

QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT

<i>Progress Report Date</i>	<i>Reporting Period</i>	<i>Project Start Date</i>	<i>Project End Date</i>
July 11, 2002	May 15, 2002 – June 30, 2002	May 15, 2002	December 31, 2003
<i>Project Title</i>			
CANAMEX Smart Tourist Corridor Action Plan			
<i>Principle Investigator</i>		<i>Sponsoring Agency Contact</i>	
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<i>Research Agency</i>		<i>Sponsoring Agency</i>	
Western Transportation Institute Montana State University, Bozeman		Montana Department of Transportation	
<i>Project Identification Number</i>		<i>Project Status</i>	
TPF-5 (049)	426536 (WTI)	Ahead <u>U</u> On Schedule Behind	
<p>PROJECT PROGRESS: Project contract was signed on May 15, 2002. WTI Principal Investigator (P.I.) and other senior staff attended CANAMEX Corridor Coalition (CCC) meeting in Phoenix on May 22, 2002; each made presentation to CCC regarding WTI approach to Smart Tourist Corridor Action Plan. In addition, P.I. raised the matter of timing for submission of Corridor projects for additional federal appropriations. It was suggested by Chairman Mendez that this subject be placed on the agenda for the August 29th CCC Quarterly meeting. During June 2002, integration of tasks to be performed by WTI project staff was initiated. Also, an expenditure and activity tracking system was initiated. Steps leading to implementation of outreach to tourism organizations were initiated. An outline of the final document was initiated and is approximately 50 % complete. The literature search and other “start-up” activities continued. On June 25th the “kickoff” meeting of state ITS Coordinators was held at the Salt Lake City airport. All states except AZ were represented; the AZ ITS Coordinator was unable to attend due to sudden family illness. (Tasks # 1 and 3) Minutes of that meeting were prepared and distributed.</p> <p>At the ITS Coordinator meeting, the P.I. reported on the outcome of the Coalition meeting referenced above. Other items discussed included: WTI and ITS Coordinators’ administrative responsibilities, methodologies WTI proposes to use for collection of existing information, proposed means by which to define the Corridor spatially, establishment of a Corridor oversight committee with representation including one ITS Coordinator, whom ITS Coordinators wished WTI staff to contact to collect various types of information, the potential need for interagency agreements to provide seamless information for tourists and other Corridor travelers, the relationship between tourists’ information / safety needs and the ITS supporting infrastructure, a generic description of the Corridor Operations Plan, the fact that homeland security would undoubtedly be an important part of the final product, a discussion of earmarks and their relevance to the CANAMEX project, interaction at some point with Yellowstone National Park and the state of WY, compatibility and status of each state’s 511 efforts and the appropriateness of inviting ITS Coordinators to attend meetings with key tourism organizations. (Task # 2). Minimal background work was conducted for the Corridor Operations Plan (Task 4). Preliminary discussions were conducted regarding GPS geo-location and GIS mapping. (Task</p>			

5). See attached sheets for schedule and budget information.

PROPOSED ACTIVITY: During the next Quarter (July-September), outreach to key tourist organizations will continue in MT, ID, and most likely UT. Existing infrastructure data collection will be initiated, with data being geo-located and layered in a GIS format. An assessment of the nature, quality and availability of necessary data for the project will be made. Information considered appropriate for the CANAMEX web page will be made available to the Executive Director for consideration. WTI staff will attend the August 29th CCC meeting in Butte (MT) and present planned vs. actual progress on the project. **(Tasks # 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5)**

PROBLEMS

No problems were encountered during this reporting period nor are any anticipated during the next Quarter.