

RFP 10-01 QUESTIONS

1. My firm is very interested in pursuing this opportunity as a subcontractor. Our firm is a Virginia-certified, minority owned business (DBE/SBE). Do you have a list of prime bidders or potential prime bidders that I could reach out to for teaming opportunities?

Response: We cannot provide you with a list of bidders or RFP recipients. We encourage you to attend the pre-proposal conference, as it could be an excellent source of teaming opportunities.

2. "The public information and participation process for TransAction 2040 is an important and significant component of the work. In reading the RFP it is clear that the following meetings are included:

- Initial kick-off workshop
- Four public workshops under Task 2
- Four public workshops under Task 4

In the final paragraph of Task 5.4 the RFP identifies two sets of public hearings, and a third set of public meetings to present the draft final findings and outcomes. We are under the assumption that the "sets" of public hearings and the 3rd set of public meetings include four meetings each as well, for a grand total of 20 public meetings/hearings, plus the kick-off meeting. Is this correct? Could you provide a bit more clarity of the total number of public workshops, hearings and meetings that will take place during the planning process?"

"Please clarify the number of public hearings anticipated in the three sets referenced in Task 5.4, Public Participation in Workshops and Hearings, and whether they are hearings or meetings."

Response:

We are expecting the following:

- *1 kickoff meeting, which will be facilitated by staff*
- *2 sets of 4 public workshops*
- *1 set of public hearings to present the final draft findings and outcomes*

We will issue the following correction to the RFP in order to clarify this issue. The final sentence of Task 5.4 will be re-worded as follows:

"As part of the public involvement program, one set of public hearings will be conducted to present the draft final findings and outcomes."

3. "Section D, Article 29 requires Contractor to submit a Payment Bond. Based on the nature of the services to be provided under this RFP, and that payment bond requirements are generally not customary for these types of services, would NVTC consider eliminating the Payment Bond requirement?"

Response:

The RFP states that the contractor "may be required" to deliver a payment bond within 10 days of the contract award. NVTC is willing to consider whether the payment bond is necessary.

4. "Section D, Article 29 requires Contractor to submit a Performance Bond. Performance bond requirements are generally not customary for these types of services. Based on the nature of the services to be provided under this RFP, the 10% retainage that NVTC will be holding should provide NVTC adequate protection. As such, would NVTC consider eliminating the Payment Bond requirement? Alternatively, would NVTC consider a performance bond in a lesser amount than 100% of the contract, and for a lesser time period?"

Response:

The RFP states that the contractor "may be required" to deliver a performance bond within 10 days of the contract award. After RFPs are submitted, and before executing the final contract, NVTC is willing to consider a reduced bond amount or time period, or whether the performance bond is necessary.

5. "Section D, Article 29 gives Contractor the option of providing a letter of credit in lieu of bonds. Instead of a letter of credit, would NVTC consider the 10% retainage, combined with a bank reference, as adequate protection for NVTC?"

Response:

NVTC is willing to discuss this alternative prior to executing the final contract, but we cannot say at this time whether the retainage would provide adequate protection.

6. "Section D, Article 28 contains insurance requirements. Part 7 appears to require insurance policies from subcontractors as well. Please clarify whether subcontractors must meet the same insurance requirements as Contractor."

Response:

Subcontractors must meet the same insurance requirements as the Contractor.

7. "In the event that subcontractors are required to meet the same insurance requirements as Contractor, would NVTC consider allowing the Contractor to have some discretion and flexibility over the types and amounts of insurance required from subcontractors? Both NVTC and our firm encourage participation by smaller businesses and DBEs. Many of these small businesses may be unable to procure professional liability insurance, due to the burden of the high costs of such coverage. Additionally, some subcontractors may be unable to procure insurance from companies with a Best's Key Rating of at least A:VI. Given these circumstances, would NVTC allow Contractor some discretion as to insurance requirements for subcontractors, if the subcontractor is unable to meet the exact requirements of the RFP?"

Response:

NVTC is willing to discuss alternatives for insuring subcontractors, prior to executing the final contract.

8. "Attachment D to the RFP states "The commission has established a goal of 7% for the utilization of DBEs. To ensure that DBEs have the maximum practicable opportunity to compete for contract and subcontract work, we ask that you describe below, how your organization will assist the commission with its commitment toward achieving our 5.6% goal." Please clarify whether the goal is 7% or 5.6%."

Response:

The DBE goal is 5.6%. We will correct the error in the RFP.