

State Planning and Research Program Quarterly Report

PROJECT TITLE: *Use of Equipment Lighting During Snowplow Operations*

OBJECTIVES: The goal of this project is to develop a summary of best practices in use today by state DOTs in their use of headlights, work lights, and warning light technology in snow plow operations. The summary will focus on recommendations regarding the various lighting technologies in use, including mounting location guidelines.

PERIOD COVERED:

Jan. 1, 2015 – March 31, 2015

PARTICIPATING AGENCIES:

Western Transportation Institute, Montana State University – Prime
Monte Vista Associates LLC, Arizona - Subcontractor

PROJECT MANAGER: Tom Peters

SP&R PROJECT NO:

PROJECT IS:

LEAD AGENCY: Mn/DOT

TPF-5(218)
Contract#99006

Planning
 Research & Development

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR:

Laura Fay

ANNUAL BUDGET:

\$40,406

PROJECT EXPENDITURES TO DATE:

\$15,782.24

WORK COMPLETED:

Task 0. *Project Management*

A kick-off meeting was held with the project panel via teleconference on Dec 15, 2015 to discuss the project progress and next steps.

Task 1: *Literature review* (50% completed)

The initial literature review was conducted to gather information to design the agency and operator survey. Relevant published and unpublished documents have been gathered. A final outline was created and the relevant information is being added to each section. The findings of the literature review will be incorporated into Task 4.

Task 2: *Agency Survey* (50% completed)

A teleconference was conducted on Feb 19, 2015 to gather preliminary comments from the project panel about the survey questions. After addressing preliminary comments, a test survey (using Survey Monkey) was sent to the panel for final review and testing. After addressing all the comments, the survey was distributed to Clear Roads member state DOTs, APWA Subcommittee on Winter Maintenance, Snow and Ice Listserv and LinkedIn. A total of 47 responses were received as of March 31, 2015. The agency survey will be closed on April 17, 2015.

Task 3. *Operator Survey* (40% completed)

A test survey (using survey monkey) was sent to the project panel for final review and testing. The comments received were addressed and the survey is now ready for distribution. The survey will be distributed online, and a paper version will be made available if requested, to respondents of the agency survey.

Task 4. *Synthesis* (20% completed)

The findings from literature review are being incorporated into this task. Upon completion, the Task 3 Agency Survey and Task 4 Operator Survey results will be incorporated into this task.

Task 5. *Final Report and Presentation* (0% completed)

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES EXPECTED TO BE PERFORMED NEXT QUARTER:

In the next quarter efforts will continue to summarize the findings from the literature review, the agency and operator surveys will be completed and summarized, and content will be developed for the synthesis.

STATUS AND COMPLETION DATE:

The project is on schedule and on budget. Completion date – Sept. 31, 2015