



Wisconsin Department of Transportation

Policy and Safety First Research Programs

**Request for Proposals
FFY 2025**

***Post-Construction Analysis of Major, Mega &
Regionally Significant Projects***

Request for Proposals Timeline and Information

March 17, 2025	Issue Date of this Request for Proposal (RFP). This RFP has been posted at: http://wisdotresearch.wi.gov/rfps-and-proposals .
	Please read the Proposal Preparation Instructions as this document has been updated recently and contains important information, including tables and templates, necessary for writing a proposal for submission.
April 8, 2025 4:30 PM (CST)	Questions regarding this RFP are due by this date and time. Questions need to be submitted with the project name to research@dot.wi.gov . Questions submitted after this date and time will not be considered.
April 17, 2025 4:30 PM (CST)	Responses to Questions will be posted on the WisDOT Research and Library website at: http://wisdotresearch.wi.gov/rfps-and-proposals
May 4, 2025 4:30 PM (CST)	Proposals are due by this date and time. Proposals must be submitted in a PDF version to: research@dot.wi.gov . Proposals submitted after this date and time will not be considered. A confirmation email will be sent in response within 2 business days of the due date.
June, 2025	Award and Deny letters will be sent by email to all proposal submitters (only lead investigator will be notified)
	Project Budget and Schedule
\$120,000	Project Budget shall not exceed this amount. Matching funds will not be considered in the proposal evaluation process. Proposals which exceed this amount will be disqualified.
12 Months	Period of Performance / Duration of Project
August 1, 2025	Anticipated Start Date of Project
April 30, 2026	Researcher's Final Report Anticipated due date
July 31, 2026	Anticipated End Date of Project
	For more information regarding this RFP contact the WisDOT Research Program at: research@dot.wi.gov .

NOTICE: Submission of a proposal does not guarantee an award. The Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) reserves the right to reject any and all proposals received; however, in the event WisDOT does award a project, such award will be based on uniform evaluation criteria.

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***Post-Construction Analysis of Major, Mega &
Regionally Significant Projects***

Definitions

The following definitions are used throughout the RFP:

- **Major Project** – Typically a high-cost project, or a capacity expansion project, with specific definition in state statute: [ss 84.013 \(1\)](#)
- **Mega Project** – Typically a Freeway project in the Southeast Region, with specific definition in state statute: [ss 84.0145](#)
- **Regionally Significant Project** – Other construction project not part of the Major or Mega Programs that had travel time or other notable impacts observed by WisDOT, such as pavement rehabilitation projects with long-term lane closures.
- **MAPSS** – Mobility Accountability Preservation Safety Service Performance Improvement Program
- **PM3** – Federal Highway Administration Third Performance Management Rule
- **POC** – Project Oversight Committee comprised of WisDOT and/or other representatives to supervise the research.
- **R&L** – WisDOT Research and Library research administration staff
- **WisDOT** – Wisconsin Department of Transportation

I. Background and Problem Statement

While WisDOT measures performance through MAPSS, PM3, and other continuous improvement programs, these efforts focus on aggregate statewide metrics that may not reveal detailed insights from individual projects. WisDOT Major, Mega and Regionally Significant projects are generally transformative in nature and represent some of the most complex and costly investments in maintaining safe and efficient infrastructure. Having a better understanding of project-specific post-construction outcomes would improve planning and design decisions for future projects, build confidence that proposed benefits of significant projects are being realized, and provide accountability.

This project will develop a framework (methodology) for evaluating post-construction outcomes of Major, Mega and Regionally Significant projects. Evaluation metrics may include, but are not limited to: efficiency in project delivery, effects on traffic mobility, safety, and economic impact. The framework developed by this project is intended to be implemented by future Major, Mega and Regionally Significant projects to improve the transportation project delivery process.

