

North/West Passage Transportation Pooled Fund Study

TPF-5(093)

Q1 2005 Status Report

April – June 30, 2005

Project Description

The North/West Passage Transportation Pooled Fund (TPF) Study is a multi-state cooperative program for the coordination, development, and deployment of Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) projects along the I-90 & I-94 corridor. The states of Washington, Idaho, Wyoming, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Minnesota, and Wisconsin have been in contact since February 25, 2002 discussing the development of a North/West Passage transportation coalition. North Dakota, Minnesota, and Wisconsin contributed funding for the development of a Pooled Fund Study. Other I-90 and I-94 states continue to express interest in the North/West Passage Corridor, but do not have funding secured to participate at this time. The Federal Highway Administration serves as a monitoring body, providing strategic, and technical input. The Steering Committee consisting of members from the eights states meet monthly or as necessary to provide overall program direction.

Status/Progress This Quarter and Next Steps

Phase I Projects

The North/West Passage TPF Study is currently pursuing seven projects selected and approved in December 2003 by the membership as outlined in the Work Plan - Phase I Projects. The purpose of the Phase I Projects is to implement and evaluate integrated traveler information systems and coordinate maintenance operations across state borders. A status of Phase I projects from April through June 30, 2005 is included below.

- Project 1.1 Integrate North Dakota, Wisconsin, and Minnesota Reporting Systems
 Castle Rock completed the Interface Control Document this is the last task for completion of Project 1.1. The document is waiting approval from the Project 1.1 Work Team.
- Project 1.5 Preliminary Design for DMS Deployment on I-94 Eastbound in North Dakota and Project 1.8 Develop a Communication Plan for the Anti-Icing System to be Installed on the I-94 Bridges at Red River Project 1.5 and 1.8 coordinated efforts
 The North/West Passage effort for Project 1.8 is complete. A Communication Plan and Preliminary Layouts were developed and included in the RFP for the Anti-Icing System to be deployed on the Red River Bridge. The Project 1.5/1.8 Work Team will focus on completing Project 1.5 by developing a Concept of Operations for the DMS to be deployed prior to the Minnesota and North Dakota borders.

Project 1.9 – Develop a Lessons Learned Document Comparing Requirements for CARS
 Deployment in Wisconsin to Meridian's System Deployment in North Dakota
 A draft lessons learned report comparing road condition reporting systems was developed. The document is waiting approval from the Project 1.9 Work Team.

Next Step: Continue work on Project 1.5. Close out Projects 1.1 and 1.9.

Completed or Tabled Phase I Projects

Project 1.2 - Deploy Limited CARS Study Application for Wisconsin

This project is complete. A summary document highlighting lessons learned from deploying limited CARS in Wisconsin District 6 was developed by Castle Rock and submitted to the Project Work Team as the final deliverable. Wisconsin DOT is intending to continue meeting internally to discuss options for proceeding with a reporting system.

- Project 1.3 Develop Automated Road Condition Reporting System
 - Project 1.3 was tabled in July 2003, due to the separate and ongoing Maintenance Decisions Support System (MDSS) project. This project will be revisited when Phase II projects are discussed.
- Project 1.4 Provide Integrated Communications Capabilities for North Dakota DMS Project 1.4 was tabled in July 2003. North Dakota received grant money to upgrade their signs to National Transportation Communications for ITS Protocol (NTCIP) compliance. This project was completed by North Dakota DOT.
- Project 1.6 Preliminary Design for DMS Deployment at the I-94 Split at Tomah, Wisconsin This project is complete. A wrap-up report of Project 1.6 was developed as the final deliverable.
- Project 1.7 Develop a North/West Passage Program Website

This project is complete. A website for the North/West Passage was developed as an outreach tool for the general public and an internal communication tool for project committee members.

Upcoming Meetings

Steering Committee

August 19 and September 12, 2005

Phase II Solicitation and Work Plan

It was agreed that the easiest way to proceed with Phase II was to amend Phase I. The only drawback was that states would not automatically be notified of the solicitation through FHWA's website. However, a solicitation letter was developed and distributed to the North/West Passage states to inform them of Phase II. The approved Phase II Work Plan was posted on FHWA's Pooled Fund Study Website and the North/West Passage Website.

The group agreed to proceed by developing a RFP for Phase II (Strategic Plan) and hold off on awarding the contract until funding is secured from the states.

Next Step: North/West Passage states to secure and commit funding for participation in Phase II.

Phase I Financial Summary

Current member commitments for Phase I Projects total \$100,000.

North Dakota \$25,000 (SP&R Dollars)
 Minnesota \$50,000 (SP&R Dollars)

• Wisconsin \$25,000 (80/20 I-90/94 Earmark Dollars)

Project Manger

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