

*Accelerating solutions in safety, renewal, reliability, and capacity*

## Eleven Projects Begin with the New Year

**Right on schedule**, contracts are being prepared for the first SHRP 2 research projects. Early in 2007, research will begin on the projects described in the requests for proposals that were announced in September of 2006.



Three Safety projects will initiate the design of the major safety studies to follow. For S01, five separate contracts were let to develop or identify automated approaches to analyzing driving behavior and crash risk data and to demonstrate the methods on recently collected data sets. S05 will design a management plan for the full study of in-vehicle driving behavior and crash risk, as well as develop and demonstrate the necessary data collection system. The goal of S09 is to develop a site-based video system that captures surrogate measures of collision risk and demonstrates in a field study the correlation of the surrogate measures to actual crash frequencies.



The first four Renewal projects aim to develop long-needed products. R01, in its first phase, will develop a research plan to identify technologies that accurately locate and characterize underground utilities and facilitate their development. R06 will identify technologies for rapid nondestructive testing and inspection and identify tests that need such technologies. The goal of R07 is to produce and validate performance specifications that ensure proper facility performance, reduce project completion time; balance the relative risk among owners, contractors, and subcontractors; and encourage innovation. Project R15 will recommend an approach to finding strategies that integrate the priorities of utility companies and transportation agencies in highway renewal projects.



Two Reliability projects will soon be under way. L03 ultimately will establish statistical relationships between measures taken to improve travel time reliability and actual travel times, so that the effectiveness of strategies to improve reliability can be measured. The goal of L06 is to provide guidance on reconfiguring institutional components to support operations activities organically.



Two Capacity projects are also beginning early in 2007 and both address the way decisions about highway capacity are made. C01 will frame a system that helps stakeholders collaborate to reach decisions about transportation capacity enhancements. C02 will develop performance measures that support this collaborative decision making process.

Click on an icon for complete project descriptions in the Research Plan for that focus area.

## Research Plan for 2007 Announced

In December, the SHRP 2 Oversight Committee and the Federal Highway Administration approved the research plans proposed by the four Technical Coordinating Committees for 2007. Requests for Proposals for the following projects will be released in two cycles during 2007.

Table 1  
SHRP 2 Research Plan for 2007

| Project Number | Project Title  | Budget   | Release Date |
|----------------|--|----------|--------------|
| Safety S02     | Integration of Analysis Methods/<br>Development of Analysis Plan                 | \$0.5 M  | July         |
| S03            | Development of Roadway Information<br>Measurement Van                            | \$1.5 M  | March        |
| Renewal R02    | Geotechnical Solutions for Soil Improvement<br>and Rapid Embankment Construction | \$3.0    | March        |
| R04            | Innovative Bridge Designs for Rapid Renewal                                      | \$2.0 M  | March        |
| R05            | Modular Pavement Technology  | \$1.0 M  | July         |
| R09            | Risk Manual for Rapid Renewal Contracts  | \$0.25 M | March        |
| R16            | Railroad-DOT Institutional Mitigation<br>Strategies                              | \$0.4 M  | July         |
| R19            | Durable Bridges for Service Life Beyond 100<br>Years                             | \$3.0 M  | March        |

| Project Number  | Project Title   | Budget  | Release Date |
|-----------------|---|---------|--------------|
| R23             | Using Existing pavement in Place and Achieving Long Life  | \$1.0 M | July         |
| R26             | Preservation Approaches for High Traffic-Volume Roadways  | \$0.25  | July         |
| Reliability L02 | Establishing National and Local Monitoring Programs for Mobility and Travel Time Reliability  | \$1.3 M | July         |
| L07             | Identification and Evaluation of the Cost-Effectiveness of Highway Design Features to Reduce Nonrecurrent Congestion                        | \$2.5 M | March        |
| L11             | Evaluating Alternative Traffic Operation Strategies   | \$4.0 M | July         |
| L12             | Improving Traffic Incident Scene Management   | \$1.0 M | July         |
| Capacity C03    | Interactions Between Transportation Capacity, Economic Systems, and Land Use and Integrating Economic Considerations in Project Development | \$4.0 M | July         |
| C04             | Improving Our Understanding of Highway Users and the Factors Affecting Travel Demand  | \$1.0 M | March        |
| C05             | Understanding the Contribution of Operations, Technology, and Design to Meeting Highway Capacity Needs                                      | \$1.0 M | July         |

## Welcome to New Staff

**The SHRP 2 staff has nearly doubled this quarter with the addition of four new members. Monica Starnes, Ph.D., joined the SHRP 2 staff in November as Senior Program Officer with responsibilities in the Renewal focus area. Derek Sweet arrived in late December, on loan to us from the Canadian Council of Deputy Ministers of Transport. Derek will facilitate international activities for SHRP 2 during his 1-year assignment. Jo Ann Coleman and Makeeya Hazelton have joined us as Senior Program Assistants just in time**

to help organize the project start-ups. We are delighted to welcome each of them.

- For more information, visit our Web site at [www.trb.org/shrp2](http://www.trb.org/shrp2)
- Send your comments by email to [shrp2@nas.edu](mailto:shrp2@nas.edu)
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