

## **RFA Questions to Post to DOEE Website**

Updated January 12, 2021

- 1. What are private enterprises? Does that mean regular LLP, LLC, C corp, etc?**

**Answer:** A private enterprise is anything that doesn't fit the definition of any of the other eligible organizations listed under Sec. 1.-*Eligibility of the RFA*, with the exception of faith-based organizations or government organizations. LLP, LLC, and C Corps are private enterprises.

- 2. How much is available and is there a limit on the individual grant amount?**

**Answer:** A maximum of \$350,000 in funding is available for one award. Please see sec. 1.5 of the RFA.

- 3. What level of ongoing support will DOEE provide to the grantee?**

**Answer:** DOEE considers themselves a full partner in the execution of the grant. Examples of ways DOEE will support the grantee included providing documents, data, and point of contact info.

- 4. How does DOEE envision this fitting in with other/fragmented plans for the Anacostia (for example, the Anacostia Pool Vision). Would the goal be to unify prior work with a plan for the future?**

**Answer:** DOEE expects this plan to work in conjunction with other plans and projects on the Anacostia. DOEE will assist the grantee in collaborating with other agencies and stakeholders.

- 5. To what degree is it the grantee's responsibility to anticipate future land use changes?**

**Answer:** If the grantee feels future land use is an important variable that should be addressed in the plan then they should feel free to include that in an application.

**6. To what degree has DOEE already assembled all available data? Or is it the responsibility of the grantee to gather data from other agencies?**

**Answer:** While, DOEE has already begun compiling data for this project the applicant must provide a detailed explanation for how the data collected will be used to develop the restoration plan

**7. What would the final deliverables for this grant look like?**

**Answer:** Please refer to the RFA for information on final deliverables.

**8. Please confirm that this is a single grant award, not multiple.**

**Answer:** See the answer to question 2 above.

**9. Can the Grant funds pay for profit? Or only “costs” to develop the plan?**

**Answer:** This is a competitive award and each applicant's proposed budget will be strongly taken into consideration during scoring.

**10. Has DOEE established boundary conditions for the plan? Either in terms of a milestone future date or a definition of water quality?**

**Answer:** Refer to answer in question 13 below.

**11. Does DOEE expect the grantee to perform any modeling?**

**Answer:** If an applicant feels modeling is an important task that will lead to the successful development of a plan, then the applicant should feel free to include that in their application.

**12. Does this grant include the tributaries in the plan?**

**Answer:** The plan may include tributaries to the extent they lie within the 500 year floodplain that surrounds the District's portion of the Anacostia River. However, this project is mainly focused on the tidal Anacostia River Corridor.

**13. Since much of the watershed is in MD, to what extent should the focus be on impacting water quality as it crosses into the jurisdiction of DC?**

**Answer:** This plan should primarily focus on what we can achieve by working in the Anacostia River Corridor within the District.

**14. Will the competitive scoring criteria reward more public engagement/outreach, or would engagement above a minimum required level be viewed as a higher cost?**

**Answer:** Applicants should propose an engagement plan that makes sense and that can be implemented within the confines of the applicant's budget.

**15. Are partnerships encouraged and will that impact the scoring?**

**Answer:** We are looking for a plan that has consensus and buy in amongst stakeholders. Additional partnerships that can make that happen are encouraged.

**16. How might the success of stakeholder engagement be defined?**

**Answer:** Please refer to the project outcomes in sec. 7.3 of the RFA.

**17. How does environmental education (defined as education of children and teenagers) fit into this project (as is reflected in the scoring criteria)?**

**Answer:** DOEE desires to engage all stakeholders regardless of age. This will include educating them about the importance of this plan and how they can be more involved.

**18. Can you define non-government organizations?**

**Answer:** Any organization that functions independently of the government (e.g. non-profits, community organizations, religious institutions, etc.)

