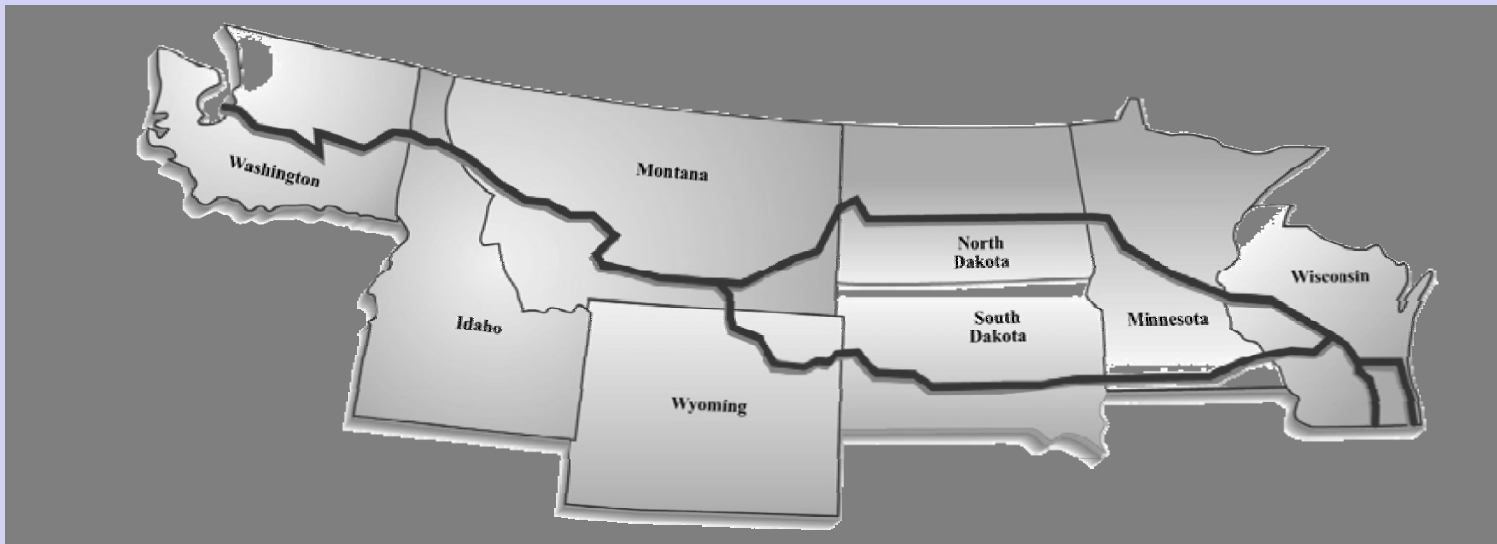


North/West Passage

Multi-state Corridor Pooled Fund Program



Bill Legg

State ITS Operations Engineer
Washington State Department of Transportation

- Brings together the 8 states along I-90/I-94; Washington to Wisconsin.
- TPF formally established in 2003.
 - Program was phased in.
- Minnesota is the administrative state.



- Program Goals:
 - Integrate traveler information systems that can provide information appropriate to the location and need of the traveler.
 - Develop and promote cross-border jurisdictional cooperation and coordination in the planning, deployment, operations, and maintenance of ITS infrastructure.
 - Integrate ITS projects for the N/W Passage Corridor into the state, regional, and local planning and programming processes.

PHASE 1 : LIMITED FOCUS

- Initial “Startup” Phase (Work Plan 1) :
 - March 2004 to March 2006
 - Three States: ND, MN and WI
 - \$100,000 committed by states for work.
 - Program focused on:
 - Moving forward with projects that had tangible and immediate benefits to demonstrate the value of the corridor approach and had value for the participating states.
 - Continued engagement all the states along the corridor.

- Accomplishments of the Initial Phase:
 - Integrated the incident and condition reporting systems for ND, SD, and MN.
 - Travelers can now receive multistate traveler information via their 511.
 - Conducted demonstration of traveler information system for Wisconsin State Patrol.
 - Developed integrated communications capabilities for DMS at the MN-ND border.

