

**State of Wisconsin/Department of Transportation**  
**RESEARCH PROGRESS REPORT FOR THE QUARTER ENDING: March 31, 2008**

<b>Program: SPR-0010(36) FFY99</b>	<b>Part: II Research and Development</b>
<b>Project Title:</b> Mississippi Valley Freight Coalition Pooled Fund	<b>Project ID:</b> TPF-5(156)
<b>Administrative Contact:</b> Jason Bittner	<b>Sponsor:</b> MVFC Pooled Fund
<b>WisDOT Technical Contact:</b> Sandy Beaupre	<b>Approved Starting Date:</b> 2/1/2007
<b>Approved by COR/Steering Committee:</b> \$750,000	<b>Approved Ending Date:</b> 1/31/2009
<b>Project Investigator (agency &amp; contact):</b> 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
<b>\$449,500</b>	<b>\$30,795</b>	<b>\$130,509</b>	<b>29%</b>

**Progress This Quarter:**

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

Pooled Fund Deliverables:

- Three Priority Initiatives
  - A Regional Freight Transportation Workshop and Meetings
    - See associated QPR, **MVFC 01**
  - A Logistics Course for the Public Sector
    - See associated QPR, **MVFC 02**
  - The Development of Model Planning Approaches for Freight Transportation
    - See associated QPR, **MVFC 03**
- Additional projects: Four additional MVFC projects were approved by the Executive Committee on July 9, 2007. Three of those four projects have been put under contract, which has increased the total study budget to \$449,500 as noted above. The final project (2008 MVFC Workshop and Meetings is being covered by a portion of CFIRE's \$250,000 contribution to the pooled fund). Those projects are...
  - MVFC Expanded Truck Parking Facilities (see associated QPR, **MVFC 04**)
  - Assessment of Multimodal Freight Bottlenecks and Alleviation Strategies for the Upper Midwest Region (see associated QPR, **MVFC 05**)
  - Mississippi Valley Freight Information Clearinghouse (see associated QPR, **MVFC 06**)
  - 2008 MVFC Workshop and Meetings
- Website
  - Have continued to make necessary updates to [www.mississippivalleyfreight.org](http://www.mississippivalleyfreight.org), including additions to format and current events, and [www.wistrans.org/cfire](http://www.wistrans.org/cfire) (MVFC projects are contained here), including upcoming events related to freight; and posting minutes from meetings of the Executive and Technical Committees and the Mississippi Valley Traffic Operations Coalition.
- Coalition Action Plan
  - The Coalition Action Plan consists of the scope of work for project initiatives. Project scopes were developed for all seven projects. Additional project scopes are added as projects are approved by the Executive Committee and awarded through the MVFC Pooled Fund.
- Committee Meetings (at least semi-annual) Executive and Technical Committee meeting minutes can be viewed at <http://www.mississippivalleyfreight.org/>.
  - Mississippi Valley Traffic Operations Coalition: (Minutes of the MVTOC can be viewed at <http://www.mississippivalleyfreight.org/traffic.htm>)
    - Conference call on March 5<sup>th</sup> provided an update on current MVFC projects of interest to the MVTOC, an update of the activities of the North/West Passage presented by Ginny Crowson of Mn/DOT, and an update of the activities of the transformed Lake Michigan Interstate Gateway Alliance (formerly the GCM ITS Priority Corridor) given by John Benda of the Illinois Tollway Authority.
- Other business:

- The MVFC held its second regional freight workshop on March 31<sup>st</sup> to April 2<sup>nd</sup> in Indianapolis – hosted by Indiana DOT. The objectives of the workshop which were addressed included the facilitation of opportunities for collaboration among Coalition members, updated Coalition members on sponsored activities, facilitated dialogue in the context of related national efforts, facilitated discussion and response to National Initiatives in Transportation Funding and Policy, and conducted MVFC Technical Committee meeting to develop the 2009-2010 work plan for the Coalition.
- CFIRE staff and STAR chairs developed RFPs from ideas generated at the Nov. 16, 2007 research workshop. Those RFPs were approved by the CFIRE Research Advisory Committee on April 4, 2008.

**Work Next Quarter:**

- MVFC Projects
  - Work will continue on these projects with work being completed on MVFC 01, 02, and 03.
- Website
  - Will continue to update the MVFC website as needed.
- Coalition Action Plan
  - Will continue to carry out activities of the Coalition Action Plan.
- Committee Meetings
  - Plan to meet with MVTOC on May 7<sup>th</sup>.

**Circumstances affecting progress/budget:**

- None. The work of the Coalition is on time and budget.

