



Regional Transportation Commission of Southern Nevada
CALL FOR PLANNING STUDY PARTNERS:
Southern Nevada Strong (SNS) Livable Centers Study
(This is not a request for proposals from consultant firms.)

RELEASE DATE: Wednesday, November 1, 2017
PRE-SUBMITTAL MEETING: Wednesday, November 15, 2017, 8:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.
PROPOSAL DUE DATE: Monday, December 11, 2017 by 2:00 p.m.
AWARD ANNOUNCED: Tuesday, December 19, 2017

Background

The Regional Transportation Commission of Southern Nevada (RTC) is seeking proposals from local governments to conduct a Southern Nevada Strong (SNS) Livable Centers Study. A Livable Centers Study is an area plan to develop quality, walkable, mixed-use places, increase multi-modal travel choices, improve environmental quality, and promote economic development, housing choices, and better health outcomes. The Livable Centers program incentivizes local jurisdictions to re-envision communities as vibrant, walkable communities that offer increased mobility options, encourage healthy lifestyles and provide improved access to jobs and services. The program promotes the integration of local land use and transportation decisions. Livable Centers studies are developed through stakeholder engagement over an approximately one year planning period.

Livable Centers support the goals and strategies of the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). Recommendations will address enhancements to multi-modal transportation, improved access to essential services, and engaging in a transparent planning process. Study recommendations will be eligible for inclusion in the RTP and potential future implementation funding.

The Livable Centers program is a strategy to achieve the goals of the Southern Nevada Strong Regional Plan (SNS). The SNS vision includes *improving economic competitiveness, investing in complete communities, increasing transportation choice, and building capacity for implementation*. SNS provides guidance for the creation of livable centers including the following objectives:

- *Develop and expand community-based economic development and reinvestment to support vibrant transit-supported mixed-use districts throughout the region;*
- *Develop housing and employment in mixed-use transit-oriented neighborhoods near job centers, schools and other services; and*
- *Integrate future land use planning with existing and future transportation improvements.*

For more information on the Livable Centers program, please visit <http://www.rtcnv.com/livablecenters>.



Eligibility

1. This call for planning studies is limited to local governments. The local jurisdiction and the RTC will co-manage the development of the study. Project partners must designate a jurisdiction representative to serve as jurisdiction project manager to lead the consultant team.
2. The proposed study must be located within Clark County, Nevada.
3. If the applicant is not the primary owner of the streets and sidewalks in the study area, the applicant must provide a letter of support from the owning agency (i.e. the city or county that owns and operates the streets and sidewalks).

Funding Availability

The RTC will identify one (1) Livable Centers study during fiscal year 2018 with up to \$200,000 in funding. (A second study will be funded in FY2019, through a separate call for projects.) Project sponsors must indicate their proposed funding level. The RTC reserves the right to negotiate a final budget amount for each study based on the study scope and available funding levels.

Project Evaluation and Selection

Proposals will be evaluated by a project selection committee comprised of staff from the RTC, Southern Nevada Strong (SNS), the Southern Nevada Health District (SNHD), and a representative from the Houston-Galveston Area Council's Livable Centers Program. The RTC reserves the right to make all final decisions and to withdraw this call for planning studies.

Pre-Submittal Meeting

A pre-submittal meeting for potential sponsors will be held at the RTC Administration Building at 600 S. Grand Central Parkway, Room 296 on **Wednesday, November 15, 2017 from 8:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.** Project partners are *not* required to attend this meeting. The meeting will be an opportunity to learn more about the Livable Centers Study program and ask questions regarding this call for project partners. **This is not a meeting for consultant firms.**

Application Deadline & Submittal

All submittals must be received by RTC no later than **2:00 p.m., Monday, December 11, 2017.** Any submissions received after this deadline will not receive further consideration.

Jurisdictions may submit more than one project proposal. Please provide one complete application for each candidate planning study. Applicants must submit applications electronically via email to Cathy Halka at halkac@rtcsonv.com.

Part I: Application Form

Please complete this form and include with application. Typed responses are encouraged.

