

RFQ

LEGAL SERVICES IN IMPLEMENTING

**THE STATE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAMS
AND HOME PROGRAMS**

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS

THIS SOLICITATION IS IN SUPPORT OF

THE STATE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAMS
AND HOME PROGRAMS FOR THE CITY OF PITTSTON.

AGENT FOR THE CITY OF PITTSTON

The Redevelopment Authority of the City of Pittston Suite 202

ATTN LEGAL SERVICE RESPONSE

City Hall Building

35 Broad Street

Pittston, Pa. 18640

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS

LEGAL SERVICES

The Redevelopment Authority of the City of Pittston, as agent for the City of Pittston, is currently administering a Federally funded ongoing State Community Development Block Grant Programs and HOME Programs and will include Redevelopment Authority Fiscal Years 2025, 2026, 2027.

TYPES OF SERVICES REQUIRED

The Redevelopment Authority of the City of Pittston requires legal services to implement its State Community Development Block Grant Programs and HOME Programs and to complete existing activities from earlier grants.

Legal services are anticipated over a three-year period. Funding each year through these programs varies from \$300,000 to \$700,000, depending on grant funding available.

The attorney(s) selected for assistance in these Programs will provide assistance in the following areas:

1. To review rehabilitation contracts and other legal documents that apply to the rehabilitation of properties with Community
2. Development Block Grant Program and HOME Program funds
3. Review site demolition contracts, site improvement contracts and other agreements related to the program
4. Review Agreements of Sale for disposition of property owned by the Authority
5. Attend meetings with the Authority, City Council, and others when Requested. Represent the Redevelopment Authority in legal matters and provide advice, consultation and guidance on DCED practices, grant practices for compliance, and related matters in the administration of HOME and CDBG contracts.

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS - LEGAL SERVICES

The Redevelopment Authority intends to select an offeror, which it deems best qualified in its judgement, to provide these services. The Authority will then negotiate with such offeror to determine the fee for such services. If the Authority is unable to negotiate a fee which seems reasonable, the Authority may negotiate with the offeror deemed second best qualified or the Authority may require another Request for Proposal.

INFORMATION AND DATE REQUIRED FOR EACH OFFEROR

All offerors are required to submit their proposal to the Authority by TUESDAY November 26th, 2024 at 1:00 P.M., prevailing time. Such proposals shall contain responses to at least the following; and will be ranked in accordance with the following criteria:

1. The Offeror's Suggested Scope of Services
2. The Offeror's Qualifications and Time Commitments

- a. Demonstrate the experience of the Offeror in conducting the work assignments required by this Request for Proposal.
 - b. Identify the person(s) to be assigned to render the services
 - c. required and submit information of their background.
3. Offeror's Stability
- a. Demonstrate the Stability and Continuity of the staff and management of the Offeror.
 - b. Range of Fees for each level of service requested for services required over a three-year period.
 - c. Indicate if your firm is female owned, minority, or Section 3 eligible

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS LEGAL SERVICES

FACTORS FOR AWARD:

Shannon Bonacci, Deputy Director of the City of Pittston's Redevelopment Authority, will provide for a Review Committee to evaluate each written proposal and determine whether oral discussions with the offeror are necessary. Based on the content of the written proposal and oral discussions, if any, the Review Committee will make a recommendation to the Board of the Redevelopment Authority of the City of Pittston, who will select a firm for the assignment.

Please submit your proposal to:
Shannon Bonacci
Deputy Director
Redevelopment Authority of the City of Pittston
Suite 202 - ATTN LEGAL SERVICE RESPONSE
35 Broad Street
Pittston, PA 18640
by 1:00 P.M., November 26th , 2024

**CERTIFICATION FOR BUSINESS CONCERNS SEEKING SECTION 3
PREFERENCE IN CONTRACTING AND DEMONSTRATION OF CAPABILITY**

Name of Business _____

Address of Business _____

Type of Business: Corporation Partnership
 Sole Proprietorship Joint Venture

Attached is the following documentation as evidence of status:

For Business claiming status as a Section 3 resident-owned enterprise:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Copy of resident lease | <input type="checkbox"/> Copy of receipt of public assistance |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Copy of evidence of participation
in a public assistance program | <input type="checkbox"/> Other evidence |

