



## NORTHWEST ARKANSAS REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

1311 Clayton St., Springdale, Arkansas, 72762

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### NWARPC REQUEST FOR LETTERS OF INTEREST – NWARPC FIVE-YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN

April 10, 2026

The Northwest Arkansas Regional Planning Commission (NWARPC) is soliciting Letters of Interest (LOI) from qualified firms to develop a concise, actionable Five-Year Strategic Plan that will guide the agency's priorities, programs, and resource allocation. NWARPC serves as the federally designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for Northwest Arkansas and functions as a Council of Governments supporting regional collaboration across 39 units of governments. The region continues to experience rapid growth, increasing multimodal needs, and expanding expectations for coordinated regional planning.

The Strategic Plan will clarify NWARPC's near-term direction, strengthen alignment across programs, and provide a practical implementation roadmap. This effort will build directly on the extensive public engagement and regional priorities established through the recently adopted *Forward 2050 Regional Transportation Plan*. The Strategic Plan will translate this long-range vision into a focused, five-year organizational roadmap that aligns staff capacity, programs, and resources with the region's evolving needs. As part of this work, the consultant will also conduct a high-level organizational readiness assessment to identify capability, process, and structural considerations that may influence NWARPC's ability to carry out the Strategic Plan, highlighting areas that may warrant deeper analysis in a future effort.

The consultant will deliver a strategic priorities framework, draft and final versions of the Strategic Plan, an implementation roadmap, and an organizational readiness memo summarizing key diagnostic findings. Final deliverables will also include recommendations to guide the scope and sequencing of any future organizational transformation work or other needs identified through this process.

#### **SUBMITTAL REQUIREMENTS:**

Interested firms must furnish:

1. A cover letter including the firm's response and primary contact information.
2. Information describing the firm's experience with similar work.
3. A completed Architect-Engineer Qualifications Standard Form (SF) 330 Parts I and II (48 CFR §53.236-2(b)). The SF 330 is available at: [https://www.ardot.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/SF330\\_12\\_31\\_2020.pdf](https://www.ardot.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/SF330_12_31_2020.pdf)
4. A current copy of the firm's equal employment opportunity policy, as required by Ark. Code Ann. §19-11-104.
5. A current (within 12 months) Department and Finance and Administration (DFA) Illegal Immigrant Contractor Disclosure Form, as required by Ark. Code Ann. §19-11-105. The form is available at: <https://www.ark.org/dfa/immigrant/index.php/user/welcome>

Submittals must be received no later than **April 24, 2026 by 4:00 PM (CDT)**. Submittals should be emailed to [smarpe@nwarpc.org](mailto:smarpe@nwarpc.org) with the subject line “NWARPC Strategic Plan”. Responses received after this deadline will not be considered.

For questions, please contact Stephanie Marpe at 479-751-7125 x102 or [smarpe@nwarpc.org](mailto:smarpe@nwarpc.org).

After reviewing all Letters of Interest, selected firms will be furnished with a detailed scope of work and requested to submit full proposals. [NWARPC procurement process](#) will be followed, and NWARPC intends to select one firm for this work.

NWARPC is a recipient of federal funding and selected firm shall comply with Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Certifications and Assurances and with Arkansas state procurement laws, rules, and regulations including but not limited to Ethical Standards (Ark. Code Ann. §19-11-708), Employee and Relative Disclosure, and Equal Opportunity Policy.

As applicable, work and contract requirements shall conform with the requirements of Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Federal Transit Administration (FTA), Arkansas Department of Transportation (ARDOT), and NWARPC. Interested firms should note that in order to comply with state and federal requirements, NWARPC will verify suspension and debarment actions and eligibility status of firms in accordance with 2 CFR Part 1200, 2 CFR Part 200, and 2 CFR Part 180.

**PROTEST PROCEDURE:** Protestors may file a protest on any phase of solicitation or award, including but not limited to specification or award. Protests are to be submitted in writing and received by the NWARPC’s Executive Director, at 1311 Clayton St., Springdale, AR, 72762 within seven (7) working days after the aggrieved person knows or should have known of the facts giving rise thereto. Protests based upon restrictive specifications or alleged improprieties in any type of solicitation, which are apparent prior to bid opening or the closing date for receipt of initial proposals, should be filed no later than three (3) working days prior to bid opening or the closing date for receipt of proposals. More information can be found in the NWARPC Procurement Procedures at [www.nwarpc.org/datacatalog/nwarpc-procurement-procedures/](http://www.nwarpc.org/datacatalog/nwarpc-procurement-procedures/).

**NWARPC NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATION POLICY:** The Northwest Arkansas Regional Planning Commission (NWARPC) complies with all civil rights provisions of federal statutes and related authorities that prohibit discrimination in programs and activities receiving federal financial assistance. Therefore, the NWARPC does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, color, age, national origin, religion or disability, in the admission, access to and treatment in NWARPC’s programs and activities, as well as the NWARPC’s hiring or employment practices. Complaints of alleged discrimination and inquiries regarding the NWARPC’s nondiscrimination policies may be directed to Nicole Gibbs, AICP, Regional Planner – EEO/DBE (ADA/504/Title VI Coordinator), 1311 Clayton, Springdale, AR 72762, (479) 751-7125, (Voice/TTY 7-1-1 or 1-800-285-1131); Para llamadas en español, marque el 866-656-1842; para llamadas en inglés, marque el 711 o directamente al 800-285-1131 or the following email address: [ngibbs@nwarpc.org](mailto:ngibbs@nwarpc.org). This notice is available from the ADA/504/Title VI Coordinator in large print, on audiotape and in Braille. If information is needed in another language, contact Nicole Gibbs. Si necesita información en otro idioma, comuníquese Nicole Gibbs, [ngibbs@nwarpc.org](mailto:ngibbs@nwarpc.org), 479-751-7125.