

California State University Transportation Consortium (CSUTC)
California State University, Fresno
Fresno State Transportation Institute (FSTI)
2021 Request for Research Grant Proposal

Dear Colleagues:

California State University, Fresno is a member of the newly established California State University Transportation Consortium (CSUTC). CSUTC funding is from an appropriation through California's Senate Bill One (SB 1). As part of the CSUTC, Fresno State Transportation Institute (FSTI) has received seed grant funding to further transportation research and training on our campus. For the 2021 program, FSTI will allocate a total of \$100,000 for transportation research projects led by Fresno State faculty.

- **Funding Amount Available:** \$100,000
- **Estimated Number of Awards:** 3-6
- **Award Ceiling:** \$40,000

- **General Proposal Information**
 - **Eligibility.** This research funding opportunity is available to all Fresno State Faculty. Commercial organizations, non-profits, and other universities may not respond to this RFP. The Principal Investigator(s) must be Fresno State faculty; non Fresno State personnel may participate on research teams. All proposals must include funding for Fresno State students.
 - **Project funding.** Proposal budgets, including all cost categories (e.g. salaries, student support, travel, equipment, and indirect/F&A/overhead expenses which is limited to 15%), must not exceed \$40,000. Applicants must use the budget template provided.
 - **Deadline.** The deadline to apply to this funding opportunity is 11:59 p.m. (Pacific) on **Monday, February 8, 2021**. All applications must be submitted via the following link:
https://fresnostate.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/preview/SV_2aQWnXoynOl8ahM?Q_CHL=preview&Q_SurveyVersionID=current
 - **Notification to Awardees.** FSTI will announce the selected proposals no later than February 19, 2021. The awarded projects should be completed by December 17, 2021. The Principal Investigator will be required to submit monthly progress reports to FSTI as a condition of payment.

- **Project Focus Areas**

Research and Training Proposals will need to be aligned with the following SB-1 objectives:

- **Objective 1:** Leverage new technologies, including vehicle automation, and innovative processes to achieve a seamless, multimodal surface transportation system that integrates with other "smart city" investments.

- **Objective 2:** Develop tools and approaches, such as life-cycle cost analysis, that will identify cost-effective materials and methods to facilitate road and bridge rehabilitation/maintenance decision-making and improve the long-term benefits of transportation investments.
- **Objective 3:** Develop advanced solutions for the application of new materials, design, and technologies to address long-term road and bridge maintenance and pavement/concrete rehabilitation needs.
- **Objective 4:** Create safer communities, increased access to transit, and greater opportunities for use of active transportation modes (i.e., biking and walking) through complete streets and innovative land use planning so that people of all abilities and socioeconomic levels enjoy the same opportunities for learning, living, labor, and leisure.
- **Objective 5:** Maximize opportunities for California's cap-and-trade program to reduce the impact of greenhouse gas emission and transportation on climate change.
- **Objective 6:** Promote intermodal connectivity, station development, and innovative finance solutions for the California high-speed rail project.
- **Objective 7:** Inform and improve decision-making on transportation-related issues through timely, relevant and nonpartisan public opinion polling of Californians.
- **Objective 8:** Optimize passenger and freight movements to improve mobility of people and goods through development of more accurate data models and advanced congestion management tools to achieve trade and commute corridor improvements.

- **Proposal Review Criteria**

Proposals will be reviewed according to the following criteria:

- Demonstrated relevance to the above stated objectives
- Quality and significance of research and/or training
- Student involvement
- Reasonableness of budget and cost-effectiveness
- Qualifications to perform work and likelihood of successful completion
- Potential for attracting larger grant funding

- **Proposal Format**

Proposal is restricted to specific page limits. Use Time New Roman font size 12 with 1-inch page margins for preparing your proposal. Each proposal must include the following sections:

1. Cover page (use the form provided in the Application link).
2. Project objective, background and motivation (1 page limit).
3. Methodology (the methodology by which project objectives will be accomplished, 1 page limit).
4. Tasks, Schedule and Deliverable (steps that will be followed in executing the methodology, and timeline for when they will be completed, 2 page limit).
5. Budget and Budget Justification. This section should be prepared in consultation with the office of research and sponsored programs. The extent of student involvement should be clearly stated. (1 page limit).
6. Qualifications: (a) Resume/ Short bios for all investigators, and (b) a letter of support from the primary investigator's department chair.