

## Policy Resolution PR-10-08

### Title: Technical Service Program to Support Safe, Reliable and Secure Transportation Operations

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**WHEREAS**, The critical mission of maintaining and operating the transportation system at all times, including emergency preparedness, response and recovery to related natural disasters or terrorist attacks, will require the support of all the public works agencies; and

**WHEREAS**, In today's environment, mobility is also important to safety and security and, vice-versa; and There is no longer the 'build and forget' business mentality as the new paradigm shift requires operating the transportation system in a way that maximizes the available system capacity and minimizes the impacts of unexpected events; and

**WHEREAS**, The State DOTs are demanding more products and services from AASHTO, for example some of these efforts include a new highway safety manual; peer to peer support; updates to the AASHTO's strategic safety plan and implementation guides (Series 500 NCHRP reports), an AASHTO Guide to Systems Operations and Management and other research efforts and reports coordinated through the NCHRP and SHRP2 programs related to reliability, safety and security; and

**WHEREAS**, Congestion caused by unreliable transportation events is almost as great as the congestion caused by insufficient highway capacity; and

**WHEREAS**, The increasing national focus on mobility, congestion reduction and incident management along with reducing the dependence on foreign oil, energy costs, and climate change are primary motivators in developing the need to improve the reliability of our overall transportation system; and

**WHEREAS**, Construction dollars, environmental carbon footprint impacts, right of way availability, or limitation of available budgetary funds, support the need for more of an operations approach; and Better operation of the transportation system holds the potential for substantially improving the way transportation agencies address recurring and non-recurring congestion; and

**WHEREAS**, AASHTO member agencies develop plans, policies, procedures and partnerships that maintain and improve all aspects of the delivery and operation of our transportation system both economically and socially for normal daily activities or in events of national emergencies; and

**WHEREAS**, There is also a continued need to promote awareness and education about transportation security and emergency response among the State DOTs by supporting or organizing meetings and conferences, and preparing guidance materials and sharing best practice techniques on a wide range of topics; and

**WHEREAS**, There is a need for expanding partnerships with other public agencies associated with transportation and although these agencies are outside the primary role of the transportation DOT, collaboration, communication and coordination is necessary in order to establish partnerships and comprehensive programs, policies, guidance and procedures that do not conflict with each other; and

**WHEREAS**, A Technical Services Program would help take advantage and share these increasing technologies and best practice used in the areas of safety, reliability and security to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of State DOT organizations; and

**WHEREAS**, A Technical Services Program is designed to aid the State DOTs in this mission and, where necessary provide funding for AASHTO when it may be necessary to hire outside consultants to expand the support to the three AASHTO committees: Special Committee on Transportation Security; Standing Committee on Highways, Subcommittee on Systems Operations and Management; and Standing Committee on Highway Traffic Safety, Subcommittee on Safety Management; and The program will also be used to leverage the receiving of federal contract and cooperative agreement funding; therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, To take advantage of increasing technologies and best practices used in the areas of safety, reliability and security to enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of operations, AASHTO would put in place a Voluntary Technical Services Program; therefore, be it further

**RESOLVED**, A voluntary AASHTO Technical Services Program would help to support the vision, mission, goals and objectives of the three AASHTO committees above and a voluntary assessment of \$10,000 per member department annually would be necessary to fund the establishment and ongoing activities of these programs; and finally be it

**RESOLVED**, That the Board of Directors approve this voluntary assessment of \$10,000 per member department annually.