

# SHRP2 Quarterly Update

October 2008

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## Technical Coordinating Committees Take on a New Challenge

The Technical Coordinating Committees (TCCs) for Renewal, Reliability, and Safety met in September to review the progress of active research projects and, as requested by the Oversight Committee, to develop plans for expanded research opportunities. Between funds that become available as a result of the technical corrections bill that restored research funding in SAFETEA-LU and SHRP 2 reserve funds, about \$20 million will be apportioned among the four SHRP 2 focus areas. The TCCs then have the opportunity to reinstate projects that had been withdrawn from original research plans, to activate projects that had been deemed conditional, or to develop different projects that could better advance the strategic objectives of the focus area. The Capacity TCC will meet in October to take on these tasks. The Oversight Committee will consider the recommended projects at its meeting in December 2008.

## SHRP 2 Safety Symposia Continue to Draw Crowds

Nearly a hundred safety researchers from the United States, Europe, and Canada convened to review the study design and data collection methods for the Safety research program



Members of the TCC for SHRP 2 Renewal met recently at the NAS building where, as the painting shows, illustrious people have long served the public interest by supporting the National Academies. Attendees included: (seated) Fred Hejl, William Nickas, Cliff Schexnayder, Alan Fisher, Neil Hawks, Monica Starnes. Standing: Amir Hanna, Mike Ryan, Cheryl Richter, Steven Gaj, Michael Hemmingsen, Thomas Callow, Steven DeWitt, Daniel D'Angelo, Dennis La Belle, Thomas Baker, John Robinson, Jerry DiMaggio, James Bryant, Robert Raab.

during the third SHRP 2 Safety Symposium, held July 17–18, 2008 at the National Academies’ Keck Center in Washington, DC.

The keynote speaker, Christine Branche, Acting Director of the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health, shared aspects of the institute’s own safety research. Presenters from the Netherlands, the United Kingdom, and Canada provided current updates from their programs, and presentations by Kenneth Campbell, the SHRP 2 Chief Safety Program Officer, and research teams completed the program.

Presentations from all three symposia are available on the Safety page of the SHRP 2 website ([www.trb.org/shrp2](http://www.trb.org/shrp2)).

## Requests for Proposals and Request for Qualifications Generate Influx of Responses

The 12 Requests for Proposals and the Request for Qualifications posted in July 2008 generated a total of 64 proposals and 13 qualifications. Once the projects begin, roughly 75 percent of the planned research projects in SHRP 2 will be active and \$55 million will be committed to 50 research projects in its four focus areas.

## First Fruits



Because many projects in the SHRP 2 research plan extend over a number of years and have distinct phases of investigation, a report series has been created to communicate the outcomes of the early

stages. Published online, First Fruits typically will summarize in 4-8 pages the knowledge developed as researchers work toward the larger goals of their projects. The first in the series, available soon on the SHRP 2 website, will be Research Briefs on Renewal projects R01: Encouraging Innovation in Locating and Characterizing Underground Equipment and R15: Strategies for Integrating Utility and Transportation Agency Priorities in Renewal Projects. Case studies compiled as background for Capacity project C01 are also expected by the end of the quarter.

## Rodeo in Virginia Puts Data Collectors through their Paces

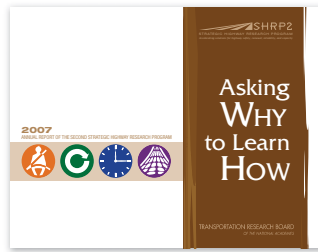
Ten vendors interested in bidding to provide roadway data collection services for a SHRP 2 Safety project participated in a ‘rodeo’ equipment evaluation held on September 15-19, 2008. The rodeo was a pre-qualification activity and only vendors who successfully completed the rodeo will be eligible to bid on Safety Project S04: Acquisition of Roadway Data. Two survey routes, a 41-mile loop in northern Virginia near Leesburg and an 11-mile loop through Arlington, were the sites selected for the rodeo. These sites contain a variety of terrain, cover, and road types, as well as urban canyon and rural characteristics. Vendors were asked to survey the routes at least three times in both directions. The rodeo is a means to evaluate the ability of vendors to collect data on roadway feature characteristics that are critical to safety analysis, and ultimately to determine what are reasonable and technically possible accuracy levels.

### July 2008 Requests for Proposals and Request for Qualifications

<b>RFP C08</b>	A Community Visioning Approach to Support the SHRP 2 Collaborative Decision-Making Framework for Highway Investments
<b>RFP C09</b>	Incorporating Greenhouse Gas Emissions into The Collaborative Decision-Making Process
<b>RFP L02</b>	Establishing Monitoring Programs for Travel Time Reliability
<b>RFP L04</b>	Incorporating Reliability Performance Measures in Operations and Planning Modeling Tools
<b>RFP R06(A)</b>	Nondestructive Testing to Identify Concrete Bridge Deck Deterioration
<b>RFP R06(B)</b>	Evaluating Applications of Field Spectroscopy Devices to Fingerprint Commonly Used Construction Materials
<b>RFP R06(C)</b>	Using Both Infrared and High-Speed Ground Penetrating Radar for Uniformity Measurements on New HMA Layers
<b>RFP R06(D)</b>	Nondestructive Testing to Identify Delaminations between HMA Layers
<b>RFP R06(E)</b>	Real-Time Smoothness Measurements on Portland Cement Concrete Pavements During Construction
<b>RFP R06(F)</b>	Development of Continuous Deflection Device
<b>RFP R15(A)</b>	Model Curricula and Training Programs for Utility Relocation
<b>RFP R15(B)</b>	Identification of Utility Conflicts and Solutions
<b>RFQ S07</b>	In-Vehicle Driving Behavior Field Study

## 2007 Annual Report Available on SHRP 2 Website

The 2007 SHRP 2 Annual Report, *Asking Why to Learn How*, is available on the SHRP 2 website. The report highlights the progress SHRP 2 made throughout 2007 in highway safety, renewal, travel time reliability, and capacity. It also provides an overview of the program as a whole.



## SHRP 2 Adds Staff to Meet Growing Demands

SHRP 2 welcomed five new staff members this quarter to help meet the increasing demands of a program in full swing. Patrick Zelinski started in July as Communications Specialist to assist with electronic and print communications. In August, Kizzy Anderson accepted the position of Senior Program Assistant for the Safety focus area and David Plazak joined the staff as Senior Program Officer to take on projects in both the Capacity and Reliability focus areas. In September, Senior Program Officer

Jerry DiMaggio joined the team to help shape SHRP 2 Implementation activities and Hans van Saan came to us on loan from the Rijkswaterstaad, his home organization in the Netherlands.

## Look for SHRP 2 at the TRB Annual Meeting

Sessions to report on progress in SHRP 2 research in each of the four focus areas will be held during the TRB Annual Meeting in Washington, DC, January 11-15, 2009. Plans for international exchange activities are being developed. Information on the program will also be available in the Exhibit Hall at the TRB booth. Visit the Annual Meeting website to develop your customized program: <http://trb.org/meeting/2009/default.asp>

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