

January 16, 2009

Question: Would a firm be considered if their work is only in one of the smaller areas of a listed area of expertise?

Answer: Yes, a firm would be considered if their work is only in one of the smaller areas of a listed area of expertise.

Question: Would it be possible to get a list of consultant firms that MAG notified of this RFQ (for teaming purposes)?

Answer: Since this is a publicly advertised solicitation, MAG would have no way of knowing what firms may be considering responding. In fairness to all potential respondents, MAG will not respond to a firm requesting this type of information.

January 23, 2009

Question: What is the total amount of requested funding included in the planned budget for Air Quality Technical Assistance for 2009-2011 for On-Call consulting?

Answer: The initial budget of \$280,000 for the MAG Air Quality Technical Assistance 2009-2011 On-Call Consultant projects has been included as new funding in the MAG 2009 Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget.

Additional funding may become available through the TIP and may also be approved as part of the MAG 2010 and 2011 Unified Planning Work Programs. Other additional funding may be amended into the Work Program as needed or as additional funds become available (see Page 3, Funding Guidelines, of the Request for Qualifications for On-Call Consulting Services for Air Quality Technical Assistance (RFQ)).

Question: How many consulting firms were selected during the previous similar on-call contract?

Answer: The MAG Regional Council approves selected consultants for the On-Call Consultant List (see Page 9, MAG Approval, of the RFQ). For the MAG Air Quality Technical Assistance On-Call Consultant selection in 2006, four consulting firms were qualified and approved by the MAG Regional Council for selected areas of expertise.

Question: How many consulting firms are planned to be selected for the on-call list?

Answer: There is not a set limit on the number of firms that will be qualified for the on-call list.

Question: Are contracts under \$100,000 typically bid competitively, or are they assigned according to some other criteria?

Answer: Following MAG approval of the list of qualified consultants for Air Quality Technical Assistance On-Call Services, the standard MAG On-Call contract will be entered into with each consultant to provide services in areas in which they have been qualified (see Page 9, MAG Approval, and page 10, MAG Contract, of the RFQ).

After execution of the On-Call contract, MAG may initiate a project under the contract by providing a brief scope of work for a Task Order and request that a technical and pricing proposal be submitted. For all projects that are estimated to exceed \$100,000 in total cost, a minimum of three qualified consultants will be invited to submit proposals (see Page 11, Request for Technical and Pricing Proposal, of the RFQ).

Question: Is there an effort in general to distribute the work amongst the contracted consultants?

Answer: On-Call contract consultants are not guaranteed any minimum or maximum amount of work (see Page 12, Consultant Selection from Multiple Contracts, of the RFQ).

Question: What are potential conflicts of interest that could disqualify a consultant from consideration for the On-Call list?

Answer: Each firm must document within its proposal any potential conflicts of interest. A conflict of interest shall be cause for disqualifying a consultant from consideration or terminating a contract if the conflict should occur after the contract is made. A potential conflict of interest includes, but is not limited to:

- a. Accepting an assignment where duty to the client would conflict with the Consultant's personal interest, or interest of another client.

- b. Performing work for a client or having an interest which conflicts with this contract.
- c. Employing personnel who worked for MAG or one of its member agencies within the past three years.

MAG will be the final determining body as to whether a conflict of interest exists.

(See Page 14, Administrative Requirements, #7, of Request for Qualifications for On-Call Consulting Services for Air Quality Technical Assistance.)

February 3, 2009

Question: Would it be possible to get a copy of MAG's standard on-call contract that is referred to on Page 10 of the RFQ, so that we can review the information on indemnification and insurance limits?

Answer: The MAG standard on-call contract is distributed following final approval of an on-call consultant by the Regional Council or Executive Committee.

February 10, 2009

Question: In Item 7 on Page 6 of the RFQ, MAG asks for recent examples of successful recent experience in providing consultant services.

In Item 8 on Page 7 of the RFQ, MAG asks for a reference and brief description for each example listed in Item 7 on Page 6 of the RFQ.

Is it necessary to list a reference for each example listed in Item 7 on Page 6 of the RFQ?

Answer: Each firm must provide one reference for each example submitted under Item 7 on Page 6 of the RFQ. (See References, #8 on Page 7 of the RFQ).

Question: In Item 8 on Page 7 (References) of the RFQ, MAG asks for a brief description of the project. Is it necessary to include a brief description for each project, even though the project would be described in detail in Item 7, on Page 6 (Recent Examples) of the RFQ?

Answer: Each firm must provide a brief description of the project for each example submitted under Item 7 on Page 6 (Recent Examples) of the RFQ (See References, #8, on Page 7 of the RFQ).