

OUTLINE FOR TCRP PROBLEM STATEMENTS

I. PROBLEM TITLE

The title should be no more than 10 words.

II. RESEARCH PROBLEM STATEMENT

In no more than three paragraphs, provide a general description of the problem or need.

III. OBJECTIVE

Include a clear, concise statement of the objectives (anticipated products) that are expected to be met by this particular research.

IV. RESEARCH PROPOSED

Provide a statement of the specific research proposed, how it relates to the general problem statement in Section II and, if possible, the research approach and the tasks envisioned.

V. ESTIMATE OF THE PROBLEM FUNDING AND RESEARCH PERIOD

Recommended Funding: Include an estimate of the funds necessary to accomplish the objectives stated in Section III. As a general guideline, the present cost for research usually averages approximately \$200,000-\$250,000 per fully-burdened professional staff-year. TCRP projects typically are in the \$250,000-\$300,000 range. A detailed budget is not necessary.

Research Period: Provide an estimate of the period of time needed to complete the research, including 3 months for review and revision of a draft final report.

VI. URGENCY AND PAYOFF POTENTIAL

Include a statement concerning the urgency of this particular research. Identify and, if possible, quantify the potential and magnitude of payoff from the achievement of the project objectives. Any institutional, political, or socio-economic barriers to implementation of the anticipated research products should also be identified.

VII. RELATIONSHIP TO FTA STRATEGIC RESEARCH GOALS, TCRP STRATEGIC PRIORITIES, and/or TRB STRATEGIC, CRITICAL, AND EMERGING ISSUES

Categorize this problem statement using the FTA strategic research goals, TCRP Strategic Priorities, and/or TRB strategic, critical, and emerging issues which can be found [here](#).

VIII. RELATED RESEARCH

If available, provide information on other research—completed, in progress, or pending—that is closely relevant to the proposed problem.

IX. PERSON(S) DEVELOPING THE PROBLEM

Provide the specifics (i.e., name, title, address, telephone, and fax numbers) for the person(s) who developed the problem.

X. PROCESS USED TO DEVELOP PROBLEM STATEMENT

State whether this problem statement is the product of an individual, a formal committee, or another group.

XI. DATE AND SUBMITTED BY

Provide the specifics (see Section IX) of the person(s) who submitted the problem and the date of submission.

Click here to submit: [FY 2025 TCRP Problem Statement Submissions](#)
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Transit Cooperative Research Program