

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The Gohio Platform: Gohio Commute and Gohio Mobility

Introduction

The Gohio Platform consists of two complementary statewide applications: **Gohio Commute** and **Gohio Mobility**. Together, these tools support the transportation demand management (TDM) and mobility management goals of the Ohio Association of Regional Councils (OARC), the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT), and regional transportation partners throughout Ohio.

Gohio Commute is Ohio's statewide rideshare platform that encourages the use of sustainable transportation options, including carpooling, vanpooling, public transit, bicycling, walking, and other commute alternatives. The platform helps reduce single-occupant vehicle (SOV) travel, improve air quality, reduce traffic congestion, and provide commuters with efficient transportation choices.

Gohio Mobility is Ohio's statewide searchable transportation provider tool. It helps older adults, individuals with disabilities, caregivers, mobility managers, and social service professionals find transportation services that meet individual travel needs through an accessible provider database. This tool is not intended for booking or paying for rides.

Together, these applications provide Ohio residents with a comprehensive platform for finding transportation options for both daily commuting and specialized mobility needs.

Historical Context

Gohio Commute was launched in 2017 through a partnership among members of the Ohio Association of Regional Councils (OARC) to provide a unified statewide transportation demand management platform. Since then, the platform has expanded to include Gohio Mobility, creating a comprehensive statewide transportation solution serving commuters, employers, transportation agencies, mobility managers, and the public.

OARC is seeking a technology partner to continue enhancing the Gohio Platform with secure, scalable, user-focused technology that supports Ohio's evolving transportation needs.

Purpose of this Request for Proposals

OARC is seeking proposals from qualified vendors to provide, host, implement, and support the statewide Gohio Platform, including Gohio Commute and Gohio Mobility.

The selected vendor will deliver a secure, scalable, cloud-based solution that supports rideshare matching, vanpool administration, employer transportation programs, mobility management, and statewide transportation provider search capabilities while allowing the platform to evolve throughout the contract term.

Current Platform Capabilities

Platform Tools: Gohio Commute

Gohio Commute is used by commuters to search for and record use of sustainable modes of transportation. This tool addresses TDM through the following functions:

- Personalized user dashboard with carpool, vanpool, transit, and active transportation commute options.
- Commute AI assistance
- Multimodal trip planning
- Verified vanpool and carpool matching
- Program management tools for managing network incentives and reward programs
- Gamification
- Rewards Program
- Emergency or Guaranteed Ride Home
- Automated Outreach
- Transit and approved third-party integrations
- Branded native mobile applications for both Apple iOS and Android devices
- Online platform
- Vendor-provided incentives for trip logging
- ADA/WCAG 2.2 AA accessibility compliance

Platform Tools: Gohio Mobility

Gohio Mobility is a statewide specialized transportation search tool. The platform helps individuals, caregivers, mobility managers, social service agencies, and other advocates identify transportation services available in urban and rural communities throughout Ohio.

Users can search for transportation providers that may serve medical, employment, educational, shopping, social, and other essential trips. Search results are tailored to the user's location, transportation needs, accessibility requirements, eligibility, and payment preferences.

Key functionality includes:

- Customized search results based on accessibility accommodations, trip purpose, provider eligibility requirements, service types, geographic service areas, and payment or funding options.
- User-friendly search interface designed for commuters, caregivers, mobility managers, and social service professionals.
- Comprehensive transportation provider profiles that include service descriptions, eligibility requirements, contact information, service areas, accessibility features, and available funding options.
- Administrative tools for editing, managing, reviewing, and searching the statewide transportation provider database.
- Administrators can self-enter transportation providers without requiring GIS mapping; system uses city, state, and county location.
- Compliance with applicable ADA requirements and WCAG 2.2 Level AA.

