

# AOT Innovates!

## Creating and Sustaining a Culture of Continuous Improvement & Innovation

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### Innovation

Innovation is defined as the introduction of something new - an idea, technology, or approach - with the goal of making something better. By leveraging innovation, we can identify and develop new approaches for solving new and persistent challenges and improve our transportation services.



Figure 1: The “Kone Kicker” fabricated by Ian Portalupi, District 6



Figure 2: Mobile handwashing station fabricated by Ricky Hayes, District 1

### Essential Building Blocks

To build and sustain a successful innovation ethos we focused efforts on five key components.



### Capturing and Sharing Innovations & Ideas

AOT aspires to a future where employees at all levels of the organization can identify a problem or opportunity and develop an innovative solution to make their work safer, more efficient, and/or cost-effective to provide greater value for the public.



Employees can submit ideas and innovations through a form via SharePoint

### Tracking Success of This Initiative Over Time

We added 8 new AOT specific questions, in 5 areas, to the annual Employee Engagement Survey to assess the culture of innovation (agree, disagree statements). This data will be the baseline against which we can measure the impact and effectiveness of the AOT Innovates! initiative.



### Acknowledgments

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### References

National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine 2018. Guide to Creating and Sustaining a Culture of Innovation for Departments of Transportation. Washington, DC: The National Academies Press. <https://doi.org/10.17226/25307>.