# TRANSPORTATION POOLED FUND PROGRAM
# QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT

Lead Agency (FHWA or State DOT): FHWA Office of Planning

**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.*

| **Transportation Pooled Fund Program Project #** *(i.e, SPR-2(XXX), SPR-3(XXX) or TPF-5(XXX)* TPF5(154) | **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:** Census Transportation Planning Products (CTPP) | | |
| **Name of Project Manager(s):** Elaine Murakami | **Phone Number:** 206-220-4460 | **E-Mail** elaine.murakami@dot.gov |
| **Lead Agency Project ID:** | **Other Project ID (i.e., contract #):** | **Project Start Date:** |
| **Original Project End Date:** | **Current Project End Date:** Sept 30, 2012 | **Number of Extensions:** |

Project schedule status:

☐ On schedule ☐ On revised schedule ☐ Ahead of schedule ☑ Behind schedule

Overall Project Statistics:

| Total Project Budget | Total Cost to Date for Project | Percentage of Work Completed to Date |
|---|---|---|
| $1,565,697 | $1,525,697 | 80% |

***Quarterly*** Project Statistics:

| Total Project Expenses and Percentage This Quarter | Total Amount of Funds Expended This Quarter | Total Percentage of Time Used to Date |
|---|---|---|
| 24,628 (CB) | 1,000 (CB) | 80% |

**Project Description**:

In 1990 and again in 2000, AASHTO partnered with all of the states on pooled fund projects to support the development of special census products and data tabulations for transportation. These census transportation data packages have proved invaluable in understanding characteristics about where people live and work, their journey to work commuting patterns, and the modes they use for getting to work. Significant cost savings were achieved by using a nationwide coordinated approach, and resulted in data availability at detailed geography (census tract and TAZs where specified) for the entire nation.

The American Community Survey is the replacement for the decennial census "long form" and requires multiple years of data accumulation before small area tabulations can be released. Because of this change in survey methods, a research project to improve the useability of the data for transportation planning is needed.

Objectives: To provide data tabulations from the American Community Survey (ACS) that are designed specifically for the needs of transportation planners. This data project will be called Census Transportation Planning Products (CTPP). This will include tabulations for residence, workplace, and flow between home and work. Both 3-year ACS data aggregates, and 5-year ACS data aggregates will be used for the tabulations. The geographic level of detail for the 5-year ACS will include Transportation Analysis Zones (TAZs) and census tracts. The data will be distributed to State DOTs and MPOs using the best format available which may include Internet or CDs and DVDs.

In addition to data tabulations, the project will include technical support, training and capacity building, research, and project oversight. Scope of Work: The CTPP includes five major components: data tabulations, on-demand technical support, training and capacity building, research, and project oversight.

**Progress this Quarter (includes meetings, work plan status, contract status, significant progress, etc.):**

The major work accomplished this quarter was the Transportation Analysis Zones (TAZ) and Transportation Analysis Districts (TAD) submissions to the Census Bureau Geography Division. This included Census Bureau distribution of the TAZ Module of the MTPS software to over 200 participants (State DOTs and MPOs), assisting software users with technical questions, and the receipt of the completed files from the participants. The Census Bureau Geography Division will now incorporate these TAZ and TAD boundaries into the TIGER file for use in the CTPP 5-year tabulation.

The Census Bureau JTW+Migration staff completed their programming design and documentation, and the ACS Office has hired a contract programmer to implement the coding for "workplace allocation." This step is to implement a system to provide block level geocoding for workplace locations for which insufficient information has been provided on the ACS form. Approximately 25% of workers fall into this category. The allocation system relies on 4 additional variables for imputing a workplace location: industry and occupation, travel time and travel mode. Different steps are used for people who commute by private vehicle, compared to those who commute using public transit, by bike, and by walk.

Ms. Liang Long, from Cambridge Systematics, finalized her test code for the new CTPP profile sheets which will include all counties, and all places and will rely on the 2006-2010 ACS (5-year tabulation), the 2010 decennial Census, and the CTPP 2000 results. In addition she provided technical support via telephone, email, and conducted on-site training in California. She prepared the August issue of the CTPP Status Report, and submitted it for FHWA Public Affairs review. She attended the Association of Public Data Users' (APDU) Conference, where she learned about census plans for 2012.

Penelope Weinberger, on behalf of AASHTO submitted the formal 2006-2010 CTPP table request to Mr. James Treat at

**Anticipated work next quarter**:

TRB Census conference scheduled for October 25-27, 2011 at Beckman Center, Irvine, CA. CB will participate in several sessions, including Deputy Director, Tom Messenborg as the keynote speaker, Ron Jarmin on ACS research, Alison Fields on current ACS activities, and Melanie Rapino and Brian McKenzie on workplace allocation coding.

Continued work to implement computer programming for workplace allocation and for disclosure protection using the results of the NCHRP 08-79 project.

**Significant Results:**

Transportation Analysis Zones (TAZ) and Transportation Analysis Districts (TAD) were submitted to the Census Bureau Geography Division. The Census Bureau Geography Division will now incorporate these TAZ and TAD boundaries into the TIGER file for use in the 2006-2010 CTPP tabulation.

**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).**

There is $336,000 remaining at the Census Bureau. The Census Bureau requires payment in advance, so a quarterly payment plan was initiated at the beginning of the project and modified once after the TAZ program was delayed. As of October 1, there is only $39,882 remaining to be paid from the Pooled Fund account to the Census Bureau.

October 1 is the beginning of the federal fiscal year. Congressional delays may impact this project, including attendance to the TRB Census conference (see below), progress on computer programming conducted by contractors at the Census Bureau. If there are delays in computer programming the delivery date (expected January 2013) of the 2006-2010 CTPP (AASHTO contract deliverable, and not part of this IAA) may be delayed.

The Census Bureau Geography Division is requesting additional funds for transferring the TAZ file to the ACSO, and the amount is under negotiation. CB and FHWA will be discussing this amount and the overall impact to this IAA.

**Potential Implementation:**