

CTIP STUDY PROBLEM STATEMENT
Request for Funding
FY 2002

FHWA Strategic Goal Area: Mobility

Project Title: Development of an automated parking monitoring system for Logan Pass GLAC

Background: Going to the Sun Road (GTSR) is one of the premier park roads in the country. GTSR prime feature for the visitor is Logan Pass. Logan Pass is centrally located at the east-west divide and serves as a stopping point for traffic visiting the east side, west side and the through traffic on GTSR. The parking lot is located in pristine alpine habitat and would most likely not be expanded to accommodate more vehicles. An alternative strategy needs to be employed to give information to the parking visitor about the congestion at Logan Pass during the peak hours of almost all summer season days.

Objectives: The proposal is to investigate the various vehicle detection systems available and develop an automated method of determining the number of cars in the parking lot. This information would then be relayed to various visitor contact points in the park, mainly the entrance gates, to information the visitor of the current parking conditions and offer alternatives. The benefits for this proposal would include:

- Gives real time information to the visitor to better plan their visit
- Re-scripts the visitor experience from the typical drive to Logan Pass and park to potential shifts in visitor habits, to considering other modes of transportation.
- Positions GLAC to employ parking management system during the rehabilitation of GTSR
- Provides for a NPS pilot study to blend technology with the driving experience on the National Historic Landmark roadway.

Status: There are systems currently available to monitor parking facilities either by loops, by video, or by other electronic devices. A comparison of the available technology with the needs of the facility at Logan Pass should identify a viable system for implementation.

Expected Products and Milestones by Fiscal Year: During the first phase the current available systems will be investigated for selection of an appropriate one to install. The second phase is to install the system and evaluate it's durability, accuracy, and reliability in monitoring the parking facility and providing the necessary information to NPS to provide guidance to the visitors.

Duration: Fiscal Year 2002 for investigation of available technology. FY 2003 for installation and evaluation. FY 2004 for evaluation

<u>Estimated Cost by Fiscal Year:</u>	NPS Staff design and coordination efforts	\$ 25,000	FY 2002
	Parking Management Equipment	<u>\$150,000</u>	FY2003
	TOTAL	\$175,000	

Suggested Organization Method: The first year investigation of available technology will be by

contract with a contractor and agreement with the National Park Service. The installation will be by contract. The evaluation will be by the National Park Service.

Submitted:

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Funding Source: (Check one.)

: Agency Fund
9 General Fund