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April 10, 2019

Set 1

TO: All Potential Respondents
RFP 002-19 Rainbow River Ground Cover Restoration Project
FROM: Christy Aulicino, Procurement Specialist 2
SUBJECT: Response to Questions

QUESTION: With regards to gopher tortoises, will active burrows be moved, or the project boundary be moved in those instances where burrows occur within 25'? I know that it was said in the field meeting that burrows would be marked for visibility.

ANSWER: Please see Section 3.5.3 and Addendum 1. As this Project falls under wildlife habitat improvement/agriculture per Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission policy (Appendix 1 of the Permitting Guidelines), it is understood that some burrows may be damaged during normal restoration activities; however, the Contractor is expected to minimize damage to burrows to the extent possible when using heavy equipment. Gopher tortoises will not be moved/relocated as this is a habitat improvement project to enhance the site.

QUESTION: Are we required to furnish Certificate of Authorization?

ANSWER: If the Respondent or Sub-Respondent has a Certificate of Authorization, it must be provided. It is not a requirement of this RFP for the Respondent or Sub-Respondents to hold a Certificate of Authorization.

QUESTION: For exotic trees, can they be herbicided and left in place or do they need to be removed?

ANSWER: Please see Addendum 1. The Contractor is responsible for the successful treatment of all exotics (e.g. non-native), including herbaceous, shrub and tree species, within the Project Site boundaries. Efforts must result in mortality of exotic trees including resprouts and seedlings that may sprout subsequent to control of the parent plant(s) during any phase of the project. It is the responsibility of the Respondent to propose plans for dealing with large trees/shrubs that will enhance the success of the native ground cover restoration project.

QUESTION: Is it acceptable to the District if the Prime Respondent did not attend the mandatory pre-proposal conference and site visit, but a Sub-Respondent did attend?

ANSWER: Please see Section 1.5. The requirements is that “representation at pre-proposal conference and site visit is mandatory in order to qualify as a Respondent,” therefore a Sub-Respondent would meet the requirement.

QUESTION: Reference Section 3.3.5.5 of the RFP – Having a total of 8 individual seeded plants /sq. meter is excessive for seeding a yellow sand, sandhill vegetation. Is it possible to lower that number or use a percent cover figure? It is not likely that more plants would germinate after the first monitoring event.

ANSWER: No, the District is not willing to revise this Success Criteria. The requirement for 8 seeded plants/square meter is for the third year following initial seeding with anticipation that native species are becoming established and therefore increasing in density over time. If not, supplemental seeding may be required.

QUESTION: On page 24 of the RFP under Insurance Requirements, it states “a bid guarantee must accompany the proposal and will be a certified or cashier’s check from a national or state bank, or a bid bond executed by a surety bond agency acceptable to the District, for not less than five percent (5%) of the amount of the total cost of the proposal...”. Is performance bond required for this project? Or, would the District consider removing this requirement from the RFP?

ANSWER: Please see Section 4.2 and 4.3. Both a Bid Bond and Performance Bond are required for this project and the District is not willing to reduce or remove this requirement.