TRANSPORTATION POOLED FUND PROGRAM
QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT
Q3/2024

Lead Agency:
Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT)

INSTRUCTIONS:
Lead Agency contacts 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.

Transportation Pooled Fund Program Project # ***TPF-5(491)***	**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)

TPF Title (follow link to TPF webpage)**:**

Super-Elastic Copper-Based and Iron-Based Shape Memory Alloys and Engineered Cementitious Composites for Extreme Events Resiliency

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Lead Agency Project ID: UCB 1874	**Other Project ID (i.e., contract #):** T-1874	**Project Start Date:** 2022-12-01
Original Project Start Date: 2022-12-01	**Original Project End Dates:** Phase 1 - 2023-11-30 Phase 2 – 2025-11-30	**If Extension has been requested, updated project End Date:** N/A

Project schedule status:

☒ On schedule ☐ On revised schedule ☐ Ahead of schedule ☐ Behind schedule

(A) Overall Project Statistics:

Commitments to date $ (3yrs)	Obligations to date $	% Obligated	Contracted to date $	Expended to date $	Expended to date as % of contracted	Completed this quarter $
400,000	350,000	88%	320,000	227,925	71%	

(B) Project Description:

The objective of this research project is to:

1. evaluate and test several innovative columns which have self-centering feature to provide minimum residual displacement after earthquake.
2. improve column serviceability after earthquake by decreasing damage and spalling of concrete within column plastic hinge region; and
3. provide cost comparison among columns having different engineered materials; and
4. develop self-centering column design specifications. Particularly, in this proposed research, the low-cycle fatigue characteristics, corrosion resistance, machinability and coupling mechanisms with traditional steel rebar, and cost of CAM, NiTiCo super-elastic alloy (SEA) bars and Fe-SMA shape memory alloy (SMA) bars are being studied.

Direct comparisons are made with Nickel-Titanium (NiTi) SEAs (and traditional steel reinforcing bars as applicable) to illustrate the advantages/disadvantages of each material. If successfully demonstrated for their suitable characteristics, the NiTiCo SEA and Fe-SMA bars could replace their NiTi counterparts at a significantly lower cost and accelerate their applications in bridges. Therefore, the outcomes of this project are directly relevant to state departments of transportation and bridge and structural engineers and designers. This proposed project will build on the success of previously implemented WSDOT's application of shape memory alloy/engineered cementitious composite (SMA/ECC) in the columns of the SR-99 on-ramp bridge in downtown Seattle while making a direct impact on advancing and securing the national transportation network.

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

The data from the testing of two FeSMA self-centering columns that were tested in the previous quarter has been processed and presented to the sponsor. Additionally, towards testing of the two NiTiCo reinforced self-centering columns, the heat treatment of the NiTiCo superelastic alloys has been determined in collaboration with the vendor providing this material. The design of the columns with NiTiCo SMAs has also been finalized.

(D) Anticipated work next quarter:

In the next quarter, we will complete the material tests on the NiTiCo bars to confirm the headed couplers installed on these bars. After the headed couplers are demonstrated to work, the rebar cages for the two NiTiCo columns will be ordered and the columns will be cast. We anticipate completing the testing of those two columns within the upcoming quarter.

(E) Significant Results:

The significant result in this quarter is the results from testing of two FeSMA columns. Both columns have shown excellent performance compared to conventional RC columns of the same design that were tested previously. The columns showed good drift recovery, strength and much higher ductility.

(F) 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).

The TAC unanimously voted to continue the work and Phase 2 was broken up into smaller tasks to try and match the amounts available through obligated funds. A task proposal was requested from the researchers for Task 3a and adopted after comments by the SMEs and revision by USC for a task order to the value of $90k. This task includes fabrication and testing of two columns at the end of which, given the funding we will continue with two more columns.

Following further funds being available through recent obligation transfers, the work is being extended to include testing of the remaining two columns under Task 3b and electrochemical testing under Task 4 under a new task order. This work is per the original scope of work as identified in the proposals.

USC has also indicated that there have been significant inflationary factors that are affecting labor rates. This will necessitate increasing the commitments needed to complete the project and WSDOT has been collaborating with the FHWA, TAC partners and USC to address and resolve this. It is important to note that the projected adjustment is well within the national inflationary trend over the duration of this program and will not affect the cost and scope of the existing task orders.

(G) Potential Implementation:

We will have a better idea on the implementation trajectory of the findings during Phase 2, within the scope of this pooled fund, if successful and if adequate funding is committed and obligated to conduct Phase 2. The results of Phase 1 look very promising so far!