

State of Wisconsin/Department of Transportation
RESEARCH PROGRESS REPORT FOR THE QUARTER ENDING: December 31, 2009

Program: SPR-0010(36) FFY99	Part: II Research and Development
Project Title: Mississippi Valley Freight Coalition Pooled Fund	Project ID: TPF-5(156)
Administrative Contact: Jason Bittner	Sponsor: MVFC Pooled Fund
WisDOT Technical Contact: Sandy Beaupre	Approved Starting Date: 2/1/2007
Approved by COR/Steering Committee: \$950,000	Approved Ending Date: 1/31/2011
Project Investigator (agency & contact): Teresa Adams, Ph.D., Director, National Center for Freight and Infrastructure Research and Education (CFIRE), University of Wisconsin-Madison.	

Description:

Total study budget	Expenditures for current quarter	Total Expenditures to date	Percent Complete
\$738,771	\$26,699	\$493,301	86%

Progress This Quarter:

(Includes project committee mtgs, work plan status, contract status, significant progress, etc.)

Pooled Fund Deliverables:

- A Regional Freight Transportation Workshop and Meetings
 - Complete
- A Logistics Course for the Public Sector
 - Complete
- The Development of Model Planning Approaches for Freight Transportation
 - Complete
- MVFC Expanded Truck Parking Facilities
 - Complete
- Assessment of Multimodal Freight Bottlenecks and Alleviation Strategies for the Upper Midwest Region
 - See associated QPR, **MVFC 05**
- Mississippi Valley Freight Information Clearinghouse
 - Complete
- 2008 MVFC Workshop and Meetings
 - Complete
- Develop Regional Recommendations for Reauthorization
 - See associated QPR, **MVFC 09**
- Transportation Profiles for MVFC Commodities
 - See associated QPR, **MVFC 10**
- Freight Performance Measures for Evaluating Multi-state projects
 - See associated QPR, **MVFC 11**
- During the July 8th meeting of AASHTO's Mississippi Valley Conference Board of Directors in Kansas City, MO, the board unanimously approved the work plan for the 2008-2010 cycle.
 - This included an additional \$25,000/state/year contribution. Added to the previous funds for the 2006-2008 cycle, this brings the total to \$950,000 contributed by the 10 states of the MVFC.
 - The projects approved in the 2008-2010 cycle include...
 - Outreach Materials
 - Develop Regional Recommendations for Reauthorization
 - Transportation Profiles for MVFC Commodities and Industries
 - Performance Measures for Evaluating Multistate Projects
 - Critical Sections and Resiliency of Freight Corridors in the MVFC
 - Member Services for the MVFC Pooled Fund Activities
 - All of the contributions from the states are in for the 2008-2010 cycle.
- Website
 - MVFC Facilitator, Ernie Wittwer, and an in-house journalist have re-written the content of the MVFC to make the site easier to navigate, remove clutter, and to bring more attention to the important news items.
 - A student versed in website design is implementing the design.
 - The new MVFC website was rolled out in late January.

- Coalition Action Plan
 - The Coalition Action Plan consists of the scope of work for project initiatives. Project scopes were developed for nine of the twelve projects. Additional project scopes from the 2008 – 2010 project cycle will continue to be developed.
- Meeting minutes of the Executive and Technical Committees and the MVTOC can be viewed at <http://www.mississippivalleyfreight.org/>.
 - MVFC Tech committee met on March 5th to provide updates on MVFC projects and to discuss the annual MVFC spring meeting upcoming in Kansas City, MO, in April 2009.
 - Mississippi Valley Traffic Operations Coalition met on March 4th to discuss current projects, the annual meeting, and also received updates from the N/W Passage and LMIGA.
- Other business:
 - None

Work Next Quarter:

- MVFC Projects
 - Work will continue on the projects listed above with work being completed on MVFC 05, MVFC 10 and 11. Also will get MVFC 08: Outreach Materials, and MVFC 12: Critical Sections and Resiliency of Freight Corridors in the MVFC under contract.
- Website
 - With the completion of the website redesign, some work will continue with fixing broken links and replacing lost links.
- Coalition Action Plan
 - Will continue to carry out activities of the Coalition Action Plan.
- Committee Meetings
 - Plan to meet with MVFC Technical Committee in June to discuss the current MVFC projects, discuss the new projects (also looking for committee participation) and will provide a wrap up from the annual spring meeting.
 - Plan to meet with MVTOC on June 3rd.

Circumstances affecting progress/budget:

- None

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Project Title: Develop Regional Recommendations for Reauthorization	Project ID: MVFC 09	Sponsor: MVFC Pooled Fund	
Administrative Contact: Greg Waidley	Approved Starting Date: 9/1/08		
WisDOT Technical Contact: Beth Nachreiner	Approved Ending Date: 12/31/2009; requested 31/31/2010.		
Approved by COR/Steering Committee: \$53,250			
Project Investigator (agency & contact): Teresa Adams, UW-Madison			

Description:

Total study budget	Expenditures for current quarter	Total Expenditures to date	Percent Complete
\$53,250	\$1,130	\$40,181	95%

Progress This Quarter:

- Project final report has been completed based on limited feedback received from Coalition.

Work Next Quarter:

- Final project report will be completed to conform with publication standards, printed, and delivered (and posted online).