General Project Information:	
Sponsoring agency:	
Contact person:	
Mailing address:	
Phone number:	
Email address:	
Title of proposed project:	
Study area location and boundaries (include a map):	
Size of study area (sq. miles):	
Study Scale: Please select area of interest that best describes the Livable Centers project study area: <input type="checkbox"/> Downtown/Urban Core: High density area with mixed land uses and a traditional street grid. <input type="checkbox"/> Town Centers: Major activity center with commercial and office, some regional significance. <input type="checkbox"/> Employment Centers: Areas of concentrated employment or other major trip generators. <input type="checkbox"/> Corridor/Main Street: Roadways classified as major collectors or higher with potential for multi-modal accessibility and connectivity to major centers or transit facilities. <input type="checkbox"/> Neighborhood Center: Residential area with commercial and/or office uses as well as community services.	
Agencies with responsibilities for roadways / properties in the study area:	
Related local plans:	
Requested project funding:	\$

Part II: Application Narrative: The application narrative should be submitted in typed format using the general outline provided below. Exhibits such as maps, charts, and photographs are not required, but may be included as separate attachments, or preferable for large files, as links. Application should not exceed 10 pages and should be formatted on letter-sized paper. Selection of a project will be determined by a committee based on percentages below.

A. Project Description/Scope (20% of total score):

1. The potential impact of the study will be measured by the project description, which should describe the goals and vision of the project and how these goals relate to local/regional planning efforts. This description should discuss the need and purpose of the project as well as the desired outcomes.
2. The project description should include a description of the study area location and boundaries, including a map of the proposed study area.
3. The area of interest, project scale, and regional significance of the study will also be considered.

B. Fulfilling Program Goals (60% of total score):

For each Livable Centers program goals below, please describe how the proposed study will help fulfill the indicated goals and objectives.

1. Create multi-modal travel choices (20%):

Enhanced multimodal connectivity can increase access to jobs, housing, healthcare, shopping, schools, and other community amenities.

- Project will enhance multimodal connectivity with existing neighborhoods and developments.
- Project will provide an accessible pedestrian/bicyclist environment.
- Project will strengthen accessibility to transit.
- Project will improve pedestrian/bicyclist safety.

2. Enhance quality of life (10%):

Quality of life ensures people can live safely and equitably and have access to what they need and want.

- Project has the potential to positively transform the project area.
- Project outlines a community engagement plan.
- Project will facilitate or incentivize an improvement in the range of housing options in the project area. **(Projects meeting this criterion will receive 5 extra points).**

3. Improve environmental quality (10%):

Compact, mixed use activity centers can reduce car trips and provide shared recreational areas.

- Project has the potential for air quality improvements from mode shift.
- Project seeks to integrate green space and preserve natural resources.

4. Promote a strong and vibrant economy (10%):

A diversity of uses and a variety of ways to get around makes for a stronger, more resilient local economy.

- Project efficiently uses existing infrastructure.
- Project has potential to serve as a catalyst for investment and development.
- Project connects existing land uses and identifies new land uses opportunities to help local economies thrive.

5. Improve public health (10%):

Linking land use and transportation decisions can have a positive impact on health and wellness in our communities.

- Project can make an impact on the community's health outcomes including physical activity, access to healthy food, and access to recreational opportunities.
- Project can overcome barriers within the study area that may prevent opportunities for active transportation and active play

C. Ability to Implement (20% of total score):

The ability to implement the project will be measured by the level of commitment demonstrated, including: the sponsor's ability to successfully complete the project in the allocated time, stakeholder involvement, prior implementation record, the potential for identification of and advancement of implementation projects, and the ability of the project partner to track the implementation of study recommendations by type and funding amount after the completion of the study.

Please describe or document the support of the project partner and other potential project partners. Demonstration of local/community support may include but is not limited to:

- Description of staff and/or departments of the project partner that will be involved in coordinating the overall study effort.
- Description of support from key project partner officials (such as city council members, agency leaders, etc.). Please list names, titles, and entity.
- Letters of support from community or neighborhood groups, partner agencies, local businesses, or other stakeholders (please include in Part III Attachments).
- Local plans or other studies that have identified livable center and/or special district program goals as a community or neighborhood priority (i.e. local visioning exercise, comprehensive plan, or other study).

Part III: Attachments

A. Letters of Support – Partnering Agency

Please attach letters of support from leaders in the partnering agency such as elected officials, city manager, and or department directors. *If the partnering agency is not the*

primary owner of the streets and sidewalks in the study area, include a letter of support from the owning agency (i.e. the city (or state) that owns and operates the streets and sidewalks).

B. Letters of Support – General

Please attach letters of support from elected officials, property owners, business owners, community leaders, and others who may play a role in the implementation of study recommendations.