



## City of Tacoma Neighborhood and Community Services

### Youth and Young Adult Homeless Shelter Service Provider

#### RFP Specification No. NC20-0375F

#### QUESTIONS and ANSWERS 2

Questions and answers are from March 4, 2021 listening session.

**Question 1:** Detailed list of Beacon Renovation and improvements scheduled to begin Q2 2021.

**Answer 1:** Operator Priority Improvements: Showers and restrooms for youth (single occupancy), laundry capacity, kitchen storage space, office space for staff, and access improvements to the stage area for storage and case management.

Minor Deferred Repairs: Repairs/replacement to building systems and interior cosmetic improvements (painting, floor refinishing).

Off-Site Improvements: Code required improvements such as ADA parking on Fawcett and replacement of damaged and defective adjacent off-site features.

**Question 2:** Request tour of the facility.

**Answer 2:** Tour of Beacon Activity Center (415 13<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Tacoma, Washington) will be on March 9, 2021 from 1pm to 3pm. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines for COVID-19 pandemic will be enforced (mask and social distancing required). *Email Vicky McLaurin at [vmclaurin@cityoftacoma.org](mailto:vmclaurin@cityoftacoma.org) to RSVP for the tour.*

**Question 3:** Is this the permanent location for these services and how can we be assured of consistency in contracting?

**Answer 3:** Yes, this facility is the permanent location and our planned improvements that were underway prior to the pandemic are reflective of that commitment. Selection of this site is in keeping with the recommendations of the Blue Ribbon Panel that asserted we should be utilizing a City-owned property for this purpose. The City operates on a biennial budget cycle. We can only offer contracting during that biennial period. That said, we also value



consistency and want a provider who is interested in providing long-term services.

**Question 4:** With respect to the facility, as we come out of the pandemic, is there an expectation that it is a shared use center with the senior facility and what is the expectation if that is true? Is the expectation that we use shared space or will the shelter have a dedicated space and seniors have dedicated space?

**Answer 4:** Yes, the facility will continue to be a shared use facility. When COVID restrictions allow, we expect to return to using the facility for senior services at 50% capacity, or two days/week. We appreciate that it is difficult for guests and the shelter provider to set-up and break down the shelter space each day. There are some facilities on site, such as the kitchen, that by necessity will always be shared use, however, we are committed to working with the selected provider to address this concern about set-up and breakdown and come to a solution that minimizes work and impact.

**Question 5:** How is the City ensuring that the provider is working with the community to ensure that funding is adequate?

**Answer 5:** The necessity of any additional funds will be determined through the completion of the RFP process and successful contract negotiation. The City is committed to working with the selected provider to ensure that the services requested and the budget provided are in alignment.

**Question 6:** How can we do a better job of ensuring the youth voice is captured and informing decisions?

**Answer 6:** The City is committed to having youth participants sit on the selection panel for the RFP.

**Question 7:** Can Pierce County offer funding?

**Answer 7:** The City has no control over Pierce County's funding.