

## TRANSPORTATION POOLED FUND PROGRAM QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT

Date: 4/10/2024

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.*

<b>Transportation Pooled Fund Program Project #</b> <i>(i.e., SPR-2(XXX), SPR-3(XXX) or TPF-5(XXX))</i>  TPF-5(487) (Initial Phase <u>TPF-5(319)</u> )		<b>Transportation Pooled Fund Program - Report Period:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Quarter 1 (January 1 – March 31) <input type="checkbox"/> Quarter 2 (April 1 – June 30) <input type="checkbox"/> Quarter 3 (July 1 – September 30) <input type="checkbox"/> Quarter 4 (October 1 – December 31)	
<b>Project Title:</b> Traffic Management Center Pooled Fund Study Phase II ((TPF-5(487) and <u>TPF-5(319)</u> – Initial or Phase I)			
<b>Name of Project Manager(s):</b> Jon Obenberger	<b>Phone Number:</b> 202-493-3265	<b>E-Mail</b> jon.obenberger@dot.gov	
<b>Lead Agency Project ID:</b> DTFH61-06-D-0004-T-11008	<b>Other Project ID (i.e., contract #):</b>	<b>Project Start Date:</b> Feb. 1, 2000	
<b>Original Project End Date:</b> Sept. 30, 2010	<b>Current Project End Date:</b> Apr. 16, 2027	<b>Number of Extensions:</b> 4	

Project schedule status:

- On schedule     
  On revised schedule     
  Ahead of schedule     
  Behind schedule

Overall Project Statistics:

Total Project Budget	Total Cost to Date for Project	Percentage of Work Completed to Date
\$ 6,850,569 (Total for 2 Phases)	\$ 5,269,825 (Total for 2 Phases)	68 (Total for 2 Phases)

Quarterly Project Statistics:

Total Project Expenses and Percentage This Quarter	Total Amount of Funds Expended This Quarter	Total Percentage of Time Used to Date
\$ 116,113	\$ 116,113	

**Project Description:**

The Transportation Management Center (TMC) Pooled Fund Study (PFS) serves as a forum to identify and address issues that are common among agencies that manage and operate TMCs and provides an opportunity for agencies to collectively take on those key issues and challenges. The TMC PFS also provides an opportunity to facilitate the interaction, sharing of information and successful practices with a broader audience to advance and improve upon the current state-of-the-practice related to the management, operation, and performance of TMCs.

The goal of the TMC PFS is to assemble regional, state, and local transportation management agencies and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) to:

- Identify human-centered and operational issues;
- Suggest approaches to addressing identified issues;
- Initiate and monitor projects intended to address identified issues;
- Provide guidance and recommendations and disseminate results;
- Provide leadership and coordinate with others with TMC interests; and
- Promote and facilitate technology transfer related to TMC issues nationally.

**Progress this Quarter (includes meetings, work plan status, contract status, significant progress, etc.):**

The following is the progress achieved on current TMC PFS projects:

*Sharing Information on TMS Emerging Topics*

- Topic 1 (Locating Incidents Outside of Surveillance Areas): Webinar occurred on 2/17/24; presentation published on 3/26/24 and posted on TMC PFS and NOCoE TMS Portal webpage. Fact sheet is in publication process.
- Topic 2 (Establishing Geofence Locations): Presentation published on 3/26/24. Fact sheet is in publication process. Webinar is scheduled for 4/17/24.
- Topic 3 (TMSs Sharing Incident Information Within Agency): Presentation published on 3/26/24. Fact sheet is in publication process. Webinar is scheduled for 06/26/24.
- Topic 4 (Using Variable Speed Limits (VSL) During Adverse Weather): Final fact sheet submitted 3/4/24; revised draft presentation submitted 3/4/24.
- Topic 5 (TMCs Actively Managing and Operating Part-time Shoulder Use): Final white paper submitted 1/11/24.
- Topic 6 (Methods and Tools to Estimate Staffing Needs): Draft white paper submitted on 1/17/24.

*Sharing and Using Different Types of Data in Traffic Management Systems (TMS)*

- Comments provided 2/15/24 on draft annotated outlines for technical reports on TMSs Using Data and Sharing Data.

*Planning to Frame the Strategic Direction and Future Investments in TMS*

- Initial draft technical report submitted on 1/5/24 and comments provided on 2/26/24.

*Using Social Media Information to Improve TMS Operations*

- Final annotated outline for the technical report was submitted on 1/12/24 and comments provided on 2/5/24.

*Inventorying, Documenting, and Configuring Traffic Management Systems (TMSs)*

- Comments provided on the draft technical report on 3/20/24.
- The initial drafts of the three technical presentations were submitted on 1/3/24 and comments provided 4/4/24.

