

SOLICITATION FOR PROPOSALS

CPRA-PARISH RESTORE ACT MATCHING OPPORTUNITIES PROGRAM



PROPOSAL DUE DATE/TIME: AUGUST 31, 2017 AT 3:00PM

CPRA NO. 2503-18-01

**STATE OF LOUISIANA
COASTAL PROTECTION AND RESTORATION AUTHORITY**

JULY 3, 2017

SOLICITATION FOR PROPOSALS
FOR
CPRA-PARISH RESTORE ACT MATCHING OPPORTUNITIES PROGRAM

Background

The Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority (“CPRA”) recognizes (i) the importance of parish-state partnerships in working together to achieve comprehensive integrated coastal protection as identified in Louisiana’s Coastal Master Plan, as well as (ii) the fact that because Louisiana’s Coastal Master Plan is a resource-limited approach to coastal restoration and protection, it is not possible to include every beneficial project in the Coastal Master Plan.

This CPRA-Parish Matching Opportunities Program is designed to help coastal parishes, who will receive RESTORE funds under the Direct Component, prioritize Coastal Master Plan projects with those funds, while also recognizing and responding to the needs of parishes to implement projects that may not be specifically contained in the Coastal Master Plan but are nevertheless consistent with the Coastal Master Plan and are included in Parish RESTORE Act Multiyear Implementation Plans. See La. R.S. 49:214.1 et seq.21. To be considered consistent with the goals and objectives of the Coastal Master Plan, the proposed project must strive to achieve one or more of the Coastal Master Plan’s objectives and must not detrimentally affect, significantly diminish or otherwise conflict with integrated coastal protection projects or the benefits of projects intended to protect, conserve or enhance coastal areas. This consistency determination will be made by CPRA on a case by case basis and at the sole discretion of CPRA. This approach will allow the CPRA to connect large scale projects with strategic local projects in a way that can maximize efficiencies and the impact of RESTORE Act funds in accordance with La. R.S. 49:214.5.4(G).

The CPRA has elected to allocate an amount of up to \$100 million, over a 15 year period, from the Spill Impact Component of the RESTORE Act for project and program matching opportunities for coastal parishes who are receiving RESTORE funds under the Direct Component (i.e. those parishes identified in 33 U.S.C. §1321(t)(1)(D)(i)(II)). Through this initial solicitation, CPRA will award up to \$20 million for parish matching projects. Because each project and each eligible parish has its own unique set of circumstances there will be no predetermined match percentage.

Minimum Project Standards

In order to be eligible for submission to the state for funding under this program, each project or program proposed for matching funds must meet the following minimum project standards:

- Meet the requirements of the RESTORE Act;
- Be consistent with the objectives of the Comprehensive Master Plan for a Sustainable Coast; and
- Be included for funding with Direct Component funds in the parish’s RESTORE Act Multiyear Implementation Plan if the project is selected for funding under this matching program.

Solicitation Inquiry

Written questions regarding this solicitation's requirements must be submitted to:

Solicitation Coordinator: Gloria Tigner
Coastal Protection & Restoration Authority
150 Terrace Avenue Baton Rouge, LA 70802
Phone: 225-342-5023
Email: CPRAcontracts@la.gov

CPRA will consider written inquiries and requests for clarification of the content of this solicitation received from potential Proposers. Written inquiries must be received by 3:00PM on July 28, 2017. CPRA shall reserve the right to modify the solicitation should a change be identified that is in the best interest of CPRA. Official responses to all questions submitted by potential Proposers will be posted at:

<http://coastal.la.gov/resources/rfps-rsiqs-contracts/contracts-and-grants/>

Only the solicitation Coordinator or her designee has the authority to officially respond to a Proposer's questions on behalf of the State. Any communications from any other individuals shall be not binding to the State.

Proposals

Eligible parishes who are interested in providing a proposal under this solicitation must submit a proposal containing the mandatory information specified in this section. Five (5) hard (printed) copies and one (1) original of the proposal, along with a copy in electronic format (i.e. CD, flash drive), must be received by the solicitation Coordinator on or before 3:00 PM Central Daylight Time August 31, 2017. FAX or e-mail submissions shall not be acceptable. Proposers mailing their proposals should allow sufficient mail delivery time to ensure receipt of their proposal by the time specified. The proposal package must be delivered at the Proposer's expense to:

Solicitation Coordinator: Gloria Tigner
Coastal Protection & Restoration Authority
150 Terrace Avenue
Baton Rouge, LA 70802
Phone: 225-342-5023

It shall be solely the responsibility of each Proposer to ensure that its proposal is delivered at the specified place and prior to the deadline for submission. Proposals received after the deadline will not be considered.

