



Permian Basin Regional Planning Commission

PERMIAN BASIN REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

Request for Proposals

REGIONAL ECONOMIC RESILIENCY PLAN

Permian Basin Economic Development District
4-30-2021



Permian Basin Regional Planning Commission

MIDLAND INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT • P.O. BOX 60660 MIDLAND, TEXAS 79711-0660

**PERMIAN BASIN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT
CARES ECONOMIC RECOVERY 2020**

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

Permian Basin Regional Economic Resiliency Plan

The Permian Basin Regional Planning Commission (PBRPC), Economic Development District seeks a qualified firm or professional planner to conduct research and complete an economic recovery and resiliency planning tool for the region; with concentration on the opportunities for diversification of the transportation infrastructure previously built to support the oil and gas industries and the ancillary businesses that may benefit. The PBRPC planning region includes the counties of and the cities within Andrews, Borden, Crane, Dawson, Ector, Gaines, Glasscock, Howard, Loving, Martin, Midland, Pecos, Reeves, Terrell, Upton, Ward, Winkler. The planning project herein is funded by the U.S. Economic Development Administration, CARES Act.

BACKGROUND

The Permian Basin Regional Planning Commission is the local Council of Government serving seventeen counties, including twenty-eight incorporated cities and non-incorporated towns and census places of the Permian Basin region. The PBRPC operates federal and state funded programs and implements the related services throughout the region. These include 9-1-1 Emergency Communications, Criminal Justice Law Enforcement Academy, Homeland Security, Area Agency on Aging, and Regional Services. The Regional Services department operates Economic Development Administration (Economic Development District), U.S. Department of Transportation Pipeline Safety Administration, Texas Department of Agriculture, Texas Department of Environmental Quality and U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Utilities Solid Waste Management programs and services.

The PBRPC Economic Development District department is funded by the U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration. The PBRPC administers activities of the Permian Basin Economic Development District which works to address the region's economic development and resiliency activities. It provides technical assistance to communities where needed and serves as a regional contact for industry prospects; and works to connect EDA and other federal and state resource agencies with local communities in planning and realizing

public works and infrastructure projects. In addition, the PBRPC has formed a Rural Transportation Planning Organization to address the needs of rural communities not otherwise represented or benefiting as those existing in metropolitan planning organization.

The project herein described will enhance the Economic Development District's resources for planning and for assisting communities in resiliency planning. The Permian Basin Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy should be referenced at <http://www.pbrpc.org/pdfs/EDD/2015/2015-2020%20PB-CEDS.pdf>.

In 2020, the economic impacts sustained from the COVID-19 pandemic were immediately felt in the prominent drilling, oil service industry, and the transportation industry sectors of the Permian Basin. Business slow-down and a dramatic increase in unemployment immediately were evident as the pandemic began. As world governments and societies reacted, oil market prices plunged due to declining world demand and economic influences. Activity in the Permian Basin decreased, and unemployment spiked to unprecedented levels. In response, the U.S. Economic Development Administration provided the PBRPC resources to assist in the economic recovery and resilience building throughout the region. A major step in planning for employment recovery will require proper identification of local resources and assets; along with development of useful tools for local communities to utilize in planning for diversification and strengthening their economies. The rural communities, being the most disadvantaged in the Permian Basin, lack the technical expertise and funding to accomplish the adequate planning and development of asset mapping tools necessary for marketing and competing for new industry. In response, the PBRPC has dedicated a project to assist the rural areas of the region, with the primary objective of identifying and maximizing the opportunities of their existing transportation routes to trade corridor routes, resulting in opportunities for competition in recruitment and expansion of agriculture production, manufacturing, energy, distribution, and new industries for the Permian Basin.

The current and most recent studies and analysis of the transportation sector offered the PBRPC the resources necessary to realize the goals established as outlined above. To advance the region's interstate trade sector, and in an effort to enhance the highway infrastructure, the Texas Department of Transportation (TXDOT), (in coordination with the local leadership and transportation stakeholders of the region), planned and approved major expansion projects on I-20 through Midland and Ector Counties. And, in 2020, the agency completed the Permian Basin Energy Sector Transportation Feasibility Study. For the eastern Permian Basin area, TXDOT will soon finalize a feasibility study, analyzing and completing planning for a trade corridor with specific focus on extending I-27 from Lubbock, Texas to Laredo, TX. This will complete and improve the highway infrastructure necessary for international trade between Canada, United States and Mexico. Studies and plans indicate four Permian Basin counties are located directly on this Ports-to-Plains route. In addition, the inclusion of I-10, located through the southern area of the region and the connected corridor to Presidio, Texas and Ojinaga,

Mexico, the international trade expansion opportunities as outlined in the A La Entrada al Pacifico route are multiplied.

