

City of Seattle

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS

Consultant Contract #18-029-S

Project Title: Financial Assessments & Modeling On-call Services

Procurement Schedule

Table 1: Procurement Schedule

Schedule of Events	Date/Time
Solicitation Release	4/25 & 4/26
Optional Pre-Submittal Conference Seattle Municipal Tower 700 Fifth Ave, Floor 49, Room 4901 Seattle, WA 98104-5058	Monday, 5/1 8:30 AM To 11:00 AM
Deadline for Submitting Questions	5:00 PM on 5/8
Deadline for SPU Responses	5:00 PM on 5/10
Submittal Deadline	3:00 PM on 5/18
Interviews	6/4, 6/5, & 6/6
Announcement of Successful Respondent(s)	5/29
Anticipated Negotiation Schedule	7/19 to 8/19
Contract Execution	9/19

*The City reserves the right to modify this.
Changes will be posted on the City website or as otherwise stated.*



Procurement Contact

Contract Administrator: insert name, e-mail, phone

Table 2: Delivery Address

It is important to use the correct address for the delivery method you chose.

Fed Ex & Hand Delivery - Physical Address	US Post Office - Mailing Address
Seattle Public Utilities Contracts Division Seattle Municipal Tower 700 Fifth Avenue, 50 th Floor Seattle, Washington 98104-5058	Seattle Public Utilities Contracts Division Seattle Municipal Tower P.O. Box 34018 Seattle, Washington 98124-4018

Unless authorized by the Contract Administrator, no other City official or employee may speak for the City regarding this solicitation until award is complete. Any Proposer contacting other City officials or employees does so at Proposer’s own risk. The City is not bound by such information.

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1. Purpose and Background.

The purpose of this Request for Qualifications is to obtain consultant services for **Financial Assessments and Modeling On-call Services**. Project specific work will be authorized using Work Assignments (**WA**) under the on-call consultant contract.

Seattle Public Utilities (**SPU**) operates under a Federal Consent Decree and Washington Department of Ecology (**Ecology**) Individual Wastewater permit for Combined Sewer Overflows (**CSO**). In 2015, SPU completed and submitted a Long Term Control Plan, with Financial Capability Assessment to the Environmental Protection Agency (**EPA**) and Ecology for approval. SPU is implementing this approved plan and is required to provide a CSO plan update in 2021.

Additionally, the financial situation of our customers and SPU has changed since 2015. Affordability and race and social justice issues are a priority for SPU and have been receiving more attention nationally. Therefore, the first WA will be for a financial capability assessment to inform SPU on its 2021 CSO plan update that will expand the analysis beyond the EPA guidance to incorporate new methods of evaluating the affordability of the program on different socio-economic segments of our customer base. This WA will also require developing an updated financial model.

Future work assignments will be implemented if the work is needed and as budget is available. Future work assignments are anticipated to focus on the development or enhancement of financial models for SPU's other lines of business (Water & Solid Waste) and to support the Affordability Project being conducted by the General Manager's Office.

2. Performance Schedule.

The first Work Assignment is expected to be completed by January 2019 (see below for draft schedule). To accommodate future work assignment, the term of the contract will be through September 2022.

Tasks (WA #1)	Schedule
Task 1: Complete calculations in the EPA "Combined Sewer Overflows – Guidance for Financial Capability Assessment and Schedule Development"	One month following Notice to Proceed
Task 2: Compare the merits of up to four alternative methods of measuring affordability.	One month following Notice to Proceed
Task 3: Replicate methodologies in provided studies to present measures of utility affordability. Identify low-income census tracts for SPU.	Two months following Notice to Proceed
Task 4: Prepare final report with findings to submit for SPU review.	Three months following Notice to Proceed
Task 5: Prepare final report with findings to submit to EPA	Four months following Notice to Proceed
Task 6: Work with staff to create a flexible financial model that can be updated in the future by staff.	Three months following Notice to Proceed

3. Solicitation Objectives.

The objective of this solicitation is to hire a consultant team with experience in presenting research to a regulatory agency, developing financial models, and measuring utility affordability in communities. The outcomes will include new and updated methods and models that address the financial situation of our customers and SPU and support the CSO Plan update to EPA and the SPU Affordability Project.

