

# North Carolina Department of Transportation Research & Development NCDOT Research and Innovation

Catherine Bryant, PE, MSCE Research Implementation Manager NCDOT Research & Development Unit

September 26, 2024

Connecting people, products and places safely and efficiently with customer focus, accountability and environmental sensitivity to enhance the economy and vitality of North Carolina

# **Research Programs**



## Annual Research Program

· Typically, 18 – 20 Research Projects Annually



### Technical Assistance Program

· Short Term Research



# Technology Transfer

- · Implementation, Training, Workshops, Pilots
- · Technology Transfer



# University Collaboration/Match Funds

· University Transportation Centers (UTC)



# Pooled Fund / National Programs

· Coordinated National Research (partnerships with other states)

# **Types of Research Projects**



# What kinds of projects does NCDOT research?



#### <u>Pavement</u>

- Pavement Strength
- PavementPerformance
- Pavement Management



#### **Structures**

- Unmanned Aircraft Systems for Inspections
- Bridge Design
- Innovative Materials



#### Traffic

- Crash Factors
- RoadwayDesignAlternatives
- Work Zone Safety

ACCIENTO

#### <u>Planning/</u> Multimodal

- CLEAR Program
- Connected & Autonomous Vehicles
- Equity



#### Environmental

- Flora and Fauna
- Air Quality
- Noise Quality

And Many More

# **Universities Engaged In Research for NCDOT**





## What Makes a Good Research Project?



<u>Innovative</u>

Collaborate with NCDOT Subject Matter Experts (SME) to clearly articulate ideas and understand needs



**Integrity** 

Lines up with ongoing initiatives and supports NCDOT's current mission and goals



<u>Importance</u>

Clearly articulated methodology and needs to be useable for NCDOT



<u>Implementable</u>

Implementation is possible via tangible and useable deliverables

#### **Past 4 NCDOT Research & Innovation Summits**

# NC A&T University (2019)

· In-Person with 187 Attendees

# UNC - Chapel Hill (2020 and 2021)

· Virtual with 356 & 347 Attendees

# NC State University (2023)

- Hybrid with 305 Attendees
- · 254 In-Person / 51 Virtual



# Future 5th NCDOT Research & Innovation Symposium

#### NC State University (2025)

- · Save The Date: February 11-12, 2025
- · McKimmon Center in Raleigh, NC
- · Hybrid (In-Person and Virtual)
- · Breakout Sessions and PDHs
- · Poster Sessions and Scholarships
- · Keynote Speakers on AI and Highly Automated Systems
- · NCDOT and Researchers Networking
- · Demonstrations
  - · Connected & Autonomous Vehicles (CAV)
  - · Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS)
  - Robotics
- · Offsite Lab Tours
  - · UAS for Inspections
  - · Accessibility for the Visually Impaired
- · Call for Proposals Open: October 1, 2024
- · Registration Open By: October 2024
- · Call for Proposals Due: November 3, 2024



# Thank you!

https://connect.ncdot.gov/projects/research/Pages/default.aspx

research@ncdot.gov