



City of Tacoma

Questions and Answers

SCHUSTER PARKWAY TRAIL PROJECT DESIGN SUPPORT SERVICES

RFQ Specification No. **PW23-0243F**

All interested parties had the opportunity to submit questions during the pre-submittal meeting and in writing by email to Brandon Snow, Senior Buyer by October 13, 2023. 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: RE: Basemap and 30%design: Will consultants help with determining the trail alignment?

Answer 1: Consultants will be expected to weigh in on the different alternatives. Even though we have ideas on potential alignments a precise alignment is yet to be determined. Aligning the trail will involve looking at alternate design solutions.

Question 2: Could the City provide an overview of the current intent of the project?

Answer 2: The intent of the current project is to take the design as far as possible to determine what alternatives are constructable. Previous studies were performed to get ideas for cost, but the current project has the same considerations: to create a trail with views away from traffic, within a green non-urban setting while also considering safety and slope stability among other considerations.

Question 3: RE: RFQ Fed funding in CN: Is funding research apart of the scope?

Answer 3: Finding opportunities for funding construction will likely be a part of the scope.

Question 4: Survey & ROW: Do we anticipate ROW acquisition from the parcels at the top of the slope?

Answer 4: Not everywhere but at Garfield gulch there could be some ROW coordination with Metro Parks. Where the project connects with 30th and Starr St there also may be some acquisition. TCEs along 30th North of Garfield Gulch are possible.

Question 5: Regarding LiDAR survey: Is there a preference of Drone (unmanned) or manned flown aircraft?

Answer 5: There is no preference as long as the survey specifications provided in the RFQ are met.

Question 6: What kind of interaction is the City looking for from the consultants?

Answer 6: This project will require a high level of coordination between different disciplines. The City will lead the design coordination and public outreach.



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Question 7: RE: Bayside Trails: does the City have maps of the old Bayside Trail?

Answer 7: Not that we know of, and as an added mention it is known homeowners at the top of the slopes are not favorable of a trail up against their properties. We do have some pretty picture type maps, but we do not have accurate survey data. The exact locations of the trail remnants would have to be surveyed.

Question 8: Does the City know the width of the trail?

Answer 8: The width of the trail is still under consideration and determination of the final trail width will need to consider stakeholder (e.g. Fire, Police, Emergency, maintenance, etc.) needs.

Question 9: Are connections to the Chinese reconciliation park still being considered?

Answer 9: Connections under consideration, while not a part of the current project, are mentioned within the RFQ. A connection from the trail to the Chinese Reconciliation Park is a potential option for a connection but that is not currently being considered for the present project scope of work.

Question 10: Does the submittals require an alignment study for the selection process?

Answer 10: The RFQ submittal does not require showing a proposed alignment. Designing alternate alignments will be part of the design coordination after selection of the consultant team. Illustrating past experience in similar or related projects will be the most relevant.

Question 11: Will ROW consultants be needed for the project given the BNSF easements?

Answer 11: Per the information provided in the RFQ, ROW is anticipated for the project.

Question 12: Will the City provide the past studies for this RFQ?

Answer 12: No, as it is intended to have a new investigation phase. We will provide the past analysis and studies during the actual design process. It is anticipated to have new geotechnical borings and environmental investigations such as wetland delineation, ground water levels. This will relate to design and environmental mitigation. Please show past experience and expertise in these and other applicable fields necessary for the project design.

Question 13: Pg. 8, Survey-LiDAR Mapping: Will the scope include survey of trees?

Answer 13: Yes, it is anticipated that we will need to inventory trees, as part of an on-the-ground topo-survey. It is anticipated the on-the-ground survey will document trees that may be impacted by construction and/or that form an obstacle to



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construction. Permitting needs and requirements may dictate overall tree assessment efforts.

Question 14: Pg. 10, Environmental: Will the tree inventory data need to include anything specialized beyond the typical species, health, and sizes?

Answer 14: For the purpose of a tree inventory, typically the minimum information is diameter, height, species, and tree health condition. Additional information may be required based on permitting needs and requirements.

Question 15: Pg. 12, SOQ Submittal and General Guidelines: Does the 12 double sided pages include the cover letter and proposal cover?

Answer 15: No. The 12 double sided pages does not include the cover page or cover letter.

Question 16: Pg. 12, SOQ Submittal and General Guidelines: For layouts that include large charts or tables, can an 11X17 page size be used? If yes, would the 11X17 page count as two single sided pages?

Answer 16: 11x17 pages will be counted as one page when used to show a single oversized graphic. 11x17 pages should not be used to display content that would otherwise fit on two separate pages.

Question 17: Pg 14, #5: SOQ Content to be Submitted, Paragraph 1: The RFQ states “Proprietary information in a qualification submittal must be designated clearly and should be bound separately, as an appendix, and labeled with the words “Proprietary Information. Appropriate references to this information must appear in the body of the SOQ.” Is proprietary information content included in the appendix subject to the SOQ page count limitation? If not included in the page count limitation, can proprietary information appendix content, if referenced from within the body of a page-count conforming SOQ, be reviewed for scoring evaluation by the selection committee?

Answer 17: Content included in the appendix is not subject to the SOQ page count limitation. Material included as appendices will be reviewed and considered during evaluation according to the relevance with overall qualifications.