

Addendum #1

Great Lakes Hyperloop Feasibility Study; Request for Proposals Questions and Answers

Important Notes:

- Any Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) proposed for the Hyperloop must be certified through the Unified Certification Program (UCP) with the State of Ohio and ODOT. Information can be found on ODOT's website. Consultants can apply for DBE certification on the ODOT UCP website at the following link: <https://www.dot.state.oh.us/Divisions/ODI/SDBE/Pages/UCP.aspx>.
- DBE certification must be obtained before the proposal deadline.
- HTT will require the consultant to sign a standard non-disclosure agreement.

1. Are there any other Hyperloop projects being done in the United States?

Yes. A few feasibility studies are currently being done or are being proposed in the United States.

2. Why was the NOACA region chosen for the Hyperloop feasibility study?

NOACA and HTT established a partnership to develop an improved regional transportation system, and believes a Cleveland-Chicago route is an ideal opportunity for the first Hyperloop feasibility study and subsequent implementation in North America. Northeast Ohio has several manufacturing businesses capable of supplying the materials and labor to construct the Hyperloop. The terrain between the cities is largely flat and sparsely occupied, and in particular the Interstate 80/90 corridor offers a potentially viable route.

3. Will completed Hyperloop feasibility studies be available for consultants to review?

HTT cannot share feasibility studies owned by other governments.

4. Will the consultant team be required to meet prequalifications established by the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) or any other state or agency?

No.

5. Will the consultant team be responsible for managing the feasibility study or specific elements of the study?

The consultant will be responsible for specific elements of the study, and HTT will be responsible for specific elements of the study as indicated in the RFP. HTT will collaborate and share information with the selected consultant as necessary to enable the consultant team to complete the final synthesized report.

6. Will conversations and documents with respect to intellectual property remain confidential throughout the study? Will HTT be responsible for making that decision?

HTT must mark documents it considers to be confidential. HTT will work with NOACA and the consultant to identify confidential areas and develop a protocol for confidential conversations and documents.

7. How will the high speed of the Hyperloop impact the human body?

Passengers riding on the Hyperloop will experience no discomfort. The Hyperloop design standards limit exposure to excessive forces. The design conditions consider horizontal and vertical acceleration and deceleration throughout the design speed envelope. Human safety is the first priority.

8. Will HTT provide the design standards, conditions, and constraints?

HTT will provide design constraints to the consultant.

9. Who will do the operations modeling? Will HTT select the tool to be used by the consultant?

HTT and NOACA will work with the consultant to select a model.

10. Will the engagement for the Hyperloop feasibility study focus on Cleveland or the corridor?

The feasibility study will focus on the corridor, but there will be additional responsibility for NOACA to make sure specific issues that affect this region are addressed in the study.

11. Will the feasibility study be evenly spread throughout the corridor at a fundamental level with more focus/detail in the Northeast Ohio region or will the study focus on big cities between Cleveland and Chicago?

The feasibility study is for the entire corridor, but more of the engagement focus will be on Ohio. If the process evolves, changes may need to be made to include specific engagements with organizations in Indiana and Illinois.

12. What does NOACA envision in terms of the framework for the public engagement strategy and outreach? Will the consultant or NOACA staff take the lead on the outreach work or will there be collaboration? Should the consultant propose some modeling for the task?

NOACA staff will take the lead on the outreach work. The project will be lead and designed strategically by the consultant and NOACA staff will be available to provide assistance.

13. Does the travel time of 28 minutes include/exclude boarding/unboarding of passengers at each stop?

Boarding/unboarding are excluded from the travel time.

14. Does HTT have an idea of what people are willing to pay to travel from Chicago to Cleveland by Hyperloop?

No. The feasibility study will provide that answer.

15. Has the budget been set for the consultant's work? Will the budget be part of the negotiation process in terms of refining the scope?

NOACA does not include budget information in its RFPs. The anticipated overall cost of the feasibility study is \$1.2 million (the cost will be shared equally between NOACA and HTT). No NOACA funds will be given to HTT.

16. Will NOACA be responsible for the selection committee?

NOACA is not allowed to reveal the independent nature of the selection committee. NOACA is responsible for the RFP and contract. NOACA handles all procurements the same way.

17. Are in-kind services included in HTT's share of the cost of the feasibility study?

The expected cost of the feasibility study is \$1.2 million. HTT and NOACA are both providing \$600,000 worth of tasks.

18. How many stops will there be along the Cleveland/Chicago corridor?

The number of stops will be determined once the feasibility study has been completed.

19. Where will the stops will be located along the corridor?

Potential stops will be located in Sandusky and/or Toledo. The locations will be studied in terms of demand.

20. The consultant will have a contract with NOACA and be required to sign a non-disclosure agreement with HTT. Other feasibility studies are currently being done in the United States that may or may not have HTT involvement. Is there a possibility there could be a conflict of interest now or in the future for the consultant?

A conflict of interest is a possibility, so NOACA will review each proposal.

The deadline to submit questions to NOACA is April 17, 2018. The deadline to submit proposals to NOACA is April 24, 2018.