

Advanced
Research

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Project Title:
Research Synthesis and
Engagement of the National Center
for Sustainable Transportation
Caltrans Research Program

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Research Synthesis and Engagement of the National Center for Sustainable Transportation Caltrans Research Program

Eight to ten half-day research workshops on a topic of interest to Caltrans.

WHAT IS THE NEED?

Engagement activities with Caltrans policy and practitioner communities to inform NCST research and disseminate the results of such research include, but are not limited to, coordinating and facilitating regular research briefings for Caltrans staff, regular interaction with the policymaker and practitioner communities, contributing to editing and curation of NCST policy briefs and reports, and directly engaging with stakeholders.

A primary role of NCST is to conduct research of interest to Caltrans. To do so effectively requires regular communication so that NCST staff and researchers are more aware of Caltrans current research or policy needs.

The Policy Sessions are meant to be forums where research themes or focus areas will be discussed to improve and enhance research project development and implementation, including potential integration into public sector policies.

WHAT ARE WE DOING?

This Task Order encompasses an expansion of engagement activities with Caltrans. Under it, NCST staff will conduct a variety of activities to significantly expand engagement and technology transfer related to ongoing work by NCST researchers.



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knowledge that improves
California's transportation system

This task order will support approximately 8–10 workshops of around a half-day duration, to present research on a topic of interest to Caltrans. In addition, this task order will support NCST engagement staff conducting regular calls with Caltrans staff to improve interaction and engagement, attending conferences relevant to policy makers and practitioners in the subject matter of NCST research, and expanding the production of policy or research briefs based on NCST research.

WHAT IS OUR GOAL?

To enhance the value of research and expertise to Caltrans policymakers by expanding engagement efforts. To support approximately 8–10 half-day research workshops on a topic of interest to Caltrans. To succinctly communicate research findings and highlight policy implications to a broad audience within Caltrans and to the larger policy-making community.

WHAT IS THE BENEFIT?

The understanding of how research can better serve public sector “customers”, and the identification of potential mechanisms to integrate research findings into public policies. These recommendations would be targeted to, and formatted for, a high-level public sector management/policy development audience.

WHAT IS THE PROGRESS TO DATE?

- Task order executed 2/19/20
- Developed draft agenda and webpage for first Caltrans workshop on transportation equity
- Met with a steering committee of Caltrans employees to discuss specific topics to cover during the workshop
- Have begun identifying researchers to participate in the workshop Have begun identifying background resources for attendees