MORE PHASE 1 RESULTS

- Accomplishments of the Initial Phase:
 - Developed communications plan and preliminary system design for shared bridge deck anti-icing system on the I-94/Red River bridge between MN and ND.
 - Initiated discussion between MN & WI regarding sharing traveler information at the I-90/I-94 Tomah Split.
 - Developed program website to share information:

www.nwpassage.info

PHASE 2: CURRENT PROGRAM

- Phase 2 represents the program as it is currently structured and covers the program efforts from 2006 to now.
 - Includes all 8 states in the corridor.
- Encompasses:
 - Work Plan 2: 2007: Program Strategic Plan
 - Work Plan 3: 2008: Projects; all complete
 - Work Plan 4: 2009: Projects underway
 - Work Plan 5: 2010: Will be finalized in March

Reports on all Work Plan projects are available at the program website

- Initial Phase 2 Effort - Work Plan 2
- Developed a Program ITS Strategic Plan
 - Inventoried ITS infrastructure, systems, and efforts within the corridor.
 - Identified issues, problems, and needs.
 - Developed program vision, goals, and objectives.
 - Completed a high level corridor ITS architecture
 - Developed an initial list of recommended projects for the group to investigate

Plan can be found at the program website

- Traveler Information Projects:
 - Corridor-wide Consistent Major Event Descriptions.
 - Clarus Regional Demonstration ConOps.
 - Member state workshop on CAD to Reporting System Integration.
 - N/W Corridor Travel Information Website:
www.i90i94travelinfo.com
- Operations & Maintenance Projects:
 - Member state workshop on Cross Border O&M Collaboration.

- Projects as Prioritized by Committee:
 - N/W Passage Travel Info Website-Phase 2
 - Call Forwarding & Evaluation of Cross Border Information Requests
 - Center-to-Center Communications ConOps
 - Corridor-Wide Oversize/Overweight Permitting
 - Expanded Corridor-Wide Truck Parking Facilities
 - Consistent & Coordinated DMS Use
 - Marketing & Outreach to CVOs
 - Facilitating Use of Open Source Software
 - Maintenance Decision Support Assessment

- Projects as Selected for Work Plan 4:
 - 4.1: Traveler Website & 4.3: Phase 2 & C-to-C ConOps - combined as one project. Includes evaluation of current website. (underway)
 - 4.2: Call Forwarding & Cross Border Info Requests (complete)
 - 4.4: N/W Passage Regional Commercial Vehicle Permitting (underway)
 - 4.5: Traveler Information Dissemination to Truckers - Refinement of the Truck Parking Project. (underway)

WORK PLAN 5: 2010

- Work Plan 5 development is underway:
 - Solicit Steering Committee members for ideas:
 - Review past work, past proposed projects, and the projects recommended by the Strategic Plan.
 - Look at trends and issues nationally.
 - Identify state specific needs.
 - Management consultant helps fully develop ideas as needed.
- Ideas are discussed during conference calls.
- Currently have 12 potential projects.
- Final work plan will be determined at annual meeting in March.

OTHER PROGRAM EFFORTS

- Outreach material
 - Developed a corridor wide 511 travel information brochure:
 - Explains 511, the corridor travel info website, and provides “back door” numbers to all the state’s 511 systems.
 - Developed a program brochure:
 - Explains the program, its members, & its goals.

Both brochures are available at the Program Website

- Developed a proposal to FHWA for 511 system integration across the corridor.

PROGRAM FORMALITIES

- Organization Charter covers:
 - Steering Committee structure & responsibilities
 - Program Administration
- Operating Rules covers:
 - Voting procedures, contracting, and travel
- Interagency Agreements with administrative state defines:
 - Agencies' responsibilities and funding

MORE PROGRAM FORMALITIES

- Meeting Structure:
 - Steering Committee & Program Chair
 - Monthly conference calls & annual meeting
- Program Management/Technical Consultant:
 - Handles meeting logistics & program website
 - Produces the Work Plan Document
 - Provides some project support,
 - Provides program reporting
 - Contracted by the administrative state

- A Steering Committee member is assigned as Project Champion who:
 - Is responsible for delivering the project.
 - On time/on budget
 - Develops a project review team.
 - Determines contracting needs, 2 options:
 - Consultant & contractor services for projects contracted & co-managed with the administrative state.
 - Technical/management consultant
 - Coordinates with and reports to the Steering Committee.

