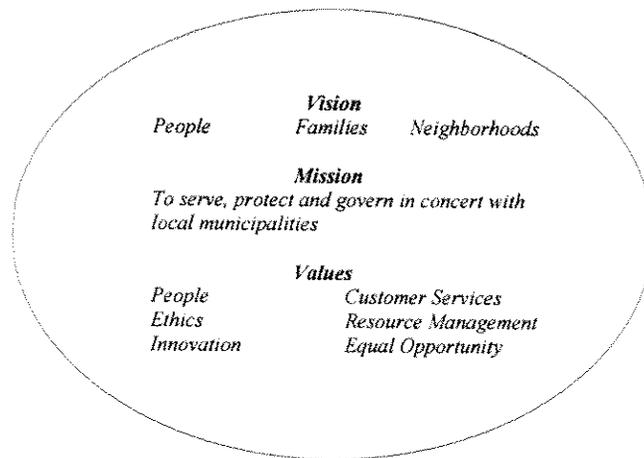


FULTON COUNTY



REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATION

FACILITATOR SERVICES FOR BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS STRATEGY MEETING

For

FULTON COUNTY GOVERNMENT

RFP DUE DATE AND TIME: March 5, 2008 11:00 A.M.
RFP ISSUANCE DATE: February 25, 2008
PURCHASING CONTACT: Felicia Strong-Whitaker (404) 730-4204
E-MAIL: felicia.strong-whitaker@fultoncountyga.gov

LOCATION: FULTON COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PURCHASING & CONTRACT COMPLIANCE
130 PEACHTREE STREET, S.W., SUITE 1168
ATLANTA, GA 30303

SECTION 1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 PURPOSE

Fulton County, Georgia ("County") is seeking the services of a qualified individual or firm to facilitate a strategy meeting of the Fulton County Board of Commissioners and to advise the County on the steps to develop a strategic direction and focus areas of the County to direct resources and set priorities. Proposer must have experience working with governmental entities as well as experience and knowledge in the following areas: goal setting, strategic planning, conscious and team building, and business/action plan development.

1.2 Purchasing the RFP

This document and supporting documents can be downloaded at the Fulton County Website, <http://www.fultoncountyga.gov> under "Bid Opportunities".

1.3 PROPOSAL DUE DATE

All proposals are due in the Department of Purchasing and Contract Compliance of Fulton County located in the Public Safety Building, Suite 1168, 130 Peachtree St, S.W., Atlanta Georgia 30303 on or before **Tuesday, March 4, 2008, no later than 11:00 a.m.** Proposals may be submitted by fax (404) 893-6273 or in person at the address listed above. All submitted proposals will be time and date stamped according to the clock at the front desk of the Fulton County Department of Purchasing and Contract Compliance.

1.4 CONTACT PERSON AND INQUIRIES

Any questions or suggestions regarding this RFP should be submitted in writing to the Purchasing Department contact person, Felicia Strong-Whitaker, Deputy Director, Purchasing & Contract Compliance at (404) 730-4204; email Felicia.strong-whitaker@fultoncountyga.gov or fax: (404) 893-6273. Any response made by the County will be provided in writing to all Proposers by addendum. No verbal responses shall be authoritative.

SECTION 2 GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

The following information pertains to the submission of a proposal to Fulton County ("County"), and contains instructions on how proposals must be presented in order to be considered. If specific conditions or instructions in the text of the Request for Proposal ("RFP") conflict with the General Requirements as listed here, those conditions or instructions in the RFP shall prevail.

1. Proposals submitted in response to the attached RFP must be formatted as specified in the RFP. Additional sheets, literature, etc., should be clearly identified.
2. The original and the required number of copies of the proposal must be returned to:

Fulton County Purchasing Agent
Fulton County Department of Purchasing and Contract Compliance
130 Peachtree Street, S.W., Suite 1168
Atlanta, Georgia 30303
3. The envelope in which the proposal is submitted must be sealed and clearly labeled with the RFP project name and number, due date and time, and the name of the company or individual submitting the proposal. Proposals must be received by the opening date and time shown on this RFP in order to be considered. The Purchasing Agent has no obligation to consider proposals which are not in properly marked envelopes. The Technical Proposal, Cost Proposal and Contract Compliance submittals shall be submitted in separate sealed envelopes. The inclusion of any cost information in the Technical Proposal may result in such proposal being rejected by the County.
4. Proposals received after the time and date specified will not be opened or considered.
5. By submitting a signed proposal, Offeror agrees to accept an award made as a result of the submission of the prices and terms contained in that proposal. Prices proposed must be audited by the Offeror to insure correctness before the proposal is submitted. Person signing the proposal is responsible for the accuracy of information in it. The specifications, provisions, and the terms and conditions of the RFP and proposal shall become a valid contract between Fulton County and the Offeror upon notice of award of contract in writing and/or issuance of a purchase order.
6. Any contract awarded as a result of this proposal, shall comply fully with all Local, State, and Federal laws and regulations.
7. Absolutely no fax proposals or reproduction proposals will be accepted, except that if multiple copies of the proposal are required, photocopies of the original may be submitted as the additional copies, provided that they are clearly marked as such.

