

Request for Proposal

RFP TAC 1339

Professional Services for: Consulting & Lobbying Services
At the Oklahoma State Legislature

NIGP Commodity Code(s):
918-58 Governmental Consulting
961-51 Lobby Services

RFP Schedule

EVENT	DATE
RFP Issue Date	12/05/2024
Pre-Proposal Conference <i>Location Zoom/Teams link</i>	NO Pre-Proposal Conference
Deadline for Questions <i>Submit to assigned buyer via email.</i>	12/18/2024 <i>10 Days prior to RFP due date</i>
Proposal Due Date <i>Mail or deliver to City Clerk address. Proposals are open the day after the due date.</i>	12/31/2024

If You have any questions or need additional information, contact the Assigned Buyer:

Donny Tiemann | dtiemann@cityoftulsa.org

All questions should be emailed with the **RFP TAC 1339** in the subject line.

Submit proposals (sealed) to:

Office of the City Clerk
City of Tulsa
175 E. 2ND St.
Suite 260
Tulsa, OK 74103



I. OVERVIEW AND GOALS:

With this Request for Proposal (RFP), the City of Tulsa is searching to secure professional lobbying services at the Oklahoma State Legislature on behalf of the Mayor of Tulsa. The successful Respondent will serve as an advocate to the Oklahoma State Legislature, and state agencies on behalf of the Mayor of Tulsa to promote positive government relations, ensure effective communication, and secure successful legislative results. The successful Respondent will at times interact with the City's current legislative consulting firm as needed and must hold the ability to identify and build relationship with the necessary decision makers and entities required to successfully execute the Mayor's legislative agenda which largely comprises education, municipal funding, transportation, and infrastructure.

We enthusiastically look forward to receiving your proposal.

II. TIMELINE:

Proposals will be evaluated on an accelerated time schedule, in recognition of the City's desire to begin the services described herein at the earliest possible date.

III. SCOPE OF WORK:

The successful Respondent will provide the following services, including but not limited to:

1. Attend designated and mutually agreed upon select meetings of the Oklahoma State Senate and Oklahoma State House of Representative Standing Committees;
2. Attend such other House and Senate committee and subcommittee meetings as necessary to monitor and report on legislation affecting Education, Transportation, Municipal Funding, and Public Safety;
3. Upon request of the Mayor attend Tulsa City Council meetings to provide status information relating to legislation affecting the City of Tulsa;
4. Meet with state legislators and/or state agencies relating to legislation and rules affecting the City of Tulsa;
5. Meet with the Mayor on a weekly basis regarding legislation and rules affecting the City of Tulsa;
6. Provide a written strategy for legislative efforts in accordance with priorities and projects specified by the Mayor of Tulsa;
7. Effectively work to help build a coalition between other Oklahoma municipalities, and local stakeholders to successfully achieve legislative outcomes as defined by the Mayor of Tulsa.

V. PERFORMANCE METRICS AND CONTRACT MANAGEMENT:

Performance Metrics

The City will develop performance metrics with the successful Respondent (“Seller”). These performance metrics will highlight key priorities that will be analyzed with the Seller collaboratively during the life of the contract. The City looks forward to working with Seller to define these important performance metrics during contract negotiations. The final set of performance metrics and frequency of collection will be negotiated by the successful Respondent and the City prior to the finalization of an agreement between parties and may be adjusted over time as needed.

Performance Metric	Data Source	Data Collection Frequency	Data Collection Responsibility

Contract Performance Monitoring

As part of the City of Tulsa’s commitment to becoming more outcomes-oriented, we seek to actively and regularly collaborate with awarded Respondents to enhance contract management, improve results, and adjust service delivery based on learning what works. Reliable and relevant data is necessary to drive service improvements, ensure compliance, inform trends to be monitored, and evaluate results and performance. During the regular meetings that occur throughout the term of the contract, it is anticipated that the following topics will be regularly discussed:

- Current status of performance metrics
- Topics of interest or concern to the Respondent
- Discussion and troubleshooting of challenges
- Review of activities on the horizon
- Review of budget and spending this year-to-date

VI. INSTRUCTIONS FOR SUBMITTING A PROPOSAL:

A. Proposals must be received by **5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, December 31, 2024, Central Daylight Time**. Please place proposals in a sealed envelope or box clearly labeled **“RFP TAC 1339, Consulting and Lobbying Services at the Oklahoma State Legislature”**. **Proposals received late will be returned unopened.**