OARC MPO Partners and RFP Details

- Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs)
 - Akron Metropolitan Area Transportation Study (AMATS) [Akron]
 - Eastgate Regional Council of Governments (Eastgate COG) [Youngstown]
 - Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission (MVRPC) [Dayton]
 - Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) [Columbus]
 - Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency (NOACA) [Cleveland]
 - Ohio-Kentucky-Indiana Regional Council of Governments (OKI) [Cincinnati]
 - Lake Erie West Regional Council (Lake Erie West) (formerly TMACOG) [Toledo]

The above-mentioned MPOs are members of OARC, who are sponsoring this RFP. As the sponsor, OARC is seeking to continue and enhance the TDM platform and mobility search tool in Ohio.

OARC is the project sponsor. MORPC serves as the procurement administrator and anticipated contract holder on behalf of the participating OARC members.

OARC is seeking a system that meets or exceeds the needs of a statewide, multi-regional commute and mobility search platform. The system will support OARC's transportation demand management (TDM) and mobility management programs.

Vendors interested in being considered must submit **one (1) searchable PDF via email**. MORPC will accept proposals no later than **4:00 PM (EDT), FRIDAY, November 13, 2026**.

Proposals must arrive via email to Patty Olmsted at polmsted@morpc.org by the proposal due date and time. Vendors will receive an email confirmation to confirm that the proposal was received. If a vendor would like to send an additional copy by physical mail, proposals must arrive at the MORPC office prior to the proposal due date.

Mail proposals to:

Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission
Attn: Patty Olmsted
111 Liberty Street, Suite 100
Columbus, OH 43215

All questions must be submitted in writing by email to Patty Olmsted at polmsted@morpc.org. **No answers will be given over the phone.** All responses to written questions, including any amendments to the RFP (if necessary), will be posted on MORPC's website. The question window will remain open from the RFP publishing date through **Friday, October 16, 2026 at 4:00 p.m. (Eastern Time)**. Responses to questions will be posted at <https://www.morpc.org/rfps-rfqs/> by **4:00 p.m. (Eastern Time) Friday, October 23, 2026**.

The Ohio Association of Regional Councils, in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 78 Stat. 252, 42 U.S.C. 2000d to 2000d-4 and Title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, Department of Transportation, Subtitle A, Office of the Secretary, Part 21, Nondiscrimination in Federally-Assisted Programs of the Department of Transportation issued pursuant to such Act, hereby notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively ensure that in any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, minority business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to

submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, creed, religion, ancestry, national origin, sex or gender, sexual orientation, disability or other handicap, age, marital/familial status, income, or status with regard to public assistance in consideration for an award.

Neither OARC nor any member agency of the Committee shall be liable for any costs incurred by the consultant in response to this RFP, or any costs incurred in connection with any discussions, correspondence or attendance at interviews or negotiation sessions.

All materials submitted in response to this RFP shall become the property of OARC and may be returned only at OARC's option.

All materials received shall be considered public information and shall be open to public inspection.

I. PROJECT DETAILS

OARC seeks a qualified vendor to provide, host, maintain, support, and enhance the statewide Gohio Platform under a three-year contract beginning July 1, 2027, with options for two additional one-year terms. The platform consists of two complementary tools: Gohio Commute, a transportation demand management (TDM) rideshare platform, and Gohio Mobility, a searchable directory of specialized transportation providers.

The selected vendor shall deliver a secure, cloud-based solution that is reliable, scalable, accessible, easy to administer, and adaptable to changing transportation technologies and program needs. The solution must serve multiple metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs), employers, mobility managers, and members of the public while preserving regional control and branding. Each MPO will have its own branded landing page.

The selected vendor shall provide:

- Secure cloud hosting, system monitoring, and security updates
- Regular software maintenance and updates
- Technical support through a centralized help desk and ticketing system
- Data migration
- Administrator training
- An administrative dashboard with reporting and analytics capabilities
- Integration with approved third-party transportation services and APIs
- Mobile application support
- Ongoing product enhancements throughout the contract term
- OARC ownership of all program data

Contract Objectives

- Maintain uninterrupted public access to Gohio Commute and Gohio Mobility.
- Migrate existing platform data and support implementation by the July 1, 2027, launch date.
- Provide secure hosting, system monitoring, maintenance, security updates, technical support, training, and ongoing product enhancements.
- Reduce administrative effort while providing intuitive experiences for commuters, employers, mobility managers, transportation providers, and regional administrators.
- Support approved third-party integrations, mobile access, reporting, analytics, and future expansion.

