

# Homeless Housing Placements Evaluation Request for Proposals

2/15/2023 note: the finalist interview day has been changed to Thursday March 2<sup>nd</sup>.

#### Overview

The New York City Housing Development Corporation (HDC) and the New York City Department of Housing Preservation and Development (HPD), in conjunction with our partners, are making significant strides in housing homeless New Yorkers. As the volume of homeless placements increases, HDC seeks a consultant for a 90-day process analysis to evaluate homeless housing placements in HDC- and HPD-financed and supported housing and make recommendations to significantly reduce processing time and administrative burden.

#### **Objective**

The selected responder will work with an established Homeless Housing Placements Task Force composed of HDC, HPD, the Department of Homeless Services, and the Human Resources Administration to complete the following objectives:

- Within 90 days, deliver a process review including up to ten recommendations to dramatically reduce the time it takes to place DHS shelter residents into permanent housing financed or assisted by HPD and HDC
- Help inform the creation of a messaging strategy and communication plan around the effort
- Interview stakeholders within and outside government to evaluate each step and timeline of the placement process, including applicants, caseworkers, and building marketing agents
- Identify how information is received, stored, and shared from one process step to the next, including IT systems or other formats (spreadsheets, paper logs, etc.).
- Identify areas of redundancy and opportunities for greater efficiency by looking at both the role of government and the external parties in the process
- Outline and lay out detailed recommendations on needed changes in regulations, program
  design technology, processing, and staffing models at the Federal, State, and City level

#### **Scope of Work**

By the end of the engagement, the selected responder will produce a comprehensive report on recommendations to streamline the current homeless placement system, including, at a minimum:

- A journey map of the homeless placement process that synthesizes administrative complexities, outlines estimated timeframes, and describes how information flows between steps
- Recommendations to improve the client experience, reduce redundancies, and increase efficiency, along with an estimate of time and other resources savings
- A report on gaps in the process that create unintended barriers for homeless households, including time-consuming and taxing administrative burdens for clients
- The consultant will focus on process details and incorporate feedback from interviews with stakeholders, including City agencies, non-profit homeless services providers, affordable housing providers, providers of rental subsidies, and others
- The consultant should analyze the process from multiple client perspectives: tenant applicants, caseworkers supporting tenants, and building marketing agents processing applications

#### What You Will Have

- Your point of contact will be the Director of Process Improvement for Housing Placements at HDC, who is managing a multi-agency task force dedicated to improving these processes
- Regular weekly check-ins with client leadership to ensure alignment on priorities
- Access to a draft process flow analysis with estimated cycle times built on statistical analysis of client- and unit-level data completed by sophisticated in-house analytics team
- Access to necessary City personnel, City process materials, and outside partners like contracted shelter provider staff and affordable housing professionals

#### Procurement Schedule:

All deadlines are for 5 pm on the date noted below.

RFP Released: 1/30
Questions Submitted: 2/10
Answers Released: 2/15
RFP Response Due: 2/22

• Finalist Interviews (if needed): 3/3 New Date: 3/2

Notice of Award Issued: 3/10Begin Work: 4/17

#### **Submittal Requirements**

- Table of Contents
- Letter of Interest on the consultant team's interest in the project and the team's availability
- Project Understanding and Approach: A statement of no more than two pages demonstrating your understanding of the project and explaining your approach
- Team Description: a list of the key team members and their experience. Please provide information on relevant and similar projects that the team has completed. Also, share information on any sub-consultants you plan to use.
- Example case(s): work products from similar projects to help evaluate your proposal
- Proposed project plan with a roadmap of sub-deliverables and client review cadence
- Engagement Letter/ Contract

- Proposed budget with a detailed breakdown
- Submission of information requested in the Appendix of this document

### **Submission and Questions**

Please submit your response to Alex Merchant, Director of Process Improvement for Housing Placements at HDC, via email by 5 pm Wednesday, February 22, 2023. Mr. Merchant's email address is amerchant@nychdc.com.

You can also submit questions to Mr. Merchant via email. You may send your questions before the February 10, 2023, deadline if you so desire.

