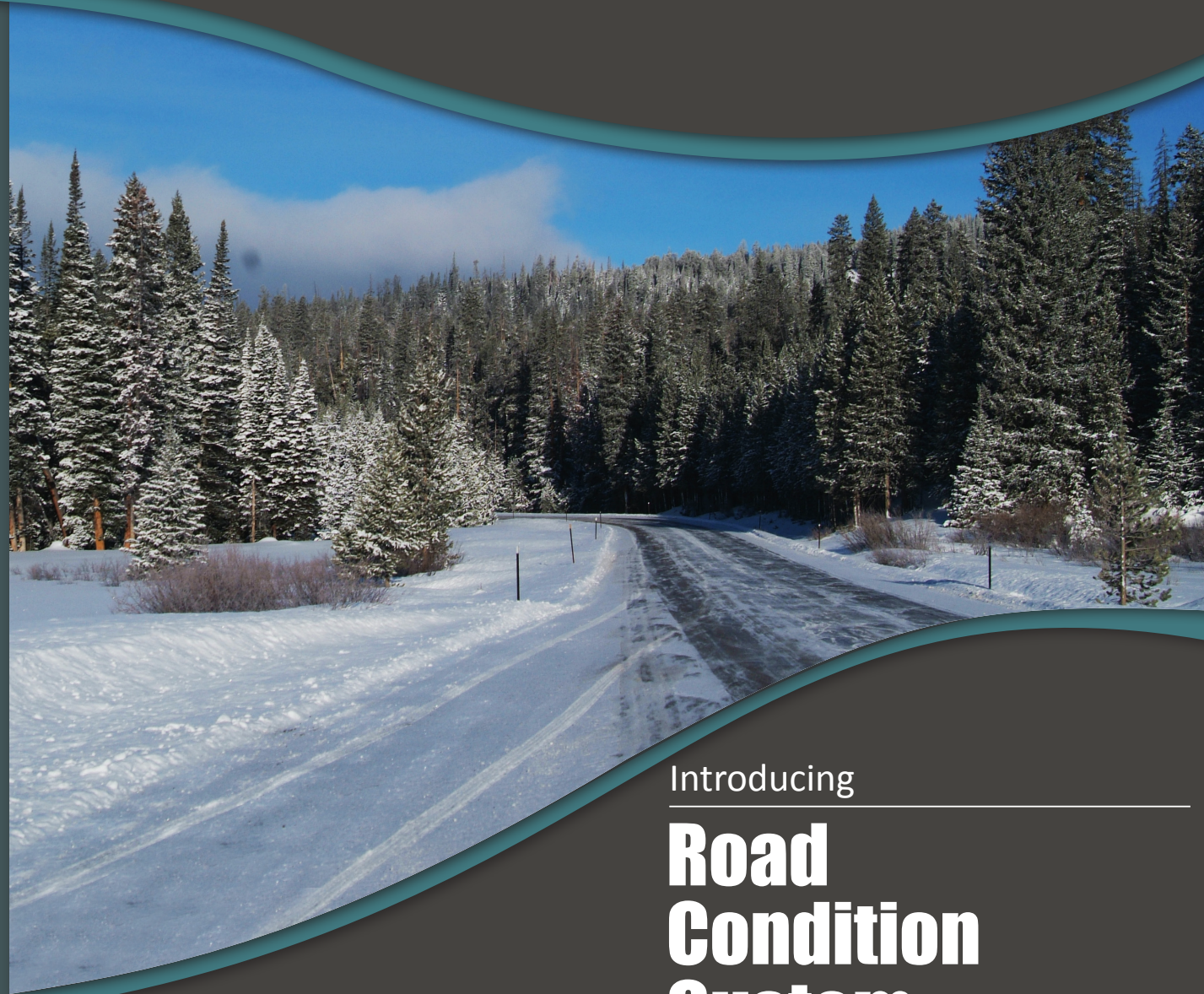


COST & CONSIDERATIONS CONTINUED

The pilot systems have been very reliable and require minimal training. The equipment used is intended for home use and is generally user friendly for those with minimal technical expertise.

Security of the systems should be considered. WYDOT has purchased small, programmable locks that cost about \$10 to secure the televisions to their mounting brackets. In areas where the televisions will be monitored all the time, this may not be a concern.

Funding for the project could be available through the Department of Workforce Services Safety Improvement Fund. For more information, visit: <http://bit.ly/1zRnlfV>



Introducing Road Condition Custom TV Displays

Contact us here:
wyoroad@wyo.gov



Wyoming Department of Transportation and Department of Workforce Services



WYDOT Critical Travel Conditions Call 511 for Additional Information		511
80 East to Cheyenne	OPEN	1.80 Summit (East)
Visibility	>1/2 mi	
Road Surface	Wet, Slick in Spots	
No Alert Level Conditions		
80 West to Rawlins	OPEN	1.80 Walnut (East)
Visibility	>1/2 mi	
Road Surface	Wet, Slick in Spots, Drifted Snow	
No Alert Level Conditions		



INTRODUCTION

For many Wyoming drivers, checking road condition information is a routine part of wintertime travel. The Wyoming Department of Transportation recently created a program to help organizations quickly and easily provide their employees and customers with road condition information through custom web pages displayed on Smart TVs. The displays allow businesses to improve employee safety while travelling and provide an additional customer service. Those who participate must provide their own equipment, but grant funding from the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services could be available. WYDOT will make a customized information feed available at no cost.

These low-cost, highly visible displays use off the shelf televisions to provide site specific road and travel information. Examples of this are on display in the University of Wyoming's Arena Auditorium and the Casper Events Center. The displays are located near exits in order to give travelers a quick glance of road and travel conditions as they leave the buildings.

The technology behind these displays is very simple and easily adapted to other locations.

A specialized web page is created for roads associated with each direction of travel emanating from a town/city. To request a customized web page, visit: <http://bit.ly/1F49Bsn>.

The web page is tailored to fit the aspect ratio of the display and pages automatically change from one route to another after a few seconds. All of this is controlled at the central web server so if additional pages are desired for emerging events (AMBER Alert, Endangered Persons, construction activities, safety campaigns, etc), this can easily be accomplished.

The displays purchased for the pilot projects are "smart" TVs that have a built-in web browser. Sony "Google" TVs were purchased for the Arena Auditorium and Samsung smart TVs were purchased for the Casper Events Center. This was done for their cost effectiveness and ease of configuration.

Standard televisions without a built-in web browser can also be used as long as there is some type of device (often called a streaming device) that can provide the function of a web browser. This device provides wireless internet with a full web browser in a small format that could be attached to the back of a television. Options are available for less than \$100.

COST & CONSIDERATIONS

The cost of a television will vary depending on the size of display, the manufacturer and the TV's capabilities. The system does not require a high refresh rate that is typically associated with more expensive televisions, so a lower end TV will work. Other options (such as a PC monitor) may also work but WYDOT would like to review any technology to ensure compatibility. An internet search provides the following cost estimate:

	40 inch	32 inch
Smart TV	\$400	\$300
Standard TV	\$300	\$180

There may be costs associated with wireless communication in sites where a wireless router is not currently available and the location of the television must have a power outlet.

WYDOT recommends the Samsung Smart TV with full internet browser.