



**MATAGORDA BAY MITIGATION TRUST**

RFP# 2020-2021-1

Questions and Answers

November 12, 2020

1. When does MBMT anticipate making a decision on the proposals submitted so that we can include the dates requested for Question #4 in the application, “Implementation and conclusion dates of program/project”? *Answer: The Trust anticipates making funding decisions no later than January 30, 2021. Assuming it takes one month to negotiate and execute the contract the anticipated start date could be March 1, 2021. This date can be adjusted in the final contract negotiations if needed.*
2. There is no page or word limit stated for Questions #8, 10, 11. Did you have a limit in mind to ensure that all proposals are succinct? *Answer: A word limit was not specified for these questions since they request the bulk of the proposed project information needed to evaluate the proposal. Conciseness is appreciated but complete information on the proposed project is most important.*
3. In Attachment B, the RFP stated “The undersigned agrees this submission becomes the property of the Matagorda Bay Mitigation Trust (Trust) after the published submission deadline”. This implies that if a proposal submitted to MBMT is not funded that the submitting parties are not able to re-submit this grant to other funding mechanisms or maybe even to a second call for proposals associated with MBMT. After MBMT has made a decision on a proposal, can the submitting parties regain their ability to submit their proposal or a similar proposal to other funding opportunities? *Answer: After the Trust has made funding decisions, the submitting parties regain their ability to submit their proposals or similar proposals to other funding opportunities including any additional calls for proposals by the Trust.*
4. Do you have a template for budget that we should use to make this aspect of grant reviewing easier for the Trust? *Answer: Please use the format contained in Attachments B and C of the contract template available on the website at <https://www.mbmtrust.com/rfps/>.*
5. Where do we include co-Investigators in the proposal and how do we include them in the budget? *Answer: Please include information about co-Investigators and any other significant project team members or subcontractors in the answer to Question 12. Please include the budget information in the answer to Question 14. A narrative explaining the budget would be helpful.*
6. With co-Investigators at a second university, they are often listed as a sub-contractor and the primary institution charges Indirect Costs on the first \$25,000 of that sub-contract annually for the grant. Is this allowed? *Answer: That is not allowed. The second university can include a charge of 15% indirect/overhead on its salaries charged to the project in its budget to the*

*primary university but the primary university cannot add any additional indirect/overhead markup to that. The primary university can include a charge of 15% indirect/overhead on its salaries charged to the project in its budget.*

7. The proposal due date is at the end of November, which is the end of the semester this year for Universities. Additionally, schools shut down for most of the week (Nov 24-27) prior to the deadline. This means that for all researchers submitting proposals from Universities, they will likely have to submit by the 20th to ensure that all the documents from their university are complete and approved by their administration. Is it possible to extend the deadline into early December? *Yes. Addendum No. 1 will include the new date around the middle of December.*
8. Can a PI lead 2 proposals submissions and if so, would the Trust consider funding 2 proposals from said PI? Alternatively, would you fund multiple proposals that include the same researcher (e.g. PI on one and co-PI on 1 or more)? *Answer: Yes. Each proposal submitted will be evaluated on its own merits.*
9. Is there any budget guidance? Is the Trust seeking to fund multiple smaller projects or a single large project (up to \$500K for 3 years)? *Answer: The Trust has \$3.3 million available for funding projects in this funding cycle and will consider funding both small and larger (up to \$500,000) projects.*
10. We would like to propose a multi-year project but wanted to ask whether we could apply for year 1 funding now, and come back in subsequent years to apply for additional years of funding? Our rationale is that this would allow us to be more adaptive in our approach, rather than trying to figure everything out in one 3-year project. *Answer: The Trust can only obligate funding up to the amount that it has received from Formosa for the current year. The Trust is willing to fund multi-year projects, up to 3 years, but will fund them in their entirety from the current year's available funds to enhance the value of the final deliverable. You may choose to only apply for the first year funding but you would have to compete with other proposals for subsequent year's funding. In awarding funds for a first year we would evaluate whether the results of a first year could stand on their own and be of value as future funding is not guaranteed.*
11. There was some concern about whether the university would be eligible to apply in response to the request for "submissions from projects from governments(s) and/or non-profit entities. *Answer: A state funded university is eligible to submit under the governmental entity category.*
12. I am considering submitting a proposal for the Trust RFP that was just released. Are there any restrictions on the Indirect Rate or will a full Indirect Rate apply? *Answer: The indirect rate is limited to 15% of salaries charged to the project. It is specified in both the RFP document and the contract template that you can access on the website at <https://www.mbmtrust.com/rfps/>.*
13. For construction of the proposed project, what are the bidding requirements the Trust expects for a non-profit? Do you expect three quotes? or something more formal? *Answer: The Trust contract requires the Recipient to comply with all local, state and federal laws and regulations so*

*the procurement of contractors by a non-profit must be in compliance with whatever laws and regulations governing procurement that might apply to non-profits. The Trust will require that whatever method is used in compliance with local, state and federal laws be competitive in nature so the non-profit, and therefore the Trust, receives good and fair value for the work.*