

State Planning and Research Program Quarterly Report

PROJECT TITLE: *High Performance Plow Blade Evaluation*

OBJECTIVES: The objective of this project is to develop a field test protocol and cost-benefit analysis methodology that may be reproduced by Clear Roads agencies in future testing, so that other blades may be evaluated and compared using the same standard procedures used in this project.

PERIOD COVERED: October 1 to December 31, 2020

PARTICIPATING AGENCIES: Minnesota Department of Transportation and the Clear Roads Technical Advisory Committee

PROJECT MANAGER:
Debbie Sinclair / Tom Peters

SP&R PROJECT NO:
MnDOT Contract No.
1031542

PROJECT IS:

☐ Planning
☒ Research & Development

LEAD AGENCY: MnDOT

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR:
William Schneider IV, PhD.,
University of Akron

Federal Project Number:
TPF-5(353)

ANNUAL BUDGET: \$99,673.93 (Project Budget)

PROJECT EXPENDITURES TO DATE: \$71,340

WORK COMPLETED:

- Task 1: Literature review compiled in matrix-style summary (100%)
- Task 2: Survey of DOTs in matrix-style summary (100%)
- Task 3: List of potential blades and testing locations for research (100%)
- Task 4: Design Test Protocol (100%)
- Task 5: Field data collection (100%)
- Task 6: Standard Test Protocol (95%)
- Task 7: Cost-Benefit Analysis (95%)
- Task 8: Quick Reference Guide (95%)
- Task 9: Final Report (95%)

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES EXPECTED TO BE PERFORMED NEXT QUARTER: We are planning on doing future work involving testing new blades in the lab.

STATUS AND COMPLETION DATE: We have completed all current required tasks. At this point we are working with our technical panel as well as the others from Clear Roads to develop the future scope of work related to this project.