West Pond Shoreline Restoration Project Request for Proposal (RFP)

Questions and Answers (Updated March 25, 2021 at 12:00 p.m. EST)

1. **Are there drawings [for the project]?**
   A: Yes, drawings can be found at [http://www.jbrpc.org/20](http://www.jbrpc.org/rfp) or by direct download here:
   
   [https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5398acafe4b03ea7cc92ff58/t/603f93c2e7463132d5bf6e2b/1614779336362/210218_WEST+POND+DRAWING+SET.pdf](https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5398acafe4b03ea7cc92ff58/t/603f93c2e7463132d5bf6e2b/1614779336362/210218_WEST+POND+DRAWING+SET.pdf)

2. **[Is there] anything that lists the bid item quantities?**
   A: Quantity of project materials can be found in the drawings and specifications. Drawings can be found at [http://www.jbrpc.org/20](http://www.jbrpc.org/rfp) or by direct download here: While quantities are called out in drawings and specifications, Contractor is responsible for all take-offs and verifications in the field.
   
   [https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5398acafe4b03ea7cc92ff58/t/603f93c2e7463132d5bf6e2b/1614779336362/210218_WEST+POND+DRAWING+SET.pdf](https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5398acafe4b03ea7cc92ff58/t/603f93c2e7463132d5bf6e2b/1614779336362/210218_WEST+POND+DRAWING+SET.pdf). To obtain an electronic copy of the *Plans and Specifications* from JBRPC, email Alex Zablocki at alex@jbrpc.org with the subject line, “Plans and Specifications Request”.

3. **What is the Address of the Tree vanes/ Fascines?**
   A: The tree vanes are being stored at Floyd Bennett Field, near the seaplane launch ramp: 3159 Flatbush Ave, Brooklyn, NY 11234. The contractor is responsible to bring the trees to the project site using the designated access path.
4. Can you provide a spec for the seeding/ restoration areas?
A: We will provide a specification for re-seeding the restoration areas and stockpile area. It will be uploaded to the JBRPC website and can be requested by emailing Alex Zablocki at alex@jbrpc.org.

5. What is the location of the Spring Creek sediment stockpile?
A: The sediment stockpile is located at Spring Creek at Gateway National Recreation Area, 165th Avenue, between 91st Street and 87 Street, Howard Beach, Queens, NY. There is existing gate access located off of 165th Avenue across from the intersection with 92nd Street.

6. Do you need to screen the sediment for phragmites?
A: There is no need to screen the sand for phragmites. We ask the contractors to strip the top 12 inches of the stockpile to remove any existing seed/vegetation that exists in the topsoil layer. The topsoil stripped from the pile should be stockpiled and encircled with silt fence. The topsoil should be stockpiled in the existing area between the soil stockpile and the existing silt fence along 165th Avenue.

7. Will there be a screener on site?
A: The contractor is responsible to supply all necessary equipment to screen construction debris from the stockpile. Gravel and small pieces of stone can remain in the material brought to the project site. Material brought to the site should pass a 19.0-mm (3/4-inch) sieve and be retained on a 0.075-mm (No. 200) sieve.

8. Do you have to dispose of the construction debris from the Spring Creek Sediment?
A: Yes, the Contractor will be responsible for disposing of debris that is screened from the Spring Creek sediment used at West Pond. The sediment clean fill but may have some construction debris. There is no asbestos or contaminants. The soil report can be available upon request from Alex Zablocki at Alex@jbrpc.org.

9. Is there a WMB/E requirement?
A: No.

10. Do you have an estimate for the project?
11. Can we remove the snow fence at the breach area?  
   A: Yes. This fence is temporarily installed for safety concerns and can be removed during construction for access. This can happen only after the trails have been closed for pedestrian access.

12. Will the nursery deliver to the site?  
   A: Plant material will be delivered to the Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge parking lot.

13. How far out is the outfall pipe and can it be marked?  
   A: The existing headwall is located approximately 135 feet from the path. There will be some localized digging required to re-expose the end of the pipe. Prior to commencing construction, the Engineer will locate and flag the headwall for the contractor.

14. Can cast-in-place concrete be used for the headwall?  
   A: No, the headwall should be precast and shop drawings should be provided to JBRPC and the Engineer for review prior to commencing manufacture. Cast-in-place concrete is not acceptable.

15. Can there be truck pull off areas along the circulation route?  
   A: Contractors can use the staging area near the historic outfall as a pull off area once Phase 1 is completed. They can also use a pull off area of the closed trail near the north end of the pond.

16. How will the sand quantity be measured? Will the quantity be measured by truck loads or other means?  
   A: The quantity of material will be measured by truck loads to the project site. Trucking slips will be required to be kept to document the number of loads brought to the site.