*Methods to Identify Staffing Needs and Developing or Updating Staffing Plans for TMSs*

- Identifying Staffing Needs
  - Updated list of reference submitted on 1/5/24
  - Final white paper submitted and accepted on 4/4/24.
  - Initial outline for technical report submitted on 3/13/24.
- Developing or Updating Staffing Plans
  - Initial list of references submitted and accepted on 2/26/24.

*Sharing and Using Software and Application Programming Interfaces (APIs) for TMS*

- Draft white paper submitted on 2/23/24 and comments provided on 4/7/24.

A quarterly conference call was conducted on 3/6/24. During the meeting, members reviewed current progress on projects, provided updates on agency' activities, reviewed logistics for the upcoming Annual Meeting, and reviewed possible new 2024 projects and next steps.

A Virtual Technical Exchange exploring *Reporting on TMCs Role with Detecting and Verifying Wrong Way Driving Events* was held on 2/7/24. These quarterly meetings provide a forum for TMC PFS members to exchange information on key technical topics of interest.

**Anticipated work next quarter:**

*TMC PFS Virtual Technical Exchange.* The next virtual technical exchange on *Agreements/MOUs for APIs and Configurations for Sharing Information* is scheduled for April 3, 2024.

*TMC PFS In-person Meeting.* The TMC PFS Annual In-person meeting is scheduled for May 8-10, 2024, at the Missouri Department of Transportation. Key discussion topics will include member updates, a review of progress on current projects, and the selection of new projects to be initiated in 2024.

*Sharing Information on TMS Emerging Topics*

- Topic 1 (Locating Incidents Outside of Surveillance Areas): Fact sheet expected to published in Q2 2024.
- Topic 2 (Establishing Geofence Locations) Webinar to occur on 4/17/24 and fact sheet published in Q2 2024.
- Topic 3 (TMSs Sharing Incident Information w/in Agency) Webinar to occur 6/26/24 and fact sheet published Q2 2024.
- Topic 4 (Using Variable Speed Limits (VSL) During Adverse Weather) Final presentation and fact sheet expected in Q2 2024 and webinar scheduled for 9/18/24.
- Topic 5 (TMCs Actively Managing and Operating Part-time Shoulder Use) Draft fact sheet and draft presentation expected in Q2 2024.
- Topic 6 (Methods and Tools to Estimate Staffing Needs) Final white paper, draft fact sheet and draft presentation expected in Q2 2024.
- Topic 7 (TMCs Actively Managing Use of Queue Warning Messages on Freeways) Draft and final white papers expected in Q2 2024.
- Topic 8 (Performance of TMC Operators) Draft white paper expected in Q2 2024
- Task order will be modified to add funding in support of contractor pursuing Topics 9, 10, 11, and 12 in Q2. Subjects for Topics 9-12 expected to be selected during the TMC PFS in-person meeting on 5/8-10/24.

*Sharing and Using Different Types of Data in Traffic Management Systems (TMS)*

- Final annotated outlines for the technical reports for Sharing Data and Using Data expected in Q2 in 2024.

*Planning to Frame the Strategic Direction and Future Investments in TMS*

- Revised draft of the technical report expected in Q2 in 2024.

*Using Social Media Information to Improve TMS Operations*

- Initial draft of the technical report expected in Q2 in 2024.

*Inventorying, Documenting, and Configuring Traffic Management Systems (TMSs)*

- Final draft report and revised draft of the three technical presentations expected in Q2 2024.

*Methods to Identify Staffing Needs and Developing or Updating Staffing Plans for TMSs*

- Identifying Staffing Needs
  - Revised draft annotated outline for the technical report expected in Q2 2024.
- Developing or Updating Staffing Plans
  - Draft and final white paper expected in Q2 2024.

*Sharing and Using Software and Application Programming Interfaces (APIs) for TMS*

- Final white paper expected in Q2 2024.
- Initial annotated outline expected in Q2 2024.

**Significant Results:**

In Q1 2024, the TMC PFS kicked off a new bi-monthly webinar series focused on emerging TMS topics selected by TMC PFS members. The webinars are being co-sponsored and hosted by the National Operations Center of Excellence (NOCoe) and the AASHTO ITS Work Group of the Committee on Transportation System Operations.

The final TMC PFS-funded report on *Managing Traffic Management Systems Assets* was published on 3/22/24 and is available at the following link: <https://highways.dot.gov/sites/fhwa.dot.gov/files/FHWA-HRT-24-088.pdf>

Several other recently completed TMC PFS-funded reports have been submitted into the publication process and are in the final stages of the review and approval process, expecting to become publicly available in the coming months.

**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).**

No issues have been identified or encountered to date.

**Potential Implementation:**

The scope of work and procurement documents were developed in Q1 of 2024 to initiate the new projects selected at the 2023 In-person meeting to be advanced when funding is made available to the TMC PFS in Q2 of 2024.