

## Research Notes

Program Steering Committee (PSC): Planning/Policy/System Information (PPSI)

MAY 2014

Title: Next STEPs: No Boundaries Roadway Maintenance Practices

Task Number: 2186

Start Date: 1/10/2011

Completion Date: 7/1/2014

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### **TITLE:**

No Boundaries Roadway Maintenance Practices

Promoting promising ready to deploy maintenance innovations implemented by the member State DOTs (Departments of Transportation).

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### **WHAT IS THE NEED?**

Implementation of new innovations requires considerable resources including time and money to integrate the new technologies into the day to day business practices of State Departments of Transportation (DOTs). There is a need to avoid investing in the same research that has already been performed by other State DOTs. State DOTs can benefit by sharing innovations that they have used and implemented.

### **WHAT ARE WE DOING?**

This project plans to promote promising ready to deploy maintenance innovations implemented by the member State DOTs, that can be used by other State DOTs and hence save time and money for agencies. This project provides a forum for State DOTs to share their maintenance innovations with other participating State DOTs, support the technology transfer activities and develop marketing and deployment plans for the implementation of selected maintenance innovations. Resources are provided for implementing the shared maintenance innovations that includes travel, training, demonstrations and other technology transfer activities. Missouri DOT serves as the lead state for this pooled fund project and handles all the administrative duties associated with this project.

### **WHAT IS OUR GOAL?**

The goal of this project is to utilize the research and experiences of participating State DOTs and help them identify innovative maintenance technologies rather than having each DOT research, identify and implement maintenance innovations separately. Through this project State DOTs will be able to work together.

### **WHAT IS THE BENEFIT?**

This project will help State DOTs save time and money by not investing in the same maintenance best practice that has already been implemented by other State DOTs.

## **WHAT IS THE PROGRESS TO DATE?**

This pooled fund project was cleared by FHWA on 1/10/2011. A request for proposal was advertised and a contractor was selected for handling the administrative and marketing duties of this project. A website has been developed for this project that contains information about project meetings, monthly and quarterly reports and information about maintenance innovations that the member State DOTs have shared so far.

Through this project so far Caltrans has shared Balsi Beam, mobile work zone barrier, CRMCrete weed control barrier beneath metal beam guardrail and Maintenance Leadership Academy (MLA) training class as best practices, Missouri DOT has shared their Herbicide Sprayer, Contrast Stripping, Gator Getter (for debris picking), and tree trimming platform, Iowa DOT has shared Epoxy Injection of Bridge Decks and paint reflectivity program, Washington DOT has shared their Barrel Picking (truck mounted lifting device), and Concrete Deck Repair, Pennsylvania DOT has shared their Penn DOT Incident Management and Tandem Axle Dump Trucks, Ohio DOT has share their Model for sharing best practice maintenance operations and Jarraff Tree Trimmer, and Georgia DOT has shared their program for recycling used tires entitled "Beautifying Georgia".

Contractor has prepared 1-page summary documents for the shared maintenance innovations and has organized number of conference calls and face to face meetings for the project Technical Advisory Committee (TAC).

A booth was setup during the 2012 AASHTO (American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials) subcommittee maintenance conference in Seattle, Washington that displayed the posters of all the shared maintenance innovations.

On June 18 and June 19, 2013 Caltrans hosted project's face to face meeting in Sacramento and demonstrated Balsi Beam and presented "Maintenance Leadership Academy" training class as a best practice.

On November 19 and 20, 2013 a face to face meeting was held in Columbus, Ohio where Missouri DOT demonstrated their Herbicide Sprayer, while Ohio DOT demonstrated their Jarraff Tree Trimmer.

Next conference call for TAC is scheduled on May 22, 2014 and the next face to face meeting for TAC is scheduled on June 18-19, 2014 in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

Contractor continues updating the project website with current information.  
<http://noboundaries-roadmaintenance.org/>.