

Consultant Questions and Responses for Knoxville Transit Studies RFP

1. We had requests for more time to submit the proposals.

In consideration that Memorial Day is next week, we are going to extend the deadline for proposal submissions to Monday, June 14th at 4:00 p.m. EST. We are also giving two extra days by posting the responses to the questions up earlier than the original deadline.

2. We had several questions concerning the 25-page limit and what can be included in the Appendix.

We are very flexible in regards to the Appendix and anything included in the Appendix will not count towards the 25-page limit. Resumes may be included in the Appendix. The signed letters from each Consultant or sub-consultant stating their availability may be included in the Appendix.

3. If we are sub-contracting out individuals vs businesses, will they still need to provide a signed statement of their availability on letterhead?

We do need some sort of statement of their availability. If they do not have official letterhead a simple typed letter will suffice.

4. The previous experience section of the proposal says to include four (4) examples of previous projects. It also says "Projects and references from both the prime Consultant as well as any proposed sub-consultants would be provided". Should we provide 4 examples for each firm involved in the project? Or, 4 examples in total?

We only need four (4) project examples in total. The four examples should showcase your team's abilities. The four examples also count as your references. We do not need any additional references beyond the four examples.

5. Are any forms required as part of the proposal submission to certify that the prime Consultant and/or sub-consultant(s) will comply with applicable laws and regulations? If so, please provide the forms and specify from whom each is required.

There are no forms required as part of the proposal submission. However, if selected, the Consultant and all sub-consultants should be prepared to sign forms and a contract that all professional services will be performed in full accordance with federal, state, and local regulations, policies, and/or standards specific to the project's funding source (Federal Transit Administration and the Tennessee Department of Transportation), where applicable.

6. Do you have a preference about the order/flow of the three studies – do they all start at the same time, or do you expect that Study 1 provides critical information to Studies 2 and/or 3?

Our only requirement for the flow of the three studies is that the KAT COA start first. The other two studies can start at the same time or be shifted to start later based on the Consultant's resources and project schedule. The primary reason we are starting the KAT COA first is KAT wants to be aggressive on implementing the recommendations of the COA and also the best time to survey, the bus routes, is

in September or October. We do not anticipate that any critical information will come out of the KAT COA that would have any significant influence on Studies 2 and/or 3.

7. Can you provide historic ridership data, by day of the week, at route or bus stop level, for CAC and ETHRA? Please provide the last five years of data if available.

Both Knox County CAC Transit and ETHRA are demand response transit systems and therefore do not have any route or bus stop level ridership data.

8. Please provide the current, or most recent average daily KAT ridership at the route level for weekday, Saturday, and Sunday.

Pre-Covid data is possibly the most reasonable data to use, but the attached ridership averages contains both recent and pre-covid data.

9. Can you provide the following data for KAT: (1) Revenue Hours and/or Platform Hours by Route and Day Type and (2) Ridership by Route and Day Type.

Monthly totals of hours and ridership by route are available on our website on the board Route Performance Report found in the monthly board agenda. Current and pre-covid examples are below:
<https://katbus.com/AgendaCenter/ViewFile/Agenda/11212019-44>
<https://katbus.com/AgendaCenter/ViewFile/Agenda/05272021-68>

These are not divided by day type, but perhaps question 8 can be useful in this detail?

10. For Item 2i in the KAT COA - do you have an idea of the number of funding scenarios that you would like to assess?

The funding scenarios will be dependent on the recommendations of the COA study presented by the Consultant. It is highly recommended that no more than three funding scenarios be assessed.

11. Can you clarify Item 2J in KAT COA with respect to whether you want an incremental capital plan based on different funding levels, or something different? Doing multiple capital plans or multiple funding scenarios is likely to be a costly and time-consuming effort.

The capital plan and potential operating funding scenarios will be based on the recommendations of the Consultant through the process of the COA.

12. What is the current composition of the KAT fleet (vehicle brand, size, etc.)?

Though the exact composition of the fleet continues through a somewhat rapid transition, I would use our near-term target fleet mix listed below for planning.