#### General

The issuance of this Request for Proposal ("RFP"), and the submission of a proposal by the firm or the acceptance of such proposal by HDC, does not obligate HDC in any manner whatsoever. Legal obligations will only arise upon the execution of formal agreements by HDC and the firm selected to render services described herein.

HDC reserves the right to amend, modify, postpone or withdraw this RFP; to waive any requirement of this RFP; to require supplemental statements and information from proposing entities, to accept or reject any or all proposals received as a result of this RFP; to extend the deadline for submission of proposals; to negotiate with any proposing entity which responds to this RFP; to hold discussions with any proposing entity; and to correct deficient proposals which do not completely conform to the instructions given in this RFP. HDC may exercise such rights at any time without notice and without liability to any proposing entity or other parties for their expenses incurred in preparation of the proposal. In its review, HDC may accept a proposal but require modification or negotiation of scope. Although discussions may be conducted with proposing entities submitting acceptable proposals, awards may be made without discussion.

The scope of services described in this RFP provide the most current and accurate descriptions of services sought by HDC. However, at the time contracts are executed, programmatic changes may result in changes to the scope of services.

All documents presented in response to this RFP will become the property of HDC. The Corporation is subject to the New York State Freedom of Information Laws ("FOIL") and as such HDC shall release all records subject to FOIL without notice or consent of responder.

The proposal must disclose any other employment or situation which may create a conflict of interest if your firm were to be selected, including any relationship that the firm or any of its employees may have with HDC. Please describe any such relationship in your proposal, or affirmatively state that no such relationship exists.

#### <u>Appendix</u>

#### 1. Equal Employment

If any, provide a copy of the firm's most recent Employer Information Report EEO-1 and include as Attachment to the Proposal. Please state how many women and minorities work in your firm.

#### 2. Minority and Women Owned Business Enterprise (MWBE)

HDC is dedicated to furthering the participation of minority and women-owned businesses in its work. All respondents are urged to include in their proposals methods for facilitating the participation in the project of businesses that have been certified by the New York City Department of Small Business Services ("SBS") as women or minority owned. This can take any form a Respondent considers appropriate including, but not limited to, proposals intended to ensure the utilization of certified minority and women-owned businesses as subcontractors or as joint-venture partners. In addition, proposals from minority and women-owned respondents are encouraged.

### 3. New York City Location

- a) State whether the firm maintains its headquarters, or other offices, in New York City, and the number of the firm's employees who are employed in New York City. Describe the firm's commitment to its location in New York City. Since January 1, 2017, has the firm relocated any employees from offices in New York City to locations outside New York City? Does the firm have any plans to relocate any employees or offices outside of New York City in the next two years?
- b) Describe the firm's corporate citizenship and commitment to The City of New York, including local procurement of goods and services, development or participation in internship programs or scholarships, corporate philanthropy, specifically in the areas of housing and community development, and policies with regards to the use of women-owned, minority owned and small business enterprises.

#### 4. Local Law 34 Compliance

Pursuant to Local Law 34 of 2007, amending the City's Campaign Finance Law, the City is required to establish a computerized database containing the names of any "Person" that has business dealings with the "City" as such terms are defined in the Local Law. In order for the City to obtain necessary information to establish the required database, your response to this RFP is required to include a completed Doing Business Data Form (the "Data Form"), which is attached hereto. The Data Form should be sealed in a separate envelope marked "Doing Business Data Form". The Data Form will be submitted to the Mayor's Office of the City of New York (the "City"). If the City determines that your Data Form is not complete, you will be notified by the City and given four (4) calendar days to cure the specified deficiencies. Failure to do so will result in your proposal being deemed incomplete and therefore non-responsive.