4. Minimum Qualifications.

Minimum qualifications are required for a Consultant to be eligible to submit a RFQ response. Your submittal response must show compliance to these minimum qualifications. Those that are not responsive to these qualifications shall be rejected by the City without further consideration.

Minimum Qualifications include:

- Must have presented a financial capability assessment findings to a regulatory agency.
- Must have completed a financial capability assessment study and a rate-setting model for a water or wastewater utility for a municipality of similar size to Seattle (>500,000 customers.)

5. Scope of Work.

A Scope of Work for the first Work Assgiment is attached (**See Attachments Section, Attachment 1**).

6. Contract Modifications.

The City consultant contract is attached (**See Attachments Section, Attachment 2**).

Consultants submit Qualifications understanding all Contract terms and conditions are mandatory. Response submittal is agreement to the Contract without exception. The City reserves the right to negotiate changes to submitted Qualifications and to change the City's otherwise mandatory Contract form during negotiations. If the Consultant is awarded a contract and refuses to sign the attached Contract form, the City may reject the Consultant from this and future solicitations for the same work. Under no circumstances shall Consultant submit its own boilerplate of terms and conditions.

7. Procedures and Requirements.

This section details City instructions and requirements for your submittal. The City reserves the right in its sole discretion to reject any Consultant response that fails to comply with the instructions.

7.1 Registration into City Registration System.

If you have not previously done so, register at: <http://www.seattle.gov/contracting/registration.htm> . The City expects all firms to register. Women- and minority- owned firms are asked to self-identify. For assistance, call 206-684-0444.

7.2 Pre-Submittal Conference.

The City offers an optional pre-submittal conference at the time, date and location on page 1. Proposers are highly encouraged to attend but not required to attend to be eligible to propose. The meeting answers questions about the solicitation and clarify issues. This also allows Proposers to raise concerns. Failure to raise concerns over any issues at this opportunity will be a consideration in any protest filed regarding such items known as of this pre-Qualifications conference.

7.3 Questions.

Proposers may submit written questions to the Contract Administrator until the deadline stated on page 1. The City prefers questions be through e-mail to the City Contract Administrator. Failure to request clarification of any inadequacy, omission, or conflict will not relieve the Consultant of responsibilities under in any subsequent contract. It is the responsibility of the interested Consultant to assure they receive responses to Questions if any are issued.

7.4 Changes to the RFQ.

The City may make changes to this RFQ if, in the sole judgment of the City, the change will not compromise the City's objectives in this solicitation. Any change to this RFQ will be made by formal written addendum issued by the City's Contract Administrator and shall become part of this RFQ.

7.5 Receiving Addenda and/or Question and Answers.

It is the obligation and responsibility of the Consultant to learn of addenda, responses, or notices issued by the City. Some third-party services independently post City of Seattle solicitations on their websites. The City does not guarantee that such services have accurately provided all the information published by the City.

All submittals sent to the City may be considered compliant with or without specific confirmation from the Consultant that any and all addenda was received and incorporated into your response. However, the Contract Administrator reserves the right to reject any submittal that does not fully incorporate Addenda that is critical to the project.

7.6 Qualifications Submittal.

- a. Qualifications must be received by the City no later than the date and time on page 1 except as revised by Addenda.
- b. All pages are to be numbered sequentially, and closely follow the requested formats.
The City has page limits specified in the submittal instructions section. Any pages that exceed the page limit will be excised from the document for purposes of evaluation.
- c. The submitter has full responsibility to ensure the response arrives at the City within the deadline. A response delivered after the deadline may be rejected unless waived as immaterial by the City given specific fact-based circumstances.

Hard Copy Submittal.

