



This edition of the STIC *Innovation in Motion* e-Newsletter includes the call for 2023 STIC Incentive Program funding submissions and updates on the Geosynthetic Stabilized Bridge Approach (GSBA) and the Vegetation Management Equipment Catalog innovations.

Stay tuned for the release of the PennDOT *Focus on Innovations* publication, featuring updates on current STIC and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Every Day Counts (EDC) innovations as well as a wide array of PennDOT's homegrown innovation efforts.

## Call for 2023 STIC Incentive Program Funding Submissions

The Pennsylvania STIC is holding an open call for project submissions for **2023 STIC Incentive Program** funding. Every year, the FHWA STIC Incentive Program provides up to \$100,000 in funding to help each state's STIC foster a culture of innovation and make innovations standard practice in their states.

If you have an innovation you would like to have considered for STIC Incentive Program funding, please submit it using the link below by **Friday, Feb. 17, 2023**. Please be sure to provide as much detail as possible to allow those reviewing the submission to fully understand your innovation and how the funding will assist in its implementation. All STIC Incentive Program funding nominations will be compiled and provided to STIC Members for review and feedback before a final selection(s) is made.

## STIC Incentive Program Funding Submission Form

### STIC Innovation Reaches Important Milestone

Geosynthetic Stabilized Bridge Approach (GSBA), a construction method for backfill adjacent to bridge abutments, reached a major milestone in 2022.

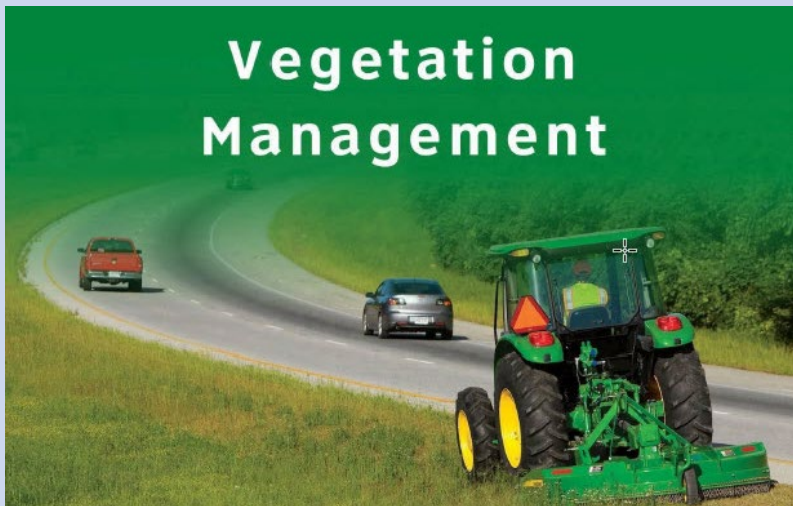
The innovation enhances backfill with layers of porous backfill (open-graded aggregate) bound by geosynthetic fabric to minimize the "bridge bump." The fabric and backfill work together to resist the settlement problems encountered with typical backfill, keeping the backfill-supported roadway at the same elevation as the adjacent abutment-supported roadway.

As of November 2022, the innovation has been incorporated into PennDOT's Roadway Construction Standards, Publication 72M, RC-15M, and can be adopted immediately on all new and existing projects without affecting letting schedules. Furthermore, it will be required on all projects let after April 30, 2023. [Learn More](#)



**Vegetation Management Equipment Catalog Now Available**

Thanks to the hard work and ingenuity of the Innovation Development Team under the STIC's Maintenance Technical Advisory Group, the Vegetation Management Equipment Catalog (PUB 920) is now available. The catalog provides maintenance personnel with information about the different types of PennDOT-owned vegetation management equipment and attachments and brings awareness to other equipment and attachments available for future purchase or rental by the department. The catalog also serves as a guide for municipal governments looking to request service exchanges that would utilize the equipment and attachments on local roads through PennDOT's Agility Program. [Learn More](#)



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