

MDOT Research Implementation Process

MDOT leadership and technical staff must decide if specific research findings should be implemented. The following process outlines how to provide funding, and track progress of implementation.

1.
 - At the close of a research project the Project Manager (PM) should review research implementation recommendations and determine if findings should be executed.
 - The PM will draft Preliminary Implementation Plan (PIP): This can summarize the implementation action plan completed during the research project. It should include objectives and tasks, scope, schedule, pilot locations (if applicable), estimated cost, and possible funding sources.
 - The PM may recommend an Implementation Manager (IM).

2.
 - The PM will present their PIP at the Research Advisory Committee (RAC) meeting:
 - Meeting attendees include RAC members with recently completed research projects (Focus Area Managers, Research Managers, Region Representatives and the RAC Chair). The Engineer of Research also attends.
 - Individual research projects, completed in the last fiscal year, are reviewed by the RAC to determine if implementation will be recommended.
 - The RAC will officially assign an IM for each approved implementation effort and with assistance from Research Administration identify funding sources for implementation.

3.
 - The PM and recommended IMs present their respective study implementation recommendation(s) to the Research Executive Committee (REC) in an informative presentation. The REC may provide further guidance or determination on whether implementation will proceed.

4.
 - The IM will finalize the preliminary implementation plan developed by the PM and initiate the innovation.
 - Implementation will not begin until RAC has granted final approval of the implementation plan.
 - IM will periodically report the status of implementation to RAC and Research Administration for tracking.
 - IM will present to the RAC a final presentation of implementation once it is completed.

Project Manager: Typically, the PM is the subject area expert for the research topic. The PM takes the leadership role for the research project, oversees technical aspects of the project, and manages project tasks.

Implementation Manager: Typically, the IM is the person with the resources and authority to champion implementation efforts. The IM takes the leadership role for implementation tasks, and reports on progress.