Research@DDOT
Research, Development, and Technology Transfer Program

Who We Are
The District Department of Transportation (DDOT) plans, designs, builds, maintains, and operates the transportation infrastructure within the District of Columbia. The District is a unique agency with characteristics of both a state and local transportation agency. The Research, Development, and Technology Transfer (RDT) Program at DDOT serves the agency by convening and guiding a structured approach to transportation research, providing research material, and initiating and managing research projects. The mission of the RDT Program is to facilitate and promote innovative transportation research, implementation, outreach, and technology transfer activities in order to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of DDOT’s service delivery. The RDT Program is focused on applied urban transportation research. In more general transportation research, DDOT generally relies on the work done by other states and national research programs. Research projects are primarily conducted by our university partners or by consultants, and to a lesser extent by RDT staff.

What We Do
Activities of the Research Branch include:

• Conducting, coordinating and supporting in-depth research projects
• Operating the DDOT library and related services
• Managing the research intern program that provides intern support for smaller research projects
• Working with and leveraging other research programs, including the Transportation Pooled Fund Program, TRB cooperative research programs, and the Strategic Highway Research Program 2
• Conducting market scans and literature reviews to understand best practices and the state of current research
• Disseminating research findings
• Facilitating implementation of research results
• Enhancing DDOT’s visibility at the regional and national level and marketing DDOT’s research and innovation
How We Are Funded
The DDOT RDT Program is funded by State Planning and Research Program (SPR) Part II funds, along with required state matching funds. A local “Enterprise Fund” is sometimes used to support research implementation. Where possible, research is integrated into existing projects.

Staff
RDT currently has an administrator, a staff specialist, a reference librarian, and part-time financial and contract support. The Howard University Transportation Research Center (HUTRC) supports the program with research and administrative activities; HUTRC has a faculty director, one full time staff, and intern support. In addition, RDT leverages additional staffing throughout the agency to provide project management and oversight of individual research projects, and to serve on the oversight and liaison committees for the RDT Program.

Contact Us
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