II. Research Objectives

WisDOT is seeking proposals for developing a framework to evaluate post-construction outcomes of Major, Mega and Regionally Significant projects. The resulting framework will meet these objectives:

- a. Provide a flowchart of reproducible steps necessary for WisDOT to conduct a post-construction analysis.
- b. Include multiple post-construction analysis metrics, using objective data where possible (for example, measuring average traffic speeds before and after construction).
- c. Use robust statistical methodologies to analyze and compare pre- and post- construction data.
- d. Provide a list of data and resources required to complete the post-construction analysis. The data should leverage existing WisDOT resources where possible.
- e. Provide an assessment of the effort and resources required to implement the post-construction analysis framework for a project.

III. Research Approach - Scope of Work

Task 1: Literature Review

Conduct a literature review to identify any methodologies, performance measures, and criteria implemented by state DOTs or other agencies for evaluating transportation projects. The literature review should emphasize studies that compare pre- and post-construction conditions where possible. The literature review will also investigate statistical before/after study methodologies and data requirements.

The literature review will be delivered as a brief, bullet-point style memo summarizing any research papers reviewed, including the original papers as attachments.

Task 2: Develop Evaluation Metrics

Develop a list of metrics that could be analyzed in pre- and post- construction conditions. Consider the feasibility, data requirements, and resources needed to produce statistically sound analysis and comparisons. Metrics should be data-driven and leverage existing WisDOT resources where possible. Identify if any special data collection would be required for the proposed analysis metrics. Example metrics may include, but are not limited to: efficiency of project delivery (planning/design/construction estimates versus final costs and schedule), traffic mobility and reliability (speeds, volume, travel time, delay), safety, and economic impacts. For each metric, develop a methodology for how to analyze it in the pre- and post- construction conditions.

The deliverable will include a list of specific metrics, their data requirements, and methodology for how to analyze the data which will be submitted with a presentation to the POC.

Task 3: Flowchart Development

Develop a process for analyzing the metrics developed under Task 2. The process steps should consider the WisDOT Major, Mega, and Regionally Significant project lifecycles so that the required data, people, and resources can be in-place throughout the project. Highlight any key milestones in the project lifecycle where analysis and/or data collection should be conducted. Identify any barriers or risks in the process that would prevent successful completion of the post-construction analysis. The process should be thoroughly documented and reproducible by WisDOT staff for future projects.

The deliverable will include a flowchart of the process steps necessary for completing a post-construction evaluation of Major, Mega and Regionally Significant projects including key milestones for analysis and identification of barriers in the process. The process will be documented and will be presented to the POC.

Task 4: Sample Project Evaluation

For metrics identified in Task 2, conduct sample calculations using at least two previously completed projects. Coordinate with WisDOT regarding what projects can be used for the sample analysis and what data WisDOT can provide. If there is insufficient data to conduct the analysis, identify the gaps in data and what could be done on future projects to overcome such gaps. Track the time and resources required to complete the sample analysis.

The deliverable will include the sample calculations and quantification of the time and resources needed to complete the analysis which will be submitted with a presentation to the POC.

Task 5: Researcher Final Report

The research team will prepare and submit a Researcher Final Report three months before the project end date, including background, best practices, recommendations, and interpretation developed during the project.

Task 6: Close-Out Presentation

The research team will create and present a one-hour PowerPoint presentation that includes background, best practices, recommendations, and interpretations developed during the project.

Task 7: Approved Final Report

The researcher will address all questions and comments from the Researcher Final Report and Close-Out Presentation and submit a publication-ready Approved Final Report due one month before the project's end date.

Please see the [Proposal Preparation Instructions](#) for more details regarding the Final Report and Close-Out Presentation.

