



**TxDOT ROW**

**UTILITY WEEK**

*Partners in Coordination*

# **Research and Technology Implementation Division (RTI)**

**Day 3 – December 4th**

**Track Rm 1, Session 3**

**3:30PM - 4:15PM**

## Presenter: Darrin Jensen



Darrin Jensen is a Senior Research Project Manager for the Texas Department of Transportation's (TxDOT) Research and Technology Implementation Division. In his current role, he is leading TxDOT research projects on intelligent transportation systems, structures and hydraulics, pavement and materials, maintenance, and traffic safety. In 2016, Darrin received the Mac Shelby Award from the University of Texas, Austin for his exceptional leadership and dedication to research. Darrin earned a BBA and an MS in project management from St. Edward's University and brings over two decades of project management experience to TxDOT. Since 2010, Darrin continues to serve as an adjunct faculty member for St. Edward's University, where he teaches project management courses at the Bill Munday School of Business and the School of Behavior and Social Sciences to both undergraduate and graduate students.



# Utility Week - 2024

Research and Technology Implementation Division



April 18, 2025

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## Research Program Overview

What is RTI's primary function?





# Research Program Overview

Who does RTI work with?

## State-Supported Universities

Center for Transportation Research (UT Austin)

Texas Transportation Institute (Texas A&M)

University of Texas Arlington

Texas State University

University of Texas El Paso

Texas Tech University

University of Texas San Antonio





## Research Program Overview

How is RTI Funded?

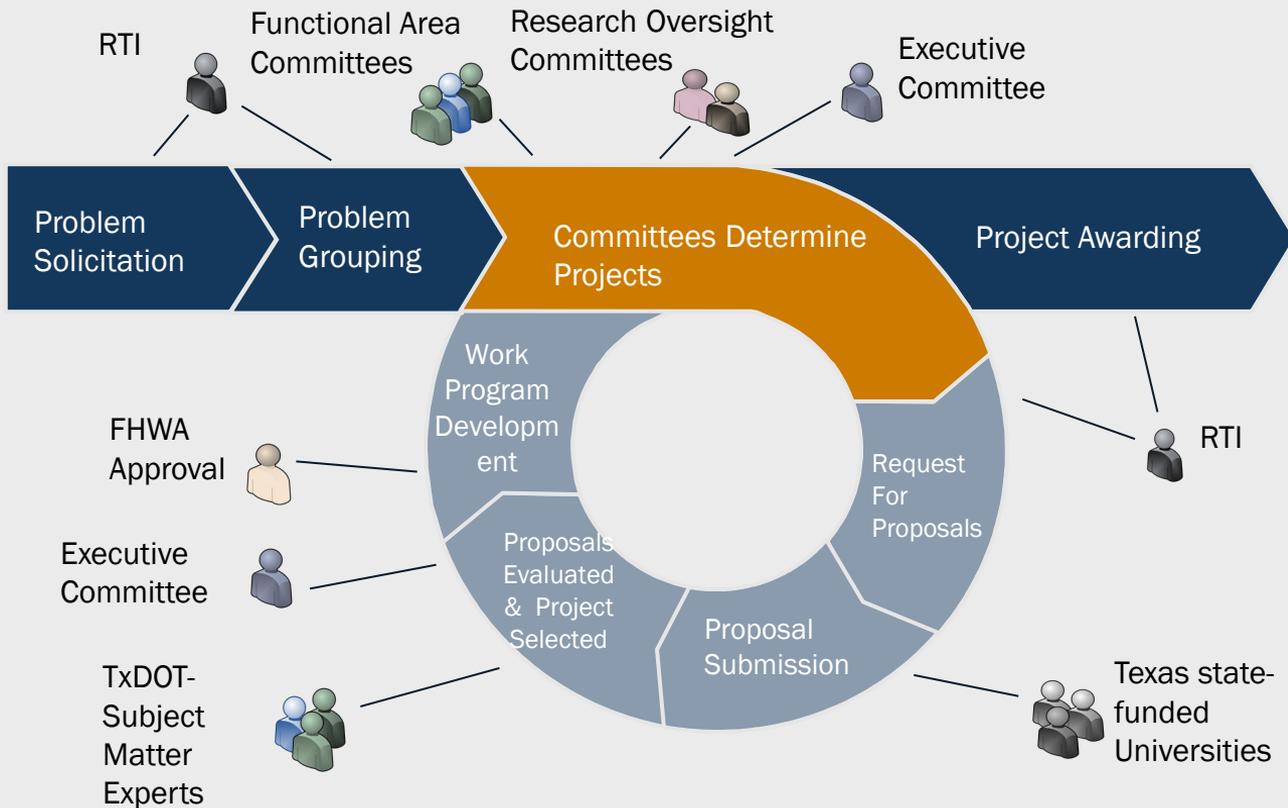
Program	SPR	Total Funding Obligated (FY23)
Research Program	SPR 0511 (223)	\$25,256,050.44
Implementation Program	SPR 2023 (152)	\$1,936,237.32
Innovation Program	SPR 2023 (153)	\$2,244,682.00
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$29,436,969.76</b>

