

# RESEARCH PROGRESS REPORT FOR THE QUARTER ENDING: 4th

Wisconsin Department of Transportation  
DT1241 2009

<b>Research, Development and Technology Transfer</b>	
<b>Program:</b> (Choose One)	
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Policy Research</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Pooled Fund TPF # 5(092)</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Wisconsin Highway Research Program</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Other</b>
<b>Project Title:</b> Clear Roads Pooled Fund	
<b>Administrative Contact/Phone #:</b> Daniel Yeh/ (608) 267-6977	<b>WisDOT Project ID(s):</b> 0092-04-20
<b>WisDOT Technical Contact/Phone #:</b> Michael Sproul/ (608) 266-8680	<b>Other Project ID:</b>
<b>Project Investigator/Phone # (agency &amp; contact):</b> Kim Linsenmayer CTC & Associates (608) 628-3806	<b>Approved Starting Date:</b> 1/13/2009
<b>WisDOT Comments:</b>	<b>Original End Date:</b> 1/12/2010
	<b>Current End Date:</b> 2/28/2010
<b>Sponsor:</b> Wisconsin Department of Transportation	<b>Number of Extensions:</b> 1

**Schedule Status:**

- On schedule       Ahead of schedule  
 On revised schedule       Behind schedule (Please explain below)

Total Project Budget	Expenditures Current Quarter	Total Expenditures	% Funds Expended	% Work Completed
\$43,250.00	\$8,637.50	\$46,187.50	107%	100%

**Project Description:**

Clear Roads is a pooled fund research project aimed at rigorous testing of winter maintenance materials, equipment and methods for use by highway maintenance crews. Created by seasoned winter maintenance engineers in 2004, Clear Roads responds to a need for research based on practical experience.

The Clear Roads Technical Advisory Committee contracted with CTC & Associates LLC to perform the administrative functions associated with maintaining the pooled fund project as well as information services that support technology transfer. This report summarizes activities conducted under this contract over the last three months. This contract is on its fourth and final amendment to the one-year contract signed in 2005. The Total Project Budget covers activities for this year only.

**Progress This Quarter:** (Includes project committee meetings, work plan status, contract status, significant progress, etc.)

**TAC Meetings**

- Continued planning for a face-to-face meeting of the Clear Roads Technical Advisory Committee on January 26 – 28, 2009 in Olympia, WA. Planning includes all preparations for the meeting such as communication with TAC members, meeting logistics, agenda and meeting materials.

**Administration and Marketing**

- Updated the Clear Roads Web site with current project status and meeting information.
- Maintained and updated commitment, obligation, and overall budget information for the pooled fund in coordination with WisDOT and Mn/DOT.
- Worked with FHWA, WisDOT and Mn/DOT to establish a new Clear Roads pooled fund (TPF-5(218)) led by Mn/DOT.
- Processed investigator invoices and coordinated approvals.
- Supported efforts of TAC members in recruiting new members and talking about Clear Roads at conferences.

**Information Services**

- Researched and wrote content for the winter maintenance news published in November.

- Finalized and posted the 2008-2009 product experience survey results.

## Research Support

### *New projects*

- Coordinated the submission of 2010 Research Proposals and planned teleconferences for review of them next quarter.
- Assisted with developing and posting a new RFP for the Identifying the Parameters for Effective Implementation of Liquid-only Plow Routes project rescoped by the TAC at the July meeting. Worked with WisDOT and TAC members to complete the evaluation and selection processes for this project.
- Worked with the TAC to request proposals for a video for the Deicing Field Guide.
- Worked with the TAC, WisDOT Purchasing and Montana State University to draft and revise the contract for the newly awarded project Correlating Lab Testing and Field Performance for Deicing and Anti-icing Chemicals (Phase I).

### *Research in progress*

- Development of Interface Specifications for Mobile Data Platforms on DOT Vehicles: Coordinated with the project subcommittee and principle investigator to provide feedback on the direction of the final phases of the project.
- Development of Standardized Test Procedures for Evaluating Deicing Compounds: Coordinated with the project subcommittee and the principle investigator to continue review of the draft final report.
- Development of a Toolkit for Cost-benefit Analysis of Specific Winter Maintenance Practices, Equipment and Operations: Coordinated with the project subcommittee and principle investigator to provide feedback on the direction of the project.
- Evaluating Safe Winter Driving Messages: Coordinated with project subcommittee and principle investigator to develop and review the findings of focus group surveys.
- Continued to coordinate with investigators and the Clear Roads subcommittees on other projects in progress.

### *Anticipated Work Next Quarter:*

- Finalize plans for the TAC meeting in January: travel logistics, problem statement coordination, final agenda, etc. Meeting will take place January 26th to 28th. After the meeting, will draft meeting minutes, handle expense reimbursements, etc.
- Research, write and publish the February Winter Maintenance E-News.
- Facilitate contracting for the final two projects under WisDOT: Video for the Deicing Field Guide and Correlating Lab Testing and Field Performance for Deicing and Anti-icing Chemicals (Phase I).
- Complete literatures searches and assist the TAC in developing scopes of work for the new projects selected for funding at the January meeting. Work with Mn/DOT and the TAC to contract with selected vendors.
- Help coordinate the review of final deliverables for closing research projects.
- Begin planning for the summer 2010 Clear Roads TAC meeting (conference facilities, travel arrangements, vendor selection, etc.).
- Maintain the Clear Roads Web site and budget.
- Work with WisDOT, Mn/DOT and FHWA to continue to transition funding from the WisDOT-led Clear Roads project to the Mn/DOT-led Clear Roads project.
- Develop the Product Experience Survey for 2009-10.
- Write two-page briefs for any research projects completed during the next quarter.
- Compile all winter operations-related papers included on the 2010 TRB Annual Meeting Compendium of Papers DVD.

### *Circumstances Affecting Progress and/or Budget:*

Due to the additional workload of a second round of vendor solicitations and facilitating the transition of Clear Roads to Mn/DOT, CTC discussed the need for additional funding during this final quarter with WisDOT Technical Representative Michael Sproul. Per Mike's direction, CTC kept additional time billed within 10% of the purchase order amount.

In addition, the contract end date was changed from 1/12/10 to 2/28/10 to allow time for CTC to bill the expenses incurred at the January Clear Roads meeting. No additional services will be provided under this contract.

### *Gantt Chart:*

N/A