

Questions and Answers
North Fork Rancheria of Mono Indians of California
RFP for Transportation Consulting Services
Published: February 22, 2017
Dated: March 11, 2017

The last day for submitting e-mail questions regarding this solicitation was March 10, 2017.

1. Is there an anticipated budget or budget range for completing the plan?

We do not have a definitive budget since we were unsure of what the costs would be. We have asked that the proposal provide your plan and itemize costs for various phases. We hope to get a basic plan and evaluation of our service for future sustainability, and the plan could offer funding sources for future planning and expansion. Rating Factor 3(1): Proposals shall include a scope of services that describes the proposed phases and tasks. Rating Factor 3(3): Include a detailed itemized cost statement showing various classes of staff hours at appropriate rates delineated by the proposed Scope of Services. If specific tasks are optional, please provide explanation of scalability with specific references to the budget line items provided. Provide rates for additional services such as policy updates.

2. Is there a required or anticipated time for completion?

There is no required timeline for completion. For fiscal and auditing purposes, it is anticipated that completion occur prior to 9/30/2017. For NTD reporting purposes, program implementation changes shall occur prior to 12/31/2017.

3. How many copies of the proposal are required?

The RFP does not specify a specific number of copies to be provided for reviewers. Proposals will be reproduced as necessary for reviewers. If your proposal cannot be easily copied, please provide a minimum of four copies.

4. Are there any existing advisory committees (Stakeholder, Technical, Community and/or Regional) that will participate in the development of the transit plan? If yes, would you please offer a brief description of each committee and what their role might be in the planning process?

There are no existing advisory committees involved in the development of the transit plan. Involvement would be at the recommendation of the consulting firm selected. The Madera County Transportation Commission (MCTC) is the Regional Transportation Planning Agency (RTPA) and the designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for Madera County. The Tribe's transit program was included in the MCTC's 2014 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP)/Sustainable Communities Strategies (SCS). The Tribe's transit program was also referenced in MCTC's draft Overall Work Program for Fiscal Year 2017-2018. The Tribe is also invited to participate in MCTC's monthly TAC meetings, Roundtable Meetings and Workshops. The Tribe has also attended Social Services Transportation Advisory Council (SSATC) meetings with the Fresno Council of Governments, the MPO and RTPA for Fresno County.

5. What agencies are served by current tribal transit services? Is a list available? Are there any service agreements with any agencies? Do any tribal or other agencies contribute funding for operations to the program?

No other agencies are currently served. The program did have heavy ridership from patients of Central Valley Indian Health (CVIH); however, they also received funding to provide their own medical transport. An agreement was attempted to prevent the duplication of services and for the Tribe to recover costs associated with their transports, but no agreement was made. CVIH

ultimately committed to transporting all of their patients, and the Tribe's transit service now only serves non-CVIH patients and referrals. Prior letters of support had been provided by various Madera County agency representatives about the coordination of services with the existing Madera County Connection Service and the possibility of adding a bus stop at the Tribe's new Transportation Center, however, this coordination has yet to occur.

6. Will the consultant be expected to present or report its work to tribal leadership? If yes, how many presentations or reports do you envision and to whom?

It would be anticipated that an introductory meeting occur prior to field work, and that final recommendations and implementations strategies be presented at completion.

7. The 2010 Tribal Transportation Needs Assessment and Interim Long Range Transportation Plan identifies key trip generators as the Tribal Administration Office, Central Valley Indian Health Center, and North Fork Indian and Community Health Center. Is there an inventory of locations frequently served by tribal transit – with number of trips and passengers to/from?

Monthly trip and mileage logs will be available for review. The service is currently operating as a dial-ride for essential services: medical, social services, groceries, food banks, etc. It is the intent that the program also benefits access to jobs and education, but those types of reoccurring destinations would currently overburden the structure of the existing program. A light shuttle bus was recently awarded through FTA competitive funding, which should allow for the program to restructure service strategies. Vanpools may also be an option to further provide access to jobs and education.

8. The 2010 Assessment and Plan estimates the opening of a tribal Entertainment Destination with hotel, spa, restaurants and gaming for 2012 or 2013. The RFP indicates that the casino is pending Federal approval. We also saw a news article that the gaming compact has been approved. Could you expand on the status of this facility?

Federal approval for the Tribe's state gaming compact was provided in late July 2016, however, litigation is still ongoing. The selected consultant can be provided with a further status update from Tribal Council representatives upon selection. In the near term, this plan and funding for this program should operate independently from the potential casino operation.

9. What ridership data do you have available. Do you have detailed records of pick up and drop off locations with times? Do you have ridership information for County Connection route?

Rider registration and monthly logs will be available for review. Logs specify the location, number of persons in the vehicle, and mileage. No ridership information is available for the Madera County Connection Route.

10. Do you have programmed funds in your budget for consulting services specifically for this project?

See Question 1. We do not have a definitive budget since we were unsure of what the costs would be. We have asked that the proposal provide your plan and itemize costs for various phases. We hope to get a basic plan and evaluation of our service for future sustainability, and the plan could offer funding sources for future planning and expansion. Rating Factor 3(1): Proposals shall include a scope of services that describes the proposed phases and tasks. Rating Factor 3(3): Include a detailed itemized cost statement showing various classes of staff hours at appropriate rates delineated by the proposed Scope of Services. If specific tasks are optional, please provide explanation of scalability with specific references to the budget line items provided. Provide rates for additional services such as policy updates.

- 11. Do you have a list of qualified Native American firms that you have consulted or contracted with in the past, who would be helpful in providing technical services as a partner or subcontractor during this project?**

No

- 12. Are you at liberty to share the budget for this project?**

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