



QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Project BALTIMORE REGIONAL PEDESTRIAN ASSESSMENT 21T06

The Baltimore Metropolitan Council (BMC) provides written responses to questions regarding requests for proposals (RFPs). The following are questions and answers concerning the above-referenced RFP.

Q1. Our team is interested in submitting a proposal for the reference RFP. I was hoping to clarify the DBE requirement, as we have some partners that are MBE but might not be certified as DBE with MDOT, as stated in the RFP. Is there an opportunity to bring on other Maryland MBE or WBE teams to satisfy the DBE requirement?

A1. As stated in the RFP, "If the DBE has not been certified by MDOT but has been certified by other state transportation agencies receiving federal funding, the name of the agency should be included in the proposal. BMC reserves the option to accept this certification in lieu of MDOT certification." BMC has allowed this substitution in many instances as long as the MBE can provide documentation of acceptance by another transportation agency that receives federal funds.

Q2. Can BMC please provide an estimate of the size, scope, and character of the test areas (small areas, small communities, or transit station areas)? The approximate area, and the urban/rural character or population density, for example, would help Offerors produce an accurate Cost Proposal for this Task in the Scope of Work.

A2. The two test areas would have at least a quarter mile radius with one in an urban area with a transit stop and one in a suburban area. This should help to show the capabilities of the tool in different settings.

Q3. This project has a DBE subcontracting goal of 31.7%. In the event a DBE pursues as a prime, will they be released from the DBE subcontracting goal? Our Company is an MDOT-certified DBE that can fulfill this project as a prime; however, if our company's preferred teaming partners are not DBEs, then the subcontracting requirement will put pressure on our company to act as sub and allow the non-DBE firm to act as prime.



A3. A DBE may serve as the prime, and as long as the prime DBE will perform at least 31.7% of the contract then that will satisfy the DBE requirement.

Q4. Our Company provides an existing pedestrian planning tool that substantially meets the needs of the RFP (system for collecting pedestrian safety, accessibility, and infrastructure condition data, with interactive tools for analytical, planning, and cost estimation). The system is already in-use by local DOTs, and has been subject to best practice and literature review and presented at TRB based on its innovative approach. If our Company proposes a modification to the Scope to Work, to proceed directly to a demonstration and/or pilot of this system, with customization as needed, saving time and cost on the Research and Development Tasks, would BMC welcome and consider such a proposal to meet the needs of the RFP?

A4. If the planning tool meets the tasks outlined in the RFP, or can be customized, yes it will be considered. A proprietary tool is not desired, the product needs to be available to all of our members. Our preference is for an open source tool that does not include subscription fees.

Q5. The Experience and Qualification section asks for “the resumes of proposed project manager and key team personnel”, while the Project Manager section asks for “a summary of qualifications of the project manager and key staff.” Can you confirm which section our resumes should be included in?

A5. The resumes of the proposed project manager and key team personnel are to be included in the Experience and Qualifications section of the Technical Proposal, not to exceed 8 pages.

Q6. We would like to pose a question for task 4 where the consultant will develop a Regional Pedestrian Infrastructure Assessment Tool and Manual. We are seeking more clarification in regards to if BMC is requiring the consultant in the proposal to define the specific tool platform as well as the specific datasets that would be utilized in the development of the tool

A6. Yes, the consultant will make recommendations for a tool platform to include the associated datasets under Task 4.

Q7. Is there a specific weight distribution given for technical over cost, understanding this is not a low-bid procurement?

A7. Cost Proposals are not opened until all Technical Proposals are evaluated and assigned a score. The Cost Proposal then may be considered in final selection of the consultant or consultant team.



Q8. Will all associated work be conducted remotely off-site from BMC, including all required meetings via teleconferencing options?

A8. All BMC meetings are currently virtual and will remain as such until new recommendations by our public health officials are in place. If BMC decides to resume on-site work at the BMC offices then formal presentations to committees would be expected to be in person. If the proposer would like to propose that all presentations be virtual regardless of this status then it should be noted in the proposal.