**TRANSPORTATION POOLED FUND PROGRAM**

**QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT**

Date: **04/30/2012**

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** | **$339,953.81** | **15%** |

***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** |
| **$200,363.15 (6% of budget)**  | **$200,363.15** | **10%** |

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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.):****Control Data Collection**A number of conversations have been held with the project team to discuss the challenges associated with the collection of control data. The primary issue has been recruiting enough voluntary stops from motorcyclists passing by. In an effort to improve the participation rate new signs were printed to increase visibility of the stop location, the value of the gas card received for participation was raised from $20 to $40, and the proximity limits of where the control rider stops can take place were relaxed. In all, the contractors are reporting significant improvement in the participation rate and have been able to collect two control rider interviews for 41 cases thus far.  |
| **Anticipated work next quarter**:* Continue with data collection
* Hold monthly conference calls with project team
* Discuss a revised Work Plan with Oklahoma State University (OSU)
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| **Significant Results:****Data Collection** As of March 31, 85 cases have been initiated. Of these, 24 cases were dropped. 40 cases have been closed with all field work completed, and two controls obtained. In addition, there are currently 21 cases in which data are still being collected. |
| **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).**OSU has made changes to their sub-contractor arrangements that began on 4/1/12. As a result, FHWA required that OSU submit a revised Work Plan that outlines the new roles and arrangements with the subcontractor and explains any technical changes that will affect the project. FHWA will review the new Work Plan before it is finalized. |

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