

Q1. Is Interview a requirement tied to the funding source, or intended to ensure continuity from study through construction?

The interview provides the selection committee with an opportunity to meet the consultants to verify their expertise, clarify their proposed approaches, and make sure they alignment with the committee's objectives before making a decision. Please note that the RFP is solely for the study phase, and any continuity into the next phase of the project is not guaranteed.

Q2. Is the DBE goal applicable to the study phase specifically, or is it intended to reflect anticipated participation across the full project lifecycle?

The DBE goal applies only to the study phase.

Q3. Can you share any insight into the makeup of the selection team?

The section committee will consist of members from the boards of Regional Planning Affiliation 8.

Q4. Reference is made to the ECIA Safe Streets and Routes for All Plan. Is this available for review?

The ECIA Safe Streets and Routes for All Plan is currently under development and will be ready by the time we have a consultant on board.

Q5. Can you confirm that the intention is to select a single consultant to complete both intersection locations?

The contract will require the selected consultant to work on both intersection locations.

Q6. Do we need to provide the detailed budget since cost was taken out of the evaluation scoring?

A detailed budget is needed for staff to start contract negotiations without delaying the project start date after the selection process.

Q7. Should the proposal be laid out in order of the evaluation scoring or by the bullets as laid out under the proposal requirements section?

Each team must determine how to submit their proposal. The proposals will be evaluated based on the scoring criteria.

Q8. Regarding the DBE commitment, we've been made aware of recent guidance from the Iowa DOT Civil Rights Bureau regarding immediate changes to the DBE program. We understand that IDOT processes and systems regarding CBE certifications and

commitments are somewhat in flux, and specifically that all current DBEs must reapply for certification. Our intention is to provide demonstration of a good faith effort to meet the goal, but with the recertification process, firms that would have previously been listed as certified may not be certified at the time of the submittal of our proposal response. Will this meet the requirements of the proposal, or do you have any additional guidance as far as this RFP goes for the DBE goal?

We recommend that companies perform due diligence to verify the recertification status of DBE firms with IADOT. Any related documentation will assist in the evaluation and scoring process. If you are unable to identify a DBE firm for the services specified in the RFP, please indicate this in your proposal.

Q9. The RFP mentions that work associated with the contract is expected to involve federal funds. Should the consultant expect to include in their scope any submittals or support for funding applications or regulatory coordination and review?

Regional Planning Affiliation 8 will handle all project management and reimbursement. The selected firm does not need to submit materials or help with funding applications, and they will not be responsible for regulatory coordination or review for this project. However, they must coordinate with the Iowa Department of Transportation (DOT) about the recommended improvements at the project sites. The firm should also gather feedback to ensure their recommendations meet DOT expectations and follow the design guidelines in the Request for Proposal.