

State of Wisconsin/Department of Transportation
RESEARCH PROGRESS REPORT FOR THE QUARTER ENDING: Jun 30, 2009

Program: SPR-0010(36) FFY99	Part: II Research and Development
Project Title: Assessment of Multimodal Freight Bottlenecks and Alleviation Strategies for the Upper Midwest Region	Project ID: MVFC 05
Administrative Contact: Jason Bittner	Sponsor: MVFC Pooled Fund
WisDOT Technical Contact: Sandy Beaupre	Approved Starting Date: October 1, 2007
Approved by COR/Steering Committee: \$92,500	Approved Ending Date: Sep 30, 2009
Project Investigator (agency & contact): Jessica Guo, University of Wisconsin - Madison	

Description:

The project aims to develop a prioritized list of freight bottlenecks in the Mississippi Valley Region and to identify effective strategies for alleviating the bottlenecks. Specific tasks include:

1. Review existing studies on freight bottleneck analysis and ranking methodologies.
2. Interview major stakeholders to identify the locations and conditions of freight transportation bottlenecks.
3. Identify a list of potential freight bottlenecks in the region and develop an analysis framework for determining the relative rankings of bottlenecks.
4. Collect and compile existing data that describe the conditions of freight bottlenecks.
5. Develop preliminary rankings of freight bottlenecks across the different modes.
6. Develop a web-based DSS for reviewing and adjusting bottleneck rankings.
7. Deploy the web-based DSS to obtain the final bottleneck rankings.
8. Obtain information pertaining to the schedule and the nature of planned improvement projects in the MVFC region for addressing the bottlenecks.
9. Develop a list of recommendations regarding how to address regionally significant bottlenecks in a coordinated and effective manner.
10. Prepare the final report.

Total study budget	Expenditures for current quarter	Total Expenditures to date	Percent Complete
\$92,500	\$20,162	\$58,278	92%

Progress This Quarter:

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

Task 7: Posted regional truck bottleneck list online (through the MVFC Clearinghouse project) and sought DOT feedback .

Task 9: Identified regional top 100 bottlenecks that warrant further action. Developed a list of bottleneck mitigation methods.

Task 10: Continued to document the research methodology and findings.

Work Next Quarter:

- Obtain feedback from all member states on the ranked list (task 7)
- Complete the development of recommendations regarding how to address regionally significant bottlenecks (task 9)
- Complete final report (task 10)

Circumstances affecting progress/budget:

In order to formulate bottleneck mitigation strategies for the top 100 bottlenecks, the research team needs to acquire additional data sources such as aerial images and consult DOT engineers for their local knowledge. As the process is taking longer than anticipated, a no-cost extension to move the project end date to Sep 30, 2009, has been requested and approved. The research team anticipates spending up to another month on formulating the recommendations. A draft report will be available for review in August.

