



Metropolitan Washington
Council of Governments

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS NO. 22-017

CONSULTANT SUPPORT FOR GREENHOUSE GAS INVENTORIES, MITIGATION PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION SUPPORT, AND CLIMATE ADAPTATION/RESILIENCY

Electronic submissions shall be uploaded to COG's
solicitation "Lockbox."

See Lockbox Instructions in Section IX.D

Proposals shall be uploaded no later than 2:00 p.m. EDT,

June 24, 2022

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**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)
 RFP# 22-017**

Release Date – May 24, 2022

I. SUMMARY

Services requested	Master contract to a qualified firm(s) to provide Consultant Support for Greenhouse Gas Inventories and other related services as needed.
Contract type	Indefinite Delivery Indefinite Quantity (IDIQ)
Number of contracts	One or more
Duration of contract	Three years from award date with option to renew/extend up to two additional years
Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) goal	No DBE plan is required with this submission. Later task orders will require a DBE Plan.
Payment method	Net 30
Planned duration of RFP advertisement	4 weeks
Start of advertisement period for RFP	May 24, 2022
Deadline for questions about RFP	5 working days before deadline
Deadline for COG responses to questions	3 working days before deadline
Deadline for proposals	June 24, 2022

II. METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

The Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (“COG”) is the regional organization of the Washington area’s 24 major local governments and their governing officials, plus area members of the Maryland and Virginia legislatures and the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives.

COG provides a focus for action on issues of regional concern such as comprehensive transportation planning, air and water quality management, environmental monitoring, tracking economic development and population growth and their effects on the region, coordinating public safety programs, and promoting childcare and housing for the region. COG is supported by financial contributions from its participating local governments, federal and state government grants and contracts, and through grants and contracts from foundations and the private sector.

III. PROJECT OVERVIEW

The Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) is seeking the services of an expert consultant team to assist COG's Department of Environmental Programs in its support of COG member governments and other stakeholders in the region's response to the challenges of addressing emissions of greenhouse gases, climate change, energy, sustainability, zero-emission vehicle deployment and resilience.

If awarded, the Selected Contractor(s) or Contractor team(s) ("Contractor") shall be responsible for providing one or more of the services detailed in the Scope of Services below. Contractor is not guaranteed any work under this contract, any work to be performed will be based on Task Orders issued by COG under the contract.

If multiple awards are made under COG's Procurement Policy, the subsequent Task Orders must be competed between all firms with a contract who wish to participate. Those Task Order will be governed by COG's DBE program.

IV. SCOPE OF WORK

The following tasks can be performed for local, regional, and State government agencies, non-profit organizations, stakeholders, as well as regional councils such as COG.

A. Task 1. Greenhouse Gas Inventories

Offerror shall provide the following services:

1. Collection, review, and analysis of input data to be used in development of greenhouse gas inventories (e.g., government operations and community-wide).
2. Collection, review, analysis and use of emission factors and protocols.
3. Development or use of modeling and other tools to estimate emissions. (Note COG has used the ICLEI Greenhouse Gas Protocol for its development of greenhouse gas inventories – ICLEI is the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives, see www.iclei.org for more information).
4. Analysis of trends in emissions over time, including drivers of change, including analysis of reductions from implemented programs.
5. Development of energy use intensity or per capita calculations.
6. Development of emission forecasts and projection scenarios.
7. Development of marginal abatement curves or wedge charts.
8. Development of reports, presentations, education, and outreach materials, including interactive web-based materials, that provide draft and final results of greenhouse gas inventories.
9. Participation and leading of workshops, training, or other events with COG, COG members, and other stakeholders.

B. Task 2. Climate Mitigation and Energy/Sustainability Program Planning and Implementation Support

Offeror shall provide the following services:

1. Development of climate, energy, sustainability, and alternative fuel and electric vehicle (EV) action plans and deployment strategies.
2. Identification and development of innovative strategies, measures, policies, programs, or projects (“actions”) to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases.
3. Technical support on renewable energy, electric vehicles, other alternative fuels, outdoor lighting, microgrids, electrification/decarbonization, combined heat/power, fuel cells, hydrogen, renewable gas, geothermal, building energy programs, and other climate mitigation, sustainability, and energy strategies, programs, and projects.
4. Technical support for energy efficiency programs, including building benchmarking, Building Performance Standards (BPS), building energy retrofits, building electrification, energy data tracking, and energy management systems.
5. Technical support on recycling and solid waste management, including in the areas of recycling, food waste, reuse, and waste reduction for outreach/education, infrastructure studies, battery management, plastic reduction/recycling, and contamination control programs.
6. Technical support on green infrastructure, forests/reforestation, regenerative agriculture, on-farm conservation practices, including building soil health and addressing methane and nitrous oxide emissions. Development of complete and green street frameworks and design guidelines.
7. Development of and support for solar, EV, utility, and other interactive mapping tools, including land use assessments for urban heat island and tree canopy, large scale solar or microgrid siting.
8. Development of technical information on actions, including but not limited to approach, needs, deployment issues, feasibility, timing, legal considerations, market assessments, engineering and site assessments, costs, ownership, procurement, deal structure, and finance options.
9. Identification and development of partnerships to support program planning and implementation, including securing new grants or other resources, and inviting and participating on proposal teams with COG, either as a prime or sub-contractor.
10. Development of reports, presentations, education, and outreach materials that provide draft and final results of strategies, measures, metrics and climate/energy/sustainability/EV action and implementation plans and progress tracking.
11. Strategic planning support for implementation, including development of implementation blueprints, case studies, resource and implementation guides, and other supporting materials.

12. Support and guidance on addressing equity, energy burden, environmental justice in planning and implementation.
13. Support for procurement, including development of Requests for Proposals (RFPs), Requests for Information (RFIs), Statements of Work (SOW), and vendor lists. Assistance with large-scale Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs) including in conjunction with PJM Subaccounts and virtual PPAs. Assistance with purchase of unbundled Renewable Energy Credits (RECs).
14. Participation and leading of workshops, training, or other events with COG, COG members, and other stakeholders, in-person and virtual.
15. Development of engagement tools, including virtual town halls and open-source calculators (including for emissions).
16. Support for pledge drives or other commitment or deployment programs.
17. Special planning and coordination engagements on climate, energy, sustainability, and resilience with utilities, military, state/federal government, data centers, energy service providers, corporations, homeowner associations, universities/schools, and other stakeholders.
18. Community public engagement, communications and marketing support - including in-person, on-site and virtual - to educate and engage the community on climate/energy/sustainability topics and on new programs and initiatives, such as energy benchmarking and EV Coops. Tailor messaging to niche audiences and support engagement needs of underserved communities.

C. Task 3. Resiliency Planning and Implementation Support

Contractor shall provide the following services:

1. Development of climate resilience and adaptation action plans and deployment strategies.
2. Identification and development of innovative strategies, measures, policies, programs or projects (“actions”) to enhance community and regional resilience.
3. Technical support on strategies, programs and projects addressing climate vulnerable infrastructure or in support of climate vulnerable communities, including security and resilience of infrastructure.
4. Identification, collection, compilation and use of information and tools to understand, predict, and characterize possible or probable climate risks, impacts, and vulnerabilities.
5. Development of vulnerability and risk assessments, and all hazards risk and resilience analysis. This may include methods for identifying risk as a function of the consequences, vulnerabilities, and likelihood of man-made threats, natural hazards, and dependency and proximity hazards. This may also include development of GIS mapping tools.

6. Development of priority climate vulnerable infrastructure lists and mapping.
7. Identification of options and strategies to respond to anticipated climate impacts and vulnerabilities, both overall within the region and as they relate to different subgroups.
8. Development of technical information on options and strategies to support climate resilience planning and implementation, including but not limited to approach, needs, deployment issues, feasibility, timing, legal considerations, market assessments, engineering and site assessments, costs, costs of inaction, ownership, procurement, deal structure, implementation decision and resource guides, and finance options.
9. Identification and development of partnerships to support program planning and implementation, including securing new federal grant or other resources, and inviting and participating on proposal teams with COG, either as a prime or sub-contractor.
10. Special planning and coordination engagements on resilience with infrastructure owners and other stakeholders.
11. Development of reports, presentations, education, and outreach materials, including interactive web-based materials, that provide information on impacts, vulnerabilities, response options metrics and progress tracking.
12. Support and guidance on addressing equity, climate vulnerable communities, and environmental justice in planning and implementation.
13. Strategic planning support for implementation, including development of implementation blueprints, case studies, resource and implementation guides, and other supporting materials.
14. Participation and leading of workshops, training, or other events with COG, COG members, and other stakeholders, in-person and virtual.
15. Special planning and coordination engagements on climate resilience and adaptation with utilities, military, state/federal government, data centers, energy service providers, corporations, homeowner associations, universities/schools, and other stakeholders.
16. Community public engagement, communications and marketing support - including in-person, on-site and virtual - to educate and engage the community on resilience and on new programs and initiatives, such as resilience hubs. Tailor messaging to niche audiences and support engagement needs of underserved and climate vulnerable communities.

D. Task 4. General and Technical Support Services

Contractor shall provide the following services:

1. General meeting support, including preparation of agenda and meeting summaries, in-person and virtual.

2. Provision of on-call technical labor on a temporary basis, including research assistant, data analyst, associate, senior associate, and other subject matter experts, either remote or on-location.
3. Development of program reviews, documentation of achievements, case studies, and creation of dashboards.
4. Provision of Geographical Information System (GIS) services.
5. Provision of technical and engineering services as needed by COG to support programs including areas such as climate change, sustainability, resilience, energy, green infrastructure, air, water, and solid waste.
6. Website development and content management.
7. Support for social media and other awareness, outreach, or education campaigns.

V. SPECIAL CONDITIONS

The following conditions apply to the Contractor selected:

- A. Federal, state or foreign taxes are not allowable.
- B. Legal fees of any type are not allowable without prior written approval of COG Contracting Officer.
- C. In the event the project is terminated by administrative action, the Contractor will be paid for work performed to the date of termination.
- D. Any work to be subcontracted to a Subcontractor shall be clearly identified and such Subcontractor shall be approved by COG prior to contract issuance.
- E. The Contractor, acting as an independent contractor, shall defend and hold COG harmless from and shall be solely responsible, where found liable, for the payment of any and all claims for loss, personal injury, death, property damage, or otherwise, arising out of any act of omission or negligence of its employees or agents in connection with the performance of this work.
- F. In case of failure by the Contractor and/or Subcontractor to perform the duties and obligations imposed by the resulting contract, COG may, upon verbal notice, to be confirmed in writing, procure the necessary services from other sources and hold the Contractor and/or Subcontractor responsible for any and all additional costs occasioned thereby.
- G. The Contractor covenants that it presently has no interest, shall not acquire any interest, direct or indirect, which would conflict in any manner or degree with the performance of services required to be performed under this contract. The Contractor further covenants that in the performance of this contract, no person having any such interest shall be employed.

