



Request for Proposals Scenario Planning in Legacy Cities

Background

The Consortium for Scenario Planning and the Legacy Cities Initiative, programs of the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy, jointly seek proposals for original research and tools at the intersection of spatial equity and scenario planning.

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. The Legacy Cities Initiative, a new program of the Lincoln Institute, seeks to promote sustainable and equitable revitalization of post-industrial cities by convening networks, facilitating the exchange of ideas and practices, and researching and advancing new policy approaches.

Through this request for proposals, the Lincoln Institute is interested in expanding its understanding of the application of scenario planning to advance social equity goals and/or in communities planning for futures with limited population or economic growth.

Research Themes and Priorities

1) Equity in Scenario Planning:

While the body of research dedicated to exploring the fields of equity and scenario planning separately is rapidly expanding, the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy would like to develop knowledge and resources at the intersection of these two fields. For the purposes of this RFP, we define equity as a state where all groups have access to the resources and opportunities necessary to improve the quality of their lives and differences in life outcomes cannot be predicted on the basis of race, income, or other dimensions of identity¹.

Scenario planning is a mechanism for purposeful decision-making and is often used to measure impacts of transportation and land use through a variety of metrics. The social implications of decision-making and planning are often more difficult to identify and measure. However, scenario planning tools have the potential to be an effective framework through which planners can apply an equity lens and effectively assess their work.

We are also interested in how to make the process of scenario planning more equitable, by, for example, undertaking special activities to reach historically underrepresented populations.

¹ Interaction Institute for Social Change, 2015
<https://interactioninstitute.org/equity-and-urban-planning-weave-equity-into-process-and-content/>

Proposals should consider how equity can be integrated as a value into all different stages of the scenario planning process. They may focus on qualitative and/or quantitative approaches including but not limited to:

- Developing inclusive public participation and equitable representation of community interests
- Evaluating guiding processes, strategies and policies for alignment with equity principles
- Quantifying impacts of equity issues in scenarios and assessing the equitable distribution of impacts represented in scenarios

2) Scenario Planning for No Growth or Decline:

Most scenario planning exercises assume varying levels of positive growth for metrics such as transportation demand, population, jobs, housing, etc. While these assumptions are appropriate for many places, they do not apply to all. Formerly industrial cities in the northeast and Midwest U.S., for example, have seen historic declines in industry and population, which have led to dwindling resources and opportunities for shared prosperity among residents. In these cases, traditional scenario planning models that only predict growth are less helpful to practitioners, and new tools must be developed.

Proposals should consider how scenario planning processes can be utilized in communities that need to explore uncertain futures including population decline or limited growth.

Submission Requirements

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

Proposals should include:

- 1) A statement of interest on the topic of research (maximum 1,500 characters in length);
- 2) A brief bio and resume/CV for primary researcher and any other team members;
- 3) A description of work to be performed (maximum 15,000 characters, 3-4 pages);
- 4) A description of deliverables proposed with a detailed timeline; and
- 5) An estimate of funding amount to complete the project

The proposed final deliverable may take many forms, including but not limited to:

- Working paper
- Software tool
- Training program
- Case studies
- Webinar series

Proposals must be submitted online via the web-based application form. Submissions will close on April 30, 2020 at 6:00 PM EST. Applicants will be notified if their proposal was selected by email on May 4, 2020.

Applications can be submitted at the following link:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/scenarioplanningRFP>

Funding and Timeline

Selected proposals will be awarded \$5,000–\$10,000. 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 2020. The second half will be disbursed when the final project deliverable is completed and submitted to Lincoln staff for review. Recipients completing longer term projects may be asked to submit a progress report midway through the project timeline.

The works produced from the selected proposals will be considered for inclusion on the Lincoln Institute's website. Researchers selected through the RFP process may also be invited to present completed projects through webinars, Consortium for Scenario Planning and Legacy Cities Initiative conferences (anticipated Winter and Spring 2021), and other Lincoln Institute events.

The funds awarded under this Request for Proposals are contracted as work-for-hire and are not permitted to be sub-contracted by recipients to third parties.

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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.

Lincoln Institute of Land Policy

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