Submit one original (1) unbound, seven (8) bound copies, and one (1) electronic CD copy of the response. The City will not accept Fax and CD copies as an alternative to the paper copy submittal. If a CD or fax version is delivered to the City, the paper or electronic e-mail copy will be the only official version accepted by the City. Delivery is to the location specified on Page 2, Table 2.

- a. Hard-copy responses should be in a sealed box or envelope marked and addressed with the City contact person name, the solicitation title and number. If submittals are not marked, the Proposer has risks of the response being misplaced and not properly delivered.
- b. The Submittal may be hand-delivered or otherwise be received by the Contract Administrator at the address provided, by the submittal deadline. Delivery errors will result without careful attention to the proper address.
- c. Please do not use plastic or vinyl binders or folders. The City prefers simple, stapled paper copies. If a binder or folder is essential due to the size of your submission, you use fully 100% recycled stock.

7.7 License and Business Tax Requirements.

The Consultant must meet all applicable licensing requirements immediately after contract award or the City may reject the Consultant. Companies must license, report and pay revenue taxes for the Washington State business License (UBI#) and Seattle Business License, if required by law. Carefully consider those costs before submitting an offer, as the City will not separately pay or reimburse such costs.

Seattle Business Licensing and associated taxes.

- a. If you have a “physical nexus” in the city, you must obtain a Seattle Business license and pay all taxes due before the Contract can be signed.
- b. A “physical nexus” means you have physical presence, such as: a building/facility in Seattle, you make sales trips into Seattle, your own company drives into Seattle for product deliveries, and/or you conduct service work in Seattle (repair, installation, service, maintenance work, on-site consulting, etc).
- c. We provide a Consultant Questionnaire Form in our submittal package items later in this RFP, and it will ask you to specify if you have “physical nexus”.
- d. All costs for any licenses, permits and Seattle Business License taxes owed shall be borne by the Consultant and not charged separately to the City.
- e. The apparent successful Consultant(s) must immediately obtain the license and ensure all City taxes are current, unless exempted by City Code due to reasons such as no physical nexus. Failure to do so will cause rejection of the submittal.
- f. Self-Filing You can pay your license and taxes on-line using a credit card <https://dea.seattle.gov/self/>
- g. For Questions and Assistance, call the Revenue and Consumer Protection (RCP) office which issues business licenses and enforces licensing requirements. The general e-mail is rca@seattle.gov. The main phone is 206-684-8484.
- h. The licensing website is <http://www.seattle.gov/rca/taxes/taxmain.htm>.

- i. The City of Seattle website allows you to apply and pay on-line with a Credit Card if you choose.
- j. If a business has extraordinary balances due on their account that would cause undue hardship to the business, the business can contact the RCA office (see contacts above in #7) to request additional assistance. A cover-sheet providing further explanation, with the application and instructions for a Seattle Business License is provided below .
- k. Those holding a City of Seattle Business license may be required to report and pay revenue taxes to the City. Such costs should be carefully considered by the Consultant prior to submitting your offer. When allowed by City ordinance, the City will have the right to retain amounts due at the conclusion of a contract by withholding from final invoice payments.

State Business Licensing. Before the contract is signed, you must have a State of Washington business license (a “Unified Business Identifier” known as a UBI#). If the State of Washington has exempted your business from State licensing (some foreign companies are exempt and sometimes, the State waives licensing because the company has no physical presence in the State), then submit proof of that exemption to the City. All costs for any licenses, permits and associated tax payments due to the State because of licensing shall be borne by the Consultant and not charged separately to the City. Instructions and applications are at <http://bls.dor.wa.gov/file.aspx> and the State of Washington Department of Revenue is available at 1-800-647-7706.

Federal Excise Tax. The City is exempt from Federal Excise Tax (Certificate of Registry #9173 0099K exempts the City).