For business entity as applicable:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Copy of Articles of Incorporation | <input type="checkbox"/> Certificate of Good Standing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Assumed Business Name Certificate | <input type="checkbox"/> Partnership Agreement |
| <input type="checkbox"/> List of owners/stockholders and
% ownership of each | <input type="checkbox"/> Corporation Annual Report |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Organization chart with names and titles
and brief function statement | <input type="checkbox"/> Latest Board minutes appointing officers |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Additional documentation |

For business claiming Section 3 status by subcontracting 25 percent of the dollar awarded to qualified Section 3 business:

- List of subcontracted Section 3 business(es) and subcontract amount

For business claiming Section 3 status, claiming at least 30 percent of their workforce are currently Section 3 residents or were Section 3 eligible residents within 3 years of date of first employment with the business:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> List of all current full-time employees | <input type="checkbox"/> List of employees claiming Section 3 status |
| <input type="checkbox"/> PHA/IHA Residential lease less than 3
years from day of employment | <input type="checkbox"/> Other evidence of Section 3 status less than 3
years from date of employment |

Evidence of ability to perform successfully under the terms and conditions of the proposed contract:

- Current financial statement
- Statement of ability to comply with public policy
- List of owned equipment
- List of all contracts for the past two years

Authorizing Name and Signature

(Corporate Seal)

Attested by: _____

Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards Appendix II

(A) Contracts for more than the simplified acquisition threshold currently set at \$150,000, which is the inflation adjusted amount determined by the Civilian Agency Acquisition Council and the Defense Acquisition Regulations Council (Councils) as authorized by 41 U.S.C. 1908, **must address administrative, contractual, or legal remedies in instances where contractors violate or breach contract terms, and provide for such sanctions and penalties as appropriate.**

(B) All contracts in excess of \$10,000 must address termination for cause and for convenience by the non-Federal entity including the manner by which it will be effected and the basis for settlement.

1. **Termination of Contract for Cause.** If, through any cause, the Contractor shall fail to fulfill in a timely and proper manner his obligations under this Contract, or if the Contractor shall violate any of the covenants, agreements, or stipulations of this Contract, the Public Body shall thereupon have the right to terminate this Contract by giving written notice to the Contractor of such termination and specifying the effective date thereof, at least five days before the effective date of such termination. In such event, all finished or unfinished documents, data, studies, surveys, drawings, maps, models, photographs and reports prepared by the Contractor under this Contract shall, at the option of the Public Body, become its property and the Contractor shall be entitled to receive just and equitable compensation for any work satisfactorily completed hereunder.

Notwithstanding the above, the Contractor shall not be relieved of liability to the Public Body for damages sustained by the Public Body by virtue of any breach of the Contract by the Contractor, and the Public Body may withhold any payments to the Contractor for the purpose of set-off until such time as the exact amount of damages due the Public Body from the Contractor is determined.

2. **Termination for Convenience of the Public Body.** The Public Body may terminate this Contract at any time by giving at least ten (10) days notice in writing to the Contractor. If the Contract is terminated by the Public Body as provided herein, the Contractor will be paid for the time provided and expenses incurred up to the termination date. If this Contract is terminated due to the fault of the Contractor, Paragraph 1 hereof relative to termination shall apply.

- (C) **Equal Employment Opportunity.** (applicable to all construction contracts over \$10,000)

During the performance of this Contract, the Contractor agrees to comply with Executive Order 11246 of September 24, 1965, entitled "Equal Employment Opportunity," as amended by Executive Order 11375 of October 13, 1967, and as supplemented in Department of Labor regulations (41 CFR chapter 60) as follows:

- a. The Contractor will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, religion, sex, color, or national origin. The Contractor will take affirmative action to ensure that applicants are employed, and that employees are treated during employment without regard to their race, religion, sex, color, or national origin. Such action shall include, but not be limited

to the following: Employment, upgrading, demotion, or transfer; recruitment or recruitment advertising; layoff or termination; rates of pay or other forms of compensation; and selection for training, including apprenticeship. The Contractor agrees to post in conspicuous places, available to employees and applicants for employment, notices to be provided by the Public Body setting forth the provisions of this nondiscrimination clause.

- b. The Contractor will, in all solicitation or advertisements for employees placed by or on behalf of the Contractor, state that all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, religion, color, sex, or national origin.
- c. The Contractor will cause the foregoing provisions to be inserted in all subcontracts for any work covered by this Contract so that such provisions will be binding upon each subcontractor, provided that the foregoing provisions shall not apply to contract or subcontracts for standard commercial supplies or raw materials.

Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. No person shall, on the grounds of race, color or national origin be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity funded in whole or in part with Federal funds.

Section 109 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974. No person in the United States shall on the grounds of race, color, national origin or sex be excluded from participation in, or be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity funded in whole or in part with funds made available under this title.

- (D) **Davis-Bacon Act**, as amended (40 U.S.C. 3141- 3148). When required by Federal program legislation, all prime construction contracts in excess of \$2,000 awarded by non-Federal entities must include a provision for compliance with the Davis-Bacon Act (40 U.S.C. 3141- 3144) as supplemented by Department of Labor regulations (29 CFR Part 5, "Labor Standards Provisions Applicable to Contracts Covering Federally Financed and Assisted Construction"). Attach HUD form 4010 Federal Labor Standards Provisions
- (E) **Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act** applicable to contracts in excess of \$100,000 that involve the employment of mechanics or laborers must include a provision for compliance with 40 U.S.C. 3702 and 3704, as supplemented by Department of Labor regulations (29 CFR Part 5). Under 40 U.S.C. 3702 of the Act, each contractor must be required to compute the wages of every mechanic and laborer on the basis of a standard work week of 40 hours. Work in excess of the standard work week is permissible provided that the worker is compensated at a rate of not less than one and a half times the basic rate of pay for all hours worked in excess of 40 hours in the work week. The requirements of 40 U.S.C. 3704 are applicable to construction work and provide that no laborer or mechanic must be required to work in surroundings or under working conditions which are unsanitary, hazardous or dangerous. These requirements do not apply to the purchases of supplies or materials or articles ordinarily available on the open market, or contracts for transportation or transmission of intelligence.

(F) **Rights to Inventions Made Under a Contract or Agreement.** If the Federal award meets the definition of "funding agreement" under 37 CFR § 401.2 (a) and the recipient or subrecipient wishes to enter into a contract with a small business firm or nonprofit organization regarding the substitution of parties, assignment or performance of experimental, developmental, or research work under that "funding agreement," the recipient or subrecipient must comply with the requirements of 37 CFR Part 401, "Rights to Inventions Made by Nonprofit Organizations and Small Business Firms Under Government Grants, Contracts and Cooperative Agreements," and any implementing regulations issued by the awarding agency.

(G) **Clean Air Act** (42 U.S.C. 7401- 7671g.) and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1251- 1387), as amended -

Compliance with the applicable standards, orders, or requirements issued under section 306 of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 1857(h), section 508 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1368), Executive Order 11738 and Environmental Protection Agency regulations (40 CFR Part 15) is required for all contracts, subcontracts and subgrants of amounts in excess of \$150,000. For all such Contracts, all Contractors and subcontractors agree to the following requirements:

- a. A stipulation by the Contractor or subcontractors that any facility to be utilized in the performance of any non-exempt contract or subcontract is not listed on the List of Violating Facilities issued by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) pursuant to 40 CFR 15.20.
- b. Agreement by the Contractor to comply with all the requirements of Section 114 of the Clean Air Act, as amended, (42 U.S.C. 1857c-8) and Section 308 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, as amended, (33 U.S.C. 1318) relating to inspection, monitoring, entry, reports and information, as well as all other requirements specified in said Section 114 and Section 308, and all regulations and guidelines issued thereunder.
- c. A stipulation that as a condition for the award of the Contract, prompt notice will be given of any notification received from the Director, Office of Federal Activities, EPA indicating that a facility utilized or to be utilized for the Contract is under consideration to be listed on the EPA List of Violating Facilities.
- d. Agreement by the Contractor that he will include or cause to be included the criteria and requirements in paragraph (a) through (d) of this section in every nonexempt subcontract and requiring that the Contractor will take such action as the Government may direct as a means of enforcing such provision.

In no event shall any amount of the assistance provided under this Agreement be utilized with respect to a facility which has given rise to a conviction under Section 113(c)(1) of the Clean Air Act or Section 309(c) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act.

