**TRANSPORTATION POOLED FUND PROGRAM**

**QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT**

Date: **01/31/2012**

Lead Agency (FHWA or State DOT): **FHWA**

**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 #  ***5(243)*** | | 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)** | |
| Project Title:  **Motorcycle Crash Causation Study** | | | |
| Name of Project Manager(s):  **Craig Thor** | Phone Number:  **202-493-3338** | | E-Mail  **CraigThor@dot.gov** |
| Lead Agency Project ID: | Other Project ID (i.e., contract #):  **DTFH61-06-H-00034** | | Project Start Date:  **April 15, 2011** |
| Original Project End Date:  **March 31, 2015** | Current Project End Date:  **March 31, 2015** | | Number of Extensions:  **0** |

Project schedule status:

* On schedule □ On revised schedule □ Ahead of schedule □ Behind schedule

Overall Project Statistics:

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| **Total Project Budget** | **Total Cost to Date for Project** | **Percentage of Work**  **Completed to Date** |
| **$3,571,600** | **$139,590.66** | **10%** |

***Quarterly*** Project Statistics:

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| **Total Project Expenses**  **and Percentage This Quarter** | **Total Amount of Funds**  **Expended This Quarter** | **Total Percentage of**  **Time Used to Date** |
| **$68,165.26 (2% of budget)** | **$68,165.26** | **5%** |

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| **Project Description**:  Due to an alarming increase in motorcycle fatalities in the United States, Congress approved Federal funding for a motorcycle crash causation study as part of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU). The legislation specified that the Department of Transportation provide a grant to the Oklahoma Transportation Center to perform the research. The Motorcycle Crash Causation Study (MCCS) is meant to provide insight into the causative factors that lead to motorcycle crashes in the United States. A comprehensive database of approximately 1,600 data elements will be created from a collection of real-world motorcycle crash investigations and interviews of riders with similar risk factors. A research effort of this scale has not been conducted in the United States in 30 years. During this time, both the rider demographics and the motorcycles themselves have changed considerably and this new data source will make it possible to identify contemporary trends associated with motorcycle crashes. Study results may lead to the development of new roadway countermeasures, educational programs, and sound policy decisions that are rooted in a data-driven assessment of motorcycle safety. |

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| **Progress this Quarter (includes meetings, work plan status, contract status, significant progress, etc.):**  **Database and Coding Conventions**  In November, additional attributes for the object contacted/source of injury were suggested. Following review, modifications to both the object contacted codes on the Rider Occupant Injury form, and on the Motorcycle Dynamics form were adopted. The changes did not affect the data collection forms, since the original attributes were numerous and not included on the form. Rather than again modifying the coding manual, DSI created a Coding Conventions document that reflects changes to data elements and to protocol that continue to occur throughout the project. The revised attributes did require edits to the database, primarily to the ranges for edit checks. Other minor edits were also made to the database.  **Police Cooperation**  Following the September luncheon, two additional agencies have agreed to participate in the study. These include Fountain Valley PD, and Santa Ana PD. The complete list of cooperating agencies also includes: Anaheim PD; Buena Park PD; California Highway Patrol Headquarters (CHP), Capistrano, Santa Ana and Westminster Stations; Huntington Beach PD; La Habre PD; Orange County Sheriff’s Department; Westminster PD. Business cards with QR codes linking to the FHWA/MCCS website have been created and distributed to participating officials to enable them to easily track the progress of the study. |
| **Anticipated work next quarter**:   * Continue with data collection * Hold monthly conference calls with project team * Dr. Thor will visit the crash investigation team in Southern California |

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| **Significant Results:**  **Data Collection**  As of December 31, 56 cases have been initiated. Of these, 20 cases were dropped. Seventeen cases have been closed with all field work completed, and two controls obtained. A copy of the database including all current case and control data was provided to OSU in October. The data were transmitted via flash drive, and were password protected. An updated database is being prepared for delivery to OSU. |
| **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 collection of two controls for all cases has been an issue. Numerous discussions and brainstorming sessions have been held in an attempt to identify alternative options for increasing the collection of control data. As a result, increased signage is being used, the gas card given to all participants was raised from $20 to $40, utilizing alternative locations for collecting data near the crash scene, and other awareness efforts have been implemented. So far, the new methods are reportedly working well. |

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| **Potential Implementation:**  No potential implementation this quarter |