



City of Tacoma, WA

**ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
CLIMATE CHANGE RESILIENCE STUDY
SPECIFICATION NO. ES14-0489F**

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES



City of Tacoma

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Specification No. ES14-0489F
Environmental Services Department
Climate Change Resilience Study

The City of Tacoma is accepting **SEALED PROPOSALS** for the above solicitation. Submittals will be received and time stamped only at the Purchasing Division, located in the Tacoma Public Utilities Administration Building North, Main Floor, 3628 South 35th Street, Tacoma, WA 98409.

Proposals will be received until **11:00 a.m., Pacific Time, Tuesday, December 30, 2014**, at which time they will be recorded and forwarded to a Selection Advisory Committee for evaluation. Proposals are not typically opened and read aloud.

An electronic copy of the complete solicitation documents may be viewed and obtained by accessing the City of Tacoma Purchasing website at www.TacomaPurchasing.org. A list of vendors registered for this solicitation is also available at the website. After 1:00 p.m. the day of bid opening, the names of vendors submitting proposals are posted to the website for public viewing.

A pre-proposal meeting will not be held.

Project Scope: The City of Tacoma desires to contract with a firm to provide a climate change risk and vulnerability assessment, as well as a framework for potential detailed mitigation studies for highly vulnerable infrastructure, operations, critical areas and natural systems.

Estimate: \$55,000

Additional information regarding the specifications may be obtained by contacting Joe Parris, Senior Buyer, by email to jparris@cityoftacoma.org.

CITY OF TACOMA

Patsy Best
Interim Procurement and Payables Manager

Joe Parris
Senior Buyer

City of Tacoma protest policy, located at www.tacomapurchasing.org, specifies procedures for protests submitted prior to and after submittal deadline.



Meeting sites are accessible to persons with disabilities. Reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities can be arranged with 48 hours advance notice by calling 253-502-8468.

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SUBMITTAL CHECK LIST

This checklist identifies items to be included with your submittal. Any submittal received without these required items may be deemed non-responsive and not be considered for award.

Submittals must be received by the City of Tacoma Purchasing Division by the date and time specified in the Request for Proposal page.

<p>The following items make up your submittal package:</p>	
<p>One original, 6 copies and one electronic copy (CD or flash drive) of your complete submittal package (with original and copies clearly identified)</p>	
<p>Signature Page (Appendix A)</p>	
<p>Information in Section 3, N, "Proposal Content To Be Submitted"</p>	
<p>After award, the following documents will be executed:</p>	
<p>Contract</p>	
<p>Certificate of Insurance</p>	

**CITY OF TACOMA
STANDARD TERMS AND CONDITIONS
SECTION 1 – SOLICITATION**

THE FOLLOWING TERMS AND CONDITIONS ARE PART OF THIS SPECIFICATION AND ARE BINDING ON ALL RESPONDENTS SUBMITTING RESPONSES TO REQUESTS FOR BIDS, PROPOSALS, QUALIFICATIONS AND INFORMATION.

1.01 DELIVERY OF SUBMITTALS TO THE CITY'S PURCHASING DIVISION

Submittal packages must be received by the City's Purchasing Division, Tacoma Public Utilities Administration Building, Main Floor, 3628 South 35th Street, Tacoma, WA 98409-3115, prior to the scheduled time and date stated in the solicitation announcement. Each submittal, intact and bound, shall be completely sealed, with the name of the submitting party (hereinafter "Respondent"), the specification number and title clearly marked on the exterior of the package. City offices are not open for special mail or other deliveries on weekends and City holidays.

Submittals may be delivered to the City by mail or in person; however, **the Respondent is solely responsible for timely delivery of its submittal to the Purchasing Division.**

Facsimile (fax) copies of submittals for requests for sealed bids, requests for proposals, requests for qualifications and requests for information will not be accepted at any City fax machine.

Submittals received after the time stated in the solicitation announcement will not be accepted and will be returned, unopened, to the Respondent.

For purposes of determining whether a submittal has been timely received, the City's Purchasing Division may rely on Universal Coordinated Time from the National Bureau of Standards as reported by <http://www.greenwichmeantime.com/>

1.02 WITHDRAWAL OF SUBMITTALS

A. Prior to Submittal Deadline (Bid Opening)

Submittals may be withdrawn prior to the scheduled submittal deadline by providing written notice to the City's Purchasing Division. The notice may be submitted in person or by mail; however, it must be received by the City's Purchasing Division prior to the submittal deadline.

B. After Submittal Deadline

No submittal can be withdrawn after having been opened as set forth in the solicitation announcement, and before the actual award of the contract, unless the award is delayed more than 60 calendar days beyond the date of opening. If a delay of more than 60 calendar days does occur, the Respondent must submit written notice to the purchasing manager that Respondent is withdrawing its submittal.

1.03 SUBMITTAL IS NON-COLLUSIVE

The Respondent acknowledges that by its delivery of a submittal to the City in response to this solicitation it represents that the prices in such submittal are neither directly nor indirectly the result of any formal or informal agreement with another Respondent.

1.04 OPENING AND ACCEPTANCE OF SUBMITTALS

Submittals, unless previously withdrawn, will be read aloud, irrespective of any irregularities or informalities in such submittal, at the time and place specified in the solicitation announcement.

All submittals must remain open for acceptance by the City for a period of at least 60 calendar days from the date of opening.

1.05 RIGHT TO REJECT

The City of Tacoma reserves the right to reject any and all submittals, waive minor deviations or informalities, and if necessary, call for new submittals.

