

STIC Incentive Application – Virtual Public Involvement

Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT)

June 18, 2019

General Information:

Virtual Public Involvement (VPI) is the use of digital technology to engage individuals or to visualize projects and plans. The benefits of VPI are increased participation, convenience, transparency and access along with a reduction in costs, project delays and staff time. MDOT and the city of Ann Arbor are interested in adopting this initiative and is in the process of piloting projects:

- MDOT: I-94 Ann Arbor/Saline to US-23 Feasibility Study
- MDOT: M-28 Reconstruction, city of Munising, Alger County
- MDOT: US-12 PEL Study from Campus Martius to I-96, city of Detroit, Wayne County
- MDOT: US-131/I-96 Planning and Environmental Linkages (PEL) Study, city of Grand Rapids, Kent County
- MDOT: Statewide Long-Range Plan
- City of Ann Arbor: Nixon Road Corridor Design Project
- City of Ann Arbor: Ann Arbor Quite Zone Study

1. Provide a brief description of the proposed work:

The proposed work involves publishing a summary of findings (i.e. assessments, resources, tools, best practices, experts, lessons learned, etc.) from the pilot projects and developing a guidance document and aides on Virtual Public Involvement (VPI) for use by MDOT, local units of government, industry and consultant staff.

2. Amount of STIC Incentive Funds Requested:

Requesting \$24,000 in STIC incentive funds.
 $\$24,000 \div 80\% = \$30,000$ total project costs.

Funding Source	Amount	Percentage of Total
FHWA STIC Funds	\$24,000	80%
MDOT Matching Funds	\$6,000	20%
Total	\$30,000	100%

3. Project Schedule:

Development of the MDOT VPI guidance document would begin October 15, 2019. An anticipated completion in 15 months for development of the guidance document and aides. The completion date is based upon the last pilot project wrapping up in late 2020. January 29, 2021 is the completion date for the final deliverables and a formal recommendation.

4. Commitment of Other Funds:

STIC Incentive funds require a 20% match. MDOT will use state funds for this match.

5. Project Administration:

MDOT will provide all project administration in collaboration with FHWA.

6. Will the TIDP funds be obligated and reimbursable work performed within six months of the date the funds are made available? (Y/N and include the estimated Obligation Date and to whom)

The funds would be obligated within two weeks upon being available. Yes, reimbursable work would be performed within six months of the obligation date. MDOT will need to create an RFP for the contract services to develop the MDOT guidance documents.

7. Indicate where in the STIC implementation plan the project work is referenced.

MDOT has started using various VPI tools on projects throughout the state. This is a new and innovative way to engage with stakeholders and is part of the state of Michigan's Every Day Counts 5 (EDC-5) initiative. Creating a virtual public involvement guide with tools, resources, lessons learned, and best practices are available and what parameters must be considered before implementing will be a tool that will benefit staff once the initiative is institutionalized.