Evaluation of Low Cost Safety Improvement TPF-5(317)

Develop reliable estimates of the safety effectiveness of safety improvements identified as strategies in the National Cooperative Highway Research Program (NCHRP) Report 500 Guidebooks.

WHAT IS THE NEED?

The goal of the proposed research is to develop reliable estimates of the safety effectiveness of safety improvements identified as strategies in the NCHRP Report 500 Guidebooks through scientifically rigorous "Before"-"After" (B/A) evaluations of sites within the U.S. where these strategies are being implemented.

In order to achieve a national goal shared by the US Department of Transportation (USDOT), American Association of State Highway Transportation Officials (AASHTO), and Governor’s Highway Safety Association (GHSA) to reduce the fatality rate and save lives annually, the safety improvement strategies will need to be appropriately implemented.

WHAT ARE WE DOING?

The scope of the Evaluations of Low Cost Safety Improvements Pooled Fund Study (ELCSI–PFS) is to conduct a research project of the priority strategies in the NCHRP Report 500 Guidebooks. Originally, a target of 20 strategies totaling $4.38 million over 5 years was planned for ELCSI–PFS studies in four phases. Currently, this study has outperformed its original goals, and has added many extra goals. To provide much needed reliable measures for effectiveness of various low-cost safety improvements, this study’s performance period has been extended beyond 2019.
WHAT IS OUR GOAL?

The goal of this research is to develop reliable estimates of the effectiveness of the safety improvements that are identified as strategies in the NCHRP Report 500 Guides. These estimates are determined by conducting scientifically rigorous before-and-after evaluations at sites in the United States where these strategies are being implemented.

WHAT IS THE BENEFIT?

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) can potentially benefit from the outcome of this research by implementing the resulting recommendations and potential solutions from the transportation pooled fund (TPF) study, TPF-5(317).

The public may benefit from the implementation of the results of this research which have the potential to improve the effectiveness in reducing the number and severity of crashes.

WHAT IS THE PROGRESS TO DATE?

April 1, 2021 – June 30, 2021

This pooled fund study has contributed over 800 CMFs to the CMF Clearinghouse, and this effort is on-going.

Significant Results for this quarter:

ELCSI-PFS, TECHNICAL ACTIVITY COMMITTEE (TAC) TASK
The 2021 Annual TAC meeting (17th meeting), was conducted virtually on June 28, 2021. The Contractor is in process of collecting TAC’s technical feedback for future studies. The Contractor will share the TAC technical feedback and presentations in August of 2021.

WORKSHOPS FOR FOCUS CRASH AND FACILITY TYPES (FCFT)
This task was awarded in June 2021. The kickoff meeting was conducted, and the draft technical proposal was received and reviewed. The workshops are expected to be conducted in November of 2021.

ELCSI-PFS, PHASE XII
• Developed draft presentation for the 2021 TAC Meeting.
• Met with FHWA technical advisory committee on 6/15. Provided overview of material for the 2021 TAC Meeting.
• Provided FHWA a copy of the Brochure (ver. 4) for editorial review on 6/16/21. Included a copy of the required permission form.
• Continued reducing the before data for the two Fremont intersections.
• Began process to hire vendor(s) to collect the data for the California sites during this summer.