Background and Significance of Work

Contents

This section should include several topics.

* The findings of a literature search or other description of existing technology on the subject. A search should be made of the Transportation Research Information Service’s (TRIS) or other relevant databases to ensure that previous work is considered in the new project. If a list of references would enhance the proposal, it may be included here.
* Discussion sufficient to demonstrate the researcher's understanding of the underlying principles involved in the problem that TxDOT needs solved, and in the work proposed.

Length and Format

This section is limited to no more than 10 pages, and is prepared free form. Page number this section separately, beginning with “1 of X”. Start and end this section on pages separate from all other sections of the proposal.

Background and Significance of Work – What It Is and What It is Not

* **It is** – The place to demonstrate that the subject of the proposed project is understood, and to briefly describe the overall approach to the project.
* **It is** – The place to summarize the results of any literature search performed to prepare the proposal, as each is relevant to the proposed project.
* **It is not** – The place to describe details of the proposed work. Put that information in the Work Plan.
* **It is not** – A place to detail the background and experience of the proposed research team. Put that information in the Research Staff and Facilities section of the proposal.
* **It is not** – The place to list every document reviewed during the preparation of the proposal. Use the (up to) 10 pages for information that is more meaningful during proposal review.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **B&W%203line%20Logo** | **Research Staff and Facilities** | Form Personnel  (5/2013)  (RTI) |

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Project No:** |  |  | **Date:** |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Research Agency(s):** |  |

**1. Research Supervisor’s Experience** (Describe specific experience directly relevant to the subject of the proposed project.)

**2. Research Staff Experience** (List the name, phone number and email address of key personnel on the proposed research team. For each person, also describe the qualifications, experience and special skills that are directly relevant to the subject of the proposed project. Include information for each professional researcher, all subcontractors, and any students in key roles on the proposed research staff.)

**3. Staffing Plan** (Briefly describe how all the members of the proposed research team will be utilized on this project, including students. State specifically whether students on the proposed team are graduate or under-graduate students.) Include budget amount to be paid. The budget totals need to be the actual salaries that are paid by the university for the entire fiscal year of each project.

**4. Past Performance** (List reports or projects completed by key researchers for TxDOT, FHWA or NCHRP. List only those directly relevant to this proposed project. These projects may be reviewed for quality in reporting and effectiveness and efficiency in project completion.)

**5. Research Facilities** (Describe lab facilities, special equipment, including computer hardware or software, and other special services of the research entity that are directly relevant to this proposed project.)

Texas Department of Transportation maintains the information collected through this form. With few exceptions, you are entitled on request to be informed about the information that we collect about you. Under §§552.021 and 552.023 of the Texas Government Code, you also are entitled to receive and review the information. Under §559.004 of the Government Code, you are also entitled to have us correct information about you that is incorrect. For inquiries call 512/416-4730.