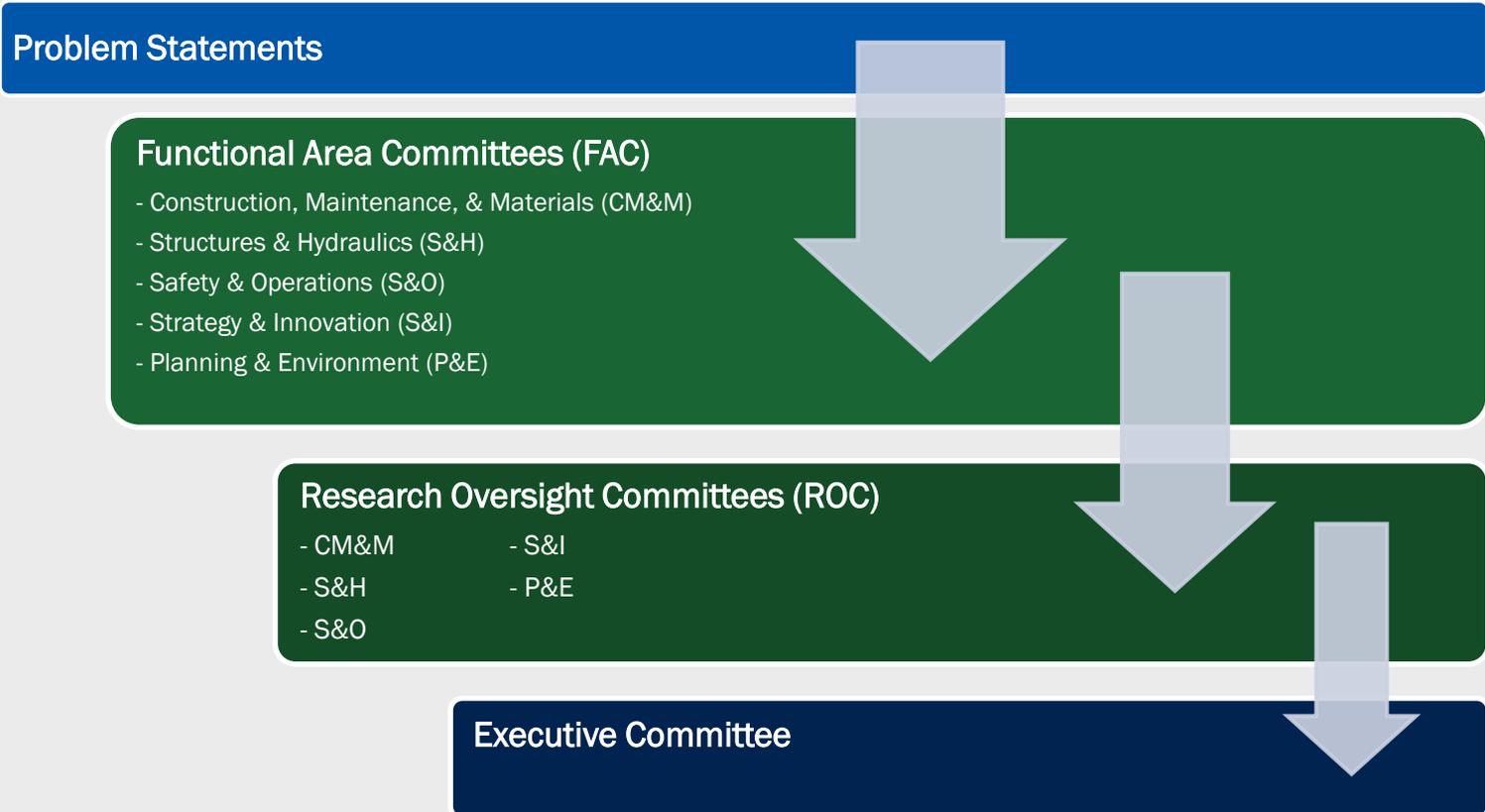


# Research Program Overview

## RTI National Exposure

Program	SPR Contribution
Pooled-fund Projects	\$2,601,134.00
National Cooperative Highway Research Program (NCHRP)	\$5,441,252.00
Transportation Research Board (TRB)	\$667,299.00





# Research Program Overview

## Functional Area Committee Budget

Functional Area	Budget
Construction, Maintenance & Materials	\$6,507,960.24
