

Call for Transportation Innovation Ideas

North Dakota State University (NDSU) Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute (UGPTI) is seeking ideas on behalf of North Dakota Department of Transportation (NDDOT) for innovative transportation projects, processes and products. All transportation based contractors, consultants, suppliers, colleges and universities, associations, tribes, local jurisdictions and NDDOT staff are invited to submit ideas for consideration.

UGPTI, on behalf of NDDOT, and in partnership with the NDDOT TRIP (TRansportation Innovation Program) Team will make a minimum of four calls for ideas over the 2017 fiscal year (October 1, 2016 to September 30, 2017), review and recommend the preferred ideas to the NDDOT Executive Team.

The FHWA Every Day Counts initiative provides examples of transportation innovation ideas, and was created to identify and rapidly deploy proven but underutilized innovations to:

- Shorten project delivery process
- Enhance roadway safety
- Reduce congestion
- Improve environmental sustainability

For more information on Every Day Counts please see:

<http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/everydaycounts/>

Transportation Innovation Ideas are to address transportation areas overseen by the NDDOT including but not limited to:

- Bridges and structures
- Construction
- Operations and Maintenance
- Roadway surfacing
- Planning
- Environmental
- Safety
- Service delivery
- Transit
- Multi-modal
- Innovative or currently underprovided transportation training
- Innovative research

How to Apply: The next round of Idea submittals is due by December 12, 2016 and early submissions are encouraged and appreciated. The NDDOT TRIP Team will review all submittals. The TRIP Team may request that a submitter provide a presentation to the TRIP Team in the late December 2016 to mid-January, 2017 timeframe with the exact dates to be determined. Decisions regarding submittals which are selected for advancement will be made

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by a late January, 2017 timeframe. Actual announcement dates will depend on the time needed for the NDDOT Executive Team to request any supplemental information from the TRIP Team or the idea submitter.

To submit and upload an innovative idea, please upload your idea to the TRIP Program website at: <https://www.dot.nd.gov/dotnet2/submitinfo/submitinnovations.aspx>

Idea submittals must include:

- One-page Idea Executive Summary (Required)
- Problem Statement and Proposed Innovation (Required)
- Implementation Approach and Estimated Completion Date (Required)
- Estimated cost to implement or amount of funding requested (If known)
- Contact person for additional information, including daytime phone, email and address (Required)
- Appendix of Supporting Materials (Optional)

The entire submittal including appendices should not exceed 15 pages, excluding front and back covers if included. Photos or illustrations are encouraged to enhance the review team's ability to evaluate the merits of the idea.

Eligibility: All transportation based contractors, consultants, suppliers, colleges and universities, associations, tribes, local jurisdictions and NDDOT staff are eligible to submit an innovation idea.

Guidelines:

1. Ideas should address a specific transportation issue, component, process or service. This program may not result in funding projects that are already in a jurisdiction's CIP (Capital Improvement Plan) or the STIP (State Transportation Improvement Plan). However; innovation ideas that could be implemented and funded as part of an add-on to existing CIP or STIP projects are eligible.
2. The selection committee may reject ideas that do not satisfy the eligibility, guidelines and selection criteria.

Selection Criteria: Idea submittals will be evaluated based upon the previously mentioned guidelines and the following criteria:

1. Innovative: Does the submittal clearly address the benefits of the proposed idea? For example; does the idea provide time or cost savings, durability improvement (longer life) or improved service?
2. Implementable: Is the idea realistic, thoughtful, data-driven and in accordance with state laws? For example; design build statutory constraints or legislative limits for IT projects.
3. Additional considerations:
 - a. Does the idea include any matching funds or supplying of materials, machinery or labor?

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b. What is the potential for economic benefit?

Note that the TRansportation Innovation Program is anticipated to be an ongoing program. Unsuccessful submittals may be reconsidered in future rounds of the solicitation and review process.

TRIP Website: For more information and updates on the Transportation Innovation Program please see the project website at:

<http://www.dot.nd.gov/business/innovate/>

Summary: All persons submitting an idea will be notified of whether their idea is considered for further evaluation or implementation. The NDDOT reserves the right to use any innovation ideas submitted as NDDOT sees fit, such as incorporating innovation ideas into existing or future projects, programs or processes; rather than funding a stand-alone innovation idea. Submitters whose ideas are considered for further advancement may receive a request to provide a presentation before the selection committee. The selection committee, UGPTI and NDDOT staff will evaluate all ideas and presentations, and provide recommendations for selection to the NDDOT Executive office. The NDDOT Executive Office will make all final decisions.

Ultimately, NDDOT will coordinate the implementation of selected ideas through a separate innovation implementation team. Implementation or further research of an idea may be completed by the NDDOT in-house, or completed through the use of teams outside the NDDOT. Any outside teams may be selected through a later Request for Proposal (RFP) process specific to an idea or group of related ideas. The selection committee or another designated NDDOT entity may disburse payments based on the submitted budget as allowable by State and Federal law. The NDDOT retains the right to examine use of funds and expenses related to any idea at any time.

Selection and implementation of ideas by NDDOT are constrained by existing State and Federal procurement policies and statutes. The TRIP Program cannot result in changes to legislative or executive budget authority.

The NDDOT TRIP Team reserves the right to change the Call for Ideas and selection process for future solicitations.

Questions: Any questions regarding this call for ideas should be submitted through the TRIP Program website at:

<https://www.dot.nd.gov/dotnet2/submitinfo/submitinfo.aspx?pageID=contact-trip>