

State of Wisconsin/Department of Transportation
RESEARCH PROGRESS REPORT FOR THE QUARTER ENDING: December 31, 2007

Program: SPR-0010(36) FFY99	Part: II Research and Development
Project Title: Model Planning Approaches for Freight	Project ID: MVFC 03
Administrative Contact: Jason Bittner	Sponsor: MVFC Pooled Fund
WisDOT Technical Contact: Sandy Beaupre	Approved Starting Date: 3/1/2007
Approved by COR/Steering Committee: \$43,000	Approved Ending Date: 6/30/2008
Project Investigator (agency & contact): Jessica Guo, University of Wisconsin - Madison	

Description:

1. Review and summarize federal guidance and requirements on freight planning at the state and MPO levels.
2. Review existing publications on successful practices of freight planning within MPOs and state agencies.
3. Develop and audio Power Point presentation on the federal guidance and requirements for freight planning.
4. Develop interview questions and an online questionnaire.
5. Conduct telephone interviews and execute the online survey.
6. Create a document summarizing the findings of the interviews and online survey.
7. Develop Power Point presentations based on the findings of the online survey and interviews.
8. Based on the outcomes of tasks 2 and 6, identify four organizations that have been most successful in addressing the freight planning challenges faced by the planning agencies in the MVFC region, prepare questions for face-to-face interviews, and then conduct on-site interviews.
9. Develop a guidebook to describe current practices among the MVC agencies and recommend effective freight planning tools and strategies for state DOTs and MPOs.
10. Develop audio Power Point presentations that provide an overview of the guidebook.

Total study budget	Expenditures for current quarter	Total Expenditures to date	Percent Complete
\$43,000	\$2,965	\$15,983	85%

Progress This Quarter:

(Includes project committee mtgs, work plan status, contract status, significant progress, etc.)

The research team has completed the uni- and multi-variate statistical analysis of the interview/survey responses. Results from the small MPOs were compared to those from the large MPOs to examine significant differences in practices due to MPO size difference. The results from DOTs were separately analyzed. All analysis results were documented and discussed in a written report (task 6). The findings have also been included in a Power Point presentation given at the National Urban Freight Conference on December 5th (task 7).

Work Next Quarter:

- To wrap up on-site interviews (Task 8).
- To complete the freight planning guidebook (Task 9).
- To be preparing the Power Point presentation on Guidebook (Task 10).

Circumstances affecting progress/budget:

Gantt Chart:

Task/Month	2007												2008			
	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	
1. Review and summarize Federal guidelines	X	X														
2. Literature review and draft survey	X	X														
3. Prepare audio PowerPoint on Federal guidelines							X									
4. Prepare interview questions and survey tool			X	X	X											
5. Conduct telephone interviews and on-line survey				X	X	X	X	X								
6. Summarize interview and survey findings; define course focus and draft outline of guidebook.						X	X	X	X	X	X					
7. Prepare PowerPoint presentation on findings								X	X	X	X					
8. Prepare and visit planning agencies							X	X	X	X	X	X				
9. Write guidebook									X	X	X	X	X			
10. Prepare audio PowerPoint on guidebook													X	X	X	

X – completed

X – to be completed / continued