Who We Are
The CTDOT Research Section conducts, supports, and promotes research and development activities that employ new ideas and innovative technology to address Department needs and serve the Department’s mission. The Research Section collaborates with other research affiliates to discover and develop new implementable products for improving the transportation system.

How We Are Funded
Research at CTDOT is funded with State Planning and Research (SP&R) Part 2 funds, administered by FHWA. The Department also receives funds under the FHWA Local Transportation Assistance Program (LTAP). In addition, the Department has successfully secured funds on a project-by-project basis from sources such as Strategic Highway Research Program 2 (SHRP2) and National Highway System (NHS) funds. State funds are used to support research projects with the University of Connecticut through a continuing research program, Connecticut Cooperative Transportation Research Program, established by the Connecticut State Legislature. The Transportation Pooled-Fund Program allows the Department to leverage its funds to participate in research studies that are of common interest with other states and federal agencies.

What We Do
The research staff coordinates research efforts for projects with different Bureaus within the Department and the Universities; participate in the Transportation Pooled Fund (TPF) studies depending on the Department interest and needs; participate in the New England Transportation Consortium (NETC) research projects and activities; conduct Connecticut Cooperative Transportation Research Program (CCTRP) with guidance from the Joint Highway Research Advisory Council (JHRAC); support the Local Technical Assistance Program (LTAP); conduct National Cooperative Research Program (NCHRP) and Transportation Research Board (TRB); participate in the AASHTO National Transportation Product Evaluation Program (NTPEP) as well as review and evaluate new products, materials and processes and maintain the CTDOT Qualified Product List (QPL); participate in the AASHTO-Research Advisory Committee (RAC) Task Forces; gatekeeper for AASHTO publications and
research administration which includes performing literature search, problem statement solicitation, evaluating proposals for in-house or contractual research, preparing contract documents, maintaining cost records, performing periodic reviews for progress and compliance with contracts, reviewing progress and final reports, quarterly and annual reporting to FHWA and maintain CTDOT research website, Research in Progress (RiP) and Transportation Research International Documentation (TRID) databases etc.

**Expertise**

The Research Section is diligent about incorporating bottom-up and top-down projects in the research program that can be categorized as basic research, applied research, development, advanced transportation research and/or implementation or deployment as defined by AASHTO-RAC. The research program is multidisciplinary and includes projects in areas including but not limited to:

- Data and Information technology
- Economics
- Policy and Planning
- Transportation Safety and Mobility
- Environmental
- Roadway Design
- Construction
- Geotechnical
- Maintenance
- Pavements

**Staff**

The Research Section is comprised of a Transportation Assistant Planning Director, Transportation Supervising Planner or Engineer, two Transportation Engineers and a Transportation Planner. The Research Section works with numerous engineers and subject matter experts from throughout the Department to accomplish the research goals.

**Contact Information**

The Research Section is located at the CTDOT headquarters in Newington, CT

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