A. Requests for Proposals (RFP)

By submitting a proposal in response to a City RFP, the Respondent acknowledges and consents to the below City rights and conditions. With regard to this procurement process, the City reserves, holds

without limitation, and may exercise, at its sole discretion, the following rights and conditions:

1. To terminate the procurement process or decide not to award a contract as a result thereof by written notice to the Respondents for any reason whatsoever.
2. To waive any defect, technicality, or any other minor informality or irregularity in any submittal, or any other response from Respondents.
3. To make minor or major changes or alterations to the evaluation, selection and/or performance schedule(s) for any events associated with this procurement process upon notice to the Respondents.
4. To supplement, amend or otherwise modify the RFP specifications, at any time upon prior notice to Respondents, including but not limited to modifications to the description of services and/or products contained in the RFP, by omitting services/products and/or including services/products not currently contemplated therein.
5. To request clarifications, additional information, and/or revised submittals from one or more Respondents.
6. To conduct investigations with respect to the qualifications and experience information for each Respondent included in a submittal and to request additional evidence to support any such information.
7. To eliminate any Respondent that submits an incomplete or inadequate response, or is non-responsive to the requirements of the RFP specifications, or is otherwise deemed to be unqualified during any stage of the procurement process.
8. To select and interview a single finalist or multiple finalists for the purpose of promoting the City's evaluation of submittals provided in response to the RFP specifications. The City may, in its sole and exclusive discretion as to what is in the City's best interest, elect not to conduct interviews of any or all respondents in connection with this RFP process.
9. To discontinue contract negotiations with a selected Respondent and commence such negotiations with another respondent, except as otherwise provided in Chap. 39.80, RCW.
10. To select and enter into a contract with one or more Respondents whose submittal best satisfies the interests of the City and is most responsive, in the sole judgment of the City, to the requirements of the RFP specifications.
11. To take any other action affecting the RFP specifications or the procurement process that is determined to be in the City's best interests.
12. In the event the City receives questions concerning RFP specifications from one or more Respondents prior to the deadline for response, the City reserves the right to provide such questions, and the City's responses, if any, to all Respondents.
13. Neither the City, its officials, staff, agents, employees, representatives, nor consultants will be liable for any claims or damages resulting from any aspect of this procurement process.

1.06 EVALUATION OF SUBMITTALS

The City of Tacoma reserves the right to award to the lowest and best responsible Respondent(s) delivering a submittal in compliance with the specification documents, provided such submittals are reasonable and are in the best interest of the City to accept. The City may use a number of criteria for determining award, including evaluation factors set forth in Municipal Code Section 1.06.262. Respondents who are inexperienced or who fail to properly perform other contracts may have their submittal rejected for such cause.

A. Evaluation Factors

In addition to the factors set forth in Municipal Code Section 1.06.262, the following may be used by the City in determining the lowest and best responsible submittal:

1. Compliance with the Specification and with applicable City requirements, including by not limited to, the City's Ethics Code and its Small Business Enterprise and Local Employment and Apprenticeship programs.
2. Submittal prices, listed separately if requested, as well as a lump sum total (if the unit price does not compute to the extended total price, the unit price shall govern).
3. Time of delivery and/or completion of performance (delivery date(s) offered).
4. Warranty terms.
5. Quality of performance of previous contracts or services, including safety requirements and past compliance with the City's Ethics Code.
6. Previous and existing compliance with laws and ordinances relating to contracts or services.
7. Sufficiency of financial resources.
8. Quality, availability and adaptability of the supplies or services to the particular use required.
9. Ability to provide future maintenance and service on a timely basis.
10. Location of nearest factory authorized warranty repair facility or parts dealership.
11. Ability, capacity, experience, stability, reputation, integrity, character, judgment, technical qualifications and skill to perform the contract or provide the services required.

All other elements or factors, whether or not specifically provided for in this Specification, which would affect the final cost to, and the benefits to be derived by, the City, may be considered in determining the award of the contract. The final award decision will be based on the best interests of the City.

B. Cash Discount

Payment discount periods of 20 calendar days or more, if offered in the submittal, will be considered in determining the apparent lowest responsible submittal. Discounts will be analyzed in context of their overall cumulative effect.

1.07 COMPLETION OF CITY FORMS

All submittals must be completed in ink or typewritten using the forms included with this Specification, and submitted exactly as specified.

City forms requiring signature must be signed in ink by an authorized officer, employee or agent of the Respondent.

Prices must be stated in figures. Corrections shall be initialed in ink by the person signing the submittal. Prices having erasures or interlineations (cross outs) will not be accepted unless initialed in ink by the Respondent.

1.08 CORRECTION OF AMBIGUITIES AND OBVIOUS ERRORS

The City reserves the right to correct obvious errors in the Respondent's submittal. In this regard, if the unit price does not compute to the extended total price, the unit price shall govern.

1.09 CLARIFICATION OF SPECIFICATION

Questions regarding this Specification and/or any included terms, conditions, forms, plans or drawings are to be submitted in writing to the City staff person identified as the contact for this Specification. All requests for interpretation must be received by the City no later than five business days prior to the opening date. Any interpretation of this Specification will be made by addendum duly issued and posted to the Purchasing website at www.TacomaPurchasing.org. Such addendum must be acknowledged in the submittal. The City of Tacoma will not be responsible for any other explanation or interpretation of the specification documents.

1.10 ALTERATIONS NOT ALLOWED

Except as otherwise specifically provided in the specification documents, submittals that are incomplete or conditioned in any way, contain erasures, alternatives or items not called for, or not in conformity with law, may be rejected as being non-responsive. Any attempt to condition the submittal by inserting exceptions to the Specification or any conditions, qualifications or additions that vary its terms may result in rejection of the

submittal. The City cannot legally accept any submittal containing a material deviation from the Specifications.

1.11 INSERTION OF MATERIAL CONFLICTING WITH SPECIFICATIONS

Only material inserted by the Respondent to meet requirements of the specification documents will be considered. Any other material inserted by the Respondent will be disregarded by the City of Tacoma as being non-responsive and may be grounds for rejection of the submittal.

1.12 FIRM PRICES/ESCALATION

Except as specifically allowed elsewhere in the specification documents, only firm prices will be accepted.

1.13 SHIPPING

Prices must be quoted FOB destination (the place of destination as defined in RCW 62A.2-319, as that statute may hereafter be amended), with freight prepaid and allowed (shipping costs included in unit prices), and risk of loss remaining with Respondent until delivery is tendered.

1.14 LEGAL HOLIDAYS

The City of Tacoma observes the following holidays, which shall apply to performance of all contracts awarded from this solicitation:

New Year's Day	January 1
Martin Luther King's Birthday	3rd Monday in January
Washington's Birthday	3rd Monday in February
Memorial Day	Last Monday in May
Independence Day	July 4
Labor Day	1st Monday in September
Veteran's Day	November 11
Thanksgiving Day	4th Thursday of November
Day after Thanksgiving	4th Friday of November
Christmas Day	December 25

When any of these holidays occur on Saturday or Sunday, the preceding Friday or the following Monday, respectively, is a legal holiday for the City of Tacoma.

