

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

(RFP NO. RA-AFSIC-10-2024-Agriculture and Food Security Innovation Center Feasibility Study)

Revised December 16, 2024

1. Question:

If a company submits a proposal for the subject RFP, *but is not awarded a contract*, yet this project (facility) gets approved to be designed, developed and/or managed in the future, will the company(ies) that participated in the Feasibility Study RFP be allowed to bid on future procurements related to this project?

Answer:

If the Revenue Authority of Prince George's County does not select a company's proposal, then the company is not precluded from participating in future procurements related to the Agriculture and Food Security Innovation Center.

2. Question:

If a company submits a proposal for the subject RFP, *and is awarded the contract*, and this project (facility) gets approved to be designed, developed and/or managed in the future, will the company(ies) that participated in the Feasibility Study RFP be allowed to bid on future procurements related to this project?

Answer:

If a company is awarded this solicitation, then that company will be precluded from bidding on future solicitations related to the design, development and/or management of the Agriculture and Food Security Innovation Center.

3. Question:

The RFP references the “[i]dentification of [p]otential [s]ites” as one of the requested services. Has the County already identified a few potential locations for the AFSIC Center? If so, how many and is the intention to prioritize these sites vs. finding new ones?

Answer:

Specific sites are not listed as part of the RFP. If the respondent is not aware of any potential locations for the AFSIC, respondents should build an optimal site profile based on similar case studies or existing agricultural centers. Based on the respondent's expertise, the profile should include but is not limited to demographic data, concept location analysis, logistics feasibility for stakeholders and other relevant data points. Awardees of the RFP will gain access to the Prince George's County Disposition Property List once released.

4. Question:

The RFP requests support with facility, equipment and software requirements. In specific, the RFP requests, “a preliminary concept of the physical and operational elements of the AFSIC Center.” Can you please elaborate on the level of detail are you seeking to achieve at the preliminary concept phase?

Answer:

As outlined in Section 2.4 (D.4) of the RFP, Respondents should provide a preliminary concept of the physical and operational elements of the AFSIC that would achieve the AFSIC vision and program goals. Respondents are encouraged to utilize their expertise and RFP reference information to include recommendations of facility, equipment and software requirements.

5. Question:

What are the supplier diversity participation requirements that apply to this RFP? We have reviewed Section 10A-161 of the Code as well as CB-51-2022 but would appreciate any direct guidance you are able to provide on this point.

Answer:

Section 5.6 of the RFP “Supplier Diversity and Participation” provides that respondents must comply with the Section 10A-161 of the County Code including the participation requirements and all other applicable county requirements. Respondents must review these guidelines for applicability. Additional details regarding CB-51-2022 are available at: Prince George's County Council - Reference No. CB-051-2022 (legistar.com). Submissions should be aligned with the County’s diversity, equity and participation goals.

6. Question:

Section 5.6 - Supplier Diversity and Participation Requirements: It remains unclear what is explicitly required for this RFP. I have reviewed Section 10A-161 and CB-51-2022 and am aware that this question has been raised and addressed already. However, the answer provided does not make clear what is required.

a. Regarding Section 10A-161:

i. Subsection (a) does not apply, as the procurement is less than \$500,000.

ii. Subsection (b) would appear to also not apply, as the procurement is below \$500,000.

iii. Subsection (c) should not apply, as this is not a bid for the construction of public works.

iv. Subsection (d) suggests that the Purchasing Agent has some discretion regarding subcontracting, and may or may not establish a requirement of up to 20% regarding County-based minority business enterprises. Does this apply? And if so, what is the requirement?

v. Subsection (e) refers to provisions, but said provisions are unclear.

vi. Subsection (f) refers back to Subsection (a) and thus does not apply.

vii. Subsection (g) refers to The Prince George's County Supply Schedule Program, but the applicability of this is unclear. Please advise.

b. Regarding CB-51-2022, the RFP states the following: “Additionally, if applicable, the successful Respondent must adhere to CB-51-2022, the County’s Diversity and Equity Policy in Publicly Subsidized Development Projects. Additional details regarding CB-51-2022 are available at: Prince George's County Council - Reference No. CB-051-2022 (legistar.com). Submissions should be aligned with the County’s diversity, equity and participation goals.”

i. The RFP does not indicate whether or not CB-51-2022 is applicable. My reading of CB-51-2022 suggests that it only applies to construction projects, in which case, this would not apply to this project. However, could you please confirm whether or not this is accurate? If not, what aspect is applicable?

ii. The RFP states that “Submissions should be aligned with the County’s diversity, equity and participation goals.” Could you please explicitly indicate what these goals are?

Answer:

Respondents to the RFP No. RA-AFSIC-10-2024 (RFP for an Agriculture and Food Security Innovation Center Feasibility Study) are not required to adhere to the Supplier Diversity and Participation requirements due to the project type (study) and the projected cost falls below the Supplier Diversity threshold. Respondents should consider requirements of CB-051-2022 for the potential development of the Agriculture and Food Security Innovation Center as it will be a construction project within the construction cost thresholds.

7. Question:

Section 3.1 Submission Requirement, Item 4c. Community & Stakeholder Engagement: “A Submission summary that may be shared with the community and other stakeholders. Summaries should be condensed to a one page “flyer.”

a. What is meant by “submission summary”? Are you seeking a one-page summary of our proposal? And if so, what type of information do you want to convey to the community and stakeholders? Our experience, approach, other?

Answer:

Respondents should include a one-page submission summary that outlines the overall proposal that can be used to engage the community and other external stakeholders. The one pager should include the post award approach and strategies to collaborating with stakeholders and engaging the community.