

update

News about transportation research and the work of the Minnesota Local Road Research Board

2011 Research Projects Approved

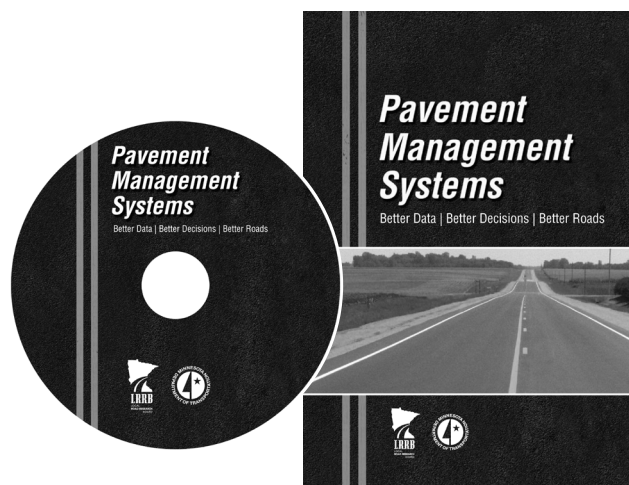
At its December meeting, the LRRB approved funding for 2011 research projects. The following is a list of fully-funded research projects that will begin this year.

1. Planning and Implementation of Complete Streets at Multiple Scales
2. Partially Grouted Riprap Lab Flume Study
3. Best Practices Synthesis and Guidance in At-Grade Trail Crossing Treatments
4. Development of a wireless WIM system that can be used for Improve Enforcement of Weight Restrictions (Updated Title)
5. Research using waste shingles for stabilization or dust control for gravel roads and shoulders.
6. Implications of modifying State Aid Standards; Urban, New or Reconstruction (Mn Rules 8820.9936) to accommodate various roadway users.

If you would like to take part in shaping any of these projects as a member of a technical advisory panel, please contact Sandy McCully, Mn/DOT's Research Services Section, 651/366-3768 Sandra.Mccully@state.mn.us The LRRB needs your participation and energy to ensure that our work remains a vital part of Minnesota's engineering community.

Pavement Management DVD

The LRRB recently funded the development of a DVD and brochure on Pavement Management, which are part of an ongoing study on pavement management in Minnesota. The DVD was developed to assist local agencies understand and communicate the benefits of pavement management. The DVD is targeted at non-users of Pavement Management or Engineers wishing to convince their elected officials to implement a program. Copies of the CD were sent to all City and County Engineers in early March. If you would like additional copies of this DVD, please contact Sandy McCully at Mn/DOT Research Services at 651.366.3768 or Sandra.Mccully@state.mn.us



2011 Calendar of Events

May 24-25: Center for Transportation Studies Annual Conference, St. Paul, MN
www.cts.umn.edu/Events/ResearchConf/

April 17-21: National Association of County Engineers (NACE) Annual Conference, Minneapolis, MN
www.countyengineers.org/events/annualconf/Pages/default.aspx

April 12-13: Spring Maintenance Expo, St. Cloud, MN
www.mnltap.umn.edu/Events/SpringMaintenanceExpo/

April 17-21: Minnesota Public Works Association Conference, Grandview Lodge, Nisswa, MN
<http://minnesota.apwa.net/>

June 22-23: Summer LRRB Meeting Sawmill Inn, Grand Rapids, MN

Visit LRRB at NACE

The Minnesota County Engineers are hosting the annual National Association of County Engineers (NACE) Conference, April 17-21, at the Minneapolis Hilton and Convention Center. **Visit our booth #69 Sunday, April 17th from 4-6 p.m. and Monday, April 18th from 8 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.** More conference information can be found at www.countyengineers.org

Membership Updates

The composition of both the LRRB and the RIC has changed in the past year. Here's an introduction to some new faces that have joined in recent months. These changes took place on January 1, 2011.

Tim Stahl, Jackson County Engineer, is the most recent member of the LRRB-RIC, chosen because of his high energy and past involvement in identifying projects for the LRRB. We are excited that he has agreed to join the committee and look forward to engaging his knowledge in the years to come.

New LRRB member **Tom Ravn** has worked at Mn/DOT for 26 years, most of them in construction, with short rotations in research and design. He is currently the Office Director/State Construction Engineer in the Office of Construction and Innovative Contracting. Tom is excited about the opportunity to serve on the LRRB and said "The LRRB is very important as it is an avenue to provide needed research and eventual implementation of practical solutions for the administration of City, County, and Township projects in Minnesota."

Rick West (Otter Tail County) was recently named the chair of the LRRB, replacing Deb Bloom (City of Roseville). Thank you to Deb for your leadership! Sue Miller (Freeborn County) will be replacing Rick West's role as the dual member of the LRRB and RIC.

A Fond Farewell To Gary Danielson

The LRRB's Research Implementation Committee bid a fond farewell to Gary Danielson, Kandiyohi County Engineer, at their December 7, 2010 quarterly meeting. Gary has served as an energetic member of the RIC since 2006 and is retiring from this role to give another engineer a chance at participating in the research implementation

process. Projects that Gary was involved with while on the RIC included the topics of Optimal Timing of Preventative Maintenance, Guardrail Maintenance, Street Sweeping, Traffic Generators, Roads and Loads DVD and Pavement Management DVD. Gary said "I think the Roads and Loads DVD was the most satisfying involvement and the Street Sweeper task was the best learning experience. When asked about what he took away from his time on the board, Gary said "It's a great learning experience to be part of RIC, and I really appreciate the people I met through the process."

As a thank you for his years of service, the RIC recognized Gary with a plaque commemorating his contribution to Minnesota local road research.

Gary Danielson
Kandiyohi County
Engineer



2010 Engineer of the Year Awards

County Engineer



Mitch Anderson
LRRB member, **Mitch Anderson PE**, was named the 2010 County Engineer of the Year by the Minnesota County Engineer Association (MCEA). Mitch has worked at Stearns County since August 1987 and as been the County Engineer since 1999. Mitch's accomplishments over the past 12 years include resurfacing of over 700

miles of highways, reconstruction of over 140 miles of highway, replacement of over 60 new bridges, design and building of over 40 traffic signals and 4 roundabouts, and the construction of over 50 miles of State bike trails. Mitch has been an active part of his community and the fabric that makes a community thrive.

City Engineer



Jon Erichson, PE, was recognized as the 2010 City Engineer of the Year. Through his position as City Engineer and Director of Public Works at the City of Austin, Jon has worked to serve the community where he was born and raised. Over his 31 years of service he has always worked with the best interest of the City and residents in mind. Jon was recommended to receive this award by many people he works with, including his City Administrator, current and former Mayors, State Representative and the Vice President of Hormel Foods. State Representative Jeanne Poppe's statement in her letter of recommendation sums it up "Jon Erichson is the total package!"

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If you have any questions, contact Jake Akervik, Communication Coordinator.



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