1.15 TAXES

Unless otherwise required in this Specification, applicable federal, state, city and local taxes shall be included in the submittal as indicated below. The total cost to the City, including all applicable taxes, may be the basis for contract award determination. As used herein, the term "taxes" shall include any and all taxes, assessments, fees, charges, interest, penalties, and/or fines imposed by applicable laws and regulations in connection with the procurement of goods and/or services hereunder.

A. Federal Excise Tax

The City of Tacoma is exempt from federal excise tax. The City will furnish a Federal Excise Tax Exemption certificate, if required. If the Respondent fails to include any applicable tax in its submittal, then Respondent shall be solely responsible for the payment of said tax.

B. State and Local Sales Tax

The City of Tacoma is subject to Washington state sales tax. It is the Respondent's obligation to state the correct sales tax percentage and include the applicable Washington state, city and local sales tax as a separate line item(s) in the submittal.

C. City of Tacoma Business and Occupation Tax

It is the Respondent's obligation to include City of Tacoma Business and Occupation tax in the unit and/or lump sum prices submitted; it shall not be shown separately on the submittal.

Per Sub-Title 6A of the City of Tacoma Municipal Code, transactions with the City of Tacoma may be subject to the City's Business and Occupation Tax.

It is the responsibility of the Respondent awarded the contract to register with the City of Tacoma's Tax and License Division, 733 South Market Street, Room 21, Tacoma, WA 98402-3768, telephone 253-591-5252, website <http://www.cityoftacoma.org/Page.aspx?nid=201>.

D. Any or All Other Taxes

Any or all other taxes are the responsibility of the Respondent unless otherwise required by law.

1.16 WASHINGTON BUSINESS LICENSE REQUIREMENT

All submittals should include a Washington State Business License number in the space provided on the Submittal Signature Page. If the recommended respondent does not have a Washington State Business License at the time of submittal, it must obtain such license and provide proof thereof to the City of Tacoma prior to contract award. Failure to include a Washington State Business License may be grounds for rejection of the submittal. Information regarding Washington State Business Licenses may be obtained at <http://www.dol.wa.gov/businesses.htm>.

1.17 PUBLIC DISCLOSURE

Washington State Public Disclosure Act (RCW 42.56 et seq.) requires public agencies in Washington to promptly make public records available for inspection and copying unless they fall within the specified exemptions contained in the Act. Documents submitted under this Specification are considered public records and, unless exempt from disclosure under the Act, will be made available for inspection and copying by the public in response to a public records request.

1.18 PROPRIETARY OR CONFIDENTIAL TRADE SECRET INFORMATION

If the Respondent considers any submittal document to be exempt from disclosure under the law, the Respondent shall clearly mark on the specific page(s) affected such words as "CONFIDENTIAL," "PROPRIETARY" or "TRADE SECRET." The Respondent shall also submit an index with its submittal identifying the affected page number(s) and location(s) of all such identified material. **Failure to provide an index identifying the location of the material in the submittal that Respondent considers to be protected from disclosure will result in the records being released in response to a request for those records without further notice to Respondent. Marking the entire submittal as "confidential" or "proprietary" or "trade secret" is not acceptable and is grounds to reject such submittal.**

If a public records request is made for disclosure of all or any part of Respondent's submittal, **and** Respondent has (i) properly marked and (ii) indexed the material it asserts to be exempt from disclosure, the City will determine whether the material is exempt from public disclosure. If, in the City's opinion, the material is subject to a possible exemption to disclosure, the City will notify Respondent of the request and impending release and allow the Respondent ten (10) business days to take whatever action Respondent deems necessary to protect its interests. The City will reasonably cooperate with any legal action initiated by the Respondent to prevent release; provided that all expense of such action shall be borne solely by the Respondent, including any damages, penalties, attorney's fees or costs awarded by reason of having opposed disclosure and Respondent shall indemnify City against same. If the Respondent fails or neglects to take such action within said period, the City will release all materials deemed subject to disclosure. Submission of materials in response to this solicitation shall constitute assent by the Respondent to the foregoing procedure and the Respondent shall have no claim against the City on account of actions taken pursuant to such procedure.

1.19 TITLE VI OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS ACT OF 1964

The City of Tacoma ensures full compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 by prohibiting discrimination against any person on the basis of race, color, national origin or sex in the provision of benefits and services resulting from its federally assisted programs and activities. Contact Tacoma's Title VI coordinator at 253-591-5224 for additional information.

1.20 LEGAL DISPUTES

Respondent agrees and stipulates that in the event any litigation should occur concerning or arising out of this solicitation or any submittal delivered in response hereto, the sole venue of any such legal action shall be the Pierce County Superior Court of the state of Washington and the interpretation of the terms of the solicitation and submittal shall be governed by the laws of the state of Washington.

1.21 PURCHASE ORDER TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Terms and conditions of City of Tacoma purchase orders, if issued, shall apply to contracts and awards resulting from this solicitation.

1.22 RESPONDENT'S REFUSAL TO ENTER INTO CONTRACT

Any Respondent who refuses to enter into a contract after it has been awarded to the Respondent will be in breach of the agreement to enter the contract, and the Respondent's certified or cashiers check or bid bond, if any, shall be forfeited.

1.23 AWARD

The City reserves the right to award contracts for any or all items to one or more respondents in the best interests of the City.

1.24 FINAL AWARD DETERMINATION

The Tacoma City Council or Public Utility Board, for awards over \$200,000, shall be the final judge as to which submittal(s) is/are the lowest and best responsible, and best meets the interest of the City of Tacoma to accept. The purchasing manager makes the determination for awards of \$200,000 and less.

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**CITY OF TACOMA
STANDARD TERMS AND CONDITIONS
SECTION 2 – SERVICES**

UNLESS OTHERWISE REQUIRED BY THE SPECIFICATION OR AGREED TO IN WRITING, THE FOLLOWING TERMS AND CONDITIONS SHALL GOVERN THE RIGHTS, RESPONSIBILITIES AND OBLIGATIONS OF THE PARTIES TO THE CONTRACT.

