

# Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission

RFP 15-14: City of Portage Transit Feasibility Study

RFP 15-15: City of Hobart Transit Feasibility Study

## Questions and Answers #1

July 9<sup>th</sup>, 2015

The following are responses to questions that have been emailed prior to July 8<sup>th</sup>, 2015 regarding the above referenced RFPs. All questions received after July 8<sup>th</sup>, 2015 will have responses after the July 17<sup>th</sup>, 2015 deadline. Some of the questions were also discussed at the Pre-Submittal Conference and will be reflected on Question and Answer #1 and the Pre-Submittal Question and Answer document.

**Q1: What is the anticipated project budget for each study?**

A1: The budget for the City of Portage Transit Feasibility Study is \$150,000. The budget for the City of Hobart Transit Feasibility Study is \$150,000.

**Q2: Page 3 (of both RFPs) states: Deadline for inquiries: Thursday, July 16th, 2015 at 12:00 p.m. CST. Page 5 states: All questions and requests for clarification are due by 12:00 p.m. CST on July 17th, 2015. Which is the correct question deadline, July 16 or July 17?**

A2: Since the schedule date and the date in the RFP content for inquiries is different, the later date of July 17<sup>th</sup>, 2015 will be the deadline for inquiries for both proposals.

**Q3: Would it be acceptable in these communities to conduct a community survey exclusively online?**

A3: We would like to see approaches other than an exclusive online survey. Both communities want adequate senior participation and we are concerned that the lack of computer literacy and computer access would limit the ability for the seniors to respond.

**Q4: Is origin and destination data available for the demand response service operating in Hobart and Portage? If so, is this information available electronically (spreadsheet/database), or as paper manifest only?**

A4: The demand response providers are capable of providing origin and destination data. Compiled data will be posted on the NIRPC website, [www.nirpc.org](http://www.nirpc.org), by Wednesday, July 15<sup>th</sup>, 2015.

**Q5: Is ridership data available for the fixed-route services operation on the fringes of Hobart? If so, is ridership available by stop (or station in the case of the South Shore commuter rail line)?**

A5: Ridership data is available from NIRPC through the year 2014 for all public transit providers in the three-county area. Ridership data for only Porter and Lake counties will be posted by Monday, July 13<sup>th</sup>, 2015 on the NIRPC website at <http://www.nirpc.org/transportation/public-transit.aspx>. The document will be titled, "Public Transit Ridership 2008-2014". Ridership by stop for fixed-route is not available.

**Q6: Would a consultant team be limited to only one of the two projects, or could the same team be selected for both projects?**

A6: As long as the team meets qualifications, it is possible that the same team could be selected for both projects. You can propose for one, you can do both, but we do expect a level of awareness and communication. We want independent studies for each to know what each community feels. We encourage you all to talk to David Wright at Gary Public Transportation Corporation (GPTC) at [planningmanager@gptcbus.com](mailto:planningmanager@gptcbus.com) and other big demand responders operating in Porter and Lake Counties.

**Q7: Does NIRPC have a list of DBE firms specializing in Public Outreach / Public Involvement?**

A7: You can search for Indiana DBE firms through the following link:  
[https://fs85.gmis.in.gov/psc/guest/EMPLOYEE/ERP/c/SOI\\_APPS\\_MWBE.SOI\\_DBE\\_CERT.GBL?&](https://fs85.gmis.in.gov/psc/guest/EMPLOYEE/ERP/c/SOI_APPS_MWBE.SOI_DBE_CERT.GBL?&)

**Q8: What is the anticipated contract period?**

A8: Typically, the contract period is one year, but this is open to negotiation.

**Q9: May we include a cover letter?**

A9: You may include a cover letter.

**Q10: May we include a table of contents?**

A10: You may include a table of contents.