

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 (435)		Transportation Pooled Fund Program - Report Period: Quarter 1 (January 1 – March 31, 2020) Quarter 2 (April 1 – June 30, 2020) Quarter 3 (July 1 – September 30, 2020) X Quarter 4 (October 1 – December 31, 2020)	
Project Title: Aurora Program			
Project Manager: Tina Greenfield		Phone: 515-233-7746	E-mail: tina.greenfield@dot.iowa.gov
Project Investigator: Zach Hans		Phone: 515-294-8103	E-mail: zhans@iastate.edu
Lead Agency Project ID:	Other Project ID (i.e., contract #): Addendum 731	Project Start Date: January 1, 2020	
Original Project End Date: December 31, 2020	Current Project End Date:	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
\$425,000	\$65,483.57	

Quarterly Project Statistics:

Total Project Expenses This Quarter	Total Amount of Funds Expended This Quarter	Percentage of Work Completed This Quarter
\$11,870.57	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:

- Coordinated with states regarding new (or interim) Board representatives.
- Managed Aurora email list. In some cases, states requested multiple individuals be included in Aurora-related correspondence.
- Continued tracking state commitments.
- Provided existing commitment levels to Ohio and coordinated regarding their 2020 commitment.
- Facilitated discussions via auroraboard@iastate.edu, including
 - RWIS RFPs
 - RWIS contract service
 - DTN Total View & High Sierra IceSight Sensor
- Upon request, provided name of Utah's Aurora representative to Utah DOT's State Engineer for Maintenance.
- Provided current list of active and pending Aurora project to Ohio DOT.
- Provided program management in terms of projects and program budgets.
- Prepared presentations about Aurora for members to discuss at the following meetings.
 - TRB 2021
- Updated Aurora website content, including mini-RWIS article, noteworthy practices (Iowa), etc.
- Addressed question regarding Aurora website access.
- Provided example quarterly report to new project research team.

Facilitate Meetings and Conference Calls:

- Facilitated or participated in all project-related meetings.
- Held virtual Fall 2020 meeting on the following dates. The three October dates focused on "round robin" discussions. The November date focused on general Aurora business.
 - October 8 (in place of the regular monthly meeting)
 - October 13
 - October 14
 - November 12 (in conjunction with the regular monthly meeting)
- Facilitated "Using Connected Vehicle Technology to Improve Network-wide RWIS Coverage" Task Force meeting on October 14 to further scope the potential project.
- Hosted Board member 60-Minute monthly conference calls on the following dates.
 - October 8 – superseded by Fall meeting
 - November 12
 - TPF-5(290) Financial
 - TPF-5(435) Financial
 - TPF-5(435) Work Plan, Charter, Rules Updates
 - Project Updates
 - Publications Update

- Final Project Presentation (2014-01 “Demonstration and Inter-comparison of Seasonal Weight Restriction Models, Phase 2)
- December 10
 - TPF-5(435) CY 2021 Support
 - Spring 2021 Meeting Planning
 - Project Updates
 - Aurora Committees
 - Project Areas of Interest

Processing Travel Requests, Travel Reimbursements, and Meeting Expenses:

- None this quarter.

Project-Specific Activities:

- General
 - Tracked project status and prepared a summary for recently completed and active projects.
 - Distributed quarterly reports and invoices for project team approval.
- Facilitated "Using Connected Vehicle Technology to Improve Network-wide RWIS Coverage" Task Force meeting on October 14 to further scope the potential project.
- 2020-02 “Roadway Ice/snow Detection using a Novel Infrared Thermography Technology”.
 - Updated draft quarterly report with pertinent Aurora-related details.
 - Distributed quarterly report to project team.
- 2020-03 Roadway Friction Modeling
 - Facilitated kick-off meeting on December 2.
 - Coordinated in scheduling Task 2 review meeting on January 12.
 - Participated in review of project-related materials and solicitation of information from Board members.

Anticipated work next quarter:

Program Administrative Activities:

- Continue Aurora website updates.
- Follow up with Ontario regarding membership.
- Manage budget.
- Track new solicitation contributions.
- Update the Aurora Charter, Work Plan and Associate Members.

Facilitate Meetings and Conference Calls:

- Continue monthly Board meeting calls to generate research ideas, discuss important issues and have vendor presentations.
- Plan for Spring 2021 virtual meeting

Processing Travel Requests, Travel Reimbursements, and Meeting Expenses:

- None anticipated next quarter as the meetings in the near future will be virtual.

Project-Specific Activities:

- Hold project meeting for “Roadway Friction Modeling: Improving the Use of Friction Measurements in State DOTs”
TPF Program Standard Quarterly Reporting Format

- Track project status and timelines.
- Request quarterly reports from research teams.
- Distribute project materials/updates and invoices (for approval) to project teams.
- Schedule and host project meetings.
- Maintain list of project champions and team members.
- Initiate "Using Connected Vehicle Technology to Improve Network-wide RWIS Coverage" Task "Roadway Friction Modeling: Improving the Use of Friction Measurements in State DOTs".

Significant Results:

- Continued monthly Board meeting calls.
- Planned and held Fall 2020 virtual meeting over several days.
- Communicated with new Aurora representatives.
- Held task force meeting (October 14) to refine scope of "Using Connected Vehicle Technology to Improve Network-wide RWIS Coverage".
- Held kick-off meeting for 2020-03 Roadway Friction Modeling.

Circumstance affecting project or budget: