

## State Planning and Research Program Quarterly Report

**PROJECT TITLE:** *Alternative Methods for Deicing*

**OBJECTIVES:** To aid winter maintenance managers in better understanding the performance and impacts of alternative methods for deicing, which may include non-chloride based deicers, blends of deicing products or the utilization of methods of deicing to reduce the number of applications or application rates of deicers.

**PERIOD COVERED:** January 1 to March 31, 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:**

Laura Fay, Western Transportation Institute  
– Montana State University

**SP&R PROJECT NO:**

MnDOT Contract No.  
No. 1003322, wo4

Federal Project Number:  
TPF-5(353)

**PROJECT IS:**

Planning  
 Research & Development

**ANNUAL BUDGET:** \$77,529

**PROJECT EXPENDITURES TO DATE:** \$ 65,850

**WORK COMPLETED:**

- The Task 1 Kick off meeting was held March 4, 2019. Meeting notes were submitted to the TAC March 5, 2019.
- The Task 2 – Literature Review and Reference Document was submitted to the TAC May 15, 2019.
- A check in meeting was held May 17, 2019 to discuss the Task 1 document and draft survey. Feedback from the TAC on Task 2 and the survey were addressed.
- The Task 3 – Survey was released May 21, 2019 and closed July 12, 2019. Once processed, 91 survey responses from six counties, 28 US states, and two Canadian provinces were received. Survey results were submitted to the TAC on August 21, 2019. A meeting was held August 30, 2019 to discuss the survey results.
- A survey was submitted to the TAC to vote on the top 10 case studies topics for development in Task 4. From the TAC response 10 unique case studies were identified and developed.
- The Task 4 – Interviews/Case Studies was submitted December 11, 2019 for TAC review. A meeting to discuss the deliverable was scheduled and held January 6, 2020. The task 4 deliverable in almost complete form was submitted for TAC review and approval on March 13, 2020.
- The Task 5 – Recommendations was submitted February 20, 2020. A meeting to discuss the deliverable was scheduled and held February 28, 2020. The revised task 5 deliverable was submitted for TAC review and approval on March 13, 2020.
- The Task 6 – Final Report has been developed and is being edited and formatted for 508 compliance.

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

- Task 6 - Final Report will be submitted to the TAC no later than April 15, 2020 for review and comment. At this time a meeting will be scheduled for the final report meeting and recorded webinar.

**STATUS AND COMPLETION DATE:**

The Tasks 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 completed. The research team requested and was granted a time extension. The new project end date is July 31, 2020. Budget expenditures are in line with the project work that has been accomplished. COVID-19 should not impact this project being completed by the project end date.