

**TMC Pooled-Fund Study
Project Proposal Form**

Project Category*: Operational Policies, Strategies, and Plans	Project Number: 21
Project Title: Research to Support the Development of CMS Standards	
Statement of Problem: <p>One of the projects selected last year focused on the need to identify current guidelines, policies, practices, and procedures for CMS usage and to summarize the analytical and empirical support behind these. One of the products of that study will be recommendations for further research that are needed to support the development of CMS standards. The purpose of this project is to support the conduct of at least the higher priority recommendations from the previous project.</p> <p>CMS has been in use for a number of years. Various agencies have investigated the effect of CMS on safety, driver behavior, and mobility. The documentation of findings from many of these investigations has not been easily or widely accessible. A single document that summarizes current guidelines, policies, practices, and procedures for CMS and the analytical and/or empirical support for these is needed to assist personnel who want to establish a consistent and logical approach to CMS. The effort described here is intended to fill this need. Although recommended standards will not be a product of this project, the goal of this effort is to provide research-based recommendations that will lead to the development of CMS messaging standards for inclusion in the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD).</p>	
Suggested Approach: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The TMC Pooled-Fund Study CMS working group will prioritize the research recommendations from the ongoing CMS message project.2. A contractor (or contractors) will develop proposals to address the highest priority research recommendations.3. The members will evaluate individual research proposals and approve selected proposals based on (1) priority, (2) available resources, and (3) probability of success in producing results that will support MUTCD or AASHTO standards or guidelines.4. Contractor(s) conducts research and delivers appropriate draft standards or guidelines and supporting documentation.5. The CMS Messaging working group reviews contractor deliverables and makes its recommendations.	
Products: Recommendations for draft standards to existing standards bodies.	
End Users (Product Customer): Highway departments that utilize Changeable Message Signs.	
Training, Outreach, and Distribution Plan:	

* (1) System Planning & Program Issues; (2) Operational Policies, Strategies, and Plans; (3) System Design & Implementation; (4) Performance Monitoring & Evaluation; (5) Staffing and Training Issues; (6) System Maintenance Concept & Plans; (7) MC Technology Transfer & Outreach:

<p>Rough Order of Magnitude Cost:</p> <p>Person Hours: _____</p> <p>Labor Cost: _____</p> <p>Direct Costs: _____</p> <p>Total Cost: _____</p>	<p>Comments:</p>
<p>In-Kind Support or Other Funding (Beyond SP&R):</p>	
<p>Suggested Schedule for Major Milestones:</p>	
<p>Benefits</p>	