

State of Wisconsin/Department of Transportation
RESEARCH PROGRESS REPORT FOR THE QUARTER ENDING: June 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	\$72,865	\$447,669	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
 - 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
 - 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 04 and MVFC 06. Also hope to get work plans developed for MVFC 10: Transportation Profiles for MVFC Commodities and Industries, and MVFC 11: Performance Measures for Evaluating Multi-State Projects.
- 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: MVFC Expanded Truck Parking		Project ID: MVFC 04	
Administrative Contact: Jason Bittner		Sponsor: MVFC Pooled Fund	
WisDOT Technical Contact: Dave Simon		Approved Starting Date: 11/1/07	
Approved by COR/Steering Committee: \$70,000		Approved Ending Date: 6/30/09	
Project Investigator (agency & contact): Teresa Adams, UW-Madison			

Description:

Total study budget	Expenditures for current quarter	Total Expenditures to date	Percent Complete
\$70,000	\$7,353	\$70,000	95%

Progress This Quarter:

- Compiled truck parking inventory database and worked on correlation analysis of the problem truck parking facilities and existing truck parking facilities.
- Addition of results from F2F and telephone interviews of people in trucking industry.
- Detailed geo-spatial analysis for the parking facilities along Wisconsin interstate and state highways.
- Completed project draft report with new geo-spatial and statistical results
- Received comments and revised report

Work Next Quarter:

- Report will be printed and delivered.

Circumstances affecting progress/budget:

none

Gantt Chart:

Task/Month	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun
Literature Review of Parking Management	done	done	done																	
Inventory designated parking facilities along MVFC freight corridors		done	done	done	done															
Develop an interactive GIS tool to determine ramp parking			done	done	done	done														
Survey of highway patrol on ramp parking							done	done	done											
Interview carriers to determine issues at certain locations								done	done	done	done	done	done	done	done	done				
Identify low cost strategies							done	done	done	done	done	done	done	done	done	done	done			
Re-fine ranking and evaluate strategies									done	done	done	done	done	done	done	done	done			
Overview of IT technologies for truck parking space utilization.		done	done	done	done	done	done	done	done	done	done	done	done	done	done	done	done			
Final report including recommendations												done	done	done	done	done	done	done	done	done



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RESEARCH PROGRESS REPORT FOR THE QUARTER ENDING: Jun 30, 2009

Program: SPR-0010(36) FFY99	Part: II Research and Development
Project Title: Assessment of Multimodal Freight Bottlenecks and Alleviation Strategies for the Upper Midwest Region	Project ID: MVFC 05
Administrative Contact: Jason Bittner	Sponsor: MVFC Pooled Fund
WisDOT Technical Contact: Sandy Beaupre	Approved Starting Date: October 1, 2007
Approved by COR/Steering Committee: \$92,500	Approved Ending Date: Sep 30, 2009
Project Investigator (agency & contact): Jessica Guo, University of Wisconsin - Madison	

Description:

The project aims to develop a prioritized list of freight bottlenecks in the Mississippi Valley Region and to identify effective strategies for alleviating the bottlenecks. Specific tasks include:

1. Review existing studies on freight bottleneck analysis and ranking methodologies.
2. Interview major stakeholders to identify the locations and conditions of freight transportation bottlenecks.
3. Identify a list of potential freight bottlenecks in the region and develop an analysis framework for determining the relative rankings of bottlenecks.
4. Collect and compile existing data that describe the conditions of freight bottlenecks.
5. Develop preliminary rankings of freight bottlenecks across the different modes.
6. Develop a web-based DSS for reviewing and adjusting bottleneck rankings.
7. Deploy the web-based DSS to obtain the final bottleneck rankings.
8. Obtain information pertaining to the schedule and the nature of planned improvement projects in the MVFC region for addressing the bottlenecks.
9. Develop a list of recommendations regarding how to address regionally significant bottlenecks in a coordinated and effective manner.
10. Prepare the final report.

Total study budget	Expenditures for current quarter	Total Expenditures to date	Percent Complete
\$92,500	\$20,162	\$58,278	92%

Progress This Quarter:

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

Task 7: Posted regional truck bottleneck list online (through the MVFC Clearinghouse project) and sought DOT feedback .

Task 9: Identified regional top 100 bottlenecks that warrant further action. Developed a list of bottleneck mitigation methods.

Task 10: Continued to document the research methodology and findings.

Work Next Quarter:

- Obtain feedback from all member states on the ranked list (task 7)
- Complete the development of recommendations regarding how to address regionally significant bottlenecks (task 9)
- Complete final report (task 10)

Circumstances affecting progress/budget:

In order to formulate bottleneck mitigation strategies for the top 100 bottlenecks, the research team needs to acquire additional data sources such as aerial images and consult DOT engineers for their local knowledge. As the process is taking longer than anticipated, a no-cost extension to move the project end date to Sep 30, 2009, has been requested and approved. The research team anticipates spending up to another month on formulating the recommendations. A draft report will be available for review in August.