- H. It is understood that funding for the ensuing contract is contingent upon COG receiving funds from the sponsoring agency. Should funding from the sponsoring agency be delayed, for any reason, COG shall make a concomitant delay in funding to the Contractor.
- I. Payment will be made to the Contractor within 30 days following the receipt of a correct invoice from the contractor and approval of the COG Project Manager. Contractor shall submit its final invoice within 30 days after expiration of the contract.
- J. In submitting a proposal in response to this RFP, and in performing services under any contract resulting from this RFP, the successful Contractor shall be bound by, and comply with, all the terms, conditions, and requirements contained within Attachments A and B.
- K. All soft copy and digital materials that Contractor obtains from jurisdictions and agencies to complete the scope of work must be transferred to COG in native machine-readable file formats (e.g., Excel data must be delivered in unprotected, open, read-write Excel files).
- L. All digital submittals, including data products, from all on-call task orders shall be the property of the COG.
- M. Deliverables should be in common electronic formats and files and are not considered final and complete until the COG Project Manager has confirmed in writing that they have been accepted.

VI. INSTRUCTIONS, CONDITIONS, AND NOTICES TO OFFERORS

- A. The Contract will be issued as an indefinite delivery/indefinite quantity (IDIQ) master contract. Individual task orders will be awarded under the master contract and will be issued as firm fixed price task orders unless otherwise specified in the individual task order RFPs.
- B. COG may award a contract based on initial offers received without discussion. Therefore, each initial offer should contain the Offeror's best terms from a price and technical standpoint.
- C. COG may communicate with Offerors to clarify, verify or obtain additional information about their past performance or experience.

VII. PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE AND TYPE OF CONTRACT

This will be a three-year contract with up to two option years following the third year. The period of performance shall be three years from the date of a fully executed contract. The contract may be extended by exercising an optional year, one year at a time, for up to no more than two (2) optional years beyond the base year.

The period of performance is contingent on available funding and satisfactory contractor performance.

This will be an IDIQ contract. Contract Type will be confirmed with each task order.

COG reserves the right to issue a supplemental solicitation at any time during this period or qualify additional firms as needed. Further, on an as-needed basis, COG reserves the right to procure consultant support for specific environmental/climate planning projects from firms other than those awarded contracts through this RFP.

VIII. PROPOSAL FORMAT AND CONTENT

A. Format

1. All potential Contractors must submit their proposals following the prescribed format as per Section VIII.B.
2. Adherence to the proposal format by all Offerors will ensure a fair evaluation regarding the needs of COG. Offerors not following the prescribed format may be deemed non-responsive. The letter transmitting the proposal must be signed by an officer authorized to bind the Offeror.
3. Offerors shall review and complete or acknowledge all attachments included in this RFP. These include:
 - a. Attachment A: Standard Terms and Conditions – acknowledge acceptance on the Proposal Form and attach any exceptions attached to the Proposal Form (Section XIII).
 - b. Attachment B: Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, and Other Responsibility Matters fill out form and acknowledge in Section XIII.
 - c. Attachment C: Contractor References – fill out and provide as required below
 - d. Attachment D: DBE Plan Form – Sample for review only (do not fill out form)
 - e. Attachment E: Rider Form – Sample for review only (do not fill out form)

B. Proposal Document Organization

1. Respondents shall submit a Letter of Interest to COG Contracts and Purchasing Manager Rick Konrad signed by an authorized principal or agent of the Offeror, which provides an overview of the proposal, as well as, the name, title and phone number of the person to whom questions may be directed to concerning the proposal.
2. The written proposal shall be organized to match the headings delineated below Items a-d and in a separate electronic file designated as RFP 22-017 File A – Technical Proposal.
 - a. Letter of Interest
 - b. Table of Contents
 - c. Executive Summary

- d. Technical Proposal
 - i. Qualifications of the Firm and Key Personnel
 - ii. Project Management Plan
 3. Cost Proposal (Separate Electronic File designated RFP 22-017 File B Price and DBE
 - a. Proposal Response Form - filled out completely and signed
 - b. Cost proposal as requested below Section VIII.D – Proposed Labor Rates for the Offeror and any Subcontractor(s)
 - c. DBE Plan
 4. References (Separate Electronic File designated RFP 22-017 File C References
- C. Proposal Content Details
1. Technical Proposal Content Details (Sections VIII.C.1-3)
 - Section 1. Qualifications of the firm and key personnel (10 pages, excluding resumes)
 - a. Team Description: Identify the team lead, and each of the support team members, describing role and capabilities of each. (two pages maximum)
 - b. Approach: Provide a written description of how the team will approach each of the Tasks under the Scope of Services. Include information on proposed models, tools, data sources, etc. (two pages maximum per Task)
 - c. Organizational and Staff Experience: Provide brief details on recent organizational and staff experience in each of the Task areas in the Scope of Services.
 - Section 2. Project Management Plan (10 pages)
 - a. In this section of the proposal, Offerors must provide a detailed description of their approach for successfully managing and delivering individual task orders anticipated under this contract. This shall include:
 - i. A description of the approach proposed to successfully carry out more than one task order at a time without compromising quality or capacity to complete the task orders within the agreed upon project schedules.
 - ii. A description of the approach proposed to manage subcontractor(s), including managing, monitoring, and evaluating subcontractor performance to ensure quality standards.
 - iii. A hypothetical work plan, schedule, and a project management plan that will detail all lines of authority and communication that will support all the project

requirements and logically lead to the deliverables anticipated under this contract. The hypothetical example, to be provided by the offeror, shall align in general with one of the anticipated planning services identified in the scope of work

- b. The Offeror shall include a description of its quality management procedures and the steps it takes to ensure quality as well as the steps that will be taken when quality concerns are raised by COG.
- c. Timely completion of potential task orders under this contract is of critical importance. In some cases, tasks will require very fast turnaround requirements. Offerors are to provide a brief description of their current projects and the availability of key personnel proposed to support contract task orders.

Section 3. References of the Past Work and Contractor and any Subcontractor(s) (no more than 10 pages of narrative *excluding* completed Attachment D Form for the offer and all subcontractors as well as any letters of reference).

- a. Past Performance/Offeror References (no more than 5 pages)
- b. For three different project examples, provide a one-page description (no more than 5 pages) that describes the projects the Offeror has successfully completed and demonstrate how professional planning services similar to those identified in the scope of work were successfully delivered. Projects included in this section ideally should have been completed within the past three calendar years within the National Capital Region. Offerors shall explain why each project was included in this section and how it is applicable to the requirements of this RFP.
- c. The proposed Contractor and any Subcontractor(s) shall provide at least three (3) references who COG may contact regarding similar work performed. Use form provided - Attachment C.

Offerors may provide letters of reference to be included with Attachment C from previous relevant clients. Names, titles, addresses and telephone numbers shall be included for each reference.

All three of these references shall include work in which the key personnel proposed to COG have been assigned.

- D. Section 4 – must use Proposal Response Form Section XIII – *failure to use this form will result in disqualification of the submission*
 - 1. Proposal Response Form
 - 2. Cost - Proposed Labor Rates for the Offeror and any Subcontractor(s) no more than 5 pages.
 - a) Personnel Cost: Provide fully burdened hourly rate for each team member by labor category proposed to provide support under the Scope of Services.

Labor categories should include:

- Research Assistant
 - Analyst, Associate
 - Senior Associate
 - Project Manager
 - Program Manager
 - Department Manager
 - Subject Matter Expert
- Other relevant associated titles used specifically for the team. Include percent increase in the hourly labor cost annually. (three pages maximum)
- b) Sample Product Cost: Provide a range (low/high) of the total estimated cost to develop each of the following:
- Local government and community greenhouse gas inventory for a city or county in the metropolitan Washington region.
 - Local government and community climate action or sustainability plan for a city or county in the metropolitan Washington region
 - ½ day technical workshop in Washington DC or surrounding communities. (assume 2-4 days prep time, 2 staff during event, half day follow up)
 - Membership access to modeling or other tools such as on-line collaboration sites.
 - Include description of ability and willingness to offer quantity discounts (for example, per inventory discount for inventories for more than one COG member) and in-kind services (for example, 10-25% voluntary cost share match for select contract assignment).
3. Responses to Checklist
4. Proof of Certificate of Insurance
5. DBE Form
6. Offeror Certification
7. Offeror References Form(s)
- E. The electronic submissions should be done in the following way:

Section 1 - Letter of Interest, Table of Contents, Executive Summary and Technical Proposal
Section 2 – Project Management Plan
Section 3 – Resumes and Past Work
Section 4 – Offeror Responses/Cost/Forms

This allows separate evaluation of pricing and keeps file sizes within needed parameters (10 MB each).

IX. QUESTIONS, EXCEPTIONS, AND SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

A. Questions

1. All questions concerning the RFP must be submitted in writing to the Contracts and Purchasing Office at gcrichlow@mwkog.org and cc: purchasing@mwkog.org

at least five (5) business day prior to the final RFP deadline.

2. All questions will be answered and posted on COG's website as an addendum to this RFP no later than three (3) business days before the submission deadline.
3. No questions will be accepted following the cut-off date.

B. Exceptions

Proposers should note any exceptions of the RFP specifications or Terms and Conditions (including insurance requirements) on a separate sheet marked exceptions attached to the price submission. Exceptions taken do not obligate COG to change the specifications.

C. Proprietary Information

Any proprietary information revealed in the submission should be clearly identified as such.

D. Submission Instructions

1. Proposals as designated below.
2. If the proposer has not already been registered in the MAPT Vender Registration System, then they must start with that process. The link is <https://mwcog.net>.
3. Please use the RFP number (RFP 22-011) and your firm name in the file name of your electronic submissions.
4. Offerors shall submit one (1) electronic copy of each File (A-C) in their proposal to the COG Lockbox system as per the below directions.
 - a. Proposers shall submit one electronic copy of each file to the COG "Lockbox" system in the following fashion:
 - 1) Registration – To utilize the "LOCKBOX" service, your agency **must** be registered on the Mid-Atlantic Purchasing Team Vendor Registration System (VRS) portal at <https://mwcog.net>.