B. Proposals shall be delivered and sealed to:

Deputy City Clerk
 City of Tulsa
 175 E. 2nd St.
 Suite 260
 Tulsa, OK 74103

- C. To be considered, interested Respondents should submit One (1) unbound original and five (5) bound copies of the proposal plus one (1) electronic copy.
- D. All interested Respondents are required to register with the Buyer in order to receive updates, addenda or any additional information required. You can learn more about the registration process on the following website: <https://www.cityoftulsa.org/government/departments/finance/selling-to-the-city/register-as-a-vendor/>.

The City is not responsible for any failure to register.

- E. Inquiries or questions to the Buyer requesting clarification regarding the Request for Proposal must be made via e-mail and must be received prior to the end of the business day on **December 18, 2024**.

Donny Tiemann, Project Buyer
dtiemann@cityoftulsa.org

Any questions regarding this RFP will be handled as promptly and as directly as possible. If a question requires only minor clarification of instructions or specifications, it will be handled via e-mail. If any question results in a substantive change or addition to the RFP, the change or addition will be forwarded to all registered Respondents as quickly as possible by addendum.

- F. Proposals will be opened on the morning of Thursday, January 2, 2025, at 8:30am, at the:

Standards, Specifications, and Awards Committee Meeting
175 East 2nd Street, 2nd Floor
City Council Chamber

- G. This Request for Proposal does not commit the City of Tulsa to pay any costs incurred in the preparation of proposals, or in submission of a proposal, or the costs incurred in making necessary studies and designs for preparation thereof, or to contract for services or supplies necessary to respond. Any expenses incurred by the Respondent(s) in appearing for an interview or in any way in providing additional information as part of the response to this Request for Proposals are solely the responsibility of the Respondent. The City of Tulsa is not liable for any costs incurred by Respondents for any work performed by the Respondent prior to the approval of an executed contract by the City of Tulsa.

VII. RESPONSE QUESTIONS AND PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS

To be considered, interested Respondents should submit or address the following questions or information requests:

- A.** A description of the Respondent's qualifications and experience and that of key personnel assigned to this project (and that of each Respondent proposed as part of the team). It is noted that equipment, material and staff shall be provided by the Respondent.
- B.** A description of previous projects that Respondent (and any others proposed as part of Respondent's team) has conducted for organizations of similar size and complexity. Provide contact names and telephone numbers of references from these organizations.
- C.** Provide a project schedule, identifying beginning and ending dates of work, as well as project target dates.
- D.** To ensure that this project is completed in a timely manner, the City requires that the selected Respondent take steps concurrently to expedite results and recommendations, as feasible.
- E.** To be considered for award, Respondents must comply with the following:
 - 1. The selected Respondent must have at least five years of experience as a lobbyist, as a legislator for the State of Oklahoma, or as a staff member of a Federal Congressional office or State of Oklahoma legislative related office.
 - 2. The selected Respondent must be available in Oklahoma to provide services at all times during Oklahoma's regular legislative session as well as any special session of the Oklahoma Legislature;
 - 3. The selected Respondent must provide details demonstrating Respondent's experience with, and knowledge of, the Tulsa area, as it relates to the scope of work and deliverables herein.
 - 4. The selected Respondent must possess experience representing Oklahoma municipalities or comparable experience before the Oklahoma State Legislature;

VIII. EVALUATION OF PROPOSALS:

The approval of the selected Respondent will be subject to the final determination of the City and will be contingent on the successful completion of a contract between the City and the selected Respondent(s).

All proposals will be evaluated using the following criteria:

Category	Total Points
Experience and Qualifications Providing Similar Lobbying Services	30 points
Clear understanding of the Intricacies of Tulsa City Government	20 points
Approach to Providing these Services	30 points
Cost	20 points

The City of Tulsa also reserves the right to evaluate based on the full list of eligible criteria listed in [Title 6, Chapter 4](#) of the Tulsa Revised Ordinances (TRO): https://library.municode.com/ok/tulsa/codes/code_of_ordinances.