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Program: SPR-0010(36) FFY99	Part: II Research and Development
Project Title: Mississippi Valley Freight Information Clearinghouse Administrative Contact: Peter Rafferty WisDOT Technical Contact: John Corbin Approved by COR/Steering Committee: \$150,000 Project Investigator (agency & contact): David Noyce, UW-Madison	Project ID: MVFC 06 Sponsor: MVFC Pooled Fund Approved Starting Date: 12/1/07 Approved Ending Date: 8/31/09

Description:

Total study budget	Expenditures for current quarter	Total Expenditures to date	Percent Complete
\$150,000	\$30,000	\$140,000	95%

Progress This Quarter:

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

The project has largely come to its conclusion this quarter. Project working group meetings continued weekly. Items of discussion included project schedule, current tasks, and upcoming tasks. Other meetings included the MVFC annual meeting and the MVTOC teleconference(s) and associated project-specific status teleconferences to which everybody who is interested is invited to call in.

In addition to the progress noted on previous quarterly reports, the surveys both to the motor carriers (web) and to DOT personnel / regulators (phone) have been completed and analysis is now complete and documented in the report. The outreach and contacts were achieved in collaboration with each state's motor carrier associations and the other two MVFC projects with survey efforts. The surveys were only possible by hiring additional resources to make direct phone calls. Initial response to the web survey was negligible.

As part of the MVTOC and MVFC Technical Committee conference calls in early March, we presented this project and did a web-based demo of the Clearinghouse prototype. The response was highly agreeable, and all feedback, comments, questions, suggestions, etc. have been addressed in the prototype and documentation.

The prototype and the draft report were reviewed and edited by the internal project team and were available for review at the Coalition meeting in Kansas in mid April.

The project team has collected and addressed all feedback received. The prototype and the report documentation are completed, including recommendations and high level resource estimates for different options of moving forward. These materials will remain available via the Clearinghouse home page: www.mississippivalleyfreight.org/clearinghouse

Work Next Quarter:

This project was largely completed in May as planned. The timeline was extended through the end of the summer as an approved no-cost extension. The only remaining work anticipated is continued questions and answers, information dissemination, and any other follow-up that may be required.

Circumstances affecting progress/budget:

No new issues to report. This project is on time and on budget.

Gantt Chart:

**Mississippi Valley Freight Coalition
Mississippi Valley Freight Traveler Information Clearinghouse**

Account 144-QU58 issued: Monday, Jan 28, 2008

Target completion date: Friday, May 15, 2009 (approved no-cost extension to August 31, 2009)

Schedule:

Task	Year	2008											2009						
		F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J
1. Literature review		■	■	■															
2. Analysis of current agencies in charge of relevant information systems		■	■	■															
3. Analysis and list of current available data/information sources to freight travelers.		■	■	■	■														
4. Motor carriers survey					■	■	■	■	■										
5. Planners/Regulators Survey					■	■	■	■	■										
6. Estimate System Requirements for Clearinghouse						■	■	■											
7. Data set and proposed standard for data collection and collaboration btw states							■	■	■										
8. Study of decision points for routing										■	■	■	■						
9. Create prototype demo for motor carrier groups (basic interface and function)													■	■	■	■			
10. Draft/final report and edits on the clearinghouse and its contents; recommendations discussion															■	■	■	■	■

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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: 9/30/09	
Project Investigator (agency & contact): Teresa Adams, UW-Madison			

Description:

Total study budget	Expenditures for current quarter	Total Expenditures to date	Percent Complete
\$53,250	\$15,350	\$25,517	80%

Progress This Quarter:

- Documents were reviewed by the MVC STIK Committee.
- They were placed on the agenda of the Board

Work Next Quarter:

- The Board is expected to refer the documents to a committee made up of STIK members to resolve some underlying issues.
- It will be finalized and brought before the October meeting of the Board for approval.

Circumstances affecting progress/budget:

Much of the effort in the project has been accomplished by a CFIRE staff person, whose time has not been charged to the project. Therefore, project costs do not reflect the overall progress. We have had major delays on the part of state staff in reviewing materials.

We will require an additional extension to match the timeframe that the Board will follow. Suggest 1/1/10.

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: 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.

Major Tasks:

- Task 1: Review Literature
- Task 2: Identify Commodities
- Task 3: Identify Data Sources
- Task 4: Identify Microsimulation
- Task 5: Develop Probabilistic
- Task 6: Develop Microsimulation
- Task 7: Assemble Data
- Task 8: Test Concept
- Task 9: Subproject Report

Total study budget	Expenditures for current quarter	Total Expenditures to date	Percent Complete
\$173,521	0	0	50%

Progress This Quarter:

(Includes project committee mtgs, work plan status, contract status, significant progress, etc.)
 Contract was fully executed on August 6, 2009, though researchers were able to accommodate contract delays and make progress on each task.

Work Next Quarter:

Continued progress on each task and sub-task
 Draft deliverable for Supply Chain Case Study (Part 1A-Mark Vonderembse – University of Toledo) will be ready for review by September 30, 2009.
 All other parts are progressing as scheduled.

Circumstances affecting progress/budget:

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 probablistic				■	■	■												
Dev simulation							■	■	■									
Assemble data										■	■							
Test concept											■	■						
Document													■	■	■			
Summary Report															■	■	■	■