

TRANSPORTATION POOLED FUND PROGRAM QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT

Lead Agency: Utah 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.

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| Transportation Pooled Fund Program Project # TPF-5(526) | Transportation Pooled Fund Program - Report Period: <input type="checkbox"/> Quarter 1 (January 1 – March 31, 2025) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Quarter 2 (April 1 – June 30, 2025) <input type="checkbox"/> Quarter 3 (July 1 – September 30, 2025) <input type="checkbox"/> Quarter 4 (October 1 – December 31, 2025) | |
| Project Title: Western Transportation Research Consortium | | |
| Name of Project Manager(s): David Stevens, Cameron Kergaye | Phone Number: 801-589-8340 | E-Mail davidstevens@utah.gov |
| Lead Agency Project ID: FINET 42115, ePM PIN 21525 UDOT PIC No. PL05.526 | Other Project ID (i.e., contract #): 1 st UDOT Contract No. 25-8222 (Administrative Coordinator Svcs) | Project Start Date: November 8, 2023 (TPF study #) August 23, 2024 (1 st contract) |
| Original Project End Date: September 30, 2026 (pooled fund) | Current Project End Date: February 28, 2026 (1 st contract SOW) September 30, 2026 (pooled fund) | Number of Extensions: 1 mod |

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 |
|---|---|--------------------------------------|
| Total commitments = \$850,000.00 Current obligated funds = \$625,000.00 1 st contract amount = \$293,768.63 Fund balance not on contract = \$329,504.96 | \$89,564.59 (from 1 st contract) \$1,726.41 (contract management) | 30% (1 st contract) |

Quarterly Project Statistics:

| Total Project Expenses and Percentage This Quarter | Total Amount of Funds Expended This Quarter | Total Percentage of Time Used to Date |
|--|---|---------------------------------------|
| 3% (1 st contract) | \$10,183. 07(1 st contract) | 34% (project) |

Project Description:

AASHTO RAC Region IV presents this transportation pool funded initiative to conduct strategic research and foster collaboration among member states. Its purpose is to pool the financial, professional, and academic resources of the region to develop improved methods of dealing with common problems in the planning, design, construction, maintenance, management and operation of transportation systems. The consortium will gather DOT research and innovation professionals, virtually or in-person, to prioritize transportation needs and allocate resources. It will also address high priority transportation research topics of common interest to RAC IV states. The lead state will manage contracted services and adhere to the consortium charter.

Benefits of the partnership include:

- Regional collaboration on common problems will allow participants to more effectively use their resources.
- Collaboration will provide an effective way to focus resources on the Region's transportation research priorities.
- The program will provide an additional way to leverage research and technology transfer funding of the state DOTs.
- The program will provide a means to define, support and share technology of mutual interest.
- The program will provide a method for Peer Exchange support.
- The partnership will develop a longer-range plan of collaboration (strategic plan).
- A focused program will help promote interest in transportation related fields by researchers and students within the research institutions in the region.

The program is intended to supplement, not to replace, ongoing state, federal, and university research activities and other national programs such as the National Cooperative Highway Research Program. It is intended to reduce duplication of research and provide means for better communication of on-going research activities in the state research programs.

UDOT intends to hire a firm or university as the Administrative Coordinator consultant (currently CTC & Associates) for the consortium and a number of firms or universities as Research consultants for specific studies, all through qualifications-based selection using a series of Solicitations (Requests for Qualifications). The technical advisory committee (TAC) for the study currently includes representatives from UT, AK, CA, CO, ID, MT, ND, NE, NM, NV, OK, SD, TX, WA, and WY state DOTs and an FHWA technical liaison.

On the TPF website, UDOT has added 2027 and 2028 as available years for which to commit funds. Partner states in the consortium are encouraged to transfer their 2026 funding commitments to UDOT in early Federal FY 2026. The Y560 program funds are preferred for the SPR funding transfers.

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

Contracts – A contract amendment for the consortium Administrative Coordinator services was executed. The amendment added funds to cover the costs for the May 2025 peer exchange and meeting, as well as a new contract activity, Conduct Preliminary Investigations and Synthesis Studies, and associated labor hours.

