Questions and Answers No. 1

Fish Passage Facility Upgrade Project
RFQ Specification No. TW24-0018F

All interested parties had the opportunity to submit questions in writing by email to Brandon Snow, Senior Buyer by 3:00 PM, February 28, 2024. 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 / Services 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 Statement of Qualifications.

Question 1: “Is it Tacoma Water’s intent that the consultant contract directly with the systems integrator (S&B Inc.) or that the consultant coordinate with S&B Inc. through a contract held by Tacoma Water?”

Answer 1: The intent is that the consultant contract directly with S&B Inc.

Question 2: “Does Tacoma Water anticipate a significant permitting effort in Phases I through III, or will the majority of the permitting services be provided in the later phases?”

Answer 2: Tacoma Water does not anticipate a significant permitting effort in Phases I through III.

Question 3: “Please confirm this RFP only covers the scope for Phases I-III shown under SCHEDULE & BUDGET on page one of the Project Charter, and that Phases IV-VII could be added as Addenda at a later date with additional scope and costs associated.”

Answer 3: The contract resulting from this RFQ covers the scope described in the Project Charter as Phases I-III or the primary services described in the RFQ. It is expected that Phases IV-VII or additional services described in the RFQ will be included as an amendment or separate contract.

Question 4: “Please confirm if the scope outlined in the RFP, including the “combined facility assessment and recommended alternatives report”, is to be completed by the Phase IV start date (December 2025) identified in the Project Charter.”

Answer 4: The final schedule will be negotiated with the selected consultant based on their understanding of project deliverables.

Question 5: “The RFQ makes a few references to the potential for more than one respondent to be selected for this project. Can you please advise if the City intends to select multiple firms for this project?”
Answer 5:  *The City anticipates awarding to one consultant. However, the City maintains all Reserved Rights (Section 1.18) as stated in the City of Tacoma Standard Terms and Conditions.*

Question 6:  “Can Respondent’s terms and conditions exceptions, if we have any, be placed in the appendix and not count toward the 32-page limit?”

Answer 6:  *Exceptions, as described in Section 14, may be included without contributing to the page count.*

Question 7:  “In the Project Scope section under Risk and Constraints, there is the following bulleted item:

- Operational and emergency procedures will need to be updated prior to full-scale operations, but a consultant may need them to complete their design.

Can you clarify what this risk/constraint statement means?”

Answer 7:  *The existing O&M manual, which includes emergency procedures, remains a preliminary draft. If the selected consultant determines a final O&M manual is needed to complete their design, then this would constrain or alter the anticipated sequence of events.*