7.8 Proposer Responsibility to Provide Full Response.

It is the Proposer’s responsibility to respond that does not require interpretation or clarification by the City. The Proposer is to provide all requested materials, forms and information. The Proposer is to ensure the materials submitted properly and accurately reflects the Proposer’s offering. During scoring and evaluation (prior to interviews if any), the City will rely upon the submitted materials and shall not accept materials from the Proposer after the RFQ deadline; this does not limit the City right to consider additional information (such as references that are not provided by the Proposer but are known to the City, or past City experience with the consultant), or to seek clarifications as needed.

7.9 No Guaranteed Utilization.

The City does not guarantee utilization of any contract(s) awarded through this RFQ process. The solicitation may provide estimates of utilization; such information is for Consultant convenience and not a usage guarantee. The City reserves the right to multiple or partial awards, and/or to order work based on City needs. The City may turn to other appropriate contract sources or supplemental contracts, to obtain these same or similar services. The City may re-solicit for new additions to the Consultant pool. Use of such supplemental contracts does not limit the right of the City to terminate existing contracts for convenience or cause.

7.10 Expansion Clause.

The contract limits expansion of scope and new work not expressly provided for within the RFQ.

Expansion for New Work (work not specified within the original Scope of Work Section of this Agreement, and/or not specified in the original RFP as intended work for the Agreement) must comply with the following:

(a) New Work is not reasonable to solicit separately; (b) is for reasonable purpose; (c) was not reasonably known by the City or Consultant at time of solicitation or was mentioned as a possibility in the solicitation (i.e. future phases of work, or a change in law); (d) is not significant enough to be regarded as an independent body of work; (e) would not attract a different field of competition; and (f) does not vary the identity or purpose of the Agreement. The City may make exceptions for immaterial changes, emergency or sole source conditions, or other situations required in City opinion. Certain changes are not subject to these limitations, such as additional phases of Work anticipated during solicitation, time extensions, and Work Orders issued on an On-Call contract. Expansion must be mutually agreed and issued by the City through written Addenda. New Work performed before an authorizing Amendment may not be eligible for payment.

7.11 Right to Award to next ranked Consultant.

If a contract is executed resulting from this solicitation and is terminated within 90-days, the City may return to the solicitation process to award to the next highest ranked responsive Consultant by mutual agreement with such Consultant. New awards thereafter are also extended this right.

7.12 Negotiations.

The City may open discussions with the apparent successful Proposer, to negotiate costs and modifications to align the Qualifications or contract to meet City needs within the scope sought by the solicitation.

7.13 Effective Dates of Offer.

Solicitation responses are valid until the City completes award. Should any Proposer object to this condition, the Proposer must object prior to the Q&A deadline on page 1.

7.14 Cost of Preparing Qualifications.

The City is not liable for costs incurred by the Proposer to prepare, submit and present Qualifications, interviews and/or demonstrations.

7.15 Readability.

The City's ability to evaluate Qualifications is influenced by the organization, detail, comprehensive material and readable format of the response.

7.16 Changes or Corrections to Qualifications Submittal.

Prior to the submittal due date, a Consultant may change its Qualifications, if initialed and dated by the Consultant. No changes are allowed after the closing date and time.

7.17 Errors in Qualifications.

Proposers are responsible for errors and omissions in their Qualifications. No error or omission shall diminish the Proposer's obligations to the City.

7.18 Withdrawal of Qualifications.

A submittal may be withdrawn by written request of the submitter.

7.19 Rejection of Qualifications.

The City may reject any or all Qualifications with no penalty. The City may waive immaterial defects and minor irregularities in any submitted Qualifications.

7.20 Incorporation of RFQ and Qualifications in Contract.

This RFQ and Proposer's response, including promises, warranties, commitments, and representations made in the successful Qualifications once accepted by the City, are binding and incorporated by reference in the City's contract with the Proposer.

