



Iowa Department of Transportation

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April 3, 2009

Ref. No. 080.31

In an effort to ensure that its research program best meets the needs of the cities, counties, and State of Iowa, proposals are being solicited by the Iowa Highway Research Board (IHRB). A primary goal for IHRB is to encourage innovation and longer-range technological advances in the field of highway transportation. To support such innovation and advances, IHRB is encouraging individuals or groups to submit to IHRB proposals requesting **seed funding** for projects that are innovative or explore longer-range advances in aspects of highway transportation.

These projects may be “high-risk, high-reward” in nature, or they may be basic research leading to new fundamental insights that in due course will result in substantive advances in design, construction, maintenance, instrumentation and monitoring, modeling, or management of **highway related** projects. The proposing individual or group must demonstrate in their problem statement that their idea is innovative or addresses an important fundamental issue, and has the potential to bring about substantial benefits to transportation in Iowa. These projects are not necessarily expected to lead to results of immediate use in highway engineering, but to produce results holding promise for further useful development.

Proposals responding to this solicitation should clearly define the project goals and budget. The required proposal submission format is attached. A limited number of proposals will be invited. Preliminary recommendations will be made to the IHRB by Iowa Department of Transportation staff at the May 29, 2009 meeting.

Since this program is intended to provide **seed funding** for innovative or exploratory aspects of highway transportation, funding exceeding \$75,000 should not be expected. Collaboration with other agencies and/or partners is strongly encouraged, when appropriate. Funding requests in excess of \$75,000 should be discussed with the Operations Research Engineer, Iowa Department of Transportation, Research and Technology Bureau, prior to submission.

Proposals may be accepted, modified as a basis for accepting, or rejected by the IHRB. Final selections and contract negotiations are expected to be complete by June 30, 2008. The proposals must be delivered via e-mail to the e-mail address listed below (Microsoft Word or PDF format) and must be received by the Operations Research Engineer, Iowa Department of Transportation, Research and Technology Bureau, by **4:00 p.m. on May 8, 2009.**

Please distribute this solicitation to other people within your institution who may have an interest in the material and notify me so that I may include them in future distributions. If you have any questions on the submittal process or the selection process, please contact me at 515-239-1447 or mark.dunn@dot.iowa.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark J. Dunn".

Mark Dunn

Operations Research Engineer
Research & Technology Bureau