

**State Planning and Research Program  
Quarterly Report**

**PROJECT TITLE:** *Synthesis of Technical Requirements and Considerations for an Automated Snowplow Route Optimization*

**OBJECTIVES:** Improve the capacity of DOTs and other transportation agencies to undertake and implement automated snowplow route optimization programs by:

- Documenting technical requirements/considerations for route optimization
- Providing standardized contract language for each technical requirement
- Creating a complementary, non-technical, decision-support document explaining why each requirement is important and how it impacts route optimization contract deliverables

**PERIOD COVERED:** October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020 – December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2020

**PARTICIPATING AGENCIES:** Minnesota Department of Transportation and the Clear Roads Technical Advisory Committee

**PROJECT MANAGER:**  
Debbie Sinclair / Tom Peters

**SP&R PROJECT NO:**  
MnDOT Contract No.  
1034820

**PROJECT IS:**

Planning  
 Research & Development

**LEAD AGENCY:** MnDOT

Federal Project Number:  
TPF-5(353)

**PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR:**  
Jonathan Dowds, Univ. of Vermont

**ANNUAL BUDGET:** \$73,514

**PROJECT EXPENDITURES TO DATE:** \$44,310

**WORK COMPLETED:**

- Completed Task 2 (Survey of Practice and Vendor Outreach)
- Completed Agency and Vendor Interviews for Task 3 (Agency Interviews) began drafting Task 3 technical memo
- Initiated Task 4 (Technical Requirements and Guidance Document)

**SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES EXPECTED TO BE PERFORMED NEXT QUARTER:**

- Completion of Task 3 (Agency Interviews)
- Delivery of draft Technical Requirements and Guidance Document (Task 4)

**STATUS AND COMPLETION DATE:**

The project is on track to be completed on budget. Due to staff availability changes related to COVID-19, the Project PI is submitting an Amendment Request for a 6 month no-cost extension. The amendment from has been review and approved by the Program Manager.