2.01 CONTRACTOR

As used herein, the "Contractor" shall be the Respondent(s) awarded a contract pursuant to this Specification, whether designated as a Respondent, Vendor, Proposer, Bidder, Seller, Merchant, Service Provider or otherwise.

2.02 ENTIRE AGREEMENT

This Specification, purchase orders issued by the City pursuant hereto, and the Contractor's submittal, in that order of precedence, shall constitute the "Contract" between the parties. Said documents represent the entire agreement between the parties and supersede any prior oral statements, discussions or understandings between the parties, and/or subsequent contractor invoices. No modification of this Contract shall be effective unless mutually agreed in writing.

2.03 SERVICES

The services and/or work contracted for herein exclude public works and improvements as defined in RCW 39.04, as that statute may hereafter be amended.

2.04 SCOPE OF WORK

The Contractor agrees to diligently and completely perform the services required by this Contract.

The City shall have the right to make changes within the general scope of services and/or deliverables upon execution in writing of a change order or amendment hereto. If the changes will result in additional work effort by Contractor the City agrees to reasonably compensate the Contractor for such additional effort up to the maximum amount specified in the Contract or as otherwise provided by Tacoma Municipal Code. Delivery of incidental products will be as designated in this Contract.

2.05 TIME FOR PERFORMANCE

All services shall be satisfactorily completed by the termination date contemplated by this Contract, and this Contract shall expire on said date unless mutually extended in writing by the Parties.

2.06 EXTENSION OF CONTRACT

This Contract shall be subject to extension by mutual agreement per the same prices, terms and conditions.

2.07 COMPENSATION

The City shall compensate the Contractor in accordance with the Contract. Said compensation shall be the total compensation for Contractor's performance hereunder including, but not limited to, all work, services, deliverables, materials, supplies, equipment, subcontractor's fees and all reimbursable travel and miscellaneous or incidental expenses to be incurred by Contractor.

2.08 INVOICES

Each invoice shall show City of Tacoma purchase order number, release number if applicable, quantity, unit of measure, item description, unit price and extended price for each line. Line totals shall be summed to give a grand total to which sales tax shall be added, if applicable. Invoices shall be sent in duplicate to:

Accounts Payable
City of Tacoma
P. O. Box 1717
Tacoma Washington 98401-1717

Any terms, provisions or language in Contractor's invoice(s) that conflict with the terms of this Contract shall not apply to this Contract unless expressly accepted in writing by the City.

2.09 PAYMENT TERMS

Payment shall be made through the City's ordinary payment process, and shall be considered timely if made within 30 days of receipt of a properly completed invoice. Payment will not be considered late if mailed or electronically disbursed within the time specified. Payment(s) made in accordance with this Contract shall fully compensate the Contractor for all risk, loss, damages or expense of whatever nature, and acceptance of payment shall constitute a waiver of all claims submitted by Contractor. All payments shall be subject to adjustment for any amounts, upon audit or otherwise, determined to have been improperly invoiced.

Invoices will not be processed for payment, nor will the period of cash discount commence, until all invoiced items are received and satisfactory performance of the Contract has been attained, and a properly completed invoice is received by the City. If an adjustment in payment is necessary due to damage or dispute, the cash discount period shall commence on the date final approval for payment is authorized.

2.10 ADDITIONAL CITY CONTRACTS

During the term of this Contract, other City of Tacoma Departments/Divisions shall have the right to enter into additional service contracts or issue purchase orders based on the unit prices and/or service rates stated in this Contract. An exception taken specifically to this provision at time of submittal shall not constitute a material deviation in the bidding process.

2.11 COOPERATIVE PURCHASING

The Washington State Interlocal Cooperation Act RCW 39.34 provides that other governmental agencies may purchase goods and services based on this Contract in accordance with the terms and prices indicated herein if all parties are agreeable. Each public agency shall formulate a separate contract with the Contractor, incorporating the terms and conditions of this Contract with the City of Tacoma. The City shall incur no liability in connection with such contracts or purchases by other public agencies thereunder. It will be the Contractor's responsibility to inform such public agencies of this Contract. Contractor shall invoice such public agencies as separate entities.

2.12 WARRANTIES/REPRESENTATIONS

The Contractor warrants that all services performed pursuant to the Contract shall be generally suitable for the use to which the City intends to use said services as expressed in this Contract. The Contractor represents and warrants that it will diligently and completely perform all services and obligations consistent with customarily accepted good practices and standards of performance applicable to service providers rendering the same or similar type of service and that it will comply with all applicable federal, state and local laws, ordinances, rules and regulations including, but not limited to, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and the Washington Industrial Safety and Health Act (WISHA). If the Contractor intends to rely on information or data supplied by the City, other City contractor's or other generally reputable sources without independent verification, such intent shall be brought to the attention of the City.

2.13 TAXES, LICENSES, PERMITS

Unless otherwise required by applicable law, the tax provisions in Section 1 - Solicitation apply to this Contract. Except for state sales tax, the Contractor acknowledges that it is responsible for the payment of all taxes applicable to this Contract and the Contractor agrees to comply with all applicable laws regarding the reporting of income, maintenance of records and all other requirements and obligations imposed pursuant to applicable law.

The Contractor, at its expense, shall obtain and keep in force any and all necessary licenses and permits. The Contractor shall obtain a business license as required by Tacoma Municipal Code Subtitle 6B.20 and shall pay business and occupation taxes as required by Tacoma Municipal Code Subtitle 6A.30.

If the City is assessed, made liable, or responsible in any manner for taxes contrary to the provisions of this Contract, the Contractor agrees to hold the City harmless from such costs, including attorney's fees. In the event the Contractor fails to pay any taxes, assessments, penalties, or fees imposed by any governmental body, including a court of law, other than those taxes the City is required to pay, then the Contractor authorizes the City to deduct and withhold or pay over to the appropriate governmental body those unpaid amounts upon demand by the governmental body. It is agreed that this provision shall apply to taxes and fees imposed by City ordinance. Any such payments shall be deducted from the Contractor's total compensation.