YEARLY PROGRAM FUNDING

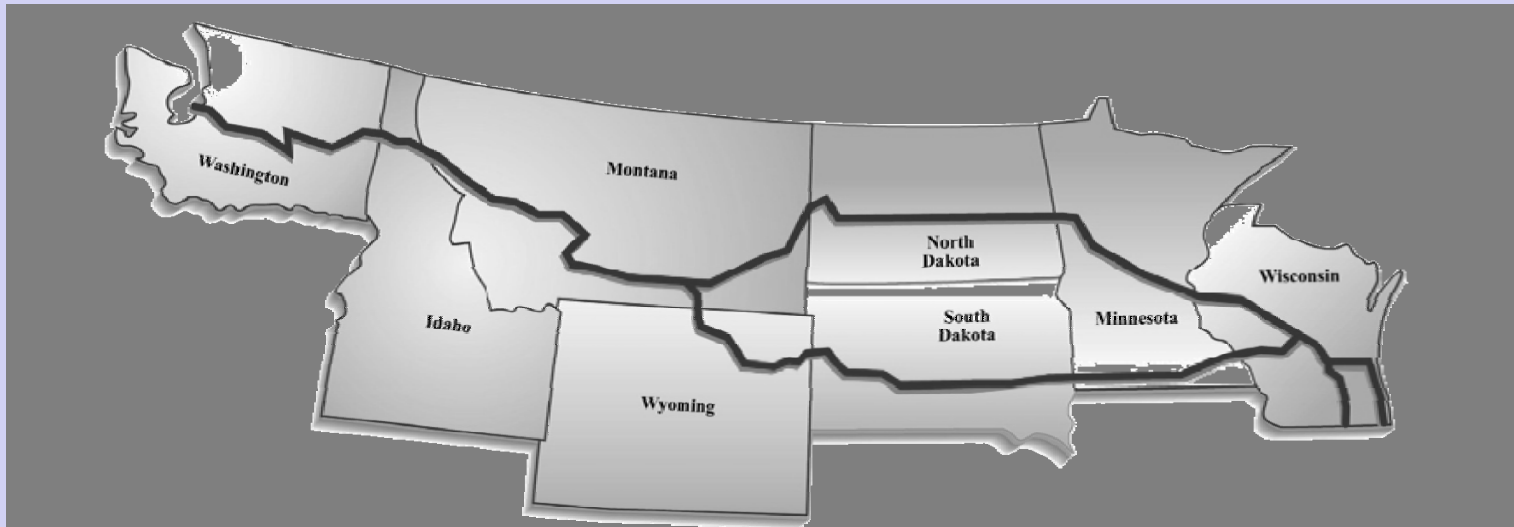
- Income:
 - Minimum \$25K/member/year, some states contribute more
 - SPR funds & some state funds
 - Minor contributions from other sources
 - Peer-To-Peer program
- Expenses:
 - Travel/Meetings: ~\$10K
 - Website maintenance (2 sites): \$10K
 - Management/Technical Consultant: \$25K
 - Projects: Balance of budget

- Program Board/Steering Committee:
 - The group needs to be regularly engaged
 - Face-to-face meetings are a must
 - Members need to be:
 - Committed to the program
 - Informed about related agency activities
 - Willing to put in the time needed to make the program work
 - The knowledge of the members will bias the program

- Program Details:
 - The management/technical consultant:
 - Needs to be technically strong in the focus of the program
 - Should not have exclusive access to the project support work the program will need
 - The program lead/chair should not be the program administrator
 - Publicizing the value and success of the program is an important and ongoing challenge

- This is important work
- Stay focused on your program goals
- Don't get too bogged down in process
- You will not have enough money





N/W Passage Program Chair

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