(Respondents should reference TxDOT Odessa District website: <https://www.txdot.gov/inside-txdot/projects/studies/odessa/permian-basin-regional-freight-and-energy-sector-transportation.html> and TxDOT Freight Planning Branch website <https://www.dot.state.tx.us/move-texas-freight/studies/default.htm#study2>. The TXDOT studies and other information found at the agency website offer a significant resource for local planning for highway use and diversification of the transportation industry throughout the region.

The PBRPC proposes to contract the services of a professional planner or entity to work under the supervision of the Executive Director, the Regional Services department, and with local communities, to gather data and identify the rural communities' most beneficial connective routes to the urban areas of Midland and Odessa, Interstate-20, Interstate-10, and the potential Interstate-27 corridor system. The research will also identify local assets including land availability, Opportunity Zones, public works infrastructure, utilities, zoning ordinances and other regulatory tools within municipalities and the flood plains areas that are considered in community and economic development planning. It will include resources (links) to the most current descriptions of community demographics and other characteristics.

The completed project will include geospatial mapping of the data or information accumulated and be made available for inclusion in the PBRPC Economic Development District webpage. By establishing integrated data layers, the PBRPC will be able to provide a standardized and useful online platform to identify specific local features that will illustrate the strengths and weaknesses associated with potential economic development expansion or new projects; and therefore, identify economic development scenarios and opportunities at preferred sites for industry site selectors and local developers.

SCOPE OF WORK

The contractor will work with the PBRPC Economic Development staff to realize the established goals as follows.

- Outreach community economic development professionals throughout the Permian Basin to promote the project, offer assistance and solicit participation in the project, allowing opportunity for input, suggestions, and agreement of scope of work for the project. (PBRPC will participate and facilitate meetings and outreach as necessary).
- Identify the interstate, state, and local routes, identifying the connecting roads and highways for rural counties and trade corridors, including mapping for each area.

- **For communities lacking an economic development entity**, identify land availability for development and new industry for local communities, based on feedback from local leadership.
- Identify land use availability, zoning, permitting, and Economic Opportunity Zones in each locale. Include land use restrictions and any related information to identify risks for mitigation and potential impacts that should be addressed. (final submission should include the internet links to economic development or community development sites where they exist).
- Prepare related data, information, including maps and geospatial information for each county; in web format suitable for the PBRPC website.
- Utilize the data and information available at the Texas Department of Transportation, Texas Workforce Commission/Permian Basin Workforce Development Board, Permian Basin Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy, and other current studies available at state and federal transportation agencies to identify the related data for the transportation sector and identify opportunities for diversification such as distribution centers and manufacturing.
- Provide project updates to the PBRPC Economic Development staff on a timely basis agreed upon by both parties. Provide project updates to the PBRPC Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee of the Economic Development District upon request by the PBRPC Economic Development staff.

RESPONDENT’S QUALIFICATIONS:

Proposals will be accepted from public or private industry planning professionals, economic development professionals and entities, and firms with adequate economic and community development and planning expertise.

CONTRACT TERMS:

Term period for any resulting contract or service agreement is expected to be June 2021 through March 31, 2022.

RFP SCHEDULE

ANNOUNCEMENT	April 30, 2021
Written Proposals Due	May 26, 2021
PBRPC Evaluation, Selection	June 1, 2021
Initiate Contract	June 15, 2021
Plan Due Date	February 28, 2022
Final Revisions Due	March 31, 2022

(The PBRPC reserves the right to modify the dates past the deadlines specified; all respondents will be notified)

Evaluation of Proposal

A. Proposals will be evaluated as follows:

<u>Criteria</u>	<u>Maximum Points</u>
Quality of Proposed Approach & Methodology	50
Demonstrated Capacity and Experience	30
Reasonableness of Cost	20

B. 10 Additional Administrative Points will be awarded for the respondent's proven professional experience and knowledge of the Permian Basin communities.

