

# **MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS**

## **INFORMATION SUMMARY... for your review**

**DATE:**

October 11, 2011

**SUBJECT:**

Consultant Selection for the MAG Air Quality Technical Assistance On-Call Services Request for Qualifications

**SUMMARY:**

The FY 2012 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget, approved by the MAG Regional Council in May 2011, includes potential consultant assistance for air quality planning and modeling activities. Consultant services may be needed to assist MAG with supplemental analyses for the Five Percent Plan for PM-10, Conformity Analysis, Evaluation of Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement (CMAQ) Projects, New Eight-Hour Ozone Plan, and Analysis of Exceptional Events. A request for qualifications was advertised on July 25, 2011, for technical assistance in air quality modeling, conformity, and the development of regional air quality plans.

Nine proposals were received by the August 24, 2011, deadline. The proposals were submitted by Advanced Monitoring Methods, Cambridge Systematics, ERG, ENVIRON, Sierra Research, Sonoma Technology, Technical & Business Systems, Traffic Research & Analysis, and TranSystems. A multi-agency proposal evaluation team consisting of the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality; Arizona Department of Transportation; the cities of Mesa and Phoenix; Maricopa County; and MAG staff reviewed the proposals on September 13, 2011. The multi-agency evaluation team recommended to MAG the following firms be qualified for the Air Quality Technical Assistance On-Call Services in selected areas of expertise: Advance Monitoring Methods, Cambridge Systematics, ERG, ENVIRON, Sierra Research, Sonoma Technology, Technical & Business Systems, Traffic Research & Analysis, and TranSystems.

**PUBLIC INPUT:**

No public input has been received.

**PROS & CONS:**

PROS: The procurement of on-call consultant services will enable MAG to obtain technical expertise in air quality modeling and plan development that may be required for supplemental analyses for the Five Percent Plan for PM-10, Conformity Analysis, Evaluation of Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement (CMAQ) Projects, New Eight-Hour Ozone Plan, and Analysis of Exceptional Events.

CONS: None.

**TECHNICAL & POLICY IMPLICATIONS:**

TECHNICAL: The procurement of technical assistance will provide consultant expertise to MAG in several areas, including: air quality modeling, air quality monitoring and meteorology, analysis of exceptional events, surveys and emissions inventories, analysis of control measures, implementation and tracking of control measures, statistical analysis of data, remote sensing, air quality plan preparation, CMAQ evaluation methodologies, transportation conformity, and analysis of greenhouse gas requirements and emissions.

POLICY: As the designated Regional Air Quality Planning Agency for the Maricopa area, the Maricopa Association of Governments conducts air quality modeling and prepares air quality plans to attain and

maintain the National Ambient Air Quality Standards. On March 12, 2008, the Environmental Protection Agency strengthened the eight-hour ozone standard by lowering it from .08 parts per million to .075 parts per million. On January 6, 2010, EPA proposed to strengthen the primary eight-hour ozone standard to a level within the range of .060-.070 ppm and establish a secondary standard with the range of 7-15 parts per million-hours. On September 2, 2011, President Barack Obama directed the Environmental Protection Agency to withdraw its proposed new eight-hour ozone standards and delay any new rules until at least 2013, when the standard is next due for a formal review. Presently, eighteen out of nineteen monitors in the nonattainment area are meeting the 2008 ozone standard and one monitor has a violation. It is anticipated that this region will be designated nonattainment.

On September 9, 2010, the Environmental Protection Agency published a notice to propose partial approval and disapproval of the MAG 2007 Five Percent Plan for PM-10, based on the timetable in the consent decree with the Arizona Center for Law in the Public Interest, with the intent to finalize the action by January 28, 2011. The main reasons for the disapproval were EPA's nonconcurrence with four high wind exceptional events at the West 43<sup>rd</sup> Avenue monitor in 2008 and the 2005 emissions inventory which served as the foundation for the plan. On January 25, 2011, the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality voluntarily withdrew the MAG Five Percent Plan for PM-10 to include new information and address technical approvability issues.

The development of a new Five Percent Plan for PM-10 is now underway. On July 8, 2011, EPA indicated that the region may take emissions reductions credit for the PM-10 measures that have already been implemented since 2007. The successful implementation of the measures is critical for preventing PM-10 exceedances and obtaining the three years of clean data necessary for attainment.

As approved by the MAG Regional Council on May 23, 2007, MAG will be issuing a report on the status of the implementation of the committed measures in the MAG 2007 Five Percent Plan for PM-10 by the cities, towns, Maricopa County, and the State each year. While the plan was voluntarily withdrawn in January 2011, the measures in the plan continue to be implemented to reduce PM-10. MAG will also be updating the inventory of dirt roads by jurisdiction to measure the progress in eliminating dirt roads each year.