17. Is this privately funded/ who is funding the project?  
   A: Funding for construction will be provided by the Fund for the City of New York, a 501c3 nonprofit organization.

18. Does the project require prevailing wage/ Davis-Bacon?  
   A: No.
19. Do I have to pick up the Oyster Shell bags from where?
A: Bags of shell for the breakwater feature will be delivered by dumpster, in large grow sack bags and located in the parking lot of the Wildlife Refuge or at the Spring Creek Stockpile. Our partner, Billion Oyster Project, will coordinate with the contractor about which location is most efficient and beneficial for the project.

20. How do the oyster shell bags have to be stacked?
A: The oyster shell bags should be stacked in accordance with the construction detail shown on Sheet L-606.

21. What is the question time period?
A: Questions must be submitted in writing via email to Alex Zablocki at alex@jbrpc.org through Friday, March 19th. All questions submitted will be answered and posted on the website no later than COB on Monday, March 22, 2020.

22. Will volunteers be on site while construction is taking place?
A: It is expected that volunteers will be on site in areas outside of active construction. The volunteers would access the site from the visitor center path and would not enter the active work areas. Volunteers would be supervised by JBRPC or their approved representatives while onsite.

23. What is the phasing plan?
A: Please refer to drawings P-101 through P-104. A preliminary phasing plan was prepared to break up the work in such a way that planting can be done after heavy equipment has moved out of an area and allows the contractor to work from the most distant point from the construction entrance and reduce the trucking distance as the project continues.

24. Should contractors submit pricing for the planting labor?
A: Yes, but it is anticipated plants would be planted by volunteers unless COVID restrictions or other issues get in the way that prevent this from working during the project timeline.

25. Will Pinelands provide the plants?
A: Plant material is on hold and expected to be delivered to the staging area within the existing parking lot at the Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge.
26. How will the goose fencing work?
   A: Please refer to L-504 for details on the goose fencing. The goose fencing would need to be installed after plantings are completed by volunteers, so the contractor will need to coordinate with JBRPC on timing for installation.

27. What is the guarantee period for plantings and are contractors liable for the work of volunteers?
   A: Contractors are not responsible for Plant material if planted by volunteers, however, contractors are responsible to monitor and maintain the goose fencing. If the goose fencing is damaged or destroyed during the planting guarantee period and results in loss of plantings, the contractor is responsible to replace the plantings lost.

28. What is the period to maintain the goose fencing?
   A. Two growing seasons.

29. Does the goose fencing need to be removed in the end?
   A. Yes - after the planting guarantee period ends, the contractor is responsible to return to remove the goose fencing.

30. Is the 1 gal Marsh Alder species correct sizing?
   A: Yes, this is the correct size. This species will be placed in the upland marsh area.

31. Is there a flexible time frame on working hours and time for completion of job?
   A: There is flexibility in the timing for work being completed at the project site. With prior approval from NPS and JBRPC, the contractor may be allowed to work holidays, Saturdays, or Sundays and at hours outside of the typical construction hours of 7 to 4 pm. If there are storm events or other “Acts of God” that prohibit the project from being completed within the designated timeframe specified in the RFP, then the contract date will be extended.

32. What is the initial start date:
   A: We would like work to start as soon as possible. We are estimating the third week in April after bids are reviewed and a contractor is selected to complete the work.
33. The bid package says 180 days, why 100?
A: JBRPC would like to have the project completed within 100 days to ensure that the plantings have the best chance of survival. The 180 days listed in the RFP allows for potential weather delays and Acts of God. If the contract extends beyond the 180 days stipulated in the contract, JBRPC reserves the right to access the Performance Bond and seek damages for breach of contract.

34. How does the sand have to be transported to West Pond?
A: The sand must be transported from the Spring Creek stockpile. Please see address and location above.

35. How long is the round trip from the stockpile to the construction site?
A: We estimate approximately 3.4 miles, 7 minute drive round trip, but this should be determined by the contractor.

36. How does the sand have to be brought to site?
A: The contractor is responsible to determine means and methods of transport. The design team did explore delivery via barge and determined it would be very challenging given the shallow water depths along the shoreline in the project area. In the previous breach repair, 24 CY trucks were used to bring in sand via truck along the same access road proposed for this project.

37. Do we have DOT permits?
A: No, NYC DOT permits will be obtained, by the contractor, once the contractor is brought on board. The design team will notify NYC DOT of the proposed project prior to the contractor filing to aid in expediting the permit issuance.

38. What is the staging area?
A: There are three staging areas denoted on the plans, one located near the breach, one near the historic outfall and one in the parking area of the Wildlife Refuge. Please refer to drawings L300.

39. How low is low tide?
A: Low tide was at 11:30am on March 9th. Our walk through was approximately at 11:40am at the site of the breach, which means our site walk was held during a period of typical low tide. The tide swings at the site are approximately 5 feet.
40. Is there a plant salvage spec?
   A: Yes, please see spec 32 93 00 Tidal Wetlands Planting and refer to the notes on the design plans on the L-400 series for additional details.

