

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION TO RFQ 10-D-00037
Additional discussion regarding inquiries made at Pre-submittal Meeting

Questions regarding potential conflicts (i.e., performing work for other agencies or private developers?)

Attached are excerpts from the City's Ethics Code. Submitters are expected to comply with those requirements.

The City is interested in firms that are independent (i.e., not performing transit related projects for FDOT, Hart, Hillsborough County or affiliated with developers pursuing project in the area of the proposed FDOT site in north downtown).

Firms that are shortlisted and requested to provide presentations may expect to be asked to discuss any business or professional relationships that could have bearing on the performance of responsibilities under this RFQ. The responsibility to identify and disclose such relationships is the submitters.

Will consideration be given to the impact of rail on historic preservation?
Will services include environmental studies?
Will there be a need for a community outreach component or website?

This RFQ seeks to retain professional services from firms with demonstrable experience to advise and make recommendations to the City relative to a wide range of issues relevant to or impacted by the development of various mass transit improvements, including but not limited to, high speed and light rail and its integration into the urban fabric of Tampa. Items questioned above are examples of some types of services that may be needed.

Will there be general engineering oversight?

This RFQ is a request for planning, advising, and recommendations relative to various aspects of the development of mass transit improvements, with a focus on high speed and light rail systems.

The contract that is established with the selected firm will be managed by appropriate City staff.

This RFQ is not a request for construction phase services for any specific project.

Requested clarification of low amount of city work category.

Information provided to staff reviewers relative to this category is of prime submitters. As described in the meeting, this category seeks to find the balance between firms that have performed excellent work for the City and those firms that have not had previous or recent contracts.

Does this involve other properties than FDOT station site?

There are immediate project tasks associated with review, advisement, and recommendations relative to the proposed FDOT station site. The scope of the project extends beyond site specific issues related to the FDOT station site. It is more accurate to think of the needed consulting services in terms of systems development and subsequent impacts than site or project specific. The consultant will be participating and providing valuable assistance to the City in developing its vision of mass transit and rail systems in all of its facets and impacts to the community.

Is this about exploring options or recommending projects?

This RFQ is ‘about’ developing an overall vision and strategies. Both exploration of options and refinement of options to recommend specific implementations are expected.

The selected firm will be reviewing the proposed work of other agencies who will be designing and constructing work, including but not limited to, the Tampa Station, as well as, providing consultation to the City of Tampa regarding the impact of the design and assisting the City in preparing comments.

The work will involve helping the City of Tampa flesh out and fully describe its vision for the new High Speed Rail Station and areas around the station.

This RFQ is not about the design or construction of any specific project.

Will there be additional RFQs for specific projects and will the selected firm be eligible for subsequent RFQs?

Depending on the nature of recommendations that develop from this project, the City may continue services or add related services to the selected firm.

Should the City choose to issue additional RFQs as a result of the services provided in this RFQ, prospective firms should not consider that the selected firm for this project is at either advantage or disadvantage in submitting for subsequent RFQs.

ARTICLE VIII. CITY OF TAMPA ETHICS CODE

Sec. 2-500. Title.

The provisions of this Article VIII shall be collectively referred to as “The City of Tampa Ethics Code” or “City Ethics Code”.

Excerpts:

Sec. 2-513. Parties contracting with city; prohibition of employment of certain officials and employees.

(a) The mayor, members of city council, and all department heads or directors of the city shall not solicit, accept, nor be employed, directly or indirectly, by any person, firm or corporation having any contractual relation with, or rendering any services to the city, or any department or agency thereof.

(b) No person, firm or corporation having any contractual relation with, or rendering any services to the city, or any department or agency thereof, shall employ, directly or indirectly, the mayor, any member of the city council, or any department head or director of the city. No persons, firm or corporation which has the mayor, member of the city council, or department head or director as an employee, shall be eligible to be considered to have a contractual relation with or to render for any consideration, services to the city.

(c) [Orlando] No employee of the city (other than those employees identified in subsection (a) above) or member of any board, commission or agency of the city, shall be directly or indirectly employed by any person, firm or corporation having, or proposing to have, any contractual relation with or rendering, or proposing to render for any consideration, services to the city or any department, board or agency thereof, if the approval, concurrence, decision, recommendation or advice of the official or employee shall be sought, obtained or required in any connection with such contract or service.

(d) No person, firm or corporation having, or proposing to have any contractual relationship with, or rendering or proposing to render for any consideration services to the city, or any department, board or agency of the city, shall employ, directly or indirectly, any employee or member of any board, commission or agency of the city, if the approval, concurrence, decision, recommendation or service of such official or employee shall be sought, obtained, or required in connection with such contract or service.

For purposes of this section, a person, firm or corporation shall be deemed to be "proposing to have a contractual relation with the city" or to be "proposing to render services to the city" if such person, firm, or corporation has submitted a bid to the city for a city contract, has made a contractual offer to the city or has requested the city to reconsider entering a contractual relation with the person, firm or corporation.

Sec. 2-522. Business ethics commitment required of contracting parties.

(a) [Dade Co] Each person or entity that seeks to do business with the city shall provide a business ethics commitment which acknowledges, agrees and commits that the person or entity shall comply with all applicable governmental and city rules and regulations including, among others, this code of ethics. The business ethics commitment shall be incorporated into and apply to all contracts that the person or entity enters into with the city.

The failure of a contracting party to comply with the business ethics commitment shall render any contract between the contractor and the city voidable, and subject violators to debarment from future city contracts.