

1 Overview

To help maximize the implementation of U.S. DOT's commitment to improve the mobility of people and goods, NITC will continue its Pooled-Fund Research program. This program provides regional and local agencies more opportunity to be invested in research that has a national impact. Through the program, NITC establishes a process by which cities, counties, MPOs and other regional or local agencies can pool relatively small amounts of research dollars to leverage NITC funds for a single project.

Improving the
mobility of people
and goods
to build strong
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NITC has supported to-date two pooled-fund projects to address pressing transportation problems facing cities around the country. One project involved the development of a national archive for bicycle and pedestrian count data. The archive provides a centralized database that supports data sharing. The second project is focusing on offering contextual guidance for the design of intersections for protected bicycle lanes. In both cases, agencies from around the country contributed financial resources ranging from \$1,000 to \$50,000 for match. NITC matched the total amount, resulting in substantial research projects the partners would have not been able to achieve on their own.

We are currently soliciting partners to identify research needs that could be of common interest to similar agencies. 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 Arizona, University of Oregon, University of Texas at Arlington, and University of Utah. Partners are asked to raise at least \$75,000 and up to \$100,000 of matching funds that will, when combined with NITC match, lead to between \$150,000 and \$200,000 of project funding.

2 Who can submit?

Any agency such as a city, metropolitan planning organization, county, transit agency, etc. can submit a research problem statement relating to NITC's theme of improving the mobility of people and goods to build strong communities. 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.

3 Matching Funds

We are asking that agency partners provide non-federal dollars that can be used to match the NITC contribution of up to \$100,000. Once a problem statement is selected, match (e.g., a letter of commitment) must be secured by partners by July 31, 2018. 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. Once matching funds are secured, NITC will release the RFP to its consortium members.

4 Timeline

May 15, 2018	Research problem statements from agency partners due
June 1, 2018	NITC Executive Committee reviews and selects statements
July 31, 2018	All match secured from agency partners
*Aug 15, 2018	Pooled-Fund RFP released to consortium members
*Sept 6, 2018	Abstract due
*Oct 1, 2018	Proposal due
*Oct – Nov 2018	Peer review of proposals, project selection, task order(s) issued
*Dec 1, 2018	Project begins

*The timing of the RFP is contingent upon securing the match from partners by the end of July. As a result, the RFP timeline is subject to change.

5 How to Submit Problem Statements

The Research Problem Statement form can be downloaded from <http://nitc.trec.pdx.edu/funding/pooled-fund-research>. The form must be emailed to NITC’s research program administrator, Eva-Maria Muecke (emuecke@pdx.edu) by **May 15, 2018, 5:00 PM PDT**.

Please contact Eva-Maria Muecke at emuecke@pdx.edu if you have any questions about this process.

