



Center for Safety Equity in Transportation

If you have a right to get there, you have a right to get there safely.

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## Program Progress Performance Report for University Transportation Centers

**Submitted to:** Office of the Assistant Secretary for Research and Technology  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

**Project Title:** Tier 1 University Transportation Center for Safety Equity in  
Transportation (CSET)

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**Submission Date:** October 30, 2018

**DUNS Number:** 615245164

**EIN Number:** 92-6000147

**Recipient Organization:** University of Alaska Fairbanks  
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**Project Grant Period:** December 7, 2016 – September 30, 2022

**Reporting Period End Date:** September 30, 2018

**Report Term:** Semi-annual PPPR #3

**Signature:**

Billy Connor  
CSET, Director

## Abbreviations

- AKDOT&PF – Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities
- ANTHC – Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium
- AUTC – Alaska University Transportation Center
- CSET – Center for Safety Equity in Transportation
- GIS – Geographic Information System
- ORCID – Open Researcher and Contributor ID
- PI – Principle Investigator
- PPPR – Program Progress Performance Report
- RiP – Research in Progress
- RITI – Rural, Isolated, Tribal, Indigenous
- UAF – University of Alaska Fairbanks
- UHM – University of Hawai'i Manoa
- UI – University of Idaho
- UW – University of Washington

## 1. Accomplishments

### **What are the major goals and objectives of the program?**

The goal of CSET is to develop context-sensitive transportation solutions that address the safety needs of RITI communities. The Center will develop safety approaches that are sensitive to heritage, traditional ways of knowing and learning, and the preservation of culture. The mission of the Center for Safety Equity in Transportation (CSET) is to provide everyone with fair and equitable access to a safe transportation system.

### **What was accomplished under these goals?**

During the past six months of the project:

- *Setting up email list, website, and social media accounts*

The official CSET email, [cset.utc@alaska.edu](mailto:cset.utc@alaska.edu), has been used to communicate with Executive and Advisory Board members as well as project PIs. A contact list was populated and will be maintained for the duration of the project. Center announcements are being distributed through emails and social media posts to various audiences and stakeholders. Activities will be posted to the website in a timely fashion.

- *Communication: gotomeeting and gotowebinar*

An account has been set up for CSET with gotomeeting and gotowebinar. The Center will utilize gotomeeting for project progress reports and updates, advisory board meeting and board of directors. The Center will utilize gotowebinar for project updates to stakeholders and other efforts to disseminate research findings.

- *E-newsletters*

The Center distributed its second quarterly newsletter in May 2018 and a third in August 2018. The newsletter is available under the *Publications* section of the website.

- *Research projects*

Ten projects officially began in this reporting period under three primary areas: knowledge gathering, outreach, and baseline data collection. The project information is posted on the CSET website, and logged in the RiP database. Annual project update meetings will be held each summer, and quarterly reports will be collected in a timely manner.

The CSET director has informed prospective PIs to obtain their ORCID and will follow up to ensure compliance when projects are awarded.

- *Training programs*

None have been developed during this period.

- *Active student internships*

None have been developed during this period.

- *Teacher training and curriculum development activities*

None have been developed during this period.

- *Data collection tools developed*

- A GIS-Based Database for RITI communities in Idaho with different layers for state, local, and census roadways networks was updated with information on crashes that involved RITI communities and with information on crashes that occurred on unpaved roads in the state of Idaho.

- *Outreach, technology transfer, and workforce development*

Outreach, technology transfer, and workforce development activities were not accomplished in this period. For future PPPRs, please see details in the “*What opportunities for training and professional development . . .*” section on page 3, “*How have the results been disseminated . . .*” section on pages 3-4 and the “*Impact*” section on pages 5-6.

- *Sponsorship*

No activities were sponsored by CSET in this period, however, CSET expects to sponsor workshops, seminars, and other technology transfer activities, which will be listed in future PPPRs.

**What opportunities for training and professional development has the program provided?**

- None during this period.

**How have the results been disseminated?**

This period has been spent setting up the Center, so the opportunities for dissemination have been few. However, starting next reporting period, CSET staff and researchers will actively involve themselves in various professional meetings and outreach activities to promote the UTC program, enhance public understanding and increasing awareness of safety in RITI communities.

*Professional Meetings*

During this reporting period, CSET representatives attended the following professional event:

1. 2018 Walk/Bike/Places, New Orleans, LA, September 16-19, 2018.
2. Canadian Permafrost Working Group, Inuvik, NWT, Canada August 21-24, 2018
3. 2018 National Transportation in Indian Country Conference, Duluth, Mn. September 19, 2018

*Outreach*

- *Community Meeting at Laniakea Beach, August 2, 2018*

Researchers from the University of Hawai'i at Manoa met with community members and their state representatives to discuss the severe road congestion and access issues impacting this rural community due to tourists.