Planning and Environmental	\$3,241,322.09
Safety and Operations	\$6,415,204.47
Structures and Hydraulics	\$8,725,539.32
Strategy and Innovation	\$4,164,340.63



## Other RTI Responsibilities

- Product Evaluation
- Local Technical Assistance Program (LTAP)





# New Product Evaluation Program



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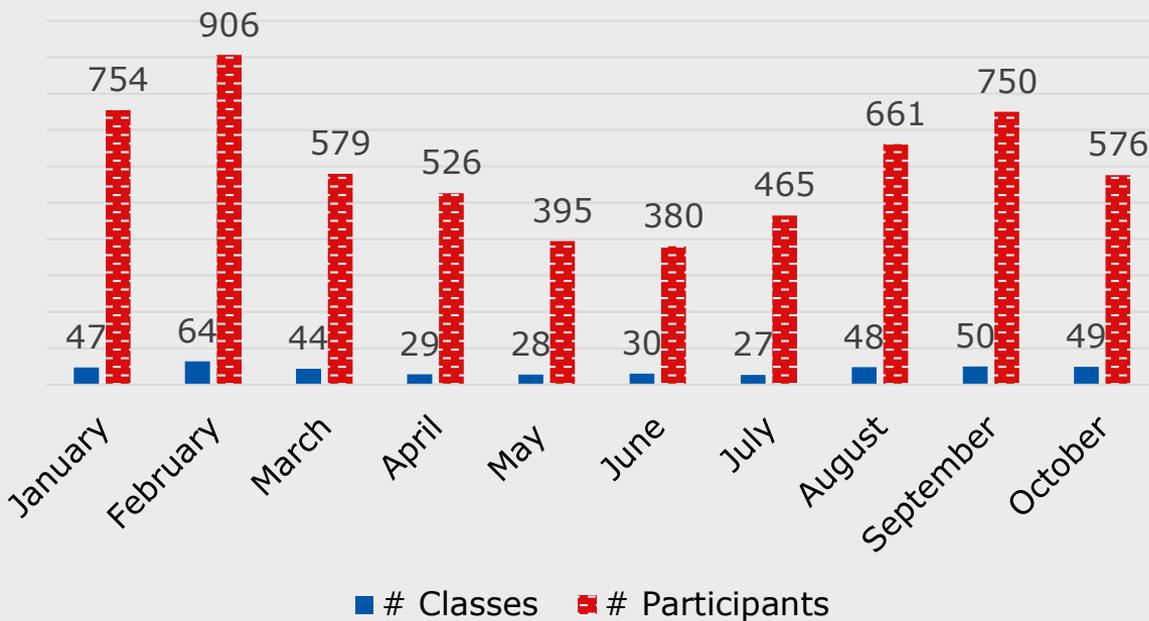


