

Request for Proposals Scenario Planning and Housing Affordability

Project Theme

The [Consortium for Scenario Planning](#), a program of the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy, invites proposals for original applications or uses of exploratory scenario planning processes in communities to address housing affordability and availability.

Background

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. As part of this work, the Consortium seeks to finance exploratory scenario planning pilot programs in communities that will further the application of this method and enhance our understanding of its best practices.

Exploratory scenario planning, or XSP, helps planners prepare for probable, desired, and uncertain futures while pursuing an overarching vision, rather than relying on a single, presumed future. It explores the root drivers, or causes, of possible futures, allowing planners to consider multiple potential paths and makes the tool highly useful in planning for uncertainty. (Learn more about exploratory scenario planning by visiting the [Lincoln Institute's website](#).) While XSP is an increasingly popular planning method, there have been few applications of it outside of large cities and regional planning agencies; most documented examples of XSP have been applied to transportation trends and issues. As such, the Consortium seeks to introduce XSP to communities of different sizes and capacities and to understand how this method can contribute to many fields of planning.

For this request, the Consortium is interested in supporting the use of XSP to address housing affordability and availability. The Consortium is looking for projects that will design community-based XSP workshops that consider the impacts of housing-related issues. Depending on capacity and ability, project applicants are encouraged to implement their workshops as part of the project, although implementation is not required. The lessons learned from implementation of the workshops can be translated to toolkits, guidelines or case studies that other communities can use to run their own XSP processes.

In the United States, housing supply is increasingly limited and costly, contributing to a housing crisis that has left millions of Americans homeless, rent burdened, displaced, or unable to afford living in certain areas. For this request for proposals, the Consortium seeks projects that will conduct XSP workshops that examine a range of housing trends and driving forces impacting housing and generate strategies that improve housing affordability and accessibility.

Trends that these workshops address may include:

- Gentrification and displacement
- Increasing numbers of evictions

- Different housing pattern choices, such as multi-generation or co-living arrangements
- Transformation of vacant office buildings into residential units
- Population loss or growth based on housing affordability and accessibility
- The impacts of development and purchase of affordable housing by public, private sector, or community entities.

Proposal Evaluation

The Lincoln Institute will evaluate proposals based on five criteria:

- Relevance of the project to the RFP's theme of exploratory scenario planning as applied to housing affordability and availability
- Rigor of workshop design and adherence to XSP method.
- 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
- Feasibility of project completion within a one-year timeframe

Applicant Eligibility

Applicants from all backgrounds are welcome to apply. These may include community organizations, academics, and practitioners. The Lincoln Institute welcomes international applicants, although projects must focus on communities in the United States.

Deliverable Types

Selected projects will build on the Consortium for Scenario Planning's existing body of work and produce valuable resources that will help academics and practitioners engage with and use scenario planning.

Deliverables must be a toolkit, or guidebook, on workshop design.

The selected proposals will receive the format and style guide during the contracting process.

The projects produced from the selected proposals may be considered for publication or inclusion on the Lincoln Institute's website.

Award Amount and Commitments

Awards will be \$10,000. Award recipients are required to complete the proposed project within one year of selection, although projects may be completed in less time. The Lincoln Institute cannot guarantee final payments for projects submitted after the final deadline.

Award recipients will receive their award in thirds, with the first third being awarded upon contract signing, and the final two-thirds being awarded when the first and final drafts are due in 2024.

In addition to completing a project within the proposed timeframe, winners may be asked to present their work at the annual Consortium for Scenario Planning conference. If asked, the Lincoln Institute will cover certain costs. 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 14, 2023

Notification of accepted proposals: April 4, 2023

First progress report: September 2023

Second Progress report: December 2023

Annual Conference: February 2024

First Draft: March 2024

Submission Guidelines

This RFP is open to any individual or agency, practitioner or academic, interested in helping the Institute 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 Description:** The project description should clearly convey how the project will be used to examine the application of exploratory scenario planning in the particular context of housing. It should describe how the proposed work will build off existing work or examples and identify any new contributions (2,000 words maximum).
- 3) **Workplan:** Briefly define the specific tasks or activities required to accomplish the project, with a projected schedule for completing each phase of the project.
- 4) **Biography:** Please include a brief biography and resume/CV for the primary researcher and any other team members (three pages maximum).

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 [link](#) by March 14, 2023, at 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time.

Questions About this RFP

For questions regarding this request for proposals, please send an email to Ryan Maye Handy, policy analyst, rhandy@lincolninst.edu.

Ownership and Third-Party Copyrights

The Lincoln Institute of Land Policy will own all work products, in all forms, including print or electronic, eBooks, the Web, and social media, together with all rights, title, and interests therein, including copy rights. The Lincoln Institute's ownership and copyright conditions do not preclude the publication of commissioned works in other journals or media. Works commissioned by the Lincoln Institute may be published by a third party (journal, publishing house), but only after securing the permission of the Lincoln Institute.

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.

About the Consortium for Scenario Planning

The Consortium for Scenario Planning offers a community of practice for practitioners, including access to technical assistance, educational resources, and a network of fellow innovators. This community of practice helps to foster growth in the use of scenario planning at all scales. Through research, peer-to-peer learning, networking, training, and technical assistance, we help communities develop better plans to guide a range of actions, from climate change adaptation to transportation investment. In addition to planners, the Consortium also convenes researchers and software providers to develop more effective tools and reduce barriers to entry.