# **Doing Business Data Form**

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To be completed by the Cit	y agency prior to distribution	Agency		Transaction ID	)	
Check One	Transaction Type (check one)					
☐ Proposal ☐ Award	☐ Concession ☐ Economic	Development Agreement	☐ Franchise	☐ Grant	☐ Pension Investment Contract	☐ Contract
either type responses directly	for or proposing on an award or a into this fillable form or print anson is required for a proposal to be	wers by hand in black ink,	and be sure to fill	I out the certi	fication box on the last page. Su	bmission of a
Data Form will be included in	nation to be provided on principa a public database of people who this form will be disclosed to the	do business with the City	of New York, as	will the organ	izations that own 10% or more o	of the enitity. No
	Data Form to the City office the or 212-788-8104 with any question.					
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Chief Financial Officer (CFO	) or equivalent officer such as the Treasurer, Comptroller, Finar	ncial Director or VP for Finance.			☐ This posit	ion does not exist
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Chief Operating Officer (CO	O) or equivalent officer er, such as the Chief Planning Officer, Di	rector of Operations or VP for Op	perations.		☐ This posit	ion does not exist
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Home Address						
☐ This person replaced forme	er COO				on date	

#### **Principal Owners**

Please fill in the required identification information for all individuals or organizations that, through stock shares, partnership agreements or other means, **own or control** 10% or more of the entity. If no individual or organization owners exist, please check the appropriate box to indicate why and skip to the **Senior Managers** section. If the entity is owned by other companies that control 10% or more of the entity, those companies must be listed. If an owner was identified on the previous page, fill in his/her name and write "See above." If the entity is filing a Change Form, list any individuals or organizations that are no longer owners at the bottom of this section. If more space is needed attach additional pages labeled "Additional Owners"

If more space is needed, attach addition	nal pages labeled "Additional Owners."	
There are no owners listed because ( ☐ The entity is not-for-profit	(select one):  ☐ The entity is an individual	☐ No individual or organization owns 10% or more of the entity
Other (explain)		
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Organization Owners (that own or co	entrol 10% or more of the entity)	
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Name		Removal Date
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will be considered incomplete. If a senio	or manager has been identified on a pre	ny transaction with the City. At least one senior manager must be listed, or the Data Form evious page, fill in his/her name and write "See above." If the entity is filing a Change Form, i. If more space is needed, attach additional pages labeled "Additional Senior Managers."
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### What is the purpose of the Doing Business Data Form (DBDF)?

To collect accurate, up-to-date identification information about organizations that have business dealings with the City of New York in order to comply with Local Law 34 of 2007 (LL 34), a campaign finance reform law. LL 34 limits municipal campaign contributions from principal officers, owners and senior managers of entities doing business with the City and mandates the creation of a Doing Business Database to allow the City to enforce the law. The information requested in this DBDF must be provided, regardless of whether the organization or the people associated with it make or intend to make campaign contributions. No sensitive personal information collected will be disclosed to the public.

## Why have I received this DBDF?

The contract, franchise, concession, grant or economic development agreement you are proposing on, applying for or have already been awarded is considered a business dealing with the City under LL 34. No proposal or application will be considered and no award will be made unless this DBDF is completed. Most transactions valued at more than \$5,000 are considered business dealings and require completion of the Doing Business Data Form. Exceptions include transactions awarded on an emergency basis or by "conventional" competitive sealed bid (i.e. bids that do not use a prequalified list or "Best Value" selection criteria.) Other types of transactions that are considered business dealings include real property and land use actions with the City.

#### What individuals will be included in the Doing Business Database?

The principal officers, owners and certain senior managers of organizations listed in the Doing Business Database are themselves considered to be doing business with the City and will be included in the Database.

- **Principal Officers** are the Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Chief Financial Officer (CFO) and Chief Operating Officer, or their functional equivalents. See the DBDF for examples of titles that apply.
- **Principal Owners** are individuals who own or control 10% of more of the organization. This includes stockholders, partners and anyone else with an ownership or controlling interest in the entity.
- Senior Managers include anyone who, either by job title or actual duties, has substantial discretion and high-level oversight regarding the solicitation, letting or administration of any contract, concession, franchise, grant or economic development agreement with the City. At least one Senior Manager must be listed or the Data Form will be considered incomplete.

NEW FOR 2018: As of January 2018, the DBDF must report organizations, as well as individuals, that own 10% or more of the entity. A DBDF with such a certification, filed as a full (never filed before) or as a change form, must be submitted before an entity can then file a DBDF that indicates no changes since the previous form. Contact DBA at 212-788-8104 or at doingbusiness@mocs.nyc.gov to inquire if DBA has received such a form.