7.21 Independent Contractor.

The Consultant works as an independent contractor. The City will provide appropriate contract management, but that does not constitute a supervisory relationship to the consultant. Consultant workers are prohibited from supervising City employees or from direct supervision by a City employee. Prohibited supervision tasks include conducting a City of Seattle Employee Performance Evaluation, preparing and/or approving a City of Seattle timesheet, administering employee discipline, and similar supervisory actions.

Contract workers shall not be given City office space unless expressly provided for below, and in no case shall such space be provided for over 36 months without specific authorization from the City Contract Administrator.

The City will not provide space in City offices for performance of this work. Consultants will perform most work from their own office space or the field.

7.22 Equal Benefits.

Seattle Municipal Code Chapter 20.45 (SMC 20.45) requires consideration of whether Proposers provide health and benefits that are the same or equivalent to the domestic partners of employees as to spouses of employees, and of their dependents and family members. The Consultant Questionnaire requested in the Submittal instructions includes materials to designate your equal benefits status.

7.23 Women and Minority Subcontracting.

The Mayor's Executive Order and City ordinance require the maximum practicable opportunity for successful participation of minority and women-owned subcontracts. All proposers must agree to SMC Chapter 20.42, and seek meaningful subcontracting opportunities with WMBE firms. The City requires a plan for including minority- and women-owned firms, which becomes a material part of the contract. The Plan must be responsive in the opinion of the City, which means a meaningful and successful search and commitments to include WMBE firms for subcontracting work. The City reserves the right to improve the Plan with the winning Consultant before contract execution. Consultants should use selection methods and strategies sufficiently effective for successful WMBE participation. At City request, Consultants must furnish evidence such as copies of agreements with WMBE subcontractors either before contract execution or during contract performance. The winning Consultant must request written approval for changes to the Inclusion Plan once it is agreed upon. This includes changes to goals, subconsultant awards and efforts.

7.24 Insurance Requirements.

Any special insurance requirements are provided as an Attachment. **(See Attachments Section, Attachment 3)**. If attached, provide proof of insurance to the City before Contract execution. The City will remind the apparent successful Proposer in the Intent to Award letter. The apparent successful Proposer must promptly provide proof of insurance to the City Contract Administrator.

Consultants are encouraged to immediately contact their Broker to begin preparation of the required insurance documents, if the Consultant is selected as a finalist. Proposers may elect to provide the requested insurance documents within their Qualifications.

7.25 Proprietary Materials.

The State of Washington's Public Records Act (Release/Disclosure of Public Records) Under Washington State Law (reference RCW Chapter 42.56, the Public Records Act) all materials received or created by the City of Seattle are considered public records. These records include but are not limited to bid or Qualifications submittals, agreement documents, contract work product, or other bid material.

The State of Washington's Public Records Act requires that public records must be promptly disclosed by the City upon request unless that RCW or another Washington State statute specifically exempts records from disclosure. Exemptions are narrow and explicit and are listed in Washington State Law (Reference RCW 42.56 and RCW 19.108).

Bidders/proposers must be familiar with the Washington State Public Records Act and the limits of record disclosure exemptions. For more information, visit the Washington State Legislature's website at <http://www1.leg.wa.gov/LawsAndAgencyRules>).

If you have any questions about disclosure of the records you submit with your bid, please contact the Contract Administrator named in this document.

Marking Your Records Exempt from Disclosure (Protected, Confidential, or Proprietary)

As mentioned above, all City of Seattle offices ("the City") are required to promptly make public records available upon request. However, under Washington State Law some records or portions of records are considered legally exempt from disclosure and can be withheld. A list and description of records identified as exempt by the Public Records Act can be found in RCW 42.56 and RCW 19.108.

If you believe any of the records you are submitting to the City as part of your bid/Qualifications or contract work products, are exempt from disclosure you can request that they not be released before you receive notification. To do so you must complete the City Non-Disclosure Request Form ("the Form") provided by City Purchasing (see attached) and very clearly and specifically identify each record and the exemption(s) that may apply. (If you are awarded a City contract, the same exemption designation will carry forward to the contract records.)

