



OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

CENTRAL OFFICE • 1980 WEST BROAD STREET • COLUMBUS, OH 43223
JOHN R. KASICH, GOVERNOR • JERRY WRAY, DIRECTOR

September 9, 2014

Frank Burkett
FHWA Ohio Division Office
200 North High Street
Room 328
Columbus, OH 43215

Dear Frank,

In support of the current pooled fund solicitation #1382, "No Boundaries Roadway Maintenance Practices" the Ohio DOT is requesting the waiver of the non-Federal funding match for State Planning and Research Funds for use on the proposed project. Ohio DOT will serve as the lead agency of this proposed project. The estimated number of partners will be ten, including the lead agency, and the approximate level of funding required to complete the research is \$300,000. This solicitation is a continuation of TPF-5(239) which began 1/1/11 and is now being concluded by Missouri DOT. They have asked that another state take the lead if the work is to continue. It has been valuable to our Office of Maintenance Administration and they have committed to be the lead state.

Increasingly, state departments of transportation (DOTs) are challenged to design and build longer life facilities that result in a higher level of user satisfaction for the public. One of the strategies for achieving longer life facilities is to use innovative technologies and practices. Implementation of new innovations requires considerable resources (time and money) to integrate the technologies into the day to day business practices for DOTs. This project will promote promising ready to deploy innovations that can be used by other DOTs and hence save time and money for agencies.

We request that participating states contribute \$10,000 each for the fiscal years 2015 through 2017.

- 1) Identify promising innovations and technologies ready for implementation within Maintenance activities, developed by the participating State DOTs, non-participating DOTs and outside entities.
- 2) Develop marketing plans for selected ready to deploy innovations and technologies
- 3) Organize training classes about specific research topics for member State DOTs.
- 4) Develop searchable database where innovations and research projects developed across the country can be identified and accessed.

So that states may use 100% State Planning and Research (SPR) funds for the conduct of this study, I request that you approve a waiver of the requirement that states provide matching state funds. If you have any questions or need further information please contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Cynthia Gerst".

Cynthia Gerst
Research Program Manager
614-466-1975
Cynthia.Gerst@dot.state.oh.us