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ODOT Quarterly Report Form.

Please make copies of this form for each quarter, as needed. Electronic version can be obtained from our website (www.dot.state.oh.us/divplan/research).

Quarters end on the following dates:

March 31,
June 30,
September 30,
December 31.

Within **one month** of the above dates, your quarterly report(s) must be submitted **directly** to the Office of Research and Development. If you submit paper copies, the following must be sent: **1** original report with a cover letter, and **4** copies.

In lieu of printed copies, quarterly reports may be submitted electronically in “doc,” “wpd,” or “pdf” formats. The subject line should read “Quarterly report: State Job #____.” Electronic submission must be made to **Research@dot.state.oh.us**.

**OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
QUARTERLY RESEARCH REPORT**



For Quarter Ending

Date Submitted: June 30, 2006

Project Title: Upper Midwest Freight Corridor Study, Phase II

Research Agency: University of Wisconsin-Madison

Principal Investigator(s): Teresa Adams, UW-Madison

Mark Vonderembse, University of Toledo

Peter Lindquist, University of Toledo

State Job No.: 134263

Agreement No.: 20940

Pooled Fund Study No. (if applicable): TPF5(118)

Project Start Date: Sept. 1, 2005 Contract Funds Approved: \$140,000

Project Completion Date: Nov. 1, 2006 Spent To Date: not available at time of report

Funds Expended: not available at time of report

Work Done: 75% Time Expired: 75%

List the Technical Liaisons and other individuals who should receive copies of this report: Kelly Brooker (ODOT), Jerry Workman (ODOT), Don Fisher (ODOT)

SUMMARY OF PROGRESS FOR QUARTER:

Attach a progress schedule consisting of graphical information depicting (1) a schedule of research activities tied to the tasks defined in the proposal, (2) a comparative status of actual versus estimated expenditures, and (3) a percentage completion of the research.

Tasks to Complete Project:

UW-Madison Tasks:

Task 1: Maintain and Improve Regional Information System

This task is currently subcontracted to the University of Toledo and is progressing on schedule. Complete details are posted to the Midwest Freight View website at <http://midwestfreight.utoledo.edu>.

Task 2: Outreach on Importance of Freight and Regional Collaborations (materials, presentations, and communication links)

Next step is to attend the AASHTO Mississippi Valley Executive Meeting on July 13, 2006 and discuss the region. Possibly obtain more states to buy into the regional coalition.

Task 3: Research Experts for Consultation

Completed in 1st quarter, December 31, 2005.

Task 4: Conduct Interviews

Completed in 1st quarter, December 31, 2005.

Task 5: Draft White Papers

Completed in 1st quarter, December 31, 2005.

Task 6: November Meeting

Completed in 1st quarter, December 31, 2005.

Task 7: Review and Approve White Paper Document

Completed in 2nd quarter, March 31, 2006.

Task 8: Revise White Paper Document as Needed

Completed in 2nd quarter, March 31, 2006

Task 9: Draft Regional Freight Agenda

Completed in 2nd quarter, March 31, 2006.

Task 10: April Meeting

The April meeting was April 25 and 26. Several things were accomplished at the meeting such as comments on the regional agenda, voting of corridor tasks for the present and future, and input about

Task 11: Prepare and Submit Regional Agenda Document for Review

The Regional Agenda has been reviewed by committees and has been

submitted for review by ODOT.

Task 12: Review Regional Agenda

Will begin in July by ODOT.

Task 13: Revise Regional Agenda Document as Needed

Will start in 4th quarter.

Task 14: Quarterly Reports

This is the third quarterly report to be submitted for this project. This task is on track according to the timeline.

A subcontract was given to the University of Toledo to complete the following tasks.

University of Toledo Tasks:

Task 15: Improve Documentation of Existing Information

Revisions to the metadata continue and are still awaiting insertion in the MWFV gateway web site when additional data layers are inserted into the system. The MWFV Users Guide needed to be revised due to expansion and changes in the server configuration. Ten copies of the User's Guide were printed for distribution at the April 25-26 Meeting in Columbus. The revised users guide awaits reposting as a .pdf file on the MWFV gateway web site. New documentation is also being prepared for the new data that will be inserted into MWFV. Reloading of MWFV began during May and June, 2006.

Task 16: Develop a Routine Layout to Answer Questions

Some revisions to the Toledo project web page were completed to handle questions via email link for users of the system.

Task 17: Begin Dialogue on Freight Modes

A questionnaire was circulated among participants at the April 25-26 meeting in Columbus. This questionnaire was structured to provide feedback from intended users of the system as to their data needs, priorities, interests and capabilities. Results from the survey are being used to modify the information resource at the Toledo site.

