

State of Wisconsin/Department of Transportation
RESEARCH PROGRESS REPORT FOR THE QUARTER ENDING: September 30, 2009

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

Description:

Total study budget	Expenditures for current quarter	Total Expenditures to date	Percent Complete
\$738,771	\$18,933	\$466,602	85%

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**
- During the July 8, 2008 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
 - An improved website continues to be updated to correct any broken links and missing info.
 -
- 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. The three remaining project scopes from the 2008 – 2010 project cycle 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 09, and MVFC 10. Also finalize work plans for MVFC-08: Outreach Materials, 11: Performance Measures for Evaluating Multi-State Projects, and MVFC-12: Critical Sections and Resiliency of Freight Corridors in the MVFC.
- Website
- Will continue to update as appropriate
- Coalition Action Plan
 - Will continue to carry out activities of the Coalition Action Plan.
- Committee Meetings
 - Plan to meet with MVFC Technical Committee in July to discuss the current MVFC projects, and to begin discussions of the annual spring meeting in 2010.

Circumstances affecting progress/budget:

- None

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Program: SPR-0010(36) FFY99	Part: II Research and Development
Project Title: Develop Regional Recommendations for Reauthorization	Project ID: MVFC 09
Administrative Contact: Jason Bittner	Sponsor: MVFC Pooled Fund
WisDOT Technical Contact: Beth Nachreiner	Approved Starting Date: 9/1/08
Approved by COR/Steering Committee: \$53,250	Approved Ending Date: 12/31/2009
Project Investigator (agency & contact): Teresa Adams, UW-Madison	

Description:

Total study budget	Expenditures for current quarter	Total Expenditures to date	Percent Complete
\$53,250	\$14,386	\$39,051	80%

Progress This Quarter:

- Documents were reviewed by the MVC Strategic Issues Committee.
- The topic has been deferred by the Strategic Issues group until further notice.
- Recommendations will be addressed over the next three months and placed on the agenda for an upcoming meeting of the board of Directors.
- Wittwer attended the Ohio Conference on Freight and presented on the regional freight issues.
- Gollnik attended the Indiana Logistics Forum, sponsored by the Indiana DOT, to help establish state related positions.
- No additional activities have been completed in this period

Work Next Quarter:

- The Board is expected to refer the documents to a committee made up of Strategic Issues Committee members to resolve some underlying issues on the regional recommendations.
- Final project recommendations will be finalized and brought before the winter meeting of the Board for approval.
- We will then have to finalize the materials that can be used to promote this direction. The original workplan included dissemination of brochures and associated materials.

Circumstances affecting progress/budget:

Much of the effort in the project has been accomplished by CFIRE staff. CFIRE provides support for the staff time. Project costs, to date, do not reflect the overall progress of the effort. Major delays on the part of state staff in reviewing materials have delayed the project and will likely result in additional time extension requests.

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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RESEARCH PROGRESS REPORT FOR THE QUARTER ENDING: Sept 30, 2008

Program: SPR-0010(36) FFY99	Part: II Research and Development
Project Title: Transportation Profiles for MVFC Commodities	Project ID: MVFC 10
Administrative Contact: Jason Bittner	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	0	0*	55%

* Note: \$44,902 of the project fund has been encumbered to sub-contractors at partner institutions.

Progress This Quarter:

Contracts are in place.
 Toledo's story dealing with the auto industry is complete in draft form and being reviewed.
 Superior's story is nearly complete.
 UIC's efforts of disaggregating the FAF commodity data have been tested and appear to be accurate.
 Discussions are underway with UT to host the GIS enabled site for the UIC commodity data.
 UW-M and UW-Madison are working on the background and foundational information on the synthesis portion of the project.
 Three team meetings were held electronically.

Work Next Quarter:

Finalize the stories.
 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.
 Three more team meetings

Circumstances affecting progress/budget: Time consumed by contracting procedures has delayed expenditure of funds. We will catch-up soon.

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.	Red																	
Part 1																		
Research	Grey																	
Write stories				Grey						Red								
Part 2																		
Economic data	Grey																	
Production estimation			Grey															
O-D estimation						Grey												
Microsimulation									Grey									
Final report															Grey		Red	
Part 3																		
Literature review	Grey																	
ID data sources		Grey																
ID simulation			Grey															
Dev probablistic				Grey														
Dev simulation							Grey											
Assemble data										Grey								
Test concept											Grey							
Document													Grey			Red		
Summary Report															Grey			

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