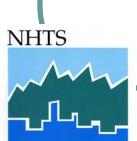
Building the 2009 National Household Travel Survey Program

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Outline

- 2009 NHTS Starting Point
- Program Assets
- Program and Funding Challenges/Barriers
- Program Strategies
- Funding Tools Used
- Lessons Learned



2009 NHTS Starting Point

- \$150K Annual Budget
- 12 months of contract funding (support staff, website and on-line analysis tool)
- Pockets of supporter in DOT but credibility and relevancy challenges
- Large and diverse user community
- Tradition of NHTS/NPTS in FHWA and Department

Objective

Fund the NHTS Program for 2009 and institutionalize the study



Program Assets

- Strong, knowledgeable, dedicated team
- Management support (Barna Juhasz)
- 40 year history
- Strong user community with wide range of applications
- Add-On program precedent
- Data Champion Alan Pisarski



Unsuccessful Strategies

- NHTS Line Item in the Budget
- Dedicated National Data Program in the legislation
- Funding from OST and other modes
- Funding from outside agencies/departments



Ground Rules

- Talk up the survey
- No deals for funding
- Use 2001 Methodology but no long distance
- Maximize flow and content of the survey



Program Strategies

- Increase Visibility, Relevance, and Credibility
- Ask for money
- Rally Users
- Leverage Add-On Program



Visibility, Relevancy and Credibility

- Speak to top policy issues
- Positive "talk"
- Outreach and presentations
- New Products (state profiles, trend data set)
- High level face time
- Source Credit



Ask for Money

- Ask for Money
 - Traditional and non-traditional sources
- Make easier for States to participate in Add-On Program
 - Waive the match
- Use mechanisms for getting money
 - Pooled fund
 - Interagency agreements
 - Lock Box

NHTS

Rally Users

Create the Buzz

- Agencies and Modes at DOT
- Organizations that Use NHTS Data
- Agencies outside DOT
- Transportation Research Board activities



Build and Leverage Add-On Program

- FHWA Green Light for Add-On Program
- Help States make the argument
- Make it easy to fund
- Provide some customization
- Communicate Add-On Program status and success



Funding Tools

- Pooled Fund Program
- Match Waiver
- Lock Box



Pooled Fund

NHTS

- Tool for different levels of government to collaborate on national and regional projects
- Typically one lead agency Federal does not need to be involved
- Formal solicitation, program number, and funds transfer process
- Agencies can elect to participate and develop funding plan

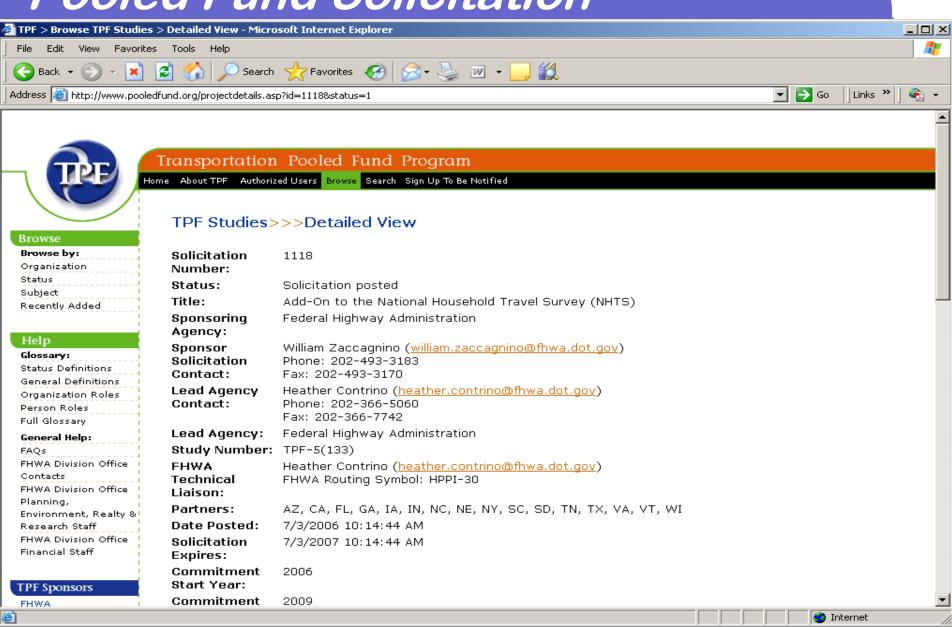
How Pooled Funds Work

- Rationale allows agencies to pool resources for like needs (information/data, case studies, infrastructure, tools, etc.)
- Costing/fees FHWA sets per interview cost, protocols, timeline, and deliverables. NHTS was \$175 per household
- Matching funds Match is waived for NHTS
 Program --- this is of great benefit to states and local areas
- Coordination and Communication NHTS
 team provided coordination, contracting, quality
 assurance, and client service

Pooled Fund Solicitation

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🎒 Start



Microsoft Office ...

APDU

Microsoft Power...

Who Knew? – Lock Box

- Direct "Box" that accepts Checks/Money from any source
- Used for private funding and some State Add-Ons



Lessons Learned

- Add-on program too big
- NHTS Program Team too small
- Users are biggest Asset
- Need a new argument for national data this one isn't working
- Need a tool/model/indicator



Recommended NHTS Program Goals

- Regular dedicated funding cycle
- Continuous Survey
- Methods research funding
- Larger federal project team
- National Data Home in the Department



Thank You! Heather Contrino Heather.Contrino@dot.gov