2.14 FEDERAL, STATE AND MUNICIPAL LAWS AND REGULATIONS

All federal, state, municipal and/or local laws and regulations shall be satisfied in the performance of all portions of this Contract. The Contractor shall be solely responsible for all violations of the law from any cause in connection with its performance of work under this Contract.

2.15 SMALL BUSINESS ENTERPRISE (SBE) PROGRAM AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITY

It is the policy of the City of Tacoma that all citizens be afforded an equal opportunity for full participation in our free enterprise system. In order to implement this policy, the City of Tacoma is committed to ensuring equitable participation of small business enterprises. Contact Tacoma's SBE coordinator at 253-591-5224 for additional information.

2.16 NON-DISCRIMINATION

The Contractor agrees to take all steps necessary to comply with all federal, state and City laws and policies regarding non-discrimination and equal employment opportunities. The Contractor shall not discriminate in any employment action because of race, religion, color, national origin or ancestry, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, marital status, familial status, or the presence of any sensory, mental or physical handicap. In the event of non-compliance by the Contractor with any of the non-discrimination provisions of this Contract, the City shall be deemed to have cause to terminate this Contract, in whole or in part.

2.17 PREVAILING WAGES PAID – IF REQUIRED

If this Contract involves services for which state and/or local laws may require the Contractor to pay prevailing wages, and Contractor hereby agrees to pay such applicable prevailing wages. If applicable to this Contract, a Schedule of Prevailing Wage Rates for the locality or localities where this Contract will be performed is attached and made of part of this Contract by this reference. If prevailing wages do apply to this Contract, the Contractor and its subcontractors shall (a) be bound by the provisions of Chapter 39.12 RCW, as amended, relating to prevailing wages and usual fringe benefits, (b) ensure that no worker, laborer or mechanic employed in the performance of any part of this Contract shall be paid less than the prevailing rate of wage specified on that Schedule, and (c) immediately upon award of the Contract, contact the Department of Labor and Industries, Prevailing Wages section, Olympia, Washington, to obtain full information, forms and procedures relating to these matters. Per such procedures, a Statement of Intent to Pay Prevailing Wages must be submitted by the Contractor and its subcontractors to the City, in the manner requested by the City, prior to any payment by the City hereunder, and an Affidavit of Wages Paid must be received or verified by the City prior to final Contract payment.

2.18 CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No officer, employee or agent of the City, nor any member of the immediate family of any such officer, employee or agent as defined by City ordinance, shall have any personal financial interest, direct or indirect, in this Contract, either in fact or in appearance. The Contractor shall comply with all federal, state and City conflict of interest laws, statutes and regulations. The Contractor represents that the Contractor presently has no interest and shall not acquire any interest, direct or indirect, in the program to which this Contract pertains that would conflict in any manner or degree with the performance of the Contractor's services and obligations hereunder. The Contractor further covenants that, in performance of this Contract, no person having any such interest shall be employed. The Contractor also agrees that its violation of the City's Code of Ethics contained in Chapter 1.46 of the Tacoma Municipal Code shall constitute a breach of this Contract subjecting the Contract to termination.

2.19 REPORTS, RIGHT TO AUDIT, PERSONNEL

A. Reports

The Contractor shall, at such times and in such form as the City may reasonably require, furnish the City with periodic status reports pertaining to the services undertaken pursuant to this Contract.

B. Right to Audit

Upon City's request, the Contractor shall make available to City all accounts, records and documents related to the scope of work for City's inspection, auditing, or evaluation during normal business hours as reasonably needed by City to assess performance, compliance and/or quality assurance under this Contract.

C. Personnel

If before, during, or after the execution of this Contract, the Contractor has represented or represents to the City that certain personnel would or will be responsible for performing services pursuant to this Contract, then the Contractor is obligated to ensure that said personnel perform said Contract services to the maximum extent permitted by law. This Contract provision shall only be waived by written authorization by the City, and on a case by case basis.

2.20 TERMINATION AND SUSPENSION

The City may terminate this Contract at any time, with or without cause, by giving 10 business days written notice to Contractor. In the event of termination, all finished and unfinished work prepared by the Contractor pursuant to this Contract shall be provided to the City. In the event City terminates this Contract due to the City's own reasons and without cause due to the Contractor's actions or omissions, the City shall pay the Contractor the amount due for actual work and services necessarily performed under this Contract up to the effective date of termination, not to exceed the total compensation set forth herein.

The City may suspend this Contract, at its sole discretion, upon three business days written notice to the Contractor. Such notice shall indicate the anticipated period of suspension. Any reimbursement for expenses incurred due to the suspension shall be limited to the Contractor's actual expenses and shall be subject to verification. The Contractor shall resume performance of services under this Contract without delay when the suspension period ends.

Termination or suspension of this Contract by City shall not constitute a waiver of any claims or remaining rights the City may have against Contractor relative to performance hereunder.

2.21 INDEMNIFICATION – HOLD HARMLESS

The Contractor shall indemnify, defend and hold harmless the City, its officials, officers, agents, employees and volunteers, from any and all claims, demands, damages, lawsuits, liabilities, losses, liens, expenses and costs arising out of the subject matter of this Contract; provided that this provision shall not apply to the extent that damage or injury results from the fault of the City, or its officers, agents, or employees. The term "fault" as used herein shall have the same meaning as set forth in RCW 4.22.015, as that statute may hereafter be amended.

The Contractor specifically assumes potential liability for actions brought by the Contractor's own employees against the City and, solely for the purpose of this indemnification and defense, the Respondent specifically waives any immunity under the state industrial insurance law, Title 51 RCW.

These indemnifications shall survive the termination of this Contract.

A waiver or failure by either party to enforce any provision of this Contract shall not be construed as a continuing waiver of such provisions, nor shall the same constitute a waiver of any other provision of this Contract.

2.22 INSURANCE

The Contractor shall maintain all necessary insurance to protect Contractor and the City from losses and claims that may arise out of or result from performance of duties related to the Contract, including Worker's Compensation, automobile public liability and property damage, commercial general liability, professional liability, errors and omissions and others, as specified in the Insurance Requirements attachment.

