

State of Wisconsin/Department of Transportation
RESEARCH PROGRESS REPORT FOR THE QUARTER ENDING: September 30, 2008

Program: SPR-0010(36) FFY99	Part: II Research and Development
Project Title: MVFC Expanded Truck Parking Facilities	Project ID: MVFC 04
Administrative Contact: Nikki Hatch	Sponsor: MVFC Pooled Fund
WisDOT Technical Contact: Dave Simon	Approved Starting Date: 11/1/2007
Approved by COR/Steering Committee:	Approved Ending Date: 1/31/2009
Project Investigator (agency & contact): CFIRE, University of Wisconsin, Teresa Adams/Xiubin Wang	

Description:

Provide information necessary for states to consider increasing short term truck parking availability in the locations where it is needed most along the interstate highways in the region.

Supply states in the 10-state Mississippi Valley region with valuable information regarding where parking facility improvements are most needed and why, along with important characteristics of new facilities.

Total study budget	Current FFY budget	Expenditures for current quarter	Total Expenditures to date	Percent Complete
\$70,000	\$70,000	\$8,763	\$39,802	60%

Progress This Quarter:

Set up a booth at the Walcott, IA Truck Jamboree on July 10 and 11th. Conducted over 120 surveys to capture driver input on locations with critical Truck Parking Shortages. Collected about 90 complete surveys and 130 problematic parking locations.

Interviewed. Tested data collection tool with over 200 truck drivers from more than 20 states nationwide who attended the Walcott Truckers' Jamboree. Collected about 74 complete surveys and mapped around 72 locations with critical shortfalls.

Set up a booth at Oshkosh, WI at a music concert for truckers and collected 19 complete surveys.

Collected other 40 survey responses via internet from truckers, freight planners and highway patrol. In total, got over **222 surveys** and **269 locations** collected by now.

Reviewed and fine tuned data collection tool.

Developed a beta version of survey data visualization tool.

July 22, 2008 – Advisory Committee Conference call, Identified similar projects in other regions. Followed up with new source materials on Smart Parking Project.

August 2008 - Identified Highway patrol stations in the region. Contacted enforcement officers about enforcement practices and chronic problem spots.

August 8-9, 2008 Waupun Truck In truck show – collected 74 surveys from drivers about truck parking issues and shortages in the region. Contacted enforcement officers about regional issues and enforcement practices.

Interviewed truckload carriers based in IN, WI, OH, MN, IL and IA about low cost solutions and suggestions to remediate truck parking problems.

Contacted Motor Carrier Association in the MVFC region about contacts and events to collect suggestions and solutions strategies for low cost parking options.

August 12, 2008 Fly In Truck Stop Parking Appreciation picnic. Collected 19 surveys from regional drivers.

August 14-15, 2008 presented low cost strategies findings of study at 2008 MidContinent Transportation Research Forum. Attended by DOT's, researchers and consultants in the MVFC region.

Documented work progress to date.

Work Next Quarter:

Review IT strategies in other regions to determine what is practical and acceptable in the MVFC region. Collaborate with leaders in the research field who are exploring Smart Parking options and technology

Refine Ranking and evaluation criteria. Provide prioritized project list with justification strategies.

Complete final report

Circumstances affecting progress/budget:

As many State DOT's are recognizing a short fall of revenue the need for low cost solutions becomes more important. With a soft economy the number of trucks on the road has diminished. Fewer drivers and trucking companies are attending outreach events due to cost considerations.

Bruce Wang has moved to TX – off site coordination is more difficult

Gantt Chart:

Task/Month	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan
Literature Review of Parking Management	done	done	done												
Inventory designated parking facilities along MVFC freight corridors		done	done	done	done										
Develop an interactive GIS tool to determine ramp parking			done	done	done	done									
Survey of highway patrol on ramp parking							in progress	in progress	in progress						
Interview carriers to determine issues at certain locations								in progress	in progress	in progress					
Identify low cost strategies							in progress	in progress	in progress	in progress					
Re-fine ranking and evaluate strategies										to do	to do	to do			
Overview of IT technologies for truck parking space utilization.		to do	to do	to do	to do	to do	to do	to do	to do	to do	to do				
Final report including recommendations												to do	to do	to do	to do