Fixed-Route Fleet – 69 buses total

Twelve (12) 35-foot New Flyer Xcelsior Charge battery-electric buses

Eleven (11) 30-foot Gillig diesel-electric hybrid buses

Eleven (11) 35-foot Gillig diesel-electric hybrid buses

Fifteen (15) 35-foot Gillig diesel buses

Three (3) 40-foot Gillig diesel buses
Seven (7) 40-foot Gillig diesel buses
Seven (7) 35-foot Gillig diesel Trollies
Three (3) 35-foot Gillig diesel-electric hybrid Trollies

Note – Future funding has been identified to replace six current 35-foot Gillig diesel buses listed above with six (6) New Flyer Xcelsior Charge battery-electric buses.

Contingency Fleet – 5 buses total

Five (5) 35-foot Gillig diesel buses

13. Does KAT currently have any automatic passenger counter (APC) equipment? Is KAT amenable to using APC equipment to capture the boarding, alighting, and other data requested in Study 1 – Item 1?

We do not currently have APC equipment, thus the challenge in determining origin/destination, etc.

14. The Origin-Destination Passenger Count as described in the KAT COA is asking the Consultant to ride all KAT fixed routes at least once during all operating hours. This activity could be a very time-consuming effort given an 8-month time frame completion for the COA study. Are other options to obtain the passenger data available from KAT and/or other options for Consultants to utilize in obtaining this O-D data?

Not having APCs, we welcome the Consultants' options on obtaining this O-D information short of what is requested.

KNOXVILLE AREA TRANSIT (KAT)

October 2019 Ridership Averages by Weekday, Saturday, Sunday

Route	Total Weekday	Average Daily Weekday	Route	Saturday Total	Average Saturday	Route	Sunday Total	Average Sunday
10	452	20						
11	25,447	1,106	11	3,711	928	11	1,325	331
12	11,543	502	12	1,312	328	12	564	
13	3,195	139						
16	2,978	129	16	390	98			
17	8,396	365	17	673	168	17	436	109
19	575	25	19	46	12			
20	11,169	486	20	1,236	309	20	666	167
21	2,827	123	21	449	112			
22	21,970	955	22	2,585	646	22	1,298	325
23	4,832	210	23	619	155	23	387	97
24	2,772	121	24	259	65			
30	3,196	139	30	330	83			
31	17,468	759	31	1,917	479	31	861	215
32	6,903	300	32	731	183			
33	3,267	142	33	442	111	33	269	67
34	5,466	238	34	458	115	34	322	81
40	4,284	186	40	434	109			
41	11,688	508	41	1,736	434	41	1,038	260
42	3,579	156	42	237	59			
44	9,134	397	44	225	56			
45	5,359	233	45	525	131			
81	13,270	577						
82	3,017	131	82	459	115			
83	8,003	348						
84	2,140	93	84	389	97			
85	16,568	720						
86	3,984	173	86	389	97			
87	3,202	139	87	79	20			
90	6,822	297	90	687	172			
TOTAL	223,506	9,718	TOTAL	20,318	5,080	Total	7,166	1,792

KNOXVILLE AREA TRANSIT (KAT)

April 2021 Ridership Averages by Weekday, Saturday, Sunday

Route	Total Weekday	Average weekday	Total Saturday	Average Sat.	Total Sunday	Average Sunday
10	167	8				
11	16,348	743	2,179	545	1,138	285
12	10,819	492	1,311	328	585	146
13	959	44				
16	2,425	110	338	85		
17	3,938	179	472	118	289	72
19	373	17	20	5		
20	6,259	285	830	208	614	154
21	2,215	101	405	101		
22	16,894	768	2,121	530	1,258	315
23	3,622	165	488	122	377	94
24	2,173	99	248	62		
30	2,611	119	375	94		
31	14,847	675	1,617	404	913	228
32	4,059	185	469	117		
33	2,715	123	355	89	151	38
34	2,656	121	312	78	227	57
40	2,021	92	251	63		
41	10,903	496	1,917	479	823	206
42	3,686	168	205	51	163	41
44	1,216	55				
45	2,580	117	457	114		
81	4,280	195				
82	10	0	459	115		
83	3,766	171	498	125		
85	9,844	447	632	158		
90	5,620	255	671	168		
TOTAL	137,006	6,228	16,630	4,158	6,538	1,635