2.23 INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR STATUS

The Contractor is considered an independent contractor who shall at all times perform his/her duties and responsibilities and carry out all services as an independent contractor and shall never represent or construe his/her status to be that of an agent or employee of the City, nor shall the Contractor be eligible for any employee benefits. No payroll or employment taxes or contributions of any kind shall be withheld or paid by the City with respect to payments to Contractor. The Contractor shall be solely responsible for all said payroll or employment taxes and/or contributions including, but not limited to, FICA, FUTA, federal income tax, state personal income tax, state disability insurance tax and state unemployment insurance tax. If the City is assessed, made liable or responsible in any manner for such taxes or contributions, the Contractor agrees to indemnify and hold the City harmless from all costs incurred, including attorney fees.

Unless otherwise specified in writing, Contractor shall provide at its sole expense all materials, working space, and other necessities and instruments to perform its duties under this Contract. The Contractor, at

its sole expense, shall obtain and keep in force any and all applicable licenses, permits and tax certificates necessary to perform Contract services.

2.24 NOTICES

Except for routine operational communications, which may be delivered personally or transmitted by electronic mail or facsimile, all notices required hereunder shall be in writing and shall be deemed to have been duly given if delivered personally or mailed first-class mail, postage prepaid, to the Contractor's registered agent and to the applicable City department representative.

2.25 CITY OWNERSHIP OF WORK/RIGHTS IN DATA/PUBLICATIONS

To the extent that Contractor creates any work subject to the protections of the Copyright Act (Title 17 U.S.C) in its performance of this Contract, Contractor agrees to the following: The work has been specially ordered and commissioned by the City. Contractor agrees that the work is a "work made for hire" for copyright purposes, with all copyrights in the work owned by City. To the extent that the work does not qualify as a work made for hire under applicable law, and to the extent that the work includes material subject to copyright, Contractor hereby assigns to City, its successors and assigns, all right, title and interest in and to the work, including but not limited to, all copyrights, patent, trade secret and other proprietary rights, and all rights, title and interest in and to any inventions and designs embodied in the work or developed during the course of Contractor's creation of the work.

The Contractor shall be solely responsible for obtaining releases and/or licenses for the reproduction, distribution, creation of derivative works, performance, display, or other use of copyrighted materials. Should the Contractor fail to obtain said releases and/or licenses, the Contractor shall indemnify, defend and hold harmless the City for any claim resulting there from.

2.26 PUBLIC DISCLOSURE

This Contract and documents provided to the City by Contractor hereunder are deemed public records subject to disclosure under the Washington State Public Records Act, Chapter 42.56 RCW (Public Records Act). Thus, the City may be required, upon request, to disclose this Contract and documents related to it unless an exemption under the Public Records Act or other laws applies.

2.27 DUTY OF CONFIDENTIALITY

Contractor acknowledges that unauthorized disclosure of information or documentation concerning the Scope of Work hereunder may cause substantial economic loss or harm to the City. Except for disclosure of information and documents to Contractor's employees, agents, or subcontractors who have a substantial need to know such information in connection with Contractor's performance of obligations under this Contract, the Contractor shall not without prior written authorization by the City allow the release, dissemination, distribution, sharing, or other publication or disclosure of information or documentation obtained, discovered, shared or produced pursuant to this Contract.

2.28 DISPUTE RESOLUTION

In the event of a dispute pertaining to this Contract, the parties agree to attempt to negotiate in good faith an acceptable resolution. If a resolution cannot be negotiated, then the parties agree to submit the dispute to voluntary non-binding mediation before pursuing other remedies. This provision does not limit the City's right to terminate authorized by this Contract.

2.29 GOVERNING LAW AND VENUE

Washington law shall govern the interpretation of this Contract. The state or federal courts located in Pierce County shall be the venue of any mediation, arbitration or litigation arising out of this Contract.

2.30 ASSIGNMENT

The Contractor shall not assign, subcontract, delegate, or transfer any obligation, interest or claim to or under this Contract without the prior written consent of the City.

2.31 WAIVER

A waiver or failure by either party to enforce any provision of this Contract shall not be construed as a continuing waiver of such provisions, nor shall the same constitute a waiver of any other provision of this Contract.

2.32 SEVERABILITY AND SURVIVAL

If any term, condition or provision of this Contract is declared void or unenforceable or limited in its application or effect, such event shall not affect any other provisions hereof and all other provisions shall remain fully enforceable. The provisions of this Contract, which by their sense and context are reasonably intended to survive the completion, expiration or cancellation of this Contract, shall survive termination of this Contract.

2.33 CONFLICT WITH CONTRACT

In the event of any conflict between this document, Standard Terms and Conditions Section 2, Services, and the Professional Services Contract or other type of Contract (Contract) ultimately negotiated and entered into between Respondent and the City, the provisions of the Contract shall prevail. However, absent any such conflict the provisions of this document, Standard Terms and Conditions Section 2, Services, are fully incorporated into and considered part of the Contract.

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SECTION 3 – PROJECT INFORMATION AND REQUIREMENTS

A. PROJECT OVERVIEW

The City of Tacoma (“City”) desires to contract with a firm to provide a climate change risk and vulnerability assessment, as well as a framework for potential detailed mitigation studies for highly vulnerable infrastructure, operations, critical areas and natural systems. The purpose of this study is to provide a data set that can be used as a basis for future development of resiliency plans. Specific adaptation plans for each group or piece of critical infrastructure may be required to fully mitigate the likely hazards and impacts. These detailed resiliency plans are not included in this scope of work but the study will identify where they are likely necessary.

B. MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

In order to be eligible to submit a proposal in response to this RFP responding firms must clearly demonstrate compliance with the following minimum qualification:

A minimum of 2 years demonstrated successful experience of providing climate change risk assessments and recommendations for mitigation or adaptation strategies for a City or County similar to the size of the City of Tacoma with both fresh water and ocean shorelines.

Proposals must clearly demonstrate that the firm meets this minimum qualification. The City is not obligated to check references or search other materials to determine if the firm meets this minimum qualification. Proposals which fail to clearly demonstrate the submitting firm meets this minimum qualification may be rejected by the City without further consideration.

C. INQUIRIES TO RFP

No Pre-proposal conference is being held; however, questions and request for clarifications of the specifications may be submitted in writing by **3:00 p.m., Pacific Time, December 5, 2014**, to Joe Parris, Purchasing Division, via email to jparris@cityoftacoma.org. No further questions will be accepted after this date and time. The City will not be responsible for unsuccessful submittal of questions.

