**Governors Highway Safety Association (GHSA)**

**Behavioral Traffic Safety Cooperative Research Program**

*Research Problem Statement Outline*

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| General Guidance:   * *The problem statement should not exceed three pages.* * *Submitters are encouraged, but not required, to submit problem statements through a State Highway Safety Office (SHSO).* * *While anyone can write or contribute to preparing a problem statement,* ***BTSCRP only accepts problem statements endorsed by****:*    + ***a State Highway Safety Office***   + ***Governors Highway Safety Association Executive Board Members***   Problem statements received from any other source will not be considered.  *The Governors Highway Safety Association Research Committee will select projects based on five key factors:*   * *The potential research results are of national interest.* * *How well the research addresses critical needs and strategic objectives of state SHSOs.* * *The likelihood that the research objective can be successfully achieved within the constraints of time and funds.* * *The likelihood that the research will produce implementation-ready products.* * *The likelihood that the research will be implemented by SHSOs.*   Problem statements are due February 21, 2020. |

1. **Problem Title**

* Communicate what the research is about in as few words as possible.

1. **Research Area**

* Identify the traffic safety issue area(s) that the research will address (e.g. impaired driving, young/novice drivers, motorcyclists, pedestrians, bicyclists, distracted driving, etc.)

1. **Background and Literature Search Summary**

* What is the problem and whom does it affect?
* How will the proposed research solve the problem?
* Describe how the proposed research differs from, or will build upon, the existing body of research found in a review of relevant literature. At a minimum, literature searches should be conducted on TRID (<http://trid.trb.org>), which includes the Research in Progress database (<http://rip.trb.org/>).
  + An excellent resource on conducting literature searches is Transportation Research Circular E-C194: Literature Searches and Literature Reviews for Transportation Research Projects, available at <http://www.trb.org/Publications/Blurbs/172271.aspx>
  + You may also contact your local transportation library or the TRB Library ([trblibrary@nas.edu](mailto:trblibrary@nas.edu)) and ask them to conduct the search for you.

1. **Research Objective**

* Prepare a concise objective statement (e.g. *The objective of this research is…*)
* Describe the desired outcome and expected final products (e.g. guidelines, software, test method, equipment, methodology, specifications, manual, etc.).
* Describe major tasks or activities the contractor will likely have to perform in order to conduct the research. The anticipated scope and breadth of the research should be described in sufficient detail to demonstrate that the objective can be achieved.
* Identify how the research results should be presented (e.g. brochures, summaries, presentations, workshops, peer exchanges, etc.).

1. **Urgency and Potential Benefits**

* Explain why solving this problem is important to a majority of SHSOs.
* What are the consequences or negative impacts of not conducting this research?
* What are the benefits of conducting this research and who will experience those benefits?

1. **Implementation Planning**

* Who is the appropriate target audience for the research findings and products?
* Who are the key decision-makers who can approve, influence, or champion implementation of research products?
* Identify organizations with likely responsibility for adoption of the results.
* Identify “early adopters” that would be willing to evaluate the research products, including the willingness of the submitting agency to participate in testing and evaluating research products.
* What are the anticipated institutional or political barriers to implementation of the research products?

1. **Recommended Research Time Period and Funding (OPTIONAL)**

* NHTSA and TRB review problem statements and provide estimates of the research time period and funding for consideration by the GHSA Research Committee. If the authors can estimate the expected research time period and recommended funding amount, you are encouraged to provide that input.

1. **Problem Statement Authors**

* All persons contributing to the authorship of this problem statement should be listed. For each author include name, title and affiliation, phone number, and email address.

1. **Recommending Agency and Contacts**

* Identify the SHSO, GHSA Executive Member or Committee representative that accepts the problem statement for consideration. Include the name, title and affiliation, phone number, and email address.

1. **Potential Panel Members (OPTIONAL)**

* Identify individuals who may provide technical guidance and counsel throughout the life of the project through participation on the project oversight panel. Include the name, title and affiliation, phone number, and email address.

Please submit completed problem statement to:

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