**TRANSPORTATION POOLED FUND PROGRAM**

**QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT**

Date: April 25, 2013

Lead Agency (FHWA or State DOT): Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development

**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(212) | | **Transportation Pooled Fund Program - Report Period:**  □XQuarter 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:**  Southeast Transportation Consortium | | | |
| **Name of Project Manager(s):**  Mark Morvant | **Phone Number:**  **225-767-9124** | | **E-Mail**  mark.morvant@la.gov |
| **Lead Agency Project ID:**  **LTRC No. 09-1PF** | **Other Project ID (i.e., contract #):**  **SIO No. 30000281** | | **Project Start Date:**  9/1/2009 |
| **Original Project End Date:**  **8/31/2012** | **Current Project End Date:**  **8/31/2015** | | **Number of Extensions:**  **1** |

Project schedule status:

□ On schedule x 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** |
| $300,000 | $ 75,250 | percentage varies by project |

***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** |
| $75,250 (25%) | $ 27,430 | 58 |

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| **Project Description**:  STC’s objectives are to pool financial, professional, and academic resources to coordinate research and develop improved methods of addressing common problems in the planning, design, construction, maintenance, management, and operation of transportation systems in participating states. The program is intended to supplement 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. The cooperative and collaborative objectives of the STC program are to develop synergy and provide for a more efficient use of resources. Specific objectives include   * Plan and conduct meetings to establish research priorities, share research findings, exchange information, and define direction of the organization. Each member may utilize funds for one representative from each organization to participate * Discuss and screen potential research projects and seek partners from the public, academic, and private sectors to collaborate on these projects and utilize available resources to ensure research is not duplicative * Conduct research studies * Communicate and disseminate research results and innovations through the use of communication products such as development and maintenance of a Web site, periodic electronic newsletter, and fact sheets * Put research results into practice through technology transfer events   Communicate impacts of the organization’s activities to national leaders in transportation |