The City will not withhold materials from disclosure simply because you mark them with a document header or footer, page stamp, or a generic statement that a document is non-disclosable, exempt, confidential, proprietary, or protected. Do not identify an entire page as exempt unless each sentence is within the exemption scope; instead, identify paragraphs or sentences that meet the specific exemption criteria you cite on the Form. Only the specific records or portions of records properly listed on the Form will be protected and withheld for notice. All other records will be considered fully disclosable upon request.

If the City receives a public disclosure request for any records you have properly and specifically listed on the Form, the City will notify you in writing of the request and will postpone disclosure. While it is not a legal obligation, the City, as a courtesy, will allow you up to ten business days to file a court injunction to prevent the City from releasing the records (reference RCW 42.56.540). If you fail to obtain a Court order within the ten days, the City may release the documents.

The City will not assert an exemption from disclosure on your behalf. If you believe a record(s) is exempt from disclosure you are obligated to clearly identify it as such on the Form and submit it with your solicitation. Should a public record request be submitted to City Purchasing for that record(s), you can then seek an injunction under RCW 42.56 to prevent release. By submitting a bid document, the bidder acknowledges this obligation; the proposer also acknowledges that the City will have no obligation or liability to the proposer if the records are disclosed.

Requesting Disclosure of Public Records

The City asks bidders and their companies to refrain from requesting public disclosure of bids until an intention to award is announced. This measure is intended to protect the integrity of the solicitation process particularly during the evaluation and selection process or in the event of a cancellation or re-solicitation. With this preference stated, the City will continue to be responsive to all requests for disclosure of public records as required by State Law. If you do wish to make a request for records, please address your request in writing to the Contract Administrator named in this document.

7.26 Ethics Code.

Please familiarize yourself with the City Ethics code:

http://www.seattle.gov/ethics/etpub/et_home.htm. Attached is a pamphlet for Consultants, Customers and Clients. **(See Attachments Section, Attachment 4.)**

Any questions should be addressed to Seattle Ethics and Elections Commission at 206-684-8500.

No Gifts and Gratuities.

Consultants shall not directly or indirectly offer anything (such as retainers, loans, entertainment, favors, gifts, tickets, trips, favors, bonuses, donations, special discounts, work, or meals) to any City employee, volunteer or official, if it is intended or may appear to a reasonable person to be intended to obtain or give special consideration to the Consultant. An example is giving a City employee sporting event tickets to a City employee on the evaluation team of a solicitation to which you submitted. The definition of what a “benefit” would be is broad and could include not only awarding a contract but also the administration of the contract or evaluating contract performance. The rule works both ways, as it also prohibits City employees from soliciting items from Consultants. Promotional items worth less than \$25 may be distributed by the Consultant to City employees if the Consultant uses the items as routine and standard promotions for the business.

Involvement of Current and Former City Employees.

The Consultant Questionnaire within your submittal documents prompts you to disclose any current or former City employees, official or volunteer that is working or assisting on solicitation of City business or on completion of an awarded contract. Update that information during the contract.

Contract Workers with over 1,000 Hours.

The Ethics Code applies to Consultant workers that perform over 1,000 cumulative hours on any City contract during any 12-month period. Any such employee must abide by the City Ethics Code. The Consultant is to be aware and familiar with the Ethics Code accordingly.

No Conflict of Interest.

Consultant (including officer, director, trustee, partner or employee) must not have a business interest or a close family or domestic relationship with any City official, officer or employee who was, is, or will be involved in selection, negotiation, drafting, signing, administration or evaluating Consultant performance. The City shall make sole determination as to compliance.

7.27 Background Checks and Immigrant Status.

The City has strict policies regarding the use of Background checks, criminal checks and immigrant status for contract workers. The policies are incorporated into the contract and available for viewing on-line at <http://www.seattle.gov/business/WithSeattle.htm>

8. Response Materials and Submittal.

Prepare your response as follows. Use the following format and provide all Attachments. Failure to provide all information below on proper forms and in order requested, may cause the City to reject your response.

