

U.S. Department of Transportation Awards \$2.5M Grant to Georgia for Connected Vehicle Technology



The U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) today awarded a \$2.5 million Advanced Transportation and Congestion Management

Technologies Deployment (ATCMTD) grant to the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) for connected vehicle (CV) technologies.

“These highly innovative projects offer high-tech solutions to relieve congestion and improve safety and efficiency on the nation’s highways,” said U.S. Transportation Secretary Elaine L. Chao.

GDOT will use the funds on roadside infrastructure to support the operation of CV technologies, including 1,700 additional traffic signals and metered ramps in the metro Atlanta area. The project aims to outfit all interstate ramps and signalized intersections on major roads in the region with proper vehicle-to-infrastructure technologies to communicate with private, fleet and transit vehicles.

GDOT also plans to develop an information-sharing portal where developers and traffic management partners can access and leverage real-time data to improve or optimize the effectiveness of their products and services.

“These technological tools are helping to support a transportation system that is equipped for the future,” said Deputy Federal Highway Administrator Brandye L. Hendrickson.

FHWA's ATCMTD program funds early deployments of cutting-edge technologies that can serve as national models to improve travel for commuters and businesses. This year, the program funded 10 projects valued at \$53 million that range from advanced real-time traveler information to Integrated Corridor Management and vehicle communications technologies, paving the way for connected and autonomous vehicles and congestion-relieving traffic management systems.

The ATCMTD program was established under the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act. State departments of transportation, local governments, transit agencies, metropolitan planning organizations and other eligible entities were invited to apply under the program.

To Read More, See Excerpt:

https://www.mdjonline.com/cobb_business_journal/u-s-department-of-transportation-awards-m-grant-to-georgia/article_1cbe91d8-54b2-11e9-be30-2ba8e1d9d430.html

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About the Program

The Construction Estimating Institute (CEI) works with GDOT as the statewide provider of the federally fund Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBE) Supportive Services Program.

Our goal is to increase the number of certified DBEs participating in highway and bridge construction, as well as assist DBEs in growing and eventually becoming self-sufficient.

Additionally, CEI provides supportive services by assisting prime contractors and consultants with identifying DBEs for subcontracting opportunities on priority projects.

Learn Today for Tomorrow

How to Handle Hard Conversations on the Jobsite

Bad decisions, poor choices & misdirection lead to a high risk of project failure



The essence of project management is reducing risk, optimizing project outcomes and meeting client expectations. As such, clients turn to professional project management and cost

consultancy to help them achieve exactly that.

Whether cost consultants, external project managers or scheduling specialists, delivery consultants are in unique positions of influence—poised to be the client's most trusted resource. With this privilege come the challenges of building and maintaining strong relationships, as well as working tirelessly to deliver results.

Even the most successful projects have had their share of obstacles. Consultants often facilitate critical decision making on their client's behalf, stepping in when a he or she makes a decision that may lead to a calamitous outcome.

The Outliers

The role and level of authority that project management and cost consultancy professionals are granted falls across a wide spectrum. However, limits to authority are rarely explicit and are often merely implied or expected. Some clients prefer that all major decision making, authority and direction emanate solely from their organization. For these clients, the consultant's role is to give advice and consultation, or act as a superintendent of the client's parlance.

At the opposite end of the spectrum are clients who prefer the consultants act in their place. These clients empower

consultants to act on their behalf like a surrogate or even an agent, to deliver projects successfully. These projects typically start behind schedule and fly under the radar until a critical issue arises.

Some of the tougher clients might require project managers to be dispatched on international missions to take control of international projects and deliver them on a fixed price, do-or-die basis—sometimes with only 5 hours' notice.

The Gray Area

Most projects fall in a middle zone between these two extremes. With these projects, consultants generally shift back and forth between two roles: the role of the advisor who steps in when asked or when necessary and the role of the principal leader, responsible for overseeing every detail.

Some tasks are shared with the client; some are delegated to outsourced project delivery; and some tasks are sacred—performed by internal staff only. For the managers and cost consultants on these projects, success is measured by the ability to mitigate risk, deliver quality, and adhere to schedules and budgets.

As with the other two extremes, challenges also appear in the gray middle zone. These project scenarios often begin with:

1. "This architect did my house in Malibu, so of course he/she can do my multistory high-rise in a major metropolitan area. He'll/She'll figure it out."
2. "Yes, I understand the objective scoring of your firm, the architect, engineer and stakeholders. And no, this contractor has never done a project like this one, but I'm confident he/she will rise to the occasion because I really like him/her, and he/she really wants this project."

To Read More: <https://www.constructionbusinessowner.com/technology/project-management/walking-tightrope-tough-decisions>

Supportive Services Offered



Within the past 3 months,
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in obtaining
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CEI is an educational organization providing the highest quality construction training in the industry. Over 100,000 owners, estimators, project managers, field supervisors, office support staff, foremen, laborers, and key management personnel have attended courses that are offered nationwide. The courses provide students with construction skills training and the critical information needed to be effective within their companies and organizations.

Call 855-432-1DBE (1323) or visit us online at
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