UTC RESEARCH PROJECT DESCRIPTION

PROJECT NUMBER
04116

PROJECT TITLE
Transportation Labs/Facilities Development in Shelby Hall

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR
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PROJECT OBJECTIVE
To develop transportation laboratories and administrative facilities in Shelby Hall, which is scheduled to open in mid-spring of 2004.

PROJECT ABSTRACT
Shelby Hall is being constructed as an interdisciplinary research and graduate instruction building on the University of Alabama campus. About 15,000 square feet of the facility will be dedicated to transportation research, and will house four related research centers. UTCA will have two research labs, an administrative office complex, faculty offices, and graduate offices. This project will provide the design of a Traffic Management Center (TMC) lab and an Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) Development lab, plus provide partial funding for both research and administrative equipment.

PROJECT TASK DESCRIPTIONS:
Task 1: Develop an advisory committee of ALDOT, city and county experts.
Task 2: Perform detailed design of the ITS and TMC labs.
Task 3: Purchase and install equipment.
Task 4: Design and pilot test traffic labs.
Task 5: Begin operation of labs.
Task 6: Prepare project final report.

MILESTONES AND DATES:
Task 1: Jan. 2004
Task 5: Aug. 15
Task 6: Nov. – Dec. 04
TOTAL BUDGET:
One-year project; UTCA budget $51,147; total budget $81,147.

STUDENT INVOLVEMENT:
There will be no students supported by this project. However, students will immediately begin to use the laboratory as soon as it is functional.

RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER PROJECTS:
This project is not related to any other UTCA projects.

TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER ACTIVITIES:
The new labs will be used for teaching at the undergraduate and graduate levels, and for technology transfer courses offered to practicing transportation professionals.

POTENTIAL BENEFITS OF THE PROJECT:
This project supports the educational program of UTCA, which recruits and educates a diverse student population.

TRB KEYWORDS:
Transportation labs, traffic management center, ITS development