

# FY 2024 CALL FOR STUDIES



The Regional Planning Commission Technical Advisory Committee is conducting its annual Call for Studies for the FY 2025 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP).

Interested, eligible sponsors should fill out the form found on the RPC TAC's website:

<https://www.norpc.org/transportation/committees/tac/>

Submittals must be received by November 3, 2023.

## Important Dates

- August 4, 2023  
Call for Studies
- November 3, 2023  
Submissions Due
- January 6, 2023  
Selected Studies Announced
- January – April 2024  
RPC staff will work with study sponsors to refine study scopes
- July 1, 2024  
Beginning of FY 2025, studies can be advertised
- June 30, 2025  
End of FY 2025, studies should be concluded

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### WHAT KIND OF STUDIES?

As the Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Greater New Orleans region, RPC conducts studies that identify ways to improve the safety, usability, and effectiveness of our transportation system.

Corridor and sub-area studies should consider the needs of all roadway users, accessibility to jobs and services, reduction of single-occupant vehicle use, and benefits to traditionally disadvantaged communities. Studies may focus on infrastructure resilience, traffic circulation, public transportation, bicycle & pedestrian planning, and freight, movement, or other aspects of the transportation system.

Corridors, sub-areas, or other planning subject locations must be within the New Orleans, Mandeville-Covington, Hammond, or Slidell Metropolitan Planning Areas. Descriptions of the types of planning work RPC conducts and maps of the planning areas can be found in the FY 2024 Unified Planning Work Program: <https://www.norpc.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/FY24UPWP-1.pdf>

## WHO CAN APPLY?

Applicants must be an official representative or department within a Local Public Agency (LPA). LPAs are defined by 23 CFR 635 as "...any city, county, township, municipality, or other political subdivision that may be empowered to cooperate with the state transportation department in highway matters."

## WHAT IF I'M NOT AN LPA?

If you don't meet the definition of an LPA you're encouraged to reach out to an LPA who may be able to act as a study sponsor. If you're not sure who you could or should partner with, please contact us.

## HOW DOES THIS WORK?

Studies will be conducted by a qualified consultant team, whose services will be selected and procured by RPC following appropriate state and federal procedures. RPC's professional staff will manage the project with the assistance of a project management team, which will include the local LPA and other stakeholders as needed.

## WHO IS PAYING FOR THIS?

Studies are funded through the Federal Highway Administration's PL Program or the Federal Transit Administration's 5303 Program. These programs provide funding to MPOs for planning assistance. Both programs will cover 80% of the cost of a planning study. The other 20% must be provided with local funding.

## WHEN WILL THE STUDY BE DONE?

Studies should be completed within the fiscal year, i.e., done by June 30, 2025.

## WHAT HAPPENS AFTER A STUDY?

Every significant transportation project undertaken by RPC began with a study. Once a study has identified a feasible solution to a transportation problem, RPC will begin working with the local sponsor, as well as our federal and state partners, to identify potential funding and a timeline for project implementation.

## I STILL HAVE QUESTIONS.

Great! RPC staff are happy to answer any questions you may have about the Call for Studies process. Call 504-483-8507 or email [jsappington@norpc.org](mailto:jsappington@norpc.org) for more information.