IV. Required Testing/Equipment/Materials (if required)

N/A

V. Required Travel

a. Travel for Tasks and/or Field Work

- i. Travel by the researcher is not required for this project.

b. Meetings

- i. A kick-off meeting, periodic progress meetings, and a close-out presentation are required.
- ii. Meetings are anticipated to be virtual.
- iii. At the start of the project the POC Chair, lead PI and R&L will determine points in the project where discussions and decisions are needed. One-hour long meetings will be set for the full POC, the researchers, and R&L staff at those times.
- iv. If there are gaps of more than eight weeks between meetings, check-in meetings of 20-30 minutes will be scheduled for the POC Chair, lead PI and R&L staff.
- v. Virtual meetings to present deliverables for Tasks 2 through Task 4 (developing evaluation metrics, process flow chart, and sample project evaluation).
- vi. WisDOT welcomes a virtual Close-Out presentation; however, the researcher may present the results in person, paid by contract funds, if included in the project budget.

c. Conferences

- i. Conference attendance by the researcher is not required for this project.

Notice: **WisDOT will NOT fund travel expenses apart from what is included in the research project proposal budget.**

VI. WisDOT Contribution

WisDOT will provide the following support through the POC to support the successful completion of the project.

- a. Work will be conducted with project oversight by WisDOT staff.
- b. The research team may assume that WisDOT staff/POC members can contribute a maximum of 200 hours over the project's duration.
- c. The research team will not assume the availability of WisDOT staff or equipment in the proposal. If WisDOT or another entity donates equipment or staff time, a commitment letter must be included in the proposal.
- d. The POC will coordinate access to WisDOT databases, if needed, as requested and approved.
- e. Please see the [Proposal Preparation Instructions](#) for more details.
- f. WisDOT will provide pre- and post- construction project data as necessary to complete the sample project evaluation in Task 4. The data provided will depend on metrics identified in Task 2 and coordination with WisDOT.

VII. Research Results and Implementation Plan

WisDOT seeks to fund research with high implementation potential. Implementation potential will be tracked throughout the lifecycle of this research project and may include changes to expected implementation. The research plan must include specific statements describing anticipated research results and an assessment of implementation potential.

a. Research Results

- i. Proposals should detail the research results in terms of a specific deliverable, (i.e. a design/analysis tool, test methods, or change in performance thresholds and specifications) and their impact on current WisDOT practice (including cost savings, cost-benefit analysis, etc.).

b. Implementation Plan

- i. This section must also include an implementation plan to address the planned implementation type(s) indicated in the RFP. While the plan may change as the research progresses, at a minimum the proposal should indicate:
 1. The product expected from the research.
 2. The stakeholder or intended audience that will most likely be impacted by the research results.
 3. Potential impediments to implementation.
 4. Activities necessary for successful implementation.
 5. Implementation deliverables
 6. Measures of success
 7. Data collection requirements

Please see the [Proposal Preparation Instructions](#) for specific directions related to completing this table.

Implementation Plan

Successful implementation of this research will be achieved through the development, at a minimum, of the following items:

Implementation Type	Description (Manuals, Data Sources, etc.)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Develop a Model:	A process for evaluating post-construction effects of Major, Mega and Regionally Significant projects. This process can be incorporated into the project delivery lifecycle for these types of projects. Development of the process will include sample calculations on previously-completed projects.
<input type="checkbox"/> New Design Method or Guidance:	
<input type="checkbox"/> New Product Implementation:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Recommend Future Studies:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Revise a Specification:	

<input type="checkbox"/> Inform Policy:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Other:	

VIII. Deliverables

a. Quarterly Progress Reports (QPRs)

b. Invoices

c. Interim Reports

- i. Task 1 – The literature review will be delivered as a brief, bullet-point style memo summarizing any research papers reviewed, including the original papers as attachments.
- ii. Task 2 - The deliverable will include a list of specific metrics, their data requirements, and methodology for how to analyze the data which will be submitted with a presentation to the POC.

d. Implementation Deliverables

- i. Task 3 - The deliverable for will include a flowchart of the process steps necessary for completing a post-construction evaluation of Major, Mega and Regionally Significant projects including key milestones for analysis and identification of barriers in the process. The process will be documented and presented to the POC. WisDOT will test the process to confirm it is reproducible by WisDOT staff.
- ii. Task 4 - The deliverable will include the sample calculations and quantification of the time and resources needed to complete the analysis which will be submitted with a presentation to the POC.

e. Researcher's Final Report

- i. Must be submitted three months before the contract end date to allow time to review and revise before the Close-Out Presentation.

f. Close Out Presentation (COP) for project

- i. The Principal Investigator presents to the POC a summary of the research project's results and recommendations two months before the contract end date.

g. Approved Final Report

- i. The Approved Final Report, addressing comments made on the Researcher's Final Report and during the COP, is due one month before the contract end date.

h. Research Data

- i. All research data will be identified and made available per the Data Management Plan.

