**VTrans Peer Exchange/Scan Tour Application 2021**

The success of an organization does not wait. It is dictated in real time, and the sooner best practices can be implemented, the better the health and growth of the organization.

VTrans is soliciting ideas for peer exchanges and scan tours that will push the agency into the future. The purpose is to provide VTrans staff the benefits of learning about innovative practices and technologies utilized by other State DOTs and industries across the country. Knowledge gained will be utilized to quickly establish and implement innovative practices and technologies at VTrans. Applications that can be implemented in the next six months will be prioritized. We have limited federal funds to award. All awards will require a 25% state match (see #5 below).

Examples of ideas include:

* Scan tours to DOTs
* Creation of virtual or in-person peer exchanges with multiple attendees
* Conference attendance

To request funds for your idea, please fill out and return the application below to **Emily.Parkany@vermont.gov and** **Tanya.Miller@vermont.gov**. All successful applicants are expected to present the outcomes of their event at a brown bag lunch and at a State Transportation Innovation Council monthly meeting.

**1. Applicant:**

**2. Please provide a summary of your peer exchange proposal:**

**3. How does your proposal have a statewide impact in fostering a culture for innovation? What is the benefit for VTrans?**

**4. Anticipated Schedule:**

**5. Cost breakdown of funds requested (include how you will match 20% of the budget\*):**

\*Emily and Tanya can help discuss match, but if you’ll need $20,000, then $16,000 will be awarded by FHWA and you will need to provide $4000 in match. This can be state funds, non-federal money from a partner, or soft money (valuation of data, software, staff hours paid with state funds, etc.). The STIC would like your ideas on where this match may come from.