



Charles D. Baker, Governor  
Karyn E. Polito, Lieutenant Governor  
Stephanie Pollack, MassDOT Secretary & CEO



## 2021 RESEARCH PROJECT STATEMENT

### Research Topic:

Best Practices for Cost Recoveries

### Research Budget and Timeline:

- \$30,000-\$40,000
- 6-12 months (of which final 3 months are for review)

### Problem Statement and Objectives

The Highway Division amended and re-issued its Cost Recovery Procedure in 2017. Overall, the process has been successful, however, there is still room for improvement in the areas of what we identify as recoverable, early participation of design consultants in addressing conflicts and discrepancies that result in construction change orders, and coordinating with design consultants that are found to be liable for additional construction costs related to design errors.

The objective of the research would be to gather best practices on cost recovery and to modify our existing Cost Recovery procedures to enhance the program.

This study will be very beneficial for MassDOT because a strong Cost Recovery procedure helps to hold designers accountable for their mistakes and ultimately improves overall design quality. This study will identify best practices and how they can be applied to MassDOT bridge and roadway construction projects.

### Anticipated Outcomes and Deliverables

Outcomes: Information collection and synthesis for state DOTs cost recovery processes and determination of best practices.

This thesis will provide stakeholders with:

- Best practices for design errors and omissions cost recovery for large construction projects.
- Methods of reducing or preventing design errors and/or item omissions.
- A tool or a set of recommendations to improve design phase and pre-construction process.

### Deliverables:

1. Final Report
2. Final Presentation