

**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:** January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2020 – March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2020

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

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

**LEAD AGENCY:** MnDOT

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

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

Federal Project Number:  
TPF-5(353)

**PROJECT IS:**

Planning  
 Research & Development

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

**PROJECT EXPENDITURES TO DATE:** \$ 8,726

**WORK COMPLETED:**

- Project kick-off meeting with TAC (2/14/2020)
- Initiated literature review and vendor database (Task 1)
- Initiated creation of practitioner survey (Task 2)

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

- Completion of Tasks 1 (Literature review) & 2 (Survey of Practice)
- Initiation of Task 4 (Vendor Interviews)
- TAC Meeting

**STATUS AND COMPLETION DATE:**

The project is on track to be completed on budget. The Project PI is reviewing the project deliverable schedule in light of staff availability changes related to COVID-19 and will coordinate with the Program Manager and Project TAC to revise the deliverable schedule.