Task 18: Review Data Sources

Work on this portion began with a survey of truck traffic volume data on interstate highways and some initial discussions were made with respect to cooperating with the Regional Traffic Operations Partners. We are also pursuing additional data from commercial sources (Info USA, Business Analyst, PIERS, GTIS, etc.) for inclusion into the MWFV information distribution resource. This work has continued from the last

quarter. Additional FAF source data were also looked at and some initial conversations were held with FHWA for data sharing of travel times. We are also planning further dialog with state agencies to obtain truck volumes on highways from their data centers.

Task 19: Improve Dialog between Freight System Users

A formal presentation to the group was delivered at the April 26 Workshop, serving as a formal launching point for further dialog with freight system users and providing some guidelines as to how we can maintain a continuous dialog based on internet-based communication linked to the MWFV information distribution resource.

Task 20: Upgrade and Refine Data Resources

This portion of the project included expansion of the highway system data to include travel time data on all links—particularly those in metropolitan areas. Travel times by hour of the day and day of the week have been encoded for Chicago and Milwaukee. Mean travel times by link and the 98th percentile confidence intervals are included in the database. These data will then be included in the MWFV Data Delivery Site for both performance evaluation and time-sensitive vehicle routing within this system. We have consolidated highway data from a wider variety of sources to include routine variables (e.g., speed limits, lanes, 16' clearance, etc.). We are also going to seek some assistance from FHWA's FAF office to obtain more travel time data for rural highways and other metro areas not currently encoded. OD data from FAF was also inspected for highway travel.

Maritime data in the Great Lakes dealing with port facilities was also assembled and is ready for insertion into the MWFV information delivery system.

The percentages done within each task can be viewed in the graph below.

PROPOSED WORK FOR NEW QUARTER:

Plan to attend the Mississippi Valley Board of Directors meeting on July 13, 2006, to discuss Upper Midwest Freight Corridor Project.

Volume II documents will go for review at ODOT.

Final report will be edited, printed, and distributed following review.

IMPLEMENTATION (if any):

The Mississippi Valley Meeting in July will offer the first opportunity to bring the key items from the April meeting before the CEOs and gain their buy in.

For current information, visit the Midwest Freight View website at <http://www.midwestfreight.utoledo.edu/> Data website is partially up and running.

PROBLEMS & RECOMMENDED SOLUTIONS (if applicable):

Describe any problems encountered or anticipated that might affect the completion of the project within the time, scope, and fiscal constraints set forth in the contract, along with recommended solutions to those problems. NOTING DIFFICULTIES IN THIS SECTION DOES **NOT** CONSTITUTE A REQUEST TO MODIFY THE PROJECT. Requests for additional time, money, or scope revisions must be submitted in a separate letter to the Office of R&D Administrator.

None

EQUIPMENT PURCHASED (if any):

None.

CONTACTS & MEETINGS:

Describe any meetings or contacts with ODOT technical liaisons and other pertinent individuals relative to this project.

Several Teleconferences were held with the Research Team. These teleconferences were to keep the work on task and to prepare for the April Conference in Ohio.

Attendees of the Bi-weekly Teleconferences:

Teresa Adams	MRUTC
Jason Bittner	MRUTC
Sam Van Hecke	MRUTC
Kamal Kannan	MRUTC
Raine Gardner	MRUTC
Jiwan Gupta	University of Toledo
Mark Vonderembse	University of Toledo
Peter Lindquist	University of Toledo
Kazuya Kawamura	University of Illinois-Chicago
Ernie Wittwer	Wittwer Consulting

April 25-26 Conference in Columbus, OH: Several state, federal, and private sector representatives joined the conference to discuss the Upper Midwest Freight Corridor Study. Howard Wood of ODOT, Deputy Director of Planning, was the key note speaker to open up the conference. The regional agenda was discussed and laid out. Group breakout discussions were held to analyzed the categories of concern to the region from most urgent to less. See <http://www.uppermidwestfreight.org/> for more details about the conference.

Two teleconferences were held in February and March and a workshop in Columbus, OH on April 24, 2006, focused on traffic and commercial vehicle operations. They were exploratory meetings, held in conjunction with the Upper Midwest Freight Corridor Study, with a collection of Midwest-based organizations with an interest in enhancing interstate traffic and commercial vehicle operations and sharing of traveler information. The organizations represented in discussions about a potential Upper Midwest Traffic

Operations Coalition organization. Attendees included seven state DOTs, FHWA, researchers, and private sector stakeholders.