MassDOT Research and Technology Transfer

Who we are

The Transportation Research and Technology Transfer Section (Research Section), located within the Office of Transportation Planning, is responsible for the management of transportation research and the transfer of technology information that will help to further the mission of the Massachusetts Department of Transportation. The Research Section develops and manages the annual Research Program.

What we do

Research activities address key problems and issues in the areas of policy, management, safety, environment, planning, engineering, construction, operations, and maintenance as those areas relate to the Commonwealth’s responsibilities for the state highway, public transportation, and inter-modal transportation systems. Activities can range from support services for technology transfer to relatively largescale, multi-year research projects on complex problems that require technical assistance from outside resources. Specific duties include:

- Identify research needs of MassDOT modal divisions and enterprise units.
- Execute research projects and manage corresponding contracts with agencies, consultants, and academic institutions.

- Support quality technical training and skill development opportunities for MassDOT employees through the MassDOT University and the Massachusetts Technical Assistance Program (MTAP).
- Oversee the Baystate Roads Program, Massachusetts’ Local Technical Assistance Program (LTAP).
- Inform MassDOT personnel about ways to access available research products and encourage staff participation in state, regional and national research activities.
- Promote the implementation of key findings from research products through coordination between researchers and technical staff within MassDOT.
How we are funded

Federal State Planning and Research (SPR) funds along with state matching funds are the source of monies for the program. Regulations governing the SPR Program require that at least 25% of the annual SPR apportionment be used for research development and technology transfer activities.

Staff

The Research team consists of the Research Program Manager and four full-time transportation program planners who are involved with all aspects of the Research and Technology Transfer Program.

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