# Local Technical Assistance Program



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# LTAP Courses 2024



# LTAP Contract and Updates

## FY 2024 Achievements

- New courses
- Increased outreach
- Equipment purchase
- Course Audits
- Advisory Board Meeting

## FY 2025 Goals

- Improved metrics
- Expand video offerings
- Equipment Roadshow
- Road Safety Champion Program



- TxLTAP -

### New Courses

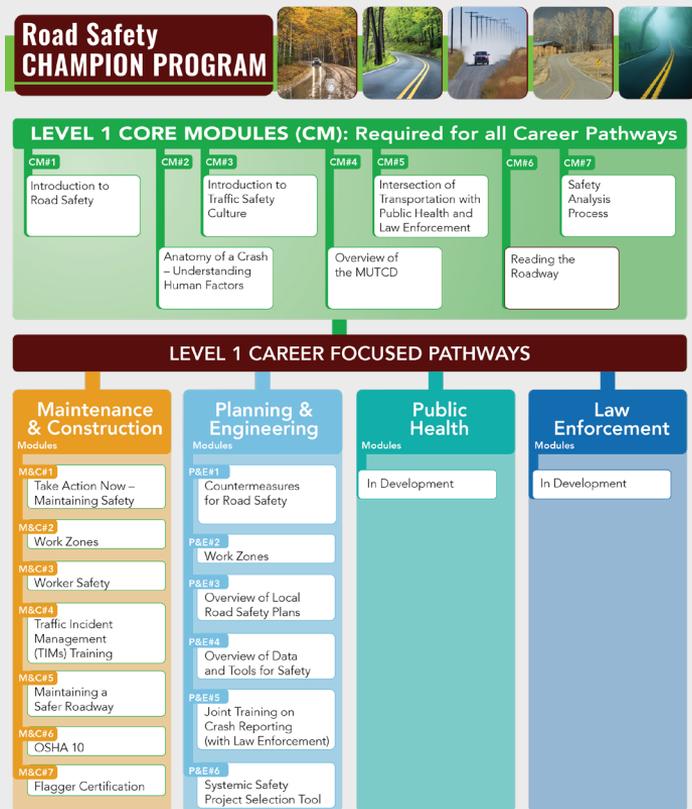
- Entry Level Driver Training Knowledge
- Entry Level Driver Training Train the Trainer
- How to Attract and Retain Public Works Employees Workshop
- Installation and Maintenance of Metal Beam Guard Fence and End Treatments
- Work Zone Traffic Control & Qualified Flagger – in Spanish

A circular inset image shows a construction worker wearing a white hard hat and an orange safety vest. He is holding a clipboard and pointing upwards with his right hand. The background shows a construction site with a crane and other equipment.

# Road Safety Champion Program

The Road Safety Champion Program (RSCP) is a nationally recognized certificate program designed to build a knowledgeable, safety minded workforce, responsible for operating, maintaining, and designing local roads.

- Coordination and curriculum exchange with other LTAPs
- Proposal received
- Survey to local agencies
- Launch in FY 25



## RTI and Utilities



Circle back

## RTI and Utilities

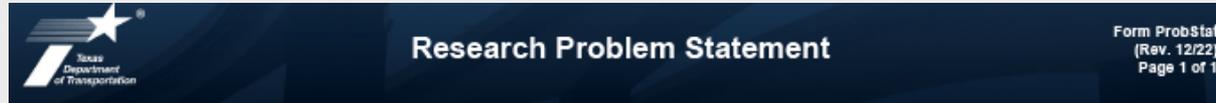
- 0-7159 - Develop Guidelines for the Use of Unmanned Aerial Systems (UASs) and Smartphones for Construction and Utility Inspections
- 0-7176 - Develop and Updated Methodology for Calculation of Reimbursement Levels for Utility Relocations





