

**Council Champion / Project Lead:** Denny Judycki / Michael Halladay

- (1) TITLE: National R&T Partnership (#D1)
- (2) DESCRIPTION OF INITIATIVE: This initiative brings together stakeholders from the Federal, State, local, academic, and private sectors to create a more robust partnership in support of highway-related research and technology programs. The initiative began with discussions among FHWA, TRB, and AASHTO subsequent to passage of TEA-21; and other key stakeholder groups quickly joined in support of the effort. The TRB is actively facilitating Working Groups in the areas of Infrastructure Renewal, Safety, Operations, Environment and Planning, and Policy Analysis and System Monitoring. These Working Groups bring together key stakeholders to share strategic plans, determine joint priorities, align relative roles and responsibilities, and seek collaborative approaches. The TRB Research and Technology Coordinating Committee (RTCC) serves as a focal point within TRB for this process.
- (3) IMPORTANCE / SIGNIFICANCE OF INITIATIVE: The success of this Initiative is of critical importance to FHWA's future R&T programs. More effective partnerships in the development and delivery of innovation and technology requires continuing collaboration and cooperation among stakeholders, and this is especially true in an environment of rapid technological change and heightened expectations from funding organizations.
- (4) PRODUCT / OUTPUT: Stronger partnerships among R&T stakeholders which lead to a shared agenda for conducting R&T programs, increased collaboration in the design and conduct of programs, and greater visibility for the benefits of highway R&T programs.
- (5) CUSTOMER: Each of the entities participating in the Partnership Initiative are considered to be a customer of the more strategic, collaborative approach to developing and conducting R&T programs. In addition, decision-making and funding entities, including Congressional committees and staff, are important customers.
- (6) PARTNERS: FHWA, AASHTO, TRB, States, localities, academia, and private sector organizations. Actual participants vary according to each Working Group topic
- (7) COSTS: No direct expenses anticipated beyond professional and administrative support staff time.

(8) SCHEDULE:

Tasks	Month / Year:	12/98	1-3/99	4-6/99	7-9/99	10-12/99	1-3/00	4-6/00	7-9/00
1. Initial R&T Partnership Forum		o							
2. Form Working Groups / Initiate Meetings			o	o					
3. TRB Facilitation / 2 <sup>nd</sup> Forum Meeting					o				
4. Critical Needs for R&T funding identified					o				
4. Working Groups Meet w/ TRB Facil.						o	o		
5. Report Progress to TRB RTCC							o		
6. Continuation of Forum & WG Efforts								o	o