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| **Progress this Quarter (includes meetings, work plan status, contract status, significant progress, etc.):**  **Program Management/Administrative Activities**  The annual meeting of the Southeastern Transportation Consortium (STC) meeting was held in Baton Rouge, LA on March 4-7, 2013. The meeting was hosted by Louisiana (lead state) at the Louisiana Transportation Research Center. The member states were represented as follows:  **NAMES STATE**  Mark Morvant (chair) LOUISIANA  Michelle Owens ALABAMA  Elisha Wight-Kehner ARKANSAS  David Jared GEORGIA  Joe Crabtree KENTUCKY  Cindy Smith MISSISSIPPI  Moy Biswas NORTH CAROLINA  Jimmy Smith VIRGINIA  Not represented TENNESSEE  Not represented WEST VIRGINIA  Meeting attendees also included the following as schedules allowed or as input was needed for specific session topics.  Skip Paul LTRC  Doc Zhang LTRC  Bill King LTRC  VJ Gopu LTRC  Kirk Zeringue LTRC  Michael Boudreaux LTRC  Allison Landry LTRC  Bridget LeBlanc LTRC  Joubert Harris LDOTD  Mary Stringfellow FHWA  Invited guests attending the meeting were:    Baabak Ashuri Georgia Institute of Technology  Hesham Ali Florida International University  Richard Sheffield Thompson Engineering  Thad Hooper Thompson Engineering  Trae Welch Thompson Engineering  Alex Aguilar Thompson Engineering  Joining the meeting by teleconference (go-to-meeting format) were:  Clark Graves Kentucky Transportation Research Center  Darryl Dockstader Florida Department of Transportation    Others viewing selected synthesis presentations  Illinois DOT  Ohio DOT  Georgia Institute of Technology  **STC Synthesis Projects:**  STC Syntheses Projects are technical summaries of research performed and state-of-the-practice reports prepared under contract by outside individuals or firms. These reports are oriented toward practical solutions of specific transportation problems. The specific objectives of a Synthesis of State-of-Practice are:   * To locate and assemble information; * To learn what practice has been used; * To identify ongoing and recently completed research; * To learn what problems remain largely unsolved; and * To organize, evaluate, and document the useful information acquired Best Practices for * ***BEST PRACTICES FOR DETERMINING VALUE OF RESEARCH RESULTS***   Babaak Ashuri   * + Presentation given (attached).   + Project still needs input from several states re: projects for which value was determined.   + Determination as to need for project extension will be made by the end of March.   + Draft report proposed to be provided to Value of Research Task Force at RAC annual meeting. * ***ASPHALT SURFACE TREATMENTS FOR PAVEMENT PRESERVATION***   Hesham Ali   * + Presentation given (attached).   + Project survey was late being released.   + Minimal response to survey received to date.   + Request to extend project was approved.   + Anticipated completion of project to be September 2013. * ***WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT AT CONSTRUCTION SITES***   Richard Sheffield, Thad Hopper, Trae Welch & Alex Aguilar   * + Presentation given (attached).   + Draft report submitted for TAC review.   + Comments from TAC to be addressed.   + Additional member state (NC DOT) research conducted on topic to be added to final report.   + Project expected to be completed on time. * ***REGIONAL IMPLEMENTATION OF WARM MIX ASPHALT***   Clark Graves   * + Presentation given via teleconference (attached).   + Project initiation was delayed significantly due to contact issues.   + Survey developed and reviewed by TAC.   + Survey comments to be addressed and distributed.   + Project expected to be completed on time.   + Presentation of research results to be presented at RAC annual meeting during regional breakout. * Requests for proposals were developed for approved synthesis topics:   + Transportation Funding Alternatives Now and in the Future   + Reflective Cracking Mitigation Strategies for Cracked Pavements   + Best Practices for Achieving and Measuring Pavement Smoothness   + Real-Time Driver Information for Congestion Management   **Collaborative Efforts**   * Timber Bridge Inspection Demonstration Project sponsored by the US Dept of Agriculture. Louisiana is the southeast regional research partner working through the STC to demonstrate the technology.   + LTRC updated members on current activities with pilot states: Louisiana, Alabama, North Carolina, & Georgia.   + Project demonstration and data collection should be complete by the end of the summer 2013. |
| **Anticipated work next quarter**:   * Continued update of state projects into database * Present status of activities Annual RAC meeting * Planning STC annual meeting in Baton Rouge * Manage contracts for the four active synthesis projects * (12-2PF, 12-3PF 12-5PF, 12-4PF)   STC SYNTHESIS OF RESEARCH RESULTS: REGIONAL IMPLEMENTATION OF WARM MIX ASPHALT  (LTRC PROJECT NO. 12-4PF, SIO NO. 30000542)   |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | T1 | Perform literature search |  | | T2 | Develop Survey |  |   SYNTHESIS OF BEST PRACTICES FOR DETERMINING VALUE OF RESEARCH RESULTS  (LTRC PROJECT NO. 12-3PF, SIO NO. 30000541)   |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | T5 | Draft the synthesis report: Best Practices for Determining Value of Research Results. |  | | T6 | Revise and Finalize the Best Practices Synthesis Report. |  |   SYNTHESIS OF ASPHALT SURFACE TREATMENTS FOR PAVEMENT PRESERVATION  (LTRC PROJECT NO. 12-2PF, SIO NO. 30000540)   |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | T3 | Analyze responses and develop a report | 30 days will be allowed for participants to complete the survey. Once survey is received, the the team will analyze the response and develop the final report. | |  | Extend time of project | Project will be extended by 3 months to allow time for survey |   STC SYNTHESIS OF RESEARCH RESULTS FOR WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT AT CONSTRUCTION SITES  (LTRC PROJECT NO. 12-5PF, SIO NO. 30000543)   |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | |  | Develop and submit final report |  | |  | Address any comments to final report |  | |  |  |  | |  |  |  | |

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| **Significant Results:**   * Developed database for member state research projects * Developed website for STC pooled fund program * Established the STC synthesis project program   + Initiated first series of synthesis projects identified above * Held annual meetings to promote collaboration among member states * First series of synthesis project nearing completion. Results will be distributed. |
| **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).**  This pooled fund project is a continued effort to collaborate resources for the southeast region member states. The tasks  are ever-evolving as member state set priorities on issues and collaboration opportunities. Administrative activities are accomplished by volunteers from member states as their work schedules allow. |

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| **Potential Implementation:**  In order to reduce redundancy of state research projects and promote transfer of knowledge on completed research, there exists a need to classify and quantify the focus, status and implementation of all member state research projects and programs. The STC Syntheses program was established to prepare technical summaries of research performed and state-of-the-practice reports prepared under contract by outside individuals or firms. These reports will be oriented toward practical solutions of specific transportation problems. The specific objectives of the synthesis are:   1. To focus on research projects conducted in the southeast region on a specific synthesis topic and issues; 2. To perform a literature search on the synthesis topic to identify other on-going or completed research; 3. To review the commonality of project scopes and methodology of studies performed in the STC region; 4. To review the commonality of project results, conclusions and recommendations; 5. To identify differences in results, conclusions and/or recommendations that would affect regional implementation and practice; 6. To review implementation status of individual state project results and recommendations; 7. To recommend applicability of applying research results to other states within the southeast region; 8. To recommend additional research (if needed) to enhance implementation within the region. 9. To organize, evaluate, and document the useful information acquired.   Completion of these synthesis reports will enhance implementation efforts for all states. |