Research Support

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**Project Title:**
Research Implementation Accelerator

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## Research Implementation Accelerator: Workshops and Seed Funding Program

Providing funding for training, equipment, and technical support to accelerate the implementation of research results.

### WHAT WAS THE NEED?

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) through its Division of Research, Innovation and System Information (DRISI) funds Research and Development (R&D) projects to provide solutions to the needs of its internal customers. The level of implementation and utilization of these R&D projects varies depending on the Technology Readiness Level (TRL) of the results as well as training and readiness of the internal customers for their implementations. Furthermore, the scope of some of the research conducted may not include consideration of customer's workflows. These shortcomings result in underutilization of some of the completed research and therefore do not provide full benefits to the customers.

Caltrans needs to identify completed research projects that are underutilized and have the potential to bring the Department greater efficiency, saving time, money and resources that can be used to deliver more projects.
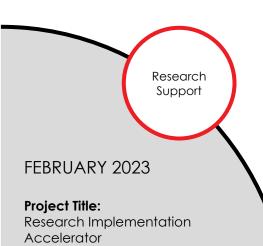
### WHAT WAS OUR GOAL?

Identify underutilized research projects and use seed funding to accelerate implementation of such projects. The aim was to work with Caltrans stakeholders to determine the needs and then use the seed funding to work out the workflows necessary for proper integration and adaptation of the research results of such underutilized research projects.

### WHAT DID WE DO?

We used virtual platforms to conduct two research workshops

DRISI provides solutions and knowledge that improves California's transportation system

identifying projects that can impact Caltrans operations through proper implementations aided with the receipt of seed funding to kick-start such implementations. The seed money was used for training, equipment, and consultant support.

## WHAT WAS THE OUTCOME?

The project panel distributed the implementation support seed funding to all four selected projects and monitored the progress of the implementation support. We successfully completed implementation support for all four projects. We also documented and finalized the process for future implementation support.

## WHAT IS THE BENEFIT?

This project successfully provided funding to accelerating the implementation of research results and benefited Caltrans in achieving its goals of efficiency, safety, and stewardship in enhancing mobility in California.