Service Area and Scale

- The service area consists of all 88 counties in the state of Ohio and the following counties outside the state: Dearborn (IN), Boone (KY), Campbell (KY), Kenton (KY), Monroe (MI).
- Services shall be provided throughout Ohio and within designated out-of-state counties included in participating MPO service areas.
- The Gohio Commute platform currently contains approximately 25,000 registered users and related program data.

II. SCOPE OF SERVICES

The selected vendor shall provide a coordinated Gohio Platform with separate, clearly identifiable experiences for Gohio Commute and Gohio Mobility. The platform shall be secure, cloud-based, reliable, scalable, accessible, easy to administer, and adaptable to evolving transportation technologies and program needs.

The platform must serve multiple metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs), employers, mobility managers, and members of the public while preserving regional control and branding. Each MPO shall have its own branded landing page.

The requirements below are classified as mandatory or desirable. Vendors shall explain how their proposed solution meets each requirement and identify any exceptions, limitations, optional modules, or additional costs. Vendors are also encouraged to propose innovations that support OARC's current and future goals. OARC seeks a forward-thinking partner committed to continually enhancing the platform as the industry evolves.

Platform-Wide Mandatory Functionality Requirements

- Provide secure cloud hosting, system monitoring, routine maintenance, security updates, backups, and reliable system availability.
- Use role-based permissions for MPO administrators and for authorized sub-administrators, including employer transportation coordinators, and mobility managers.
- Provide configurable subsites for MPOs, employers, and other partners. Subsites must support independent branding, content, features, reports, and data access, as authorized by

OARC.

- Provide administrative dashboards, searchable data, configurable reports, visualizations, and exports in Excel, CSV, and PDF formats.
- Support approved APIs and third-party integrations. Administrators must be able to enable or disable optional integrations by subsite when applicable.
- Provide responsive public web interfaces and branded native applications for Apple iOS and Android devices.
- Gohio Commute and Gohio Mobility must be accessible through the web and mobile experiences.
- Provide separate, clearly identifiable links and user experiences for Gohio Commute and Gohio Mobility, with cross-links between them.
- Comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act and WCAG 2.2 AA, or the current applicable standard, across public and administrative interfaces.
- Support localized or multilingual content and configurable email, text, or mobile push notifications.
- System administrators shall be able to monitor vanpool rosters and seat availability; add vans and van riders; place commuters on van waitlist; and export reports on this information.
- Multimodal trip planning that allows users to plan, receive directions for, and log trips using one or more transportation modes.
- Provide carpool and vanpool matching based on relevant trip and user criteria, including tools to find riders and open van seats, communicate within the platform, and submit self-service join requests.

Desirable Gohio Commute Functionality Requirements

- Provide configurable report templates for performance measures, including prior travel mode, mode split, mode shift, vehicle miles traveled reduced, emissions reduced, and calories burned.
- Provide each user with a personalized dashboard that presents relevant carpool, vanpool, transit, bicycling, walking, and other commute options, together with the user's trip activity and available program features.
- Allow users to register, maintain a profile, plan and log trips, receive directions, and view transportation options using one or more modes, including carpool, vanpool, transit, bicycling, walking, and micromobility.
- Display relevant transportation infrastructure and services through Google Maps or a comparable mapping service, including park-and-ride locations, bicycle facilities, bikeshare, micromobility, and electric-vehicle charging locations.
- Allow authorized administrators to access a user-view or proxy function for troubleshooting and support.
- Provide in-system messaging.
- Provide gamification, incentives, and vendor-supported reward programs to encourage trip logging.

