**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 (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 #**  SPR-3(042) | | **Transportation Pooled Fund Program - Report Period:**  Quarter 1 (January 1 – March 31, 2012)  X Quarter 2 (April 1 – June 30, 2012)  □ Quarter 3 (July 1 – September 30, 2012)  Quarter 4 (October 4 – December 31, 2012) | |
| **Project Title:** Aurora Program | | | |
| **Project Manager:** Chris Albrecht **Phone:** 515-294-7684 **E-mail:** calbrecht@iastate.edu | | | |
| **Project Investigator:** Neal Hawkins **Phone:** 515-294-7733 **E-mail:** hawkins@iastaste.edu | | | |
| **Lead Agency Project ID:** | **Other Project ID (i.e., contract #):** | | **Project Start Date:**  1996 - Ongoing Pooled Fund |
| **Original Project End Date:**  Ongoing Pooled Fund | **Current Project End Date:**  Ongoing | | **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** |
| $3,737,500.00 | $3,726,994.00 | Ongoing Pooled Fund |
|  |  |  |

***Quarterly*** Project Statistics:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Total Project Expenses**  **This Quarter** | **Total Amount of Funds**  **Expended This Quarter** | **Percentage of Work Completed**  **This Quarter** |
| $33,189.92 | N/A | Ongoing Pooled Fund |

**Project Description:**

The Aurora Program is a successful consortium of public agencies focused on collaborative research, evaluation, and deployment of advanced 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. Aurora’s projects are designed to improve the efficiency of highway maintenance and distribute effective information to travelers. These initiatives are expected to result in advancement and improvement of existing RWIS, significantly reducing the adverse impacts of inclement weather on mobility.

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

Program Administrative Activities:

* Forwarded and responded to various emails and miscellaneous requests to board members.
* Coordinated boar discussion of the future of the Clarus Initiative
* Maintained and updated a large portion of the RWIS Knowledge Base website and the program website.
* Planned one board web meeting and one administrative call.

Facilitate Meetings and Conference Calls:

* Facilitated ongoing project and FY2012 research proposal correspondences.
* Planned some of the upcoming September 2012 on-site board meeting.
* Produced numerous materials and presentations for the meetings, including the TRB conference in Coralville.
* Made presentations for both the TRB Committee on Winter Maintenance (AHD65) and Committee on
* Drafted minutes for calls.

Processing Travel Requests, Travel Reimbursements, and Meeting Expenses:

* Coordinated reimbursements for the March 2012 on-site board meeting.
* Planned travel for SCOM meeting in Seattle

Project-Specific Activities:

* Updated several project status reports and summarized them for the board meetings and pooled fund website quarterly report.
* Communicated with project teams.
* Coordinated editorial reviews of project documents.
* Distributed project materials for various projects.

Outreach and Membership:

* Coordinated start of next e-news.
* Followed up with a few agencies concerning membership issues.
* Prepared for the AASHTO SCOM meeting in Seattle.

**Anticipated work next quarter:**

Program Administrative Activities:

* Develop additional meeting and call agendas.
* Updated the main program website and maintained the RWIS Knowledge Base website.
* Distribute specific Aurora project documents to board and individual project team members.

Facilitate Meetings and Conference Calls:

* Plan and facilitate the September on-site meeting in Toronto.
* Facilitate and document web meetings in July.
* facilitate project correspondence.
* Produce numerous materials and presentations for the on-site meeting and calls.
* Participate in the AASHTO SCOM meeting.

Processing Travel Requests, Travel Reimbursements, and Meeting Expenses:

* Coordination of travel reimbursements for September 2012 meeting.
* Coordinate early travel for Toronto meeting.

Project-Specific Activities:

* Updated project status reports.
* Track project status with champions and team members.
* Facilitate discussions with each research project team.
* Track project timelines and distribute project materials.

Outreach and Membership:

* Review membership status and contact SP&R representatives from member agencies.
* Draft final July e-news articles.

**Significant Results:**

To date, 43 research projects have been completed by the program. Very good progress has been made on several ongoing research efforts in the past quarter.

**Circumstance affecting project or budget (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).**

A project status report detailing individual Aurora research efforts is available. These ongoing research projects are:

* 2007-01: RWIS Equipment Monitoring System, Phase 2 ($135,000) = 5% complete
* 2007-04: Development of a Freezing Drizzle Algorithm ($85,000) = 95% complete
* 2007-05: Multiple-Use ITS Data Collection Sites ($15,000) = 15% complete
* 2008-01: National Road Weather Testing Program ($11,000) = 20% complete
* 2008-03: MDSS Demonstration in Canada ($75,000 in-kind)= 75% complete
* 2009-01: Evaluation and Inter-comparison of the Lufft R2S ($55,000) = 50% complete
* 2009-04: Road Weather Education Enhancements ($20,000) = 35% complete
* 2009-05: Further Development of PPAES ($83,000) = 50% complete
* 2010-01: Enhancements of AI/RWIS CBT ($50,000) = 65% complete
* 2010-02: Mobile-Weather Data Collection Guidelines ($25,000) = 10% complete
* 2010-03: Development of Models for Standards ($120,000) = 75% complete
* 2010-04: RWIS Sensor Density Grid ($100,000) = 5% complete
* 2010-05: Determining RPU and Sensor Failure ($5,000) = 10% complete
* 2011-02: RWIS Training Tool (200,000) = 10% complete
* 2011-03: Benefit/Costs and Instruction for Migrating to Open RWIS ($75,000) = 5% complete
* 2011-04: Study of MDSS Costs ($20,000) = 5% complete
* 2011-05: Funding Sources Identification ($5,000) = 5% complete