

Research

CONSTRUCTION AND MATERIALS DIVISION MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



WHO WE ARE

The mission of the Research Section is to deliver knowledge solutions and innovations so that MoDOT can make informed decisions. Staff administers contract research to outside organizations to solve organizational challenges.

All research projects are focused on ways MoDOT can change processes, products or materials in order to do our jobs in the most efficient and economical manner. Research ideas are solicited yearly in the fall; however ideas can be submitted to the Research Section at any time as needs arise.

The Research Section is located in the Construction and Materials Division within MoDOT. As part of the Division, Research has direct access to the state-of-art Central Laboratory.

WHAT WE DO

The MoDOT Research Section develops its annual research program with a focus on the following strategic areas:

- Safety
- Bridges
- Pavements
- Materials
- Geotechnical Issues
- Erosion Control
- Maintenance
- Multimodal Transportation
- Best Practices

The Research Section is also responsible for other activities:

Evaluate New Products

The Research Section coordinates all new products submitted to MoDOT that fall under current specifications. The New Products Coordinator works with each division to evaluate products. Often a demonstration project will be scheduled in a district that expresses interest. The New Products Coordinator also works with other state DOTs to share new products and best practices.

Provide Library Services

As part of an agreement with the University of Missouri-Columbia, MoDOT maintains a research library with a librarian on contract who facilitates access to publications, provides research assistance and synthesizes available research on a topic as literature search summaries.

Support the Local Technical Assistance Program (LTAP)

The Missouri LTAP program, located at the Missouri University of Science and Technology (Missouri S&T), is administered by the Research Section. Missouri LTAP is now recognized throughout the state for the training, resources and programs that it provides to local agencies. This program has developed partnerships and processes that enable it to deliver the highest-quality training and technology transfer to local agencies.

Coordinate the Every Day Counts (EDC) Initiative

Coordination of the Every Day Counts Initiative (EDC) is the responsibility of a MoDOT staff member. The coordination includes education about the initiative, coordinating and tracking

of its implementation and liaison efforts with FHWA.

Administer Pooled Fund Activities

The Research Section is responsible for coordination, administration and tracking of the progress of all FHWA pooled fund studies that MoDOT leads or is a participant.

Promote Technology Transfer of Innovations

The Research Section works with MoDOT staff to share innovations from other state DOT and research organizations.

OUR FUNDING

The department's research activities are primarily funded by Part II Federal appropriations of the State Planning and Research (SP&R) program. The research program is continually looking for ways to leverage funds through discretionary funds, AID grants, pooled funds, state funds and State Transportation Innovation Council (STIC) funds.

OUR STAFF

MoDOT Research employs three staff members and a librarian on contract. Research staff members coordinate internal and external experts to work on Missouri's transportation research. They rely on technical experts within MoDOT who function as an extension of staff for research activities.

