

# 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.*

<b>Transportation Pooled Fund Program Project #</b> <i>(i.e, SPR-2(XXX), SPR-3(XXX) or TPF-5(XXX))</i> <p style="text-align: center;">TPF-5(494)</p>	<b>Transportation Pooled Fund Program - Report Period:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Quarter 1 (January 1 – March 31) <input checked="" 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> <p style="text-align: center;">Western States Rural Transportation Consortium (WSRTC) (Phase 2)</p>		
<b>Name of Project Manager(s):</b> <p style="text-align: center;">Tony Leingang</p>	<b>Phone Number:</b> <p style="text-align: center;">360-709-8002</p>	<b>E-Mail</b> <p style="text-align: center;">Tony.Leingang@wsdot.wa.gov</p>
<b>Lead Agency Project ID:</b> <p style="text-align: center;">TPF5494</p>	<b>Other Project ID (i.e., contract #):</b> <p style="text-align: center;">N/A</p>	<b>Project Start Date:</b> <p style="text-align: center;">January 31, 2022</p>
<b>Original Project End Date:</b> <p style="text-align: center;">March 31, 2027</p>	<b>Current Project End Date:</b> <p style="text-align: center;">March 31, 2027</p>	<b>Number of Extensions:</b> <p style="text-align: center;">0</p>

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
\$1,100,918.00	\$757,992.10	68.85%

**Quarterly** Project Statistics:

Total Project Expenses and Percentage This Quarter	Total Amount of Funds Expended This Quarter	Total Percentage of Time Used to Date
	\$80,414.86	68.85%

**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).
- \* WTI Task Order #8 - WSRTC Meeting Coordination, Western States Forum Travel Support and Website Maintenance (\$145,470).

**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**

This task order ended at the end of the quarter.

The Annual Meeting was held at the end of the quarter in conjunction with the Western States Forum. The project team prepared and distributed meeting materials and coordinated logistics. Minutes for the meeting were recorded. Travel support was coordinated, registrations and lodging reservations were made, and reimbursement requests were received, processed, and disbursed.

Correspondence and registrations for NRITS and ITE in Orlando, Florida, August 11 - 13, 2025, were completed.

Project management discussions were held including preparing for the end of the task and executing future task orders within the Pooled Fund. A balance spreadsheet of expenditures was updated along with a plan for the task's conclusion.

**Task 2: Western States Forum Support**

The 20th Annual Forum was held June 16-18, 2025, in Yreka, California, at the Best Western Miner's Inn. During the quarter, draft presentations were reviewed, and feedback provided to speakers. Registration continued along with planning for logistics. An agenda was established, a presentation preview site developed, and notebook materials compiled and printed. Name tags and certificates were made. Marketing support items were designed, ordered, and received. Speaker and service recognition items were also secured. Travel support was coordinated as well. The Forum website was updated. The project team and the steering committee facilitated all aspects of the event.

There were 41 participants from nine states, including 16 first time attendees. Participants represented seven departments of transportation, three universities, two research organizations, four Caltrans districts, and four Caltrans

### Anticipated work next quarter:

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

This task order concluded June 30, 2025. Work will continue as part of WSRTC Meeting Coordination, Western States Forum, Website Maintenance (A2 Phase 2 Task Order 8), 4WB514.

WTI Task Order #7 - Connected Vehicle Highway Grip Factor Reporting for Snowplows

Task 1: Project Management

Any remaining subaward paperwork will be finalized. A project fact sheet will be completed. A balance spreadsheet of expenditures will be updated.

Task 2: Literature Review / Background

The research team will review literature to characterize the state of the practice relative to connected vehicles, RWIS station to vehicle data communication in rural/remote locations, the use of virtual RWIS networks, and performance metrics used by agencies in winter operations. The review will specifically include identifying data elements used by agencies in CVs during winter operations. Information will also be sought on decision matrixes used, and processes and procedures agencies have in place.

The literature review report will be drafted and reviewed.

Task 3: State of the Practice for Winter Maintenance Decision Making Processes

In conjunction with the literature review, the research team will prepare two surveys to distribute within Caltrans and to other state agencies. These surveys will characterize the state of the practice for winter maintenance decision making processes.

Task 4: Evaluation of Virtual RWIS for Use in Road Weather Management Applications

The research team will begin identifying virtual RWIS providers



### Significant Results:

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

The annual WSRTC meeting was held on June 16, 2025.

The 20th Annual Western States Rural Transportation Technology Implementers Forum was held June 16-18, 2025.

The Forum website was updated.

Travel support and registrations were facilitated and disbursed for the Forum and WSRTC annual meeting, as well as the NRITS / ITE Conference.

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

The Kick Off meeting was held on April 11, 2025.

Subaward paperwork was facilitated.

WTI Phase 2 Task Order 8: WSRTC Meeting Coordination, Western States Forum, Website Maintenance

The annual WSRTC meeting was held on June 16, 2025.

The 20th Annual Western States Rural Transportation Technology Implementers Forum was held June 16-18, 2025.

Travel support and registrations were facilitated and disbursed for the Forum and WSRTC annual meeting, as well as the

**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, we plan 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.