

Capital Region (Baton Rouge Area) Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The purpose of this Request for Proposals (RFP) is to solicit proposals from qualified consultants, vendors, or firms (hereinafter “Consultant”) for the Baton Rouge MPO’s (hereafter “MPO”) Climate Pollution Reduction Plan (CPRP). The CPRP will aid the MPO and all our agency partners to respond to trends in addressing climate pollution; accelerate work to address environmental injustice; and deliver cleaner air by reducing harmful air pollution within the Baton Rouge Metropolitan Statistical Area.

The Baton Rouge Regional Climate Pollution Reduction Plan will assist the region in both understanding and addressing the sources of climate pollution and emissions and will produce an actionable plan with high-priority projects that will proactively address these issues for our region’s residents. Upon the completion of the PCAP and CCAP documents, regional data will be evaluated and updated as part of the Status Report to ensure that solutions and projects identified through the planning process have quantifiable, data-driven results aimed at reducing GHG emissions across the region. Recognizing the future opportunity of discretionary funding, this strategic initiative must be thoughtful, agile and able to capitalize on opportunities immediately upon completion. The timeline for development of these plans is aggressive, yet necessary due to the imminent and time-sensitive opportunities for securing additional competitive discretionary funding for the region.

The Baton Rouge Regional Climate Pollution Reduction Plan will apply to the ten-Parish Baton Rouge Metropolitan Statistical Area (Parishes of: Ascension, Assumption, East Baton Rouge, East Feliciana, Iberville, Livingston, Point Coupee, St. Helena, West Baton Rouge and West Feliciana).

The Baton Rouge Regional Climate Pollution Reduction Plan will complement the parallel efforts of the state under the federal EPA CPRG funding opportunity, and all relevant state-wide adopted climate planning documents. The planning processes and subsequent documents will follow federal Environmental Justice mandates and ensure equal participation and representation of all our region’s residents. This planning effort will build upon and reference the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (LADOTD)’s Climate Action Plan (2022) and City of Gonzales’s Climate Action and Resiliency Plan (2023). It will also build upon transportation planning and programming efforts made by Baton Rouge MPO in the areas of the Carbon Reduction Programs as well as the sustainability and resilience goals and strategies of the region’s Long Range Transportation Plan: MOVE 2046 for a Changing Region. While all sectors that emit greenhouse gasses (GHGs) will be targeted for review and recommendations, a special focus will be made on addressing the top emitting sectors of GHGs in Louisiana: electricity production, residential, industrial, and transportation.

Recognizing that climate pollution often disproportionately impacts historically disadvantaged communities, the Baton Rouge MPO and its partners commit to focusing on meaningful engagement with low-income, minority, and other disadvantaged communities as identified through the MPO’s Long Range Transportation Plan Environmental Justice Analysis, and those communities identified under the Federal Justice 40 Initiative.

Utilizing a detailed approach, and a combination of both internal staff and external consultant support, the MPO will conduct a multi-pronged public outreach effort to be inclusive of public interest groups, members of communities of concern, and other stakeholder organizations. Public engagement will be a core component of the Baton Rouge Regional Climate Pollution Reduction Plan development process. The plans will be accessible and public facing, as all the MPO publications are mandated to be under Federal guidelines (the MPO’s Title VI Plan and Public Engagement Plan).

The Consultant will apply the relevant Federal Highway Administration’s metropolitan transportation planning mandates through this planning process and include the following key tasks:

1. Project Management through development of a detailed work plan and schedule.
2. Stakeholder and Public engagement
3. GHG Inventories, GHG Reduction Measures, Workforce Analysis, Benefits Analysis, LIDAC Benefits Analysis; State of Current Practices
4. Priority Climate Action Plan (PCAP)
5. Comprehensive Climate Action Plan (CCAP)
6. Status Report
7. CPRG Implementation Grant Prospects

Offeror must meet the minimum qualifications and address all criteria in the full RFP which can be found at: <http://crpcla.org/publicnotices>. The submission of the MPO Consultant Submittal Form is required.

CRPC has allocated a maximum consultant budget for the MTP update which is up to and not to exceed \$400,000

Respondents shall submit three bound and one electronic copy of the full of the proposal response to:
Capital Region Planning Commission
Attn: Mr. Sooraz Patro, Director of Transportation
14734 S. Harrell's Ferry Rd, Ste B
Baton Rouge, LA 70816

All prospective applicants should submit their proposal no later than 3:00 PM CST on January 8, 2024. Please direct any questions to Sooraz Patro, Director of Transportation via email at spatro@crpcla.org.

A list of received questions and responses will be posted on our website at <http://crpcla.org/publicnotices>.