

State of Wisconsin/Department of Transportation
 RESEARCH PROGRESS REPORT FOR THE QUARTER ENDING: December 31, 2008

Program: SPR-0010(36) FFY99		Part: II Research and Development	
Project Title: 21 st Century Transportation Workforce Summit		Project ID: CFIRE 01-10 (0092-09-14)	
Administrative Contact: Tom Marinelli		Sponsor: Wisconsin Policy Research Program	
WisDOT Technical Contact: Randy Sarver		Approved Starting Date: 6/30/2008	
Approved by COR/Steering Committee: \$17,500		Original End Date: 6/30/2009	
Project Investigator (agency & contact): Teresa Adams, UW-Madison		Current End Date: same	
		Number of Extensions: none	

Percent Complete: 90% complete

Request a No Cost Time Extension (Please Select One): YES NO

Reason for No Cost Time Extension: N/A

Project Description:

The goal of this project is to ensure an adequate transportation workforce for the future to enhance economic competitiveness and maintain high quality transportation infrastructure. This will be accomplished by exploring factors that will influence transportation needs by 2030 in a regional context.

The 21st Century Transportation Workforce Summit will:

- Explore factors that will influence transportation needs by 2030
- Estimate the impact those factors will have on transportation agencies and programs, and predict the impact on the skills needed by transportation professionals
- Define approaches needed in agencies and educational institutions to ensure that the future workforce has the skills that will be needed
- Explore institutional arrangements that will be needed to meet the learning needs of the future

Program and Venue

The 21st Century Transportation Workforce Summit will take place at the Madison Concourse Hotel and Governors Club on December 8-9, 2008. This two day event will include twelve hours of workshops, group discussions, and presentations. The program will include meals to allow participants time for networking and discussion.

Progress This Quarter:

- 1) **Conduct pre-summit surveys of State and FHWA Divisions, Universities, and consultants with respect to workforce challenges**
 The survey was prepared and administered. A summary was presented at the summit and distributed to attendees in advance.
- 2) **Prepare assessment of current workforce status. This will be determined from the surveys received and discussions from the summit. Using this information, a composite report will be assembled to show the general views from all the leaders.**
 Wittwer developed an analysis of the survey and identified key themes to assist during the summit.
- 3) **Sample best practices for current and future workforce development and recruitment. Using the 2030 scenario, the effects of advances and restraints will be discussed and plans to counter future workforce challenges will be documented.**

This information is being drafted and compiled. As part of the background materials for the meeting, several ongoing efforts were included and these were all compiled in documents distributed by FHWA during the workshop.

- 4) **Coordinate ongoing activities of CUTC and FHWA in this area. CUTC hosts various regional workforce summits around the country. To avoid overlap of discussions, CFIRE will remain in contact with CUTC about planned summits and make the topics known.**

PI Teresa Adams will report on the summit at the CUTC Winter Meeting in January. A meeting is also planned with the FHWA Office of Corporate Development to address issues of common concern.

- 5) **Design, plan, and execute the December 2008 21st Century Workforce Summit. The design and planning portion will involve the logistical arrangements for the event. Finally, the event will be run in December, a proposed agenda is presented here as an attachment.**

The summit was held on December 8-9. 55 attendees from 18 academic institutions, seven state DOTs, FHWA, and six private firms were present. In addition, representatives from the Office of Congressman Petri participated in the two day workshop. The final agenda, presentations, and other related information is posted to the website.

Meetings & Related Work

To plan for the workforce summit, a number of teleconferences were held. These included the uses of the LiveMeeting technology to allow multiple participants in an electronic format. Meeting summaries are available on the project website. Lead researcher Ernie Wittwer presented the summary information at the Minnesota Workforce Meeting in mid December in Minneapolis.

Final report:

An outline has been prepared. The information is presented as follows:

Twenty-First Century Transportation Workforce Report Outline

1. Introduction and summary
 - a. Workshop purpose, structure and participation
 - b. The workforce problem
 - c. Summary of conclusions
2. Generational differences
 - a. Workforce bulges
 - b. Employee needs and wants
3. Change in the transportation industry
4. Impact of change on skill sets
 - a. Skills required
 - b. Nature of those skills
5. Educational institution's efforts
 - a. Graduate level
 - b. Undergraduate level
 - c. Professional development
 - d. K-12
6. Gaps
 - a. Areas of concern
 - b. Areas of strength
7. Next steps

