Title:	Develop Models for Freight Flows and Commercial Travel Patterns within Texas Urban Regions
The Problem:	Transportation network investments and siting of inland ports and other special attractors and generators, like trans-shipment points, need to be targeted thoughtfully. This is in order to enhance commercial and personal travel while facilitating trade around and through the complicated urban regions. Demand-triggered trade generates substantial network traffic, both intra-regionally and inter-regionally. Transportation infrastructure and policies can play a pivotal role in shippers and operators trade-and-travel choices. A more detailed transport model is needed so that TxDOT can anticipate commercial-travel-patterns shifts due to a variety of networks, technology, and demand changes, for both intra-urban and inter-regional applications.
Technical Objectives:	Enhanced models of intra-regional commercial-travel forecasting for flow generation, distribution, mode choice, vehicle assignment, and network assignment are emerging in applications at state and regional levels. This project seeks improvements in freight flow estimates and model specifications for intra-regional trade involving one or more major Texas regions. The expectation of this project is that the end product will obtain a TRL level 6.
Desired Deliverables:	1. Technical memorandum for each task completed. 2. Monthly progress reports. 3. Value of Research (VoR) that includes both qualitative and economic benefits, to be included in the research report. 4. Research report documenting the findings of the research, including freight flow estimates and model specifications for intra-regional trade involving one or more major Texas regions . 5. Project Summary Report.
Proposal Requirements:	1. Utilize the deliverable based templates (see the appendices provided). 2. Proposals will be considered non-responsive and will not be accepted for technical evaluation if they are not received by the deadline or do not meet the requirements stated in RTI's University Handbook. 3. Proposals should be submitted in PDF format, 1 PDF file per proposal. The PDF file name should include Project Statement Title, Project Statement Number and abbreviated Performing Agency(ies) Name. 4.This project will be tracked during the life of the project using a Technology Readiness Level (TRL) scale. More information about the use of a TRL can be found at https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/publications/research/ear/17047/17047.pdf.
Pre-Proposal Meeting Information:	Friday, December 7, 2018 1 0 :00 AM - 11:30 AM Austin Riverside Campus 118 E. Riverside Drive RTI Conference Room, 1st Floor Webex Information: 1. See attached Webex meeting notification. 2. If requested, enter your name and email address. 3. If a password is required, enter the meeting password: **De8Mft7N** 4. Click "Join". Teleconference information: Provide your phone number when you join the meeting to receive a call back. Alternatively, you can call: Call-in toll-free number: 1-855-437-3563 (US) Conference Code: 734 619 030
Proposal Deadline:	Proposals are due to RTI by 3:00 PM Central Time, January 24, 2019. Email submissions should be sent to RTIMain@txdot.gov .