



Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe

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fsst-nsn.gov

Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe Regional Transit Project REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS – MARKET STUDY SERVICES

The Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe (the “Tribe”) is in the process of taking bids to assess the needs and feasibility associated with the development of a regional transit program (the “Project”) for Tribal community members. Bids can be submitted starting Monday, October 7, 2024, until close of business Friday, November 15, 2024. Bids will be opened on Tuesday, December 3, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. at the FSST Tribal Office in Flandreau, South Dakota.

Sealed proposals with the contents as described herein must be sent to the following address and received by the appropriate officer no later than the deadline described above:

ATTN: Philip Allen
Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe
P.O. Box 283
Flandreau, SD 57028

Any questions regarding this Project may be directed to Philip Allen; Roads, Transportation, and Fleet Manager, at (605) 573-4209 or by email at philip.allen@fsst-nsn.gov.

Late bids will not be considered, and costs for preparation of proposals will be borne by the applicants. Please note this Request for Proposals (“RFP”) does not constitute an offer of employment or contract for services—the Tribe reserves the option to accept or reject any proposals. Any contract awarded pursuant to this RFP will incorporate the requirements and specifications contained in this RFP.

Project Description

The goal of the proposed Project is to assess and address the need and feasibility of a tribal transit authority to provide for the mobility needs of transit-dependent population residing within the service area(s) of the Tribe. These areas will include all of Moody and Brookings Counties and parts of Minnehaha County. The purpose of the proposed transit authority will be to provide transportation to connect dependent populations to healthcare, education, employment, shopping, recreation and cultural activities that will increase the quality of life and opportunities for families residing on or near the reservation. “On or near” is defined as within a 50 mile radius of the reservation. Families seeking education/training, employment and/or affordable housing and healthcare must travel off the reservation for the majority of these needs as they are not readily available in the Tribe’s rural community. The elderly, disabled, youth, and low-income represent

the majority of the transit-dependent population groups. A rural/regional transit system will also provide a very much needed service to those who need daily transportation for work or post high school education and training and cannot afford reliable private transportation and the additional costs associated with owning a vehicle (insurance, repairs, and maintenance and replacement parts).

Scope of Work

The awarded Contractor's scope of work will consist of two phases:

- (1) **Phase I:** to assess the potential of developing a tribal regional transit authority inclusive of need for service to identification and quantification of target populations(s) to be served by geographic location(s) within FSST service area (Minnehaha, Moody and Brookings Counties), number of routes needed, schedules, miles, locations, days/hours of service, etc.
- (2) **Phase II:** to determine financial feasibility of sustaining an independent tribal region transit facility inclusive of equipment, infrastructure, workforce needs and regulatory requirements; or as a hybrid model that includes co-location options with other transit services in the region and/or memorandums of agreements, etc.

The final work product will be a comprehensive Tribal Transit Study inclusive of necessary draft transit ordinances, codes, policies and procedures for formal adoption that are based upon the needs identified by all key stakeholders.

Submission Requirements

All Proposals will be sealed within one package and clearly marked as "Proposal for FSST Regional Transit Project – Market Study." The contents of each sealed Proposal must contain the following:

- (1) Cover Letter, including Company Profile and Point of Contact; and
- (2) Statement of Company's Understanding of the Scope of Work; and
- (3) Statement of Company's Experience with Performing the Work Requested; and
- (4) Cost Proposal for Scope of Work; and
- (5) Projected Timeline of Company's Performance of the Scope of Work; and
- (6) Statement of Company's Connection/Affiliation to the Tribe or tribal community, if existing; and
- (7) Any additional information Company finds relevant for the Project or Scope of Work.