

Missouri  
Department  
of Transportation



Kevin Keith, Director

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January 13, 2011

Dear Research Partner:

The Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission requests proposals from qualified organizations—namely private consultants, universities, and research organizations—to furnish professional engineering services as described in the following request for proposal to be coordinated by the Organizational Results (OR) unit.

Please submit a proposal for project TRyy1128 entitled, “Missouri State Rail Plan”. Your submittal must include a work plan, the proposed project team and its background, and any related projects now active or recently completed by your firm. The project team must be led by a licensed professional engineer in the state of Missouri and the final report must be sealed, in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 327 RSMo.

The selection committee will use Qualification Based Selection. A “not to exceed” budget amount is included in the RFP to assist with the required scope, but budgets are not to be included with the proposal submissions, and will not be presented to the selection committee.

Please deliver all proposals to the OR Contract Administrator indicated in the attachment by February 14, 2011. More information about project contracting in general can be found at: [www.modot.mo.gov/services/OR/orRFP.htm](http://www.modot.mo.gov/services/OR/orRFP.htm).

Sincerely,

Mara Campbell  
Organizational Results Director

Request For Proposals (RFP)  
**Project Specific Requirements:**

This document contains information and requirements for only this RFP. A “Standard Requirements” document contains additional needs for all research proposals and contracting. Submitters should review both this document and the Standard Requirements document, available from the OR Contract Administrator (identified at the end of this document) or: [www.modot.org/services/OR/orTemplates.htm](http://www.modot.org/services/OR/orTemplates.htm)

**TRyy1128**  
**Missouri State Rail Plan**

**Background:**

On July 1, 2010, the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) issued a Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) for the High-Speed Intercity Passenger Rail (HSIPR) Program in the Federal Register. In response, the Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) submitted an application to develop the Missouri State Rail Plan (the State Rail Plan) to be consistent with and contain all elements required under Chapter 227 of Title 49 of United States Code, as enacted in the Passenger Rail Investment and Improvement Act of 2008. FRA reviewed MoDOT’s application for eligibility and ranking with the criteria outlined in the NOFA. On the basis of this evaluation, FRA selected the State of Missouri for an award amount, through a cooperative agreement between FRA and MoDOT, of \$500,000 for this Project.

Missouri’s last state rail plan was prepared in 2002 and focused primarily only on an inventory of rail assets. Recently, Missouri’s rail sector underwent a significant transformation. Railroads in Missouri became economic engines after the passage of the Staggers Act in the 1980’s and this transformation has continued to this day. The passenger rail system on the state-supported line evolved from a poor representative of the service to a national leader. Missouri developed its rail infrastructure with projects such as the Sheffield Flyover and the Argentine Connection in the Kansas City area, as well as applications for projects developing high speed intercity passenger rail service on the St Louis - Kansas City line. Studies were performed including a short-line study that demonstrated new freight possibilities for an almost abandoned line in the Columbia area and economic analyses for various proposed passenger rail projects. However, there has never been a comprehensive synthesis of these projects all pulled together to make a complete and total plan for how to achieve freight and passenger benefits and make them a part of an overarching plan for Missouri. The new state rail plan will take a comprehensive approach and will also be the state’s leading comments in relation to the formation of the National Rail Plan, which is currently being assembled.

The State Rail Plan, therefore, will be extremely important to the future of rail in Missouri. The State Rail Plan establishes a statewide vision, sets priorities, develops implementation strategies

to enhance rail service in the public interest, and will serve as a roadmap for federal and state rail investments within the state for high speed and intercity passenger rail, commuter rail and freight rail projects. The vision, priorities and implementation strategies will support the State's goal of an integrated, multimodal transportation system, as reflected in the statewide transportation plan. The Plan is a total look at all railroad issues in Missouri, including a comprehensive view of all existing rail inventory of all types and all rail-related inventory and equipment. Freight railroads have a long history in Missouri and are a large part of the state's economy. Missouri currently has 19 separate railroads on more than 4,000 miles of mainline track and more than 7,000 miles of total track. Missouri has about 3,800 crossings and nearly 3,000 private crossings. Kansas City and St. Louis, respectively, are the nation's second and third largest rail centers. Missouri is one of only a few other states to have at least four Class I railroads run through it.

Missouri has numerous rail resources that many other states do not. Passenger railroad service includes two national routes run by Amtrak, and a state-supported route, and there are several tourist railroads. Missouri is an active participant in the FRA's state participation program for rail safety inspectors and has shown itself to be a national leader in crossing improvements and cost-share projects for improving safety. The goal, however, is to go beyond being only a safety or passenger rail-related agency to a total rail-centered agency taking into account all factors that affect rail and rail service and working to improve them.

