SPR RESEARCH PROJECT DESCRIPTION

PROJECT NUMBER:
04402

PROJECT TITLE:
Evaluation of Alabama’s 5310 and 5311 Providers to Ensure FTA Compliance

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR:
Michael Anderson
Assistant Professor of Civil Engineering
Department of Civil Engineering
University of Alabama in Huntsville
Huntsville, AL 35899
(256) 824-5028, (256) 824-6724
midea@cee.uah.edu

OBJECTIVE:
The three main objectives in this project are to review the performance evaluation questionnaire, perform on-site visits of all 5310 and 5311 properties and prepare necessary reports for submittal to the Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT).

ABSTRACT:
Alabama is responsible for monitoring the activities of Section 5310 and 5311 transportation providers. This project will verify that agencies operating vehicles under these programs are meeting with specific maintenance and operator regulations established by the ALDOT and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA).

TASK DESCRIPTIONS:
1) Develop a monitoring checklist for the site visits to the 5310 properties.
2) Work with ALDOT to calibrate the items from the checklist using a sample agency.
3) Perform site visits to each of the 5310 and 5311 properties.
4) Report the results from the site visits to ALDOT.
5) Develop the project final report

MILESTONES AND DATES:
Task 5: Jul 1 – Sep. 30, 2006

TOTAL BUDGET:
This is a 33 month project; ALDOT State Planning & Research (SPR) funds $ 158,871.

STUDENT INVOLVEMENT:
There will be one graduate and one undergraduate student assisting Dr. Anderson. They will help in performing the on-site evaluations and in preparation of the necessary reports.

RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER PROJECTS:
This project is not related to any other UTCA projects.

TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER ACTIVITIES:
The only technology transfer activities that will occur will be when an individual agency requires updating or is experiencing maintenance problems.

POTENTIAL BENEFITS OF THE PROJECT:
This project will confirm that all agencies within the state of Alabama meet specific maintenance and operator regulations established by ALDOT and FTA. In turn, this will assure a high level of public transportation safety throughout the state.

TRB KEYWORDS:
FTA, Federal Transit Administration, Section 5310 and 5311 transportation providers, transit maintenance