# How to get involved?

- Send us your ideas:



**Asterisks ( \* ) indicate required fields.**

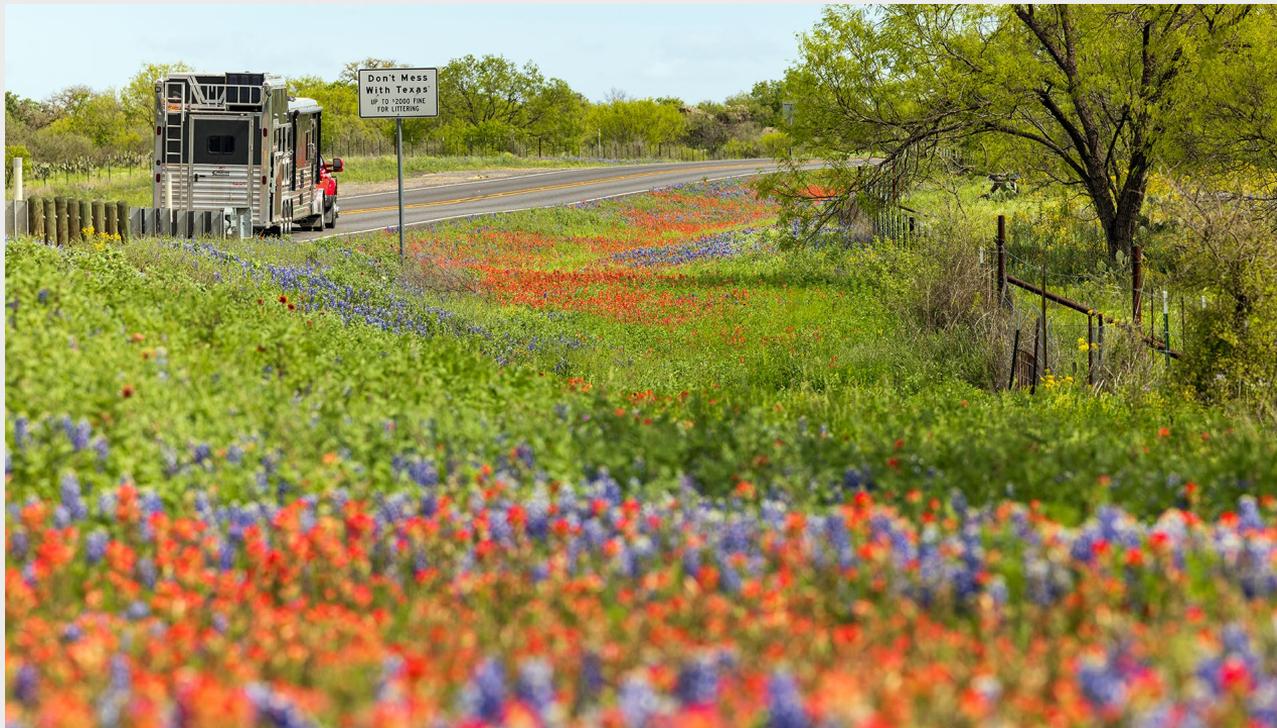
<b>Functional Area</b> (Select one)	<input type="checkbox"/> Construction, Maintenance, and Materials <input type="checkbox"/> Safety & Operations <input type="checkbox"/> Strategy & Innovation <input type="checkbox"/> Structures & Hydraulics <input type="checkbox"/> Planning & Environmental
<b>Title</b>	<input type="text"/>
<b>Problem/ Research Need</b>	Define or provide a brief description of the problem or research need. <input type="text"/>
<b>Proposed Work</b>	What work will be performed? What will be accomplished? <input type="text"/>



# Video Summary Report



# Questions?



HELP  
**#EndTheStreakTX**

End the streak of daily deaths on Texas roadways.

**TxDOT.gov**  
#EndTheStreakTX Toolkit



*Thank You!*