IX. MISCELLANEOUS

- A.** The City expects to enter into a written Agreement (the “Agreement”) with the chosen Respondent that shall incorporate this RFP and your proposal. Further, Respondent will be bound to comply with the provisions set forth in this RFP. In addition to any terms and conditions included in this RFP, the City may include in the Agreement other terms and conditions as deemed necessary. Your response to this RFP will be considered part of the Agreement, if one is awarded to you.
- B.** All data included in this RFP, as well as any attachments, are proprietary to the City of Tulsa.
- C.** The City of Tulsa notifies all possible Respondents that no person shall be excluded from participation in, denied any benefits of, or otherwise discriminated against in connection with the award and performance of any contract on the basis of race, religious creed, color, national origin, ancestry, physical disability, sex, age, ethnicity, or on any other basis prohibited by law.
- D.** All Respondents shall comply with all applicable laws regarding equal employment opportunity and nondiscrimination. They shall also comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

- E. The use of the City of Tulsa's name in any way as a potential customer is strictly prohibited except as authorized in writing by the City of Tulsa.
- F. The City assumes no responsibility or liability for any costs you may incur in responding to this RFP, including attending meetings or contract negotiations.
- G. The City is bound to comply with Oklahoma's Open Records Act, and information submitted with your proposal, with few exceptions, is a matter of public record. For specifics on the Oklahoma Open Records Act, see the link here: <https://libraries.ok.gov/law-legislative-reference/library-laws/statutes-open-records/>.

The City shall not be under any obligation to return any materials submitted in response to this RFP request.

- H. The City shall not infringe upon any intellectual property right of any Respondent but reserves the right to use any concept or methods contained in the proposal. Any desired restrictions on the use of information contained in the proposal should be clearly stated. Responses containing your proprietary data shall be safeguarded with the same degree of protection as the City's own proprietary data. All such proprietary data contained in your proposal must be clearly identified.
- I. The City of Tulsa also notifies all Respondents that the City has the right to modify the RFP and the requirements herein, to request modified proposals from Respondents, and to negotiate with the selected Respondent on price and other contract terms, as necessary to meet the City's Objectives.
- J. Seller and its subcontractors must obtain at Seller's expense and keep in effect so long as City is purchasing Supplies or Services from Seller pursuant to this Bid, policies of insurance in the minimum amounts set forth below and Workers' Compensation and Employer's Liability insurance in the statutory limits required by law.

Professional Liability, aka Errors & Omissions	\$ 250,000.00
Auto Liability, each occurrence	\$1,000,000.00
Workers' Compensation	(Statutory limits)

Seller's insurer must be authorized to transact business in the State of Oklahoma. Seller will have 10 Days after notification that its Bid was Accepted by the City to provide proof of coverage.

Seller shall not cause any required insurance policy to be cancelled nor permit it to lapse. Failure of the Seller to comply with the insurance requirements may be deemed a breach of the contract.

RESPONDENT INFORMATION SHEET

Respondent's Legal Name: _____
(Must be Respondent's company name as reflected on its organizational documents, filed with the state in which Respondent is organized)

State of Organization: _____

Respondent's Type of Legal Entity: (check one)

- | | |
|----------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sole Proprietorship | <input type="checkbox"/> Limited Partnership |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Partnership | <input type="checkbox"/> Limited Liability Partnership |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Corporation | <input type="checkbox"/> Limited Liability Limited Partnership |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Limited Liability Company | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Respondent's Address: _____
Street City State Zip Code

Respondent's Website Address: _____

Sales Contact:

Name: _____
Title/Position: _____
Street: _____
City: _____
State: _____
Phone: _____
Email: _____

Contact for Legal Notice:

Name: _____
Title/Position: _____
Street: _____
City: _____
State: _____
Phone: _____
Email: _____

How did you learn about this business opportunity with the City of Tulsa?

- Email from Assigned Buyer
- City of Tulsa Website
- Tulsa World posting
- Purchasing search engine
- Industry colleague
- Other: Click or tap here to enter text.

Price Sheet Summary

Respondent's Legal Name: _____
(Must be Respondent's company name as reflected on its organizational documents, filed with the state in which Respondent is organized)

Please present a Fee Schedule for each year's services:

Year 1: \$ _____

Year 2: \$ _____

Year 3: \$ _____

Year 4: \$ _____

Year 5: \$ _____

5 – YEAR TOTAL	\$ _____
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By signing here, I affirm that these prices are my formal offer and agree to the inclusion of City of Tulsa's general contract terms and conditions as listed in Appendix A in any contract with the City of Tulsa.

