

## Competition Details

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### CSU Transportation Research and Workforce Development RFP (SB 1)

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**Internal Submission** Monday, February 26, 2018  
**Deadline:** ADD TO CALENDAR

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**Administrator(s):** Hilary Nixon (Owner)

**Category:** Request for Proposal

**Award Cycle:** 2018

**Maximum Applications** 99

**Allowed Per Applicant:**

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#### Description:

California's Senate Bill 1 (SB 1), signed into law on April 28, 2017, is a comprehensive transportation funding package designed to address a wide range of transportation-related needs across California. As part of SB 1, annual appropriations of up to \$2 million will be made available to the California State University (CSU) for the purpose of conducting transportation research and transportation-related workforce education, training and development. The Mineta Transportation Institute (MTI) at San José State University (SJSU) was selected to lead the California State University Transportation Consortium (CSUTC). CSUTC comprises MTI/SJSU along with partners CSU Chico, CSU Fresno, and CSU Long Beach. CSUTC will engage in a two-pronged approach to developing a comprehensive research portfolio: 1) Each CSUTC partner will engage in SB 1-related research and/or workforce development activities and 2) CSUTC will manage a CSU-wide competitive request for proposals to identify research projects aligned with SB 1 priorities.

Please note that complete RFP guidelines, along with templates for submitting a proposal and budget are available under "Competition Files" on this website. The project period of performance is for 12 months.

Please contact Dr. Hilary Nixon (hilary.nixon@sjsu.edu; 408-924-7564) with questions about this RFP. Questions about using InfoReady should be directed to Ty Melvin (tmelvin@calstate.edu).

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## CSU Transportation Research & Workforce Development Request for Proposals

### ◆ Background

California's Senate Bill 1 (SB 1), signed into law on April 28, 2017, is a comprehensive transportation funding package designed to address a wide range of transportation-related needs across California. As part of SB 1, annual appropriations of up to \$2 million will be made available to the California State University (CSU) for the purpose of conducting transportation research and transportation-related workforce education, training and development. The Mineta Transportation Institute (MTI) at San José State University (SJSU) was selected to lead the California State University Transportation Consortium (CSUTC). CSUTC comprises MTI/SJSU along with partners CSU Chico, CSU Fresno, and CSU Long Beach. **CSUTC will engage in a two-pronged approach to developing a comprehensive research portfolio:** 1) Each CSUTC partner will engage in SB 1-related research and/or workforce development activities and 2) CSUTC will manage a CSU-wide competitive request for proposals to identify research projects aligned with SB 1 priorities.

### ◆ General Proposal Information

**Who can apply?** This research funding opportunity is available to faculty (permanent or temporary) at any California State University campus. Commercial organizations, non-profits, and other universities may not respond to this RFP. The Principal Investigator(s) must be CSU faculty; non-CSU personnel may participate on research teams. All proposals must include funding for CSU students.

**Project funding.** Proposal budgets, including indirect/F&A/overhead expenses (limited to 15%), must not exceed \$75,000. Applicants must use the budget template provided. Approximately 10 awards will be issued through this competitive selection process.

**Deadline.** The deadline to apply to this funding opportunity is **11:59 p.m. (Pacific) on Monday, February 26, 2018**. All submissions must be submitted through Calstate InfoReady (<https://calstate.infoready4.com/>). For questions specifically about using InfoReady, please contact Ty Melvin ([tmelvin@calstate.edu](mailto:tmelvin@calstate.edu)).

**Proposal review.** Proposals will be reviewed by an external, independent, third-party review committee using the evaluation criteria listed below. No CSU-affiliated faculty or staff will serve as reviewers. The committee will make the final decision regarding projects selected for funding.

**Submittal Deadline:**

**February 26, 2018**

RFP Guidelines,  
Proposal and Budget  
Template available at:  
<https://calstate.infoready4.com>

**MTI CONTACT:**

Dr. Hilary Nixon  
MTI Director of  
Research and  
Technology Transfer  
[hilary.nixon@sjsu.edu](mailto:hilary.nixon@sjsu.edu)  
408-924-7564

**Issued: January 18, 2018**

**ALL AWARDS ARE  
SUBJECT TO THE  
AVAILABILITY OF  
APPROPRIATED  
FUNDS**

**Distribution of funds.** The authorized contracting entity for SJSU, the SJSU Research Foundation, will award funds for approved proposals. The Principal Investigator will be required to submit monthly progress reports to MTI as a condition of payment.

### ◆ **Project Emphasis Areas**

Proposals must align with SB I and fall within the CSUTC specific research objectives. SB I priorities include: maintenance & rehabilitation of surface transportation infrastructure; congestion relief; trade corridor improvements; improved transit/trail; pedestrian/cyclist safety projects. More information about SB I can be found at: <http://rebuildingca.ca.gov/>.

