

URS' questions for the COMPASS Congestion Management RFP:

**Question #1**

In advance of the list of "Expectations," the RFP states, "The proposal shall include the following:" then Item #4 states "An outline of the proposed process to develop a more robust congestion management process and include it in the regional long range transportation plan (include operations and management):." Effectively, putting these two sentences together, the proposal requirement for Item #4 is as follows:

The proposal shall include an outline of the proposed process to develop a more robust congestion management process and include it in the regional long range transportation plan (include operations and management):

It is unclear if COMPASS is expecting this process to be outlined in the proposal, or if COMPASS expects the selected consultant to develop the process (or the outline of the process) as part of the project, in collaboration with COMPASS and its partner agencies (the cities, counties and ITD). Could you please clarify what COMPASS expects for this item in the proposal?

**Provide a description or outline of the proposed process is expected to be included in the proposal.**

**Question #2**

Similar to Question #1 above, the RFP effectively states:

The proposal shall include a description of the available analytical tool(s) or methods for assessing and forecasting the impacts and benefits of operations implementation:

And

The proposal shall include direct costs for tool(s) – if applicable.

Item #5 seems to be asking for a description of the available analytical tool(s) or methods to be included in the proposal. Is this the expectation? Or would COMPASS like to go through that list and vet the potential solutions – and the pricing for those potential solutions – as part of the project?

**Please include description and the direct costs of only those tool(s) that the "team" will use or recommend to use for this project.**

Will COMPASS be selecting firms based on their ability to provide better pricing of analytical tools? **No, consultant selection is strictly qualifications based.** How much input into tool selection will COMPASS member agencies have? **COMPASS may request input from key member agency staff.**

There are many analytical tools available. Will proposals be ranked on the number of tools the consultant has developed and/or used or based on how many applicable tools the consultant identifies in the proposal? **No.**

### **Question #3**

Related to #2 above, if COMPASS is indeed asking for a description of the available analytical tool(s) or methods to be included in the proposal, it would trigger a set of questions that COMPASS might be asked to further clarify regarding how COMPASS intends to use the tool, as well as COMPASS' goals and objectives for use of the tool. For example:

- How does COMPASS intend to use the analytical tool(s)? **Test and evaluate non-capacity transportation projects and their potential effect on the system for programming and planning purposes (no engineering).**
- Is COMPASS looking for tools that conduct the analysis on a macro level for the entire region?
- Or is COMPASS looking for tools that conduct the analysis on a micro level, for specific locations?
- Or is COMPASS looking for something somewhere in between (i.e. corridor level)?
- Or is COMPASS looking for something that addresses all of the above? **Primarily interested in the ability to test sub-area (i.e. a system contained within a four to six square mile area) to regional.**
- Will the results of the analysis be used to rank projects in the TIP or LRTP? **Yes, when appropriate (dependent on scale of the project).**
- What other measures of effectiveness besides cost/benefit does COMPASS expect to be able to garner from the tool(s)? **Various transportation-related measures.**

These are typical questions (in addition to others) that would be asked and answered in any software procurement to ensure that the selected software does in fact do what the end user expects it to do.

### **Question #4**

With regards to Selection Criteria:

It appears that a significant level of effort to execute the project is in the update of the regional ITS architecture. However all of the scoring is focused on the congestion management process and experience in applying the analytical tools. Does COMPASS see the update of the ITS Architecture as a relatively minor task in the overall project? **COMPASS recognizes the potential effort needed to update the ITS architecture. The level of effort required to complete this task will be addressed during the development of the scope of work.**

### **Question #5**

Under the **Deliverables** section of the RFP, Item #3: It is implied that the analytical tool will be purchased and delivered as part of the consultant project budget. Is that an accurate interpretation of the text of that deliverable? If so, is such a direct cost item an allowable reimbursable under the proposed consultant agreement? **COMPASS would directly purchase the analytical tool (assuming it is software) using funds allocated to this project.**

**All project elements will be done in collaboration with COMPASS and its partner agencies.**



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