UTC PROJECT DESCRIPTION

PROJECT NUMBER:
03235

PROJECT TITLE:
Access Management Training

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR:
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PROJECT OBJECTIVE:
The objective of the proposed project is to enhance existing training course materials on access management. This is in support of the on-going efforts by the Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT) and the Alabama Section of the Institute of Transportation Engineers (ALSITE) to offer training on access management issues. The project will involve a literature review, preparation of course notes, and development of visual aids to assist in the delivery of a short course on access management.

PROJECT ABSTRACT:
Properly designed transportation systems provide a balance between the needs of transportation users for mobility and accessibility. Thus, it becomes the responsibility of transportation agencies and transportation professionals to ensure that the design of each road properly balances access and mobility. Access management is used to provide this very important balance. There is clearly a need for better understanding of the interrelated elements of land use, economic activity and growth, and traffic generation and distribution. This project addresses this need by providing training materials for a short course on access management. The course offers an overview of access management options, potential impacts on safety, mobility, accessibility, and economic growth, and ways to achieve the maximum benefits through access management.

The project builds upon recent efforts from ALSITE members who prepared and offered a pilot short course on access management on June 2003. The proposed work will update and expand currently available materials and will assist ALSITE to deliver in the future an improved version of the pilot short course on access management. It is expected that this technology transfer activity will provide valuable input to transportation professionals and transportation decision makers in Alabama and will assist them to determine the types of access management strategies that are best suited at the local level.

PROJECT TASK DESCRIPTIONS:
1. Review technical literature on access management principles, policies, practices, and evaluation studies.
3. Develop an improved and expanded version of visual aids to be used in the course.
4. Develop a set of training materials for course participants including course notes, visual aids handouts, and a list of references.
5. Develop a course evaluation instrument.
6. Summarize the feedback from the evaluations, and make any necessary improvements to the course content and materials in response to trainee recommendations.

MILESTONES AND DATES:
• Task 1 July 15 – Sept 30, 2003
• Task 2 Sept 1 – Nov 30
• Task 4 Dec 1, 2003 – Jan 31, 2004, July 2004
• Task 5 Nov 2003, Feb – May 2004
• Task 6 June 1 – July 31, 2004

TOTAL BUDGET:
One-year project: UTCA $10,364; total budget $20,728.

STUDENT INVOLVEMENT:
A graduate or undergraduate student will be partially supported by the project and will assist in the preparation and reproduction of course materials.

RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER RESEARCH PROJECTS:
The project will be developed and offered in a manner similar to other UTCA technology transfer projects; however, no other UTCA research projects are similar to this topic.

TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER ACTIVITIES:
This project directly supports the technology transfer aspect of the UTCA. Seminars will be given to ALDOT, and RPCGB officials and other interested transportation professional in the state of Alabama using the deliverables of this project.

POTENTIAL BENEFITS OF THE PROJECT
The information compiled in this project can be used to educate and market the concept and benefits of access management to professional planners and engineers, planning and zoning staff members, appointed and elected officials, landowners and developers, and motorists in the state of Alabama.

TRB KEYWORDS
Access Management, transportation planning, congestion management, traffic safety, design of transportation facilities