Desirable Gohio Commute Program Administration Functionality

- Provide integrated tools to create and manage incentives, rewards programs, gamification, automated outreach or push notifications, marketing campaigns, and vendor-supplied rewards

- for qualifying trip activity.
- Support an Emergency or Guaranteed Ride Home program that may be configured or disabled by subsite.
- Provide performance reporting that may include prior travel mode, mode split and shift, trips logged, vehicle miles traveled reduced, emissions reduced, calories burned, participation, and incentive activity.
- Allow authorized administrators to update public-facing content and configure subsite features, branding, reports, and integrations.

Desirable Features and Enhancements

- Provide AI-assisted commute guidance that helps users identify and evaluate relevant transportation options.
- Use APIs to integrate transit information, including real-time information where supported. Allow each MPO to enable or disable approved third-party integrations on its subsite”

Mandatory Gohio Mobility Functionality Requirements

- Customized search results based on accessibility accommodations, trip purpose, provider eligibility requirements, service types, geographic service areas, and payment or funding options.
- User-friendly search interface designed for commuters, caregivers, mobility managers, and social service professionals.
- Comprehensive transportation provider profiles that include service descriptions, eligibility requirements, contact information, service areas, accessibility features, and available funding options.
- Administrative tools for editing, managing, reviewing, and searching the statewide transportation provider database.
- Gohio Mobility should have a separate and distinctive link from Gohio Commute
- Administrators shall be able to self-enter transportation providers by city, county, or state without requiring GIS mapping.
- Compliance with applicable ADA requirements and WCAG 2.2 Level AA, or the then-current applicable standard

Gohio Platform Training and Support

- Comprehensive training for any new administrators within OARC.
- Periodic training updates as system capabilities evolve.
- Technical assistance provided during standard workdays (8:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday, excluding identified holidays).
 - Includes emergency support via phone or web portal
 - Includes central ticketing system
- Maintain a robust training library that administrators can reference, including videos and written tutorials.

III. PROPOSAL FORMAT

The proposal must address the following items in the following order. Failure of the proposal to respond to a specific requirement may be a basis for elimination from consideration during the comparative evaluation. OARC reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals.

Each consultant shall submit a concise, formal proposal that shall contain the following sections:

- A) Cover Letter
- B) Organizational Structure, Personnel, and Experience
 - a. Vendor's Personnel Profile and Corporate Qualifications
 - i. Bio and/or resume/curriculum vitae (CV) of team members involved with the project
 - b. Project organization chart showing key personnel, their relationships and affiliations
 - c. Experience
 - i. Examples of successfully completed projects of similar scope and magnitude
 - ii. Provide the contact information for three or more recent references
- C) Technical description of the proposed system
- D) Innovative solutions beyond the features outlined in the scope of this RFP
- E) Implementation Plan
 - a. Data Migration Plan
- F) Budget/Cost Proposal

A.) COVER LETTER

The **cover letter** shall be signed by a representative authorized to legally bind the firm and include:

- Name, position, phone number, and e-mail address of a contact person with authority to answer questions regarding the proposal (ideally the day-to-day project manager for this work).
- Name, position, address, and phone number of a contact person to be notified regarding contractual issues.
- Identification of the firm as a corporation or other legal entity.

The letter shall state that the vendor:

- Has sole and complete responsibility for delivery of the required services.
- Is presently not debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible or voluntarily excluded from covered transactions by any federal department or agency or the Ohio Department of Transportation.

B.) ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE, PERSONNEL, AND EXPERIENCE

Provide background information for key personnel expected to be assigned to the project, especially the project manager. Include resumes or CVs for all team members involved and identify the office location where most of the work will be performed. This section should also summarize all key project personnel, describe their roles and affiliations, and include a project organization chart.

Include information about any applicable corporate qualifications and relevant experience deploying a system of similar size and scope within the last five years. Expand upon any prior innovations your system has pioneered, and how it has been integrated into your current system. Elaborate upon the customizable portions of your system, and how our TDM rideshare program might design its branding within your system.

Provide a list of three or more references for which your company has provided similar services in the last five years. Please include name, title, organization, business phone number, and email address. Include a brief description of the services your company provided. References to other

MPOs would be ideal.

