

Telephone: (401) 222-2023, Extension 4020.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The FHWA, in cooperation with the Rhode Island Department of Transportation, will prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) on a proposal to improve the US Route 6 / State Route 10 interchange in Providence, Rhode Island. The proposed project would involve the rehabilitation, reconstruction or replacement of U.S. Route 6 and State Route 10 for a distance of approximately one mile each.

The EIS will investigate the environmental and socioeconomic impacts of various routing options to improve the interchange considered necessary to address the deterioration of the existing structures and substandard geometry. Preliminary studies undertaken to date have identified the following options to be considered for further evaluations. The options under review include (1) taking no action; (2) rehabilitating the existing bridges; (3) replacing all components of the existing bridges on current location; (4) reconstructing the interchange on new location, construction of new bridges, and completing all movements of the interchange.

A scoping meeting to discuss the potential environmental impacts will be held at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, June 16, 2004, at Rhode Island Department of Administration, One Capitol Hill, Providence, Rhode Island 02903 in Conference Room A on the second floor. Written comments received within 30 days of the scoping meeting will be incorporated into the record.

In addition to the scoping meeting, public participation will continue throughout the EIS process. Public workshops will be held in Providence, and potentially in other affected communities, to discuss the proposed Environmental Impact Statement including all project options and issues. Written Comments will be incorporated into this NEPA scoping process.

In addition, a formal public hearing will be held to receive comments regarding the proposed Environmental Impact Statement. Public notice will be given of the time and place of the public hearing. The draft EIS will be available for public and agency review and comment prior to the public hearing.

Comments and suggestions regarding this proposed action and the EIS are requested from all interested parties and should be directed to the Rhode Island Department of Transportation, 2 Capitol Hill, Room 231-D, Providence, Rhode Island 02903.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Number 20.205, Highway Planning and Construction. The regulations implementing Executive Order 12372 regarding intergovernmental consultation on Federal programs and activities apply to this program.)

Issued on: May 7, 2004.

Lucy Garliauskas,

Division Administrator, Federal Highway Administration, Providence, Rhode Island.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Transit Administration

Request for Grant Proposals for Prototype Development and Testing of Transit Operations Decision Support Systems (TODSS) Core Functional Requirements

AGENCY: Federal Transit Administration (FTA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: FTA is issuing a request for grant proposals (RFP) for Prototype Development and Testing of Transit Operations Decision Support Systems (TODSS) Core Functional Requirements.

DATES: Request for grant proposals may be viewed at the Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) Transit Forums collaboration Web site (<http://www.mitrotek.org/ITSTransitforums>) in the "Transit Operations Decision Support Systems (TODSS): Prototype Development and Testing Forum." Proposals will be accepted immediately, as of the date of this notice. Proposals are due by 4 p.m., e.s.t. on Friday, July 31, 2004.

ADDRESSES: Proposals shall be addressed to Mr. Brian Cronin, Advanced Public Transportation Systems (APTS) Division, Room 9402, TRI-11, Federal Transit Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC 20590 and shall reference "TODSS Core Functional Requirement Prototype Development and Testing."

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Technical questions or concerns may be directed to Mr. Brian Cronin or Mr. Venkat Pindiprolu via phone at 202-366-4955 or via e-mail at todss@fta.dot.gov. Legal questions or concerns may be directed to Mr. James LaRusch via phone at 202-366-1936 or via e-mail at James.LaRusch@fta.dot.gov. Office hours are 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. e.s.t., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Transit Operations Decision Support Systems (TODSS) are systems designed to support dispatchers and others in real-time operations management in response to incidents, special events, and other changing conditions in order to improve operating speeds, reduce passenger wait times, and restore service when disruptions occur. In May 2003, FTA and ITS Joint Program Office (JPO) completed the "Transit Operations Decision Support Systems (TODSS): Core Functional Requirements for Identification of Service Disruptions and Provision of Service Restoration Options 1.0". Please visit the FTA ITS Transit TODSS collaboration website to view this document (<http://www.mitrotek.org/ITSTransitforums>). However, no installed system in the country now incorporates all of the TODSS core functional requirements for either service disruption identification or provisions of service restoration options. It was pointed out during the core requirements development that, without further proof-of-concept and prototype development and testing, it is unlikely that vendors will develop systems around them or a transit agency will incorporate the "core" functional requirements into a new system procurement. Consequently, this project provides support for implementing and testing the viability of the core requirements. The grantee is required to provide a 20-percent match. This grant solicitation is for joint participation (transit operating agency/vendor/others) proposals from transit operating agencies to implement and test the TODSS Core Functional Requirements.

The project provides support for development of the detailed functional requirements and system specific architecture and validity and verification testing of the core requirements. It is expected that the process will also be documented, and an evaluation of the core requirements with recommended changes and lessons learned be developed as a deliverable. The effort also includes presentations to, and feedback from, the TODSS working group and U.S. DOT staff (FTA and ITS JPO) at key milestones during the life of the project. FTA may select up to two prototype development sites for this effort.

Issued: May 7, 2004.

Jennifer L. Dorn,
Administrator.

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