

## Request for Proposals Scenario Planning and Climate Strategies

### **Research Theme**

The [Consortium for Scenario Planning](#), a program of the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy, invites proposals for original research and tools on the application of scenario planning to advance climate mitigation and adaptation strategies in communities.

### **Background**

Through this request for proposals, the Lincoln Institute is interested in expanding its understanding of the application of exploratory scenario planning to advance planning goals for climate change. Exploratory scenario planning has recently gained popularity amongst practitioners as it helps urban planners prepare for probable, desired, and uncertain futures while pursuing an overarching vision, rather than relying on a single vision of the future. It explores the root drivers, or causes, of possible futures, which also allows planners to consider multiple futures and makes the tool highly useful for planning for climate impacts.<sup>1</sup>

The extent and nature of climate change are tremendously uncertain. Decision makers must anticipate and prepare for the impacts of climate change, such as changes to housing and livable land, health, transportation, and natural resources, which will be far-reaching but with varying localized effects. The Lincoln Institute's goal in this work is to use land policy to reduce the most catastrophic effects of climate change and help cities adapt to the impacts that remain avoidable. As a structured approach for participatory and evidence-driven decision making, scenario planning can help cities and regions prepare and plan for this uncertain future. It also considers factors such as demographics, housing, transportation, water and air quality, technology, and equity that affect a community's ability to manage climate change impacts while still achieving its long-term goals.

The Consortium for Scenario Planning's mission is to improve the practice of scenario planning and broaden its use across disciplines in communities of all sizes through research, peer-to-peer learning, training, and technical assistance.

### **Proposal Evaluation**

The Lincoln Institute will evaluate proposals based on four equally weighted criteria:

- Relevance of the project to the RFP's theme of scenario planning to explore climate strategies;
- Rigor of research methodology;
- Capacity and expertise of the team and relevant analytical and/or practice-based experience;
- Potential impact and usefulness of the project for practitioners of scenario planning

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<sup>1</sup> ["Exploratory Scenario Planning \(XSP\): Navigating an Uncertain Future."](#) Jeremy Stapleton. Policy Focus Report. Cambridge: Lincoln Institute of Land Policy.

### **Deliverable Types**

Selected projects will build on the Consortium for Scenario Planning's existing body of work and produce valuable research and tools for scenario planning academics and practitioners. The proposed final deliverable may take many forms<sup>2</sup>, including but not limited to:

- Academic working paper;
- Descriptive case study;
- How-to guide;
- Interactive scenario planning game; or
- Research that can be developed into policy focus report for later date.

### **Award Amount**

Awards for selected working papers and how-to guides will be \$10,000. Awards for selected case studies will be \$5,000. Other deliverable types will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis. Award recipients are required to complete the proposed project within one year of selection, although projects may be completed in less time.

Award recipients will receive half of their award upon signing a contract with the Lincoln Institute in May 2021. The second half will be disbursed when the final project deliverable is completed and submitted to Lincoln staff for review.

The projects produced from the selected proposals will be considered for inclusion on the Lincoln Institute's website. Individuals selected through the RFP may also be invited to present completed projects through webinars, conferences, and other Lincoln Institute events.

### **RFP Schedule**

Application deadline: March 31, 2021

Notification of accepted proposals: April 19, 2021

First progress report: August 31, 2021

Second progress report: November 30, 2021

First draft: February 28, 2022

Final draft: April 29, 2022

### **Submission Guidelines**

This RFP is open to any individual or agency, practitioner or academic, interested in helping the Institute to expand its knowledge and resources on this topic.

Proposals should include:

- 1) **Cover Page:** The cover page must include the title of the project and the contact information of applicant(s), including affiliation, address, phone number, and email.
- 2) **Project Abstract:** The abstract must convey the core topic and proposed contribution of the research or tool. It should clearly convey the context, purpose, relevance, and methods of the proposed research topic (300 words maximum).
- 3) **Project Description:** Describe the research or project objective(s), purpose, relevance, and methods of the proposed topic. It should describe how the proposed work will build off existing research and identify any new contributions (2,000 words maximum).
- 4) **Workplan:** Briefly define the specific tasks or activities required to accomplish the project, with a projected schedule for completing each phase of the project.

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<sup>2</sup> For all deliverable types, selection for original research does not guarantee publication.

- 5) **Biography:** Please include a brief biography and resume/CV for the primary researcher and any other team members (3 pages maximum).
- 6) **Budget:** Provide an estimate of funding needed to complete the project.

### **RFP Submissions**

The proposal must be written in English and submitted as a Microsoft Word document. Format the application for printing on 8.5 x 11-inch (letter-size) paper. The application may be single- or double-spaced, but each section must not exceed the maximum word count, as described above.

Submit the entire application as a single document using this [Survey Monkey link](#) by March 31, 2021 at 11:59 PM Eastern Time.

### **Questions about this RFP**

For questions regarding this request for proposals, please send an email to [scenarioplanning@lincolninst.edu](mailto:scenarioplanning@lincolninst.edu).

### **Ownership and third-party copyrights**

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### **About the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy**

The Lincoln Institute of Land Policy seeks to improve quality of life through the effective use, taxation, and stewardship of land. A nonprofit private operating foundation whose origins date to 1946, the Lincoln Institute researches and recommends creative approaches to land as a solution to economic, social, and environmental challenges. Through education, training, publications, and events, we integrate theory and practice to inform public policy decisions worldwide.