Circumstances affecting progress/budget:

Gantt Chart:

Task/Month	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Prepare and gain approval of a work plan	█															
Identify an advisory/working committee	█															
Identify liaisons with the MVC policy group		█														
Collect and synthesize materials		█														
Identify specific issues		█														
Develop short issue papers		█	█													
Convene the advisory/working/policy groups				█												
Document positions				█												
Share positions with the larger MVFC				█	█											
Modify positions as needed				█	█											
Share positions with the policy group				█	█											
Finalize positions						█										
Prepare supporting materials														█	█	█
Monitor the process							█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█
Revise positions as needed							█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█
Interact with MVC policy group	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█
Board Approval																█

Note: Red indicates added tasks and revised schedule.

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Program: SPR-0010(36) FFY99	Part: II Research and Development
Project Title: Transportation Profiles for MVFC Commodities	Project ID: MVFC 10
Administrative Contact: Greg Waidley	Sponsor: MVFC Pooled Fund
WisDOT Technical Contact: Sandy Beaupre	Approved Starting Date: Jan. 1, 2009
Approved by COR/Steering Committee: \$173,521	Approved Ending Date: Sept. 30, 2011
Project Investigator (agency & contact): Teresa Adams, University of Wisconsin - Madison	

Description:

This project will use alternative methods to develop information on the flow of commodities through the region. Part one will develop two commodities in depth with narratives and illustrations to demonstrate the importance of efficient transportation to the industry along with some of the issues that influence the decisions made by shippers and carriers as they move product. Part two will use the approach of disaggregating Freight Analysis Framework information and assigning the commodities to routes. Part three will develop a micro-simulations of commodities based on freight volume, economic activity and probabilities. Since this application will take it to new levels, only four commodities will be analyzed under this project. With successful demonstration, the technique might be expanded in future work.

Total study budget	Expenditures for current quarter	Total Expenditures to date	Percent Complete
\$173,521	\$35	\$35	60%

Progress This Quarter:

The auto industry case study is complete.
 Work continues on the taconite case study.
 UIC and UT researchers are developing the tools to make the data available over the freightview system.
 The synthesis work continues with the gathering and analysis of materials on specific commodities and industries.
 Our advisory committee reviewed our efforts and offered response and ideas.

Work Next Quarter:

Finalize the taconite story.
 Finalize the UIC effort.
 Make the UIC data available over the UT Freightview tool.
 Continue synthesis effort.
 Begin thoughts on the final presentation of materials.
 More team meetings

Circumstances affecting progress/budget: Time consumed by contracting procedures has delayed expenditure of funds. We will catch-up soon. The project should be complete by September.

Year End

July 1, 2010

Gantt Chart:

Task/Month	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Team mtgs.	█																	
Part 1																		
Research	█	█	█	█	█	█												
Write stories					█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█						
Part 2																		
Economic data	█	█	█															
Production estimation				█	█	█												
O-D estimation							█	█	█	█	█	█						
Microsimulation										█	█	█	█	█	█			
Final report														█	█	█	█	
Part 3																		
Literature review	█																	
ID data sources		█																
ID simulation			█															
Dev probabilistic				█	█	█												
Dev simulation							█	█	█	█								
Assemble data										█	█							
Test concept											█	█						
Document													█	█	█	█		
Summary Report															█	█	█	█

Red indicates changes from original schedule. We are slightly behind schedule, but will complete on time

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Program: SPR-0010(36) FFY99	Part: II Research and Development
Project Title: Freight Performance Measures for Evaluating Multi-state projects	Project ID: MVFC-11
Administrative Contact: Jason Bittner	Sponsor: MVFC
WisDOT Technical Contact:	Approved Starting Date:
Approved by COR/Steering Committee:	Approved Ending Date: 9/30/11
Project Investigator (agency & contact): Ernie Wittwer	

Description:

Total study budget	Expenditures for current quarter	Total Expenditures to date	Percent Complete
73,333	17,368.66	17,368.66	25%

Progress This Quarter:

(Includes project committee mtgs, work plan status, contract status, significant progress, etc.)

- Literature review on a multitude of economic impact software tools (Mid Oct)
- Literature review on broad economic impact studies, mainly academic (Mid Oct)
- Briefed you on FHWA tools and findings from CREATE project documentation (Late Oct)
- Literature review on the major concepts of performance measurements (early Nov)
- Literature review on other performance measurement projects by state and federal transportation agencies (early Nov)

- * Literature review of performance measures used to evaluate performance of transportation with a focus on freight performance. The primary freight performance measures identified are:
 - o Mobility: Average travel time; Average speed
 - o Reliability: Deviations from Average speed or travel time; Frequency of nonrecurring delays
 - o Economic: Benefit Cost Ratio; Freight contribution to GDP
 - o Safety: Freight-related crash rates; Insurance costs
 - o Environment: Emissions of different pollutants

* Survey of important information pertaining to CREATE that can be used to measure the performance of freight-related investments as different projects under CREATE are implemented.

TRB Session Attendance

- * Event 256 (Poster): Performance Measurement
- * Event 517 (Poster): Innovative Approaches to Transit Management and Performance

Work Next Quarter:

Continue to refine research and data sources. Consult with CREATE public and private sector experts.

Circumstances affecting progress/budget:

None