

## TRANSPORTATION POOLED FUND PROGRAM QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT

Date: April 11, 2012

Lead Agency (FHWA or State DOT): Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development

**INSTRUCTIONS:**

*Project Managers and/or research project investigators should complete a quarterly progress report for each calendar quarter during which the projects are active. Please provide a project schedule status of the research activities tied to each task that is defined in the proposal; a percentage completion of each task; a concise discussion (2 or 3 sentences) of the current status, including accomplishments and problems encountered, if any. List all tasks, even if no work was done during this period.*

<b>Transportation Pooled Fund Program Project #</b>  TPF-5(212)	<b>Transportation Pooled Fund Program - Report Period:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Quarter 1 (January 1 – March 31) <input type="checkbox"/> Quarter 2 (April 1 – June 30) <input type="checkbox"/> Quarter 3 (July 1 – September 30) <input type="checkbox"/> Quarter 4 (October 1 – December 31)	
<b>Project Title:</b> Southeast Transportation Consortium		
<b>Name of Project Manager(s):</b> Mark Morvant	<b>Phone Number:</b> 225-767-9124	<b>E-Mail</b> mark.morvant@la.gov
<b>Lead Agency Project ID:</b> LTRC No. 09-1PF	<b>Other Project ID (i.e., contract #):</b> SIO No. 30000281	<b>Project Start Date:</b> 9/1/2009
<b>Original Project End Date:</b> 8/31/2012	<b>Current Project End Date:</b> 8/31/2015	<b>Number of Extensions:</b> 1

Project schedule status:

On schedule     
  On revised schedule     
  Ahead of schedule     
  Behind schedule

Overall Project Statistics:

Total Project Budget	Total Cost to Date for Project	Percentage of Work Completed to Date
\$300,000	\$ 22,222.20	percentage varies by project

Quarterly Project Statistics:

Total Project Expenses and Percentage This Quarter	Total Amount of Funds Expended This Quarter	Total Percentage of Time Used to Date
\$22,222.20 (7.4%)	714.02	43

**Project Description:**

STC's objectives are to pool financial, professional, and academic resources to coordinate research and develop improved methods of addressing common problems in the planning, design, construction, maintenance, management, and operation of transportation systems in participating states. The program is intended to supplement ongoing state, federal, and university research activities and other national programs such as the National Cooperative Highway Research Program. It is intended to reduce duplication of research and provide means for better communication of ongoing research activities in the state research programs. The cooperative and collaborative objectives of the STC program are to develop synergy and provide for a more efficient use of resources. Specific objectives include

- Plan and conduct meetings to establish research priorities, share research findings, exchange information, and define direction of the organization. Each member may utilize funds for one representative from each organization to participate
- Discuss and screen potential research projects and seek partners from the public, academic, and private sectors to collaborate on these projects and utilize available resources to ensure research is not duplicative
- Conduct research studies
- Communicate and disseminate research results and innovations through the use of communication products such as development and maintenance of a Web site, periodic electronic newsletter, and fact sheets
- Put research results into practice through technology transfer events

Communicate impacts of the organization's activities to national leaders in transportation

**Progress this Quarter (includes meetings, work plan status, contract status, significant progress, etc.):**

- STC Synthesis Projects: Proposals were received and evaluated by Technical Advisory Committees. Louisiana is pursuing contacting with the primary selections.
  - Best Practices for Determining Value of Research Results
  - Asphalt Surface Treatments for Pavement Preservation
  - Water Quality Management at Construction Sites
  - Regional Implementation of Warm Mix Asphalt
- Timber Bridge Inspection Demonstration Project sponsored by the US Dept of Agriculture. Louisiana is the southeast regional research partner working through the STC to demonstrate the technology.
  - Louisiana, Georgia, Alabama, North Carolina have committed to participate in the program
- Continued update and maintenance of STC project database
- Accepting commitments for new pooled fund solicitation #1318: **Develop A Design and Analysis Procedures for Asphalt Mixtures Containing High-RAP Contents and/or RAS**  
Current commitments:
  - Louisiana
  - Florida
- Presented update at the 2012 Annual TRB meeting

**Anticipated work next quarter:**

- Continued update of state projects into database
- Present status of activities Annual RAC meeting
- Initiate contracts for the four synthesis projects
- Hold kickoff meetings for synthesis projects
- Begin planning STC annual meeting in Baton Rouge for October 2012

**Significant Results:**

- Developed database for member state research projects
- Developed website for STC pooled fund program
- Established the STC synthesis project program
  - Advertised first series of synthesis projects identified above
- Held annual meetings to promote collaboration among member states
- Identified additional pooled fund initiatives

**Circumstance affecting project or budget. (Please describe any challenges encountered or anticipated that might affect the completion of the project within the time, scope and fiscal constraints set forth in the agreement, along with recommended solutions to those problems).**

This pooled fund project is a continued effort to collaborate resources for the southeast region member states. The tasks are ever-evolving as member state set priorities on issues and collaboration opportunities. Administrative activities are accomplished by volunteers from member states as their work schedules allow.

**Potential Implementation:**

In order to reduce redundancy of state research projects and promote transfer of knowledge on completed research, there exists a need to classify and quantify the focus, status and implementation of all member state research projects and programs. The STC Syntheses program was established to prepare technical summaries of research performed and state-of-the-practice reports prepared under contract by outside individuals or firms. These reports will be oriented toward practical solutions of specific transportation problems. The specific objectives of the synthesis are:

1. To focus on research projects conducted in the southeast region on a specific synthesis topic and issues;
2. To perform a literature search on the synthesis topic to identify other on-going or completed research;
3. To review the commonality of project scopes and methodology of studies performed in the STC region;
4. To review the commonality of project results, conclusions and recommendations;
5. To identify differences in results, conclusions and/or recommendations that would affect regional implementation and practice;
6. To review implementation status of individual state project results and recommendations;
7. To recommend applicability of applying research results to other states within the southeast region;
8. To recommend additional research (if needed) to enhance implementation within the region.
9. To organize, evaluate, and document the useful information acquired.

Completion of these synthesis reports will enhance implementation efforts for all states.