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8. Type or neatly print company name, as well as the full legal name and title of the person signing the proposal, in all appropriate places. The Offeror's signature must be executed by a Principal of the company duly authorized to make contracts and bind the company to all terms being proposed.
 9. Proposals may be withdrawn upon receipt of a written request prior to the stated due date and time. If a firm seeks to withdraw a proposal after the due date and time, the firm must present a notarized statement indicating that an error was made, with an explanation of how it occurred. The withdrawal request must be accompanied by documentation supporting the claim. Prior to approving or disapproving the request, an opinion will be obtained from Fulton County's Legal Counsel indicating whether the firm is bound by its proposal.

Proposals for projects that are solicited pursuant to the Georgia Local Government Public Works Construction Law (O.C.G.A. § 36-91-1 et seq.) may be withdrawn as follows:

The County must advise Offerors in the request for proposals of the number of days that Offerors will be required to honor their proposals. If an Offeror is not selected within 60 days of opening the proposals, any Offeror that is determined by the governmental entity to be unlikely of being selected for contract award will be released from the proposal.

10. Show information and prices in the format requested. Prices are to be quoted F.O.B. destination, and must include all costs chargeable to the Offeror in executing the contract, including taxes. Unless otherwise provided in the Contract, Fulton County shall have no liability for any cost not included in the price. The Offeror shall provide Fulton County the benefit through a reduction in price of any decrease in the Offeror's costs by reason of tax exemptions based upon Fulton County's status as a tax-exempt entity.
11. Propose all items specified or indicate under each item what alternative is being proposed and why it should be considered in lieu of the original specification. Failures to indicate any exceptions shall be interpreted as the Offeror's intent to fully comply with the specifications as written. Conditional or qualified proposals (except as specifically allowed in the specifications) are subject to rejection in whole or in part.
12. Fulton County shall be the sole judge of the quality and the applicability of all proposals. Design, features, overall quality, local facilities, terms and other pertinent considerations will be taken into account in determining acceptability.
13. The successful Offeror must assume full responsibility for delivery of all goods and services proposed and agree to relieve Fulton County of all responsibility and costs for prosecuting claims.

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14. The successful Offeror must assume full responsibility for replacement of all defective or damaged goods and/or performance of contracted services within thirty (30) days notice by the County of such defect, damage or deficiency.
 15. The successful Offeror must assume full responsibility for providing warranty service on all goods, materials, or equipment provided to the County with warranty coverage. Should a vendor be other than the manufacturer, the vendor and not the County is responsible for contacting the manufacturer. The Offeror is solely responsible for arranging for the service to be performed.
 16. The successful Offeror shall be responsible for the proper training and certification of personnel used in the performance of the services proposed.
 17. The successful Offeror shall not assign, transfer, convey, sublet, or otherwise dispose of any contract resulting from the RFP or of any of all of its rights, title or interest therein without prior written consent of the Fulton County Board of Commissioners.
 18. Proposals must contain references which reflect successful completion of contracts for the types of goods, materials, equipment, or services for which the vendor is submitting a proposal to the County. In instances where that does not apply, the proposal must contain a statement and supporting documentation demonstrating such expertise, knowledge, or experience to establish the vendor submitting the proposal as capable of meeting the demands of the proposal should an award be made to them.
 19. Offerors submitting proposals may be required to furnish evidence that they maintain permanent places of business of a type and nature compatible with their proposal, and are in all respects competent and eligible vendors, able to fulfill the terms of the specifications. Fulton County may make such investigations as it deems necessary to determine the ability of the Offeror to perform such work, and reserves the right to reject any proposal if evidence fails to indicate that the proposed vendor is qualified to carry out the obligation of the contract and to complete the work satisfactorily.
 20. By submitting a signed proposal, Offeror certifies that there has been no collusion with any other Offeror. Reasonable grounds for believing Offeror has an interest in more than one proposal will result in rejection of all proposals in which the Offeror has an interest. Any party to collusion may not be considered in future proposals for the same or similar work.
 21. Upon notice of selection, the Offeror submitting the proposal is obligated to perform. Should a successful Offeror refuse to enter into a contract subsequent to an award, a penalty may be assessed and/or the Offeror may be found to be "non-responsible" in the future.
 22. In case of default by the successful Offeror, Fulton County may procure the articles or services from another source and hold the successful Vendor responsible for any resultant excess cost.

