"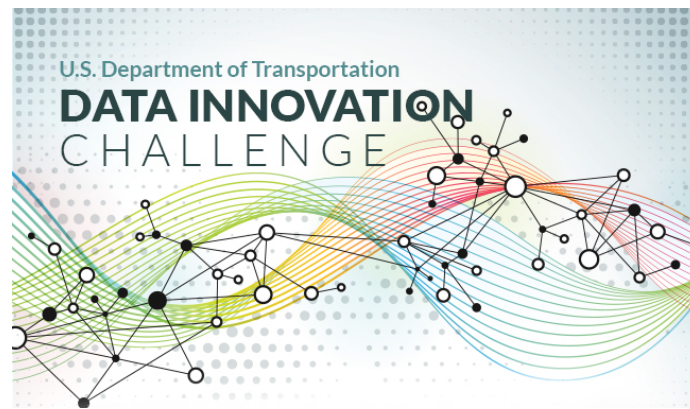The Federal government should … use high-risk, high-reward policy tools such as prizes and challenges to solve tough problems."

-President Barack Obama
August 5, 2009

DEVELOPING IDEAS, TECHNOLOGIES, PRODUCTS, OR SERVICES

ATTRACT NEW IDEAS

BUILD PROTOTYPES & LAUNCH PILOTS

STIMULATE MARKETS

RAISE AWARENESS

MOBILIZE ACTION

INSPIRE TRANSFORMATION

ENGAGING PEOPLE, ORGANIZATIONS, AND COMMUNITIES

Goal: Find and highlight data-driven innovations – to include web-based tools, data visualizations, mobile apps, or other innovative uses of technology and open data – that address systemic transportation challenges.

Results: Winning solutions included a web application, a mobile app, and a data analytics software platform. The Data Innovation Challenge helped DOT interact with new and different audiences, such as civic hackers, technologists, startups and academia, who do not typically engage with the agency through more traditional authorities like contracts, grants and cooperative agreements.

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services - Medicaid Provider Portal Screening Challenge

Goal: Develop a multi-state, multi-program information technology (IT) application to better facilitate screening providers while at the same time lowering burden on providers, reducing administrative and infrastructure expenses for States and federal programs and have the capability of risk scoring, credential validation, identity authentication and sanction checks.

Results: Developed an open source multi-state, multi-program provider screening shared-service software program that met all of the criteria. The State of Minnesota is working on full deployment of the software and other states are beginning to plan for deployment of the solution.

GSA's Digital Innovation & Strategy Hackathon

Goal: Develop a technology-driven solution using GSA data that allows the agency to identify opportunities for improvements and transparency and tackle an array of challenges pertaining to acquisition, travel and building services.

Results: More than 60 developers, designers and data scientists from academia and the private sector participated and developed several useful applications.
• A vendor dashboard using GSA data, enabling procurement officers to quickly and easily search and identify small business, minority-owned and other special categories of vendors, as well as quickly see issues with vendors.
• A framework for two apps that the GSA could potentially employ, one for tenants and one for building managers, to track building complaints, maintenance requests, and automatically feed the information into GSA's buildings database.