C.) TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED SYSTEM

This section shall indicate the vendor's understanding of the project's scope of work. The vendor shall explain how their team will offer a system that addresses the needs identified in the Project Details and Scope of Service.

OARC requests that materials and demonstrations be customized for the Ohio market.

All materials created and submitted throughout the lifetime of the projects related to the contract shall become the property of OARC. All materials received shall be considered public information and shall be open to public inspection.

D.) INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS

OARC recognizes that mobility is evolving quickly and seeks a progressive vendor whose system can adapt to rapid technological change in the personal mobility industry. The selected vendor should provide consistent system updates to help ensure the platform remains relevant in future years.

The vendor shall identify any system features beyond the scope of this RFP, including features not available by July 1, 2027, but expected to become viable during the three-year contract. These may include customization options, add-ons, third-party integrations, or other innovations that address current issues, program needs, goals, or capabilities identified in the Overview, Project Description, and Scope of Services.

E.) IMPLEMENTATION AND DATA MIGRATION PLAN

As part of the proposal, the proposer shall provide an implementation schedule identifying all tasks and subtasks needed to launch a public-facing system by July 1, 2027. If the vendor believes this timeline may affect project quality, the proposal should explain why.

The implementation plan shall include an incumbent system data migration plan describing the vendor's strategy for transferring existing commuters, employers, park-and-rides, transportation providers, and related records, including associated metadata such as addresses, work shifts, and commuter preferences.

OARC prefers that vendors include recommended transition strategies in the implementation plan, based on prior experience where applicable.

F.) BUDGET/COST PROPOSAL

The vendor shall provide a **detailed five-year cost proposal** covering the initial three-year contract and two optional one-year extensions. The proposal shall include:

- One-time implementation, data conversion, and startup costs;
- Annual licensing, maintenance, hosting, and support fees;
- Total costs for each contract year, beginning July 1, 2027, through June 30, 2032;
- Pricing for all optional modules and add-ons; and
- The basis for all charges, such as service-area population, registered users, administrators, incentive budgets, or other factors.

- An explanation of how the platform and pricing structure would accommodate the addition of new partner organizations.

The anticipated annual budget is approximately \$100,000 to \$111,000 and includes implementation, data conversion, startup, licensing, maintenance, and other recurring fees.

OARC is the project sponsor. MORPC serves as the procurement administrator and anticipated contract holder on behalf of the participating OARC members.

The vendor shall also recommend a contracting structure for OARC and its participating organizations. The response should indicate whether the vendor prefers one agreement with a primary contract holder, separate agreements with individual partners, or another structure. The vendor shall identify its preferred approach, describe its flexibility, and explain any cost implications if OARC selects a different structure.

Vendors are encouraged to submit a competitive bid that meets the needs of this RFP. OARC reserves the right to ask a vendor for a revised pricing structure if modules, add-ons, data transfer costs, etc. included in the original bid price are removed or altered in scope. A final contract price will be discussed with the selected vendor during the contract development phase.

The proposer should be aware that the project is funded with U.S. DOT funds and will be subject to all the requirements thereby imposed. In addition, as U.S. DOT funds are administered by the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT), this project will be subject to all requirements imposed by ODOT.

IV. PROCUREMENT PROCESS

RFP TIMELINE

The schedule for the RFP is given below. Dates are tentative and may be modified by OARC as necessary.

September 28, 2026	Proposal is posted to MORPC website (morpc.org), and distributed via email to identified vendors
October 16, 2026	Cutoff date for written questions from proposers
October 23, 2026	Final responses to questions posted
November 13, 2026	Completed proposals to MORPC by 4:00 p.m.
November 16 - December 4, 2026	Evaluation of written proposals by the evaluation committee.
December 7 - 18, 2026	Finalists participate in software demonstrations and oral presentations (in person or virtually)
January 5, 2027	Selection of preferred vendor by OARC partners
January 7, 2027	Notification of award and non-award to all proposers

January 11 – February 28, 2027	Contract negotiations and development
March 1, 2027	Target execution of new contract
April 1 - June 30, 2027	Implementation, system configuration, data migration, testing, and staff training
July 1, 2027	Start of new contract

The selection of the vendor will follow a multi-step process. The first step will be an evaluation of the written proposals using the criteria listed below.