- *Community Meeting at Sunset Beach, September 8, 2018*

Researchers from the University of Hawai'i at Manoa met with community members and their state representatives to discuss the severe road congestion and access issues impacting this rural community due to tourists.

- *Copper River School District*, May 16, 2018

CSET Director Billy Connor provided a highway safety presentation for group of approximately 10 students from Kenny Lake high school in the Copper River School District. The students were visiting UAF to get information on the diverse opportunities for studies in college.

- *Palmer Elementary School*, May 8, 2018

CSET Director Billy Connor provided a highway safety presentation for group of approximately 10 students from Palmer Elementary School. The students were visiting UAF to be encourage dreams of going to college.

- *2018 Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians Mid-Year Convention*

Researchers from the University of Washington attended the 2018 Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians (ATNI) Mid-Year Convention as a silver sponsor representing CSET. An evaluation framework was developed for monitoring the outreach progress.

- *Kids2College Event*, April 18, 2018

CSET Director Billy Connor and CSET Associate Director Nathan Belz engaged 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade students from the Alaska Gateway School District and the Nordale Elementary School during the annual Kids2College event hosted by UAF. The students were introduced to the concepts of friction and safe stopping distances on different road surfaces including asphalt, gravel and ice.

### **What do you plan to do during the next reporting period to accomplish the goals and objectives?**

We will follow the implementation plan to ensure that all the CSET's funded research, education, and outreach activities move forward as scheduled.

- The Center website, social media presence, and emailing contact lists will be regularly updated and used to promote the Center and its activities.
- CSET's fourth and fifth quarterly newsletters will be distributed during the month of November and February. The newsletter will highlight Center progress, such as projects starting/concluding, new calls for proposals, STIs, etc.
- Steps will be taken to continue bringing students on as research assistants.
- Steps will be taken to develop training programs, curriculum development activities, outreach, and sponsorship opportunities.
- Center researchers and staff will continue participation and involvement with seminars, workshops and conferences as outlined in YR1 and YR2 efforts.

## **2. Products**

**Publications, conference papers, presentations, websites, lectures, seminars, workshops, invited talks**

### *Publications*

- *Journal Publications*

None to report at this time.

- *Reports*

None to report at this time.

- *Conference papers*

None to report at this time.

- *Presentations*

- Belz, N.P., & Connor, B.G. The "Road" from Newtok to Mertarvik, Presented at National Lab Day, University of Alaska Fairbanks, Fairbanks, AK. May 2018.
- Prevedouros, P.D., Driver Distraction: Perception Survey and Driving Simulation Results, presentation at 2018 CICTP, Beijing, China, July 5-8, 2018.

- *Other Products*

- Dust Pallative Mean Particle Time Calculator (UAFDUST) developed and tested.

- *Website Updates*

- The CSET website is live at [cset.uaf.edu](http://cset.uaf.edu).
- Year 2 project information is available on the website.
- Save the Data and preliminary conference information added for the co-hosted Region 10 Transportation Conference (PacTrans and CSET)

- *Lectures/Seminars/Workshops/Invited Talks*

None to report at this time.

### **3. Participants & Collaborating Organizations**

#### **What organizations have been involved as partners?**

- *Collaborative research and financial support*

Newtok Village Council, Newtok Alaska, Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium

#### **Have other collaborators or contacts been involved?**

Email correspondence been exchanged during the reporting period to discuss research ideas and broad collaborations on research, education, workforce development, and outreach activities between CSET and various collaborators. Plans have been developed for a collaborative effort during the upcoming reporting period to establish common definitions of Rural, Isolated, Tribal and Indigenous for use by the projects funded by the Center.

### **4. Impact**

- *What is the impact on the development of the principal discipline(s) of the program?*  
In future PPPRs, this section will briefly introduce the impact on research, educational outreach, and training and development the Center and its projects have had.

- *Other Disciplines –*

CSET is a multidisciplinary Center, and will therefore have an impact in fields outside of the traditional areas of transportation research. In future PPPRs, this section will serve to answer the following questions.

- *What is the impact on the development of transportation workforce development?*
- *What is the impact on safety in RITI communities?*
- *What is the impact on physical, institutional, and information resources at the university or other partner institutions and communities?*
- *What is the impact on technology transfer?*
- *What is the impact on society beyond science and technology?*
- *In what ways have researchers and students who are part of or who focus on native or federally recognized tribes and communities been involved?*

## **5. Changes**

- Dr. Brennon Morioka is no longer a member of the CSET Advisory Board after taking a new position unrelated to transportation.