



# Build a Better Mousetrap Competition:

Recognizing Innovative Inventions and Improvements

*PennDOT Local Technical Assistance Program*



**pennsylvania**

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

LOCAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM



## Have You Built a Better Mousetrap?

Have you or one of your coworkers recently built an innovative gadget or developed an improved way to do a job? If so, now is the time to show off a project or process your municipality is proud of in the Build a Better Mousetrap Competition.

PennDOT is looking for projects and processes that you, your employees, or crew designed, built, and/or modified. It can be anything from the development of tools, equipment modifications, and/or processes that increase safety, reduce cost, improve efficiency, and improve the quality of transportation.

If you have something you think would qualify for this competition, submit your entries. The application will be on the website by December of each year. Entries will be judged by a committee of municipal road employees on cost savings and benefits to the community, ingenuity, ease of transferability to others, and effectiveness.

The winning entry will be submitted to the national competition to compete for recognition and, of course, bragging rights. Winners of the national competition will be announced at the annual LTAP/TTAP national conference. All entries at the national level will be posted on the LTAP/TTAP program website and compiled into an electronic booklet.

If you have questions, please feel free to email them to [ltap@psats.org](mailto:ltap@psats.org), or call Karen Atkinson at 717-763-0930 ext. 156.

### *Judging Criteria*

*The competition is judged on the criteria listed below within the framework of a 10-point rating scale. Provided is a list of the judging criteria and the rating scale. The winner is the entry with the highest number of overall points.*

#### **Judging Criteria**

- Cost Savings/Benefits to the Community
- Ingenuity
- Ease of Transferability to Others
- Effectiveness

#### **10-Point Rating Scale**

- 10 = Excellent
  - 5 = Good
  - 1 = Poor
-

# Sample Build a Better Mousetrap Competition Entry Form

Agency Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ Contact Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Address: \_\_\_\_\_

County: \_\_\_\_\_

Entry Title: \_\_\_\_\_

What was the Challenge?

\_\_\_\_\_

How did you develop and implement your solution?

\_\_\_\_\_

What labor, equipment, plans, or materials did it take to make the solution work?

\_\_\_\_\_

What was the cost of implementation?

\_\_\_\_\_

What was the positive impact/results/outcome of your efforts?

\_\_\_\_\_

You may enter more than one entry. Use must use separate forms for each entry.

**Questions?** Please call Karen 717-763-0930, ext.156 or email  
katkinson@psats.org.



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