

# Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency (NOACA)

## Request for Proposals

### Mentor-on-the-Lake Multimodal Facilities Planning Study Vendor Questions as of May 1, 2026

- 1. Are consulting firms or their subconsultant partners eligible (without a scoring or evaluation penalty) to respond and be considered for the TLCI projects, if they have ongoing contracts with either of the respective organizations that received the TLCI grant funding?**

If the scope of work for the ongoing or existing contract between the vendor and the entity that received TLCI grant funding includes drafting of *specifications, requirements, statements of work, or invitations for bids* for the project that is the subject of the study, that vendor would be prohibited from responding to the request for proposals. An ongoing contract or contracts between a vendor and the grant-funded entity for *other* work that does *not* relate to the subject of the TLCI study would not preclude a vendor from responding to the TLCI Planning Study RFP.

In addition, if the vendor has access to non-public confidential, proprietary, or trade secret information that would give them an unfair competitive advantage, that vendor would be prohibited from responding to the solicitation.

Our response on this question is based on NOACA's required compliance with federal procurement regulations, specifically [2 CFR Part 200 Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards](#). Sections 200.317 – 200.327 state the procurement standards that apply to this solicitation.

- 2. If we're submitting with subconsultants, should we include a "Staff and Direct Cost" sheet for each firm in our pricing form?**

Yes, vendors should include a *staff and direct cost* sheet for each subconsultant in their in their business proposal. In addition, the total cost of each subconsultant contract should also be included as an entry under the direct cost portion of the prime contractor's pricing proposal, in order to provide a total project cost (that includes subcontractor costs).