The objective for the planning project of a state rail plan is to establish a statewide vision for passenger and freight rail, set the states' priorities for achieving this vision and develop an implementation strategy to enhance rail service in the public interest. This plan will serve as Missouri's roadmap for federal and state rail investments for high speed and intercity passenger rail, commuter rail and freight rail projects by compiling, synthesizing, planning reorganizing and developing a course of action for the future of all railroads in Missouri. The objective also includes maintaining active and intense relationships with the railroads to make the state a premier place for railroads to both operate and locate in for a long time to come. As the sponsoring agency, the Missouri Department of Transportation is a total-transportation agency and is working to make railroads, all other modes of travel and freight transportation an integral part of the state's total transportation package.

### **Project Requirements and Deliverables:**

The Missouri State Rail Plan is a multifaceted dynamic document that will consist of 1) an inventory of current status of all rail-related issues in Missouri, 2) a comprehensive long-range plan to improve rail policy, 3) a method to increase funding, 4) a guidebook for future investment and economic development that is rail-related, and 5) a method to allocate funding on proposed projects that extend and enhance rail service in Missouri and connect to other states' rail networks in the most efficient and effective way possible. It will also form the basis for state, federal and private investment in Missouri's rail network. It will be consistent with and contain all elements required under Chapter 227 of Title 49 of United States Code, as enacted in PRIIA, and the Preliminary State Rail Plan Outline provided by FRA (attached).

MoDOT created a State Rail Plan Advisory Committee to kick-off the initial rail planning efforts. The following is the vision statement developed by the Committee:

**Vision: “Missouri’s rail vision is to provide safe, environmentally-friendly transportation options supporting efficient movement of freight and passengers, while strengthening communities and advancing global competitiveness through intermodal connectivity.”**

The consultant selected to develop this plan will work with MoDOT to build upon this vision to emphasize and support Missouri’s statewide transportation vision, set priorities and develop implementation strategies to enhance rail service in the public interest, and will serve as a roadmap for federal and state rail investments within the state for high speed and intercity passenger rail, commuter rail and freight rail projects.

The Detailed Planning Project Workplan tasks will be overseen by the Multimodal Division of MoDOT with the assistance of the department’s pertinent divisions, including the district offices, the right of way division, environmental division and the transportation planning division. Further consultation on plan oversight will be assisted by the Federal Railroad Administration regional and national offices, the FHWA and the state Departments of Natural Resources and Economic Development.

A consultant will be selected using an open and available bidding process that follows routine department procedures.

The project will include the following key tasks. A more detailed description of the tasks to be performed can be found in the attached Detailed Planning Project Workplan.

### **Task 1 – Project Preparation**

MoDOT, in coordination with FRA, will finalize the requirements for the State Rail Plan and hire a consultant to draft the plan. MoDOT will also initiate public outreach on the Plan by means of a survey.

Subtask 1.1: Finalize the Detailed Planning Project Workplan

Subtask 1.2: Award contract for State Rail Plan to selected consultant after competitive procurement process

Subtask 1.3: Conduct key public outreach activities

#### Task 1 Deliverables:

- Detailed Planning Project Workplan and Schedule
- Contract for State Rail Plan
- Materials and presentations for key outreach activities
- Analysis of results from key public outreach activities

## **Task 2 – Prepare Draft State Rail Plan**

MoDOT, in conjunction with the selected consultant, will prepare a Draft State Rail Plan. The process to draft the Rail Plan will include the following approaches:

### *Subtask 2.1: Inventory Freight and Passenger Rail Networks*

- Describe the current supply of freight and passenger rail services.
- Describe the current demand for rail services; the role of rail in the state, regional, and national economy; and rail's impact on Missouri communities.
- Describe growth trends and structural changes in the state, regional, and national economy and forecasts of the demand for freight transportation over the next 10 and 20 years.
- Illustrate how specific rail bottlenecks and operational issues affect logistics, decisions and costs, and the efficiency of specific industry sectors.

### *Subtask 2.2: Evaluate Missouri's Rail Capacity*

- Summarize the institutional, operational and infrastructure constraints to the efficient movement of current and future freight-rail, short-line and passenger rail traffic.
- Provide recommendations to invest private and public funds for pertinent state rail projects.
- Develop a preliminary list of capacity-enhancing project alternatives.
- Recommend approach to integrate freight and passenger planning

### *Subtask 2.3: Analyze Improving Rail Capacity in Missouri*

- Continue to Inventory and enhance Freight and Passenger Networks
- Describe operating strategies and issues of the railroads, ports, metropolitan planning organizations and regional planning commissions, and a preliminary list of operational improvements.