- 1. Letter of interest (optional).**
- 2. Legal Name:** Submit a certificate, copy of web-page, or documentation from the Secretary of State in which you incorporated that shows your company legal name. Many companies use a “Doing Business As” name or nickname in daily business; the City requires the legal name for your company. When preparing all forms below, use the proper company legal name. Your company’s legal name can be verified through the State Corporation Commission in the state in which you were established, which is often located within the Secretary of State’s Office for each state. For the State of Washington, see <http://www.secstate.wa.gov/corps/>
- 3. Minimum Qualifications:** Provide a single page that lists each Minimum Qualification, and exactly how you achieve each minimum qualification. Remember that the determination you have achieved all the minimum qualifications is made from this page. The Contract Administrator is not obligated to check references or search other materials to make this decision.
- 4. Mandatory - Consultant Questionnaire:** Submit the attached in your response, even if you sent one in to the City for previous solicitations. **(See Attachments Section, Attachment 5).**
- 5. Mandatory - Consultant Inclusion Plan:** You must submit the attached Plan in your response. **(See Attachments Section, Attachment 6).**
- 6. Mandatory - Qualifications Response:** This document details the forms, documents and format for your Qualifications response to the City.

Selection Criteria	Total Points
Team Qualifications (Prime Consultant and Sub-consultants)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In no more than two (2) double sided pages, describe why the proposed members of your team are qualified to perform the work described in the scope of work Attachment 1. Describe the tasks that each team member will be assigned and how they are qualified to complete the work. Include resumes for key personnel using no more than one (1) double sided page per person, must include the Project Manager. 	40 Points
Similar Projects/Experience	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Describe at least one (1) and not more than five (5) recent projects that demonstrate your key team members' qualifications to complete the scope of work (no more than one (1) double sided page per project). Include problems encountered and how solutions were developed and implemented during the completion of the scope of work. Do not include projects completed by members of a firm that are not assigned to the proposed team. 	40 Points
Project Organizational Chart and Roles of Key Personnel	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In no more than one (1) double sided page, provide a detailed consultant team organizational chart, and support information to include key personnel roles and responsibility and show how team members will interact effectively. 	10 Points
Inclusion Plan	
<p>See Attachment 6: Consultant Inclusion Plan</p> <p>Points are awarded for responses that evidence:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Responsible, good faith efforts Aspirational goals that are meaningful and attainable WMBE firms integrated into the team and within core work WMBE firms integrated within value-added work opportunities Evidence of strong past performance using effective models Evidence of effective mentoring, training, or capacity-building 	10 Points
References	
<p>Submit (3) references each for prime and sub-consultants and each team member.</p> <p>Include the name of the client, mailing address, telephone number, email address, and contact person, which demonstrate experience and expertise in performing work related to this request. References may be checked only for the highest-scoring firms. References will not be scored but will be used to verify qualifications, which may affect the rating of the proposer/consultant team.</p>	Not Scored

Package Checklist.

Your response should be packaged with each of the following. This list assists with quality control before submittal of your final package. Addenda may change this list; check any final instructions:

1. Letter of Interest (optional)
2. Consultant Questionnaire (See Attachments Section).
3. Proof of Legal Business Name
4. Minimum Qualifications Sheet
5. WMBE Inclusion Plan (See Attachments Section)
6. Qualifications Response (see Qualifications Response Section, above).

9. Selection Process.

9.1 Initial Screening:

The City will review responses for responsiveness and responsibility. Those found responsive and responsible based on an initial review shall proceed to Step 2. Equal Benefits, Minimum Qualifications, an Inclusion Plan, satisfactory financial responsibility and other elements are screened in this Step. A significant failure to perform on past City projects may also be considered in determining the responsibility of a firm.

9.2 Qualifications Evaluation:

The City will evaluate Qualifications using the criteria below. Responses will be evaluated and ranked or scored.

