



**State of Rhode Island
Department of Administration / Division of Purchases
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**Solicitation Information
October 9, 2012, 2012**

ADDENDUM # 3

RFP#7458042

**LOI Title: The RI Bays, Rivers and watersheds Coordination Team: Municipal Utility District
Development Support**

Bid Opening Date & Time: 10/10/2012 @ 11:00 AM (Eastern Time)

Notice to Vendors:

**BID OPENING HAS BEEN POSTPONED UNTIL: 10/16/2012 @ 10 AM (EST) SAME LOCATION;
ONE CAPITOL HILL, SECOND FLOOR**

ATTACHED ARE VENDOR QUESTIONS WITH STATE RESPONSES.

NO FURTHER QUESTIONS WILL BE ANSWERED.

**Thomas Bovis
Interdepartmental Project Manager**

Interested parties should monitor this website, on a regular basis, for any additional information that may be posted.

Vendor Questions for LOI: # 7458042
Addendum 3

1. What level of understanding do the town residents have about the project?

Answer:

The topic of stormwater utilities has been raised at several public meetings including meetings of the Roads Committee, budget hearings and the presentation made by DEM to the Town Council on December 5, 2011, which was televised on a local cable station. In addition, there has been some press coverage including an editorial in the Newport Daily News on April 4, 2011 re-printing an editorial from the Westerly Sun in support of further studying a stormwater utility. Newport Patch has also provided some coverage.

2. Have mapping inverts been collected?

Answer:

Yes. Structure data includes number of pipes and pipe diameter, pipe material, and invert for each pipe identified. Field data sheets and database information will be made available following processing/review by Town. As of Oct 4, 2012, data has not been uploaded into Town's GIS.

3. Explain task 1 what was envisioned?

Answer:

Task 1 is to work with Town officials in creating a Stormwater Management Steering Committee, and to lead the Steering Committee through a process to review and gain understanding stormwater management issues faced by the Town of Middletown, and the benefits of a Stormwater Utility as further detailed on page 7 of the RFP, and subsequently in execution of Tasks 2-6. The number of meetings with the Steering Committee is to be determined by the consultant as necessary to execute the scope of work. Proposals should detail the approach to working with the Steering Committee including the number of meetings.

4. Who will be on the selection committee?

Answer:

The selection committee has not been formed yet, but will be composed of representatives from the Town of Middletown, RIDEM Office of Water Resources, and the RI Bays, Rivers, and Watersheds Coordination Team.

5. Will they be the same people on the task force?

Answer:

It is expected that there will be some overlap between people on the selection committee and the Project Management Team (referred to here as the task force).

6. Can the firm selected bid on the next phase of the project?

Answer: YES

7. Confirming that the pre bid was moved to September 28th at 9 am?

Answer: YES

8. On the second page of the RFP, the Title indicates "Port Development Opportunities Study". Assume this is incorrect and should be replaced with "Municipal Stormwater Utility District Development Support".

Answer: Yes

9. On page 5, the RFP indicates that the initial "Stormwater Utility District Feasibility Study" is attached. We did not see this file on the purchasing system or directly attached to the RFP. Could you provide a link to the document?

Answer: This study was posted as an addendum to the Lol

10. From the way the scope is written in the LOI for this project, it could result in a substantially less intensive or more intensive level of effort and level of detail in the resulting study. Level of effort will be limited by the project budget. Please provide budget information so that we can establish a practicable scope. Please include resources provided by the State of Rhode Island, Town of Middletown and other organizations that may contribute.

Answer:

We ask for bidders to provide the most competitive pricing they can offer with regard to each of the seven major tasks that entail this project. Accordingly, the Lol states that the cost proposals:

must identify costs for each project deliverable/service and will be inclusive of all costs and expenses. Costs should be itemized by major tasks and sub-tasks. Personnel costs should be detailed in hourly rates and the hours estimated for each task or sub-task. Contractors must also identify any assumptions made when developing their cost proposal. The State reserves the right to eliminate certain tasks from the final contract award pending funding availability.

We purposely decided not to divulge the available funding for this project because the inevitable result is that the ensuing cost proposals request the maximum amount of funding deemed available. We acknowledge that the delineated seven tasks are challenging and ambitious. We will be reviewing the project proposals and the cost proposals with the understanding that the full cost of completing these tasks may exceed the funding we have available at this time, and will be in a position to make adjustments to our current project work plan.

11. Tasks in the scope of work on this project are highly inter-related making it difficult to share tasks with another firm such as a DBE. How will DBE participation be evaluated in this project?

Answer:

It isn't clear to us what "DBE" stands for. We assume it refers to the following stipulation of state policy regarding Minority Business Enterprises (MBE's) on page 3 of the Lol:

The State of Rhode Island has a goal of ten percent (10%) participation by Minority Business Enterprises in all State procurements. For further information, visit the web site at www.mbe.ri.gov. To speak with an MBE officer, please call (401) 574-8253.

If our assumption is correct, (and we agree that the word "participation" could be misconstrued) the only evaluative criteria with regard to the incorporation of MBE's into the project is whether 10% of the total project cost (price) is devoted to work conducted by the MBE, and not expectations regarding the role or work responsibility of the MBE in the project.