

Washington State Joint Transportation Committee
Design of Infrastructure and Incentive Program for Medium and Heavy-Duty Zero Emission Vehicles

Responses to RFP questions

June 28, 2023

Question 1: Our firm is equipped to administer the incentive program and to support applicants in their pursuit of the incentive program. With the necessary firewalls in place, the personnel on each team would not interact or be able to share information. Does serving as the administrator mean that the no support of any kind can be provided to potential applicants, or is this permissible as long as the teams are separate, distinct, and unable to communicate around this effort?

Response: For this project we will accept proposals from firms that could also eventually serve as the third-party administrator of the incentive program(s). The Management Approach in your proposal should briefly describe controls in place that ensure your firm can provide unbiased recommendations for the roll out of the infrastructure and incentive program(s). It should be noted that the administrator for the incentive program(s) will not be chosen as part of this project.

Question 2: Should the consultant expect to include stakeholder input from transit agencies and airports?

Response: This is a reasonable expectation given that airport cargo loaders and medium and heavy-duty buses are called out in the proviso.

Question 3: The language in section 1 states to "...design and document an infrastructure and incentives strategy...including but not limited to...heavy and medium-duty buses..." However, the 2023-2025 transportation budget in CERA allocates "\$100 million for commercial vehicle infrastructure and incentive programs and for the replacement of school buses powered by fossil fuels..." Should it be assumed that transit buses are considered *commercial vehicles*?

Response: Yes.

Question 4: As a nonprofit organization, who do we contact in the State of Washington to secure a business license?

Response: <https://dor.wa.gov/open-business/apply-business-license>
<https://dor.wa.gov/education/industry-guides/out-state-businesses-reporting-thresholds-and-nexus>

Question 5: Is there anything that prevents our team including additional outside consultants as part of our consulting team?

Response: No.

Question 6: Will a list of organizations who submit Letters of Intent to Bid on the "Design of Infrastructure and Incentive Program for Medium and Heavy Duty Zero Emission Vehicles" RFP be available to other organizations that submit an LOI?

Response: Letters of Intent to Bid were received from:

Matrix Consulting Group, Ltd

ICF

Strategic Research Initiatives, LLC

CALSTART, Inc

Center for Sustainable Energy

Pacific NorthWest Economic Region (PNWER)

Freeman Lundt

ECONorthwest

Accenture Health and Public Services

Question 7: Will the consultant selected to develop this program and implementation plan be allowed to bid to serve as the third-party implementation contractor for the project? **Response:** For this project we will accept proposals from firms that could also eventually serve as the third-party administrator of the incentive program(s). The Management Approach in your proposal should briefly describe how your firm can provide unbiased recommendations for the roll out of the infrastructure and incentive program(s). It should be noted that the administrator for the incentive program(s) will not be chosen as part of this project.

Question 8: Would JTC consider extending the proposal submission deadline to Friday, July 14th?

Response: No. There is a full schedule for the review, evaluation and interview process that proceeds from the submission deadline. Extending the date would mean pushing out the whole schedule and interfering with parallel schedules for other JTC projects. For this reason, we cannot extend the deadline.

Question 9: Beyond the resources provided on page 8 of the RFP, are there any studies, reports, or other research that we should take into consideration when proposing this work?

Response: There are not any other studies, reports, or other research that specifically led to the initiation of this project. We have not provided an exhaustive list of the resources that could inform your proposal.