**ACTION NEEDED:**

Approval of the following firms for Air Quality Technical Assistance On-Call Services for an amount not to exceed \$280,000: (1) Advanced Monitoring Methods be qualified in Air Quality Monitoring and Meteorology; (2) Cambridge Systematics be qualified in Statistical Analysis of Data, CMAQ Evaluation Methodologies, Transportation Conformity, and Analysis of Greenhouse Gas Requirements and Emissions; (3) ERG be qualified in Air Quality Modeling, Surveys and Emissions Inventories, Analysis of Control Measures, Implementation and Tracking of Control Measures, Statistical Analysis of Data, and Air Quality Plan Preparation; (4) ENVIRON be qualified in Air Quality Modeling, Air Quality Monitoring and Meteorology, Analysis of Exceptional Events, Surveys and Emissions Inventories, Analysis of Control Measures, Implementation and Tracking of Control Measures, Statistical Analysis of Data, Air Quality Plan Preparation, CMAQ Evaluation Methodologies, Transportation Conformity, and Analysis of Greenhouse Gas Requirements and Emissions; (5) Sierra Research be qualified in Air Quality Modeling, Analysis of Exceptional Events, Surveys and Emissions Inventories, Analysis of Control Measures, Implementation and Tracking of Control Measures, Statistical Analysis of Data, Air Quality Plan Preparation, CMAQ Evaluation Methodologies, Transportation Conformity, and Analysis of Greenhouse Gas Requirements and Emissions; (6) Sonoma Technology be qualified in Air Quality Modeling, Air Quality Monitoring and Meteorology, Analysis of Exceptional Events, Surveys and Emissions Inventories, Analysis of Control Measures, Implementation and Tracking of Control Measures, Statistical Analysis of Data, Remote Sensing, Air Quality Plan Preparation, CMAQ Evaluation Methodologies, Transportation Conformity, and Analysis of Greenhouse Gas Requirements and Emissions; (7) Technical & Business Systems be qualified in Air Quality Modeling, Air Quality Monitoring and Meteorology, Analysis of Exceptional Events, Surveys and Emissions Inventories, Analysis of Control Measures, Statistical Analysis of Data, Remote

Sensing, and Air Quality Plan Preparation; (8) Traffic Research & Analysis be qualified in Surveys and Emissions Inventories; and (9) TranSystems be qualified in Air Quality Modeling, Air Quality Monitoring and Meteorology, Analysis of Exceptional Events, Surveys and Emissions Inventories, Analysis of Control Measures, Implementation and Tracking of Control Measures, Statistical Analysis of Data, Remote Sensing, Air Quality Plan Preparation, CMAQ Evaluation Methodologies, Transportation Conformity, and Analysis of Greenhouse Gas Requirements and Emissions.

**PRIOR COMMITTEE ACTIONS:**

This item is on the October 12, 2011 Management Committee agenda for recommendation to approve.

On September 13, 2011, a multi-agency Proposal Evaluation Team consisting of the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality; Arizona Department of Transportation; the cities of Mesa and Phoenix; Maricopa County; and MAG staff reviewed the nine proposals for the Air Quality Technical Assistance On-Call Services. The multi-agency evaluation team recommended to MAG the following firms be qualified for the Air Quality Technical Assistance On-Call Services in selected areas of expertise: (1) Advanced Monitoring Methods be qualified in Air Quality Monitoring and Meteorology; (2) Cambridge Systematics be qualified in Statistical Analysis of Data, CMAQ Evaluation Methodologies, Transportation Conformity, and Analysis of Greenhouse Gas Requirements and Emissions; (3) ERG be qualified in Air Quality Modeling, Surveys and Emissions Inventories, Analysis of Control Measures, Implementation and Tracking of Control Measures, Statistical Analysis of Data, and Air Quality Plan Preparation; (4) ENVIRON be qualified in Air Quality Modeling, Air Quality Monitoring and Meteorology, Analysis of Exceptional Events, Surveys and Emissions Inventories, Analysis of Control Measures, Implementation and Tracking of Control Measures, Statistical Analysis of Data, Air Quality Plan Preparation, CMAQ Evaluation Methodologies, Transportation Conformity, and Analysis of Greenhouse Gas Requirements and Emissions; (5) Sierra Research be qualified in Air Quality Modeling, Analysis of Exceptional Events, Surveys and Emissions Inventories, Analysis of Control Measures, Implementation and Tracking of Control Measures, Statistical Analysis of Data, Air Quality Plan Preparation, CMAQ Evaluation Methodologies, Transportation Conformity, and Analysis of Greenhouse Gas Requirements and Emissions; (6) Sonoma Technology be qualified in Air Quality Modeling, Air Quality Monitoring and Meteorology, Analysis of Exceptional Events, Surveys and Emissions Inventories, Analysis of Control Measures, Implementation and Tracking of Control Measures, Statistical Analysis of Data, Remote Sensing, Air Quality Plan Preparation, CMAQ Evaluation Methodologies, Transportation Conformity, and Analysis of Greenhouse Gas Requirements and Emissions; (7) Technical & Business Systems be qualified in Air Quality Modeling, Air Quality Monitoring and Meteorology, Analysis of Exceptional Events, Surveys and Emissions Inventories, Analysis of Control Measures, Statistical Analysis of Data, Remote Sensing, and Air Quality Plan Preparation; (8) Traffic Research & Analysis be qualified in Surveys and Emissions Inventories; and (9) TranSystems be qualified in Air Quality Modeling, Air Quality Monitoring and Meteorology, Analysis of Exceptional Events, Surveys and Emissions Inventories, Analysis of Control Measures, Implementation and Tracking of Control Measures, Statistical Analysis of Data, Remote Sensing, Air Quality Plan Preparation, CMAQ Evaluation Methodologies, Transportation Conformity, and Analysis of Greenhouse Gas Requirements and Emissions.

Proposal Evaluation Team

Arizona Department of Environmental Quality:  
Steve Calderon  
Arizona Department of Transportation: Beverly  
Chenausky

Maricopa County: Bob Downing  
City of Mesa: Greg Edwards  
City of Phoenix: Joe Gibbs  
MAG Staff: Matt Poppen and Randy Sedlacek

\* City of Goodyear: Cato Esquivel

\* Not present

**CONTACT PERSON:** Randy Sedlacek, MAG, (602) 254-6300.