 

**Research Idea Statements — Due Oct. 1, 2025**

1. **Research Idea Title:**

1. **Research Literature Review:** Please describe the current state of knowledge and state of practice in this field, including studies underway in the TRID (<http://trid.trb.org>) and Research in Progress (<http://rip.trb.org/search>) databases, and how this relates to the research need. Limit: 1300 characters.

1. **Objective and Scope of the Proposed Research Idea:** Clearly state the objective of the proposed research and briefly describe how the proposed work will address the research needs. Limit: 975 characters.

1. **Justifications for the Proposed Research:** Please be specific as to how the research will benefit the Illinois Department of Transportation and the state of Illinois. Limit: 325 characters.

1. **Expected Implementation Outcome:** Describe the expected quantitative outcomes in terms of policy advances, cost savings, increased life cycle, safety, environmental impacts and sustainability, user benefits and/or other appropriate metrics. At minimum, explicitly list the benefits to IDOT regarding life-cycle cost and sustainability. Please note that IDOT is interested in immediate implementation of research outcomes. Limit: 650 characters.

1. **IDOT Staff Sponsor:** We strongly encourage you to discuss your research idea directly with an IDOT staff member to gain insight on IDOT’s needs and processes. Listing an IDOT staff sponsor shows that you have discussed the proposal with an IDOT staff member and they support your proposal. Having an IDOT staff sponsor will significantly increase the funding potential of this research idea. If an IDOT staff sponsor is listed below, an e-mail of support must be attached verifying their endorsement. (template attached)

1. **Suggested Review by the Following Technical Advisory Group or TAGs:**

Sustainable Construction

Environmental Impacts

Pavements and Materials

Planning, Policy, and Asset Management

Mobility and Freight Modes

Mobility Safety

Bridges and Foundations

Operations and Maintenance

1. **Estimated Time to Complete This Project in Months:** (Please allow six months total for report preparation, review and three-month Illinois Center for Transportation editing process.)

**Total Estimated Funding for Research:** (This estimate must include the minimum 25% cost share required for all ICT projects) $

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| --- | --- |
| **Submitter (Name):** | **Title:** |
| **Organization:** | **Phone #:** |
| **E-mail:** | **Mailing Address:** |

***Please note:***  *Your research idea may be shared with others in an open Request for Proposal. IDOT and ICT reserve the right to select any researcher to carry out this research idea. Project start dates are selected by IDOT and ICT and typically coincide with the start of the semester.*

**Please e-mail this form to:** [ICTProjectManagement@illinois.edu](mailto:ICTProjectManagement@illinois.edu). Questions may be directed to this e-mail address.

**IDOT Staff Support Letter Template**

Date

Dear Technical Advisory Group Members:

This letter serves as a verification that I have discussed <proposal name> with <proposer name>. As a result of our discussion, I believe that this proposal would be beneficial to IDOT.

(Optional additional information on rational for support, if desired.)

My support is not a guarantee of project selection or funding.

IDOT SPONSOR NAME

Title

Bureau