

TRANSPORTATION POOLED FUND PROGRAM QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT

Lead Agency (FHWA or State DOT): Washington State Department of Transportation

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.

Transportation Pooled Fund Program Project # (i.e, SPR-2(XXX), SPR-3(XXX) or TPF-5(XXX)) <div style="text-align: center;">TPF-5(494)</div>	Transportation Pooled Fund Program - Report Period: <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)	
Project Title: <div style="text-align: center;">Western States Rural Transportation Consortium (WSRTC) (Phase 2)</div>		
Name of Project Manager(s): <div style="text-align: center;">Tony Leingang</div>	Phone Number: <div style="text-align: center;">360-709-8002</div>	E-Mail <div style="text-align: center;">Tony.Leingang@wsdot.wa.gov</div>
Lead Agency Project ID: <div style="text-align: center;">TPF5494</div>	Other Project ID (i.e., contract #): <div style="text-align: center;">N/A</div>	Project Start Date: <div style="text-align: center;">January 31, 2022</div>
Original Project End Date: <div style="text-align: center;">March 31, 2027</div>	Current Project End Date: <div style="text-align: center;">March 31, 2027</div>	Number of Extensions: <div style="text-align: center;">0</div>

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
\$985,746.00	\$677,577.24	68.74%

Quarterly Project Statistics:

Total Project Expenses and Percentage This Quarter	Total Amount of Funds Expended This Quarter	Total Percentage of Time Used to Date
	\$28,561.56	68.74%

Project Description:

Project Description:

The Western States Rural Transportation Consortium (WSRTC) was established with the following mission, vision and goals:

Mission

The WSRTC shall provide a collaborative mechanism to leverage research activities in a coordinated manner to respond to rural transportation issues among western states related to Technology, Operations and Safety.

Vision

The WSRTC shall promote innovative partnerships, technologies and educational opportunities to facilitate and enhance safe, seamless rural travel throughout the western United States.

Goals

- Provide a framework to leverage research and promote collaboration in solving rural transportation issues.
- To leverage research resources related to rural issues concerning technology, operations and safety.
- Provide technology solutions in the form of technology transfer to rural areas and training on a regular basis.
- Recycle and reuse existing research, applying its results to rural issues.
- Development of a rural western states integrated corridor management system to improve seamless, coordinated and safe transportation to the public.

Project work is assigned via task order, and 5 task orders have been executed in Phase 2 of the pooled fund through the end of this quarter:

- WTI Task Order #2 - WSRTC Meeting Coordination, Western States Forum Travel Support and Website Maintenance (\$110,000). This task order concluded 6/30/2024.
- WTI Task Order #6 - WSRTC Meeting Coordination, Western States Forum Travel Support and Website Maintenance (\$121,977).
- WTI Task Order #7 - Connected Vehicle Highway Grip Factor Reporting for Snowplows (\$128,775).

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

WTI Phase 2, Task Order #6 - WSRTC Meeting Coordination, Western States Forum Travel Support and Website Maintenance

Task 1: Project Management

Project management discussions were held including Western States Forum operations, travel reimbursements and related forms, policy, and procedures. The WSRTC and Forum fact sheets were updated. A balance spreadsheet of project expenditures was updated.

The WSRTC Charter document was finalized and signed by all parties.

Task 2: Western States Forum Support

Planning and coordination for the 2025 Western States Forum were in full swing during this quarter. Abstracts were selected in January. First drafts of presentations/demonstrations were reviewed, and feedback sent to the speakers in March.

Registration materials were prepared and distributed including print and electronic versions of a brochure and the online registration site on the Eventbrite platform. The contact list was updated and prepared for bulk mailing. The print brochure and formal cover letter were printed, prepared for mailing, and mailed directly from a local printing company which saved significant preparation time and effort as well as postage costs. Registration opened in the middle of March.

Catering contracts were finalized. Meeting facilities and a lodging block were confirmed at the Best Western Miner's Inn. Travel support for speakers and WSRTC members was coordinated. The contact list was updated as was the Forum website. Ideas for potential marketing support items were reviewed.

Task 3: Meeting Planning and Coordination

Anticipated work next quarter:

WTI Phase 2 Task Order 6: WSRTC Meeting Coordination, Western States Forum, Website Maintenance

Task 1: Project Management

This task order will conclude at the end of this quarter. Project management discussions will be held including preparing for the end of the task and executing future task orders within the Pooled Fund. A balance spreadsheet of expenditures will be updated along with a plan for the task's conclusion.

WSRTC participation in the Western States Forum and the NRITS / ITE meetings will be facilitated.

The annual meeting will be held near the end of the quarter. Meeting logistics will be coordinated, and materials prepared. Early in the quarter, the next task order for the Western States Forum, meeting coordination, and website maintenance will be executed.

Task 2: Western States Forum Support

Preparations will continue for the Forum with the event scheduled for June 16-18, 2025. Second and final drafts of technical presentations will be reviewed, and feedback sent to speakers. An agenda and schedule of events will be developed. Registration will close in mid-May. Participant notebooks and marketing support items will be prepared and ordered. Catering will be secured. Travel support will be facilitated.

Task 3: Meeting Planning and Coordination

The WSRTC annual meeting will be held at the start of the 20th annual Western States Forum. The project team will organize logistics and prepare and distribute meeting materials. An announcement about the meeting will be posted to the WSRTC's website prior to the meeting and a report will be posted after the meeting concludes.

Travel support and participation in the Western States Forum and the NRITS/ITE meetings will be coordinated.

Task 4: Website Content and Maintenance

Project updates will be completed including an announcement about the upcoming WSRTC annual meeting. Website accessibility and compliance will be integrated with all work on the websites.



Significant Results:

WTI Phase 2 Task Order 6: WSRTC Meeting Coordination, Western States Forum, Website Maintenance

Abstracts for the 2025 Western States Forum were selected.

First drafts of Western States Forum presentations/demonstrations were reviewed.

Registration opened for the 20th annual Western States Forum.

Several project updates were prepared and posted on the Consortium's website. The Forum website was updated with current Forum information.

The WSRTC and Western States Forum fact sheets were revised and updated.

WTI Task Order #7 - Connected Vehicle Highway Grip Factor Reporting for Snowplows (\$128,775).

The project started 2/26/2025.

A kickoff meeting was scheduled and an agenda prepared.

Montana Tech Phase 2, Task Order #2 - Chain-Up Delay Tracking and Estimation

Work continued on the Chain-Up Delay Tracking and Estimation project, and data collection continued overlapping with

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).

Due to a relatively mild winter two years ago and data quality issues discovered last year, it may be desirable to request a no-cost time extension to allow for further data collection to support algorithm development.

Potential Implementation:

Tech Transfer and prospective implementation is anticipated from round-table discussions and affiliation with the Western States Forum.

Chain-Up Delay Tracking and Estimation is planned for ongoing research and development and subsequent implementation.