Tasks

Progress is shown by task; these tasks and general descriptions were previously established in the WTRC Administrative Coordinator Services contract with CTC & Associates.

1. Coordinate SME Activities. Coordinate activities to stimulate research among the WTRC member state DOTs' subject matter expert groups.
 - At the WTRC Advisory Committee meeting and peer exchange held in Austin, Texas from May 20-22, 2025, the Advisory Committee selected two research ideas for development into SME Topical Discussions.
2. Manage Research Projects. Manage the procedural and administrative requirements of research projects.
 - CTC & Associates collected and compiled the results from the ballot for 2025 Research ideas. The ideas were discussed, and projects were selected at the Austin, Texas meeting and peer exchange. CTC & Associates created an online OneDrive tracking spreadsheet for all funded activities.
 - CTC & Associates assisted members with three NCHRP Synthesis submissions.

3. **Advisory/Technical Committees.** Provide all services necessary to manage the administrative and functional activities of UDOT, the WTRC Advisory Committee and the research technical committees.
 - The second annual, in-person WTRC Advisory Committee meeting and peer exchange was held in Austin, TX from May 20-22, 2025. Planning included finalizing the meeting agenda, guest presentations, hotel accommodations and meeting logistics, as well as booking attendee flights. CTC & Associates facilitated and documented the meeting and peer exchange. Follow-up activities included posting meeting materials on the WTRC website, finalizing and distributing meeting notes, drafting a peer exchange final report and conducting attendee reimbursements.
4. **Technology Transfer.** Provide assistance with all technology transfer and communication activities.
5. **Contract Administration.** Conduct administrative work, such as budgeting and overall program planning.
 - CTC & Associates tracked member funds transfers to Utah and updated the shared commitments and transfers spreadsheet.

Meetings – A peer exchange planning meeting was held with UDOT and CTC & Associates on April 22, 2025. A peer exchange debrief meeting was held with UDOT & CTC and Associates on May 29, 2025.

Anticipated work next quarter:

Contracts – Prepare UDOT research contracts when ready.

Tasks

Anticipated work is shown by task.

1. **Coordinate SME Activities.** Coordinate activities to stimulate research among the WTRC member state DOTs' subject matter expert groups.
 - Performance Evaluation of Dense-Graded, Stone Matrix Asphalt (SMA), and Highly Modified Asphalt (HiMod) Mixtures Under Accelerated Loading – CTC & Associates will begin planning this topical discussion. Activities will include scheduling and holding meetings with the planning team, deciding on the event format, securing speakers and scheduling the event.
2. **Manage Research Projects.** Manage the procedural and administrative requirements of research projects.
 - CTC & Associates will confirm member representatives for each selected research activity and schedule kickoff calls. Starting with the next quarterly report, research project updates will be provided at the project level of detail.
3. **Advisory/Technical Committees.** Provide all services necessary to manage the administrative and functional activities of UDOT, the WTRC Advisory Committee and the research technical committees.
 - CTC & Associates will complete and publish the final report for the May 2025 WTRC peer exchange.
4. **Technology Transfer.** Provide assistance with all technology transfer and communication activities.
5. **Contract Administration.** Conduct administrative work, such as budgeting and overall program planning.
 - CTC & Associates will track member funds transfers to Utah and update the shared commitments and transfers spreadsheet.

Meetings – UDOT and CTC & Associates will provide a WTRC update at the AASHTO RAC Region IV meeting at the AASHTO RAC Summer Meeting in Billings, MT on July 14, 2025. CTC & Associates will schedule the next TAC teleconference to be held in October 2025.

Significant Results:

- The May 2025 WTRC Advisory Committee meeting and peer exchange resulted in the selection of one research project, two syntheses, one preliminary investigation, one webinar and two SME Topical Discussions. The Advisory Committee chose to make one research idea a topic for the 2026 WTRC peer exchange.
- A new member, South Dakota DOT, joined the pooled fund study.
- Three states (Idaho, New Mexico and Washington State) were identified as co-hosts for the 2026 peer exchange, and a site host (Idaho) was selected.

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).

None.

Potential Implementation: