## ARKANSAS STATE HIGHWAY AND TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT

## REQUEST FOR LETTERS OF INTEREST

Notice is hereby given that the Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department is seeking letters of interest from qualified consulting firms to conduct planning studies for statewide rail transportation activities. The two studies are listed as follows:

- Arkansas State Rail Plan
- High-Speed Passenger Rail Feasibility Study

The Arkansas State Rail Plan will generally consist of data collection and analyses of Arkansas' freight and passenger rail systems. Both the freight rail and passenger rail components of the Arkansas State Rail Plan must be prepared in accordance with the Passenger Rail Investment and Improvement Act (PRIIA) of 2008 and federal rail transportation goals and guidelines in the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) Nation Rail Plan.

The High-Speed Passenger Rail Feasibility Study consists of the evaluation of extending the South Central High-Speed Rail Corridor from Little Rock to Memphis, preparation of a service development plan for the existing Little Rock to Texarkana corridor, and study of the possible impacts of high-speed passenger rail service on Arkansas' highway system. The passenger rail study shall be prepared in accordance with FRA passenger rail planning requirements.

The firm shall specify which of the studies that they are interested in performing.

A letter of interest, together with primary contact information and Architect-Engineer Qualifications Standard Form 330 Parts I and II available at <a href="http://arkansashighways.com/consultant-services/advertisements/sf330-e2014-10-31.pdf">http://arkansashighways.com/consultant-services/advertisements/sf330-e2014-10-31.pdf</a> should be addressed to:

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Four (4) sets of paper responses and a copy in pdf format on a Compact Disc (CD) must be received no later than 3:00 p.m. (CDT) on April 11, 2012. Any responses received after this deadline will not be considered.

After a review of all letters of interest received, selected firms will be furnished a scope of work and requested to submit proposals for accomplishing the work.

The Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department (Department) complies with all civil rights provisions of federal statutes and related authorities that prohibit discrimination in programs and activities receiving federal financial assistance. Therefore, the Department does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, color, age, national origin, religion or disability, in the admission, access to and treatment in the Department's programs and activities, as well as the Department's hiring or employment practices. Complaints of alleged discrimination and inquiries regarding the Department's nondiscrimination policies may be directed to EEO/DBE Section Head (ADA/504/Title VI Coordinator), P. O. Box 2261, Little Rock, AR 72203, (501) 569-2298, (Voice/TTY 711), or the following email address:EE0/DBE\_Section\_Head@ahtd.ar.gov. This notice is available from the ADA/504/Title VI Coordinator in large print, on audiotape and in Braille.