(H) Debarment and Suspension (Executive Orders 12549 and 12689)

A contract award (see 2 CFR 180.220) must not be made to parties listed on the government-wide exclusions in the System for Award Management (SAM), in accordance with the OMB guidelines at 2 CFR 180 that implement Executive Orders 12549 (3 CFR part 1986 Comp., p. 189) and 12689 (3 CFR part 1989 Comp., p. 235), "Debarment and Suspension." SAM Exclusions contains the names of parties debarred, suspended, or otherwise excluded by agencies, as well as parties declared ineligible under statutory or regulatory authority other than Executive Order 12549. Use www.SAM.gov

(I) Byrd Anti-Lobbying Amendment (31 U.S.C. 1352) - Contractors that apply or bid for an award exceeding \$100,000 must file the required certification. Each tier certifies to the tier above that it will not and has not used Federal appropriated funds to pay any person or organization for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a member of Congress, officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a member of Congress in connection with obtaining any Federal contract, grant or any other award covered by 31 U.S.C. 1352. Each tier must also disclose any lobbying with non-Federal funds that takes place in connection with obtaining any Federal award. Such disclosures are forwarded from tier to tier up to the non-Federal award.

(J) Procurement of recovered materials.

Contractors must comply with section 6002 of the Solid Waste Disposal Act, as amended by the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act. The requirements of Section 6002 include procuring only items designated in guidelines of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) at 40 CFR part 247 that contain the highest percentage of recovered materials practicable, consistent with maintaining a satisfactory level of competition, where the purchase price of the item exceeds \$10,000 or the value of the quantity acquired during the preceding fiscal year exceeded \$10,000; procuring solid waste management services in a manner that maximizes energy and resource recovery; and establishing an affirmative procurement program for procurement of recovered materials identified in the EPA guidelines.

(K) Section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968 (12 U.S.C. 1801 u).

This agreement is subject to the requirements of Section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968 (12 U.S.C. 1801 u) as amended. The Section 3 clause provides:

Every applicant, recipient, contracting party, contractor and subcontractor shall incorporate, or cause to be incorporated, in all contracts for work in connection with a Section 3 covered project, the following clause (referred to as a Section 3 clause):

- A. The work to be performed under this contract is subject to the requirements of Section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968, as amended, 12 U.S.C. 1701u. The purpose of section 3 is to ensure that employment and other economic opportunities generated by HUD assistance or HUD-assisted projects covered by section 3, shall to the greatest extent feasible, be directed to low- and very low-income

persons, particularly persons who are recipients of HUD assistance for housing.

- B. The parties to the contract agree to comply with HUD's regulations in 24 CFR Part 135, which implement section 3. As evidenced by their execution of this contract, the parties to this contract certify that they are under no contractual or other impediment that would prevent them from complying with the Part 135 regulations.
- C. The Contractor agrees send to each labor organization or representative of workers with which the contractor has a collective bargaining agreement or other understanding, if any, a notice advising the said labor organization or workers' representative of contractor's commitments under this Section 3 clause and will post copies of the notice in conspicuous places available to at the work site where both employees and applicants for training and employment positions can see the notice. The notice shall describe the sections 3 preference, shall set forth minimum number and job titles subject to hire, availability of apprenticeship and training positions, the qualifications for each, and the name and location of the person(s) taking applications for each of the positions and the anticipated date the work shall begin.
- D. The Contractor agrees to include this Section 3 clause in every subcontract subject to compliance with regulations in 24 CFR Part 135, and agrees to take appropriate action, as provided in an applicable provision of the subcontract or in this section 3 clause, upon a finding that the subcontractor is in violation of the regulations in 24 CFR Part 135. The contractor will not subcontract with any subcontractor where the contractor has notice or knowledge that the subcontractor has been found in violation of the regulations in 24 CFR Part 135.
- E. The contractor will certify that any vacant employment positions, including training positions, that are filled (1) after the contractor is selected but before the contract is executed, and (2) with persons other than those to whom the regulations of 24 CFR Part 135 require employment opportunities to be directed, were not filled to circumvent the contractor's obligations under 24 CFR Part 135.
- F. Noncompliance with HUD's regulations in 24 CFR Part 135 may result in sanctions, termination of this contract for default, and debarment or suspension from future HUD assisted contracts.

Reference: Appendix II to Part 200 - Contract Provisions for Non-Federal Entity Contracts Under Federal Awards

This certification is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was made or entered into. Submission of this certification is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction imposed by Section 1352, title 31, U.S. Code. Any person who fails to file the required certification shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure.

Date _____

Signature of Contractor _____