If you are not registered, please do this before accessing the LOCKBOX.

To register:

- Go to the portal at <https://mwcog.net> and click the Vendors listing the left menu on the page.
- Click Register and fill out the form. NOTE: You will need your company information including your TIN/EIN number if you are a company or your SS if you are a sole proprietor.
- Registering will give you access to the LOCKBOX solicitations.
- Problems registering? Contact customerservice@eepex.com

- 2) Submission – Once registered in the VRS system go to the website at <https://mwcog.net> and click on the Solicitation Listings tab.

Those solicitations utilizing the VRS Lockbox service will be highlighted with a LOCKBOX button.

Click on the LOCKBOX button.

If your agency is interested in submitting a response to this solicitation, click on the REQUEST button. After providing the VRS vendor ID and VIN, you will receive a one-time use bid id and password by email.

Use your credentials for the following:

- To upload your formal bid response and any additional attachments to the lockbox (before the closing time for the solicitation)
- Please limit the size of individual files to 10 MB. If additional files are needed due to size limitations, please email customerservice@eepex.com and request additional file space.
- To withdraw your formal response should you wish to cancel your submission or to allow you to replace an already uploaded copy with a modified version
- To verify that the document in the lockbox is the one you uploaded.

If no vendor ID is provided, you will be directed to the registration page.

If you would like to ensure that your company details are correct prior to your upload, then logon to VRS using your VRS vendor ID and VIN then jump to the vendor summary page in VRS to make any changes desired.

To return to the COG solicitation page, after registering or updating your company details, click SOLICITATION LISTINGS button on the VRS home page followed by clicking on the VIEW SOLICITATIONS button for COG on the PENDING SOLICITATIONS page.

Please do not wait until the last moment to register. The lockbox cannot be accessed after the closing date/time.

DO NOT email submissions directly to COG they will be disqualified.

X. METHOD OF PROPOSAL EVALUATION AND SELECTION

The proposals will be evaluated by a technical selection committee. The selection committee may hold, at COG's option, a pre-selection meeting with the top-ranked Offerors.

The final recommendation for selection to the COG Contracting Officer may be made based upon interviews and/or a best and final offer submitted by the Offerors, if required by the selection committee.

In evaluating the proposals, the following factors will be considered, with points awarded up to the maximum shown on the next page.

Factor	Points
Demonstrated organizational experience in the specific tasks areas in the Scope of Services (i.e., number and extent of similar work products delivered and total overall number years of experience.)	30
Demonstrated ability to lead and participate in multi-vendor teams to deliver services the specific tasks areas in the Scope of Services. (i.e., number and extent of contract teams led, and contract teams supported)	25
Staff expertise and experience. (i.e., number years professional experience, number of similar assignments)	25
Pricing and Cost (i.e., burdened salaries by staffing level, low/high range for sample work products)	15
Provision of in-kind contributed services and discounts for multiple members.	5
Total Points	100

XI. DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS ENTERPRISE

DBE participation is NOT a factor in this phase. It is expected that the winning consultant will be a DBE firm or will utilize DBE firms in their work on these projects and will have to provide DBE Forms demonstrating a good faith effort to utilize DBE to the greatest extent possible on all Task Orders.

The material below is provided for informational and Task Order planning purposes only:

COG's DBE Policy may be viewed on its website
<https://www.mwcog.org/purchasing-and-bids/dbe-policy/>.

COG has determined that consideration of DBE participation will not be included in the evaluation factors for this RFP because the participation of DBE subcontractors will not be specified until the proposals for task orders for individual projects are developed at a later time.

At the time that proposals for task orders for specific projects are scored, a total of 15 possible points (out of a maximum of 100 points) may be awarded for DBE participation, as measured in dollars, either as the prime contractor or "subcontractor". In the event of a tie in the average total score between two or more proposals, the proposal with the largest percentage of DBE participation, as measured in dollars, will be awarded the contract.

DBE points are to be awarded as follows:

<u>PARTICIPATION</u>	<u>POINTS</u>
10% to 14%	3
15% to 19%	6
20% to 24%	9
25% to 34%	12
35% or more	15

For the sake of scoring, percentages will be rounded down rather than up. A proposer must meet the minimum scoring percentage to receive full points.

A prime contractor with valid DBE certification will receive 100% participation points.

Federal Law – CFR Part 26.37 (Monitoring Performance) requires COG to include a monitoring and enforcement mechanism to ensure that work committed to DBEs at task order award is performed by DBE’s.

To comply with this requirement, the Contractor is required to provide to COG DBE Compliance Officer with monthly reports on DBE payment(s). This may involve monthly reporting via email.

COG is currently testing a DBE Reporting Software system and the contractors chosen under this master contract award may be required to report through that system rather than direct email. Please save any questions relating to reporting for the task order process.

See the sample DBE Plan form Attachment D. This does not need to be filled out at this time.

XII. COOPERATIVE RIDER CLAUSE

- A. COG, as an agent to member agencies, extends the right to utilize all of the terms, conditions, specifications, and unit or other prices of any contract resulting from this RFP to other public and non-profit agencies.

This is conditioned upon mutual agreement based on the attached Rider Clause (Attachment E - Sample) of all parties pursuant to special requirements which may be appended thereto.

- B. Contractor(s) agrees to notify COG of the Participating Agencies desire to use any contract resulting from this RFP within 30 days of receiving said requests and to fill out the form provided in Attachment E.
- C. All contracts resulting from this RFP shall be with the individual Participating Agencies. COG assumes no authority, liability or obligation on behalf of any Participating Agency using a contract resulting from this RFP, or any Contractor, or any other entity with respect to this procurement or any contract resulting from it.
- D. Participating Agencies may have other or additional terms and conditions that must be met by the Contractor.

- E. All purchases and payment transactions will be made directly between the Contractor and the Participating Agency except where noted.

**** Remainder of page is blank ****

XIII. PROPOSAL RESPONSE FORM

RFP 20-017 Response Form (Page 1 of 3)

DATE: _____

Company Name - _____

	Sample Product Costs	Pricing
1	Local government and community greenhouse gas inventory for a city or county in the metropolitan Washington region.	
2	Local government and community climate action or sustainability plan for a city or county in the metropolitan Washington region	
3	½ day technical workshop in Washington DC or surrounding communities. (assume 2-4 days prep time, 2 staff during event, half day follow up)	
4	Membership access to modeling or other tools such as on-line collaboration sites.	
5	Include description of ability and willingness to offer quantity discounts (for example, per inventory discount for inventories for more than one COG member) and in-kind services (for example, 10-25% voluntary cost share match for select contract assignment).	Separate Sheet

Job Title Pricing Chart	Hourly Rate (Fully Loaded)
Research Assistant	
Analyst, Associate	
Senior Associate	
Project Manager	
Program Manager	
Department Manager	
Subject Matter Expert	
Others	

The above chart is the basis of this RFP’s pricing scoring. Failure to provide pricing to all of the specifically listed categories will result in the submission being deemed non-responsive.

RFP 20-017 Response Form (Page 2 of 3)

Please also provide a list of Others under the Additional Categories line or on a separate sheet attached to this page. Additional categories will not be part of the price scoring.

Submission Check List and Required Forms –

ITEM	YES	NO
Attachment A – Acknowledge and accept all Terms & Conditions <i>(if answered NO – T & C exceptions must be noted on a separate sheet with all other exceptions. NOTE: failure to do so will make this submission non-responsive)</i>	___	___
Attachment B – Certification Regarding Debarment	___	___
Attachment C – References	___	___
Accept Electronic Payment (See Terms and Conditions)		
P-Card	___	___
ACH	___	___
Insurance Acord Form – Proof of Insurance provided by the insurer as per the Terms and Conditions. Failure to meet the insurance requirements at the time of the submission will result in the submission being deemed non-responsive.	___	___
Exceptions - <i>(If yes please attach all on separate sheet(s) at the end of the RFP response.)</i>	___	___
Addendums Acknowledged (if applicable) -		
Addendum #1	YES ___	NO ___
Addendum #2	YES ___	NO ___
Addendum #3	YES ___	NO ___
Addendum #4	YES ___	NO ___
Others _____		

NOTE: Failure to acknowledge ALL addendums could result in disqualification of the submission.

RFP 20-017 Response Form (Page 3 of 3)

In submitting a bid in response to this RFP, the authorized signatory below acknowledges having read and understood the entire solicitation and agrees to accept the Terms and Conditions set forth in this RFP.

The signatory below represents that he/she has the authority to bind the entity named below to the response submitted and any contract awarded as a result of this solicitation.

NAME: _____

COMPANY: _____

ADDRESS: _____

TELEPHONE: _____ WEBSITE: _____

EMAIL: _____

SIGNATURE: _____

TITLE: _____

Note: Unsigned responses may be disqualified. E-signatures are acceptable.

ATTACHMENT A TERMS AND CONDITIONS

*NOTE: COG will not negotiate Terms and Conditions at the time of contract award.
Exceptions MUST be made now.
Failure to do so may disqualify the proposer now or at a later time.*

This document sets out provisions generally applicable to Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (“COG”) contracts. The provisions herein do not constitute a complete agreement, and must be appended to a document, executed by all parties, which identifies the specific work to be performed, compensation, term, incorporated attachments, and special conditions, if any.

Proposers are categorized as Subrecipients in this section

A. Energy Conservation - 42 U.S.C. § 6321 et seq.

The SUBRECIPIENT agrees to comply with mandatory standards and policies relating to energy efficiency, which are contained in the state energy conservation plan issued in compliance with the Energy Policy and Conservation Act.

B. Clean Water Requirements - 33 U.S.C. § 1251 et seq.

1. The SUBRECIPIENT agrees to comply with all applicable standards, orders or regulations issued pursuant to the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, as amended. The SUBRECIPIENT agrees to report each violation to COG and understands and agrees that COG will, in turn, report each violation, as required, to assure notification to appropriate federal agencies including the appropriate EPA Regional Office.
2. The SUBRECIPIENT also agrees to include these requirements in each subcontract exceeding \$100,000 financed in whole or in part with federal assistance.

