

**Research Advisory Committee Annual Project Selection Meeting  
February 24, 2011**

The ODOT Research Advisory Committee (RAC) met from 8:30 until 1:30 on February 24, to select new projects for 2012. The results of that process are summarized in Table 1 below.

Sixteen problem statements were considered. These 16 were nominated by eight Expert Task Groups (ETG). ETGs met earlier, at which time each reviewed an average of 15 problem statements, selecting two to move forward. In all there were 88 problem statements considered, but many were reviewed by more than one ETG.

Eight voting RAC members were in attendance. RAC members received Stage 2 problem statements and rating instructions 10 days in advance of the meeting. Each submitted a preliminary ballot representing their own, independent evaluations of the 16 problem statements, based on the information provided by research staff.

Those present at the meeting are listed below, along with the Expert Task Group they represent, where applicable.

1. Jerri Bohard, Planning and Economic Analysis
2. James Lundy, Pavements and Materials
3. Jeff Gower, Construction and Maintenance
4. Bruce Johnson, Structures
5. Bob Pappé, Traffic, Roadway Safety and ITS
6. Tom Mc Clellan, Roadway Design and Driver Safety
7. Paul Wirfs, Geotechnical, Hydraulics and Environmental
8. Bernie Jones

Non-voting members Jazmin Casas (FHWA) and Hau Hagedorn (OTREC) were also in attendance. James Strathman, a voting member representing the Multimodal and Sustainable Transportation ETG, was unable to attend.

The kinds of criteria used by RAC members to rate problem statements include the following:

- Value of the research to the agency and to the traveling public, if the research is successfully implemented
- Risk that the project will not be completed successfully or will fail to yield useful information.
- Urgency of the need for research in an area, including considerations like legislative or Federal mandates.
- Resources available to support ongoing research and to implement the research when it is completed. Particular emphasis here has been given to information technology resources.
- Changes on the horizon that add to, detract from or negate the need for research in an area.
- The appropriateness of using ODOT's scarce research funds for a particular project (is it really research? Can it be accomplished another way?)

Final results of the RAC deliberations are summarized below. The number of projects that go forward will depend on funds available, but our goal is to fund the first eight.

**Table 1**

	<b>PROJECT</b>	<b>Average</b>	<b>Rank</b>
12-061-GHE	Impacts of Potential Seismic Landslides on Lifeline Corridors	4.11	1
12-073-ST	Bridge Seismic Retrofit Measures Considering Subduction Earthquakes	3.56	2
12-040-ST	Understanding and Mitigating Effects of Chloride Deicer Exposure on Concrete	3.44	3
12-060-TS	Evaluate a Variable Speed Limit System for Wet and Extreme Weather Conditions	3.33	4
12-045-PM	Inertial and Inclinometer based profiler repeatability and accuracy using the IRI model	2.67	5
12-051-PEA	Understanding Residential Location Choices for Climate Change and Transportation Decision Making	2.33	6
11-058-CM	Use, Test & Evaluation of a Mobile Work Zone Barrier System	2.22	7
12-080-TS	Operational Guidance for Bicycle-Specific Traffic Signals	1.89	8
12-069-RDDS	Developing Safety Performance Functions for Oregon Collector, Local, and Low-Volume Roads	1.67	9
11-023-MS	Sustainable Bio-Composites for Noise Barriers along Oregon Highways	1.44	10
12-053-PM	Secondary Compaction Impacts on the 2008 Specification Gyration Levels	1.33	11
12-032-CM	Evaluating the Use of Cathodic Protection Principles to Protect DOT Fleet from Deicer-Exacerbated Corrosion	1.11	12
12-007-PEA	Synthesis of Modal Demand and Potential for POV Diversion Resulting from Household Characteristics	1.11	12
12-016-GHE	Native Vegetation Establishment and Erosion Control by Combining Fall-Sown Dwarf Cereal Grain with Native Seed	1.11	12
11-062-MS	Evaluating Results of Project Selection and Implementation of the Multimodal ConnectOregon Program	0.89	15
12-067-RDDS	Supplemental Near-Side Signal Heads at Intersections with Restricted Visibility or High Crash Frequency	0.33	16