The Pennsylvania Infrastructure Technology Alliance (PITA) is a collaboration among the Pennsylvania (PA) Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED), the Advanced Technology for Large Structural Systems (ATLSS) Engineering Research Center at Lehigh University, and the Institute for Complex Engineered Systems (ICES) at Carnegie Mellon University. The mission of the PITA Program is to assist the Commonwealth of PA and its companies in increasing operating efficiency and enhancing economic development by:

1. conducting technology development projects with PA companies;
2. developing technology leading to new PA companies;
3. conducting educational outreach programs for the benefit of PA companies and students;
4. seeding research and technology development projects that attract funding from other sources;
5. creating an environment linking PA companies, agencies and students to increase the creation and retention of high paying jobs in the Commonwealth; and
6. enabling PA universities to remain at the forefront of engineering research and education.

We are pleased to announce that funding for the FY2016 PITA program has been provided to ATLSS Engineering Research Center by the PA DCED. ATLSS is now soliciting proposals for PITA projects that fit
within the 7 Technology Focus Areas listed below. Proposals are due by Friday, May 13, 2016. Approval memos for selected projects are targeted to be issued by July 1, 2016.

The PITA Technology Focus Areas are listed below and reflect key infrastructure domain areas of interest to the Commonwealth. These domain areas include:

- Transportation Systems
- Telecommunications and Information Technology
We invite proposals that satisfy the PITA mission of assisting the Commonwealth of PA and its companies in increasing operating efficiency and enhancing economic development by:

1. Conducting technology development projects with PA companies;
2. Developing technology leading to new PA companies;
3. Conducting educational outreach programs for the benefit of PA companies and students;
4. Seeding research and technology development projects that attract funding from other sources;
5. Creating an environment linking PA companies, agencies and students to increase the creation and retention of high paying jobs in the Commonwealth; and
6. Enabling PA universities to remain at the forefront of engineering research and education.

The anticipated start date for funded projects will be July 1, 2016. The typical award period will run from July 1, 2016 to September 30, 2017. Typical project awards for PITA funds are expected in the range of $20,000 to $50,000 and require leverage (matching) funds at a minimum of $2 for every $1 of PITA funding.
In order to be considered for funding, a proposal must be submitted using the Technical Proposal and Cost Proposal templates below, and if including a Pennsylvania industry project partner, should include a support letter from that organization. Additional information is provided in the attached cover letter and I strongly encourage you to review the cost share criteria in this letter.

Questions regarding the proposal content and final submittal of proposals should be addressed to Chad Kusko, PITA Associate Director at Lehigh University, at chk205@lehigh.edu or at 8-5299.