C. Lobbying - 31 U.S.C. § 1352 et seq.

(Regarding each bid or offer exceeding \$100,000)

1. In signing the proposal form above the proposer certifies, to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, that:
2. No federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of the undersigned, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of an agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any federal contract, the making of any federal grant, the making of any federal loan, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation,

renewal, amendment, or modification of and federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement.

3. If any funds other than federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for making lobbying contacts to an officer or employee of an agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement, the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form - LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," in accordance with its instructions [as amended by "Government wide Guidance for New Restrictions on Lobbying," 61 Fed. Reg. 1413 (1/19/96)]. [Note: Language in paragraph (b) herein has been modified in accordance with Section 10 of the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995. (P.L. 104-65, to be codified at 2 U.S.C. § 1601 *et seq.*)]
4. The undersigned shall require that the language of this certification be included in the award documents for all sub-awards at all tiers (including subcontracts, sub-grants, and contracts under grants, loans, and cooperative agreements) and that all subrecipients shall certify and disclose accordingly.
5. This certification is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was made or entered into. Submission of this certification is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction by 31 U.S.C. § 1352 (as amended by the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995). Any person who fails to file the required certification shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure.

[Note: Pursuant to 31 U.S.C. § 1352(c)(1)-(2)(A), any person who makes a prohibited expenditure or fails to file or amend a required certification or disclosure form shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such expenditure or failure.]

D. Access to Records and Reports - 49 U.S.C. § 5325

1. The SUBRECIPIENT agrees to provide COG, and if applicable the state or federal funding agency, the Comptroller General of the United States or any of their authorized representatives access to any books, documents, papers and records of the SUBRECIPIENT which are directly pertinent to this Contract for the purposes of making audits, examinations, excerpts and transactions.

2. The SUBRECIPIENT agrees to permit any of the foregoing parties to reproduce by any means whatsoever or to copy excerpts and transcriptions as reasonably needed.
3. The SUBRECIPIENT agrees to maintain all books, records, accounts and reports required under this Contract for a period of not less than three (3) years after the date of termination or expiration of this Contract, except in the event of litigation or settlement of claims arising from the performance of this Contract, in which case the SUBRECIPIENT agrees to maintain same until COG, the applicable state or federal funding agency, the Comptroller General, or any of their duly authorized representatives, have disposed of all such litigation, appeals, claims or exceptions related thereto.

E. Funding Agency Changes

The SUBRECIPIENT shall at all times comply with all applicable state and federal agency regulations, policies, procedures and directives, including without limitation those listed directly or by reference in the funding agreement between such agency and COG, as they may be amended or promulgated from time to time during the term of this Contract. SUBRECIPIENT failure to comply shall constitute a material breach of this Contract.

F. Clean Air - 42 U.S.C. § 7401 *et seq.*

1. The Clean Air requirements apply to all contracts exceeding \$100,000, including indefinite quantities where the amount is expected to exceed \$100,000 in any year.
2. The SUBRECIPIENT agrees to comply with all applicable standards, orders or regulations issued pursuant to the Clean Air Act, as amended, 42 U.S.C. § 7401 *et seq.* The SUBRECIPIENT agrees to report each violation to COG and understands and agrees that COG will, in turn, report each violation as required to assure notification to the funding federal agency, if any, and the appropriate EPA regional office.
3. The SUBRECIPIENT also agrees to include these requirements in each subcontract exceeding \$100,000 financed in whole or in part with federal assistance.

G. Recycled Products - 42 U.S.C. § 6962

1. The Recycled Products requirements apply to all contracts for items designated by the EPA, when COG or the SUBRECIPIENT procures \$10,000 or more of one of these items during the fiscal year or has

procured \$10,000 or more of such items in the previous fiscal year, using federal funds.

2. The SUBRECIPIENT agrees to comply with all requirements of Section 6002 of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), as amended (42 U.S.C. § 6962), including but not limited to regulatory provisions of 40 C.F.R. Part 247, and Executive Order 12873, as they apply to the procurement of the items designated in Subpart B of 40 C.F.R. Part 247.

H. No Government Obligation to Third Parties

1. The SUBRECIPIENT acknowledges and agrees that, notwithstanding any concurrence by the Federal Government in or approval of the solicitation or award of the underlying contract, absent the express written consent by the Federal Government, the Federal Government is not a party to this Contract and shall not be subject to any obligations or liabilities of COG, the SUBRECIPIENT, or any other person (whether or not a party to that contract) pertaining to any matter resulting from the underlying contract.
2. The SUBRECIPIENT agrees to include the above clause in each subcontract financed in whole or in part with federal assistance. It is further agreed that the clause shall not be modified, except to identify the SUBRECIPIENT that will be subject to its provisions.

I. Program Fraud and False or Fraudulent Statements and Related Acts - 31 U.S.C. § 3801 *et seq.*

1. The SUBRECIPIENT acknowledges that the provisions of the Program Fraud Civil Remedies Act of 1986, as amended, 31 U.S.C. § 3801 *et seq.* and all appropriate federal agency regulations apply to its actions pertaining to this PROJECT. Upon execution of the underlying contract, the SUBRECIPIENT certifies or affirms the truthfulness and accuracy of any statement it has made, it makes, it may make, or causes to be made, pertaining to the underlying contract of the federally assisted project for which this contract work is being performed. In addition to other penalties that may be applicable, the SUBRECIPIENT further acknowledges that if it makes, or causes to be made, a false, fictitious, or fraudulent claim, statement, submission, or certification, the Federal Government reserves the right to impose the penalties of the Program Fraud Civil Remedies Act of 1986 on the SUBRECIPIENT or to the extent the Federal Government deems appropriate.
2. The SUBRECIPIENT also acknowledges that if it makes, or causes to be made, a false, fictitious, or fraudulent claim, statement, submission, or certification to the Federal Government under a contract connected with

a project that is financed in whole or in part with federal assistance, the Federal Government reserves the right to impose the penalties of 18 U.S.C. § 1001 and 49 U.S.C. § 5307(N)(1) on the SUBRECIPIENT, to the extent the Federal Government deems appropriate.

3. The SUBRECIPIENT agrees to include the above two clauses in each subcontract financed in whole or in part with federal assistance. It is further agreed that the clause shall not be modified, except to identify the SUBRECIPIENT who will be subject to the provisions.

J. Insurance Requirements

1. For its activities and operations, Contractor shall have already in place, and at all times keep in effect all below required coverages.
2. Commercial General Liability Insurance in the amounts listed below. The insurance shall include coverage for personal injury and claims of discrimination and civil rights violations. All such insurance shall name COG as ADDITIONAL INSURED. A copy of the certificate of insurance shall be filed with COG before any services are rendered. Contractor shall maintain coverage in the amounts of \$1,000,000 per occurrence, \$2,000,000 general aggregate, and \$500,000 for property damage. Coverage shall be written on an occurrence form (Acord Form).
3. Contractor shall obtain, and at all times keep in effect, automobile insurance on all vehicles used in this Contract. Contractor's automobile insurance shall include coverage for damages resulting from bodily injury, including wrongful death, and property damage that may arise from the operations of any owned or hired automobiles used by Contractor in connection with the performance of this Contract. All such insurance shall name COG and/or its individual members, their employees, and agents as ADDITIONAL INSURED.
4. Contractor shall, provide COG with certification of Workers' Compensation Insurance, with employer's liability at least the minimum amount required by the governing jurisdiction's law, in effect for each year of this Contract.
5. Contractor shall obtain and maintain at all times during the prosecution of the work under this Agreement professional liability insurance. Limits of liability shall be \$1,000,000 per claim and \$2,000,000.00 aggregate.
6. Cyber Liability Insurance - The Contractor shall provide evidence satisfactory Cyber Liability Insurance, with limits not less than \$500,000 per occurrence or claim, \$1,000,000 aggregate. Coverage shall be sufficiently broad to respond to the duties and obligations as is undertaken by Contractor under this grant and shall include, but not be limited to, claims involving infringement of intellectual

property, including but not limited to infringement of copyright, trademark, trade dress, invasion of privacy violations, information theft, damage to or destruction of electronic information, release of private information, alteration of electronic information, extortion and network security. Limits may not be shared with other lines of coverage. A copy of the cyber liability policy must be submitted to COG.

7. All insurance policies shall have a minimum 30 days' notice of cancellation. Immediate written notice to COG, and members involved in the contract, shall be required in the event of cancellation or restriction by the insurance company of any insurance policy referred to in this section.
8. When insurance coverage is renewed, Contractor shall provide new certificates of insurance to all contracting agencies and COG prior to expiration of current policies.

K. Termination - 49 U.S.C. Part 18

Applicable to all contracts in excess of \$10,000

1. Termination for Convenience

COG, by written notice, may terminate this Contract, in whole or in part, at any time by written notice to the SUBRECIPIENT when it is in COG's best interest. If this Contract is terminated, COG shall be liable only for payment under the payment provisions of this Contract for services rendered before the effective date of termination.

2. Termination for Default [Breach or Cause]

If the SUBRECIPIENT fails to perform in the manner called for in this Contract, or if the SUBRECIPIENT fails to comply with any other provisions of the Contract, COG may terminate this Contract for default. Termination shall be effected by serving a notice of termination on the SUBRECIPIENT setting forth the manner in which the Contract is in default. The SUBRECIPIENT will only be paid the contract price for services performed in accordance with the manner of performance set forth in the Contract. If it is later determined by COG that the SUBRECIPIENT had an excusable reason for not performing, such as strike, fire, or flood, events which are beyond the control of the SUBRECIPIENT, COG, after setting up a new delivery of performance schedule, may allow the SUBRECIPIENT to continue work, or treat the termination as a termination for convenience.

3. COG in its sole discretion may, in the case of termination for breach or default, allow the SUBRECIPIENT ten (10) working days in which to cure the defect. In such case, the notice of termination will state the time period in which cure is permitted and other appropriate conditions.

If the SUBRECIPIENT fails to remedy to COG's satisfaction the breach or

default of any of the terms, covenants, or conditions of this Contract within the ten (10) working days after receipt by the SUBRECIPIENT of written notice from COG setting forth the nature of said breach or default, COG shall have the right to terminate the Contract without further obligation to the SUBRECIPIENT. Any such termination for default shall not in any way operate to preclude COG from also pursuing all available remedies against the SUBRECIPIENT and its sureties for said breach or default.

