Request for Proposals (RFP)

Technical Session Leads at the 2027 ITS Carolinas Annual Meeting

Intelligent Transportation Society of the Carolinas
www.itscarolinas.org

Updated: November 4, 2026

Introduction

ITS Carolinas is pleased to announce an opportunity to contribute to the success of the upcoming ITS Carolinas Annual Meeting, scheduled for March 10-11, 2027, in Asheville, NC. The conference aims to bring together industry leaders, researchers, and practitioners to share knowledge, showcase innovations, and foster collaboration in the field of intelligent transportation systems.

Purpose

We are seeking proposals from qualified transportation engineering firms to serve as Session Leads for the technical agenda during the conference. As a Session Lead, your firm will research and gather speakers/presenters based on topic areas provided. The team will also be charged with keeping the group organized with regular meetings, assigning a moderator, and ensuring participants are ready for their sessions. As Session Leads, you will also be considered Sponsors of your session. This sponsorship will provide firms with the opportunity to showcase their expertise, enhance visibility within the industry, and engage with conference attendees.

This year's agenda will include several potential topic areas, called Buckets, for proposers to consider:

- Establishing Technology Interoperability between Agencies
- Actionable TSMO & ITS Planning
- Transitioning Ever-growing AI Technology into Practical and Accurate ITS Use Cases
- Safety Implementation Using ITS in Vision Zero or SS4A Action Plans
- Moving Planned or Unplanned Traffic from Freeways to Arterials…and Back
- Smart Asset Management
- Active Freeway Management
- Tips and Tricks for Active Arterial Management
- Turning Research or Project Evaluations into Real Life
- Unlocking and Utilizing ITS Grant Opportunities

Please note this is not an all-inclusive list. If you have a session that you feel fits the mold of our annual meeting, please propose it to us! Please also note that ITS Carolinas wishes to highlight the great work of our Young Professionals, Students, and Municipalities when considering proposals.

If your session is selected, session sponsorship costs for this meeting are expected to be $750.

Proposal Requirements

Interested firms should submit a proposal that includes the following information:

1) Firm Overview

A brief description of your firm, including areas of expertise and relevant experience in intelligent transportation systems.

2) Preferred Session Topics

- State which topics are of interest to your firm, more than one topic area is permitted.
- If interested in multiple topics, rank those as most preferred to least preferred.
- An outline of potential presentation ideas within topic areas that are of interest to your firm. Provide presentation types, speaker participation, format, and any additional ideas that would make your session stand out to attendees. Speakers do not need to be confirmed prior to proposal submittal.

3) Previous Experience of Session Lead Member(s)

- Examples of previous experience with participation or coordination of conference materials, preferably with ITS Carolinas, ITS Southeast Summit, and/or ITS America events. Examples of experience moderating technical sessions, keeping sessions relevant and on time.

4) Contact Information

- Primary contact person's name, title, phone number, and email address.

Submission Guidelines

Proposals must be submitted electronically in PDF format to tagliaferria@concordnc.gov by 5:00 PM on Friday, October 30th, 2026. Late submissions will not be considered.

Proposals are limited to 5 pages. Submissions longer than 5 pages will not be considered.

Evaluation Criteria

Proposals will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- Overall development of the session topics that relate to the chosen Bucket(s).
- Experience and expertise of the Session Lead in managing conference technical agenda sessions.
- Variety of Speakers that represent a mix of organizations and areas of expertise.
- Commitment to register for the corresponding Sponsorship level.
- Clarity and professionalism of the proposal.

Timeline

- RFP Release Date: October 9, 2026
- Proposal Submission Deadline: **November 20**, **2026**
- Notification of Selected Sponsors: By December 4, 2026
- Conference Dates: March 10-11, 2027

Contact Information

For questions regarding this RFP, please contact Tony Tagliaferri at tagliaferria@concordnc.gov or (704) 920-5363. We look forward to receiving your proposals and working together to make this conference a success!

Sincerely,
Anthony P. Tagliaferri, PE
Deputy Transportation Director, Concord, NC