41. Is the existing outfall pipe full of sediment?
   A: The contractor will be responsible to determine the condition of the pipe using a camera or other means. The existing pipe appears to be VCP and the condition of the pipe between West Pond and the path is unknown.

42. How far is the headwall from the trail?
   A: Refer to question 13 above.

43. Will the headwall be marked out? GPS coordinates?
   A: The design team will mark the headwall location and provide GPS coordinates prior to construction.

44. Is the pipe buried?
   A: Yes, there will be some localized digging required to re-expose the pipe as noted in question 13 above.

45. Will a new headwall be required?
   A: Yes - a new headwall and new duckbill valve is required and detailed on the construction plans.

46. Do we need permits for the headwall?
   A: Permits have been secured for the pipe work as depicted in the plans and specifications.

47. Can the trees be trimmed along the road?
   A: Any proposal of tree trimming must be approved in consultation with National Park Service. This work must be completed with a licensed arborist.

48. Is the park open to the public during construction?
   A: The trail will be closed to the public in the active work site during construction.

49. Can you use an ATV for contractor transport around site?
A: Yes, the contractor can use a small golf cart or ATV for transportation around the site, on the pathways only. This is allowed only within the closed construction area, not on trails or areas open to the public.

50. How will you measure the amount of sand transported?
A: We will request truck slips from the contractor to confirm the amount of sand imported to the project site. The contractor is responsible to survey the grades to confirm that the proposed grades match the design plans. Should it be determined that more sand is needed than was anticipated, the contractor must immediately notify the design team to determine if there is a need for additional material beyond that specified in the provided take-offs.

51. How are the oyster shells sourced?
A: Billion Oyster Project, a New York City based not-for-profit collects shells from NYC restaurants and cures the shells on Governors Island.

52. Can a bid item be added for the stabilized construction entrance? Or should that cost be factored into the Traffic Control Item?
A: Please include stabilized construction entrance as part of traffic control.

53. In question number 24 from the Q&A, it states we should provide pricing for the plant install in the event that COVID restrictions cause issues with the volunteered planting option. The bid form does not have a bid item for this pricing, can the sponsor add an alternate bid item for plant installation or clarify what bid item they would like this cost to be applied to?
A: Please include this in bid item planting.

54. Can a preferred manufacturer and sizing be provided for the Slide Gate and Duckbill Valve?
A. We are open to other options, but like the Waterman C-10 canal gate and the Tideflex Series 35-1.

55. Do you have any CCTV of the outfall pipe?
A. There is no existing CCTV of the outfall pipe. The contractor is responsible to do this as part of the project to verify the condition.
56. In the event that the VCP outfall can’t be slip-lined, would a cured-in-place liner be considered?  
   A. Yes, a cured in place liner would be considered for the outfall if it cannot be slip-lined.

57. If it isn’t possible to line the VCP outfall and replacing the pipe is the only option, will that be considered a change order and alternate the time for completion?  
   A. Yes - if the pipe cannot be lined and replacing the pipe is the only option, that would be considered a change order and the time for completion would be adjusted accordingly.

58. When was the VCP outfall pipe installed roughly?  
   A. We don’t have dates for the pipe installation.

59. It was stated in question 6 of the Q&A that the Spring Creek stockpile location off 165th Ave would need to be stripped 12” and stockpiled. Will the topsoil stockpile need to be respread or will the contractor be able to leave it in place and stabilized?  
   a. The pile will be able to be left in place and stabilized. The spoils pile of debris that was screened from the stockpile would need to be removed.

60. [Regarding] the bid item titled “Tree Vanes” (installation of provided trees), is that the same as Fascine Stabilization in the drawings on sheet L606.00? If so all that’s being provided by the project sponsor are the evergreen trees correct, all other aspects of that detail will need to be provided by the contractor?  
   a. That is correct, The tree vanes are the same as fascine stabilization on L606. Correct, the trees will be provided and are at Floyd Bennet Field. They will need to be picked up by the contractor, brought to site, and installed. The contractor is responsible to provide all other materials specified in the detail.

61. On plan sheet L606.00 riprap slope stabilization detail states, in note 6 “proposed riprap to be harvested from the existing material on the bay side of the embankment …” Are we to assume that bid item Riprap for Additional Slope Stabilization (50 CY) will not require any imported stone and the total can be salvaged from on-site?  
   A. Yes - all riprap to be used on the West Pond embankment should be harvested from onsite and no material should be imported.
62. In Attachment C Non-Discrimination & Equal Opportunity, it states that “if this is a construction contract, successful contractor must complete initial project manning report-construction (AA201). Form AA201 is specific to New Jersey. Do we still need to fill that out?
   a. No, this is not necessary.

