Funding for the FY2018 PITA program has been appropriated by the Commonwealth of PA in its most recent budget, but the award has not yet been released by the funding agency. In anticipation of this funding being released to ATLSS by the Commonwealth in the upcoming months, ATLSS is now soliciting proposals for PITA projects for the FY2018 funding period. These proposals should fit within the 7 Technology Focus Areas listed below, or if outside of these areas, justify as Other with a description of the technology focus area for consideration. Proposals are due by Friday, November 3, 2017. Approval memos for selected projects are targeted to be issued by January 1, 2018, contingent on the funding being released to ATLSS by this timeframe.

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
- Facilities
- Water Systems
- Energy and Environment
- Public Health and Medicine
- Hazard Mitigation and Disaster Recovery
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 January 1, 2018, contingent on program funding being released to ATLSS. The typical award period will run from January 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019. 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. Awards will not exceed $50,000.

In order to be considered for funding, a proposal must be submitted using the below Technical Proposal and Cost Proposal templates, and if including a PA 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.