

State of Wisconsin/Department of Transportation
RESEARCH PROGRESS REPORT FOR THE QUARTER ENDING: June 30, 2006

Program: TPF-5(119)	
Project Title: North Central Pavement Research Coordination Partnership (Frozen Four)	Project ID: 0092-06-40
Administrative Contact: Jim McDonnell	Sponsor: WHRP
WisDOT Technical Contact: Laura Fenley	Approved Starting Date: February 22, 2006
Approved by COR/Steering Committee: \$25,000	Approved Ending Date: February 22, 2008
Project Investigator (agency & contact): Hussain Bahia, UW-Madison	

Percent Complete: 45%

Project Description: The purpose of this pooled fund project is to maximize the coordination activities of four states in the upper Midwest. Those states include Wisconsin (the lead state), Minnesota, Michigan and Illinois. This purpose will be accomplished through three activities. Those activities are...

- 1) Development and maintenance of a Frozen Four website
- 2) Coordinate quarterly teleconferences
- 3) Coordinate face-to-face meetings

Progress This Quarter:

(Includes project committee mtgs, work plan status, contract status, significant progress, etc.)

A face to face meeting was held May 23 in Madison. The following topics were discussed.

- 1) The bylaws established at the February meeting were reviewed. No changes were recommended and the bylaws were approved.
- 2) No quarterly teleconferences have yet to be scheduled. The reason for this is because it was decided in the by the group that the partnership should meet at least one more time in person to clearly define the tasks and the responsibilities for each partner necessary to make the partnership successful. It is expected that teleconferences will be held once the general operations of the program have been established
- 3) The details of the May 23 meeting have not yet been posted on the Frozen Four website; however the meeting minutes have been attached to provide a detailed summary of the meeting. In summary, there were three major areas discussed:
 - a. Research Summary Spreadsheets: Discussed the format and content of spreadsheets that allow for the partners to efficiently search to identify common research areas. Also discussed the use of keywords to remedy the problem of project overlap.
 - b. Discussion of each individual state's research administration cycles and how to apply them to Frozen Four policies.
 - c. Discussion of common research areas and interests.

Work Next Quarter:

- 1) A well defined summary of the work required leading up to the next meeting can be found in the action items section of the attached meeting minutes. The next meeting will mainly be an evaluation in terms of quality and time requirements of the approach taken to summarize research topics for the August 29 meeting.
- 2) No quarterly teleconferences have yet to be scheduled.
- 3) The next face-to-face meeting has been scheduled for August 29, in Madison, Wisconsin.

Circumstances Affecting Progress/Budget:

None.

Meeting Minutes
North Central Pavement Research Coordination Partnership (Frozen Four)
Computer-Aided Engineering Building, Room 271
1415 Engineering Drive, Madison, WI
May 23, 2006

Attendees:

Hussain Bahia	WHRP	Roger Olson	Mn/DOT
Greg Waidley	WHRP	Shongtao Dai	Mn/DOT
John Glaze	WisDOT	Michael Eacker	MIDOT
Andrew Hanz	UW-Madison	Andrea Clover	MIDOT
Laura Fenley	WisDOT	Amy Schutzbach	ILDOT (conf. call)
Kim Linsenmayer	CTC & Associates		
Erland Lukanen	Univ. of Minnesota		
Ben Worel	Mn/DOT		

Review of Bylaws

The membership read through the bylaws that were established at the February meeting. No changes were needed and bylaws were approved.

Discussion Points

Kim lead the discussion and some of the points of note are as follows...

- Suggested that on the summary page, there could be hyperlinks to completed projects or implementation projects.
- Discussion of how to format the spreadsheets for optimal efficiency and ease of use
- It was decided that in the project tables, investigator names will be included but not contact info. Rather, a DOT contact will be included with contact info as this is more appropriate since it is the DOT's project.
- The Partnership liked the idea of generating key words, although the mechanism is still in question. Minnesota will create a list of key words for each of the research areas. The keywords are an effort to solve the problem of many projects being applicable to more than one of the predefined research areas. The keywords will allow users to access all pertinent project titles in any of the research areas.
- Hussain led a discussion of opportunities for coordination through an analysis of the overview that Kim presented. This included looking closely at the administrative process of each state's research program. Most of that time was spent on the issue of timing. It appears that Wisconsin operates about six months out of step with the other states. Illinois conducts the cycle twice per year, while Michigan makes funds available once every two years.

The Partnership then went through each of the research areas discussing the projects and any similar studies being conducted in other states.

Action Items (next steps):

- Kim will compile the responses from all states as to which projects are of particular interest to them in each of the four research areas. She will send out the four project tables including all of this information by **June 16th**.
- Each state representative will review the tables and decide which projects within the area of flexible pavements would be worth highlighting for the group in more detail. Each state will choose three completed projects, one project in progress and one proposed project.
- To help capture the detail about the selected flexible pavement projects, Kim will send an Excel table format for the states to use. The table will include fields for a project summary, findings, and recommendations/implementation activities. Kim will send out this table by **June 16**.
- Ben will pass on potential keyword options for the four research areas to Kim by **June 9th**. Kim will finalize these keywords with Hussain and get final input on them from the Frozen Four team.
- Kim will send out revised project tables that include columns for keyword selection, investigator names, report links, project ids, etc. by **June 23**.
- Each state representative will edit/update the projects in the four tables with the additional information requested, along with any additional projects. The tables need to be sent to Kim for posting online by **August 1**.
- Kim will post the revised tables by **August 9**. Frozen Four members will then meet with their colleagues internally to review the projects in their assigned area in preparation for leading a discussion at the next Frozen Four meeting. Assignments for leading discussions at the next meeting: Design-Illinois, Soils-Minnesota, Flexible-Wisconsin, Rigid-Michigan.
- It was suggested that each state track the amount of time it takes them to complete the assigned tasks in order to get an idea of how much effort the approach discussed in this meeting requires.
- The next Frozen Four meeting will take place on **August 29th**, either in Illinois or Wisconsin. The agenda will include:
 - discussion of potential analysis approaches for the selected flexible pavement research projects.
 - discussion of state activities and efforts related to mechanistic design.
 - discussion of research efforts by the states in all four research areas, as guided by the tables of projects.