**PacTrans Proposal Evaluation Form (Single-Institution Projects)**

Thank you for helping PacTrans, Region 10 University Transportation Center (UTC), with the review of its single-institutional project proposals. PacTrans is a consortium of six universities and colleges including Portland State University (PSU), the University of Alaska, Anchorage (UAA), the University of Idaho (UI), the University of Washington (UW), Washington State University (WSU), and Northwest Indian College (NWIC). PacTrans’ theme centers on “**developing human-centered and transformative multimodal mobility solutions for an equitable Pacific Northwest.**" It will serve as a focal point within Region 10 to develop initiatives and facilitate collaborative activities with regional partners to maximize the effectiveness of their collective services and programs toward the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) strategic goal of Safety. The 2025 single-institutional research proposals were requested in the following five areas:

**Equity and Accessibility:** understand major factors that limit access to efficient and affordable transportation options, and design innovative methods and tools that empower equitable mobility and better access to jobs, Medicare, and other economic/social opportunities.

**Multimodal Systems and Connectivity:** leverage new technology-based companies, the collective expertise of the consortium, and incentive programs supported by local agencies, to remove barriers for multimodal integration and to ensure a resilient, reliable, and sustainable supply chain for optimal movements of goods and people.

**Safety, Resilience and Reliability:** develop approaches that work toward a long-term USDOT goal of vision zero and new strategies for safe/efficient evacuations, reliable travels of people and goods, and for fast and resilient recoveries from major disruptions in both urban and rural contexts, for both passenger and freight movements.

**Human-System Integration:** identify the factors that limit or facilitate system interactions with humans and foster infrastructure-vehicle cooperation technologies and research, including infrastructure/vehicle sensing and data collection, cooperative and infrastructure-enabled traffic-vehicle control, and related issues such as cybersecurity (of both vehicles and the infrastructure) and privacy protection.

**Transformative Solutions:** a cross-cutting theme to develop flexible and adaptive solutions to anticipate and respond to changing opportunities and challenges in future transportation. Such solutions include new technologies and tools, modeling methods, policies and standards, and best practices that will transform transportation practice and policy.

More details of the request for single-institutional research proposals can be found online at: <https://depts.washington.edu/pactform/pactrans-call-for-small-project-proposals/>

**Review Instructions:**

1. Please be aware of the following requirements for the PacTrans single-institutional proposals:
* A proposal must clearly address one or more of the five areas listed in the Request for Proposals.
* Each proposal can be for up to $75K of federal funds (with a required 1:1 non-federal match).
* To facilitate technology transfer, the submitting PI should have made the outcomes, outputs, and impacts very explicit and they should represent a strong contribution to the transportation industry.
1. Please provide detailed comments that support your ratings for each review criterion.
2. If you review more than one proposal, please provide your funding priority rating.
3. Please send your completed review form to Christina Yarbrough, crystina@uw.edu on or before March 21, 2025.

**PacTrans Proposal Evaluation Form (Single-Institution Projects)**

External Peer Reviewer Name**:**

Organization:

E-mail:

Date:

RANKINGS OF REVIEWED PROPOSALS (IF REVIEWED MORE THAN ONE)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Proposal Name | Priority Ranking |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |

|  |
| --- |
| Evaluator Statement:*As an evaluator, I will make certain that the review of these proposals are executed in a confidential manner, that I will not disclose its contents to anyone, and that I will provide an unbiased and objective review to the best of my abilities.* **Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** |

|  |
| --- |
| Proposal Information |
| Proposed Project Title |  |
| Principal Investigator (PI) |  |
| Total UTC Fund Request (not including match) |  |

Please rate the proposal from 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) for each of the following attributes, and provide any comments that support your ratings. Feel free to use additional pages to provide us any other comments or suggestions for the investigator to consider.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Attributes** | **Comments** | **Rating** |
| Overall contribution to PacTrans Theme: *Providing Data-Driven Solutions for the Diverse Mobility Challenges in the Pacific Northwest* |  |  |
| Overall contribution of the proposed work to this years’ research *priority areas* of PacTrans, as summarized in the Appendix? |  |  |
| Originality and timeliness of the proposed work? |  |  |
| How well conceived and organized is the proposed activity?  |  |  |
| Appropriateness of proposed work in terms of scope, budget, and timeline? |  |  |
| Does the proposal clearly engage local agency or industry partners in a meaningful way? |  |  |
| How well have the outcomes, outputs, and/or impacts been formulated? |  |  |
| How significant are the intended outcomes, outputs, and/or impacts to the transportation industry in the specific area of which the research is proposed? |  |  |
| How qualified are the PIs to conduct the proposed research? |  |  |

Provide other comments/suggestions you may have:

**Appendix: Research Priority Areas of PacTrans**

On June 14, 2024, PacTrans organized a [research workshop](https://depts.washington.edu/pactrans/recap-pactrans-summer-research-workshop-2024/), focusing on discussing the mobility-related challenges in the Pacific Northwest and brainstorming for potential solutions. A summary of the identified challenges and suggested solutions can be found [here](http://depts.washington.edu/pactrans/wp-content/uploads/2024/07/PacTrans-Research-Workshop-Summary-July-19-2024.pdf). Based on the identified challenges and potential solutions, PacTrans now calls for proposals that specifically address the following **priority areas**:

* **Human-Centered Design** to create transportation systems and mobility solutions that prioritize the needs, experiences, and well-being of all users. This involves engaging with diverse communities to ensure their mobility needs are properly represented, designing infrastructure that is accessible and convenient for everyone, and incorporating feedback to continuously improve the user experience.
* **Supporting Infrastructure** that refers to the physical, virtual, and financial systems necessary to ensure the effective operation and integration of multimodal transportation networks. This includes developing robust intermodal transfer facilities, ensuring reliable power systems for transportation electrification, creating comprehensive information systems to support mobility options for all users, and securing adequate funding and subsidies to maintain and enhance transportation services.
* **Equity Issues** to address the fair and just distribution of resources, opportunities, and services across all communities when developing mobility solutions. This involves identifying and mitigating mobility-related barriers that underserved populations face, multimodal system design that ensures equal access by all users, digital equity when applying technologies to develop innovative mobility solutions, and implementing transportation policies that promote inclusivity and reduce disparities related to income, race, ethnicity, gender, age, and disability status.
* **Climate Change** considerations that involve developing novel mobility strategies and solutions that enhance the resilience and sustainability of transportation systems in the face of rapidly changing environment. This includes designing transportation infrastructure adaptive to climate change that can help minimize the mobility impacts when extreme weather events occur, and prioritizing climate-friendly transportation options to mitigate the long-term impacts of climate change.
* **Safety, Privacy, and Security Concerns** to ensure safe travels and protect users from personal data breaches or (cyber)security harm. This includes implementing *Vision Zero* strategies to eliminate traffic fatalities, *safeguarding* data collection and sharing through advanced technologies (like AI and autonomous vehicles) by deployable privacy protection and cybersecurity techniques, and developing policies that ensure the secure and ethical use of transportation data to protect user privacy and security.