- **CSUTC Objective 1:** Leverage new technologies, including vehicle automation, and innovative processes to achieve a seamless, multimodal surface transportation system that integrates with other “smart city” investments.
- **CSUTC Objective 2:** Develop tools and approaches, such as life-cycle cost analysis, that will identify cost-effective materials and methods to facilitate road and bridge rehabilitation/maintenance decision-making and improve the long-term benefits of transportation investments.
- **CSUTC Objective 3:** Develop advanced solutions for the application of new materials, design, and technologies to address long-term road and bridge maintenance and pavement/concrete rehabilitation needs.
- **CSUTC Objective 4:** Create safer communities, increased access to transit, and greater opportunities for use of active transportation modes (i.e., biking and walking) through complete streets and innovative land use planning so that people of all abilities and socioeconomic levels enjoy the same opportunities for learning, living, labor, and leisure.
- **CSUTC Objective 5:** Maximize opportunities for California’s cap-and-trade program to reduce the impact of transportation on climate change.
- **CSUTC Objective 6:** Promote intermodal connectivity, station-area development, and innovative finance solutions for multimodal transit centers.
- **CSUTC Objective 7:** Optimize passenger and freight movements to improve mobility of people and goods through development of more accurate data models and advanced congestion management tools to achieve trade and commute corridor improvements.
  - Project Example (congestion management/improved mobility): Evaluate the effectiveness of coordinated ramp metering (CRM) systems to improve freeway performance compared to existing ramp metering algorithms. [For more information, contact Dr. Hilary Nixon.]

### ◆ **Proposal Contents**

Using the provided template, applicants must respond to the following questions:

1. **Project Goal.**  
Briefly state the goal of this project in 1-2 sentences.
2. **Project Alignment with SB I Goals and Consortium Research Objectives.**  
Describe (approx. 250-350 words) how your proposed project aligns with SB I goals and CSUTC research objectives. Applicants should specifically describe how their proposed project meets one or more of these research emphasis areas.
3. **Project Background.**

Describe (approx. 500-750 words) the background problem/issue the proposed project will address and provide a brief review of the academic and/or professional literature that demonstrates your knowledge of past work in the field. Include references. Applicants are expected to clearly indicate how their project expands upon existing knowledge in the field. All applicants should carefully review academic databases and research sites including TRID (Transportation Research Integrated Database, [trid.trb.org](http://www.trb.org)) to ensure that the proposed project does not replicate existing research and contributes to existing knowledge in the field. Information about accessing the TRID database is available from: <http://www.trb.org/ElectronicSessions/Blurbs/175899.aspx>.

4. **Project Objectives.**

List the specific project objectives (<250 words).

5. **Project Methods.**

Describe (<1000 words) how the project objectives will be accomplished. Provide a detailed description of your proposed methods in a manner that can be understood by a wide range of transportation experts. Applicants should describe data collection procedures, including any likely challenges associated with gathering the necessary data, and methods to analyze the data.

6. **Project Tasks.**

List specific project tasks and anticipated timeline for completion (e.g. Task 2: Develop survey and submit to campus Institutional Review Board – Months 2-3). Project duration is a maximum of 12 months. The task list should end with the submittal of a draft report prepared according to MTI formatting guidelines. All project reports will be peer reviewed and authors will be expected to respond accordingly to peer review comments when submitting a final report to MTI for publication.

7. **Technology Transfer.**

Describe (<250 words) how the results of this project will be disseminated. Journal articles and conference presentations are valued, but also describe what efforts will be made to ensure that the results are made widely available beyond the academic community.

8. **Benefits to Californians.**

Describe (approx. 250-350 words) how the results of this project will benefit Californians and how practitioners might apply the anticipated results.

9. **Leveraging SB I Funds.**

Describe (<250 words) how you plan to leverage the funding received through this grant to obtain additional external funds in the future.

10. **Research Team Qualification.**

Describe (approx. 250 words per team member) the research team's relevant skills and experiences that will help ensure success. Applicants should describe the role and responsibilities of each team member.

11. **Budget Justification.**

Provide a budget justification. No capital expenditures are allowed. Student involvement is a requirement and should be explained.