Company Name: _____ Date: _____

Signature: _____

Name Printed: _____

Title: _____

**AFFIDAVIT
NON-COLLUSION AND INTEREST**

STATE OF _____)
)ss.
COUNTY OF _____)

I, _____, of lawful age, being first duly sworn, state that:

(Seller's Authorized Agent)

1. I am the Authorized Agent of Seller herein for the purposes of certifying facts pertaining to the existence of collusion between and among Bidders and municipal officials or employees, as well as facts pertaining to the giving or offering of things of value to government personnel in return for special consideration in the letting of any contract pursuant to the proposal to which this statement is attached.
2. I am fully aware of the facts and circumstances surrounding the making of Seller's Bid to which this statement is attached, and I have been personally and directly involved in the proceedings leading to the submission of such Bid; and
3. Neither the Seller nor anyone subject to the Seller's direction or control has been a party:
 - a. to any collusion among Bidders in restraint of freedom of competition by agreement to respond at a fixed price or to refrain from responding,
 - b. to any collusion with any municipal official or employee as to quantity, quality, or price in the prospective contract, or as to any other terms of such prospective contract, nor
 - c. in any discussions between Bidders and any municipal official concerning exchange of money or other thing of value for special consideration in the letting of a contract.
4. No officer or employee of the City of Tulsa either directly or indirectly owns a five percent (5%) interest or more in the Bidders business or such a percentage that constitutes a controlling interest. Affiant further states that the following officers and/or employees of the City of Tulsa own an interest in the Bidders business which is less than a controlling interest, either direct or indirect.

By: _____
Signature
Title: _____

Subscribed and sworn to before me this _____ day of _____, 20____.

Notary Public

My Commission Expires: _____

Notary Commission Number: _____

The Affidavit must be signed by an authorized agent and notarized

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF RECEIPT OF ADDENDA/AMENDMENTS

I hereby acknowledge receipt of the following addenda or amendments and understand that such addenda or amendments are incorporated into the Proposal packet and will become a part of any resulting contract.

List Date and Title/Number of all addenda or amendments: (Write “None” if applicable).

Sign Here ► _____

Printed Name: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____

APPENDIX A – City of Tulsa General Contract Terms

It is anticipated that the City of Tulsa will enter into an Agreement with the selected Respondent (“Seller”) for an initial term ending one (1) year from the date of its execution by the City’s Mayor, with four (4) one-year renewals available at the option of the City. Contracts entered into by the City of Tulsa generally include, but are not limited to, the following terms:

1. **Renewals.** Seller understands and acknowledges that any future contracts or renewals are neither automatic nor implied by this Agreement. The continuing purchase by City of the Services set forth in this Agreement is subject to City’s needs and to City’s annual appropriation of sufficient funds in City’s fiscal year (July 1st to June 30th) in which such Services are purchased. In the event City does not appropriate or budget sufficient funds to perform this Agreement, this Agreement shall be null and void without further action by City.
2. **No Indemnification or Arbitration by City.** Seller understands and acknowledges that City is a municipal corporation that is funded by its taxpayers to operate for the benefit of its citizens. Accordingly, and pursuant to Oklahoma law, City shall not indemnify nor hold Seller harmless for loss, damage, expense or liability arising from or related to this Agreement, including any attorneys’ fees and costs. In addition, Seller shall not limit its liability to City for actual loss or direct damages for any claim based on a breach of this Agreement and the documents incorporated herein. City reserves the right to pursue all legal and equitable remedies to which it may be entitled. City will not agree to binding arbitration of any disputes.
3. **Intellectual Property Indemnification by Seller.** Seller agrees to indemnify, defend, and save harmless City and its officers, employees and agents from all suits and actions of every nature brought against them due to the use of patented, trademarked or copyright-protected appliances, products, materials or processes provided by Seller hereunder. Seller shall pay all royalties and charges incident to such patents, trademarks or copyrights.
4. **General Liability and Indemnification.** Seller shall hold City harmless from any loss, damage or claims arising from or related to the performance of the Agreement herein. Seller must exercise all reasonable and customary precaution to prevent any harm or loss to all persons and property related to this Agreement. Seller agrees to indemnify and hold the City harmless from all claims, demands, causes of action or suits of whatever nature arising out of the services, labor, and material furnished by Seller or Seller’s subcontractors under the scope of this Agreement.
5. **Liens.** Pursuant to City’s Charter (Art. XII, §5), no lien of any kind shall exist against any property of City.
6. **No Confidentiality.** Seller understands and acknowledges that City is subject to the Oklahoma Open Records Act (51 O.S. §24A.1 *et seq.*) and therefore cannot assure the confidentiality of contract terms or other information provided by Seller pursuant to this Agreement that would be inconsistent with City’s compliance with its statutory requirements there under.
7. **Compliance with Laws.** Seller shall be responsible for complying with all applicable federal, state and local laws. Seller is responsible for any costs of such compliance. Seller shall take the necessary actions to ensure its operations in performance of this contract and employment practices are in compliance with the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act. Seller certifies that it and all of its subcontractors to be used in the performance of this agreement are in compliance with 25 O.S. Sec. 1313 and participate in the Status Verification System. The Status Verification System is defined in 25 O.S. Sec. 1313 and includes, but is not limited to, the free Employee Verification Program (E-Verify) available at www.dhs.gov/E-Verify.

