



State Transportation Innovation Council (STIC)

Innovation in Motion

A newsletter with highlights from the STIC

INNOVATE
DEPLOY
EDUCATE



The STIC met in March 2018 to discuss new initiatives and learn about recent successes.

Exciting Enhancements Coming to the Pennsylvania STIC

Over the past year, the STIC Management Team has been working to identify challenges and explore opportunities to advance more innovations through development to deployment. In early 2017, the STIC Management Team conducted an outreach campaign with all STIC and TAG Members, gathering feedback to create the [STIC Moving Forward Plan](#). This plan is comprised of three overall goals that provide the details for the STIC structure and development process for the program moving forward.

Goal 1: Rightsize the STIC Structure

The first goal includes the combination of the 10 existing TAGs into four TAGs: Design, Construction and Materials, Maintenance, and Safety and Traffic Operations. A new [organizational chart](#) was developed for the program. Volunteers from among PennDOT leadership were sought to lead each of the four TAGs. These TAG Leaders and Assistant TAG Leaders will manage activity and the flow of innovations through the TAGs. Additionally, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) will maintain standing membership on each of the four TAGs.

Goal 2: Increase deployment of well-researched, proven and documented innovations to PennDOT

The STIC Management Team identified a consistent [Innovation Development Process](#). The Innovation Development Process will serve as a roadmap to all members of the STIC organization, especially those on the TAGs, the Innovation Owners and Development Teams. This roadmap will support consistent and timely development of innovations for deployment.

Goal 3: Expand the participation of PennDOT employees and stakeholders

The STIC will develop a marketing strategy and subsequent communication plan to identify, recruit and maintain the right people in the right positions from among PennDOT, its stakeholders and partners. The STIC is interested in attracting and maintaining participants that are enthusiastic and excited about advancing innovation throughout all regions of the state.

Anyone interested in STIC program participation is encouraged to contact the STIC Management Team at ra-pdpenndotstic@pa.gov.



FHWA Division Administrator Alicia Nolan (left) joined Secretary Richards (right) at the March 2018 Business Meeting.

Introducing the new STIC Co-Chair

The STIC is proud to announce newly-appointed FHWA Division Administrator Alicia Nolan as Co-Chair of the STIC. Ms. Nolan comes to the STIC with a diverse background in transportation and was instrumental in the development of the Colorado STIC program. With her extensive experience and understanding of the program, the STIC looks forward to working with Ms. Nolan to advance the rich culture of innovation in Pennsylvania.

Highlighting the STIC's Accomplishments

The STIC's [2017 Accomplishments Summary Report](#) is now available. The report details the progress the STIC has achieved over a very busy 2017, during which the TAGs identified their priority innovations and pursued the immediate steps necessary to advance those innovations through development to deployment. This includes the rapidly developed innovation, Supply Cement Slurry for Full Depth Reclamation in Ready Mixed Concrete Trucks, by the Materials TAG.

The 2017 Accomplishments Summary also includes information about the national award the STIC received for its local government outreach campaign, which culminated in July 2017 with the successful Local Government Safety Seminar. The STIC looks forward to 2018 as the journey continues to advance innovation throughout Pennsylvania.



The STIC's 2017 Accomplishments Summary is now available.

FHWA Releases Every Day Counts (EDC-4) Report

The latest report summarizes the December 2017 deployment status of the 11 EDC-4 initiatives that are halfway through their two-year cycle. The report features videos, graphics, maps and charts to explain how innovations are moving through the implementation process. Not only is Pennsylvania prominently and favorably featured throughout, but several Pennsylvania planning partners are also highlighted. You can download the [PDF version](#) or access the [report](#) on FHWA's website.

Regional Traffic Incident Management Training and Testing Facility Update

Troy Truax, of Michael Baker International, presented an update on the evaluation efforts currently underway to determine the feasibility of locating a [Mid-Atlantic Traffic Incident Management \(TIM\) training facility](#) in Pennsylvania. Since their previous presentation at the November 2017 STIC Business Meeting, the TIM group developed various dynamic operational models that could benefit from the facility, including: traffic incident management training, ITS/tolling technology testing, commercial vehicle testing, connected and automated vehicle testing, work zone safety training, and transit vehicle testing and training. The [proposed facility concept](#) provided various potential partnerships, economic benefits and cost estimates of the proposed facility. The next steps include completing the feasibility study and business plan framework, and determining the requirements for the facility.

STIC Recognizes Parting Members and Welcomes New Members

The STIC expresses their sincere gratitude for the dedicated, outstanding service of the following members who have completed their terms on the STIC:

- Sherri Chipppo (American Public Works Association)
- Will Clark (York County Planning Commission)
- Crystalann Deardorff (Women's Transportation Seminar)
- Douglas George (American Society of Highway Engineers)
- Charles Goodhart (Pennsylvania Asphalt Pavement Association)
- Elam Herr (Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors)



Outgoing members, such as Crystalann Deardorff, received a certificate and drumstick to "keep the beat of innovation going."

The STIC is also proud to introduce the new STIC members for the next term:

- Virginia Bailey (Women's Transportation Seminar)
- Becky Bradley (Lehigh Valley Planning Commission)
- Holly Fishel (Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors)
- Michael Hawbaker (Pennsylvania Asphalt Pavement Association)
- John Rautzahn (American Society of Highway Engineers)
- Ronald A. Seybert Jr. (American Public Works Association)

Communications and Outreach

2018 National STIC Meeting

The next [National STIC Meeting](#) will be held via webinar on Thursday, April 19, from 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors (PSATS) Conference Coming Soon

Look for the STIC's informational booth at this year's PSATS Conference, April 22-25, at the Hershey Lodge and Convention Center. The STIC will solicit feedback from local government representatives on the challenges and needs for innovations in their regions.

Local Technical Assistance Program (LTAP) Advisory Committee Presentation

The STIC Management Team will present to the LTAP Advisory Committee in May. The presentation will focus on updates to the local government outreach campaign, including the success of the Local Government Safety Seminar and receipt of the FHWA/AASHTO Excellence Award. The STIC Management Team will also discuss how local governments can be involved in the STIC moving forward.



Fact or Fiction

TAG Leaders will now serve two-year terms.

FACT: The STIC Moving Forward Plan provides two-year terms for TAG Leaders. Adding term limits to the TAG Leader roles will create an environment for innovation and fresh perspectives, while respecting the time commitments associated with other duties.



Ask the STIC

Q: What is the difference between an IDEA and an INNOVATION?

A: An idea is an unproven, untested suggestion. An innovation consists of well-researched, proven and documented tools and technologies that are readily available for broader deployment. The mission of the STIC has always been to develop and broadly deploy existing innovations.



Upcoming Events:

**The next STIC Business Meeting
will be held on July 18.**

For more information, please contact the STIC Team at ra-pdpenndotstic@pa.gov.