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23. Successful Offerors contract directly with the County and are the party or parties obligated to perform. Contracts may not be assigned and any failure to perform the Contract in accordance with the specifications will constitute a breach of contract and may result in an Offeror being found to be "non-responsible" in the future.
 24. Invoice(s) must list each item separately and must show Fulton County's purchase order number as well as the proper department and address to whom the service or product was provided.
 25. Fulton County reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals, or any part thereof, and to waive any technicalities. Fulton County reserves the right to award a contract based on this RFP and the proposal(s) received (in whole or in part) to one or several Vendors.
 26. Awards will not necessarily be based on cost alone. Other factors, as detailed in the RFP, will be considered in determining what proposal will be deemed to best meet the needs of Fulton County.
 27. All proposals and bids submitted to Fulton County are subject to the Georgia "Open Records Act", Official Code of Georgia, Annotated (O.C.G.A.) § 50-18-70 et seq.
 28. All proposals and bids submitted to Fulton County involving Utility Contracting are subject to the Georgia law governing licensing of Utility Contractors, O.C.G.A. §43-14-8.2(h). The Utility Contractor License number of the person who will perform the utility work shall be written on the face of the bid envelope.
 29. Prior to beginning any work, the successful Offeror shall furnish to Fulton County (for the contracting firm and for any subcontractors) a certificate from an insurance company showing issuance of Workers' compensation coverage for the State of Georgia or a certificated from the Georgia Workers' Compensation Board showing proof of ability to pay compensation directly.
 30. It is the policy of Fulton County that the evaluation and award process for County contracts shall be free from both actual and perceived impropriety, and that contacts between potential vendors and County officials, elected officials and staff regarding pending awards of County contracts shall be prohibited.
 - A. No person, firm, or business entity, however situated or composed, obtaining a copy of or responding to this solicitation, shall initiate or continue any verbal or written communication regarding this solicitation with any County officer, elected official, employee, or designated County representative, between the date of the issuance of this solicitation and the date of the County Manager's recommendation to the Board of Commissioners for award of the subject contract, except as may otherwise be specifically authorized and permitted by the terms and conditions of this solicitation.
 - B. All verbal and written communications initiated by such person, firm, or

entity regarding this solicitation, if same are authorized and permitted by the terms and conditions of this solicitation, shall be directed to the Purchasing Agent.

- C. Any violation of this prohibition of the initiation or continuation of verbal or written communications with County officers, elected officials, employees, or designated County representatives shall result in a written finding by the Purchasing Agent that the submitted bid or proposal of the person, firm, or entity in violation is "non-responsive", and same shall not be considered for award.
31. Any Offeror intending to respond to this solicitation as a Joint Venture must submit an executed Joint Venture Agreement with this offer. This agreement must designate those persons or entities authorized to execute documents or otherwise bind the Joint Venture in all transactions with Fulton County, or be accompanied by a document, binding upon the Joint Venture and its constituent members, making such designation. Offers from Joint Ventures that do not include these documents will be rejected as being "non-responsive".
32. Any Offeror intending to respond to this solicitation must complete all of the Procurement Affidavit Forms provided in Section 5. Proposals that do not include these completed documents will be rejected as being "non-responsive".

SECTION 3 PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS

3.1 SCOPE OF WORK

Proposed tasks to be accomplished should include but are not limited to the following:

Task 1: Assist in planning the theme and strategies involved in the strategy meeting

Task 2: Recommend steps towards setting goals and priorities.

Task 3: Establish specifications for the process by meeting individually with each Commissioner prior to the strategy meeting.

Task 4: Produce written materials to complement the work session.

Task 5: Provide a report documenting results of the strategy meeting.

3.2 TECHNICAL PROPOSAL FORMAT AND CONTENT

The Technical Proposal shall include the appropriate and requested information in sufficient detail to demonstrate the vendor's knowledge, skills and abilities to provide requested services.

Section 1 - Executive Summary

The executive summary shall include a brief statement of approach to the work, understanding of the project's goals and objectives and demonstrated understanding of the project's potential problems and special concerns.

Section 2 – Qualification and Experience

The Proposer shall provide information regarding the relevant knowledge and experience of personnel and the quality of the technical resources which will be brought to the project. (No page limit)

The Proposer shall provide details of experience providing similar services.

- Name and location of project.
- Project description
- Type of jurisdiction.
- What products and services were delivered to the client

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- References, including a contact name, titles, address, telephone & fax number, and an e-mail address of contact personnel for the jurisdiction.

Experience of Key Personnel

Proposer shall provide resume(s) of key personnel for each individual who will be assigned to this project and their experience as a facilitator. The resumes should be limited to no more than three (3) pages and organized according to the following:

- Name and title
- Professional Background
- Current and Past Relevant Employment
- Certifications
- List of Relevant Projects
 - Client Name
 - Project Name
 - Project Description
 - Role of Individual

3.3 COST PROPOSAL FORMAT AND CONTENT

Provide a total fee or compensation proposed for this work. Your proposal should include a flat fee to include:

- Meeting individually with each Commissioner prior to meeting
- Preparation of material
- The Board of Commissioners Strategy Meeting
- scheduled for Thursday, March 13, 2008, from 9:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m.
- Report documenting results of the Strategy Meeting