**19. Do we need a letter of support from NPS?**

**Answer:** No. Letters of support from NPS are not necessary.

**20. Since you have identified recreation as a key issue, are you anticipating that the scope would include landscape design? Or is this truly a water quality planning exercise where environmental performance criteria are identified, without doing any concept design?**

**Answer:** DOEE is not anticipating that grantees will have to design park space.

**21. The RFA says the project period will last for "roughly" two years from the date of award. Would you be able to clarify if there is any uncertainty? It will help us plan a realistic schedule.**

**Answer:** DOEE is flexible on the timeframe of the project but it should be completed as close to two-years as possible.

**22. Does the RFA relate in any way with the Kenilworth Park remediation that is planned**

**Answer:** Yes.

**23. Should the plan anticipate any changes to the NPS park management plan?**

**Answer:** NPS is an important partner. Planning exercises that affect the Anacostia River corridor, both past and present, should be taken into effect during development of the plan.

**24. Will DOEE be performing the agency coordination, or the grantee?**

**Answer:** The grantee will be expected to coordinate amongst all stakeholders. DOEE will assist the grantee when necessary.

**25. Does this plan anticipate any coordination with NCPC?**

**Answer:** If an applicant feels NCPC is an important partner in the context of this project, then they are encouraged to suggest that in their application.

**26. Is this RFA limited to DC based entities?**

**Answer:** No.

**27. How does DOEE envision using this plan once completed moving forward?**

**Answer:** DOEE will use this plan to identify and prioritize projects through gaining consensus amongst a diverse set of stakeholders. Having a consensus-based plan will help us strategically implement projects as new funding becomes available from a variety of sources (e.g. local funding, federal funding, natural resource damage assessments).

**28. Can you discuss DOEE's expectations for data collection and use for the proposed plan's development. Is this mining existing databases or do you envision sampling etc. or something else?**

**Answer:** DOEE expects that all relevant data will be used in the development of this plan. There is a wealth of data available through DC government and the National Park Service that could be utilized.

**29. Does DOEE allow indirect cost? does DOEE have a negotiated indirect cost rate with UMD?**

**Answer:** DOEE does allow indirect costs and does not have an negotiated indirect cost with UMD.

**30. Does the Mayor and Council have any involvement or interest in this effort/request?**

**Answer:** As an agency under the Executive Branch of DC Government, DOEE represents the Mayor. DOEE cannot speak on behalf of the legislative branch.

**31. Are NGOs required to use their negotiated rate?**

**Answer:** No

**32. Could you give us approximate scale (\$\$) of the overall project when implemented? Is this going to be a billion project?**

**Answer:** DOEE is not applying a limit to the cost of implementing the plan at this time. It is DOEE's intention to use this plan to identify future projects when new funding becomes available.

**33. Is there an appendix 5? Only RFA appendices 1,2,3,4, and 6 are included on the RFA webpage.**

**Answer:** No, Appendix 5 is not required under this grant.

**34. Is there a copy of the information webinar presentation from December 2<sup>nd</sup> available? If not, can one be made available?**

**Answer:** A copy of the PowerPoint presentation given on Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup> can be found at <https://doee.dc.gov/release/notice-funding-availability-anacostia-river-corridor-restoration-planning-grant>

**35. On page 10, Subsection (c) states "As an exposition to the specific line items in the scoring rubric, state the following at the start of the proposal". Are the 6 items listed (Purpose and Objectives, Target Audience, Project outcomes, outputs, and activities, Methods, Measurement of Project Success, Project Budget) part of the 10 page limit? If not, should they be included between the Project Summary and Project Description sections when organizing the proposal?**

**Answer:** The 6 items listed above should be included as part of the project description which has a 10 page limit.

**36. Is the Project Budget template (Appendix 4) and separate budget narrative outside of the 10 page "Project Description" restriction? Is there a page limit?**

**Answer:** The budget and the budget narrative are not included in the 10 pages.

**37. For Section 3.2, Subsection (d) Applicant, (1) Organization, is there a page restriction for the organizational brochure?**

**Answer:** No

**38. Are there page restrictions for the remaining requirement sections of Subsection (d) – Key Personnel, Past performance on District Grants/Contracts, Partners, and Workplan?**

**Answer:** Organization information is limited to one page. There are no other restrictions.

**39. Would DOEE consider reducing the Cyber Liability Insurance requirement to \$1M? Larger cyber liability insurance requirements can be burdensome and costly for small businesses.**

**Answer:** DOEE cannot reduce the Cyber Liability Insurance required limits. Please keep in mind that, as indicated in the RFA, insurance cost can be included in the grant budget.

