

Iowa DOT Research Request for Proposal (RFP)

It is the intent of Iowa DOT Research to enter into agreement with the responsible bidder whose submitted proposal is the most advantageous, cost and other factors considered. Other factors include but are not limited to meeting or exceeding mandatory requirements, proposed staffing, and meeting required time schedule.

- Original RFP is posted at <https://iowadot.gov/research/Requests-for-Proposal>
- Questions should be submitted to the project manager, identified below.
 - Questions are due no later than 14 calendar days prior to the proposal due date. Questions and responses will be posted on <https://iowadot.gov/research/Requests-for-Proposal> no later than 7 calendar days prior to the proposal due date.
- Responses must be submitted in pdf form to Proposal.Research@iowadot.us
 - Use the following naming convention for the PDF submission:
 - **ResearchProposalNumber_Agency_PrincipalInvestigatorLastName.pdf**
- Responses must comply with the proposal guidelines in “Required Format for Iowa DOT Research Proposals.”
 - <https://iowadot.gov/research/Research-Process/Proposal-Deliverable-Guidelines>

RFP #: TPF5545-2026a

RFP Title: Evaluation of Expanded Uses of Residential Driveway Temporary Signals (RDTs): Turn Lane Volumes and Storage

RFP Posted: September 15, 2025

Proposals Due: On or Before November 1, 2025 at 12:00 Noon Central Standard Time.

Project Manager: Khyle Clute, khyle.clute@iowadot.us, (515)-239-1646

Budget

- ☐ Funding limitations have been established. Proposed budgets shall not exceed \$_____.
- ☒ Proposed budgets are not limited. They will be considered during the evaluation process.

Timeline

- ☒ Timing limitations have been established. Proposed timelines shall not extend beyond 3/31/2032.
- ☐ Proposed timelines are not limited. They will be considered during the evaluation process.

Literature Review

- ☐ A Literature Review has been performed as part of project development and should not be included as a task in the proposal. The Literature Review is available for download here:
- ☒ A Literature Review has not been performed and may be included as a task in the proposal.

Data Management Plan

- ☐ Development of a Data Management Plan (DMP) is a required task in the proposal.
Refer to [Iowa DOT DMP guidance](#) section for more information.
- ☒ Development of a Data Management Plan is not a required task in the proposal.
-

Problem Statement

Traffic management for work zones in rural two-lane two-way highways can be challenging as these often intersect with low volume side streets and access points. Residential Driveway Temporary Signal (RDTs) devices have provided a solution to improve mobility at residential access points and low volume side streets under experimental evaluations. The RDTs (formerly Driveway Assistance Device (DAD)) was approved by FHWA under Interim Approval 23 to control residential driveway traffic when entering a one-lane, two-way work zone.

Objectives

The project objectives are to build upon the work already done with RDTs and temporary signal systems by considering their on-site use at uncontrolled rural low-volume side streets and access points. Of particular interest is the ability of RDTs to handle traffic on low volume side streets and access points with a focus on turning volumes related specifically to the designed turn lane storage capacity (i.e., the amount of left and right turn storage). Defined limitations related to mainline and side street or access point turning volume and turn lane storage capacity should be an outcome of the study.

Depending on the proposed study design, this project may require an experimental approach to traffic control evaluation as defined by the FHWA. All proposals that consider field data collection should take this into account and should include multiple sites in multiple states. The results should include guidance of these devices in these types of situations and potential wording for any future MUTCD language.

Minimum Project Tasks

1. None pre-determined

Products and Deliverables

1. Quarterly Progress Reports
2. Draft Final Report
3. Final Report
4. Technology Transfer Technical Brief
5. Research Implementation Plan(s)
6. Photo or Image Files

Note: All products and deliverables shall comply with accessibility and Section 508 requirements, regardless of funding source. Section 508 is an amendment to the federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 mandating that all electronic and information technology developed, procured, maintained, or used by the federal government be accessible to people with disabilities. Refer to 29 U.S.C 794d for additional information.

Additional Information

- This RFP is funded through the Smart Work Zone Deployment Initiative (SWZDI) under a multi-state pooled fund led by Iowa DOT as TPF-5(545). Information about the current SWZDI pooled fund is available at <https://pooledfund.org/Details/Study/779>.
- SWZDI encourages those proposing to reach out to the DOTs in the states noted below if the proposal includes possible piloting or field demonstration activities. Provide the name, title and email of the DOT contact if they support or provide possible locations for those activities.

- ****Proposal Restrictions****

- Proposals are limited to 8 pages. Resumes of the principal investigator and other named team members, along with other relevant materials, may be provided for additional information in appendices, but the proposal itself shall be a stand-alone document. The proposer should not expect the reviewers to read appendices to be able to evaluate the merit of a proposal.
- The proposing entity must be a college or university located in one of the states pledging funds to the SWZDI TPF-5(545) pooled fund: Alaska, Georgia, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, Pennsylvania, Texas, or Wisconsin. The principal investigator and any co-principal investigator(s) must be a faculty or professional staff employed by the proposing entity.
- Proposals submitted by current SWZDI principal investigators that have projects one year or more behind their originally contracted end date will not be considered.
- Individual respondents are limited to submitting on only one SWZDI proposal per year as either a principal investigator or co-principal investigator.

Non-Discrimination Statement

Iowa DOT ensures non-discrimination in all programs and activities in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Any person who believes that they are being denied participation in a project, being denied benefits of a program, or otherwise being discriminated against because of race, color, national origin, gender, age, or disability, low income and limited English proficiency, or needs more information or special assistance for persons with disabilities or limited English proficiency, please contact Iowa DOT Civil Rights at 515-239-7970 or by email at civil.rights@iowadot.us.