City of Tulsa Finance Department

# **Request for Proposal**

21-936

### Professional Services for

Qualified Archaeologists to assist with the 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre Investigation

## NIGP Commodity Code(s):

961-01 Archaeological Services, Professional

# Submit proposals (sealed) to:

City Clerk' Office 175 East 2<sup>nd</sup> St. Suite 260 Tulsa. Oklahoma 74103



#### I. STATEMENT OF PURPOSE:

With this Request for Proposal (RFP), we are searching to secure a team of qualified professional achaeologists to assist with the 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre investigation beginning in June 2021.

We look forward to receiving your proposal.

#### II. INSTRUCTIONS FOR SUBMITTING A PROPOSAL:

#### A. General Requirements

1. Proposals must be received by 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 28, 2021, Central Daylight Time. Please place proposals in a sealed envelope or box clearly labeled "RFP 21-936, Qualified Archaeologists to assist with the 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre Investigation".

Proposals received late will be returned unopened.

**2.** Proposals shall be delivered sealed to:

Deputy City Clerk City of Tulsa 175 E. 2<sup>nd</sup> St. Suite 260 Tulsa, OK 74103

- 3. All interested Respondents (Sellers) are required to register with the Buyer in order to receive updates, addenda or any additional information required. The City is not responsible for any failure to register.
- 4. Inquiries to the Buyer requesting clarification regarding the Request for Proposal or the content therein must be made <u>via e-mail</u> and must be received prior to the end of the business day on **April 16**, **2021**.

## Donny Tiemann, Senior Buyer <a href="mailto:dtiemann@cityoftulsa.org">dtiemann@cityoftulsa.org</a>

Any questions regarding this RFP will be handled as promptly and as directly as possible. If a question requires only clarification of instructions or specifications, it will be handled via e-mail. If any question results in a substantive change or addition to the RFP, the change or addition will be forwarded to all registered Respondents as quickly as possible by addendum.

5. Respondents shall designate a contact person, with appropriate contact information, to address any questions concerning a proposal. The Respondents shall also state the name and title of individuals who will make final decisions regarding contractual commitments and have legal authority to execute the contract on the Respondent's behalf.

**6.** Proposals will be opened on the morning after the due date, at 8:30am, at the:

Standards, Specifications, and Awards Committee Meeting 175 East 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor City Council Chamber

#### B. General Notifications

- 1. The City of Tulsa notifies all possible Respondents that no person shall be excluded from participation in, denied any benefits of, or otherwise discriminated against in connection with the award and performance of any contract on the basis of race, religious creed, color, national origin, ancestry, physical disability, sex, age, ethnicity, or on any other basis prohibited by law.
- 2. All Respondents shall comply with all applicable laws regarding equal employment opportunity and nondiscrimination.
- 3. All Respondents shall comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and all proposals and a subsequent contract, if any, shall include the following statement:

"The Respondent shall take the necessary actions to ensure its facilities are in compliance with the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act. It is understood that the program of the Respondent is not a program or activity of the City of Tulsa. The Respondent agrees that its program or activity will comply with the requirements of the ADA. Any costs of such compliance will be the responsibility of the Respondent. Under no circumstances will the Respondent conduct any activity which it deems to not be in compliance with the ADA."

- 4. The City of Tulsa also notifies all Respondents that the City has the right to modify the RFP and the requirements herein, to request modified proposals from Respondents, and to negotiate with the selected Respondent on price and other contract terms, as necessary to meet the City's Objectives.
- 5. Although it is the City's intent to choose only the most qualified Respondents, the City reserves the right to choose any number of qualified finalists for interview and/or for final selection. At the discretion of the City, one or more Respondents may be invited to be interviewed for purposes of clarification or discussion of the proposal.
- 6. This Request for Proposal does not commit the City of Tulsa to pay any costs incurred in the preparation of proposals, or in submission of a proposal, or the costs incurred in making necessary studies and designs for preparation thereof, or to contract for services or supplies necessary to respond. Any expenses incurred by the Respondent(s)

in appearing for an interview or in any way in providing additional information as part of the response to this Request for Proposals are solely the responsibility of the Respondent. The City of Tulsa is not liable for any costs incurred by Respondents for any work performed by the Respondent prior to the approval of an executed contract by the City of Tulsa.

#### III BACKGROUND

In October 2020, a mass grave was detected in Oaklawn Cemetery that is believed to contain the remains of victims of 1921 Race Massacre. Members of the Physical Investigation Committee will continue to direct and oversee the forthcoming excavations & exhumation of remains but requires the assistance of additional professional archaeologists to complete the process in a timely and efficient manner.

