

Research Project Description Form

Project Number: ATI TTP00-12 Process Implementation

Project Title: A Deployment Plan for the West Virginia High Technology Corridor

Primary Investigator Contact Information:

Name: Michael Hicks, Ph.D.

Institution: Nick J. Rahall II Appalachian Transportation Institute

Address: Marshall University, 400 Hal Greer Blvd., Huntington, WV 25755

Department: CBER

Phone: 304-696-6251

Email address: HicksM@marshall.edu

External Project Contact:

Name:

Institution:

Address:

Phone:

Email address:

Project Objective: The CBER proposes to conduct a deployment plan for the implementation of a High Technology Corridor. The Corridor will be located in West Virginia along I-64 from Beckley to White Sulphur Springs. This deployment plan will consist of three distinct parts, a needs assessment, integration guide, and planning handbook. The deployment plan is designed to provide State and local officials with a blue print for deploying programs that enhance technology transfer and key educational programs in the region. The goal is to guide the planning and assessment of key supporting programs of the Technology Corridor.

Abstract: The first component of this project is a comprehensive needs assessment of supporting programs in the Technology Corridor Region. This part of the study identifies important Federal, State, local and private sector development and educational programs and institutions that are critical to the success of the Corridor. This section will incorporate evaluation of current programs, gaps in program coverage and regional strengths that affect the viability of the Corridor.

The second component is an integration guide. The integration guide will identify key services and programs that must be integrated with similar existing programs or services outside the region. The final component of the plan is a planning handbook. The planning handbook is designed to provide State and local

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leaders with a time line and method for evaluating the success of the high technology corridor integration efforts and program and service delivery in the region.

Task Descriptions:

- Receive Contract
- Data Collection
- 1st Deployment Meetings
- Preliminary Needs Assessment Review
- Integration Needs Evaluation
- First In-Progress-Review
- Baseline Performance Model Evaluation
- Regional Comparison Matrix Development
- 2nd round of Deployment Meetings
- Second In-Progress-Review
- Completion of Industry Structural Analysis
- Program and Service Integration Draft Plan Presentation
- Finalization of Needs Assessment
- Draft Needs Assessment and Integration Plan
- Draft Planning Handbook
- Final Draft

Milestones, Dates, Schedule:

Receive Contract

Collect Data: Months 1-4

Preliminary Needs Assessment Review: Month 4

Complete Industry Structural Analysis: Months 4-5

Conduct 1st Deployment meetings: Month 5

Develop Regional Comparison Matrix: Months 5-6

Evaluate Integration Needs: Months 6-7

First In-Progress-Review: Month 7

Evaluate Baseline Performance Model: Month 8

Conduct 2nd round of Deployment Meetings: Month 9

Second In-Progress-Review: Month 9

Present Program and Service Integration Draft Plan: Month 9

Finalize Needs Assessment: Month 9

Draft Needs Assessment and Integration Plan: Month 10

Draft Planning Handbook: Month 11

Final Draft: Month 12

Yearly and Total Budget: Total: \$152,181. This is planned as a one year project.

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Student Involvement: One graduate student assistant (321 hrs. @ \$7.80 per hr. Also, one computer & information specialist, who may or may not be a graduate assistant.

Relationship to Other Research Projects: This project relates to a number of current projects being administered by the Rahall Appalachian Transportation Institute. These include "Impacts of Appalachian Corridors on Small Businesses"(TRP 99-15), "Highway Program Finance Options and Strategies" (TRP 99-32), and "The Southern Highlands Initiative."

Technology Transfer Activities: This entire project is considered a technology transfer project.

Potential Benefits of this Project: This project will allow for the implementation of a high technology corridor to facilitate economic growth along Interstate 64 between Beckley, WV and White Sulfur Springs, WV.

TRB Keywords: high technology corridor; deployment plan; West Virginia; technology corridor; economic development.