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**NJ Build a Better Mousetrap Entry Form**

**People involved in the transportation industry often find better ways to do their jobs. Whether it’s a new gadget that improves the quality and safety of a project, or an innovative process that reduces costs and improves efficiency, it is typically the people on the front lines who discover the latest and best practices.**

**We are looking for submissions from employees of local or state public agencies (municipalities, counties, parks commissions, NJ Department of Transportation, NJ Transit) that have created different solutions to problems or found better ways of doing things. Submissions must reflect implemented products, procedures, or processes. We will gather the best entries from around the state and judge them using a 5-point rating system (cost, benefits to the community, ingenuity, ease of transferability, and effectiveness.)**

***New this year, we are awarding two categories: Operations and Organizational Improvement.***

**Remember, all innovations must already be implemented. Conceptual submissions will not be considered. Awardees will be recognized at the Annual New Jersey Department of Transportation Research Showcase in October.**

**Think you’ve built a better mousetrap? Fill out the entry form below to submit your innovation!**

***Select Only One:***

**This nomination is an Operations Entry\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ or an Organizational Improvement Entry\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Organization: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**City: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Entry Title: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Please check the category or categories that this entry should be considered for:**

1. **\_\_\_\_Innovative Project**– Any solution that addresses any or all phase(s) of the ‘project’ life cycle – Planning, Design/Engineering, Construction, Operations and Maintenance. This project shall introduce new ideas, is locally relevant, original, and creative in thinking.
2. **\_\_\_\_Bold Steps**– Any locally relevant high-risk project or process showing a break-through solution with demonstrated high-reward.
3. **\_\_\_\_Smart Transformation**– A locally relevant significant change in a transportation activity or process that is SMART “Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic and Time-bound” in nature and results in improved efficiencies.
4. **\_\_\_\_\_Pioneer**– A locally relevant product/tool that is among the first to solve a maintenance problem with a home-grown solution.

**Problem Statement:**

**Discussion of Solution:**

**Labor, Equipment, Materials used:**

**Savings/Benefits to the Community:**

**Cost:**

***Please include a photo of your project with submission. Please add additional pages if needed.***

*Entries will be accepted on a continual basis, but each cycle will have a deadline of May 1 of each calendar year to be considered for that year’s awards. Please submit all entries by email to:*

*New Jersey Local Technical Assistance Program: jleli@soe.rutgers.edu*

[***https://cait.rutgers.edu/mousetrap***](https://cait.rutgers.edu/mousetrap)