

INNOVATIONS TO IMPROVE WORK ZONE MOBILITY AND SAFETY

August 26, 2020

Members of the Iowa DOT Work Zone Council desire improve work zone mobility and safety by supporting identification, development and implementation of innovations for both construction and maintenance operations.

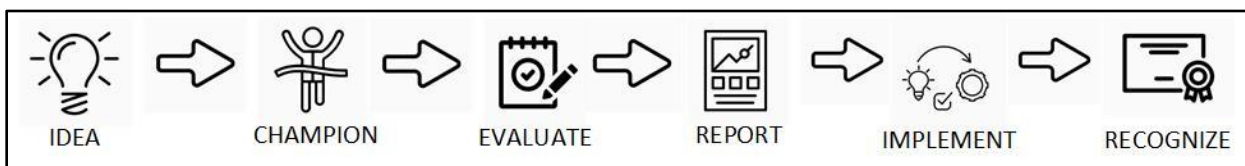
Challenges

- Capture all Work Zone Mobility and Safety Innovations
 - Implement a procedure that does not discourage participation
 - Conduct appropriate evaluation and document results
- Communicate results to stakeholders
- Implement successful innovations
- Recognize and reward contributors

Capture all Innovations

This streamlined process has been adopted to make it easier for individuals and groups to participate in advancing innovative techniques and ideas.

Process



Idea

Anyone can submit an idea by contacting Dan Sprengeler, Work Zone Traffic Engineer or Clayton Burke, Work Zone Safety Engineer.

Champion

Each idea will need a project champion to guide the process. Members of the Work Zone Management and Traffic Operations Committee can be of assistance with this effort.

Evaluate and Report

Evaluation and reporting need to be commensurate with the complexity and cost of the idea being evaluated. This can range from field observations to formal research projects.

Implement

The appropriate Bureau or Work Zone Safety Committee completes procedures, guidelines and standards to implement the results. The Work Zone Council may be asked to provide guidance and leadership.

Recognize

Formal recognition is important to facilitate a shift in culture for these innovations by identifying the individual or group that initiated and developed the technique.

Communication

It is important to share lessons learned by:

- Posting ideas on the WRL
- Including as part of impacted group(s) agenda
- Conducting a webinar and/or including in the Information Sharing Workshop
- Incorporating technique into work zone training

Past and Current Examples

Past innovative projects, innovative work zone devices, and new initiatives to improve work zone mobility and safety:

1. Portable Rumble Strips
2. Intelligent Work Zones
3. Smart Arrow Boards
4. Audible and Visual TMA Warning System
5. Portable Signals with Pilot Cars and No Flaggers
6. Portable Signals to replace flaggers on short term work