



**The Mayor's Fund
for Philadelphia**

Request for Information – Responses to Questions

Lower South Infrastructure Improvement Plan Request for Information

An initiative of Philadelphia's Lower South Infrastructure Resilience Collaborative and part of the development of a Lower South Infrastructure Resilience Roadmap

Issued by:

The Mayor's Fund for Philadelphia

On behalf of The City of Philadelphia, Office of Transportation, Infrastructure, and Sustainability and Office of Sustainability

Responses to this RFI must be received no later than 5pm on June 30, 2022. A pdf version of the response must be emailed to: mayorsfund@phila.gov and sustainability@phila.gov.



I. QUESTIONS REGARDING RFI SUBMISSION AND EVALUATION

- A. Do respondents need to answer every RFI question?

Answer: No, but the Fund and the City encourage responders to answer the RFI questions as thoroughly as possible, which will inform the development of the RFP. If your firm is unable to answer all the questions, consider teaming with other firms that have complementary qualifications. If your firm plans to team with another firm but is not completing the RFI questions together, the RFI submission should note which questions each firm plans to answer.

- B. How much detail do you expect in the RFI? Do you have a page count in mind?

Answer: As this is an RFI, not an RFP, there is no restriction on the length of the RFI submission. However, as the Fund and the City are looking to collect information and ideas to structure future work, they prefer quality of responses over quantity, and prefer responses do not exceed 15 pages.

- C. Will you be selecting a short list based on RFI responses, or will all respondents to the RFI be invited to respond to the RFP?

Answer: No. The Fund and the City will not be selecting a short list based on RFI responses. All respondents to the RFI who submit sufficiently complete responses will be invited to respond to the RFP.

- D. Can you share who may be on the selection committee?

Answer: This is a Request for Information, not a bid opportunity, and therefore there will be no selection process. Instead, members of the Lower South Infrastructure Resilience Collaborative will review the responses to help determine the structure and content of the future RFP. Members of the Collaborative will have the opportunity to participate in the selection process during the RFP process.

- E. Will you select a team from the RFI or will a presentation be necessary?

Answer: Team selection will occur as part of the RFP process, not this RFI process.

II. FIRM AND TEAM ELIGIBILITY QUESTIONS

- A. Can subcontractors be part of multiple teams or part of only one?

Answer: Subcontractors are not limited to one team. Teaming decisions should be made between firms.

- B. Can a firm be a subconsultant if they do not submit at this RFI stage?

Answer: Yes. If there is an opportunity to partner with an RFI respondent, a subconsultant that did not submit to the RFI could participate in the RFP process.



- C. Are firms representing PennDOT on their I-95 project precluded from pursuing this?

Answer: A few have opted out, but they are not precluded.

- D. What is the anticipated timing for the release of the RFP?

Answer: The goal is to release an RFP in Fall 2022.

III. STUDY AREA

- A. How large is the Lower South Infrastructure Improvement Plan Study Area?

Answer: The Study Area is approximately 25 square miles; however, the boundaries are conceptual at this point. The Collaborative is open to suggested changes to support best practice analysis.

- B. Does the Study Area include the Philadelphia Industrial Development Corporation's (PIDC) Philadelphia Navy Yard?

Answer: Yes

IV. POST-RFP SCOPES OF WORK AND CONTRACTS

- A. Is there more detail that can be provided on the expectations for engagement?

Answer: The City already has a number of community engagement processes underway, including the co-creation of a resilience plan—and related capacity building initiatives—for the Eastwick neighborhood located within the Study Area. While the exact scope of stakeholder engagement for the Infrastructure Resiliency Planning process is to be determined, it is anticipated that it will be significant and that the team selected from the RFP process will help facilitate discussions with the Lower South Infrastructure Resilience Collaborative and other governmental and institutional stakeholders to collect information, inform assessment of vulnerabilities and risks, and prioritize impactful solutions. The Fund, the City, and the Collaborative are open to additional ideas to support a comprehensive, inclusive and transparent planning process.

- B. Would working on the study resulting from the future RFP process preclude you from subsequent design work and implementation?

Answer: The Fund and the City are unable to answer this question at this time. At this time, the City does not expect it will preclude a team from future implementation work. It is also important to remember that the City will not be responsible for all aspects of the Lower South Infrastructure Improvement Plan implementation.