



Frequent Asked Questions

Economic Recovery and Resiliency Plan

Last updated May 6, 2024

Avon Lake, Ohio, is embarking on a crucial initiative to develop an Economic Recovery and Resiliency Plan aimed at revitalizing the local economy after the closure of a coal-fired power plant. This FAQ page addresses common inquiries regarding the Request for Proposals (RFP), project details, submission requirements, evaluation criteria, and terms and conditions.

1. What is the purpose of the Economic Recovery and Resiliency Plan for Avon Lake?

The plan aims to revitalize Avon Lake's economy, foster sustainable growth, and enhance resilience to future economic challenges following the closure of a coal-fired power plant.

2. Who can submit proposals for this project?

Qualified consultants with a proven record in urban planning, zoning, economic analysis, and environmental assessment are invited to submit proposals.

3. What are the key components of the project's description of services?

The project involves strategic employment sector analysis, geographic economic dynamics assessment, zoning and land use evaluation, optimal land resource utilization, promoting economic diversification, and environmental impact evaluation.

4. What are the innovative aspects of this project?

The project incorporates innovative approaches such as integrating environmental impact evaluation into economic development planning, utilizing data-driven analysis for identifying growth opportunities, and implementing tactical measures for effective plan execution.

5. Will the consultant identify targeted economic development sites within the City as part of this scope of work, or will a list of properties under consideration for development/redevelopment be provided to the consulting team?

The focus of the task is to collaboratively identify both existing and potential areas for economic development within the city. Our approach will involve a partnership between the city staff and the selected consultant. Together, we will assess the landscape, considering factors such as environmental impact, community needs, and economic potential. While we will certainly exclude areas that are not suitable for development, our primary aim is to pinpoint sites that hold promise for growth and revitalization. This process will involve a thorough examination of current properties and an exploration of new opportunities. By working hand in hand, we will ensure that our economic development strategy aligns with the city's vision for sustainable progress.



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6. Are there plans to provide any of the data required to the consulting team, or must all data be sourced independently?

Our approach emphasizes collaboration and transparency. While the consulting team will have the autonomy to source data independently, we are dedicated to supporting their efforts by providing access to relevant public data in our possession. Much of Lorain County’s data is readily accessible through its GIS and other online platforms, which we regularly utilize. Furthermore, we will play an active role in data collection within our capabilities, leveraging our resources and expertise to ensure comprehensive and accurate information is available for analysis. This collaborative effort will not only streamline the process, but also foster a stronger partnership ultimately leading to more informed and effective outcomes.

7. How will proposals be evaluated and what are the points assigned to each criterion?

Proposals will be evaluated based on consultant qualifications, approach, methodology, understanding of Avon Lake's economic challenges, proposed deliverables and timeline, cost-effectiveness, and references.

The points assigned to each evaluation criterion are as follows:

- 15 - Consultant qualifications and experience
- 15 - Approach and methodology.
- 16 - Understanding of Avon Lake’s economic challenges and opportunities
- 16 - Proposed deliverables and timeline
- 14 - Cost-effectiveness of the proposal
- 14 - References (similar demographics to Avon Lake)
- 10 – Other

8. To what extent is the City of Avon Lake seeking engagement?

The engagement part of the project scope is to target focus groups/and or individual interviews as opposed to at-large public workshops/open houses. However, we are open to hearing from candidates about their experiences and suggestions regarding the appropriate level and types of engagement activities that would benefit this project.



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9. What is the budget allocation for the project?

The total budget for the project is \$150,000, covering consultant fees, data collection and analysis, stakeholder engagement, and administrative costs.

10. How should the project budget be formatted in the proposal?

A spreadsheet or Word document will suffice for the budget. Break out staff hours, rates, travel and data expenses. It's advisable to provide a narrative explaining your budget items. Depending on the submissions, we might request additional details for comparison.

11. How many printed copies are needed for distribution, and in what form?

Based on our initial projections, we anticipate that approximately 25 printed and bound copies of the final product will be needed for distribution. These copies will be disseminated to key stakeholders, including city officials, community leaders, and relevant organizations, to ensure widespread accessibility and engagement.

12. Will the web-based materials be hosted on Avon Lake's website, or does it need to be set up on a different platform?

Regarding the web-based materials, we plan to host them on Avon Lake's official website. This approach aligns with our commitment to centralize information and makes it easily accessible to residents, businesses, and other interested parties. By leveraging the city's existing online platform, we aim to maximize visibility and facilitate ongoing access to the project's findings and recommendations.

13. What is the completion schedule for the project?

Proposal submission deadline: May 23, 2024, at 3 PM

Project initiation: July 22, 2024

Completion deadline: January 22, 2025

14. What are the submission requirements for proposals?

Proposals should include a cover letter detailing the firm's capabilities and recent experience, examples of work, a project overview, and a conclusion with references.

15. What are the terms and conditions for proposal submission?



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The city reserves the right to reject all submissions. Submission of a proposal does not commit the city to enter into any agreement or pay any costs. Formal inquiries will be answered in writing.

16. How can proposals be submitted?

Interested parties must provide five hard copies and one digital copy in PDF format to the address provided below by the deadline of 3:00 pm EST on May 23, 2024.

For further inquiries, please contact:

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This FAQ page aims to provide clarity and guidance to prospective respondents regarding the Avon Lake Economic Recovery and Resiliency Plan RFP. For additional information, please refer to the provided contact details.