



PROJECT # 21T10

Request for Proposals

BUS STOP ASSESSMENT FOR THE LOTS

ISSUE DATE

February 18, 2021

DUE DATE

March 23, 2021 (2:00 PM)

Submit Qualifications (by email only) to:

Regina Aris: raris@baltometro.org

Contact for More Information: Regina Aris

E-mail: raris@baltometro.org

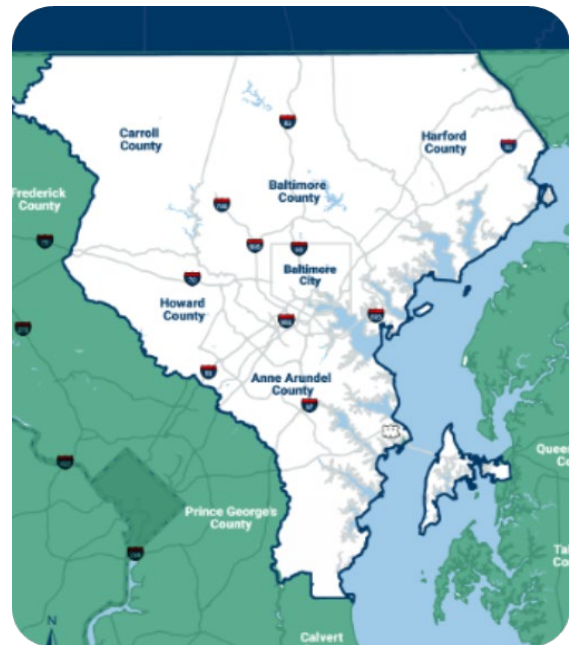
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Introduction

BMC is a private nonprofit organization committed to identifying regional interests and developing collaborative strategies through plans and programs, which will improve the quality of life and economic vitality throughout the region. BMC's Board of Directors includes the Mayor of Baltimore City, Executives of Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Harford and Howard counties, a Carroll County Commissioner, a Queen Anne's County Commissioner, a Delegate and Senator from the State of Maryland, and a gubernatorial appointee.

The Baltimore Regional Transportation Board (BRTB) is the designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Baltimore region. The members consist of designated representatives from Baltimore City, Anne Arundel County, Baltimore County, Carroll County, Harford County, and Howard County, Queen Anne's County, the City of Annapolis, plus the Maryland Department of Transportation, the Maryland Department of the Environment, the Maryland Department of Planning, the MDOT Maryland Transit Administration, and Annapolis Transit. The Baltimore Metropolitan Council (BMC) staff provides technical support to the BRTB.



The work of BMC staff includes transportation forecasting and analysis, economic and demographic research, computer mapping applications, air and water quality programs, multimodal planning, cooperative purchasing, workforce development, housing and rideshare coordination.

Purpose

The Baltimore Metropolitan Council (BMC) is soliciting proposals from qualified firm(s) to provide professional services for the following task related to Locally Operated Transit Systems (LOTS):

Assess Remaining LOTS Bus Stops

The purpose of this task is to complete a bus stop assessment for the Locally Operated Transit Systems (LOTS) in the region. This follows a limited assessment in 2019 of 94 bus stops that serve as transfer points between the LOTS or between the LOTS and MDOT MTA services. The remaining, stand-alone bus stops number approximately 1,600.

The Baltimore region has an estimated population of 2.8 million people and generates approximately 116 million transit trips annually. Many regional trips require a rider to transfer either within the same system or to/from another operator. In late 2018 and into 2019 a task was completed to assess bus stops at transfer locations. A field survey was administered to better understand the current ADA compliance and transferability at MDOT MTA and locally operated transit systems (LOTS) bus stops where transfers can occur in the region. The proximity analysis used a buffer of one-quarter (0.25) mile, as this is generally recognized as close walking distance.

Previously, a survey tool was developed to undertake the inventory and assessment of transfer locations. The tool consisted of five major categories that included bus stops, pathway obstructions, curb ramps, intersections, and wayfinding signage. The survey tool was uploaded onto a Global Positioning Satellites (GPS) enabled hand-held Trimble device. This device allowed all bus stop information to be digitally entered and geotagged, providing greater efficiency while minimizing the number of entry errors normally associated with manual data entry.

LOTS agencies and MDOT MTA found the information to be useful in route planning and in the provision of service amenities. A request was made to assess the remaining bus stops in the region. This will allow all transit agencies in the region to have quality data available to them in the same format and collected at approximately the same time.