## ◆ Evaluation Criteria

The criteria and process for evaluating proposals is as follows:

Criteria	Rating Scale	% of Final Score (Weighting)
1. Does the proposal align with one or more of the SB I priorities and specific CSUTC research objectives listed in the RFP? <b>(Required: projects that do not align with one or more SB I priorities and specific CSUTC research objectives will not be funded.)</b>	Yes/No	N/A. Proposals that do not meet this criterion will be disqualified.
2. Does the proposal present a clear and concise understanding of the problem and project objectives?	0 to 10	25%
3. Are the research methods appropriate for the proposed research? Is the approach to data collection and data analysis clearly explained? Does the proposed methodology address the ability to collect and analyze the data according to sound methodological practices?	0 to 10	25%
4. Are the proposed tasks achievable in the proposed timeline?	0 to 10	10%
5. Are the technology transfer activities likely to achieve broad and appropriate dissemination of the research results and are the benefits to Californians and transportation practitioners clearly described?	0 to 10	10%
6. Does the research team present a reasonable plan for leveraging the funding received through this grant?	0 to 10	10%
7. Are the experiences and qualifications of the research team sufficient to ensure project success? Have they successfully completed similar/relevant research projects?	0 to 10	10%
8. Are there any unique, new, or innovative ideas, techniques, materials, or procedures contained in this proposal that could be of particular interest to the State of California and the transportation industry?	0 to 10	10%

Review committee members will be asked to comment on the strengths and weaknesses of each proposal and rate each proposal using the criteria and process described above.

◆ **MTI Contact**

For questions about this RFP, please contact:

Dr. Hilary Nixon

MTI Director of Research and Technology Transfer

[hilary.nixon@sjsu.edu](mailto:hilary.nixon@sjsu.edu)

408-924-7564

Proposal Title:  
Primary Applicant's Name:  
Primary Applicant's Email:

(List additional research team members if appropriate)

*Instructions: Before uploading to InfoReady, please convert to PDF to preserve formatting.*

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- Briefly state the goal of this project in 1-2 sentences.

**2. Project Alignment with SB 1 Goals and Consortium Research Objectives.**

- Describe (approx. 250-350 words) how your proposed project aligns with SB 1 goals and CSUTC research objectives. Review the RFP for a complete list of areas.

**3. Project Background.**

- Describe (approx. 500-750 words) the background problem/issue the proposed project will address and provide a brief review of the academic and/or professional literature that demonstrates your knowledge of past work in the field. Include references. Applicants are expected to clearly indicate how their project expands upon existing knowledge in the field. All applicants should carefully review academic databases and research sites including TRID (Transportation Research Integrated Database, [trid.trb.org](http://trid.trb.org)) to ensure that the proposed project does not replicate existing research and contributes to existing knowledge in the field. Information about accessing the TRID database is available from: <http://www.trb.org/ElectronicSessions/Blurbs/175899.aspx>.

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**Approval from campus Office of Sponsored Programs:**

Applicants must obtain signed approval of their proposal and budget before submitting to InfoReady.

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Signature of campus Office of Sponsored Programs representative



All awards are subject to the availability of funds. Period of performance is for 12 months.

## Insert Project Title

CSU Faculty		Indicate % or Hr	FTE Annual Salary	% of Salary	Hourly Pay Rate	Total Hours	Cost
Principal Investigator:	Name (please identify)	%	\$ -	0%	\$ -	\$ -	-
Additional Faculty:	Name (please identify)	%	\$ -	0%	\$ -	\$ -	-
Additional Faculty:	Name (please identify)	Hr	\$ -	0%	\$ -	\$ -	-
						\$ -	-
<b>Subtotal - CSU Faculty</b>							<b>\$ -</b>

CSU Student Assistants (SA)		Hourly Pay Rate	Total Hours	Cost
SA 1:	(please identify, if known)	\$ -	\$ -	-
SA 2:	(please identify, if known)	\$ -	\$ -	-
<b>Subtotal - Student Assistants</b>				<b>\$ -</b>

Fringe Benefits for CSU Personnel		Enter Fringe Benefit Rate	Total Earnings	Cost
CSU Faculty		0%	\$ -	\$ -
CSU Students		0%	\$ -	\$ -
<b>Subtotal - CSU Fringe Benefits</b>				<b>\$ -</b>

Other Expenses		Rate/Unit Cost	Unit	Cost
Independent Contractor/ Consulting Services	(please identify)	\$ -	\$ -	-
Office Supplies		\$ -	\$ -	-
Software		\$ -	\$ -	-
Materials		\$ -	\$ -	-
Domestic Travel (travel must be integral to the project; no international travel or general attendance at conferences will be allowed)		\$ -	\$ -	-
Other Expenses (No capital expenditures allowed.)	(please specify -- add rows if needed)	\$ -	\$ -	-
<b>Subtotal - Other Expenses</b>				<b>\$ -</b>

<b>Expense Summary</b>			
CSU Personnel (Faculty & Students)		\$ -	-
Other Expenses		\$ -	-
Indirect (F&A) Expenses - not to exceed 15%		15%	\$ -
<b>Total Project Budget, including Indirects/F&amp;A (total budget not to exceed \$75,000)</b>			<b>\$ -</b>