

Status Report for STIC Incentive Projects

State: (NC)

STIC Incentive Projects

Project Name	State Champion	Federal Fiscal Year	Federal Funds - Amount Allocated	Federal Funds - Amount Obligated	Federal Funds - Amount Expended
Automating Waze Road Closures	Jennifer Portanova	2022	\$60,000	\$60,000	\$49,714

STIC Project #3: Automating Waze Road Closures

Description of Proposed Work:

NCDOT's DriveNC.gov traveler information website provides day to day and emergency travel conditions. NCDOT staff in all 100 counties enter information about crashes, work zones, flooding and other incidents that impact travel into the NCDOT Traveler Information Management System (TIMS). This information populates our DriveNC website and alerts media, emergency responders, school bus managers and navigation apps like Google, Waze, and Apple Maps of travel disruptions.

In 2020, NCDOT attempted and was not successful in automating a closure feed from TIMS to Waze. NCDOT told Waze about work zones or crashes in a manual way, but could not tell Waze definitively and automatically that a road is closed. Waze requires definitive and automatic information on the closure in order to reroute traffic. The task of putting the feed into the Waze format was technically complex work.

We attempted this task using internal resources and our feed was rejected by Waze because it was not in the specified format. This work has been done by a consultant for other State DOT's, such as Louisiana, Wisconsin, and Alaska and by a technology service company for transportation agencies in the UK.

NCDOT Traffic Systems Operations discussed this need with NCDIT Transportation GIS. The GIS team committed to completing the feed with internal resources. They began working with the Web Team to access and process the TIMS Closure data to meet the Waze requirements. Both the Web Team and GIS staff charged their time to this project.

Status:

The automated closure feed from TIMS to Waze was completed in December 2022. After it was launched, we observed the incidents in Waze and received feedback from Waze volunteers and users. In January 2023, a patch was released in TIMS that improved the feed beyond the original deployment. Because of the collaboration, efforts and coordination of NCDOT's Web Team, GIS and Traffic Systems Operations, NCDOT

now leads the eastern states in the number of full closures shared with Waze. This STIC project is complete and can be closed out.