63. Attachment I Listing of Subcontractors. The attachment seems to be missing from the RFP. Do we just list all subs we will be working with?
   a. Yes, please list subcontractors in any format (word, excel, pdf)

64. On Attachment "E", the quantity for Install New Headwall is 1 each. On drawing L-406, it shows both headwalls are to be replaced. Does 1 each include both headwalls or should the quantity be amended to 2 each?
   A. The headwall is located at the discharge point of the outlet pipe. The outlet riser structure that exists in West Pond will be replaced and should be priced under line item “Install New Outlet Riser”

65. Would the Owner keep any portion of the silt sock (or any sediment control items) along the path after completion of work or are they to be removed after completion?
   a. Please remove after installation.

66. There is no item on Attachment "E" for the silt fence. Should it be considered as part of another item?
   A. NPS has requested that seed free straw bales be used in place of silt fencing where it is called out on the drawings. As such, the quantity for the seed free strawbales shown as 7,900 linear feet is the quantity that should be bid.

67. Are the construction mats to be measured in place or what is brought to the site? For example, if we bring 600 feet of construction mats to the site and relocate them to a total of 3,600 feet as the project progresses, which quantity would be paid?
   A. Construction mats will be measured based on what is brought to the site. Pay will not be based on what is placed, but instead on what is brought onsite.

68. In areas where straw bales are installed, will silt fencing still be required? Are there any conditions where straw bales be substituted for silt fence?
   A. Silt fencing is not desired to be used by NPS so all locations where silt fence is labeled on the plans should be seed free straw bales instead.
69. Can more information be provided on the turbidity curtain? Is it Type 1, 2 or 3? What is the skirt length?
   A. The turbidity curtain is Type 3 and the maximum water depth onsite during high tides is assumed to be approximately 6.5 feet.

70. As per the outlet pipe to be sliplined on Drawing L-406, can resin epoxy lining be used in lieu of cured in place sliplining? Can pipe bursting method be used if the pipe is not salvageable?
   A. Yes - resin epoxy lining is an option and pipe bursting is also an option we would consider.

71. Could the location of the outlet riser be provided?
   A. The GPS coordinates for the outlet riser are 1030395.594, 165073.796.

72. Can hydroseeding be used in lieu of the traditional seeding method?
   a. No.

73. Is there a total of only 6 Tree Vanes and what is the length / size /diameter of each, so we can figure on how to transport to the site?
   a. There are a total of 96 recycled trees. The exact dimensions of the trees that are stockpiled is not available, however, we assumed that the average height of a Christmas tree or evergreen tree is 7 feet and the diameter is 3-4 feet for purposes of the design.

74. Is there a specification for the Construction Mats Listed 3,600 l.f.?
   A. The construction mats should be timber hardwood and used to cross wet areas.

75. Can Straw Wattles be used in place of the Seed Free Strawbales?
   Yes, you may use straw wattles if these are staked properly and filled with seed free straw.

76. I estimated the size of the area for the Water Fowl area at 8.61 acres. Does that seem about right, since there is no line item for that?
   A. The 8.61 acres is correct because this is the total planting area proposed for the main project area. However, the contractor should include the separate smaller proposed planting area at the new outfall located to the northwest of the main planting area. The additional area should be calculated separately since it will have it's own perimeter fence and has a total of 0.27 acres.

77. Can you provide a linear footage and line item for silt fence?
A. Silt fencing is not preferred by NPS so the line item in the bid sheet for seed free straw bales is the length shown on the plans and labeled as silt fence.

++UPDATE QUESTIONS March 23, 2020+++++

78. In the instructions for bidders section it calls for 5% bid bond, but in Attachment F it calls for 10% bid bond. Which is correct?
   A. It should be 5% as per the text. The form indicates 10%, but it should be 5% based on the text.

79. Is the amount of $250 correct as the insurance deductible?
   A. This is correct, however, it may be more cost effective to go with a higher deductible.

80. Can bidders submit a proposal using alternative means to bring in sand from Spring Creek?
   A. Yes, however, the primary proposal should include trucking but you may submit alternative means if you believe it to be feasible and cost effective.

81. Who furnishes the Construction Mats?
   A. The quantity sheet shows them being transported and placed. The contractor is responsible to furnish the construction mats.

82. Is it the intent to place the Construction Mats for the entire 3,600 LF shown on the quantity sheet and wide enough to allow equipment and trucks to access the work locations?
   A. No - the longest length of mats required to reach far distant areas of the site was estimated to be 3,600 linear feet, however, the contractor is not responsible to furnish this entire length if they don't feel they are needed.

83. How much of the stockpile area needs to have 12" of topsoil stripped off of it?
   A. This depends on how the contractor chooses to harvest material from the pile and is a means and methods question.