8. **Right to Audit.** The parties agree that books, records, documents, accounting procedures, practices, price lists or any other items related to the Services provided hereunder are subject to inspection, examination, and copying by City or its designees. Seller shall retain all records related to this Agreement for the duration of the contract term and a period of three years following completion and/or termination of the contract. If an audit, litigation, or other action involving such records begins before the end of the three year period, the records shall be maintained for three years from the date that all issues arising out of the action are resolved or until the end of the three year retention period, whichever is later.
9. **Governing Law and Venue.** This Agreement is executed in and shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Oklahoma without regard to its choice of law principles, which shall be the forum for any lawsuits arising under this Agreement or incident thereto. The parties stipulate that venue is proper in a court of competent jurisdiction in Tulsa County, Oklahoma and each party waives any objection to such venue.
10. **No Waiver.** A waiver of any breach of any provision of this Agreement shall not constitute or operate as a waiver of any other provision, nor shall any failure to enforce any provision hereof operate as a waiver of the enforcement of such provision or any other provision.
11. **Entire Agreement/No Assignment.** This Agreement and any documents incorporated herein constitute the entire agreement of the parties and supersede any and all prior agreements, oral or otherwise, relating to the subject matter of this Agreement. This Agreement may only be modified or amended in writing and signed by both parties. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, the City does not agree to the terms of any future agreements, revisions or modifications that may be required under this Agreement unless such terms, revisions or modifications have been reduced to writing and signed by both parties. Seller may not assign this Agreement or use subcontractors to provide the Goods and/or Services without City's prior written consent. Seller shall not be entitled to any claim for extras of any kind or nature.
12. **Equal Employment Opportunity.** Seller shall comply with all applicable laws regarding equal employment opportunity and nondiscrimination.

RESPONDENT CHECKLIST

Use this checklist to ensure You have properly read and completed all documents listed below. This document (the RFP) contains all the following materials, which must be completed and returned to the City of Tulsa Clerk’s Office. We recommend You include this checklist with your proposal.

Proposer’s Name: _____

RESPONDENT CHECKLIST	
RESPONDENT DOCUMENTS	INCLUDED?
Cover Letter	
Proposal Narrative	
Respondent Information Sheet (required form)	
Price Sheet Summary (required form)	
Affidavit (Non-Collusion and Interest) (required form)	
Acknowledgement of Receipt of Addenda / Addendum	
Additional Information (Optional)	

PACKING LABEL

Top Left Corner of Label:

FROM: [Name]

[Respondent's legal name]

[Street Address]

[City, State, Zip Code]

FROM:

City of Tulsa - City Clerk's Office

175 East 2nd Street, Suite 260

Tulsa, OK, 74103

Respondent Submission For:

RFP TAC 1339

RFP DESCRIPTION: Consulting and Lobbying Services at the Oklahoma State Legislature

This label ensures that Your proposal will be sent to the correct office (City Clerk's) and that it is associated with the correct Solicitation (indicated by the RFP number). Proposals must be sealed and either mailed or delivered to the City Clerk's Office. Proposals must also be received no later than 5:00 PM (CST) on date listed on the first page of the RFP.