SICOP REPORT

ABSTRACT

The administrative resolution AR-3-94 approved by the AASHTO Board of Directors on November 13, 1994 provided for the establishment of a Winter Maintenance Program. The Standing Committee on Highways provides oversight of the Program and has the authority to establish and manage the AASHTO Snow and Ice Control Pooled Fund Cooperative Program (SICOP). Voluntary and public sector funds have been used to support travel and meeting expenses of the programs’ committee members. It also reimburses the travel expenses for committee members to speak at various snow and ice control workshops, symposiums, conferences, and presentation of materials about the SICOP program. Four voluntary solicitations have been held since SICOP was established in 1994 with the last solicitation held in 2004. These funds are nearly depleted: AASHTO plans to invoice member departments for a continuation for voluntary assessment of $4000 in July 1, 2006 for the continued support of SICOP’s administrative functions.

SICOP ACCOMPLISHMENTS REPORT

SINCE LAST FUND SOLICITATION FALL 2004

Technology Transfer Activities

Progress continues on implementing the AASHTO Anti-icing/Road Weather Information System (AI/RWIS) Computer Based Training (CBT) program into more state DOTs training programs. A recent telephone survey finds some state DOTs teaching the first lesson in a group setting and then individual progression at their own rate back at the garage or office. Others have integrated the CBT into their training academies. The metric version of the CBT has been sold to the Canadian Provinces of Alberta, Manitoba and Newfoundland and the City of Calgary. The Ontario Good Roads Association is marketing the CBT to cities in the Province of Ontario. New storyboards are being written to incorporate the research findings of NCHRP 6-13, “Snow and Ice Control: Guidelines for Materials and Methods” into the CBT to gain wide spread technology transfer for local and state transportation agencies. Research project NCHRP 6-16, “Guidelines for the Selection of Snow and Ice Control Materials to Mitigate Environmental Impacts” has been completed with the exception of the corrosion element. A report was published minus the corrosion results in March 2006 and the results of the 6-16 research are being written into new storyboards for the CBT.

The “Clear Roads” pooled fund group (Ohio DOT, Michigan DOT, Indiana DOT, Missouri DOT, Minnesota DOT, Wisconsin DOT, and Iowa DOT) has requested to be a partner with SICOP to develop new CBT modules for other winter highway maintenance training. Clear Roads has offered to commit technical support and some very limited financial support to develop the required storyboards for this training. SICOP is currently gathering existing training material for technical review and possible use in the CBT. It is anticipated that SICOP will need to ask for additional funding for this project and for future revisions to the CBT to keep the teaching content current with the state of the art and emerging winter research results.

Research in Progress That was SICOP Initiated

NCHRP 6-17, “Performance Measures for Snow and Ice Control Operations” is progressing with Phase I of the project currently under review by the project panel. Project schedule lists completion for November 2006. Work is also underway on NCHRP 20-7, Task 200 “Synthesis of Vehicle Based Winter Maintenance Technologies.” Project was scheduled to be completed in July 2006 but is about six months behind schedule.

Other Activities Underway

SICOP Coordinator worked with Connecticut DOT to develop the technical program for the 2005 Eastern Winter Maintenance Symposium & Equipment Expo. He is currently working with New Jersey DOT to develop the 2006 Symposium technical program.