EVALUATION CRITERIA

The evaluation criteria are as follows:

- 1. General Quality & Adequacy of Response (5%)**
 - a. Completeness and thoroughness
 - b. Overall impression
- 2. Qualifications (15%)**
 - a. Experience working with similar clients
 - b. A demonstrated history of comprehensive customer service as evidenced by strong references
 - c. Understanding of the TDM/mobility matching market
- 3. Functions of Transportation Demand Management Technology (30%)**
 - a. Vendor demonstrates the system's capacity to meet or exceed the performance requirements detailed in Sections I and II of this RFP regarding Gohio Commute
- 4. Functions of Mobility Search Tool (25%)**
 - a. Vendor demonstrates the system's capacity to meet or exceed the performance requirements detailed in Sections I and II of this RFP regarding Gohio Mobility
- 5. Innovations (5%)**
 - a. Continuous evolution
 - b. Potential for system integration with mobile technological advancements
- 6. Cost/Budget (20%)**
 - a. Clarity of budget and congruence with RFP and proposed scope of work
 - b. Cost

EVALUATION COMMITTEE

The committee will conduct the evaluation of proposals and reserves the right to reject all proposals as a whole or in part received in response to this request. OARC may waive minor defects which are not material when no prejudice will result to the rights of any other vendors or to the public.

The second step would include clarification interviews. Depending upon the relative merits of the proposals, likely two or three vendors will be invited to give oral presentations and respond to questions from an interview panel. Vendors selected to give oral presentations will be expected to present "Ohio-centric" demonstrations of their system's capabilities to OARC. The second step

may be waived if OARC finds from the evaluation in the first step that one vendor is clearly more qualified to provide services than the other vendors.

CLARIFICATION INTERVIEWS

At OARC's option, vendors may be required to answer questions about their proposals. During this time, the vendor will be expected to perform live presentations of their system's capabilities. This will take place virtually. The purpose of the interview is to provide clarification of information presented in the written proposal. If interviews are necessary, OARC will contact the vendor's authorized representative to schedule the time and date. Virtual interviews are currently scheduled to take place December 7, 2026 – December 18, 2026. The interviews will be given by the OARC committee. A vendor's refusal to make a presentation as described shall result in the vendor's proposal being rejected from consideration for the project.

SELECTION AND NEGOTIATIONS

Based on the evaluation of the proposals, the vendor who best demonstrates its ability to address OARC's needs will be selected. If negotiation with the highest-ranked vendor fails to result in a mutually acceptable agreement, OARC will notify that firm in writing of the termination of negotiations. The next highest-ranked vendor, as determined by the earlier technical proposal evaluation, will then be invited to enter negotiations with OARC. If negotiations again fail, the same procedure shall be followed, with the next most qualified firm until a contract has been negotiated. If the remaining proposals are considered not to be qualified, the notification and selection processes will be repeated.

V. PROPOSAL TERMS & CONDITIONS

Evaluation of Proposal Compliance with Specifications

Understanding that no vendor may completely meet all requirements of the specifications, OARC reserves the sole right to determine whether a proposal substantially complies with the specifications; accept, negotiate modifications to, or reject the terms of any proposal; and waive the right to accept a part, or parts, of a proposal, unless otherwise restricted in the proposal.

Modification and/or Withdrawal of Proposals

Modifications of a submitted proposal must be received by the designated due date specified. Withdrawal of proposals will be allowed only in those cases in which a written request via email to withdraw a proposal is received by MORPC prior to the date and hour for receiving and opening proposals. In such case, the same proposal will be returned to the vendor unopened.

Proposer Qualifications

OARC may require all proposers to submit evidence of qualifications, and may consider any evidence of the financial, technical, and other qualifications and abilities. OARC will not award a contract to a proposer who, in its opinion, is not fully qualified based on financial resources and responsibility, possession of adequate equipment, personnel, experience, and past record of performance to perform the obligation to be undertaken competently and without delay.

