



**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
AMONG THE WASHINGTON, IDAHO, MONTANA, WYOMING, NORTH
DAKOTA, SOUTH DAKOTA, MINNESOTA AND WISCONSIN
DEPARTMENTS OF TRANSPORTATION**

INTRODUCTION:

I-90 and I-94 function as major corridors for commercial and recreational travel between the states of Washington and Wisconsin. These states are predominantly rural and face similar transportation issues related to traffic management, traveler information, and commercial vehicle operations. Recognizing the value of coordinated, cross-border collaboration of Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) deployment to address these issues, the states established the North/West Passage Transportation Pooled Fund in 2003 through the Federal Highway Administration. The states work together to develop effective methods for sharing, coordinating and integrating traveler information and operational activities that utilize ITS across state and provincial borders.

PURPOSE:

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) establishes a framework for cooperation and coordination of traveler information among the state departments of transportation in Washington, Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, North Dakota, South Dakota, Minnesota and Wisconsin ("Agencies"). Coordination of traveler information may include distributing information via Dynamic Message Signs (DMS), Highway Advisory Radio (HAR), 511 telephone, web sites and other tools during major incidents impacting travel in nearby states. This coordination among the Agencies will promote better information for customers and allow for expanded operational relationships among the Agencies.

RESPONSIBILITIES AND PROCEDURES:

The Agencies have the responsibility to operate and maintain the state highway system within their respective states. Providing timely, accurate traveler information is one aspect of the Agencies' operational responsibilities. Cooperation and coordination of traveler information among the Agencies becomes particularly critical when major incidents impact travel in nearby states.

Therefore, it is mutually agreed that the Agencies will:

- Consider the impact of major incidents on travel in nearby states.
- Collaborate with nearby states to share information about major incidents that are expected to significantly impact travel; providing location, description, impact and anticipated duration of the incident.
- Collaboratively determine which message(s) to post. Messages should include location and description of the event at a minimum.
- Post messages on relevant traveler information services and devices including but not limited to dynamic messages signs (DMS), highway advisory radio (HAR), 511 telephone and web sites.
- Notify nearby states when the major incident clears.
- Participate, as requested, in after action reviews of the major incident.
- Meet annually by webconference to review and revise as necessary these responsibilities and procedures. The North/West Passage Program will lead arrangements for the annual review.

Operational Points of Contact:

Idaho – State Communications Center
888-575-2666 or 208-846-7610
statecomm@dhw.idaho.gov (Dispatch) or kathy.bessey@itd.idaho.gov (Supervisor)

Minnesota – Regional Transportation Management Center
651-634-5302

Montana – Transportation Management Center
406-444-6050

North Dakota – State Radio
701-328-9921
nddes@nd.gov

South Dakota – Jason Humphrey
605-773-4391
jason.humphrey@state.sd.us

Washington – Spokane Regional Transportation Management Center
509-343-6396
ersrtmc@wsdot.wa.gov

Wisconsin – Statewide Traffic Operations Center
414-227-2142 or 800-375-7302
stoc@dot.wi.gov

Wyoming – Transportation Management Center
307-777-3939
tmc@wyo.gov

LIMITATIONS:

Nothing in this MOU between Agencies shall be construed as limiting or expanding the statutory or regulatory responsibilities of any involved individual in performing functions granted to them by law; or as requiring any of the Agencies to expend any sum in excess of its respective appropriation. Each and every provision of this MOU is subject to the laws and regulations under which Agencies operate.

Nothing in this MOU shall be construed as expanding the liability of any of the Agencies. In the event of a liability claim, each party shall defend its own interests. No party shall be required to provide indemnification of any other party.

EFFECTIVE DATE:

This MOU will become effective upon the signatures of all Agencies.

METHOD OF TERMINATION:

Any Agency may discontinue their participation in this MOU after courtesy notice to the other Agencies.

AMENDMENTS:

Amendments to this MOU shall become effective upon mutual agreement and written approval by the Agencies' signing authority.

SIGNATURES:

IDAHO TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT

By [Signature] Title Chief Engineer Date 11/22/11

MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

By [Signature] Title Freeway Operations Engineer Date 11/23/11

MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

By [Signature] Title Director Date 1/3-11
APPROVED FOR LEGAL CONTENT [Signature] 11/3/11

NORTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

By [Signature] Title State Maintenance Engineer Date 12-14-11

SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

By [Signature] Title Research Programs Manager Date 12/19/11

WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

By [Signature] Title State ITS Ops Engineer Date 11/22/2011

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

By [Signature] Title Director, Bureau of Traffic Operations Date 12-5-2011

WYOMING DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

By [Signature] Title GIS/ITS PROG. MAN. Date 11/16/11