4. In the event COG elects to waive its remedies for any breach by the SUBRECIPIENT of any covenant, term or condition of this Contract, such waiver by COG shall not limit COG's remedies for any succeeding breach of that or any other term, covenant, or condition of this Contract.
- L. **Civil Rights Requirements** - 29 U.S.C. § 62, 42 U.S.C. § 2000, 42 U.S.C. § 602, 42 U.S.C. § 12112, 42 U.S.C. § 12132, 49 U.S.C. § 5332

A. **Nondiscrimination**

In accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act, as amended, 42 U.S.C. § 2000d, section 303 of the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended, 42 U.S.C. § 6102, section 202 of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, 42 U.S.C. § 12132, and all other provisions of federal law, the SUBRECIPIENT agrees that it will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, color, creed, national origin, sex, age, or disability. In addition, the SUBRECIPIENT agrees to comply with applicable federal implementing regulations. The clauses of Appendix A and E of the U.S. DOT Standard Title VI Assurances (USDOT 1050.2A) are incorporated herein by reference.

B. **Equal Employment Opportunity**. The following equal employment opportunity requirements apply to the underlying contract:

1. **Race, Color, Creed, National Origin, Sex**

In accordance with Title VII of the Civil Rights Act, as amended, 42 U.S.C. § 2000e, the SUBRECIPIENT agrees to comply with all applicable equal employment opportunity requirements of U.S. Department of Labor (U.S. DOL) regulations, "Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs, Equal Employment Opportunity, Department of Labor," 41 C.F.R. Parts 60 *et seq.* (which implement Executive Order No. 11246, "Equal Employment Opportunity," as amended by Executive Order No. 11375, "Amending Executive Order 11246 Relating to Equal Employment Opportunity," 42 U.S.C. § 2000e note), and with any applicable federal statutes, executive orders, regulations, and federal policies that may in the future affect activities undertaken in the course of this PROJECT. The SUBRECIPIENT agrees to take affirmative action to ensure that applicants are employed, and

that employees are treated during employment without regard to their race, color, creed, national origin, sex, or age. Such action shall include, but not be limited to, the following: employment, upgrading, demotion or transfer, recruitment or recruitment advertising, layoff or termination; rates of pay or other forms of compensation; and selection for training, including apprenticeship. In addition, the SUBRECIPIENT agrees to comply with apprenticeship. In addition, the SUBRECIPIENT agrees to comply with any implementing requirements the funding federal agency may issue.

2. Age

In accordance with section 4 of the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967, as amended, 29 U.S.C. § 623 and other applicable law, the SUBRECIPIENT agrees to refrain from discrimination against present and prospective employees for reason of age. In addition, the SUBRECIPIENT agrees to comply with any implementing requirements the funding federal agency may issue.

3. Disabilities

In accordance with section 102 of the Americans with Disabilities Act, as amended, 42 U.S.C. § 12112, the SUBRECIPIENT agrees that it will comply with the requirements of U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, "Regulations to Implement the Equal Employment Provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act," 29 C.F.R. Part 1630, pertaining to employment of persons with disabilities. In addition, the SUBRECIPIENT agrees to comply with any implementing requirements the funding federal agency may issue.

C. The SUBRECIPIENT also agrees to include these requirements in each subcontract financed in whole or in part with federal assistance, modified only if necessary, to identify the affected parties.

M. **Breaches and Dispute Resolution.**

1. Disputes

Disputes arising in the performance of this Contract which are not resolved by agreement of the parties shall be decided in writing by the COG Executive Director or his/her designee. This decision shall be final and conclusive, unless within ten (10) working days from the date of receipt of its copy, the SUBRECIPIENT mails or otherwise furnishes a written appeal to the Executive Director or his/her designee. In connection with any such appeal, the SUBRECIPIENT shall be afforded an opportunity to be heard and to offer evidence in support of its position. The decision of the Executive Director or his/her designee shall be binding upon the SUBRECIPIENT, and the SUBRECIPIENT shall abide by

the decision.

2. Performance During Dispute

Unless otherwise directed by COG, the SUBRECIPIENT shall continue performance under this Contract while matters in dispute are being resolved.

3. Claim for Damages

Should either party to the Contract suffer injury or damage to person or property because of any act or omission of the party or of any of its employees, agents or others for acts it is legally liable, a claim for damages therefore shall be made in writing to such other party within a reasonable time after the first observance of such injury or damage.

4. Remedies

Unless this Contract provides otherwise, all claims, counterclaims, disputes and other matters in question between COG and the SUBRECIPIENT arising out of or relating to this agreement or its breach may be submitted by the parties for arbitration if the parties mutually agree, otherwise, such claims, counterclaims, disputes and other matters shall be decided by a court of competent jurisdiction within the District of Columbia.

5. Rights and Remedies

The duties and obligations imposed by the Contract and the rights and remedies available there under shall be in addition to and not a limitation of any duties, obligations, rights and remedies otherwise imposed or available by law. No action or failure to act by COG or the SUBRECIPIENT shall constitute a waiver or any right or duty afforded to them under the Contract, nor shall any such action or failure to act constitute an approval of or acquiescence in any breach there under, except as may be specifically agreed in writing.

N. **Patent, Rights in Data and Proprietary Information.**

1. Rights in Data

The following requirements apply to each contract involving experimental, developmental or research work:

- a. The term "subject data" used in this clause means recorded information, whether or not copyrighted, that is delivered or specified to be delivered under the contract. The term includes graphic or pictorial delineation in media such as drawings or photographs; text in specifications or related performance or design-type documents; CDs or flash drives (thumbdrives) containing data; and any other

information retained in computer memory. Examples include, but are not limited to: computer software, engineering drawings and associated lists, specifications, standards, process sheets, manuals, technical reports, catalog item identifications, and related information. The term "subject data" does not include financial reports, cost analyses, and similar information incidental to contract administration.

- b. The following restrictions apply to all subject data first produced in the performance of the contract to which this Attachment has been added:
 - i. In accordance with 49 C.F.R. § 18.34 and 49 C.F.R. § 19.36, the Federal Government reserves a royalty-free, non-exclusive and irrevocable license to reproduce, publish, or otherwise use, and to authorize others to use, for "Federal Government purposes," any subject data or copyright described in subsections M.2.a and M.2.b of this clause below. As used in the previous sentence, "for Federal Government purposes," means use only for the direct purposes of the Federal Government. Without the copyright owner's consent, the Federal Government may not extend its federal license to any other party.
 - (1) Any subject data developed under that contract, whether or not a copyright has been obtained; and
 - (2) Any rights of copyright purchased by the Purchaser or the SUBRECIPIENT using federal assistance.

2. Patent Rights

The following requirements apply to each contract involving experimental, developmental, or research work:

- a. General - If any invention, improvement, or discovery is conceived or first actually reduced to practice in the course of or under the contract to which this Attachment has been added, and that invention, improvement, or discovery is patentable under the laws of the United States of America or any foreign country, the Purchaser and the SUBRECIPIENT agree to take actions necessary to provide immediate notice and a detailed report to the party at a higher tier until the federal funding agency is ultimately notified.
- b. Unless the Federal Government later makes a contrary determination in writing, irrespective of the SUBRECIPIENT status (a large business, small business, state government or state instrumentality, local

government, nonprofit organization, institution of higher education, individual), the Purchaser and the SUBRECIPIENT agree to take the necessary actions to provide, through the federal funding agency, those rights in that invention due the Federal Government as described in the U.S. Department of Commerce regulations, "Rights to Inventions Made by Nonprofit Organizations and Small Business Firms Under Government Grants, Contracts and Cooperative Agreements," 37 C.F.R. Part 401.

- c. The SUBRECIPIENT also agrees to include the requirements of this clause in each subcontract for experimental, developmental, or research work financed in whole or in part with federal assistance.

3. Proprietary Information

- a. All materials provided in solicitation responses and contracts that are proprietary should be marked as such.
- b. COG accepts no responsibility for the release of any information submitted that is not marked as proprietary or confidential.

O. Interest of Members of Congress

No member of, or delegates to, the Congress of the United States shall be admitted to a share or part of this Contract or to any benefit arising there from.

P. Interest of Employees of COG

No employee of COG who exercises any functions or responsibilities in review or approval of the undertaking or carrying out the PROJECT during his or her tenure or one (1) year thereafter, shall have any personal interest, direct or indirect, apart from his or her official duties, in this Contract or the proceeds thereof.

Q. Interest of the SUBRECIPIENT

The SUBRECIPIENT covenants that it has presently no financial interest, shall not acquire any financial interest, direct or indirect, which would conflict in any manner or degree with the performance of services required to be performed under this Contract. The SUBRECIPIENT further covenants that, in the performance of this Contract, no person having any such interest shall be employed.

R. Payment

Payments to the Contractor pursuant to this Contract shall be made no later than 30 days after COG's receipt of a proper invoice from the Contractor and shall be made electronically.

1. **Electronic Payment** means the payment of money to a vendor by electronic means, including by means of a Purchase Card (P-card) or Automated Clearing House (ACH) funds transfer method. The vendor may choose the form of payment that best suits them.
2. COG has implemented a P-Card Program utilizing MASTERCARD networks. Purchases from this contract can be made utilizing COG's P-Card.
3. Contractors will receive payment from the P-Card in the same manner as other credit card purchases. The payments typically are transferred within 48 hours.
4. COG can also accept ACH transactions. This method will be acceptable as a form of payment to our vendors. Please keep in mind the turn-around time on ACH transactions can be as long as 30 days.

NOTE: Vendor must accept either P-card or ACH payments. COG will not issue checks for payments under this contract.

S. Allowable Costs

Only those costs which are consistent with Title 2 Part 200 of the Code of Federal Regulations shall be reimbursed under this Contract.

T. Covenant Against Contingent Fees

The SUBRECIPIENT warrants that it has not employed any person to solicit or secure this Contract upon any agreement for a commission, percentage, brokerage or contingent fee. Breach of warranty shall give the Contracts Officer the right to terminate this Contract or, in his discretion, to deduct from the Contract price or consideration the amount of such commission, percentage, brokerage or contingent fees. This warranty shall not apply to commissions payable by the SUBRECIPIENT upon contracts or sales secured or made through a bona fide established commercial or selling agency maintained by the SUBRECIPIENT for the purpose of securing business.

