

# Local Innovations Idea Exchange!

Share your local innovations that:

- Increase safety
- Reduce cost, and
- Improve efficiency

Have you  
created  
something  
innovative?



# 2020 BABM Honorees



# 2021 BABM Honorees



**Innovative Project Award:**

**The Hopper**

Jones County, IA

*Source: Jones County, IA*



**Bold Steps Award:**

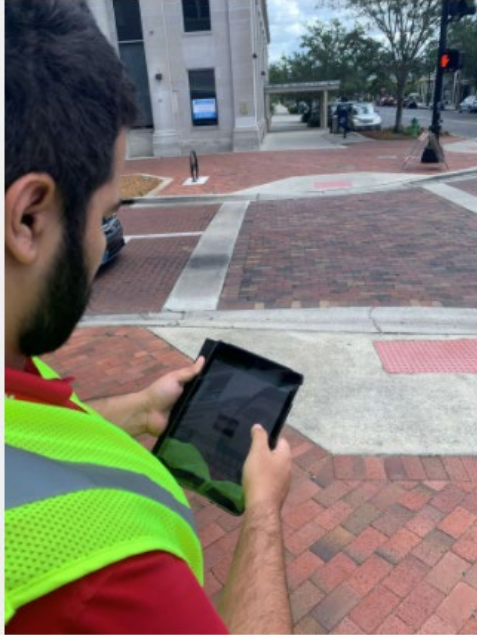
**Road Electric Training System (RETS)**

Illinois Tollway

*Source: Illinois Tollway*



# 2021 BABM Honorees



**Smart Transformation Award:**  
ADA Ramp Inspections Tracker

Seminole County, FL  
*Source: Seminole County, FL*



**Pioneer Award:**

Recessed Lane Indicator

Independent Highway District, ID  
*Source: Independent Highway District, ID*

[HTML](#)



# Louisiana Honorees



© 2019 Ouachita Parish Public Works Department, Louisiana.

Ouachita Parish Public Works  
Department, Louisiana  
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Ouachita Parish Public Works Department, Louisiana

## Getting a Handle on Catch Basin Lids

The Ouachita Parish Public Works Department needed a lightweight, mechanical means to lift and lower catch basin lids for inspection purposes. Electro-magnetic dollies can address the problem, but they cost \$1,000 or more, and the Department needed a more lightweight, portable, and economical solution. To address this challenge, shop employees used steel bar stock to create a simple, mechanical lid-assist tool. The device helps workers pry a basin lid open and then clamps to it like a handle, helping to lift the lid up and over. When an inspection is complete, the tool helps guide the lid back into place. Crew members no longer need to use brute force to lift and lower catch basin lids, increasing overall worker safety and decreasing the incidences of finger- and toe-pinch injuries. At a cost of less than \$100, including labor and materials, the lid-assist tool can be easily reproduced if lost, damaged, or stolen.

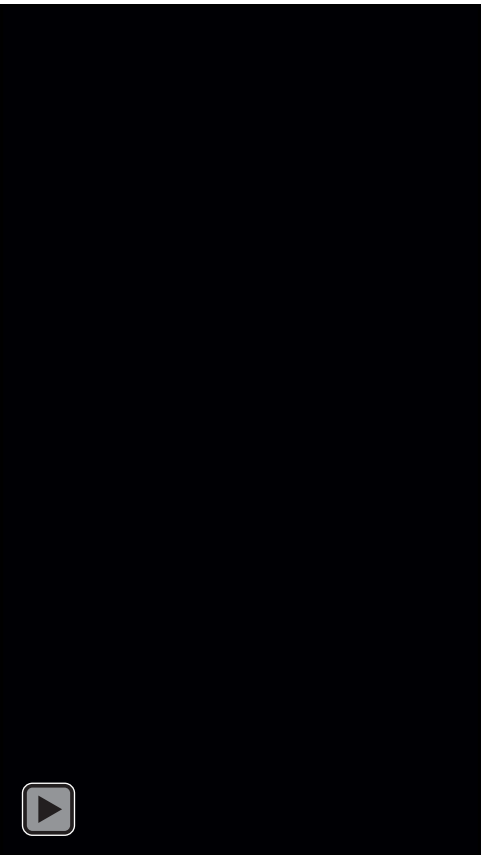


# Louisiana Honorees

Ouachita Parish Public Works Department, Louisiana

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# Louisiana Honorees



In-a-Pinch Salt  
Spreader (Terrebonne)

Terrebonne Parish Consolidated Government, Louisiana

## From Seed to Salt: Spreaders Repurposed “In a Pinch”

Terrebonne Parish Consolidated Government (TPCG) experienced a record string of sub-freezing temperatures and didn't own the proper de-icing equipment. The agency had an abundance of calcium chloride ( $\text{CaCl}_2$ ), normally used for dust control, that could be used as a de-icing agent; however, they did not have a method to dispense the pellets. To overcome this challenge, TPCG modified a grass-seed spreader to dispense  $\text{CaCl}_2$  at the correct distribution rate for effective de-icing. The team fabricated a modified caster that increased the distribution radius from 20 to 40 degrees; they also restricted the original feeder plate to allow for fewer pellets per rotation. Fortunately, the modified casters and the original casters bolt on, so the team can switch them out easily when the need arises. The process to reimagine the spreaders for de-icing use is both efficient and economical; the project took only four hours of labor to complete and cost just \$250. This innovative solution allowed Terrebonne to reopen area roads and bridges faster than anticipated.



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Government, Louisiana.

Terrebonne Parish Consolidated  
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# Innovations from COVID-19

- Technology!
- Reutilization of low-volume streets
- “Do-It-Yourself” PPE
- Rethinking of other agency-owned assets
- Taking advantage of grants
- Many, many others!





# What Innovations Have You Implemented?