IX. Data Management Plan

The research team will include a Data Management Plan (DMP) documenting all field/laboratory data and analyses to ensure accessibility and transparency of research data as required by the USDOT per the Public Access Plan (<https://ntl.bts.gov/ntl/public->

[access/creating-data-management-plans-extramural-research](#)). See [Proposal Preparation Instructions](#) for details.

X. Proprietary Information in Proposal

- a. Any restrictions on the use of data contained within a proposal must be clearly stated in the proposal itself. Proprietary information submitted in response to a request will be handled under applicable Wisconsin procurement regulations and the Wisconsin public records law. Proprietary restrictions usually are not accepted. However, when accepted, it is the proposer's responsibility to defend the determination in case of an appeal or litigation.
- b. Any material submitted in response to this request that the proposer considers confidential and proprietary information and which qualifies as a trade secret, as provided in s. 19.36(5), Wis. Stats., or material which can be kept confidential under the Wisconsin public records law, must be identified on a **Designation of Confidential and Proprietary Information form (DOA-3027)** (see attachment) Proposers may request the form if it is not part of the Request for Proposal package. Proposal prices cannot be held confidential.

XI. Public Records

- a. WisDOT intends to maintain an open and public process in the solicitation, submission, review, and approval of procurement activities. Notwithstanding the foregoing, records may not be available for public inspection before issuance of the award of the proposal.
- b. The proposer shall retain all records produced or collected under an awarded contract for five (5) years following final payment under the contract and allow access to such records in accordance with requirements established under 49 Code of Federal Regulations 18.42, subch. II of Chapter 19, Wis. Stats. and Chapter 16, Wis. Stats.

XII. Evaluation Criteria (See Proposal Preparation Instructions)

Attachment: **Designation of Confidential and Proprietary Information form (DOA-3027)**



DESIGNATION OF CONFIDENTIAL AND PROPRIETARY INFORMATION

The attached material submitted in response to Bid/Proposal # _____ includes proprietary and confidential information which qualifies as a trade secret, as provided in s. 19.36(5), Wis. Stats., or is otherwise material that can be kept confidential under the Wisconsin Open Records Law. As such, we ask that certain pages, as indicated below, of this bid/proposal response be treated as confidential material and not be released without our written approval.

Prices always become public information when bids/proposals are opened, and therefore cannot be kept confidential.

Other information cannot be kept confidential unless it is a trade secret. Trade secret is defined in s. 134.90(1)(c), Wis. Stats. as follows: "Trade secret" means information, including a formula, pattern, compilation, program, device, method, technique or process to which all of the following apply:

1. The information derives independent economic value, actual or potential, from not being generally known to, and not being readily ascertainable by proper means by, other persons who can obtain economic value from its disclosure or use.
2. The information is the subject of efforts to maintain its secrecy that are reasonable under the circumstances.

We request that the following pages not be released.

Section	Page #	Topic

In the event the designation of confidentiality of this information is challenged, the undersigned hereby agrees to provide legal counsel or other necessary assistance to defend the designation of confidentiality and agrees to hold the state harmless for any costs or damages arising out of the state's agreeing to withhold the materials.

Failure to include this form in the bid/proposal response may mean that all information provided as part of the bid/proposal response will be open to examination and copying. The state considers other markings of confidential in the bid/proposal document to be insufficient. The undersigned agrees to hold the state harmless for any damages arising out of the release of any materials unless they are specifically identified above.

Company Name	
Authorized Representative	
	Signature
Authorized Representative	
	Type or Print
Date	