Proposals for matching funds under the Spill Impact Component should be no more than ten (10) pages in length (i.e., 7-8 page description and 2-3 pages for maps or diagrams). For corroboration purposes, additional appendices may be included for completed plans and specifications, permits, applicable studies, etc. Proposed construction projects should include completed plans and specifications as an appendix to allow determination of feasibility/constructability of proposed projects. Information in the appendix will not be scored, but will be used to substantiate and/or clarify information in the proposal.

Proposal Content

For each proposed project or program, the proposal must contain the following information:

- (1) A narrative description indicating the need for, purpose, and objectives of the activity as well as a conceptual design and project area map;
- (2) How the activity is eligible for funding under 31 C.F.R. §34.201 and meets or will meet all requirements of 31 C.F.R. §34.303;
- (3) Location description and project or program area map;
- (4) Budget, including: (i) total budget amount, (ii) the funds to be provided by the proposing parish and/or any third parties, and (iii) the amount the parish is requesting from CPRA;
- (5) Project or program Milestones;
- (6) Projected start and completion dates;
- (7) Criteria the applicant will use to evaluate the success of each activity in helping to restore and protect the Gulf Coast Region impacted by the *Deepwater Horizon* oil spill; and
- (8) A description of how the proposed activity relates or contributes to the selection criteria below.

Selection Criteria

The following criteria will be used by CPRA to prioritize proposed activities for matching funds under the RESTORE Act. Information about these criteria should be included in any proposal submitted for consideration for funding. Details for the scoring of these criteria can be found in the Criteria Points Breakdown document. Additional information can be found in the FAQ document.

- (1) Consistency with the objectives of the Comprehensive Master Plan for a Sustainable Coast and the provisions of La. R.S. 49:214.5.4(I) in effect at the time of the proposal;
- (2) The ability of the project to restore and protect coastal habitats suitable for ecologically and commercially important species or its ability to reduce economic losses from storm surge;
- (3) The relative merits of the proposed activity, including the scope of project benefits based on the information contained in the proposal;
- (4) Synergy with other integrated coastal protection and restoration efforts;
- (5) Feasibility and/or constructability of the proposed project; and
- (6) Funds made available by the parish for the proposed activity.

Solicitation and Selection Process

Proposals for an initial solicitation of funding totaling up to \$20 million for parish matching projects will be solicited by CPRA from July 3, 2017 through August 31, 2017. CPRA will issue a solicitation for projects for the matching program through a formal announcement posted on CPRA's website and distributed via email to each eligible parish on July 3, 2017, with the solicitation period closing on August 31, 2017. Subsequent rounds of matching program solicitations will be announced in the future with dates to be determined.

Once proposals have been formally solicited and submitted to CPRA, a selection committee composed of CPRA staff will evaluate the proposals using the criteria listed above. The State's RESTORE Plan will be updated and amended, as approved by the CPRA Board, as projects proposed under the Parish Matching Program are selected for funding. Any projects selected for funding under the Parish Matching Program as an amendment to this Plan will be subject to a forty five (45) day public comment period before their selection is finalized by CPRA.

Issuance of this solicitation in no way shall constitute a commitment by the State to award an agreement. The State shall reserve the right to accept or reject, in whole or part, all proposals submitted and/or cancel this solicitation if it is determined to be in the State's best interest.

All materials submitted in response to this solicitation shall become property of the State. Selection or rejection of a proposal shall not affect this right.

The State shall not be liable for any costs incurred by proposers prior to issuance of or entering into an agreement. Costs associated with developing the proposal and any other expenses incurred by the Proposer in responding to this solicitation shall be entirely the responsibility of the Proposer and shall not be reimbursed in any manner by the State.

Estimated Schedule

The schedule may vary due to many factors. The following provides a general estimated schedule of tasks, including timelines required by Federal law and estimated by Federal agencies.

- July 3, 2017 – Advertisement of Parish Matching Program
- July 3-July 28, 2017 – Solicitation inquiry period
- August 31, 2017 – End of Parish Matching Advertisement
- November 2017 – Announcement of Selected Projects
- November 2017 – Project added to parish and State plans
- December 2017-January 2018 – 45 day public comment period of plans
- January 17, 2018 – CPRA Board approval of SEP
- January 2018 – Initiation of CPRA and Parish IGA
- April 2018 – Treasury and Council approve plans
- May 2018 – Applications submitted to Treasury and Council
- November 2018 – Council and Treasury award of grants
- November 2018 – Project Initiation

Enclosures:

(1) Frequently Asked Questions

(2) Scoring Criteria Points Breakdown