### *Subtask 2.4: Seek Public Input*

- Continue outreach efforts initiated in Task 1
- Gather public input from interviews, workshops, listening sessions and social media forums.

### *Subtask 2.5: Analyze Safe and Environmentally Responsible Initiatives and Funding Opportunities for Missouri's Rail Program*

- Identify Safety, Security and Environmental issues
- Identify state and national initiatives and funding opportunities for rail improvement projects.

### *Subtask 2.6: Develop Economic Modeling for Investing in Missouri's Rail System*

- Develop economic model
- Establish Investment Needs

- Develop a summary of the rationale for Missouri investment in freight and passenger rail.
- Develop a methodology and tools to evaluate alternative policies and projects under restricted budgets
- Identify Respective Roles of Private vs. Public Sectors

*Subtask 2.7: Develop Guidance and Policy Selection*

- Develop Institutional Guidance
- Describe policy and project investments to support proposed projects.

*2.8: Complete Comprehensive Review of Missouri's Rail Assets*

- Develop a state rail asset management plan with descriptions of a business-based asset management approach for an inventory (and future vision) of Missouri rail infrastructure, operation and investment to include goals and strategies.

*Subtask 2.9: Complete Summary and Proposed Deployment*

- Report compilation and completion
- Produce recommendations to maintain, develop and support a comprehensive state rail plan that includes a methodology of proposed improvement strategies, possible private and public investments, and a detailed program with projects.

Task 2 Deliverables:

- Draft State Rail Plan
- Materials and presentations for key outreach activities
- Analysis of results from key public outreach activities

**Task 3: Prepare Final State Rail Plan**

MoDOT and the selected consultant will jointly review and evaluate comments received on the Draft State Rail Plan. From stakeholder and public comment, MoDOT will determine changes to be made to the Draft State Rail Plan to create the Final State Rail Plan. In cooperation with MoDOT, the selected consultant will make any necessary changes to produce the Final State Rail Plan, which will also be submitted to FRA.

Task 3 Deliverable:

- Materials and presentations for key outreach activities
- Analysis of results from key public outreach activities
- Final State Rail Plan

**Interim Presentation:** An Interim presentation shall be scheduled near the mid-point of the project to update MoDOT (and if necessary the State Rail Plan Advisory Committee) on the progress and the direction of the project. This is in addition to the necessary communication between the Principal Investigator(s) and MoDOT contacts throughout the project. The purpose

of the interim presentation is to evaluate the progress and determine if any mid-project corrections are necessary.

### **Project Schedule:**

The following is an estimate of the project timeline or information on key dates within the project, presuming the pre-contracting work begins by March 1, 2011 and the contract becomes effective no later than March 31, 2011. Proposals need to include a work plan with a proposed timeline. While alternative timelines will be considered, an extension is unlikely. The project timeline will be finalized during the contracting phase.

**Last working day of each quarter:** Quarterly updates on work accomplished during the quarter are due on or before the last working day of March, June, September, and December during the course of the project.

#### Task 1:

- Detailed Planning Project Workplan to include Budget and Schedule: March 1, 2011 to March 11, 2011
- Contract for State Rail Plan: March 14, 2011 to March 25, 2011
- Conduct Key Public Outreach Activities: April 11, 2011 to February 29, 2012

#### Task 2:

- Draft State Rail Plan: March 16, 2011 to December 30, 2011
- Review of Draft State Rail Plan: January 3, 2012 to February 15, 2012

#### Task 3

- Finalize State Rail Plan: February 16, 2012 to February 29, 2012

**January 3, 2012:** A presentation is required. The contractor will present the results, recommendations, and implementation ideas to MoDOT, the State Rail Plan Advisory Committee, and possibly other stakeholders. Contractor will coordinate location, date, and meeting fees with MoDOT. For stakeholder and agency participants, any travel and lodging fees are to be covered by individual attendees or their firms. MoDOT and stakeholders will provide feedback to the contractor, especially related to implementation.

(For report templates and a standard form see: [www.modot.org/services/OR/orTemplates.htm](http://www.modot.org/services/OR/orTemplates.htm).)

**March 31, 2012:** Final invoice is due.

**March 31, 2012:** Contract ends.

### **Special Notes:**

Project budget is not to exceed \$500,000. A budget is not to be included in the proposal, but will be required for the contract and must be within this limit.

