



Innovation Showcase Overview

The purpose of the DOTD Innovations Showcase is to identify, recognize, and share the best innovations around the Department.

- The showcase is open to all full time DOTD employees within the Office of Operations.
- All innovations must either be in use within the department and resulting in the desired results, or if concept only it must be demonstrable (such as by use of a prototype).
- District and HQ competitions will be held between January and April each year, but employees are encouraged to submit their innovation applications between August and January for the following year's competition.
- There is no limit on the number of innovations that can be submitted by any work gang.
- Innovations that do not place 1st, 2nd or 3rd in a category can be re-submitted in subsequent years for up to 5 years.
- A previous winner or an innovation that has been submitted the maximum of 5 years can only be resubmitted if it is substantially modified in a manner that significantly improves the result by some measure. Such an entry must be evaluated by a majority vote of the full committee before it can be reentered.

- Innovations can be submitted in any of the following areas:
 - **Tools and work processes**– modifications or enhancements made to tools or equipment by DOTD employees, or changes to a work process means or methods.
 - **Software/Technical** – implementation or modification of software or other technical aids.

- Innovations will be evaluated in the following areas:
 - **Originality** – How new is it to DOTD?
 - **Duration** – How long has it been in practice with desired results?
 - **Organizational impact** – How will it positively impact department with tangible results?
 - **Conservation of Resources** – How much money will it save?
 - **Cost to Implement** – What is the total cost of the innovation?
 - **Meets Intended Goal** – How well does the innovation perform against the intended goal?
 - **Impact on Safety** – What is the impact on safety to employees, contractors or the traveling public?

- District and HQ level competitions will include the same evaluation criteria as the statewide competition. The exact presentation format and makeup of the evaluation committee is at the discretion of each district and HQ organizers.

- Winners at the district and HQ level competitions will advance at a statewide showcase to be held in conjunction with the DOTD Rodeo each year. Each district will advance no less than one innovation from each category (if available) and no more than three total innovations in total. Innovations to advance must be identified no later than one week prior to statewide completion.

- All evaluations at the statewide competition will be performed by members of the Innovations Showcase Committee, which is represented by members from each district and HQ. The top three evaluated innovations in each category at the statewide competition will receive a budget transfer to their respective district/gang from the HQ maintenance division as follows:
 - 1st - \$10,000 budget transfer **OR** *replacement equipment within district/gang up to \$50,000
 - 2nd - \$5,000 budget transfer
 - 3rd - \$2,500 budget transfer

*Replacement equipment is subject to final approval by ADA-Operations or District Administrator

- Visitors to the statewide showcase will be asked to vote on their favorite innovations with the top vote getter receiving a “People’s Choice Award” traveling trophy to take back to their work area for the year.
- Upon completion of the statewide event, the committee members will recommend the appropriate type of effort to promote each innovation within the Department. HQ staff involved with the Innovations Showcase will finalize the manner of promotion and coordinate any efforts to accomplish.