Spring/Summer 2004 Safety Grant Award Announcement

The Safety Grant Award Selection Committee met on February 17, 2004 to review and prioritize twenty six (26) award requests submitted by TTI staff. These requests were submitted by the following TTI Administrative Groups:

- Multimodal/Safety Center - 14
- Transportation Operations - 9
- Planning, Policy, Environment - 2
- Materials/Structures - 1

Congrats to the TOG participants! The following award requests were selected and ranked by priority for funding with project performance to begin March 1, 2004 and terminate August 31, 2004.

Small Task Projects selected included:

1. Investigate the Prospects of a TTI Toyota Research Center in San Antonio - $4,450 - Russell Henk
2. Establishing National Recognition for Rumble Strip Research - $8,500 - Paul Carlson
3. Measuring Safety Perception in the Pedestrian Environment - $9,000 - Harlow Landphair
4. Development of Truck Safety Research Partnerships - $6,000 - Marsha Anderson Bomar

Large Task Projects selected included:

1. Assessing the Desired Functionality/ Costs of an Instrumented Vehicle for TTI Research - TEXCar Transportation Experiment Car - $20,000 - Sue Chrysler
2. A Plan for Assessing the Safety Benefits of Improved Sign Visibility - Phase I only - $5,000 - Gene Hawkins
3. Project Yield (Youth Informing Every

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Ed’s Notes

I’m sure those of you who are involved in the FY 2005 TxDOT RMC process are busy preparing proposals. You might remember that at last year’s TOG retreat Gene Hawkins gave a presentation titled “Understanding the RMC Process, The What, When, How, Why, & Where.” We’ve posted a copy of that presentation on a shared drive as follows:

file:///\tti-bcs\ togg-neilson\RMC Process Updated May 2003.ppt

Although this presentation has not been updated to reflect current TxDOT RMC assignments and dates, it is a very helpful overview of the process and the roles of the participants.

Of course you can get a copy of these Research Project Statements on TTINet at http://ttinet.tamu.edu/proposals/opportunities/FY2005_RMC_RFPs/index.stm.

Ed Seymour
Birthdays

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mar 03</td>
<td>Hanseon Cho</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar 04</td>
<td>Russell Henk</td>
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<td>Mar 06</td>
<td>Steve Schrock</td>
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<td>Mar 20</td>
<td>Bhavesh Patel</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar 22</td>
<td>Montasir Abbas</td>
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<td>Mar 28</td>
<td>Helen Olivarez</td>
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<td>Mar 29</td>
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<td>Mar 29</td>
<td>Kay Fitzpatrick</td>
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<td>Mar 30</td>
<td>Andrew Ballard</td>
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<td>Jason Dominguez</td>
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<td>Apr 04</td>
<td>Carroll Messer</td>
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<td>Colleen Dau</td>
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<td>Apr 07</td>
<td>Amber Holguin</td>
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<td>Apr 08</td>
<td>Beverly Kuhn</td>
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<td>Apr 10</td>
<td>Hassan Charara</td>
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<td>Apr 14</td>
<td>Craig Koudelka</td>
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<td>Apr 17</td>
<td>Marc Jacobson</td>
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<td>Robert Pina</td>
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<td>Bruce Hoover</td>
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<td>Darrell Borchardt</td>
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<td>Kevin Balke</td>
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<td>Beth Neilson</td>
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Kudos & Congratulations

Kudos to Montasir Abbas (FSO), Marcus Brewer (FRD) and Steve Schrock (FWZ) on receiving their PE licenses. They have all been promoted to Assistant Research Engineer.

Kudos to Beverly Kuhn (DDV) on being appointed member of the TRB Users Performance Section Committee and chair of the TRB User Information Systems Committee.

Karl Zimmerman’s (FSO) paper submitted and presented at the 2004 Annual TRB meeting was selected as TRB Committee A3B05’s annual Young Researcher Award. Paper title: “Number of Vehicles in Dilemma Zone as a Measure of Intersection Safety at High-Speed Signalized Intersections (04-3263)”. Congrats, Karl!

Congratulations to Paul Barricklow (GSA) on his recent promotion to Assistant Transportation Researcher and to Kandis Salazar (GSA) on her recent promotion to Senior Office Associate.

Lisa Palmer (GTS) was also promoted to Senior Office Associate.

New Projects

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project</th>
<th>PI</th>
<th>Sponsor</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>475240</td>
<td>J. Ullman</td>
<td>Nat’l Academy of Sciences</td>
<td>Traffic Safety Evaluation of Nighttime and Daytime Work Zones</td>
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Polycom Units Added to Austin - Arlington

Polycom Units come to Arlington and Austin Offices. Ed Brackin, (DTL), has been assisting the Arlington and Austin Offices with installing new Polycom Units. The following are current contacts for Polycom Units throughout TTI.

