

February 13, 2017

TO: Distribution

FROM: Christopher J. Hedges
Director, Cooperative Research Programs, TRB

Re: **Research Problem Statements for the Fiscal Year 2018 Transit Cooperative Research Program due by June 16, 2017**

*Transit Cooperative Research Program
Marking 25 years of Service through Research*

PLEASE NOTE CHANGES TO THIS YEAR'S SOLICITATION PROCESS:

You will see changes in this year's research problem statement submittal process. Revisions have been made to the manner in which problem statements are submitted. Please read the information below carefully before providing your submissions.

The purpose of this announcement is to solicit problem statements identifying research needs for the Transit Cooperative Research Program (TCRP) Fiscal Year 2018 Program. These submittals form the basis for selection of the annual TCRP research program. It is easy to develop and submit a problem statement for consideration. Most are 1-3 pages in length using the attached outline.

How to submit your research problem statement A problem statement outline is attached. Problem statement submittals should follow the outline and may be submitted **electronically via [this link](#)**. Problem statements may also be submitted by e-mail to tcrp@nas.edu, with an attachment to the e-mail message in Microsoft Word format. The deadline for submitting problems for consideration in the FY 2018 program is **June 16, 2017**.

Previously submitted research problem statements If you have previously submitted a research problem statement that was not selected for funding, but is still a relevant transit research topic, please feel free to resubmit the problem statement for consideration. There are many good research topics that are not selected each year simply due to the level of funding available. Research problem statements must be resubmitted each year to receive further consideration.

Problem statement selection The TCRP Oversight and Project Selection (TOPS) Committee will select the research problem statements for the FY 2018 program in the fall of 2017. For problems selected by the TOPS Committee, requests for proposals will be issued, and contractors will be selected through a competitive proposal process.

Information on the TCRP Program

Background Information on the TCRP may be found at:

<http://www.trb.org/TCRP/TCRPOverview.aspx>

List of TCRP projects may be found on the TCRP website:

<http://www.trb.org/TCRP/Public/TCRPProjects.aspx>

Thank you Your willingness to participate in the identification of relevant transit research topics is a key element of a successful, industry-driven TCRP. Should you have any questions or need additional information, please feel free to contact Gwen Chisholm Smith, Manager, TCRP at 202/334-3246 or gsmith@nas.edu.