Written answers to all questions submitted will be posted on the Purchasing website at www.TacomaPurchasing.org on or about **December 10, 2014**. The City reserves the discretion to group similar questions to provide a single answer or not to respond when the requested information is confidential. The answers are not typically considered an addendum.

D. RFP REVISIONS

In the event it becomes necessary to revise any part of this RFP, addenda will be issued to all registered planholders and posted on the Purchasing website. Answers in response to RFP inquiries (see Section 3. C. above) are not typically provided as an addendum.

E. CALENDAR OF EVENTS

The anticipated schedule of events concerning this RFP is as follows:

RFP Issued	November 21, 2014
Pre-Proposal Questions Due	December 5, 2014
Response to Questions	December 10, 2014
Submittal Due Date	December 30, 2014
Interviews/presentations, if conducted	January 19 – 23, 2015
Award recommendation	January 27, 2015
Contract Completed	February 13, 2015
Consultant Begins Work	February 20, 2015
60% draft report	May 18, 2015
90% draft report	July 17, 2015
Final report	August 21, 2015

This is a tentative schedule only and may be altered at the sole discretion of the City.

F. CONTRACT TERM

The contract will be for a two year period with the option to renew the contract one additional two-year term. The City reserves the right to cancel the contract for any reason, by written notice, as stipulated in the contract.

G. RESPONSIVENESS

Respondents agree to provide 120 days for acceptance from the submittal deadline.

All submittals will be reviewed by the City to determine compliance with the requirements and instructions specified in this RFP. The Respondent is specifically notified that failure to comply with any part of this RFP may result in rejection of the submittal as non-responsive. The City reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to waive irregularities deemed to be immaterial.

The final selection, if any, will be that proposal which, after review of submissions and potential interviews, in the sole judgment of the City, best meets the requirements set forth in this RFP.

H. COSTS TO PREPARE SUBMITTAL

The City is not liable for any costs incurred by the Respondent for the preparation of materials or a proposal submitted in response to this RFP, for conducting any presentations to the City, or any other activities related to responding to this RFP.

I. ACCEPTANCE OF PROPOSAL CONTENTS

The Proposal contents of the successful Respondent will become a contractual obligation if a contract ensues.

J. CONTRACT OBLIGATION

The selected Respondent(s) will be expected to execute the Standard Professional Services Contract (Appendix B). As part of the negotiation process, Respondents may propose amendments to this contract, but the City, at its sole option, will decide whether to open discussion on each proposed amendment.

K. PARTNERSHIPS

The City will allow firms to partner in order to respond to this RFP. Respondents may team under a Prime Respondent's submittal in order to provide responses to all sections in a single submission; however, each Respondent's participation must be clearly delineated by section. The Prime Respondent will be considered the responding vendor and the responsible party at contract award. All contract negotiations will be conducted only with the Prime Respondent. All contract payments will be made only to the Prime Respondent. Any agreements between the Prime Respondent and other companies will not be a part of the agreement between the City and the Prime Respondent. The City reserves the right to select more than one Prime Respondent.

L. COMMITMENT OF FIRM KEY PERSONNEL

The Respondent agrees that key personnel identified in its submittal or during contract negotiations as committed to this project will, in fact, be the key personnel to perform during the life of this contract. Should key personnel become unavailable for any reason, the selected Respondent shall provide suitable replacement personnel, subject to the approval of the City. Substantial organizational or personnel changes within the agency are expected to be communicated immediately. Failure to do so could result in cancellation of the Contract. Specific language pertaining to personnel substitution is contained within the sample contract in Appendix B.

M. PROPOSAL FORMAT AND PRESENTATION

Proposals must be prepared simply and economically, providing a straightforward, concise description of the proposer's ability to meet the requirements of this RFP. Respondents are encouraged to use recycled/recyclable products and both sides of paper for printed and photocopied materials, wherever possible. Standard company brochures and resumes are allowed.

Submittals should be limited to 10, 8-1/2 X 11, double-sided pages (20 page lengths), excluding any required forms, resumes and work samples.

Information that is confidential must be clearly marked. See Section 1 – Solicitation 1.17 & 1.18.

N. CONTENT TO BE SUBMITTED

Respondents are to provide complete and detailed responses to all items below. Submittals that are incomplete or conditioned in any way that contain alternatives or items not called for in this RFP, or not in conformity with law, may be rejected as being non-responsive. The City will not accept any proposal containing a substantial deviation from the requirements outlined in this RFP.

Organization of the submittal shall follow the sequence of contents below so that essential information can be located easily during evaluation.

1). Firm's Qualifications and Experience

- a. Describe your Firm's experience and qualifications regarding projects of similar scope and size.
- b. Describe how your Firm meets the minimum requirements as described in Section 3, B, Minimum Requirements.
- c. Describe your Firm's ability to provide these services.
- d. Describe your Firm's reporting and graphics capabilities.
- e. Provide three client references able to verify the Firm's overall expertise for this type of work. The references must have worked with the firm within the last year. Provide complete information such as name of company, contact person, address, phone number, fax number and email address.

2). Cost

- a. Provide the method of billing and hourly rates. Include a sample invoice to show method of billing for a sample project.

3). Key Personnel Qualifications and Experience

- a. List key personnel that will handle the project. The personnel listed must be committed to this project for the expected term of the agreement. Include a brief bio or resume outlining the experience of the key personnel that will be involved and the percentage of their time which will be allocated to the project.

4). Approach and Methodology

- a. Outline how you and your team would approach this project.
- b. Concisely detail how your organization/team will complete the responsibilities and tasks outlined in the Scope of Work section. Give a clear description of the work tasks and methods to be utilized.

5). Sustainability

- a. The City has an interest in measures used by its consultants which ensure sustainable operations with minimal adverse impact to the environment. The City seeks to do business with vendors that value community and environmental stewardship that help us meet our sustainable purchasing goals.
 - i. Please demonstrate your firm's commitment to providing the services identified in the scope of work in a sustainable manner. What measures will your firm take to minimize negative impacts to the environment in the delivery of services? Please provide details of efforts, practices and/or processes.
 - ii. What are the primary negative environmental impacts in your industry? How will you mitigate these impacts in the delivery of your services?
 - iii. Please demonstrate your firm's commitment to sustainable business practices, which could include, but are not limited to a formal sustainability program and/or policies covering recycling measures, energy conservation plans, water conservation policies, or a green cleaning policy. Please provide details and if available, include copies of reports, policies or plans.

