

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: X Quarter 1 (January 1 – March 31, 2019) Quarter 2 (April 1 – June 30, 2019) Quarter 3 (July 1 – September 30, 2019) Quarter 4 (October 1 – December 31, 2019)	
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
\$1,975,000	\$673,797.65	

Quarterly Project Statistics:

Total Project Expenses This Quarter	Total Amount of Funds Expended This Quarter	Percentage of Work Completed This Quarter
\$43,902.80	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:

- Addressed all board correspondence, administrative items resulting from meetings.
- Provided program management in terms of projects and program budgets.
- Planned all of the Spring 2019 pre-meeting (including financial and contract) and meeting details.
- Conducted the Spring 2019 meeting.
- Began processing Spring 2019 meeting reimbursements.
- Prepared draft 2019 Work Plan.
- Supported release of new TPF solicitation (<https://www.pooledfund.org/Details/Solicitation/1496>)
- Interacted with New Jersey about possible membership. Follow up is necessary.
- Participated in conference call with Friend of Aurora (FOA) member discussing possible opportunities for Aurora to expand engagement with FOA and other vendors.
- Participated in conference call with a university (and research Aurora researcher) regarding possible opportunities and manners in which research ideas may be submitted to Aurora.
- Updated existing budget.
- Participated in planning calls for 2020 International Road weather and Winter Maintenance Conference & Peer Exchange.
- Began updating the Aurora website (<https://aurora-program.org/>), following the content freeze, including member login area.

Facilitate Meetings and Conference Calls:

- Finalized details for Spring 2019 meeting field trips, including CalTrans TMC and Scripps Lab at UC San Diego.
- Contracted with the hotel for the Spring 2019 meeting in San Diego, California
- Invited speakers to Spring 2019 meeting and finalized agenda.
- Processed travel arrangements for all invited guests and Aurora members for Spring 2019 meeting.
- Prepared Board meeting presentations.
- Prepared Aurora overview presentation for members to present at various conferences and meetings.
- Established schedule for monthly Board meeting calls to generate research ideas, discuss important issues and receive project status reports. This included 2018-01 RWIS Life Cycle Cost Analysis and 2014-01 Seasonal Weight Restrictions, Phase 2.
- Facilitated discussions via auroraboard@iastate.edu, specifically related to RWIS equipment.
- Hosted Board member conference calls on:
 - January 10, 2018, 2019
 - February 14, 2019
 - March 14, 2019

Processing Travel Requests, Travel Reimbursements, and Meeting Expenses:

- Scheduled travel for Spring 2019 meeting in San Diego, California.
- Began processing Spring 2019 meeting reimbursements.

Project-Specific Activities:

- Tracked project status and prepared a summary for recently completed, active, and all prospective new projects.
- 2018-02 Non-Invasive Sensors (proposed)
 - Obtained equipment specifications and cost estimates from vendors.

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- Coordinated with Aurora states about equipment preferences and needs.
- Drafted scope of work and budget.
- Provided scope of work and budget to project team for review. The project team approved the scope and budget. Some changes were made to equipment preferences during the Spring 2019 meeting. Feedback and final selection is still required for several states.
- Met with ISU Purchasing regarding possible bidding options. A draft is being prepared.
- 2015-05 Road Authority Practices in Data Storage Survey
 - The draft report was reviewed and edited by InTrans Publications.
 - Edited document is under review.
- 2018-01 RWIS Life Cycle Cost Analysis
 - The project kick-off meeting was held.
 - The Task One memo was received, presented and reviewed.
- 2016-03 Optimal RWIS Sensor Density and Location – Phase II
 - A project poster was presented at the TRB Annual Meeting.
 - Quarterly reports have been received and monitored.
- 2016-02 Winter Severity Index support to Clear Roads
 - Final project updates were provided.
 - The project was formally approved as complete with the following products.
 - <http://clearroads.org/project/16-02/>
 - <https://mrcc.illinois.edu/research/awssi/indexAwssi.jsp#info>
- 2014-01 Demonstration and Inter-comparison of Seasonal Weight Restriction Models, Phase II
 - A project poster was presented at the TRB Annual Meeting.
 - A draft project report was provided, with some tasks not yet completed.
 - A presentation was made to the Aurora Board regarding project status.
 - A no cost extension was approved and processed, extending the project to 3/31/2021.
- Continued work associated with assuming control and management of the RWIS training tool (<http://aurorabase.iteris.com/login/?destination=>), including monthly billing.

Anticipated work next quarter:

Program Administrative Activities:

- Begin planning and making arrangements for Fall 2019 meeting.
- Finalize 2019 Work Plan.
- Continue Aurora website updates.
- Follow up with states, such as New Jersey, about possible membership.
- Continue to address mechanisms for Friend of Aurora (FOA) engagement.
- Manage budget.
- Track new solicitation contributions.
- Participate in planning calls for 2020 International Road weather and Winter Maintenance Conference & Peer Exchange.
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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 Fall 2019 meeting.

Processing Travel Requests, Travel Reimbursements, and Meeting Expenses:

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

Project-Specific Activities:

- Expand list of prospective projects, and develop scopes of work, based on Spring 2019 meeting input
- Project updates for each project and research team.
- Track project status with champions and team members.
- Track project timelines and distribute project materials.

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Significant Results:

- Finalized contracting for the 2019 Spring meeting hotel.
- Worked with members and invited guests to arrange for travel to the 2019 Spring 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.
- Completed two projects and finalizing a third project.
- Began 2018-01 RWIS Life Cycle Cost Analysis project.
- Finalizing steps to initiate 2018-02 Non-Invasive Sensors project.
- Completed draft 2019 Work Plan.
- Began updating Aurora website following content freeze.

Circumstance affecting project or budget: