



Research @DDOT

Submitting a Research Project Statement

Calling all researchers and innovators! Do you have ideas for research that can help to make transportation in the District of Columbia more efficient, effective, sustainable, and livable? *If so, the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) wants your ideas.* Researchers, transportation professionals, and anyone who has an interest in transportation issues facing the District are encouraged to submit project ideas.

Research project ideas must be submitted as fully-developed problem statements using the structure given in this document. Problem statements are accepted year-round; however selection of research project ideas begins in April. There are several criteria that should ideally be met for a problem statement to gain funding as a project:

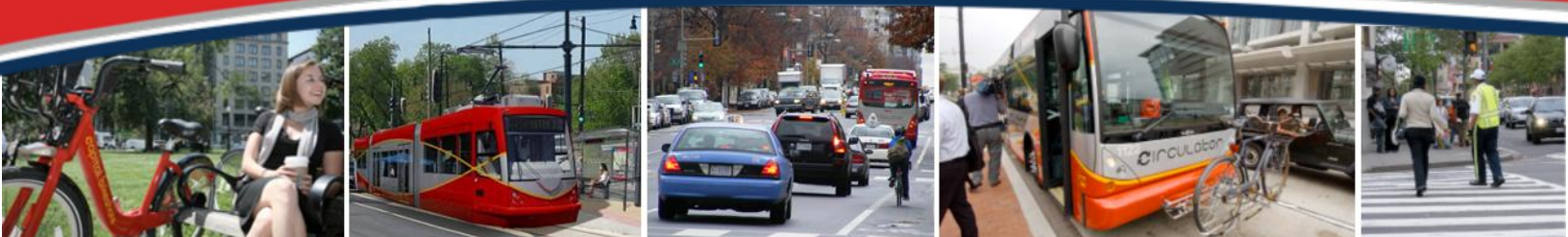
- The issue to be addressed should be answerable by conducting specific research. The project idea needs to be sufficiently narrow that a research project can provide a useful outcome in a reasonable period of time.
- There must be an agency need or urgency (that is, the issue must relate directly to improving transportation in the District and DDOT should have the ability to implement the project outcomes).
- The research project should not be a duplication of work already conducted elsewhere. A literature review and market scan of other jurisdictions is generally conducted prior to project selection to establish the need for DDOT to do this work. The Transportation Research Information Database (<http://trid.trb.org>) is a good place to check for literature and ongoing projects
- The cost and timeframe should be realistic and within DDOT's abilities.

In order to move forward, project ideas must have the support of an internal DDOT sponsor; the Research, Development, and Technology Transfer Branch will help to identify sponsors for submitted ideas.

Please note: We will provide feedback on a statement's movement through the process; however, submission of a problem statement does not guarantee later involvement in the project!

For additional help writing a problem statement please see [this resource](#) from the Transportation Research Board.

Problem statements can be submitted to the Research Branch: ddot.research@dc.gov





DDOT Research Problem Statement Format

TITLE

Be brief but descriptive

ISSUE

Describe the transportation problem to be addressed in some detail.

BACKGROUND AND EXISTING KNOWLEDGE

Provide an overview of circumstances surrounding the problem and, if available, a list of studies that address the problem.

SCOPE OF WORK

Briefly describe of study objectives and proposed research approach.

POTENTIAL BENEFITS AND IMPLEMENTATION

Describe the project's expected outcome, how the results could be implemented, and the project's benefit to the District.

TIME/COST ESTIMATE

Give your best estimate of the length of study and total study cost.

SUBMITTED BY

Name, organizational affiliation (include administration if within DDOT), and phone number of submitter. This will be the contact person for questions about this statement.

PREPARED BY

Name, organizational affiliation (include administration if within DDOT), and phone number of who prepared the statement.

DATE OF SUBMISSION