The process is intended to be replicated in the same manner and data collection will follow the protocol previously used as well as all terms in the Data Dictionary. Variations will be considered providing they do not vary the product to a great degree.

This Request for Proposals (RFP) seeks to identify potential providers for this work. The Baltimore Regional Transportation Board (BRTB) has approved this work item as part of the FY 2021 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP).

Scope of Work

The proposed Scope of Services shall include sufficient detail to determine how each task shall be accomplished; it shall include, but not be limited to, descriptions of the anticipated deliverables and a project timeline in Gantt chart format. It will describe how the consultant proposes to complete the project, including the allocation of resources to accomplish each task. The Scope of Services must be sufficiently detailed for the BMC to determine the effectiveness of the proposal and should spell out how this work can be performed in a cost-efficient and timely manner.

The proposed Scope of Work shall address the following components:

Bus Stop Assessment

The consultant or consultant team shall work with the staff of the Baltimore Metropolitan Council, and the staff of the Baltimore region's Locally Operated Transit systems (LOTs) to collect data that will determine needed improvements to bus stops. The study partners include the following transit agencies: Baltimore City DOT, RTA of Central Maryland, Harford Transit LINK, Annapolis Transit, Carroll Transit, Anne Arundel OOT.

A study scope has been developed and presented below based upon the task identified in the Fiscal Year 2018 Unified Planning Work Program. Information of the products from the study can be found here: [Coordinating Bus Transfer Locations](#). The report and appendices located on the BMC website outlines the approach for the remaining stand alone bus stops.

The previous study utilized a Global Positioning Satellites (GPS) enabled hand-held Trimble device. If another device is proposed, please describe its capabilities and indicate if all of the same data fields can be captured.

Task 1: Meeting Facilitation

A kick-off meeting to coordinate with key stakeholders and confirm the location of all stops to be considered.

Task 1: Deliverables

Through this process, the Selected Bidder shall be responsible for participating in and facilitating the project steering committee meetings made up of staff from the LOTS and the Baltimore Metropolitan Council. The Selected Bidder shall be prepared to provide the steering committee (2 meetings) and the Technical Committee (1 meeting) with presentations on the product. The Selected Bidder will be responsible for meeting facilitation, preparing meeting materials, and other tasks as discussed with the project work group. All meeting materials shall be submitted to the BMC Project Manager at least one week prior to the meeting date in order to provide sufficient time for feedback

Task 2: Data Collection and Documentation

Collect, compile and evaluate data on approximately 1600 bus stops for Locally Operated Transit systems (LOTs) including: RTA of Central Maryland, Harford Transit LINK, Annapolis Transit, Baltimore City CCC, Carroll Transit and the Anne Arundel OOT. BMC staff completed a quick review of the remaining locations with an estimated number of locations identified below:

- RTA: 619 locations
- Charm City Circulator: 23 locations
- Annapolis Transit: 207 locations
- Harford Transit Link: 417 locations
- Anne Arundel OOT: 212 locations
- Carroll Transit: 65 locations

Task 2: Deliverables

Compile findings and results by agency. A template has already been created that will be used to document the findings. (See the linked document above.)

Provide a report listing recommendations for improvements.

Task 3: Cost Estimates for Proposed Improvements

Documentation of the cost estimation process, including the basis and source for the costs that support the recommended improvements.

Task 3: Deliverables

Report documenting the process and source of costs for proposed improvements.

Offerors may and should propose additional details and/or alterations to this proposed scope based upon their knowledge to improve the planning process.

Consultant Qualifications

BMC is seeking a firm, or team, with requisite technical capability and professional expertise to provide the type of services required and outlined in this Scope of Work. A qualified offeror's firm or team should have knowledge of the Baltimore region and the local and state agencies involved in the study as well as experience working on transit.

Proposal Content and Requirements

The proposal shall consist of two separate parts: (1) a Technical Proposal; and (2) a Cost Proposal. Each offeror shall provide their technical proposal and cost proposal in separate .pdf files. Proposals shall meet, at a minimum, the following requirements.

Technical Proposal

The Technical Qualifications shall contain the following:

- *Cover Letter* – signed by an executive with authority to commit the offeror and stating the period for which the proposal is valid. (1 page maximum)
- *Work Program* – Offerors shall provide a discussion of each task to be undertaken, how it will be performed, and the products to be provided. An overall schedule of work should be developed. Offerors may include but are not limited to the identified tasks. Offerors are encouraged to suggest modifications that would facilitate a successful work program. (12 page maximum)
- *Experience and Qualification* – The offeror shall list its qualifications with regard to the selection criteria identified in this RFP. The summary should contain: (a) the information on projects of similar nature that offeror has completed, including brief descriptions, dates, and names of contact persons. In project descriptions, identify the roles of the identified project manager and key personnel. Please include links to relevant work if possible, and (b) the resumes of proposed project manager and key team personnel. (8 pages maximum)
- *Project Management* – Designation of a project manager and the responsibilities of the manager and key personnel. Provide a summary of qualifications of the project manager and key staff for each firm. Note that the resulting contract will require commitment of the specified personnel. (5 pages maximum)

- *DBE Participation* – The program for assuring the maximum opportunity for participation by Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBEs) in accord with BMC's goals shall be presented. See the section of MANDATORY STATEMENTS for statement of DBE participation goals.
- *Other Information* – Any other material that the offeror wishes to provide. Please limit to relevant information. (4 pages maximum)

The body/narrative of all documents will be formatted to a 12-point font size. Headers and cover pages may utilize larger font sizes. Cover or divider pages without content will not be counted toward the page limits. Digital signatures are acceptable for all documents.

Cost Proposal

The Cost Proposal shall be composed of two parts: (1) Project Budget and (2) Affidavits and Certifications.

- **Project Budget** – Proposers shall provide a price quote as a fixed price in United States dollars. The price quote shall include the number of labor hours and cost by staff member and total hours and cost estimated for each task. Direct costs shall be itemized by category (e.g., travel, per diem, printing and reproduction, /etc.) for the entire project. The contract type is anticipated as fixed price with partial payments paid based on task completion.
- **Affidavits and Certifications** – An original signed copy of the Proposal Affidavit attached at the end of this RFP shall be included in the Cost Proposal.

BMC reserves the right to reject proposals that do not meet the Technical and Cost Proposal requirements.

Submission Of Proposals

All offerors shall submit by email two (2) separate digital pdf files – one (1) for each of the Technical and Cost Proposals to: raris@baltometro.org.

The proposal must be received by BMC no later than 2:00 PM Eastern Standard Time on March 23, 2021. Proposals arriving after the deadline will not be accepted. Note that BMC's email will accept files up to 25MB. If your proposal documents exceed 25MB, please upload the documents to a file sharing service like Google Drive or Dropbox and email the link to the files.

Please direct any questions to Regina Aris at raris@baltometro.org no later than March 4, 2021. All questions will be collected and answers will be posted to BMC's website by March 9, 2021. Questions arriving after February 19 will not be answered.

BMC will not pay for the development and submission of proposals in response to this RFP. BMC reserves the right to reject any proposals without cost or detriment to BMC.

The offeror shall not make changes in the specifics put forth in a proposal, including staff participation, without the prior written consent of BMC.

The BMC Staff member listed above shall be the sole point of contact for any offeror during the procurement process.

BMC reserves the right to waive minor irregularities, to negotiate in any manner necessary to best serve the public interest, and to make a whole award, multiple awards, a partial award, or no award. BMC reserves the right to cancel this RFP, in whole or in part, any time before the closing date.

Tentative Schedule

RFP Issued	February 18, 2021
Proposal Questions Due	March 4, 2021
Answers to Questions Posted	March 9, 2021
Proposals Due	Tuesday, March 23, 2021, 2:00 p.m.
Consultant Selection	April, 2021
Start of Work	May, 2021
Completion of Work	December 31, 2021

Consultant Selection Criteria

All proposals will be evaluated on the basis of technical merit (including areas required within the Technical proposal such as work program, team and personnel experience, project management, adherence to RFP and DBE integration) and proposed cost. This is not a low-bid procurement. The FY 2021 UPWP budgeted \$225,000 for the consultant part of this task but proposals will be considered outside of this range if the proposed work program will provide a greatly superior product. BMC staff and/or appropriate project partners will conduct the evaluation of proposals. Technical merit includes work program

and approach, as well as staff experience and qualifications. Teaming is permissible but the offeror will be with a single prime contractor.

BMC reserves the right to negotiate with one or more offerors selected on the basis of the initial technical merit and proposed cost. Offerors may be asked to make personal appearances to provide additional information on proposals.

“Sample” Form Contract

BMC’s form contract is available on BMC’s website and is incorporated into this solicitation.

https://www.baltometro.org/sites/default/files/bmc_documents/RFP/sample-rfp-contract_fy2019.pdf

By the act of submitting a proposal, the offeror expressly acknowledges that he/she/it accepts the terms and conditions as stated in the form contract unless exceptions are submitted in writing with the proposal. BMC reserves the right to amend the terms of the form contract as it sees fit during contract negotiation.

The offeror’s acceptance of, or deviations from, the form contract terms and conditions are considered during the evaluation and subsequent award.

If the offeror submits an exception that alters BMC’s risk, liability, exposure in, or the intent of this procurement, BMC reserves the right in its sole and absolute discretion to deem the offeror non-responsive.

Confidentiality

Offerors must specifically identify any portions of their proposals deemed to contain confidential information, proprietary information or trade secrets. Those portions must be readily separable from the balance of the proposal. Such designations will not be conclusive, and offerors may be required to justify why such material should not, upon written request, be disclosed by BMC under the Public Information Act, State Government Article, Title 10, Sub-Title 6, of the Annotated Code of Maryland, as amended. BMC may disclose such information if required by law, court order or subpoena.

Maryland Registration/Qualification Requirements

BMC requires vendors to register or qualify to do business with Maryland Department of Assessments and Taxation (SDAT) in accordance with the Annotated Code of Maryland, Corporations and Associations Article: §2-102 Formation generally, §7-202 Registration to do interstate and foreign* business, and/or §7-203 Qualification to do intrastate business.

For information on registering or qualifying a corporation, LLC, LLP or LP, call SDAT at 410-767-1340. Sole Proprietors and General Partnerships should call 410-767-4991 or

you may download the SDAT forms at

<http://www.dat.state.md.us/Pages/sdatforms.aspx>

The successful offeror may be required to submit a Good Standing Certificate (also known as "Certificate of Status") issued by SDAT within 10 days of being notified of potential award.

(*Note: "a corporation, association, or joint-stock company organized under the laws of the United States, another state of the United States, a territory, possession, or district of the United States, or a foreign country," Md. Code Ann., Corporations & Associations, §1-101.)

Mandatory Statements

Public Information Act Notice

Offerors should give specific attention to the identification of those portions of their proposals they deem to be confidential, proprietary information or trade secrets and provide any justification why such materials, upon request, should not be disclosed.

Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Notice

Disadvantaged business enterprises (DBEs) are encouraged to respond to this solicitation. It is the intent of BMC that certified minority business enterprises and sub-contractors be given the opportunity to submit proposals to this RFP and will not be subject to discrimination on the basis of race, color, sex, or national origin in consideration for an award.

All selected contractors will be required to abide by the DBE Program of the Baltimore Regional Transportation Board (BRTB). The DBE Program may be found on BMC's website.

Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Subcontract Participation Goal

The Baltimore Metropolitan Council hereby notifies all offerors that in regard to any contracts entered into pursuant to this advertisement, MBEs and WBEs will be afforded full opportunity to submit expressions of interest in response to this notice and will not be subject to discrimination on the basis of race, color, sex or national origin, in consideration for an award.

It is the goal of BMC that certified businesses participate in all competitively bid federal-aid contracts. A DBE subcontract participation **goal of 31.7 percent** of the total contract amount has been established for this procurement. Prime contractors holding a DBE

certification will be awarded full (100 percent) credit for the DBE goal. Offerors must make a good faith effort to meet this goal in order to receive appropriate consideration. The offeror can demonstrate that it has made a good faith effort by meeting the goal or by documenting good faith efforts to do so in its proposal. Determination of good faith efforts will be made at the discretion of appropriate BMC staff. All offers submitted in response to this RFP must include a statement specifying the Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) has certified the DBE or DBEs utilized to meet this requirement. If the DBE has not been certified by MDOT but has been certified by other state transportation agencies receiving federal funding, the name of the agency should be included in the proposal. BMC reserves the option to accept this certification in lieu of MDOT certification.

Proposal Affidavit

A. (ANTI-BRIBERY AFFIRMATION). I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT

(1) I am the (title) _____ and the duly authorized representative of (offeror) _____ and that I possess the legal authority to make this Affidavit on behalf of myself and the offeror for which I am acting.

(2) Except as described in paragraph 3 below, neither I, nor to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief, the above offeror, nor any of its officers, directors, or partners, nor any of its employees directly involved in obtaining contracts with the State or any county, bi-county, multicounty agency or subdivision of the State has been convicted of, or has pleaded nolo contendere to a charge of, or has during the course of an official investigation or other proceeding, admitted in writing or under oath acts or omissions committed after July 1, 1977, which constitute bribery, attempted bribery, or conspiracy to bribe under the provisions of Article 27 of the Annotated Code of Maryland or under the laws of any state or federal government.

(3) State "none" or, as appropriate, list any conviction, plea or admission described in paragraph 2 above, with the date; court official, or administrative body; and the sentence or disposition, if any: _____.

(4) **I ACKNOWLEDGE THAT** this Affidavit is to be furnished to the Procurement Officer, and may be furnished to the Attorney General pursuant to Sections 16-201, et seq., of the State Finance and Procurement Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland. I acknowledge that if the representations set forth in this Affidavit are not true and correct, the Council may terminate any contract awarded and take any other appropriate action.

B. (NON-COLLUSION AFFIRMATION). I HEREBY FURTHER AFFIRM THAT neither I nor, to the best of my knowledge, information and belief, the above firm nor any of its other representatives I here represent have:

(1) Agreed, conspired, connived or colluded to produce a deceptive show of competition in the compilation of the bid or offer being submitted herewith;

(2) In any manner, directly, or indirectly, entered into any agreement, participated in any collusion to fix the bid price or price proposal of the offeror herein or any competitor, or otherwise taken any action in restraint of free competitive bidding in connection with the contract for which the within bid or offer is submitted.

C. (PROCUREMENT AFFIRMATION). I HEREBY FURTHER AFFIRM THAT

(1) Neither the above business nor, to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief, any officer, controlling stockholders, partner, principal, or other person substantially involved in the contracting activities of the business has in the past five (5) years: (a) been convicted under state or federal statute of a criminal offense incident to obtaining or attempting to obtain or performing a public or private contract, fraud, embezzlement, theft, forgery, falsification or destruction of records, or receiving stolen property; (b) been found civilly liable under state or federal antitrust statutes for acts or omissions in connection with the submission of bids or proposals for a public or private contract; (c) been convicted of any violation of a state or federal antitrust statute; (d) been convicted under the provisions of Title 18 of the United States Code for violation of the Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act, 18 USC Section 1961 et seq.; or (e) the Mail Fraud Act, 18 USC Section 1341 et seq., for acts arising out of the submissions that would constitute grounds for conviction or liability under any statute described above. Also, the undersigned offeror was not founded or established or is not operated in a manner designed to evade the application or defeat the purpose of the Debarment Regulations, COMAR 21.08; is not currently suspended or debarred pursuant to COMAR 21.08 or by the action of any other public entity; and is not a successor, assignee, subsidiary, or affiliate of a suspended or debarred business.

(2) (a) If the affirmation described in subsection (1) cannot be given and debarment proceedings have not been instituted against the business pursuant to COMAR 21.08, indicate the reasons why the affirmation cannot be given, including any conviction or admission described in subsection (1), above, with the date, court and sentence or disposition, if any; the name(s) of the person(s) involved, and their current positions and responsibilities with the business; the activity specified in COMAR 21.08 in which each person was involved; and the details of the person's participation in the activity, including the name(s) of an entity involved and the person's positions and responsibilities with the entity. (Attach additional sheets as necessary.)

(b) If the affirmation described in subsection (1) cannot be given, and debarment proceedings have been instituted against the business pursuant to COMAR 21.08, indicate the status of such proceedings.

I ACKNOWLEDGE THAT this Affidavit is to be furnished to the Procurement Officer and may be distributed to units of: (1) the State of Maryland; (2) counties or other subdivisions of the State of Maryland; (3) other states; and (4) the federal government. I further acknowledge that this Affidavit is subject to applicable laws of the United States and the State of Maryland, both criminal and civil, and that nothing in this Affidavit or any contract resulting from the submission of this bid or proposal shall be construed to supersede, amend, modify or waive, on behalf of the State of Maryland or any unit of the State of Maryland having jurisdiction, the exercise of any statutory right or remedy conferred by the Constitution and the laws of Maryland in respect to any misrepresentation made or any violation of the obligations, terms and covenants undertaken by the above firm in respect to (1) this Affidavit, (2) the contract, and (3) other Affidavits comprising part of the contract.

I DO SOLEMNLY DECLARE AND AFFIRM UNDER THE PENALTIES OF PERJURY THAT THE CONTENTS OF THIS AFFIDAVIT ARE TRUE AND CORRECT TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE, INFORMATION, AND BELIEF.

(Date)

(Affidavit)

