Research Implementation Plan

The Research Implementation Plan presents recommendations for implementing research project findings. Summarized below are key tasks and the parties responsible for addressing the implementation of research results and documenting a plan for implementation.

Planning for implementation begins with the project proposal. When preparing its research proposal, the research team is required to allocate time and budget to an Implementation Plan task that is completed during the same period as preparation of the final report (typically, the final three months of the research project).

A**ddressing implementation during the research process**. The research team will consider implementation as research progresses and include implementation on the agenda for periodic meetings with the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC).

As the research project nears completion, after the development of recommendations and three months before delivery of the final report and expiration of the contract, the research team will schedule an implementation plan development meeting to address the potential for implementation of research findings. The Research Implementation Plan will be used to guide discussion about next steps for applying research results.

Completing the Research Implementation Plan. After the implementation plan development meeting, the TAC members will complete agency-dependent Research Implementation Plan(s). After briefly describing the implementation plan and how its results will benefit their agency and its stakeholders, the Research Implementation Plan requires the TAC members to:

- Identify the major tasks that will be required to implement findings.

- Present potential challenges or barriers to implementation along with possible mitigation measures.

- Describe expected benefits, including possible assessment metrics.

- Identify training needs, including the pool of potential trainees, and the nature and extent of the training.

- Highlight gaps in findings and recommend areas for future research.

Publishing the Research Implementation Plan. The research team will include the completed Research Implementation Plan(s) in the final report as Appendix A: Implementation.

9/15/2025

INSERT PROJECT NAME

Project Description

Project Number:	Click here to enter text.
Project Funding Program:	Click here to enter text.
Projected End Date:	Click here to enter text.
Project Champion:	Click here to enter text.
Project Manager:	Click here to enter text.
Principal Investigator:	Click here to enter text.

Project Objectives

[Summarize the project objectives.]

Implementation Plan

[Briefly describe the research team's plan for implementing project findings, including:

- Any end products included in the recommended outcomes. These might include a new specification, policy, laboratory test procedure, mathematical model, or design technique, staff training, or other revised procedure or practice.
- How Iowa DOT, Iowa communities, or pooled fund partner states can apply research results to improve practices.
- Specific standards or practices that might be affected by the research findings, such as American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) or Iowa DOT specifications, policies and procedures, state legislation, and funding or staffing requirements.
- Resource requirements, administrative rules or laws, or other institutional issues that must be considered when implementing research findings.]

Major Tasks

[Using the template table below, list the tasks that will be required to execute the research team's implementation plan. Copy the template to describe as many tasks the research team anticipates will be needed to carry out the implementation plan. Note that **Training Needs** are addressed separately later in this document.]

Task:	Click here to enter text.
Responsible Iowa DOT Department(s) and/or Staff Member(s):	Click here to enter text.
Iowa DOT Resources Required:	Click here to enter text.
Implementation Partner Agencies:	Click here to enter text.
Anticipated Start Date:	Click here to enter text.
Anticipated Completion Date:	Click here to enter text.

Potential Challenges or Barriers

[Identify potential challenges or barriers Iowa DOT may encounter when attempting to execute the implementation plan. Include possible ways to mitigate these challenges or overcome these barriers.]

Expected Benefits

[Identify the benefits that will accrue to Iowa DOT and its stakeholders when the implementation plan is fully executed. Select all that apply and provide a brief description of each benefit selected, including how the research results can be used, and by whom, to improve transportation practice. Include in the description whether and how the benefit can be quantified. If not quantifiable, identify how the potential benefit can be assessed.]

Expected Benefit	Description
☐ Decreased lifecycle costs	Click here to enter text.
☐ Developed new or revised specification	Click here to enter text.
☐ Expedited project delivery	Click here to enter text.
☐ Improved aspects of the environment	Click here to enter text.
☐ Improved operations	Click here to enter text.
☐ Improved system reliability	Click here to enter text.
☐ Increased customer satisfaction	Click here to enter text.
☐ Increased knowledge	Click here to enter text.
☐ Increased lifecycle costs	Click here to enter text.
☐ Increased productivity or efficiency	Click here to enter text.
☐ Increased safety	Click here to enter text.
☐ Increased service life	Click here to enter text.
☐ Reduced agency administrative costs	Click here to enter text.
☐ Reduced construction costs	Click here to enter text.
☐ Reduced engineering and design costs	Click here to enter text.
☐ Reduced maintenance costs	Click here to enter text.
☐ Reduced operations costs	Click here to enter text.
☐ Reduced user costs	Click here to enter text.
☐ Validated current practice	Click here to enter text.

Training Needs

[Describe any training needs associated with the implementation plan, including who will require training, and the nature and extent of the training.]

Future Research

[Identify gaps in findings and topic areas for future research that will further advance the findings from this project.]