U. Indemnification

The SUBRECIPIENT, acting as an independent SUBRECIPIENT, shall hold COG harmless from and shall be solely responsible, where found liable, for the payment of any and all claims for loss, personal injury, death, property damage, or otherwise, arising out of any act of omission or negligence of its employees or agents in connection with the performance of this work.

V. Severability

It is understood and agreed by the parties that if any of these provisions shall contravene, or be invalid under, the laws of the particular state, county or

jurisdiction where used, such contravention or invalidity shall not invalidate the whole agreement, but the Contract shall be construed as of not containing the particular provision or provisions held to be invalid in the said particular state, county or jurisdiction and the rights and obligations of the parties shall be construed and enforced accordingly.

W. Assignments

This Contract shall not be assigned, sublet or transferred in whole or in part by the SUBRECIPIENT, except with the previous written consent of the COG Contracting Officer or his designee.

X. Entire Agreement

This Contract sets forth the entire understanding of the parties and supersedes all previous agreements, whether oral or in writing, relating to the subject matter hereof. This Contract may only be altered, amended or modified in accordance with Changes Clause of this Contract.

Y. Confidential or Personal Data

COG respects the privacy or business interests involved in confidential or personal data. It is COG's policy to obtain confidential or personal data or store or allow storage of such data only -

1. When necessary to fulfill COG's information-gathering and data collection responsibilities
2. In conjunction with COG projects. COG intends to minimize risk of disclosure of such confidential or personal data.
3. Whenever feasible and the requirements of a project allow, the names of survey participants or users of a website or other data collection method shall not be accepted, recorded, stored or retained.
4. When COG engages in a project, which involves the collection or storage of confidential or personal information by or through use of surveys, websites or by other data collection, the following conditions shall be met:
 - a. The survey, website or other collection method shall contain a set of conditions for use and a disclaimer of any COG liability for use, in language approved by COG in writing.
 - b. The party(ies) working with COG shall demonstrate adherence to a federal or applicable state standard for protecting confidential or personal information.

- c. The confidential or personal information collected or stored by or through the survey, website or other data collection shall be kept confidential. All necessary steps shall be taken to protect the privacy of the users of the website or other data collection. Any confidential or personal information provided by users of the website or other data collection, including but not limited to their names and addresses, shall be protected.
- d. COG shall retain control over and ownership of all surveys, web pages, control files and scripts, database schema, and database contents, in addition to all content which is published on or stored by the website or other data collection, unless COG specifically agrees in writing otherwise.
- e. No release of any announcements intended for public dissemination concerning the collection or storage of such information by or through the survey, website or other data collection shall occur until COG has given prior written authorization, unless COG specifically agrees in writing otherwise.
- f. In the event that information collected or stored by or through the survey, website or other data collection shall be stolen or handled incorrectly, the party(ies) working with COG on the PROJECT shall be responsible for any required notification to persons who have entered personal information in that system and all costs related thereto.
- g. The PROJECT documents shall provide that other parties working with COG on the survey, website or other data collection or storage shall indemnify COG with at least the following commitment:

The [SUBRECIPIENT or other party] shall indemnify and hold COG harmless from and shall be solely responsible, for the payment of any and all claims for loss, personal injury, death, property damage, infringement or misappropriation of any third party's intellectual property rights, violation of privacy, confidentiality or otherwise, arising out of any act of omission or negligence of its employees or agents in connection with the performance of the work under this [agreement or memorandum of understanding].
- h. At the end of the project or contract, any personal or confidential information shall be given to COG or destroyed, and a certification of destruction provided to COG by the SUBRECIPIENT or other party.

Z. COG's Policies and Procedures

When federal law, or any grant conditions, certifications or assurances require COG to utilize competitive procurement procedures for selection of a SUBRECIPIENT, COG's policies and procedures shall govern every aspect of the SUBRECIPIENT selection process, e.g., the solicitation, evaluation, award, and post-award process (including, without limitation, any protest of an award, and the terms and conditions under which a contract may be approved, executed and administered). Any SUBRECIPIENT and potential SUBRECIPIENT will be provided with a copy of such policies and procedures, on request.

AA. COG's Information Technology Policy

Contractors that must access COG's Information Technology systems or require a COG login account to perform their duties must adhere to COG's Information Technology Policies and Procedures. Such contractors will receive a copy of the policies and procedures prior to receiving access to COG's IT systems.

BB. COG's Facilities, Policies, and Procedures

Contractors that must use any of COG's facilities or equipment must adhere to COG's Facilities, Policies and Procedures. Contractors that utilize any AV or IT equipment through the use of COG's facilities shall also comply with COG's IT Policy. Such contractors will receive a copy of all relevant procedures prior to receiving access to COG's IT systems.

CC. Additional Requirements

In addition to the terms and conditions expressly referenced in this Contract, the SUBRECIPIENT acknowledges and agrees that the terms and conditions of any federal or state grant that provides funding for this Contract, in whole or in part, shall apply to and shall govern the parties' rights and obligations under this Contract and shall be deemed additional terms, conditions and requirements of this Contract.

DD. DBE Assurance

The SUBRECIPIENT shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, or sex in the performance of this Contract. The SUBRECIPIENT shall carry out applicable requirements of 49 C.F.R. Part 26 in the award and administration of USDOT-assisted contracts. Failure by the SUBRECIPIENT to carry out these requirements is a material breach of this Contract, which may result in the termination of this Contract or such other remedy as the COG deems appropriate.

EE. Audits

Per the Enhanced Mobility Circular, COG as the Designated Recipient for Enhanced Mobility funds will collect A-133 audit reports from the

SUBRECIPIENT receiving more than \$750,000 in federal funds. At a minimum, the SUBRECIPIENT is required to bring to COGTPB's attention any audit findings relevant to its use of FTA funds. The SUBRECIPIENT is not subject to A-133 audit requirements and may require additional monitoring, in a format elected by COG, to ensure compliance.

FF. FFATA Reporting

1. The Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act ("FFATA") requires prime recipients of federal grants and contracts to report sub-award and executive compensation data. COG is the prime recipient of federal awards for the purposes of this policy and is responsible for reporting sub-award data.
2. COG and first-tier sub-awardees are required to maintain current registration in the System for Awards Management ("SAM") as well as obtain a DUNS number. COG is responsible for filing the report in the FSR system, not sub-awardees. However, sub-award recipients must provide the following information to COG before they will be eligible to receive the sub-award:
 - a. The entity's information
 - b. Description and/or title of the sub-award (including NAICS code or CFDA number)
 - c. Date and amount of award
 - d. Location of the entity receiving the award and the primary location of performance under the award, including the city, state, congressional district, and country
 - e. Active and current SAM unique identifier
 - f. DUNS number
 - g. Names and total compensation of the five (5) highest paid officers/executives of the sub-recipient **if** all three criteria are met:
 - a) Federal awards make up 80% or more of the SUBRECIPIENT's annual gross revenues
 - b) The SUBRECIPIENT's annual gross revenue from federal awards is \$25 million or more
 - c) The SUBRECIPIENT's officer names are not publicly available and the public does not have access to data on executive compensation of the

entity through the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) as described in further detail in OMB Guidance on Sub-award and Executive Compensation Reporting (August 27, 2010)

(COG, as the prime recipient of the federal award, must also report its own executive compensation data by the end of the month following the award if the same criterion noted above is met.)

GG. Priority of Requirements

In the event of a conflict between or among any of the terms, conditions and requirements applicable to this Contract, the conflict shall be resolved by giving weight in accordance with the following priorities, in the order as stated below:

1. Terms and conditions of any grant that provides funding for this Contract, in whole or in part;
2. Terms and conditions set forth or referenced within this Contract;
3. Terms and conditions and representations set forth or referenced within Attachments A and F to this Contract;
4. Terms, conditions, specifications, and requirements set forth within any solicitation (e.g., RFP or IFB) pursuant to which this Contract was awarded;
5. Offers, representations, promises, terms and conditions set forth with the bid or proposal submitted in response to any solicitation (e.g., RFP or IFB) pursuant to which this Contract was awarded.

** Remainder of page is blank **

ATTACHMENT B OFFEROR DEBARMENT FORM

**CERTIFICATION REGARDING
DEBARMENT, SUSPENSION, AND OTHER
RESPONSIBILITY MATTERS**

The prospective vendor certifies to the best of its knowledge and belief that it and its principals:

- Are not presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from covered transactions by any Federal department or agency;
- Are not presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from covered transactions by any department or agency of the District of Columbia, State of Maryland or the Commonwealth of Virginia or any of the 24 jurisdictions comprising the membership of the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG);
- Have not within a three year period preceding this date been convicted of or had a civil judgment rendered against them for commission of fraud or criminal offense in connection with obtaining, attempting to obtain, or performing a public (Federal, State or local) transaction or contract under a public transaction; violation of Federal or State antitrust statutes or commission of embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, making false statements, or receiving stolen property;
- Are not presently indicted for or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by a government entity (Federal, State or local) with commission of any of the offenses enumerated above of this certification; and
- Have not within a three-year period preceding this date had one or more public transactions (Federal, State or local) terminated for cause or default.

Vendor understands that a false statement on this certification may be grounds for rejection of any submitted proposal or quotation or termination of any award. In addition, under 18 U.S.C. § 1001, a false statement may result in a fine of up to \$10,000 or imprisonment for up to 5 years, or both if federal funds are being used to support the procurement.

Typed Name of Vendor

Typed Name & Title of Authorized Representative

Signature of Authorized Representative

Date

ATTACHMENT C OFFEROR REFERENCES FORM

CONTRACTOR: _____

PROVIDE A MINIMUM OF THREE (3) REFERENCES FROM CUSTOMERS THAT ARE CAPABLE OF DISCUSSING YOUR COMPANY'S ABILITY TO PERFORM CONTRACTS OF COMPARABLE SIZE AND SCOPE. It is imperative that accurate contact names and phone numbers be given for the projects listed. All references should include a contact person who can comment on the company's ability to perform the services required under this contract. The company should insure that telephone numbers and contact names given are up-to-date and accurate.