#### I have already completed a Doing Business Data Form, do I have to submit another one?

Yes. An organization is required to submit a DBDF each time it enters into a transaction considered a business dealing with the City, including contract, concession and franchise proposals. However, the DBDF has both a Change option, which requires only information that has changed since the last DBDF was filed, and a No Change option. No organization should have to fill out the entire DBDF more than once.

If you have already submitted a DBDF for one transaction type (such as a contract), and this is the first time you are completing a DBDF for a different transaction type (such as a grant), please select the Change option and complete Section 4 (Senior Managers) for the new transaction type.

## Will the personal information on the DBDF be available to the public?

No. The names and titles of the officers, owners and senior managers reported on the DBDF will be made available to the public, as will information about the organization itself. However, personal identifying information, such as home address and date of birth, will not be disclosed to the public, and home address will not be used for communication purposes.

#### I provided some of this information in PASSPort; do I have to provide it again?

Yes. Although a Doing Business Data Form and PASSPort request some of the same information, they serve entirely different purposes. In addition, the DBDF requests information concerning senior managers, which is not in PASSPort.

## What organizations will be included in the Doing Business Database?

Organizations that hold \$100,000 or more in grants, contracts for goods or services, franchises or concessions (\$500,000 for construction contracts), or that hold any economic development agreement or pension fund investment contract, are considered to be doing business with the City for the purposes of LL 34. Because all of the business that an organization does or proposes to do with the City will be added together, the DBDF must be completed for all transactions valued at more than \$5,000 even if the organization doesn't currently do enough business with the City to be listed in the Database.

### No one in my organization plans to contribute to a candidate; do I have to fill out this DBDF?

Yes. All organizations are required to return this DBDF with complete and accurate information, regardless of the history or intention of the entity or its officers, owners or senior managers to make campaign contributions. The Doing Business Data Form must be complete so that the Campaign Finance Board can verify whether future contributions are in compliance with the law.

# My organization is proposing on a contract with another firm as a Joint Venture that does not exist yet; how should the Data Form be completed?

A joint venture that does not yet exist must submit a DBDF for each of its component firms. If the joint venture receives the award, it must then complete a form in the name of the joint venture.

# How long will an organization and its officers, owners and senior managers remain listed on the Doing Business Database?

- Contract, Concession and Economic Development Agreement holders: generally for the term of the transaction, plus one year.
- Franchise and Grant holders: from the commencement or renewal of the transaction, plus one year.
- **Pension investment contracts**: from the time of presentation on an investment opportunity or the submission of a proposal, whichever is earlier, until the end of the contract, plus one year.
- **Line item and discretionary appropriations**: from the date of budget adoption until the end of the contract, plus one year.
- **Contract proposers**: for one year from the proposal date or date of public advertisement of the solicitation, whichever is later.
- Franchise and Concession proposers: for one year from the proposal submission date.

For information on other transaction types, contact the Doing Business Accountability Project.

#### How does a person remove him/herself from the Doing Business Database?

When an organization stops doing business with the City, the people associated with it are removed from the Database automatically. However, any person who believes that s/he should not be listed may apply for removal. Reasons that a person would be removed include his/her no longer being the principal officer, owner or senior manager of the organization. Organizations may also update their database information by submitting an update form. Removal Request and Update forms are available online <a href="https://www1.nyc.gov/site/mocs/resources/forms.page">https://www1.nyc.gov/site/mocs/resources/forms.page</a> or by calling 212-788-8104.

#### What are the campaign contribution limits for people doing business with the City?

Contributions to City Council candidates are limited to \$250 per election cycle; \$320 to Borough President candidates; and \$400 to candidates for citywide office. Please contact the NYC Campaign Finance Board for more information at <a href="https://www.nyccfb.info">www.nyccfb.info</a>, or 212-306-7100.

### The DBDF is to be returned to the City office that issued it.

If you have any questions about the Doing Business Data Form please contact the Doing Business Accountability Project at 212-788-8104 or <a href="mailto:doingbusiness@mocs.nyc.gov">doingbusiness@mocs.nyc.gov</a>.