



**New Jersey Department of Transportation
Bureau of Research
RESEARCH PROJECT
Request for Proposal
2022 – 2023 SPR Program**

Project Title: Understanding How Marginalized Genders Travel Using NJ TRANSIT
Posting No.: 2022-01
Date of RFP Announcement: 08/18/2022
Closing Date: 10/11/2022

Proposals must be prepared in accordance with NJDOT's *Supplemental and Proposals guidelines*. Please visit <https://www.state.nj.us/transportation/business/research/guidelines.shtm> for the most current version.

All proposals must also have a corresponding online PreAward Risk Assessment form completed and submitted by the PIs prior to the RFP closing date and time. This online form can be found at: https://www.state.nj.us/transportation/business/research/risk_assessment_forms.shtm

1 - RESEARCH PROBLEM STATEMENT AND OBJECTIVES

1.1 Problem Statement

Through this project, NJ TRANSIT seeks to understand how people of marginalized genders (women, girls, and LGBTQ+ community members) travel on NJ TRANSIT to provide better accommodations for customers of all genders. While marginalized genders may face common socio-economic and structural barriers regarding travel needs, each gender demographic may face their own unique challenges and ultimate solutions may be different.

Using data from NJ TRANSIT's twice-yearly customer satisfaction surveys, from other NJ TRANSIT travel surveys, from police reports, civil rights complaints and customer service complaints an in-depth review will be conducted to better understand how people of marginalized genders travel on NJ TRANSIT's various modes of service. The review of existing NJ TRANSIT research data will be supplemented with a literature review of other studies that have been conducted regarding how marginalized genders travel, extensive stakeholder outreach, including and not limited to traveler interviews, surveys, focus groups, engagement with advocacy groups and travel diaries from transit customers. This data will further be supplemented by peer research through structured interviews with staff from other transit agencies that have conducted similar research, like LA Metro and Transport for London.

The major tasks include Literature review and peer agency outreach, review and analysis of NJ TRANSIT data and other data sources, Focus groups, Travel survey, Public outreach and engagement with stakeholder groups, Travel diaries, Analysis and study findings/draft recommendations, and a Final Report

1.2 Research Objectives

The goal for this research project is to gather and analyze gender-specific data that reflects how people of marginalized genders travel that can be incorporated into future planning and can be used to make informed decisions and recommendations.



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The fundamental issues that this study aims to address through data collection and analysis include:

- To identify and understand the mobility barriers, challenges, and concerns that women, girls, and members of the LGBTQ+ community face when using NJ TRANSIT;
- To provide recommendations on changes that address the concerns, challenges, and needs of women, girls, and LGBTQ+ riders so they can be incorporated into the design of both public transport infrastructure such as bus stops, train and light rail stations, as well as rolling stock;
- To identify ways to improve safety for customers who are from marginalized genders, and;
- To improve customer-facing employee training to better understand how to serve marginalized genders without bias or discrimination and with an understanding of the unique needs of these populations.

1.3 Type of Contract

It is proposed that if the Issuing Office enters into a contract because of this Request for Proposal (RFP), it will be a **Cost Reimbursement, Deliverable-Based** contract containing the Standard Contract Terms and Conditions.

2 - BUDGET and CONTRACT TIME

The **TOTAL** project budget shall not exceed **\$150,000 US Dollars**. Budgets will be evaluated separately, and only after a selection has been made as to which proposal is the most qualified based on technical merit. Please place three (3) copies of the budget for this project in a separate sealed envelope.

The PI must provide the anticipated research study duration based on the proposed tasks. Consideration should be given to potential impediments so that adjustments are incorporated into the schedule minimizing the need for time extensions. Contract time shall include sufficient time for the procurement of subcontractors, as well as no less than three months for Final Report review and acceptance. Please be advised that going forward, new task orders having permissible justification will be allowed no more than a one-time extension with the advent of 2 CFR 200.

A 15-month total project duration is preferred.

Please provide a Gantt Chart schedule, by month number (e.g., 1-24), showing tasks start/end, and deliverables. List corresponding deliverables below the chart.

3 - Oral Presentations

Oral online presentations may be requested as part of this RFP. If required, you will be notified by the Bureau of Research to schedule your oral presentation. They will be held at NJDOT headquarters in Trenton, NJ, attended by the Technical Advisory Panel (TAP), and be limited to no more than an hour, including time for questions and answers.



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4 – Deadline

Proposals (10 single-bound copies) are due at the NJDOT Bureau of Research no later than **4:00 p.m. on October 11, 2022**

Approximate Start Date: 12/26/2022. The official start date is the date that the Bureau of Research obtains a signature from the Assistant Commissioner.

5 – CONTACTS

Interested parties shall send all questions related to this RFP to the Research Bureau Manager by sending an e-mail to Amanda.Gendek@dot.nj.gov or by phone (609-963-2242). Questions on this topic **shall not** be directed to any Research Project Manager, Research Customer, or any other NJDOT person. All questions must be received **on or before 09/08/2022 in order to be answered.**

PROPOSAL DELIVERY INSTRUCTIONS:

During the COVID-19 pandemic, hand-carried deliveries will not be accepted.

For private, paid messenger services such as Federal Express, DHL, UPS, etc. deliveries:

RFP No. **2022-01 PROPOSAL-NJDOT**
New Jersey Department of Transportation
Bureau of Research
1035 Parkway Avenue
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0600

For U.S. Postal Service mail:

New Jersey Department of Transportation
ATTN: Manager, Bureau of Research
P.O. Box 600
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0600