Reference Number 1

1. Name of Client Organization: _____
2. Name and Title of Point of Contact (POC) for Client Organization: _____

3. Phone Number of POC: _____
4. Approximate Value of Contract: _____
5. Duration of Contract: _____
6. Description of Services Provided: _____

Reference Number 2

1. Name of Client Organization: _____
2. Name and Title of Point of Contact (POC) for Client Organization: _____

3. Phone Number of POC: _____
4. Approximate Value of Contract: _____
5. Duration of Contract: _____
6. Description of Services Provided: _____

CONTRACT REFERENCES cont'd

Reference Number 3

1. Name of Client Organization: _____
2. Name and Title of Point of Contact (POC) for Client Organization: _____

3. Phone Number of POC: _____
4. Approximate Value of Contract: _____
5. Duration of Contract: _____
6. Description of Services Provided: _____

Reference Number 4

1. Name of Client Organization: _____
2. Name and Title of Point of Contact (POC) for Client Organization: _____

3. Phone Number of POC: _____
4. Approximate Value of Contract: _____
5. Duration of Contract: _____
6. Description of Services Provided: _____

Reference Number 5

1. Name of Client Organization: _____
2. Name and Title of Point of Contact (POC) for Client Organization: _____

3. Phone Number of POC: _____
4. Approximate Value of Contract: _____
5. Duration of Contract: _____
6. Description of Services Provided: _____

ATTACHMENT D DBE FORM SAMPLE

**DBE FORM
SAMPLE**

DBE Plan Submission		
<p>A. Disadvantaged Business Enterprise ("DBE") participation should be an integral component of the consultant selection process for this solicitation. COG's DBE Policy may be viewed on its website https://www.mwcog.org/purchasing-and-bids/dbe-policy/.</p> <p>B. Responding firms shall submit with their proposals a DBE Participation Plan to meet this goal. The plan shall identify any DBE that shall be participating in the project.</p> <p>C. The plan shall include the name and address of each firm, a copy of the firm's current DBE Certification (as of the date of submission) from any federal, state, or local government agency that certifies the DBE firm. Failure to provide the proof of DBE certification for prime or subcontracting firms will result in disqualification of DBE points.</p> <p>D. Only current DBE certifications will be accepted by COG for this purpose. Pending certifications are not eligible for points in this solicitation.</p> <p>E. No certifications except DBE are eligible for points. Do not submit MBE, SMB, SWaM or other certification types. They will be rejected and no points will be awarded. No exceptions.</p>		
PROPOSER	Name: _____	
Total Proposed Budget	Value: \$ _____	
DBE Plan	Yes _____ No _____	
Check if Prime Contractor is a DBE _____ . Certification Form Must Be Attached to this form.	Certification # _____	Expiration Date: _____
DBE Certification	State: _____	Certification Type: DBE (must be DBE)
	Certifying Agency: _____	
DBE SUBCONTRACTOR 1	Name: _____	
Street Address	_____	Tax ID #: _____
City, State, Zip	_____	Website: _____
POINT OF CONTACT	Name: _____ Title: _____	
	Email: _____ Telephone: _____	
Subcontract Value	Cost \$ _____	Percentage of total _____%
DBE Performance Period	Start ___/___/___	End ___/___/___
DBE Certification	State: _____	Certification Type: DBE (must be DBE)
Certification Form Must Be Attached to this form	Certification # _____	Expiration Date: _____
BREAKDOWN BY ETHNICITY & GENDER	MALE	FEMALE
Black American		
Hispanic American		
Native American		
Asian-Pacific American		
Subcontinent Asian American		
Non-Minority		
<i>See page 2 for for additional DBE subcontractors</i>		

ATTACHMENT E RIDER FORM SAMPLE

COG Cooperative Rider Clause

The COG Cooperative Purchasing Program works to aggregate the public entity and non-profit purchasing volumes in the National-Capital region of Maryland, Virginia and Washington, D.C.

I. Format

COG serves as the Lead Agency of this procurement and has included this Cooperative Rider Clause indicating its willingness to allow other public entities to participate in this procurement ("Participating Agency") pursuant to the following Terms and Conditions:

II. Terms

- A. A Participating Agency, through their use of this Cooperative Rider Clause, agree to the terms and conditions of the resulting contract to the extent that they can be reasonably applied to the Participating Agency.
- B. A Participating Agency may also negotiate additional terms and conditions specific to their local requirements upon mutual agreement between the parties.

III. Other Conditions - Contract and Reporting

- A. The resulting contract shall be governed by and "construed" in accordance with the laws of the State/jurisdiction in which the Participating Agency is officially located.
- B. Contract obligations rest solely with the Participating Agency only.
- C. Contractor must provide semi-annual contract usage reporting information to COG, including but not limited to quantity, unit pricing and total volume of sales by entity on demand and without further approval of Participating Agency;

Semi-annual reporting Due Dates beginning from Contract execution:

- November 30, covering May 1 – October 31
 - May 31, covering November 1 – April 30
- D. Contractor is required to report any Participating Agency that is added to the contract and a **COG Rider Clause Approval Form** must be filled out by the Participating Agency and approved by COG (see form below).
 - E. Significant changes in total contract value may result in further negotiations of contract pricing with the Lead Agency and any Participating Agency.
 - F. Although Participating Members (see next page) are the priority of this rider clause, organizations not on this list are permitted to use this clause by mutual agreement and approval by COG.

II. Participating Members

COG Member Governments

- **District of Columbia**

 - **Maryland**

 - Town of Bladensburg
 - City of Bowie
 - City of College Park
 - Charles County
 - City of Frederick
 - Frederick County
 - City of Gaithersburg
 - City of Greenbelt
 - City of Hyattsville
 - City of Laurel
 - Montgomery County
 - Prince George's County
 - City of Rockville
 - City of Takoma Park

 - **Virginia**

 - City of Alexandria
 - Arlington County
 - City of Fairfax
 - Fairfax County
 - City of Falls Church
 - Loudoun County
 - City of Manassas
 - City of Manassas Park
 - Prince William County

 - **Other Local Governments**

 - Town of Herndon
 - Spotsylvania County
 - Stafford County
 - Town of Vienna

 - **Public Authorities/Agencies**

 - Alexandria Renew Enterprises
 - District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority
 - Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority
 - Montgomery County Housing Opportunities Commission
 - Potomac & Rappahannock Transportation Commission/ Omni Ride
 - Prince William County Service Authority
 - Upper Occoquan Service Authority

- Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority
- Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission

 - **School Systems**

 - Alexandria Public Schools
 - Arlington County Public Schools
 - Charles County Public Schools
 - District of Columbia Public Schools
 - Frederick County Public Schools
 - Loudoun County Public Schools
 - City of Manassas Public Schools
 - Montgomery College
 - Montgomery County Public Schools
 - Prince George's County Public Schools
 - Prince William County Public Schools
 - Spotsylvania County Schools
 - Winchester Public Schools

 - **State Agencies**

- Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission
-

BALTIMORE METROPOLITAN COUNCIL

- City of Annapolis
- Anne Arundel County
- Anne Arundel County Public Schools
- Anne Arundel Community College
- City of Baltimore
- Baltimore City Public Schools
- Baltimore County
- Baltimore County Public Schools
- Community College of Baltimore County
- Carroll County
- Harford County
- Harford County Public Schools
- Harford Community College
- Howard County
- Howard County Public Schools System
- Howard Community College
- Queen Anne's County
- Queen Anne's County Public Schools

**COG Rider Clause
Approval Form**
Sample only – Do Not Fill Out

This form must be executed for any Participating Agency, both within and outside of the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) region, to use the COG Cooperative Rider Clause to ride solicitations and contracts.

Participating Agency Name _____

Contact Person _____

Phone _____ Email Address _____

Solicitation/Contract Information:

Name Solicitation/Contract _____

Lead Agency/Contract Holder _____

Contact Person _____

Solicitation/Contract Number _____ Other Reference _____

Vendor Information:

Contractor Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Contact Person _____

Phone _____ Email Address _____

See questions on next page.

Sample only – Do Not Fill Out

<u>Questions</u> –	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>
1. Is the Contract active and currently in force?	_____	_____
2. Is the Participating Agency’s specifications/scope of work the same or very similar to that in the Contract?	_____	_____
3. Is riding this Contract within the rules and regulations of the Participating Agency and approved by the Participating Agency’s Purchasing Department?	_____	_____

Participating Entity

Name _____

Title _____

Signature _____

**Metropolitan Washington
Council of Governments**

Name _____

Title _____

Signature _____



ADDENDUM 1
June 7, 2022

Questions/**Answers**

1. In VIII.C.1 (Technical Proposal Contents), Section 1 (Qualifications of the firm and key personnel, RFP page 11) is limited to 10 pages, but items a (team description) and b (approach) within this section add to 10 pages total, leaving no page room for item c (organization and staff experience). Please clarify how long item c should be and the total Section 1 should be.

Correction will add two pages to the total allowed in Section 1.

“Section 1. Qualifications of the firm and key personnel (**12 pages**, excluding resumes)

- a. Team Description: Identify the team lead, and each of the support team members, describing role and capabilities of each. (two pages maximum)
- b. Approach: Provide a written description of how the team will approach each of the Tasks under the Scope of Services. Include information on proposed models, tools, data sources, etc. (two pages maximum per Task – total 8 pages)
- c. Organizational and Staff Experience: Provide brief details on recent organizational and staff experience in each of the Task areas within the Scope of Services. (**Two pages maximum**)”

2. In VIII.E (page 13), section E indicates that the proposal should be submitted in 4 sections, but above in VIII.B (page 11) the RFP indicates that the proposal should be split into three files, not including attachments. The number of files and sections does not align and the contents are slightly different between the areas of the RFP requirements (e.g., where resumes should be included, with past work as indicated on page 13, or in a separate file). Can COG please clarify what should be included in which files for submission?

Sections 1 and 2 should be submitted in the same electronic file.
Resumes and Past Work should be submitted in the same file

File Submission alignment -

File 1 - Section 1 - Letter of Interest, Table of Contents, Executive Summary and Technical Proposal Section 2 – Project Management Plan

File 2 - Section 3 – Resumes and Past Work

File 3 - Section 4 – Offeror Responses/Cost/Forms

3. VIII.B item 3 c (page 11) indicates a DBE plan needs to be submitted, and page 13 item D.5 indicates a DBE form needs to be submitted, however in Section XI on page 17 the RFP states that “See the sample DBE Plan form Attachment D. This does not need to be filled out at this time. “ Can COG please clarify if a DBE form or plan needs to be submitted with the proposal response?