Reporting templates and standard report forms are available from the OR Contract Administrator or the web site: [www.modot.org/services/OR/orTemplates.htm](http://www.modot.org/services/OR/orTemplates.htm)

### **RFP Requirements:**

- Proposals must be no more than **10** pages with a font size no less than 11 points. This length limit does not include forms or resumes attached to the proposal.
- The “Standard Requirements” document provides further details and links to the required forms. It is available from the OR Contract Administrator or at: [www.modot.org/services/OR/orTemplates.htm](http://www.modot.org/services/OR/orTemplates.htm)
- Proposals will be evaluated by an agency and stakeholder team with knowledge and backgrounds in relevant areas for this project. Selection of the successful proposer will be based on the proposer’s demonstrated knowledge in the required areas, the merit of the proposed methods and approach in achieving the desired goals, the experience and qualifications of the team, the plan for ensuring implementation of results, and the adequacy and availability of team members to complete the work in a timely manner.

### **RFP Schedule:**

The following timeline must be met for a proposal to be accepted.

<b>Date:</b>	<b>Action:</b>
January 13, 2011	MoDOT posts RFP to the website: <a href="http://www.modot.mo.gov/services/OR/orRFP.htm">www.modot.mo.gov/services/OR/orRFP.htm</a>
January 21, 2011	Written comments or questions must be submitted to OR Contract Administrator.
January 28, 2011	MoDOT will post written responses publicly on the website: <a href="http://www.modot.mo.gov/services/OR/orRFP.htm">www.modot.mo.gov/services/OR/orRFP.htm</a>
February 14, 2011	Written proposals must be submitted to OR Contract Administrator.
February 28, 2011	MoDOT will notify submitters about project selection, or if needed, about interviews to finalize selection.

### **Contracting Requirements:**

- The successful team will be required to complete additional documentation and enter into a contract such as a “Standard Research Agreement” or “Task Order.” Applicants should be aware of these additional needs so contracting can proceed in a timely manner.

- Standard contracts, forms, attachment templates and additional information are available from the OR Contract Administrator or the web site:  
[www.modot.org/services/OR/orTemplates.htm](http://www.modot.org/services/OR/orTemplates.htm)

### **Contact Information:**

Proposals must be either hand delivered by close of business; or faxed, emailed, or mailed by midnight (Central Standard Time) according to time stamp or postmark; on the due date indicated below. Please reference the project title since more than one RFP may be due at one time. Electronic proposals are encouraged. They may be faxed or emailed to the OR Contract Administrator:

[Karmen.Stockman@modot.mo.gov](mailto:Karmen.Stockman@modot.mo.gov)

Fax: 573-526-4324

Proposal packages suitable for duplicating may be submitted by mail or hand delivery to:

Organizational Results Contract Administrator

Missouri Department of Transportation

830 MoDOT Drive

PO Box 270

Jefferson City, MO 65109

## Attachment

FRA developed the following preliminary outline to be used as a template for drafting state rail plans. The consultant shall use this structure in preparing the document.

- Executive Summary
- Chapter 1 – “State Name” Transportation System

Identify the state's goals for multimodal system, the role of rail within that system, and current freight and passenger rail activities

- Chapter 2 - Existing “State Name” Rail System

Provide text, maps and graphics depicting the existing freight and passenger system, including rail companies, corridors, termini, stations, etc. Identify the current operating objectives for freight and passenger rail and the system performance per the metrics outlines in PRIIA 207 metrics. Discuss the institutional structure of the rail program, ongoing safety and security programs, and a general analysis of the economic and environmental impacts of rail within the state

- Chapter 3 - Passenger Rail Improvements and Investments

Summarize all passenger rail proposals under consideration for commuter and intercity markets. Organize by corridor to include service changes, how these would address deficiencies identified in chapter 2, capital costs, timing, phasing and funding, public and private benefit, and supporting studies and reports

- Chapter 4 - Freight Rail Improvements and Investments

Summarize all passenger freight proposals under consideration for commuter and intercity markets. Organize by railroad company and corridor to include service changes, how these would address deficiencies identified in chapter 2, capital costs, timing, phasing and funding, public and private benefit, and supporting studies and reports

- Chapter 5 – “State Name” Rail Service and Investment Program

Describe the vision of rail in the state and how it relates to national rail plan and regional plans. Detail the rail agencies, supporting legislation, and new rail programs within the state. Describe the 5-yr and 20-yr rail program effects on state transportation, rail capacity and congestion, other modes, safety and congestion, energy and GHG, environmental, economic and employment conditions, and the distribution of benefits to communities in terms of livability. Provide specific information for the passenger element to include financing plan, service, and 5 and 20-yr public private benefits. Provide specific information for the freight element to include financing plan and 5 and

20-yr public private benefits. Identify additional rail studies needed. Detail 5 and 20-yr passenger and freight capital projects

- Chapter 6 - Coordination and Review

Describe the public and agency participation approach, how interested parties participated in the plan development, how their recommendations were addressed in process, and how rail planning is coordinated with other state transportation planning and programs, including Section 135 of Title 23