**TRANSPORTATION POOLED FUND PROGRAM**

**QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT**

Date: **10/26/2011**

Lead Agency (FHWA or State DOT): **FHWA**

**INSTRUCTIONS:**

*Project Managers and/or research project investigators should complete a quarterly progress report for each calendar quarter during which the projects are active. Please provide a project schedule status of the research activities tied to each task that is defined in the proposal; a percentage completion of each task; a concise discussion (2 or 3 sentences) of the current status, including accomplishments and problems encountered, if any. List all tasks, even if no work was done during this period.*

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| Transportation Pooled Fund Program Project #  ***5(243)*** | | Transportation Pooled Fund Program - Report Period:  \_ Quarter 1 (January 1 – March 31)  \_ Quarter 2 (April 1 – June 30)   * ***Quarter 3 (July 1 – September 30)***   \_ Quarter 4 (October 1 – December 31) | |
| Project Title:  **Motorcycle Crash Causation Study** | | | |
| Name of Project Manager(s):  **Craig Thor** | Phone Number:  **202-493-3338** | | E-Mail  **CraigThor@dot.gov** |
| Lead Agency Project ID: | Other Project ID (i.e., contract #):  **DTFH61-06-H-00034** | | Project Start Date:  **April 15, 2011** |
| Original Project End Date:  **March 31, 2015** | Current Project End Date:  **March 31, 2015** | | Number of Extensions:  **0** |

Project schedule status:

* On schedule □ On revised schedule □ Ahead of schedule □ Behind schedule

Overall Project Statistics:

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| **Total Project Budget** | **Total Cost to Date for Project** | **Percentage of Work**  **Completed to Date** |
| **$3,571,600** | **$71,425.40** | **5%** |

***Quarterly*** Project Statistics:

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| **Total Project Expenses**  **and Percentage This Quarter** | **Total Amount of Funds**  **Expended This Quarter** | **Total Percentage of**  **Time Used to Date** |
| **$34,753.40 (1% of budget)** | **$34,753.40** | **5%** |

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| **Project Description**:  Due to an alarming increase in motorcycle fatalities in the United States, Congress approved Federal funding for a motorcycle crash causation study as part of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU). The legislation specified that the Department of Transportation provide a grant to the Oklahoma Transportation Center to perform the research. The Motorcycle Crash Causation Study (MCCS) is meant to provide insight into the causative factors that lead to motorcycle crashes in the United States. A comprehensive database of approximately 1,600 data elements will be created from a collection of real-world motorcycle crash investigations and interviews of riders with similar risk factors. A research effort of this scale has not been conducted in the United States in 30 years. During this time, both the rider demographics and the motorcycles themselves have changed considerably and this new data source will make it possible to identify contemporary trends associated with motorcycle crashes. Study results may lead to the development of new roadway countermeasures, educational programs, and sound policy decisions that are rooted in a data-driven assessment of motorcycle safety. |

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| **Progress this Quarter (includes meetings, work plan status, contract status, significant progress, etc.):**  **Data Collection and Participation**  The crash investigators visited and worked with local police jurisdictions to encourage participation in the study. In addition, the crash investigators provided Memoranda of Understanding (MOU’s) to the law enforcement agencies. With a number of jurisdiction agreeing to participate, data collection was able to begin. Also, to improve the visibility of the control stop locations, the project team purchased additional signs. These signs are placed in advance of the location and provide sufficient time and distance for riders to contemplate stopping.  **Database and Website Development**  Changes in the data collection forms were necessary to ensure that all data requirements were being met. Therefore, the database was modified to reflect changes to the data forms. Also, a project website was developed and is being hosted by FHWA. See the link below:  <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/research/tfhrc/projects/safety/motorcycles/MCCS/indexcfm> |
| **Anticipated work next quarter**:  **Data Collection Forms**  Additional modifications may be necessary for the coding manual to reflect future changes to the data forms. These changes will be the result of discussions with the crash investigators.  **Project Working Group Meeting**  The annual project Working Group (PWG) meeting will be held, via webinar, in early December.  **Continue Data Collection**  Data collection will continue through 2013. |

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| **Significant Results:**  **Data Collection**  As of the end of this quarter, the crash investigation team has completed 6 cases including full crash investigations, collection of injury information, motorcycle investigation, control data collection, QC review, and entry into the database. The team is actively collecting data on an additional 21 cases as well. So far, 7 local jurisdictions have agreed to participate in the study, including the California Highway Patrol. |
| **Circumstance affecting project or budget. (Please describe any challenges encountered or anticipated that**  **might affect the completion of the project within the time, scope and fiscal constraints set forth in the**  **agreement, along with recommended solutions to those problems).**  Despite the thorough efforts of the crash investigation team, some police agencies in Orange County declined to participate in the study. This is largely due to the challenging fiscal climate in California. However, to persuade the jurisdictions to participate, a letter was sent by FHWA leadership explaining the importance of the study and their participation. Also, a luncheon was held in Anaheim with local jurisdictions to encourage participation |

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| **Potential Implementation:**  No potential implementation this quarter |