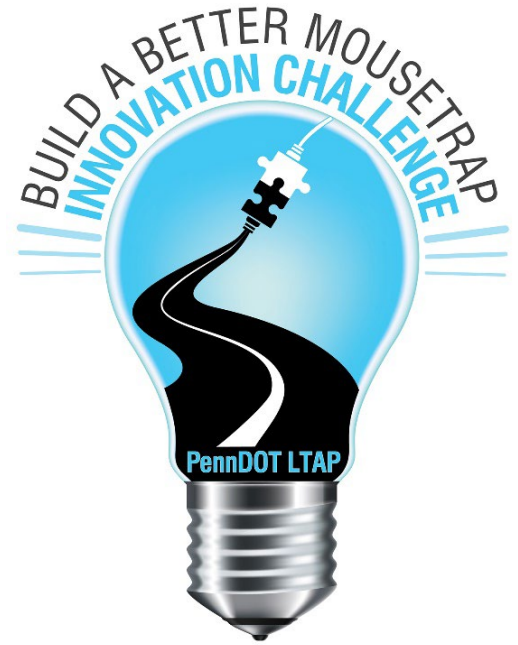


# Build a Better Mousetrap Innovation Challenge

Recognizing Innovative Inventions  
and Improvements



**Pennsylvania**  
**Department of Transportation**  
Local Technical Assistance Program



# Show Off Your Road Crew's Innovative Gadgets and Ideas by Entering the Build a Better Mousetrap Innovation Challenge

Has one of your employees recently built an innovative gadget or come up with a better way to do a job? If so, now is the time to show it off by entering the **Build a Better Mousetrap Innovation Challenge**.

Municipalities must use limited budgets and resources to serve the needs of residents, and innovation can be the mission-critical factor that helps bridge that gap. Local road practitioners continually implement incremental changes in their processes, tools, and services to reflect changes in technologies and best practices. In their roles as innovators, municipal staff leverage their considerable creativity, technical expertise, and diverse talent pool to suggest changes that are useful, valuable, and impactful to their local system. The Build a Better Mousetrap Innovation Challenge showcases the most clever and creative practices and tools from across the state. By sharing these innovations with one another, local road departments can adopt these new tools and practices, and deliver more efficient, cost-effective services to their communities.

LTAP is looking for creative solutions from municipal employees, such as the development of tools and equipment or the modifications of processes to increase safety, reduce costs, or improve efficiency and/or enhance the quality of the transportation system. Technological innovations and unique use of new electronic tools, such as drones, apps, computers, smartphones, tablets, etc., are welcome.

If you have an innovation to share with other municipalities, submit your entry form by **the first Friday in March**. The LTAP Advisory Committee — a group made up of your peers — will judge the entry on recognized importance/impact, originality, applicability to others, cost-effectiveness, time savings, agency or community benefit, and the overall quality of the application. The winners will be chosen in March and recognized at the annual conference of the winners' respective municipal association.

The top entries will be submitted to the national Build a Better Mousetrap recognition program. Winners of the national program will be announced at the annual LTAP national conference.

## To enter the innovation challenge:

Complete the following entry form and **return it by the first Friday in March**.

If you have questions, Karen Atkinson can help.

Email: [ltap@psats.org](mailto:ltap@psats.org)

Call: 717-763-0930, ext. 156

## Look at what others have done . . .

Build a Better Mousetrap Past Winners

*The LTAP website (<https://gis.penndot.pa.gov/ltap/>) has full descriptions of the past winners on the website under the [Build a Better Mousetrap Innovation Challenge webpage](#).*



U.S. Department of Transportation  
**Federal Highway Administration**



CENTER FOR  
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# Build a Better Mousetrap Entry Form

Agency Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Address: \_\_\_\_\_

County: \_\_\_\_\_

Entry Title:

What was the challenge?

How did you develop and implement your solution?

What labor, equipment, plans, or materials did it take to make the solution work?

What was the cost of implementation?

What was the positive impact/results/outcome of your efforts?

Email photographs to [ltap@psats.org](mailto:ltap@psats.org) and include the municipality and the entry title. You may enter more than one innovation. Use separate forms for each innovation.

Return your completed entry form by the **first Friday in March** to [ltap@psats.org](mailto:ltap@psats.org), fax it to 717-763-9732, or mail it to:



Pennsylvania  
**Department of Transportation**  
Local Technical Assistance Program

PennDOT LTAP  
c/o PSATS  
Attention: Karen Atkinson  
4855 Woodland Drive  
Enola, PA 17025

**Questions?** Call Karen at 717-763-0930, ext. 156, or email [ltap@psats.org](mailto:ltap@psats.org).