



City of Tacoma

Questions and Answers

TACOMA TIDEFLATS – PORT OF TACOMA STRATEGIC EMERGENCY RESPONSE /ITS IMPROVEMENTS

RFP Specification No. **PW23-0175F**

All interested parties had the opportunity to submit questions in writing by email to Carly Fowler, Buyer by January 16, 2024. Questions were also asked during the pre-proposal meeting which was held on January 12, 2024. Questions 2 – 4 were asked during the pre-proposal meeting.

The answers to the questions received are provided below and posted to the City's website at www.TacomaPurchasing.org. Navigate to [Current Contracting Opportunities](#) / *Public Works and Improvements Solicitations*, and then click *Questions and Answers* for this Specification. This information IS NOT considered an addendum. Respondents should consider this information when submitting their proposals.

Question 1: Can the team's proposed approach to meeting the DBE goals include firms with application for DBE status that are currently under review?

Answer 1: Submittals will be evaluated and ranked based on criteria listed within the RFQ. Criteria 5 – 7 request information related to the team's experience with federally-funded projects, local knowledge of FHWA/WSDOT requirements, the team's approach to meet the DBE goal, and the team's ability to perform work in subsequent phases and meet associated DBE goals if required.

The team's proposed approach to meeting the DBE goals may include firms with application for DBE status that are currently under review. If the team includes firms with an application for DBE status that is currently under review, the team will be asked to provide Good Faith Effort (GFE) documentation. If it seems unlikely that the team will be able to meet the required DBE goal, or that the start project will be delayed while the firm updates DBE status, it is likely to impact the team's overall score.

Question 2: There's a 16-page limit on the proposal. Does the cover page count as part of that 16 pages?

Answer 2: The City's recommendation within the General Guidelines of the RFQ that the Respondent's SOQ submittal be limited to no more than 16 pages does not include the cover page.

Question 3: Are you considering a need for public outreach or is that really more like outreach to the Port, Fire, Rainier Connect, kinda that stakeholder outreach?

Answer 3: Stakeholder outreach mostly. Updates to the website will be done by staff. There could be a need for a public meeting, but outreach to the general public is not anticipated to the bulk of the (outreach) work.



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Question 4: Do you foresee a Traffic Management Center (TMC) or where would all of this infrastructure ultimately link to?

Answer 4: That is open to design suggestions (from the chosen consultant). Ultimately we would want this infrastructure for this whole Tideflats and Port area to find a route back to the City's still-forming TMC that's housed out of the City's Traffic signal shop at the Orchard and Center Street area.

The 2017 Draft Tideflats Intelligent Transportation System Engineering and Implementation Plan available online (www.cityoftacoma.org/tideflats) does call out two Short Term Projects:

- "Install fiber optic infrastructure and cable to join Tideflats to existing WSDOT fiber optic network and complete connection between Tideflats and WSDOT TMC." (Project ID S7)
- "Install fiber optic infrastructure and cable to join WSDOT TMC to City of Tacoma signal shop and complete connection between Tideflats and City of Tacoma signal shop." (Project ID S8)

Question 5: What's been happening with Click's transition to Rainier Connect? Does the City still own all of that fiber?

Answer 5: That would be part of the data gathering portion of the project work. The City's team will be happy to work with the selected consultant team to look into that (once the project is underway).