2021 BEST OF ITS AWARD

Entries Due: September 8, 2021

ITS America's annual "Best of Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS)" Award" is a valued competition that recognizes organizations implementing the most advanced projects in the transportation and technology industry. This program aims to distinguish organizations whose transportation projects demonstrate specific and measurable outcomes and exemplify innovation.

In 2021, ITS America will award a **Best Partnership Project** winner. Your project should fit in with this year's theme: ***Reimagining Transportation***

ITS America's 2021 Annual Meeting in Charlotte, NC will focus on how COVID-19 has fundamentally changed our nation's transportation system, from personal mobility to delivery of goods. As we emerge from this pandemic, what does transportation look like in the United States? We have an opportunity now to help shape a **Safer**, **Greener**, and **Smarter** future by making wise investments that will have a positive impact on mobility, commuting patterns, supply chain and delivery of goods.

Eligibility Requirements:

- o To be eligible to apply for this award, at least one partner must be a current member in good standings of ITS America.
- o The project must be a public–private partnership.
- o Only projects implemented in North America will be considered.
- o Only entries for projects deployed during 2020 or 2021 will be considered.

Application Criteria:

- o Entries should be detailed enough to present the merits of the entry but should not exceed 3,000 words.
- o All award applications must highlight a business-to-business, government-to-government, or public-private cross-jurisdictional and/or multi-disciplinary partnership that resulted in a successful ITS project that demonstrates the impact of ITS on both the present and the future.
- o Entrants may submit more than one project in the overall awards competition.
- o **All submissions are due to ITS America by COB Wednesday, September 8, 2021. Use the subject line "ATTN: Rachel Rettberg – Best of ITS Awards" and email your entry to rrettberg@itsa.org.**

Finalist Selection Procedure: Entries will be reviewed by volunteer members of the ITS America Standing Committees and ITS America staff to ensure they have met all of the above requirements. The volunteers

reviewing each submission will select the top finalists to present at the Best of ITS Awards Reception. Submitters will be notified if their project has been selected to be showcased at the Annual Meeting Awards Reception. Attendees at the reception will vote on these finalists and a winner will be selected that evening.

Finalist Projects Featured at the Best of ITS Showcase: The winner will be announced at the "Best of ITS Showcase at the ITS America Annual Meeting. This Year's Annual Meeting will be held December 7-10, 2021 in Charlotte, NC. Top finalists will receive tabletop space to set up a display highlighting their project. During the showcase and reception, guests, including state DOT officials, will be invited to tour the displays to learn more about each project.

Format and Submission Instructions: The following information must appear on a cover sheet in the document:

- o Name of the project (as it should appear in all materials)
- o Identify the category your project addresses: Safer, Greener, or Smarter (you can select more than one category)
- o Name of partner organizations (as it should appear in all materials)
- o Mailing Address
- o Contact Person (full name, job title, affiliation, email)

Application Questions: All entries are to be in a narrative format and should address the following questions:

- o **Project Description:** What is the purpose (/mission) of the project? What needs and challenges does it address? Whom does it serve? Was it designed as a short-term or long-term effort? How does it further the development and/or deployment of ITS? How does it help the organization achieve its goals?

- o **Partnership:** Who are the partners and what is their role in the partnership? What is innovative about this partnership (what makes it stand out from other existing partnerships)?

- o **Project Results:** Using a "before and after" comparison, please describe the project's results—the specific and measurable (qualitative and quantitative) outcomes—and explain how you measure performance.
    - Prior to the start of the project, what were the conditions, results, or situations that serve as "the baseline" against which you compare the project's outcomes?
    - What are the results of the project?
    - How does your partnership make a difference in people's lives? How does it advance safety, sustainability, and accessibility? To what extent does this project help to improve transportation efficiency?

- **Potential as a Model:** How can the project serve as a model that can be replicated or adapted by other organizations and potentially scaled?

- **Additional Background:** Provide information about the origin and implementation of the project such as: Who was responsible for starting it? Were any particular funding sources, resources, partnerships, and alliances particularly helpful in implementing and sustaining it? What is its future?
- **Statement by the Project's Leadership:** Regarding the processes of innovation, leadership, and building partnerships, have you gained any knowledge or insight that might be instructive or inspiring to others?

Scoring criteria: Submissions will be evaluated based on the following:

- Clarity: Clearly identifying the problem/need that the project addresses
- Value proposition: presenting a quality solution to advancing the development and deployment of ITS technologies.
- Technical feasibility
- Metrics: Providing metrics to demonstrate the current and potential impact of the project towards improving the efficiency of our transportation system
- Societal impacts (equity, sustainability, etc.)
- Creativity / Competitive advantage
- Scalability
- Growth plan
- Team management (illustrating expertise, diversity, role delegation)
- Communication and presentation of application

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