



# 2017 LRRB Focus Group

Thursday, April 6 • 11:00 a.m.- 2:00 p.m.  
UROC (2001 Plymouth Avenue N., Minneapolis)  
*Lunch will be provided during the meeting.*

RSVP and/or fill out the pre-event questionnaire at <http://bit.ly/LRRB2017>

## About the Meeting

Each year, the Minnesota Local Road Research Board (LRRB) sponsors research that provides new information to help Minnesota's city and county engineers plan, design, build, and maintain local transportation systems. Research projects are focused on improving local roadway systems in several topic areas, including design, environmental compatibility, maintenance, materials and construction, policy and planning, and traffic and operations.



The LRRB is seeking ideas from you—the transportation practitioners responsible for Minnesota's city and county transportation systems—to help define specific issues and challenges that could benefit from research. Your input will help the LRRB identify topics for future research initiatives. These initiatives will ultimately result in new information, innovations, and resources that help local governments provide safe, efficient roadways.

## LRRB Research Topics

The LRRB sponsors research projects that provide information and resources to help improve the Minnesota local government road system. Topics covered in the LRRB research program include:

- **Design:** the determination of the need for and nature of a proposed road system project.  
*Topics include geometrics, materials, safety, right-of-way, community and individual impact, and constructability.*
- **Environmental Compatibility:** the integration of the local road system into the community to minimize adverse environmental impacts while contributing to economic and social well-being.  
*Topics include sustainability and the natural, industrial, economic, community, and social environment.*
- **Maintenance:** the operation and maintenance of the road system investment.  
*Topics include snow removal, methods and materials, level of service, equipment, privatization, and staffing.*

## Agenda

- Welcome
- LRRB Overview
- Instructions
- Brainstorm Research Needs in Small Groups
- Review and Append Research Needs in Large Group
- Develop Research Needs in Small Groups
- Next Steps

- **Materials and Construction:** the implementation of the plans and specifications from the road system design process.  
*Topics include equipment, physical development, management systems, tools, materials, partnering, and quality.*
- **Policy and Planning:** the development and implementation of policies and plans at the neighborhood, city, or regional level.  
*Topics include land use, accessibility, planning, finance, economic development, and public involvement.*
- **Traffic and Operations:** the operation of the road system.  
*Topics include safety, mobility, traffic management, and intelligent transportation systems.*

## Tips for the Focus Group Process

- Participants will be asked to brainstorm ideas related to LRRB research topics.
- All ideas are welcome—brainstorming works best when people think broadly about possibilities and options.
- Think about areas where research or implementation could improve local transportation systems and our work. Your ideas can focus on building resources that you don't currently have OR on implementing existing information or products.
- Participants will prioritize the ideas in small groups, review and append ideas in the large group, and work in small groups to develop research need statements for the top priorities.

## Questions to Think About

- What are the key challenges in design, maintenance, materials, operations, etc. you see in the next ten years?
- What burning topic would you like to see LRRB research on?
- In what ways could implementation of research in each topic area add value to or improve our work?





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## Pre-event Questionnaire

**Your input will help us prepare for an effective and focused event, whether or not you are able to attend. You may also fill out this form online (and/or RSVP for the event) at <http://bit.ly/LRRB2017>.**

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What burning topic would you like to see LRRB research on?

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