



MEMORANDUM

To: CMAP Board

From: Aimee Lee, Deputy of Transportation

Date: May 29, 2024

Subject: Authorization to enter into a contract with Resource Systems Group, Inc. (RSG) as a result of RFP 299, for Freight Model Scenario Development for a term up to 24-months with three, one-year optional renewals, in an amount not to exceed \$209,000

Action Requested: Approval

Purpose

Through this solicitation, CMAP is seeking one (1) consultant to develop future year scenarios using CMAP's freight model and create a data visualizer reporting key metrics of modeled freight scenarios.

Background

CMAP performs travel demand modeling and freight forecasting to support its responsibilities as the designated metropolitan planning organization (MPO) for the Chicago area, as well as its efforts in regional planning. For these purposes, CMAP maintains both trip-based and activity-based travel demand models, which use Emme modeling software, and CMAP is working to deploy a freight model written in the R programming language. To complement the freight model, CMAP developed a commercial services vehicle model to account for the movement of commercial vehicles operating in the region for non-freight hauling purposes. Collectively, these tools model all vehicle trips in the CMAP region.

Northeastern Illinois is home to an extensive, multimodal network of freight facilities, and within the Chicago region, the movement of over \$1 trillion in goods plays a critical role in almost every sector of the local economy. While CMAP is in the process of deploying the freight model, it is also necessary to develop future year scenarios as well as tools for reporting and visualizing model outputs. These tools will help CMAP fulfill its role in regional planning and capitalize on the region's existing freight assets.

Procurement process

A Request for Proposals (RFP) was circulated and posted on the CMAP website, CMAP hosted a non-mandatory virtual pre-bid meeting to provide an overview of and answer consultant questions,

The key dates were as follows:

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| RFP Advertisement/Release | May 8, 2024 |
| Pre-bid Meeting (optional) | May 15, 2024 at 9:00 AM Central Time |
| Deadline for Questions | May 17, 2024, by 3:00 PM Central Time |
| Submittal deadline | May 22, 2024, by 3:00 PM Central Time |
| Anticipated Award Recommendation | May 29, 2024 |

There were received five (5) attendees that joined the pre-bid meeting, representing four (4) unique consulting firms and CMAP received one (1) proposal. Freight forecasting models like the one CMAP is developing are an emerging area of travel modeling focus for MPOs and the respondent consulting firm is leading the industry in development and deployment of these models.

The proposal was reviewed by CMAP staff, who scored it independently based on the evaluation criteria included in **Attachment 1**.

Following consideration of the proposal, the evaluation panel determined that an interview was not necessary.

Evaluation

The evaluation panel used the information from the process above to assess and score the submittals. The evaluation scores are included in **Attachment 2** and the assessment of the proposers was as follows:

Resource Systems Group, Inc. (RSG) The submission from this proposer demonstrated a solid understanding of the scope of services outlined in the request for proposals, including clear identification of the project deliverables and consideration of illustrative questions included in the RFP. The project team has familiarity with CMAP's freight model and a demonstrated ability to produce tools for visualizing model outputs both from within a single scenario as well as between scenarios. In addition, the proposed project schedule is appropriate for the tasks outlined in the submission.

Recommendation for contractor selection

Following consideration of the proposal, the evaluation panel determined that Resource Systems Group, Inc. (RSG) represented a strong submittal based on the evaluation criteria. As noted, RSG is the industry leader in the deployment of this kind of freight model and has successfully delivered similar models to a handful of MPOs around the country.

The evaluation panel recommends entering into a contract with RSG for a term of up to 14-months, in an amount not to exceed \$190,000, being the price proposal rounded to the nearest thousand. The board authorization request includes an additional 10% increase for a total authorization of \$209,000.

Attachment 1: Evaluation criteria

Attachment 2: Evaluation scores

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