

## 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:**

April 1, 2015 – June 30, 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:**

\$26,236.53

**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** (100% 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 Relevant published and unpublished documents have been gathered.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 has been added to each section. The findings of the literature review will be incorporated into the Task 4. Synthesis.

**Task 2: Agency Survey** (100% 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 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 58 responses were received as of the survey closing date on April 17, 2015. The survey results were submitted to the Clear Roads panel on May 2, 2015 and meeting was held with on June 1, 2015 to discuss the findings.

**Task 3. Operator Survey** (100% completed)

A test survey was sent to the project panel for final review and testing. The comments received were addressed. The survey was distributed online, and a paper version was made available if requested, to respondents of the agency survey. A total of 369 responses were received by the survey closing date of May 11, 2015. The survey results were submitted to the Clear Roads panel on May 12, 2015 and meeting was held with on June 1, 2015 to discuss the findings.

**Task 4. Synthesis** (95% completed)

The findings from the literature review and surveys have been used to create the synthesis document. We are in the review and editing process for the synthesis and will submit it on or before July 30, 2015.

**Task 5. Final Report and Presentation** (25% completed)

Information generated to date for this project including the literature review, surveys and survey results, and synthesis have been incorporated into the final report. Work on this task will be primary focus of this next quarter.

**SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES EXPECTED TO BE PERFORMED NEXT QUARTER:**

In the next quarter efforts will continue to finalize the Task 5. Final Report. There will likely be a meeting with the project panel to discuss the findings and content of the Task 4 Synthesis, and we will work to address any comments from the project panel in the next quarter.

**STATUS AND COMPLETION DATE:**

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