

RESEARCH NOTES

OREGON DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
ENGINEERING SERVICES SECTION
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RSN 95-16

It's that time of year again when we need your help. Each year the Research Unit solicits for input into the next year's research program. What we need from you are ideas for research that can save the Agency time and money or improve our safe operation. Research Problem Statements are due by January 10, 1996.

Submit your ideas, typed or neatly hand written, with the information and in the format identified on the Research Problem Statement form shown on the back page. Please keep your suggestion brief but as persuasive as possible. Once the problem statements are collected we will do preliminary research to identify the potential ODOT customers and to determine what research is available regarding your suggestion. If needed, we will work with you to refine the time and cost estimates. The proposals will then be reviewed by our Research Advisory Committee (RAC) to determine the priorities. Currently the RAC includes the Roadway Engineer, Engineering Services Manager, a Materials Unit representative, Operations Engineer, Traffic Engineer, Region Engineer, a Transportation Development Branch Research and Development representative, and the Bridge Engineer. Top priorities will be researched as funding allows.

Good research suggestions don't have to be "earth-shaking" in nature. Take a few minutes to think about the problems associated with your work and how things might be improved. Your ideas must be related to transportation, must apply to more than one location and must be cost effective. Current projects underway include:

QC/QA Procedures for Open-Graded Mixes
Premature Distress of LMC/MC Overlays
Soil Nail Walls
Titanium Anode for Cathodic Protection Systems
DUII Sentencing Practices
Development of Criteria for Multimodal Investment Decisions
Corridor Safety Improvement Program
Alternative Snow and Ice Control Methods

If you need additional information, please contact Marty Laylor, Dan Sosnovske, or Rob Edgar at 986-2700. We look forward to hearing from you!

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RESEARCH PROBLEM STATEMENT

Sample Form

1. **TITLE:** Brief but descriptive.
2. **PROBLEM STATEMENT:** Describe the problem in detail.
3. **BACKGROUND:** Brief history of circumstances surrounding problem and a list of studies that address the problem (if available).
4. **SCOPE OF WORK:** Description of study objectives and proposed research approach.
5. **POTENTIAL IMPLEMENTATION:** Brief description of how the results could be implemented.
6. **TIME/COST ESTIMATE:** Length of study and total study cost. (If good estimates cannot be given, leave blank).
7. **SUBMITTER:** Indicate affiliation and phone number.