CE/TTI Building: Shanna Yates

Austin: Heather Ford
Arlington: Diana Wallace
Gilchrist: Diane Fischer
Houston: Laura Wohlgemuth
San Antonio: Marc Jacobson
Dallas: Lisa Palmer
March 2004

Schedule of Events

• March 8 – Administrative Review of TxDOT Proposals
• March 11 - TxDOT Proposals Due to RDO
• March 24 - TxDOT Proposals due to TxDOT-RTI
• Mar 18, 19 - Spring Break
• March 31 – Performance Reviews to Human Resources

Calendar Highlight

March 31, 2004 - Performance Reviews due to TTI HR. Please read the email and newsletter article (Feb 04) from Ed Seymour for details on preparing for reviews.

Hello and Goodbye

The Houston office welcomes a new staff member, LuAnn Theiss. LuAnn previously worked for TTI as a grad student in 1997 and 1998 and rejoins TTI as an Assistant Transportation Researcher. LuAnn will initially be working with Dave Fenno on the research project "Improved Quantification of HOV Lane Delay Savings." In the same week she joined TTI, she married Chip Theiss, so double congratulations are in order. LuAnn, Chip, and Cody (LuAnn's 12-year old son) reside in Tomball.

After almost nine years of employment at TAMU/TTI, Larry Rillett has accepted an offer from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL) and will be joining their faculty as a Distinguished Professor of Civil Engineering and the Keith W. Klaasmeyer Chair in Engineering and Technology. We look forward to meeting Larry at conferences and, perhaps, working with him on some projects, technical committees etc. in the future. Best wishes, Larry!

The San Antonio Office bids a fond farewell to Garry Ford. Garry has been with TTI for the last eight (8) years and has accepted the position of Traffic Section Manager for Bexar County here in the San Antonio metropolitan area. Garry has been a valuable part of the TTI-San Antonio Office and will be sorely missed. We wish him the best in the next phase of his successful career.

Save the Date

• April 19, 2004 – Texas Transportation Hall of Honor, Austin, TX
• April 18-24, 2004 - Administrative Professional Week
• April 26-29, 2004 ITS America 2004 Annual Meeting & Expo, San Antonio, TX
• May 21, 2004 — TOG Day Activities, College Station
Safety Grant Award (continued)

(Continued from page 1)

Living Driver) - $17,050 - Russell Henk

4. Implications of Changing Demographic and Socioeconomic Structures on Highway Safety: A Texas Initiative - $20,000 - Shaw-Pin Miaou

Total Awards $90,000

The selection committee identified six (6) other Safety Grant Requests totalling approximately $60,000 with strong potential to be funded by TTI sources other than the Safety Grant Program.

On the Road

On Jan 31-Feb 4, numerous TOG staff attended the Annual Convention for the American Traffic Safety Services Association (ATSSA) in San Antonio. Those attending included Gene Hawkins, Paul Carlson, Melissa Finley, Jerry Ullman, Brooke Ullman, Austin Bischoff, Liz Rose, Marcus Brewer, Andrew Holick, Garry Ford, and Ed Seymour. ATSSA is an industry group for the traffic safety industry. Gene and Paul participated in committee activities and were on the program for the workshops. The highlight of the convention was the exhibit hall, where a large number of vendors had booths displaying products ranging from work zone traffic control devices to roadway safety devices and many other items. The ATSSA website (http://www.atssa.com/) provides more information about the organization.

From Feb 18 to 20, Gene Hawkins and Paul Carlson hosted the 6th Annual TxDOT Sign Shop Supervisor meeting at Riverside campus. Each year the meeting becomes more and more popular. This year almost 100 TxDOT personnel representing 23 districts were present, including two district engineers. Liz Perez, Andrew Holick, and Austin Bischoff also helped make this meeting a success.

Leonard Ruback (DTL) and Darryl Puckett continued their efforts with Houston METRO during the recent Super Bowl. METRO’s Mobile Operation Center (MOC) was deployed in downtown Houston for The Main Event street party and on Super Bowl Sunday at Reliant Park. The MOC is outfitted with several wireless communication packages which totally “connect” the MOC to the world. For example, METRO PD was able to receive video from select locations in downtown and around the Reliant Park area to help manage the large crowds and to support transit operations. In addition, Transtar played a role by hosting a selectable video stream (traffic cameras and train platforms) to be viewed on the MOC and by METRO PD cruisers and handhelds. The operational test was a tremendous hit and we are looking forward to Houston’s Livestock Show and Rodeo to continue the work!

Jerry Ullman, Brooke Ullman, Melissa Finley, Ed Seymour, Jim Carvell, and Gene Hawkins were among the TOG staff members who attended the Tex ITE Winter meeting in San Antonio, January 29-31.