
Conduct an operational test to coordinate traveler information (communications, acceptance, MOU's etc.) during one or more major events throughout the corridor. The project would leverage existing systems in place (DMS, 511 phone & web, corridor wide ATIS site) and therefore would not need to deploy new equipment or systems.
 - January 23, 2011 – An introduction webinar was held to remind the group of the traveler information tool

available, discuss planned and unplanned events to be evaluated and the process for how the evaluation will be conducted. Webinar attendees included Steering Committee members as well as operational staff from each state.

- Project 6.2: 23 CFR 511 Final Rule

To investigate options and to promote consistent application of the recently adopted federal rule regarding the real-time system management information program (23 CFR 511).

- Separate conference call were held with each state to refine the guidelines related to roadway coverage in metropolitan area and revisit the temporal coverage for travel time information.

- Project 6.3: Citizen Assisted Reporting – Phase 2

To implement selected strategies to expand Wyoming DOT's Enhanced Citizen Assisted Reporting System.

- Idaho is working with their 511 vendor (Castel Rock) to provide the capability for citizen reporting.

- Project 6.4: Benefit/Cost Tool – Phase 2

To enhance and improve the North/West Passage Cost/Benefit Tool (Project 5.2) for future coordination with the ENTERPRISE ITS Warrants Project.

- February 2012 – Meeting held with Minnesota DOT to review the Cost/Benefit Tool in detail and provide input on enhancements to the tool. A webinar was also held with North/West Passage members to provide additional comments to the tool developed in Phase 1 and go through additional examples of how the tool could be used.

- Project 6.5: NWP Traveler Information Website

Enhance www.i90i94travelinfo.com by adding citizen comments on events to the website, or uploading the ECAR entries from Wyoming and Idaho (Project 6.3).

- Project has not started. The scope of the project will be based on the MCOM application submitted in December 2011.

- Project 6.5: NWP Traveler Information Website

Enhance www.i90i94travelinfo.com by adding citizen comments on events to the website, or uploading the ECAR entries from Wyoming and Idaho (Project 6.3).

- Project has not started. The scope of the project will be based on the MCOM application submitted in December 2011.

- Project 6.6: CVO-Regional Permitting Phase 3

The vision of this project is to continue the coordination of the eight states working toward permitting consistencies between states building off the recommendations from the earlier phases.

- The final scope for Phase 3 has been approved and the paperwork has been submitted for a new contract between the University of Wisconsin-Madison and MnDOT to continue the work outlined in Phase 3.

- Project 6.7: Corridor-Wide Marketing and Outreach to CVOs

The focus of Project 6.7 is to gather feedback from the trucking industry and DOT staff on website enhancements to the [i90i94travelinfo.com](http://www.i90i94travelinfo.com) website. In addition to enhancing the website, the project is also

focused on identifying current communication channels that exist with commercial vehicle carriers and identifying what gaps exist.

- Two surveys were developed and distributed on February 6, 2012 one survey to DOT staff and one to the trucking association/companies along the I-90 and I-94.

Steering Committee

The Steering Committee provides overall program direction. The committee held three teleconference meetings during the 1st Quarter. The following bullets summarize the meeting discussions.

- Steering Committee Meeting on January 10, 2012
The primary focus of this meeting was to review and provide comments Project 5.2, provide an update on Project 5.4, and provide brief updates Work Plan 5 and 6 projects.
- Steering Committee Meeting on February 14, 2012
The primary focus of this meeting was an update on Project 6.2, discuss the status of Work Plan 5 and 6 projects, and discuss initial project ideas for Work Plan 7.
- Steering Committee Meeting on March 13, 2012
The primary focus of this meeting was to review and provide comments on Work Plan 7 project ideas, review the Work plan 7 schedule, and provide project updates.

Anticipated work next quarter:

Status/Progress Anticipated Next Quarter

- Steering Committee Meetings in January, February, and March.
- Project 5.1 Citizen Assisted Reporting Feasibility Study
Project complete. Final report available at: <http://www.nwpassage.info/projects/phase5/?project=5.1>
- Project 5.2 Cost/Benefit ITS Tool Evaluation
Complete the final report and benefit/cost tool.
- Project 5.3 Consistent and Coordinated Dynamic Message Sign (DMS) Use Workshop
Project complete. The final project deliverables are available at:
<http://www.nwpassage.info/projects/phase5/?project=5.3>
- Project 5.4: Use of Mobile Sensors & Maintenance Decision Support for Automated Road Condition Reporting
Distribute project surveys.
- Project 5.5: NWP Regional Permitting – Phase 2
Project complete. Final report available at: <http://www.nwpassage.info/projects/phase5/?project=5.5>
- Project 5.6: Facilitating the Use of Open Source Software Throughout the Corridor
Finalize the project scope.
- Project 6.1: Corridor-wide Traveler Information Coordination – Operational Test

Finalize the list of planned events to evaluate.

- Project 6.2: 23 CFR 511 Final Rule
Update the draft report to document the results of the project to date and identify gaps that exist.
- Project 6.3: Citizen Assisted Reporting – Phase 2
Idaho to continue to work with their 511 vendor to provide the capability for citizen reporting.
- Project 6.4: Benefit/Cost Tool – Phase 2
Coordinate with other similar benefit/cost projects and continue to add metadata to the tool.
- Project 6.5: NWP Traveler Information Website
Update project scope based on MCOM proposal.
- Project 6.6: CVO-Regional Permitting Phase 3
Finalize project contract.
- Project 6.7: Corridor-Wide Marketing and Outreach to CVOs
Present project survey results.

Significant Results:

Project 5.5 NWP Regional Permitting – Phase 2 complete. The final report is available at:
<http://www.nwpassage.info/projects/phase5/?project=5.5>

Circumstance affecting project or budget. (Please describe any challenges encountered or anticipated that might affect the completion of the project within the time, scope and fiscal constraints set forth in the agreement, along with recommended solutions to those problems).

N/A

Potential Implementation:

N/A