C. The minimum standards to be met if the proposal is to be evaluated include:

1. The proposal was submitted before the closing time and date.
2. The proposing organization is not on a Federal or State debarment list.
3. The proposing agency or consultant is fiscally solvent.
4. The person signing the proposal cover sheet as the submitting officer has the authority to do so.
5. The proposing agency agrees to meet all Federal, State, and local compliance requirements.

D. Evaluation is based on proposer's understanding of RFP and the project's background and scope of work, demonstrated capacity of staff involved in project, demonstrated experienced, proposed schedule, approach, and methodology proposed.

PROPOSAL SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Checklist: Attachment I

Cover Sheet: Attachment II.

PBRPC requests a not-to-exceed, ALL INCLUSIVE, fee estimate proposal. PBRPC will not be held responsible for costs incurred in preparation of proposals by respondents. PBRPC reserves the right to negotiate a final fee agreed upon by both parties.

Table of Contents:

The table of contents of the proposal should include a clear and complete identification of the materials submitted by section and page number.

Letter of Transmittal:

The letter of transmittal should include at least the following information:

1. An understanding of the PBRPC Economic Development Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) and the associated goal to address the region's need for economic resiliency planning in result of the economic impact of COVID-19 and the effect it has had on the economy of the Permian Basin.
2. A positive commitment to perform the service within the time period specified.
3. The names of person authorized to represent the respondent, title, address, and telephone number and email.
4. Reference to a sealed envelope that contains the all-inclusive fee for which the project work will be completed.

Narrative:

Proposal narrative should include project deliverables, proposed work plan and desired financial terms. Proposal should identify all proposal elements to be offered and provide a thorough description of how each of those elements will be provided. An estimated timeline is required for each component. Proposal should describe professional qualifications and capacity to meet the requirements of the project.

Certifications and Assurances

By submission of a proposal, the agency certifies that all information contained is true and correct and shall be open to verification; that all costs are real and necessary for the provision of the proposed services; and has the legal authority to enter into a binding agreement. By submitting this proposal, the proposer is providing the certification that the proposal is a material representation of fact upon which reliance is placed when PBRPC determines to enter into transaction, contract, or purchase agreement. The proposer also certifies that it shall provide immediate written notice to PBRPC if at any time the vendor learns that circumstances have changed with respect to debarment and suspension as defined by Executive Order 12549. If it is determined that the proposer knowingly rendered an erroneous certification, in addition to other remedies available to the State and Federal Government, PBRPC may terminate any transactions, contract or purchase agreement for cause or default.

All organizations awarded contracts will be required to provide assurances stating:

- A. Legal organizational status for entity respondents.
- B. Organization or any of its principal owners or partners are not barred from receiving state of federal funds.
- C. Funds will not be used for lobbying on behalf of this program.
- D. Compliance with Equal Employment Opportunity, Americans with Disability Act, Civil Rights Act 1964, and the regulations associated, Limited English Proficiency regulations and guidelines will be followed by both the PBRPC and the selected contractor.

Proposals should be clearly marked “Sealed proposal for PBRPC/EDD RFP 2021-01.” Proposals received after the submission deadline will be returned unopened and will not be considered under any circumstance. Faxed proposals will not be considered. Electronic copy submitted to Deanna Franco at DFranco@pbrpc.org, three (3) complete printed copies, and three (3) flash drives of the proposal are required.

NOTICE: Applicants may contact Deanna Franco, PBRPC procurement officer at Dfranco@pbrpc.org with questions and announce an intent to apply if desired. Questions submitted and responses will be posted at PBRPC.org daily for complete transparency and equal opportunity for applicants. Prospective proposers who have received this document from a source other than the PBRPC website or the Administrative Department should immediately contact Dfranco@pbrpc.org and provide their name, company, and e-mail address in order that addendum to the RFP or other communication can be sent to them. Any prospective proposers who fail to provide the PBRPC with this information assume complete responsibility in the event they do not receive communications from the PBRPC after the RFP issue date.

ATTACHMENT I – Proposal Checklist

Submission Requirements and Proposal Checklist

Each proposal package must contain the following components:

- A.  Table of Contents of Your Proposal
- B.  Cover Sheet
- C.  Letter of Transmittal
- D.  Proposal Check List
- E.  Proposal
- F.  All Required Signatures

