



For Immediate Release - February 2007

## Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Offers Grants to Spur Innovation

*Highways for LIFE Technology Partnerships Program seeks prototypes to improve roads*

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) is seeking applications and will award multiple grants in support of the Highways for LIFE Technology Partnership Program. FHWA anticipates opening the solicitation for the program on or about March 2, 2007, with a closing date on or about April 15, 2007. The program anticipates as many as 12 awards at the \$200,000 funding level and 3 awards at the \$500,000 funding level.

The purpose of the Technology Partnership Program is to pull in partner organizations and companies to work with the highway construction industry to accelerate the adoption of promising innovations. The program seeks to adapt proven non-highway related innovations or to refine existing highway equipment, materials, practices, or processes that have not become adopted as common practice. The program is intended to fund innovations that have been developed to the prototype stage and require further development, testing, evaluation and application in a real-world setting before they would be available for implementation.

Applicable innovation areas include: technologies, materials, tools, equipment, procedures, specifications, methodologies, processes, or practices used in the financing, design or construction of highways or bridges. The innovation must make a significant contribution to achieving at least one of the following Highways for LIFE goals: improving project and/or work zone safety (including worker or user safety), reducing construction congestion, accelerating construction or improving quality.

Competition under this solicitation is open to all non-profit and for-profit organizations except federal, state and local governments and institutions of higher education. Federal, State and local agencies, local municipalities, and academic institutions are excluded from competition as prime awardees but are encouraged to participate as a partner at the sub level.

FHWA is a major agency of the U S Department of Transportation (DOT). FHWA is headquartered in Washington, DC, with field offices in every State, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. The agency is charged with the broad responsibility of ensuring that America's roads and highways continue to be the safest and most technologically up-to-date.

FHWA's Highway for LIFE (HfL) pilot program aims to accelerate the adoption of innovations and new technologies, thereby improving safety and highway quality while reducing congestion caused by construction.

To submit a grant application, go to <http://www.grants.gov>

For more information on the Highways for LIFE program, go to <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/hfl>

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