Evaluation Criteria:

Experience and Qualifications (prime and sub(s))	40%
Similar Projects Experience	40%
Organizational Chart, Roles, and Responsibilities	10%
Inclusion Plan	10%
References	Not Scored

9.3 Interviews:

The City may interview top ranked firms that are most competitive. If interviews are conducted, rankings of firms shall be determined by the City, using the combined results of interviews and Qualifications submittals. Consultants invited to interview are to bring the assigned Project Manager named by the Consultant in the Qualifications, and may bring other key personnel named in the Qualifications. The Consultant shall not bring individuals who do not work for the Consultant or are not on the project team without advance authorization by the Contract Administrator. If interviews are conducted, they will be worth **100** additional points.

9.4 References:

The City may contact one or more references. The City may use references named or not named by the Proposer. The City may also consider the results of performance evaluations issued by the City on past projects.

9.5 Selection:

The City shall select the highest ranked Proposer(s) for award including the interview (If applicable) and written Qualifications.

9.6 Contract Negotiations.

The City may negotiate elements of the Qualifications as required to best meet the needs of the City, with the apparent successful Proposer. The City may negotiate any aspect of the Qualifications or the solicitation. The City does not intend to negotiate the base contract, which has been attached (See Attachments).

9.7 Repeat of Evaluation:

If no Consultant is selected at the conclusion of all the steps, the City may return to any step in the process to repeat the evaluation with those Qualifications active at that step. The City shall then sequentially step through all remaining steps as if conducting a new evaluation process. The City reserves the right to terminate the process if no Qualifications meet its requirements.

10. Award and Contract Execution.

The Contract Administrator will provide timely notice of an intent to award to all Consultants responding to the Solicitation.

Protests to Contract Administrator.

Interested parties that wish to protest any aspect of this RFP selection process provide written notice to the SPU Contracts Division Director for this solicitation.

Protests – City Purchasing and Contracting Services.

The City has rules to govern the rights and obligations of interested parties that desire to submit a complaint or protest to this process. Please see the City website at <http://www.seattle.gov/business/WithSeattle.htm> . Interested parties have the obligation to know of and understand these rules, and to seek clarification from the City. Note there are time limits on protests, and submitters have final responsibility to learn of results in sufficient time for such protests to be filed in a timely manner.

Debriefs.

For a debrief, contact the Contract Administrator.

Instructions to the Apparently Successful Consultant(s).

The Apparently Successful Consultant(s) will receive an Intent to Award Letter from the Contract Administrator after award decisions are made by the City. The Letter will include instructions for final submittals due prior to execution of the contract.

Once the City has finalized and issued the contract for signature, the Consultant must execute the contract and provide all requested documents within ten (10) business days. This includes attaining a Seattle Business License, payment of associated taxes due, and providing proof of insurance. If the Consultant fails to execute the contract with all documents within the ten (10) day time frame, the City may cancel the award and proceed to the next ranked Consultant, or cancel or reissue this solicitation. Cancellation of an award for failure to execute the Contract as attached may disqualify the firm from future solicitations for this same work.

Checklist of Final Submittals Prior to Award.

The Consultant(s) should anticipate the Letter will require at least the following. Consultants are encouraged to prepare these documents when possible, to eliminate risks of late compliance.

- Seattle Business License is current and all taxes due have been paid.
- State of Washington Business License.
- Certificate of Insurance (if required)
- Special Licenses (if any)

Taxpayer Identification Number and W-9.

Unless the Consultant has already submitted a Taxpayer Identification Number and Certification Request Form (W-9) to the City, the Consultant must execute and submit this form prior to the contract execution date. **(See Attachments Section, Attachment 7).**

Attachments

Attachment #1: Scope of Work (Work Assignment 1)

Attachment #2: Consultant Contract

Attachment #3: Insurance Requirements

Attachment #4: Ethics Brochure

Attachment #5: Consultant Questionnaire

Attachment #6: WMBE Consultant Inclusion Plan

Attachment #7: W-9