ArDOT TRC TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH COMMITTEE

PROBLEM STATEMENT
No. 37

RESEARCH PROBLEM STATEMENT

DATE: 09/24/2020 | **PROJECT AREA:** Special Projects

TITLE: Project Bundling: Determining Optimum Project Type, Size, and Delivery Method

PROBLEM STATEMENT:

Project Bundling combines projects at two or more locations into a single or smaller set of contracts. FHWA's Every Day Counts program promotes Project Bundling for various project types and contract delivery methods. ArDOT is participating in the bridge bundling program with three different contracts. Why have this research along with implementation? The TRC research process provides a framework for collaboration among key Divisions, allowing exploration of new processes and products. Because Project Bundling potentially involves emerging technologies cross-cutting all Divisions, Districts, and even local agencies, the research would provide a resource to coordinate across institutional boundaries and organize and document progress. To develop a framework for comparison, ARDOT has historical cost data from traditional projects to compare to unit costs from the CAP and BOND programs to identify optimum project sizes. Design-Build and Construction Manager/General Contractor jobs now under construction would provide data for these new contracting methods. The research would document successes and lessons learned to provide feedback for a fully institutionalized program.

OBJECTIVES:

1. Define the goals and objectives of a project bundling program, including project types and preferred contract delivery methods.
2. Define performance measures in terms of unit cost, savings in construction schedule, staff time savings, MOT cost savings, etc., and determine methods to measure and track performance measures.
3. Let projects and track them. Document lessons learned throughout the project life for feedback into process.
4. Prepare Interim Reports and Final Research Report.
5. Implement research: Continue bundling and tracking projects, making adjustments as needed.

FORM OF RESEARCH IMPLEMENTATION AND RETURN ON INVESTMENT:

Project Bundling is estimated by other State DOTs to save 25 to 50 percent in preliminary engineering and 5 to 15 percent in construction costs compared to the traditional development for individual projects. Project Bundling could ultimately lead to a new way to program and deliver projects, with crosscutting implications across project types and jurisdictional boundaries. Implementation would ultimately be carried out by Divisions responsible for project development for the design, maintenance and operations of various transportation assets.

Estimated Project Duration: 36 **Months**

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Standing Subcommittee Ranking	Advisory Council Ranking	Statement Combined with Statement Number(s)
1/9	1	