MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
between the
Federal Highway Administration Center for Accelerating Innovation
and the
American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials Innovation Initiative

THIS MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ("MOU"), made and entered into this 25th day of May 2016, by and between the UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION ("FHWA") CENTER FOR ACCELERATING INNOVATION ("CAI") and the AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF STATE HIGHWAY AND TRANSPORTATION OFFICIALS ("AASHTO") acting by and through the AASHTO INNOVATION INITIATIVE ("AII"), hereby provides as follows:

WITNESSETH:

Whereas, 23 U.S.C. 502(b)(3)(C) authorizes the Secretary of Transportation to “carry out, research, development, and technology transfer activities related to transportation — by making grants to, or entering into contracts and cooperative agreement with one or more of the following: the National Academy of Sciences, the American Association of State Highway Transportation Officials, and Federal laboratory, Federal agency, State agency, authority, association, institution, for-profit or nonprofit corporation, organization, foreign country, or any other person.”

Whereas, 23 U.S.C. 503(c) authorizes the Secretary of Transportation to “carry out a technology and innovation deployment program relating to all aspects of highway transportation, including planning, financing, operation, structures, materials, pavements, environment, construction, and the duration of time between project planning and project delivery; to distribute the products, technologies, tools, methods, or other findings that result from highway research and development activities; to establish and carry out demonstration programs; to provide technical assistance, and training to researchers and developers; and to develop improved tools and methods to accelerate the adoption of proven innovative practices and technologies as standard practices.”

Whereas, Fixing America’s Surface Transportation ("FAST") Act §1444. Every Day Counts (EDC) Initiative authorizes the FHWA to “continue the Every Day Counts initiative to work with States, local transportation agencies, and industry stakeholders to identify and deploy proven innovative practices and products that— (1) accelerate innovation deployment; (2) shorten the project delivery process; (3) improve environmental sustainability; (4) enhance roadway safety; and (5) reduce congestion.”

Whereas, the FHWA formed the CAI to lead development of strategic programs, such as EDC, in support of creating a culture of innovation within the highway community. The CAI also fosters and supports the national State Transportation Innovation Council (STIC) network and engagement with other key stakeholders, which includes AASHTO members.
Whereas, the AII program actively seeks out proven advancements in transportation technology, investing time and resources to accelerate their adoption by agencies nationwide. The program selects highly valuable technologies, processes, software, or other innovations that have been adopted by at least one agency, are proven in use, and will be of significant benefit to other agencies.

Whereas, this MOU establishes a formal partnership between AII and FHWA CAI to advance innovation deployment activities and foster a culture of innovation within the highway community:

I. Scope of Partnership

The following items and identified roles and responsibilities provide a framework for the partnership between the AII and the FHWA CAI to advance innovation deployment activities and foster a culture of innovation within the highway community:

a. Partnership on Every Day Counts (EDC) – Collaboration on the deployment of the EDC-3 e-Construction innovation is a testament to the impact partnership can have on accelerating the deployment of an innovation when working together. AII will partner with the FHWA CAI on the EDC initiative and support deployment of selected innovations.

b. Serve as Point of Contact (POC) for EDC – Broad stakeholder engagement is a key to the success of the EDC initiative. AASHTO has been a primary partner since the beginning and the input of State DOTs in the overall administration of EDC has been invaluable. Given the shared mutual interest, AII will serve as the primary POC for AASHTO on the EDC initiative, where AII will:
   i. Serve as AASHTO’s voice for EDC (e.g., issue joint FHWA-AII announcements for EDC milestones, such as the announcement of EDC-4 Innovations or publication of accomplishment reports);
   ii. Foster EDC pipeline by identifying market ready of potential innovations for future EDC cycles;
   iii. Provide recommendations on behalf of AASHTO for innovations to deploy through the EDC initiative (2-year cycle);
   iv. Vet and solicit AASHTO member review of proposed innovations; and
   v. Provide leadership and support for deployment of specific EDC innovations (e.g., e-Construction).

c. Foster EDC pipeline – AII will foster the EDC pipeline by evaluating innovations and identifying market ready technologies for potential deployment in future EDC cycles. FHWA CAI will provide up to a total of $200,000 per year in funding to AII to support activities (e.g., testing, piloting, or demonstration) to evaluate or assess the readiness of potential innovations of mutual interest. This funding is subject availability and the execution of formal cooperative agreements to obligate the funds and to outline specific details of the partnership, terms and conditions of work supported, progress reports, and Federal cost share.
d. **FHWA Liaison to AII** – The FHWA CAI Director will serve as Secretary to the AII and will be supported by an additional liaison from CAI to facilitate the partnership and assist in fulfilling the intent of this MOU.

**II. Modification** – This MOU will be reviewed annually and may be amended only by written agreement signed by both parties.

**III. Duration/Termination** – This MOU will remain in effect until one of the parties terminates it.

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Bud Wright      Gregory G. Nadeau
Executive Director  Administrator
AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF STATE  FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION
HIGHWAY TRANSPORTATION OFFICIALS

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Date

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Date