

CTIP STUDY PROBLEM STATEMENT

Request for Funding

FY 2003

FHWA Strategic Goal Area: Mobility

Project Title: Development of an ITS plan and implementation strategy for a Traveler Information Website for Alternative Transportation in Mt. Rainier NP

Background: This project develops an ITS architecture for the alternative transportations systems in Mt. Rainier National Park (MORA). The ITS architecture would consider the existing alternative transportation system for climbers, the near term implementation of a shuttle system for the Westside Road, and future shuttle routes. As part of the architecture development other alternative transportation strategies that have been identified in previous transportation plans will be considered for inclusion in the ITS architecture.

The scope of work consists of a ITS architecture development process that includes public involvement, tribal involvement, inventory of existing ITS plans primarily by the WSDOT, using existing study information on the transportation systems in and around MORA, working with local businesses, and prioritizing a plan for ITS implementation.

The deployment portion of the scope of work consists of developing a traveler information web site that highlights the use of alternative transportation, provides real time alternative routes or travel options, linking traffic collection equipment with WSDOT, plans for additional ITS equipment purchase, and a strategic plan for acquisition of additional ITS equipment to facilitate the ATS process in MORA.

MORA has recently completed an update to the General Management Plan (GMP) that included looking at alternative modes of transportation. During the GMP process it became evident that shuttle system alone will not address the traffic congestion in MORA. The GMP public involvement process, along with the corridor planning efforts around MORA, has shown that coordination with adjacent gateway communities, counties, state department of transportation, adjacent land management agencies, native tribes, municipal transit provides, and regional transportation planning efforts is the key to solving the transportation issues within MORA. Developing an ITS Architecture is a process that formally coordinates with all the parties listed to link transportation information together.

Reliable, accessible traveler information saves travelers time and money by giving them choices of time, route, and even mode of transportation. Web sites that are user friendly, give comprehensive information, and offer real-time reporting are an important means of providing traveler information, all of them are highly useful to travelers and others seeking information. The need for addressing transportation issues with MORA is well documented and the key parties involved in the solutions have been engaged. It is now time to start a process of implementation. One key step that relates to the current and future ATS solution in MORA is the development of an ITS architecture. Development of the ITS Architecture is one stage of the ATS journey, but an important stage to

implement early because ITS information can greatly assist in the sustainability of the ATS design and implementation. Also MORA is well positioned on the state road system to benefit for the existing ITS development that WSDOT has been installing.

Objectives: Providing alternatives to the typical park at Paradise or Sunrise parking experience that visitors encounter on busy weekends. Reduced parking congestion at Sunrise and Paradise. An improved visitor experience can be a result through ITS information providing better traveler information and improved interpretative experiences. An improved and defined link with the communities and local agencies around the park through the defined ITS Architecture.

National GPRA Goal(s) For This Project

- Community Satisfaction
- Visitor Satisfaction
- Visitor Safety
- Natural and Cultural Resources Protection
- Cultural Landscapes Condition

Status: The State of Washington is extensively developing ITS in major corridors and around major attractions. Mt. Rainier is a major destination and attraction in Washington which can benefit from a coordinated ITS development program with the gateway communities. This is a proposal to pilot the coordination and development of ITS in and around Mt. Rainier.

Expected Products and Milestones by Fiscal Year: (Include description of New Initiatives and Ongoing Research.)

Duration: Fiscal Year 2003 for the ITS architecture and initial phase. FY 2004 for the implementation of a Phase I.

Estimated Cost by Fiscal Year:	NPS Staff design and coordination efforts	\$25,000	FY2003
	ITS consultant for architecture	\$50,000	FY2003
	ITS Phase I	\$125,000	FY2004
	TOTAL	\$200,000	

Suggested Organization Method:

Submitted:

Agency/Division: WFLHD
Name: Cal Frobig
Phone: 360-696-7648
Date: 2 April 2002

Champion:

Name: Pete Field
Phone: 360 696-7619

Name: Eric Walkinshaw

Phone: 360-569-2211 ext. 2306

Funding Source: (Check one.)

- : Agency Fund
- 9 General Fund