

Texas A&M Transportation Institute Seeks Products and Services for Campus Transportation Technology Initiative

Dr. Paul Carlson, senior research engineer for Texas A&M Transportation Institute (TTI), presented the university's Campus Transportation Technology Initiative during ATSSA's Midyear Meeting in Chicago, August 24–26. The initiative is a partnership and a “call out” to companies worldwide to bring technology and innovation to the university's transportation system. The goal is to offer greater mobility, improved safety, enhanced connectivity and more efficient services to the transportation network on the campus.

A mutually beneficial initiative, companies have a place to test and develop their products, and the university is on the forefront of new transportation advancements. Already dozens of companies have answered the call and have brought their ideas to TTI—from sensors that provide parking data about usage and occupancy to ways to get the word out about construction zones and roads that are temporarily closed.

“Products and technologies will be tested at TTI over the next year,” said Robert Brydia, senior research scientist at TTI. “An early implementation and a big change on campus is at the corner of Ross and Bizzell roads that will deploy advanced pavement marking that glow at night for bicyclists. They absorb solar power during the day and emit a soft glow to illuminate the bike path throughout the entire intersection all night long.”

Enrolling nearly 60,000 students on its 5,000-acre campus, TTI has a population the size of some U.S. cities. The university's growing campus is undergoing more than \$3.2 billion of construction, including roads, sidewalks, parking garages and buildings. Known for its research and development program that has resulted in significant breakthroughs in the transportation system since it was founded in 1950, TTI invites companies to join in its goals of saving lives, time and resources by participating in the initiative.

“TTI is dedicated to addressing its transportation priorities and wants to partner with companies that offer the best solutions to these transportation needs,” said Carlson. “The university seeks feedback from companies that offer cutting-edge and innovative services and products that will meet the needs of our campus transportation system.”

For the Campus Transportation Technology Initiative, the following list will help provide greater efficiency and safety to the campus and offer companies an idea of what types of products would best serve its needs. They include:

- automated vehicles
- signage and markings
- connected vehicles
- parking (including automated and parking assist)
- electric vehicles
- data mining and analytics
- green and sustainable transportation
- mobility applications (Smartphone)
- smart intersections
- incentive programs (ride sharing)
- pedestrian mobility and safety
- last-mile shuttles
- bicycle mobility and safety
- transportation as a service
- transit system safety
- mobility as a service
- transit system operational efficiency
- campus work zones

Companies with technologies to potentially improve a transportation environment should bring their ideas to TTI through its Request for Information website at www.esbd.cpa.state.tx.us, which addresses a variety of TTI's transportation priorities and will remain open until Aug. 1, 2017. ●

For more information about TTI's initiative, visit www.smartcampus.tti.tamu.edu.

TTI's Process to Submit Products and Services to the Campus Transportation Technology Initiative

Once all products and services are submitted for the Campus Transportation Technology Initiative, TTI will:

- assess technologies and services proposed for the campus
- recommend technologies and practices to include on-campus demonstrations
- provide testing venues for technology demonstrations
- integrate multimodal transportation strategies
- evaluate the technology demonstrations for benefits and advancements in the campus transportation environment
- prepare and publish a comprehensive report of findings

If TTI is interested in a company's product or service, the point of contact in the Request for Information will be contacted.