**40. Would you encourage an applicant to bring in environmental scientists, social scientist, NGOs, and others to form a team, or we just propose as part of our work?**

**Answer:** DOEE encourages all applicants to assemble the necessary team to demonstrate they are prepared to implement a successful project.

**41. Will DOEE accept applications from joint ventures? If so, should both partners in the joint venture submit the required documents (e.g., certificate of clean hands, W-9 form)? A joint venture is defined as a business entity created by two or more parties through a contractual agreement.**

**Answer:** One entity needs to be identified as the lead applicant and submit all required documentation.

**42. I assumed [the RFA] is meant for community groups. Would a joint DC Water/community group project qualify?**

**Answer:** Please review Section 1.6 for a list of eligible entities for this RFA. DC Water, as an independent authority of the District Government, is not eligible to

apply for this RFA . However, DC Water can partner with an eligible entity. DC Water may not serve as the primary applicant and may not directly receive any funds from this grant.

**43. Is this project federally funded?**

**Answer:** Yes.

**44. Is there an MB limit on emails to the submission email address and if so, what is it? If our submission exceeds the allowable MB limit, are we allowed to submit our proposal in multiple emails and PDFs?**

**Answer:** Anyone unable to send large attachments via email should share the files using a cloud file storage provider. For their submittal, applicants should email the cloud link to the RFA email address, [2020AnacostiaRestorationPlanRFA.grants@dc.gov](mailto:2020AnacostiaRestorationPlanRFA.grants@dc.gov)

**45. How does DOEE expect this plan to differ from the Anacostia Waterfront Framework Plan?**

**Answer:** With the exception of public access and recreation enhancements, the Anacostia River Corridor Restoration Plan will only focus on environmental restoration projects. Other socioeconomic issues, such as economic development, will not be addressed by this project.

**46. What is the expected start date for this project?**

**Answer:** DOEE would like to make an award sometime the middle of February 2021.

**47. Are there specific social benefits that DOEE has interest in quantifying for projects identified in the proposed plan?**

**Answer:** DOEE desires to identify projects that will enhance public access and recreation opportunities.



**48. Can DOEE make the shapefile of the study area shown in the webinar presentation available to applicants?**

**Answer:** Yes. For a copy of the shapefile, applicants may email the RFA email address, [2020AnacostiaRestorationPlanRFA.grants@dc.gov](mailto:2020AnacostiaRestorationPlanRFA.grants@dc.gov). Please include "Request for Anacostia River Corridor Shapefile" in the subject line.

**49. Should qualifications of subconsultants go in the Partners section, or should we provide a 1 page summary for each subconsultant in the Organization section (Item d1) of the proposal?**

**Answer:** Please provide a 1 page summary for each subconsultant in the Organization section (Item d1) of the proposal.

**50. Is DOEE giving any consideration to a potential extension on the deadline of this proposal effort, given the complexity of the request for applications and the timing of the holiday this year?**

**Answer:** No.

**51. Our organization is not a DC taxpayer (as a nonprofit) so we do not have a MyTaxDC account. Does this mean the Certificate of Good Standing is sufficient or do we need to also obtain a Certificate of Clean Hands?**

**Answer:** Non-profits should also be able to obtain a Certificate of Clean Hands. If you do not have a MyTaxDC account you may submit a manual request by going to the [DC Office of Tax and Revenue page](#), scrolling down to the box entitled "Clean Hands" and clicking the link entitled "request a clean hands certificate." You can also contact the DC Office of Tax & Revenue's Compliance Administration, Collections Division at (202) 724-5045 or email [CleanHands.cert@dc.gov](mailto:CleanHands.cert@dc.gov).