



Transportation for Livable Communities Pooled-Fund Research

To help maximize implementation of U.S. DOT's commitment to livable communities, NITC will continue the Transportation for Livable Communities Pooled-Fund Research program for a second round of funding. This program provides regional and local agencies more opportunity to be invested in research that has a national impact. Through the program, NITC will institute a process by which cities, counties, MPOs and other regional or local agencies can pool relatively small pots of research dollars to leverage NITC funds for a single project. For example, the first round of Pooled-Fund Research was used to fund an Online Non-motorized Traffic Count Archive project. Jurisdictions around the country are collecting non-motorized traffic count data, but the lack of a centralized database inhibits data sharing and greatly reduces the utility of this dataset. NITC and nine agencies are co-funding a national online non-motorized traffic count archive. These agencies from around the country contributed financial resources ranging from \$1,000 to \$50,000 for match.

We are currently soliciting partners to identify research needs that could be of common interest to similar agencies. In the second round of Pooled-Fund Research, partnering agencies will work with NITC staff to develop a clear problem statement, identify match partners. NITC will then issue the request for proposals (RFP) for a response from faculty at our partner universities of Portland State University, Oregon Institute of Technology, University of Oregon, University of South Florida and University of Utah. The intention is to raise at least \$75,000 and up to \$100,000 of matching funds for a research project between \$150,000 and \$200,000.

Who can submit?

Any agency such as a city, metropolitan planning organization, county, transit agency, etc. can submit research problem statements relating to NITC's theme of livability, incorporating safety and environmental sustainability. NITC expects that the agency or group of agencies submitting a problem statement will pool funds to contribute to half the cost of the project and be a member of the technical advisory committee.

Matching Funds

We are asking that agency partners provide non-federal **dollars** that can be used to match the NITC contribution up to \$100,000. Once a problem statement is selected, match (e.g., letter of commitment) must be secured by partners by **June 15th, 2015**. Some federal funds will qualify as match: specifically funds under U.S.C. Title 23, Sections 503, 504(b), or 505, which refer to technology deployment, local technical assistance, state planning and research (SPR) programs and national cooperative highway research program (NCHRP) managed by the Transportation Research Board.

Timeline

- April 15th, 2015 - Research problem statements from agency partners due
- April 30th, 2015 - NITC Executive Committee review and select statements
- June 30, 2015 - All match secured from agency partners
- July 15, 2015 - Pooled-Fund RFP released
- August 31, 2015 - Proposals due
- October 1st, 2015 - Projects able to begin

Please note that the timing of the RFP will be depending on how quickly match can be secured by partners. Timeline for RFP subject to change.

How to Submit Research Statements

Please download the research problem statement form and instructions from: <http://nitc.trec.pdx.edu/for-researchers>. Complete forms must be submitted online at <http://ppms.otrec.us/> by **April 15th, 2015**. Contact Susan Peithman at peithman@pdx.edu if you have any questions.