The wording on page 17 was a typo. A DBE Plan (and certification documentation) based on the tasks spelled out must be submitted with this response. A link to a writable PDF form for this purpose is at <https://www.mwcog.org/documents/2022/05/27/dbe-plan-goals-submission-form/>. Proposers will be scored based on that submission.

Any later Task Orders under this contract(s) will require additional DBE Plans to be submitted.

Please remember that this MUST be DBE firms only. No other certification will be accepted. Other certifications such as MBE, SWaM, etc. are NOT accepted and will not be scored.

More information on COG’s DBE Policy can be found at <https://www.mwcog.org/purchasing-and-bids/dbe-policy/>

4. Will MWCOC accept a partial proposal (i.e. for Task 1 only)?

No. The offer needs to address all tasks. The awardee(s) will need the capability to handle all tasks within the scope.



ADDENDUM 2
June 10, 2022

Questions/**Answers**

1. a. The DBE form requires a total budget and percent of DBE. Given this is an IDIQ contract how should responders develop a total cost and DBE percentage?

See Addendum 1 Question 3. The response should provide a sample DBE plan based on the sample task list in the RFP.

- b. Should responders use the sample product costs developed to complete the DBE form? If so, should responders assume the high or low sample product costs?

There is no high or low range being requested. Only one set of pricing should be submitted, or the response could be deemed non-responsive.

2. Can COG confirm that the labor category Analyst, Associate was intended to be two separate categories:
 - Analyst
 - Associate

Yes.

3. Please confirm if Contractors will be limited to using *only* the DBEs outlined in their DBE Plan as part of the response to the IDIQ or if other DBEs can be utilized depending on the task orders issued.

See Addendum 1 Question 3. The response should provide a sample DBE plan based on the sample task list.

Other DBE's can be used in later task order proposals as they are required.

COG requires a good faith effort be made on all solicitations to use DBE firms.



ADDENDUM 3
June 15, 2022

Questions/**Answers**

1. A. Should the responder interpret the answer to 1.)b.) Addendum 2 to replace the requirements of the RFP on page 13 which state: "Sample Product Cost: Provide a range (low/high) of the total estimated cost to develop each of the following."

B. In Addendum 2, Question 1, Part b, the response states that "There is no high or low range being requested." However, this is contradictory to Section VII.D.2.b which states: "Provide a range (low/high) of the total estimated cost...". Please confirm that the response in Addendum 2, Question 1 overrules the instructions in Section VII.D.2.b.

COG apologizes for the confusion. The request for a high low range was an error. One price is requested using the form provided, and a DBE Plan is required for that plan.

2. Should responders only provide one cost for a sample task order that includes an inventory and climate plan for both the local government and the community and a half day technical workshop?

Yes

3. Should responders also note within this one task order sample response discounts and in-kind services?

Yes



ADDENDUM 4
June 17, 2022

RFP Response date is extended to July 8, 2022 @ 2PM EDT.

Questions/**Answers**

1. a. Does Addendum 1 overrule the structure outlined in VIII., B. Document Organization? Should proposers now disregard this prescribed format?: *All potential Contractors must submit their proposals following the prescribed format as per Section VIII.B.*

b. The instructions in VIII. C. Proposal Content Details did not align well with the original prescribed format in VIII., B. Document Organization and do not align well with the structure indicated in Addendum 1. For example: VIII. C. Proposal Content Details does not mention Resumes in its description of Section 3. Proposers are left uncertain as to which aspects of VIII. C. Proposal Content Details still apply.

c. In VIII. C. Proposal Content Details, Section 3. References of the Past Work and Contractor and any Subcontractor(s) (referred to as Section 3: Resumes and Past Work in Addendum 1), the instructions simply say: *a. Past Performance/Offeror References (no more than 5 pages)*

Per Addendum 1 the Alignment is as follows:

File Submission alignment -

File 1 - Section 1 - Letter of Interest, Table of Contents, Executive Summary and Technical Proposal Section 2 – Project Management Plan

File 2 - Section 3 – Resumes and Past Work

File 3 - Section 4 – Offeror Responses/Cost/Forms

2. May we request a one-week extension to the deadline of June 24, 2022 to provide enough time for answers to inform proposals?

RFP Response date is extended to Friday, July 8, 2022, @ 2:00 PM EDT.

3. Please further explain the contract payment structure. What will be the average or expected range of sub-project values/budgets?

Smaller Task Order Awards could be in the range of <\$10,000 to >\$50,000 while larger awards could be greater than \$100,000.

4. Should awardee expect to interact consistently with the same team of people, or will there be new teams for each sub-contract?

Within COG, the COG team staff will be relatively consistent. For work with organizations outside of COG, the team will vary depending on the project.

Different teams can be put together by the contractor for each different task order but a DBE plan and a "good faith" effort to use DBEs is required for every task order.

5. Will sub-contracts be generally structured around specific member municipalities and organizations, specific emissions types and technologies, or some other project organizational structure?

In many cases, COG would be the lead on task orders on behalf of jurisdictions and in those cases, COG's terms and conditions would be in place as per the RFP and resulting contract(s).

Other municipalities may ride this contract as per the rider clause and they may have different terms and conditions. Any use of the rider clause must be by mutual agreement of both parties.

The structure will depend on the project and this cannot be defined at this time.

6. Does MWCG prefer to adhere to the ICLEI Greenhouse gas protocol? (A Task 1, 3)

Yes.

7. With regard to open-source tools, marketing strategies and awareness, will these requirements need to be stand-alone, project specific deliverables or single tools that bring together several individual sub-projects to one place? (D. Task 4, 7)

This will depend on the specific project; it could involve either stand-alone tools for specific projects or could be an overarching tool to serve multiple needs.

8. Do our DBE consultants need to be specifically certified through MWCOG, or are DBE certifications from other entities (DOTs, etc.) still valid?

COG does not certify DBE's. They can be certified through any DBE certifying organization in the United States, but they must be DBE only. No other certification is accepted. Other certification types are not accepted.

Certification documentation, typically a letter from the certifying agency, for all DBE's being proposed must be provided with the Proposal to earn points on the evaluation process. COG staff will not research the DBE status for any proposers.

9. There are a number of pieces identified under Offeror Responses/Cost/Forms (page 13) that we cannot find. Can you please clarify the following?

a. Responses to Checklist: *Is this the checklist on the Proposal Response Form?*

YES

b. Offeror Certification: *Only applicable for DBE prime consultants?*

NO. As per above...Certification documentation, typically a letter from the certifying agency, for all DBE's being proposed must be provided with the Proposal to earn points on the evaluation process. COG staff will not research the DBE status for any proposers. This includes subcontractors and prime contractors.

c. Offeror References Form(s): *Is this a duplicate of Attachment C, which is included in a separate file?*

YES. Offeror References Form begins on page 40 and is included in the File 3 – Section 4 (see Question 1 above).

10. For the project experience, we have been allotted 5 pages. The description specifies three project descriptions at one page each. Are we able to include two additional, one-page project descriptions?

YES. Additional project(s) can be added.



ADDENDUM 5
June 27, 2022

1. Can MWCOCG please expand on what they are looking for in regard to open-source calculators as state in scope item 15 under Task 2?

COG cannot identify all possible tools that may be needed or developed under this procurement, it will depend on specific project needs. An example of an open-source tool could be a simple spreadsheet tool that allows users to establish a baseline emission projection and then enter variables such as efficiency, market penetration, and applicability to estimate and graphically visualize potential emission reductions for specific mitigation strategies and actions. Another example could be the development of an online dashboard to track progress towards goals that can continue to be updated by staff in the future.

2. On page 16 in section XI it states: "DBE participation is NOT a factor in this phase." Please confirm that DBE participation is not a factor in scoring of proposals. If it is, please provide an updated scoring factor table.

COG has determined that consideration of DBE participation will not be included in the scoring factors for this RFP, however a sample DBE Plan based on the tasks being quoted is still required to demonstrate that the participants are making a good faith effort to include DBE's firms in their work.

Any later Task Orders under this contract(s) will require additional DBE Plans to be submitted.

Please remember that this MUST be DBE firms only. No other certification will be accepted.

3. Do DBE participants have to be certified with MWCOCG /appear on MWCOCGs list of DBEs or can they be certified through another state/entity?

Addendum 4:

COG does not certify DBE's. They can be certified through any DBE certifying organization in the United States, but they must be DBE only. No other certification is accepted.

Certification documentation, typically a letter from the certifying agency, for all DBE's being proposed must be provided with the sample DBE Plan. COG staff will not research the DBE status for any proposers.

4. Will the question deadline also be extended given the extension of the overall proposal due date of July 8th?

YES. As per the RFP the question Deadline is 5 working days prior to the RFP submission date.

5. Can MWCOG provide any additional guidance to assist proposers in estimating costs for the sample tasks?

Provide an estimate of the level of effort in terms of labor and other direct costs for work activities you would propose to complete the assignment.

6. Do proposers need to document assumptions in terms of hours and subtasks for the pricing of the sample tasks in the cost proposal?

Yes, provide labor and fully burdened salary rates as well as other direct costs.

7. In Section XIII Proposal Response Form – RFP 20-017 – should a Proposal Response Form be submitted for each individual team member or should only one form be submitted by the prime contractor?

One Proposal Response Form should be submitted by the Proposer only.

- a. Can the Section XIII Proposal Response Form – RFP 20-017 be edited to show the estimated future year rates or should that be included elsewhere in the proposal?

Future rates will be negotiated with the contractor.

8. Is any supporting documentation required for the DBE Plan, or is completing The DBE Plan Form (Attachment D) sufficient?

Yes, the DBE sample Plan will require certification documentation for any DBE being listed in the plan submission. See questions 2 and 3 in the addendum.

- a. Should the DBE Plan Form be Completed for each of the 4 tasks outlined in Section XIII – Proposal Response Form RFP 20-017?

Yes. See questions 2 and 3 in this addendum.

9. Should firms disregard the file labeling structure as requested in the RFQ...
- RFP 22-017 File A – Technical Proposal
 - RFP 22-017 File B **Price and DBE**
 - RFP 22-017 File C **References**

Given the new order of files?

- File 1 - Section 1 - Letter of Interest, Table of Contents, Executive Summary and Technical Proposal Section 2 – Project Management Plan
- File 2 - Section 3 – **Resumes and Past Work**
- File 3 - Section 4 – **Offeror Responses/Cost/Forms**

Yes