6). Required Form

Required Form – Please complete and sign.

- Signature Page (Found in Appendix A)

7). Credit Card

- a. Credit Card Acceptance
Provide a statement regarding your ability to meet the City's credit card requirements (below) as well as identifying your reporting capabilities (Level I, II, or III).
 - i. Vendors must be PCI–DSS compliance (secure credit card data management).
 - ii. Vendors must be set up by their card processing equipment provider (merchant acquirer) as a minimum of a Level II merchant with the ability to pass along tax, shipping and merchant references information.

This information is not a consideration in the evaluation process.

O. EVALUATION CRITERIA

A Selection Advisory Committee (SAC) will review and evaluate submittals. After the evaluation, the SAC may conduct interviews of the most qualified Respondents before final selection.

The SAC may select one or more Respondents to provide the services required.

Written submittals will be evaluated on the following criteria:

Criteria	Points
Firm's Qualifications and Experience	30
Cost	20
Key Personnel Qualifications and Experience	20
Approach and Methodology	20
Sustainability	10
SUBTOTAL	100

The City reserves the right to visit facilities of selected Respondents for the purpose of assisting in the selection process.

The SAC may use references to clarify information in the submittals and interviews, if conducted, which may affect the rating. The City reserves the right to contact references other than those included in the submittal.

P. INTERVIEWS / ORAL PRESENTATIONS

An invitation to interview may be extended to Respondents based on Selection Advisory Committee review of the written submittals. The SAC reserves the right to adjust scoring based on additional information and/or clarifications provided during interviews. The SAC may determine scoring criteria for the interviews following evaluation of written submittals.

The City reserves all rights to begin contract negotiations without conducting interviews.

Respondents must be available to interview within five business days' notice.

Q. AWARD

After the Respondent(s) is recommended for award by the SAC and prior to award, all Respondents will be notified in writing by the Purchasing Division.

Once a finalist (or finalists) has been selected by the Selection Advisory Committee, contract negotiations with that finalist will begin, and if a contract is successfully negotiated, it will, if required, be submitted for final approval by the Public Utility Board and/or City Council.

R. PAYMENT METHOD - CREDIT CARD ACCEPTANCE

The City, in its sole discretion, will determine the method of payment for goods and/or services as part of this agreement.

The City's preferred method of payment is by credit card. Respondents may be required to have the capability of accepting the City's authorized procurement card as a method of payment. No price changes or additional fee(s) may be assessed when accepting the procurement card as a form of payment.

1. Payment methods include:
 - a. Credit card. Tacoma's VISA procurement card program is supported by standard bank credit suppliers and requires merchants abide by the VISA merchant operating rules.
 - i. Vendors must be PCI-DSS compliance (secure credit card data management).
 - ii. Vendors must be set up by their card processing equipment provider (merchant acquirer) as a minimum of a Level II merchant with the ability to pass along tax, shipping and merchant references information.
 - b. Check, wire transfer or other cash equivalent.
2. The City may consider cash discounts when evaluating submittals. See 1.06 B. of the Standard Terms and Conditions Section 1 – Solicitation.

SECTION 4 – TECHNICAL PROVISIONS

A. SCOPE OF WORK SUMMARY

Develop a general study which assesses climate change vulnerability and risks to the City, and determines which planning areas need additional study. This includes looking at expected impacts, probability of change, and the projected impact of change by 2030. The anticipated project duration is less than six (6) months.

The proposal shall provide a detailed scope of work based on the following objectives, criterion and guidelines:

1. Summarize general Pacific Northwest climatic patterns, variability, hazards and observed and expected trends using the best available scientific research
2. Identify specific variables that impact City services (e.g., temperature, precipitation)
3. Identify secondary impacts (e.g., flooding, drought, heat-related illnesses, pests)
4. Provide maps and other graphic content to illustrate present and potential impacts
5. Identify study areas
6. Identify the groups of infrastructure and operations that are most critical to the City
7. Assess vulnerabilities of various systems (infrastructure, natural systems, and health and human services) that could be impacted by climate conditions
8. Assess impacts to regulated critical areas
9. Identify vulnerable neighborhoods and potential risks that should be addressed in order to make them more resilient
10. Assess risks by evaluating the likelihood and consequences of the change or impact, based on the results of:
 - a. Sensitivity analysis
 - b. Adaptive capacity analysis
 - c. Vulnerability analysis
11. Identify existing and proposed strategies to address those impacts that have higher likelihood of occurrence and consequences of higher concern.
12. Identify strategies with multiple objectives, co-benefits and equity outcomes
13. Provide specific recommendations on which critical infrastructure and operations should undergo more specific study and what steps that assessment should include
14. Facilitate two stakeholder (local and regional) meetings of 10-15 participants
15. Provide project management, direction, coordination, and control of all work associated with project schedule, budget, subconsultants, technical quality, monthly progress reports, and invoices
16. Summarize goals, methods and results in a 10-20 page executive summary, for a more general audience
17. (Optional) Assist the City in providing education to stakeholders.

1. Task: General

a. Facilitate two stakeholder meetings of 10-15 participants

Convene and facilitate at least two meetings of stakeholders. The first meeting should be prior to beginning work on the contract and the second should present initial recommendations. Additional meetings can be proposed as part of the response.

b. Project Management

Provide project management, direction, coordination, and control of all work associated with project schedule, budget, subconsultants, technical quality, monthly progress reports, and invoices

c. (Optional) Education and outreach

Assist the City in providing education to internal and external stakeholders

B. DELIVERABLES

1. Climate Change Risk and Vulnerability Assessment
2. Executive Summary of above
3. Prioritization of study areas to develop resiliency plan(s)
4. Stakeholders meetings (min. 2)
5. (Optional) Outreach/education to internal and external stakeholders

APPENDIX A

Signature Page

APPENDIX B

Sample Professional Services Agreement

APPENDIX C

Standard Insurance Requirements