**American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials**

**Special Committee on Research and Innovation**

**FY2026 NCHRP PROBLEM STATEMENT TEMPLATE**

(*see instructions for guidance on using this template* [***here***](https://www.nationalacademies.org/webdocs/nchrpproblemstatementinstructions/NCHRPProblemStatementInstructions.docx?channelToken=b9515dcea9b44b1caeec286a25accf32&tStamp=1721676421923)*)*

***NOTE:*** *This template is provided for author convenience for use in drafting a problem statement and/or collaborating with others. It cannot be submitted or uploaded as an intact document. Individual pieces of text may, however, be cut and pasted into the problem statement submittal form once the submitter begins the online submission process.*

1. PROBLEM STATEMENT TITLE (20 words)
2. RESEARCH OBJECTIVE (250 words)
3. BACKGROUND INFORMATION AND NEED FOR RESEARCH (1000 words)
4. LITERATURE SEARCH SUMMARY (500 words)
5. URGENCY AND POTENTIAL BENEFITS (1000 words)
6. ALIGNMENT WITH THE 2021-2026 AASHTO STRATEGIC PLAN (250 words)
7. IMPLEMENTATION CONSIDERATIONS (500 words)
8. RECOMMENDED RESEARCH FUNDING AND RESEARCH PERIOD (use whole numbers with no commas, periods or $ sign)
   1. Research Funding
   2. Research Period (enter a whole number between 12 and 48)
9. HAS THIS PROBLEM STATEMENT OR A DIFFERENT VERSION OF THE PROBLEM STATEMENT BEEN SUBMITTED TO NCHRP BEFORE? IF YES, WHAT YEAR(s)? (250 words)
10. PROBLEM STATEMENT AUTHOR(s): *For each author, provide their name, affiliation, email address and phone.*
11. POTENTIAL PANEL MEMBER(S): *For each panel member, provide their name, affiliation, email address and phone.*
12. REQUIRED KEYWORDS/TERMS: *3 required keywords derived from the Transportation Research Thesaurus.*
13. OPTIONAL KEYWORDS/TERMS: *3 additional “free text” keywords or terms.* (each optional keyword/term is limited to 5 words per keyword/term)
14. PERSON SUBMITTING THE PROBLEM STATEMENT

**⮚END⮘**