Award of Contract

Each vendor acknowledges that OARC will use its discretion and judgment in making the final decision and further acknowledges that no claim by the proposer will arise in any way relating to the exercise of that judgment by OARC. OARC reserves the right to accept the Proposal deemed to be in the best interest of OARC or to reject all Proposals.

Executive Directors of the various MPOs are the only individuals who may legally commit their respective organization to the expenditure of public funds. No cost chargeable to the proposed contract may be incurred before receipt of either a fully executed contract or a specific, written authorization to proceed.

GENERAL INFORMATION & REQUIREMENTS

Compliance with US DOT Regulations

The project will be funded from federal transportation funds. Consequently, the consultant must comply with all U.S. Department of Transportation regulations pertaining to federal transportation planning studies and non-discrimination in federally assisted programs.

Ownership of Products

OARC will retain the copyright for all data, domain names, materials, information, processes, studies, reports, surveys, proposals, plans, codes, scientific information, technological information, regulations, maps, equipment, charts, schedules, photographs, exhibits, software, software source code, documentation, and other materials and property that are prepared, developed or created under or in connection with this project. Therefore, the submitter should anticipate that all products of this work effort will become the property of OARC who will make them available to other government agencies and their contractors.

Deviation Clause

The vendor's attention is called to the condition that, if awarded a contract, the vendor will be required to furnish the item referred to in strict accordance with the specifications or descriptions as proposed, unless a departure or substitution is clearly noted and described in the proposal, along with the reasons, therefore.

Tax Exemption

OARC is exempt from the payment of federal excise and transportation taxes levied under the provisions of the Internal Revenue Code. MPOs are also exempt from Ohio State Gross Retail Taxes (sales tax). The successful vendor will be furnished with certificates of exemption as required.

STATEMENTS ON DIVERSITY & INCLUSION

Equal Opportunity

The vendor agrees that it will not discriminate against any employee, applicant for employment, or sub-contractor and that it will take affirmative action to ensure that employees, applicants and sub-contractors are treated equally during employment without regard to race, color, gender, creed, religion, ancestry, national origin, sexual orientation, disability or other handicap, age, marital/familial status, veteran status, or status regarding public assistance.

CONTRACTING REQUIREMENTS

The following are not part of the proposal requirements but will be in the contract in addition to other contractual requirements. . *Please also note that prior to negotiation, the firm selected for negotiation must provide average hourly rates for personnel assigned and a copy of the last audited financial statement.*

Compensation

A not-to-exceed contract amount based upon satisfactory functioning of products provided will be entered into after negotiations between OARC and the selected firm

Cancellation

OARC reserves the right to cancel any contract for failure or refusal of performance, fraud, deceit, misrepresentation, collusion, or any other misconduct on the part of the vendor.

Unresolved Finding for Recovery

The selected vendor affirmatively represents and warrants to OARC that it is not subject to a finding for recovery under ORC 9.24 or that it has taken appropriate remedial steps required under ORC 9.24 or otherwise qualifies under that section. The vendor agrees that if this representation or warranty is deemed to be false, the agreement shall be void *ab initio* as between the parties to this agreement, and any funds paid by OARC to the vendor hereunder shall be repaid to OARC immediately, or an action for recovery may be commenced immediately by OARC for recovery of said funds.

Vendor Questionnaire

The selected contractor/vendor will be required to complete a vendor questionnaire to demonstrate that MORPC data and systems are protected and backed up consistent with MORPC's IT policies and practices.

Covenants of Vendor

The vendor will be required to covenant and warrant the following:

- a) Consultant is not debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in any contract, supported in whole or in part by the funding sources for this project;
- b) Consultant has not within a three (3) year period had one or more public transactions terminated for cause or default;
- c) Consultant will comply with the provisions of Section 1352, Title 31 of the U.S. Code, which prohibits the use of federal funds to lobby any official or employee of any federal agency, or member or employee of Congress; and to disclose any lobbying activities in connection with federal funds.