

Local Road Research Board

Program Overview

Established in 1959 through state legislation, the Local Road Research Board has brought important developments to transportation engineers throughout Minnesota. Those developments range from new ways to determine pavement strength to innovative methods for engaging the public. Today, LRRB remains true to its mission of supporting and sharing the latest transportation research applications with the state's city and county engineers. These engineers, who best understand the problems and challenges in providing safe and efficient roadways, are responsible for city streets and county highways. The LRRB makes it easy for them to participate in setting the research agenda.



Transportation practitioners from across Minnesota submit research ideas to the LRRB through MnDOT Research Services. The LRRB Board then selects and approves research proposals. MnDOT Research Services provides administrative support and technical assistance. Researchers from MnDOT, universities, and consulting firms conduct the research and the LRRB monitors the progress.

Board Members

The Board consists of 10 members, including:

- Four County Engineers
- Two City Engineers
- Three MnDOT representatives
 - State Aid Engineer
 - A representative from a MnDOT specialty office
 - Director of Research Services
- One University of Minnesota Center for Transportation Studies representative

Committees

Research Implementation Committee

The LRRB works through its Research Implementation Committee to make research information available and to transfer research results into practical applications. The RIC uses a variety of methods to reach engineers and others with new developments, including presentations, videos, written reports, pamphlets, seminars, workshops, field demonstrations, web-based technology, and on-site visits. RIC members include:

- Four County Engineers
- Two City Engineers
- MnDOT Deputy State Aid Engineer
- A MnDOT District State Aid Engineer
- A representative from MnDOT's Research Services

- A representative from a MnDOT’s specialty office
- A representative from University of Minnesota, Center for Transportation Studies.

MnDOT Research Services provides support services, and at least one voting RIC member serves on the LRRB to ensure a strong link between the RIC and the LRRB.

Outreach Subcommittee

The Outreach Subcommittee was established by the LRRB to increase the awareness of LRRB functions and products within the transportation community. It meets as needed to review current LRRB marketing practices and public relations strategies.

Funding

LRRB is funded from the County State Aid Highway and the Municipal State Aid Street accounts. Each year, the County and City Screening Boards recommend to the Commissioner a sum of money to be set aside from the CSAH and the MSAS funds. The table below shows the amount of funds allocated to the LRRB and number of research projects funded over the past five years.

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Amount Allocated	\$3.3 M	\$3.5 M	\$2.5 M	\$3.5 M	\$3.6 M
Number of New Projects	25	17	19	20	24
Total Number of Active Projects	n/a	74	72	85	77

For More Information

The LRRB publishes an annual LRRB At-a-Glance Report¹. This is a summary of completed reports and active projects and describes its goals and resources.

Website: www.lrrb.org

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¹ <https://lrrb.org/annual-reports/>