

**State of Wisconsin/Department of Transportation
RESEARCH PROGRESS REPORT FOR THE QUARTER ENDING: March 31, 2005**

Program: SPR-0010(36) FFY99		Part: II Research and Development	
Project Title: Transportation Asset Management Threshold Levels	Project ID: 05-01		
Administrative Contact: Nina McLawhorn	Sponsor: MRUTC		
WisDOT Technical Contact: Jason Bittner	Approved Starting Date: 10/01/04		
Approved by COR/Steering Committee:	Approved Ending Date: 09/30/05		
Project Investigator (agency & contact): Pablo L. Durango-Cohen (Northwestern University)			

Description:

Total study budget	Current FFY budget	Expenditures for current quarter	Total Expenditures to date	Percent Complete
138,526 (33,540)	138,526	10,000	10,000	35%

Task 1: Summary of DOT or other agency best practices

Task 2: Identification of asset management tools and techniques most appropriate for small agencies

Task 3: Suggestions for size thresholds so that specific asset management tools should be used

Task 4: Guidelines to help local transportation agencies use or modify these best practices

Task 5: Review of federal laws and practices that might inhibit or foster the use of these strategies

**** The reported expenditures are based on the PI's estimates. The official numbers are kept by the Office of Sponsored Research at Northwestern University. We note that the contract with the MRUTC was actually approved in early December even though the project start date is 10/01.**

Progress This Quarter:

This quarter we have designed a survey for small transportation agencies regarding their asset management practices. We have iterated several times on this survey, and it is now ready to be implemented.

Also this quarter we have continued work in summarizing best practices (task 1), identifying asset management tools (task 2), and reviewing federal laws (task 5). These tasks have been accomplished through discussions with Cambridge Systematics and Northwestern team members and an on-going literature review.

Work Next Quarter:

Next quarter we will conduct the survey and begin analyzing the responses. From the responses, we will continue to summarize best practices (task 1), identify previously unfound tools and techniques (task 2), and understand what how laws affect asset management (task 5). The survey will be conducted in two stages. The first stage, a pilot stage will be conducted by phone and the second stage will be conducted by email.

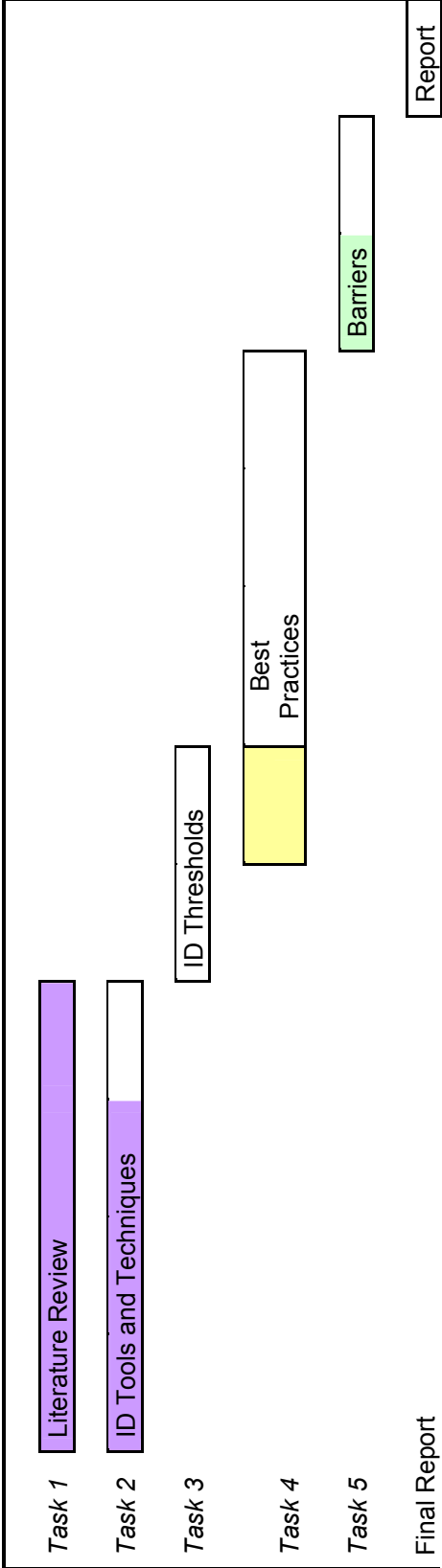
The responses will also help us to find size thresholds so that asset management tools should be used (task 3). Finally from the survey responses, we will begin to develop guidelines to help local transportation agencies use or modify these strategies (task 4).

We will also finalize our project review committee. Currently this item is being discussed between the team members and Jason Bittner from the MRUTC. Once the committee is finalized we will submit our survey for approval and a draft of the materials that we have prepared thus far.

Circumstances affecting progress/budget:

Delays were encountered in setting the contract up between the MRUTC, NU and Cambridge Systematics.

Gantt Chart:



Note: Gantt chart shown in State Fiscal Year Quarters. Colored cells represent completed tasks, and white cells represent tasks that remain.