

TRANSPORTATION POOLED FUND PROGRAM QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT

Lead Agency (FHWA or State DOT): Iowa Department of Transportation

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 of the current status, including accomplishments and problems encountered, if any. List all tasks, even if no work was done during this period.

Transportation Pooled Fund Program Project # TPF-5(290)		Transportation Pooled Fund Program - Report Period: Quarter 1 (January 1 – March 31, 2018) Quarter 2 (April 1 – June 30, 2018) X Quarter 3 (July 1 – September 30, 2018) Quarter 4 (October 1 – December 31, 2018)	
Project Title: Aurora Program			
Project Manager: Tina Greenfield		Phone: 515-233-7746	E-mail: tina.greenfield@dot.iowa.gov
Project Investigator: Neal Hawkins		Phone: 515-294-7733	E-mail: hawkins@iastate.edu
Lead Agency Project ID: RT 0034	Other Project ID (i.e., contract #): Addendum 156	Project Start Date: January 1, 2013	
Original Project End Date: May 31, 2019	Current Project End Date: – May 31, 2019	Number of Extensions:	

Project schedule status:

X On schedule On revised schedule Ahead of schedule Behind schedule

Overall Project Statistics:

Total Project Budget	Total Cost to Date for Project	Total Percentage of Work Completed
\$1,825,000	\$604,561.17	

Quarterly Project Statistics:

Total Project Expenses This Quarter	Total Amount of Funds Expended This Quarter	Percentage of Work Completed This Quarter
\$93,296	N/A	

Project Description:

The Aurora Program is a consortium of public agencies focused on collaborative research, evaluation, and deployment of technologies for detailed road weather monitoring and forecasting. Members seek to implement advanced road weather information systems (RWIS) that fully integrate state-of-the-art roadway and weather forecasting technologies with coordinated, multi-agency weather monitoring infrastructures; ultimately lessening adverse impacts of inclement weather.

Progress this Quarter (includes meetings, work plan status, contract status, significant progress, etc.). These efforts are identified below.

Program Administrative Activities:

- Completed all Spring 2018 meeting details (financial, contract, reimbursements).
- Addressed all board correspondence, administrative items resulting from meetings.
- Provided program management in terms of projects and program budgets.
- Planned all of the Fall 2018 pre-meeting details.

Facilitate Meetings and Conference Calls:

- Finalized details for Fall 2018 meeting field trips, including Ohio State University and Ohio DOT.
- Contracted with the hotel for the Fall 2018 meeting.
- Invited speakers to Fall meeting and finalized agenda.
- Processed travel arrangements for all invited guests and Aurora members for Fall 2018 meeting.
- Prepared Board meeting presentations.
- Prepared Aurora overview presentation for members to present at various conferences and meetings.
- Contracted with hotel for Fall 2018 meeting in Columbus, Ohio.
- Established schedule for monthly Board meeting calls to generate research ideas and discuss important issues.
- Contacted Friends of Aurora regarding participation in the Fall 2018 meeting.
- Coordinated with NCAR for presentation during the August Board meeting call.
- Facilitated discussions via auroraboard@iastate.edu, specifically related to RWIS equipment.
- Hosted Board member conference calls on:
 - August 9, 2018, 2018
 - September 13, 2018

Processing Travel Requests, Travel Reimbursements, and Meeting Expenses:

- Scheduled travel for Fall 2018 meeting in Columbus, Ohio.

Project-Specific Activities:

- Tracked project status and prepared a summary for recently completed, active, and all prospective new projects.
- Investigated mechanisms for awarding and contracting the two draft scopes of work for the prospective new projects developed last quarter.
 - Guidelines on the use of Invasive and Non-Invasive Sensors, Phase I Existing Capabilities and Limitations
 - RWIS Life Cycle Costing
- Investigated current research relevant to prospective new projects.
- Corrected link to project report:
http://www.aurora-program.org/pdf/seasonal_weight_restriction_models_w_cvr.pdf
- Continued work associated with assuming control and management of the RWIS training tool (Amazon Web Service), including monthly billing. A demonstration was provided by Tina Greenfield (Iowa DOT) during the August Board meeting call.
- Contacted current research project principal investigators to submit abstracts for an Aurora-related poster session at the 2019 TRB Annual Meeting.

Outreach and Membership:

- Continued to engage Washington, prior to funding submission to become a new Aurora member.

TPF Program Standard Quarterly Reporting Format

- Continued to update Friends of Aurora list.
- Responded to questions regarding Autonomous Vehicle Technology Pool Fund.
- Coordinated with NCAR for presentation during the August Board meeting call.

Anticipated work next quarter:

Program Administrative Activities:

- Begin planning and making arrangements for Spring 2019 meeting.

Facilitate Meetings and Conference Calls:

- Continue monthly Board meeting calls to generate research ideas and discuss important issues.
- Facilitate project correspondence and status reports.
- Begin planning efforts for coordinating Spring 2019 meeting.

Processing Travel Requests, Travel Reimbursements, and Meeting Expenses:

- Begin contracting for the 2019 Spring meeting hotel.
- Process travel reimbursement requests.

Project-Specific Activities:

- Issue RFPs for two prospective projects.
- Expand list of prospective projects.
- Project updates for each project and research team.
- Track project status with champions and team members.
- Track project timelines and distribute project materials.
- Update project status reports.
- Develop scopes for new projects per Board discussion at the Fall 2018 meeting.

Outreach and Membership:

- Work on continuation of Aurora pooled fund.
- Update membership roster.
- Communicate with states to renew.
- Communicate with new member representatives.
- Communicate with potential new states.

Significant Results:

- Finalized contracting for the 2018 Fall meeting hotel.
- Worked with members and invited guests to arrange for travel to the 2018 Fall meeting
- Purchased air travel and establish hotel rooming list
- Made final meeting arrangements for food, field trips, meeting space, speakers..
- Continued monthly Board meeting calls.

Circumstance affecting project or budget: