

PVDTreePlan

Community Climate Health
A Community Plan for Providence's Urban Forest



Frequently Asked Questions on Consultant Requests for Proposals

Updated 2/11/2020

The Rhode Island Chapter of The Nature Conservancy (TNC) and the Steering Committee for the PVD Tree Plan are seeking proposals from a qualified consultant or group of consultants to assist in developing a strategic, comprehensive and equity-focused master plan for Providence, Rhode Island's urban forest. A mandatory pre-bid conference was held on January 22, 2020. The review committee has received and responded to the following questions about the RFPs.

Deadline Extended: The new deadline for responses to both RFPs is **Friday, February 28, 2020. Award announcements will be made by April 3, 2020.**

My firm cannot complete the scope of work within the proposed budget. Will you consider proposals that exceed that amount?

Yes. We do have some flexibility within our project budget and the ability to move items around within it if necessary. The Steering Committee welcomes bid proposals for reasonable estimates of project costs and proposals for alternate scoping of the work to achieve the goals of the PVD Tree Plan. Please provide budget details by task for the planning consultant and by phase for the equity and engagement consultant.

Why are there two separate RFPs for consultants for technical assistance on urban forest planning and for equity and community engagement?

The review committee anticipates that there are qualified consultants that have one of those skill sets, but not both. We would be willing to entertain responses to both RFPs from an individual consulting team. Please do be sure to respond in the requested format in each separate RFP. Additionally, entities should feel free to note relevant relationships with other entities responding to a different RFP.

What data is available from earlier canopy analyses?

The City of Providence has recently completed a citywide Street Tree Inventory as an update to its 2007 inventory and is currently incorporating that data into i-Tree Streets to enable further analysis of the results and build from an iTree-Eco study was done in 2014. The full list of available data is included on page 11 of the urban forest planning consultant RFP.

Who will be the project manager for the consultants to work with directly?

Sheila Dormody of The Nature Conservancy will be the point person for fiscal administration. Cassie Tharinger of the Providence Neighborhood Planting Program will be the point person for project coordination and implementation.

Will there be progressive invoicing throughout the project implementation?

Yes. The schedule for invoicing will be established through the contract negotiation with the selected consultant. We anticipate creating a schedule for invoicing and payment that is frequent enough to

avoid causing financial strain for the selected consultant without becoming an undue paperwork burden.

How does this equity and community engagement consultant RFP relate to potential funding of Health Equity Zones through the Health Department for urban forestry work?

We anticipate that the RI Health Department will be issuing an RFP for a competitive grant process in 2020 for HEZs to pilot projects for the state's Urban Forests for Climate and Health Initiative. The PVD Tree Plan RFP is specifically seeking support to develop and implement engagement approaches for the PVD Tree Plan. That could include working directly with the Providence-based HEZs interested in urban forestry strategies but would be different than the work funded by the Health Department.

The RFPs note amounts additional budget available. Is that in addition to the consultant budget available noted in the RFPs?

Yes. The PVD Tree Plan project has additional budget allocations for potential pilot initiatives, services or consultants to be determined and incorporated as the planning process unfolds.

- \$15,000: Youth and Community-Based Planting and Stewardship Pilot Projects.
- \$27,000: Supplemental translation and interpretation services (for final plan product, and for large-format events and presentations); stipends and rewards for survey participants and focus group members; large-format event/symposium costs (space rental, food costs, etc.); graphic design; web/communications or marketing consultants; creative or cultural equity pilot projects or initiatives.
- Dedicated staff time has also been allocated by TNC and PNPP for project management and coordination throughout the planning process.

I did not hear about the RFPs before the pre-bid conference. Will you consider my response to the RFP?

No, but we recommend connecting with a potential respondent who did attend the pre-bid conference to consider submitting a joint response.

Can you share the list of potential respondents with the full list?

Yes. Please see below.

Name	Organization	Email	Telephone
Eric Weis	Cogent Services	eric@cogentservices.org	(401) 450-7155
Judee Burr	Environmental Communications & Research Consultant	judee1421@gmail.com	(401) 741-4288
Elena Pascarella	Landscape Elements LLC	emp@landscapeelementsllc.com	(401) 921-2667, (401)225-0673
John Wilner	Nonprofit Works	john@nonprofitworks.com	(415) 568-5739
Allegra Scharff	ONE Neighborhood Builders	scharff@onenb.org	(401) 351-8719 x102
Christopher Peiffer	PlanIT Geo	chrispeiffer@planitgeo.com	M: (717)579-9890 P: (303) 214-5067
Kerry Gray	Principal Consultant - Urban Forestry, Davey Resource Group	kerry.gray@davey.com	
Allan Fenner	SavATree Consulting Group	afenner@savatree.com	(860)-966-4433
Gary Grewal MASc., EP, ISA	Stantec	gary.grewal@stantec.com	D: (519) 585-7442 M: (647) 268-8283
Joe Wahler, ASLA	Stimson	joewahlersandwich@gmail.com	(617) 876-8960 (978) 464-5200

Jenny Gulick; Rachel Comte	Urban Canopy Works, LLC	jenny@urbancanopyworks.com; rachel@urbancanopyworks.com	(859) 493-4132; (859)638-2044
Dominique Resendes	West Elmwood Housing Development Corporation	dresendes@westelmwood.org	(401) 453-3220 x15
Elliot Rivera	Youth in Action	elliot@youthinactionri.org	P: (401) 751-4264 M: (508) 667-6806
Gregory Guertin		gregory.s.guertin@gmail.com	