The City has engaged the following Project Principals to lead this project:

- Kary Stackelbeck, State Archeologist, State of Oklahoma
- Phoebe Stubblefield, Forensic Anthropologist, University of Florida
- Scott Ellsworth, Historian and Professor, University of Michigan

Review information contained in links below to gain additional background on this project.

1921 Graves Investigation Webpage <a href="https://www.cityoftulsa.org/1921graves">https://www.cityoftulsa.org/1921graves</a>,

Executive Summary of the 2020 Test Excavations <a href="https://www.cityoftulsa.org/media/15149/trmi\_oaklawn\_excavations\_2020\_summary\_final-2.pdf">https://www.cityoftulsa.org/media/15149/trmi\_oaklawn\_excavations\_2020\_summary\_final-2.pdf</a>.

#### IV SCOPE OF WORK

- 1. The Respondent shall participate in planning meetings with Project Principals in advance of the expected date of fieldwork.
- 2. The Respondent shall assist with monitoring heavy machinery excavation process and initial exposure of historic burials.
- **3.** The Respondent shall excavate burials in anticipation of *in situ* documentation.
- **4.** The Respondent shall assist with mapping and photography of human remains, grave shafts, coffins, and any other associated artifacts.
- **5.** The Respondent shall assist forensic anthropologists with the exhumation process.

- 6. The Respondent shall conduct concurrent artifact analysis and documentation. Artifacts may not leave the State of Oklahoma. A final report about non-skeletal materials recovered will be expected after the fieldwork. The City and Project Principals will assist with coordinating access to local facilities for the artifact analysis and documentation process if necessary.
- 7. The Respondent shall manage archaeological records on a day-to-day basis during the excavation and exhumation.
- 8. The Respondent shall provide daily logs and oral reports to the Project Principals during the excavation and exhumation process when they are not otherwise on-site.
- **9.** The Respondent shall assist the Project Principals with compiling an Executive Summary upon completion of the fieldwork.
- **10.** The Respondent shall assist the Project Principals with compiling portions of the technical report.
- **11.** The Respondent shall coordinate with the City and Project Principals at all phases of the contracted fieldwork, analyses, and write-up.

#### V. DELIVERABLES:

The products, reports, and plans to be delivered to the City will include:

- 1) An evaluation report on all findings as they relate to the excavation and exhumation process for which they took part in.
- 2) Any additional reports requested by the City or Project Principals during the course of the fieldwork.

#### VI. RESPONDENT AND PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS

To be considered, interested Respondents should submit or address the following:

- **A.** One (1) unbound original and five (5) bound copies of the proposal plus one (1) electronic copy.
- **B.** A description of the Respondent's qualifications and experience and that of key personnel assigned to this project (and that of each Respondent proposed as part of the team). It is noted that equipment, material and staff shall be provided by the Respondent.
- **C.** A description of previous projects that Respondent (and any others proposed as part of Respondent's team) has conducted for organizations of similar size and complexity. Provide contact names and telephone numbers of references from these organizations.
- **D.** Provide a project schedule, identifying beginning and ending dates of work, as well as project target dates.

**E.** To ensure that this project is completed in a timely manner, the City requires that the selected Respondent perform steps concurrently to expedite results and recommendations, as feasible.

#### F. Specific Qualifications

- 1. Experience excavating historical cemeteries
  - **a.** Preference for those with experience excavating mass graves
- **2.** Experience with *in situ* documentation of historical burials, including mapping and photography.
  - a. Preference for those who can employ innovative techniques or technology that may improve efficiency and accuracy of traditional burial recordation.
- 3. Expertise with historic artifact analysis and writeup.
  - a. Preference for those with experience analyzing early 20<sup>th</sup> century coffin hardware and other material culture common in graves.
  - **b.** Preference for those with experience using innovative techniques or technology to document historic artifacts that anticipate their potential use in public displays.
- **4.** Preference for those with demonstrated ability to work collaboratively with forensic anthropologists, academics, members of the public, and/or descendant communities.
- **5.** Preference for those with demonstrated ability in the application of bone preservative.

#### G. Budgetary Concerns

Historical documentation suggests that there are 18 unmarked graves in area of Oaklawn Cemetery. However, the feature identified in preliminary test excavations is large enough to have capacity for 30 or more individuals to be interred within the overall mass grave. Proposals should anticipate a range of possible total number of individuals that will be excavated and exhumed.

Once the services of a given consultant are secured, the City will arrange for hotel accommodations and lunch meals.

#### H. COVID-19 Considerations

It is expected that COVID-19 may still be in effect at the time of the proposed fieldwork. Two episodes of fieldwork were completed in 2020 during the height of the pandemic without any of the crew contracting the disease. We expect to implement the same protective measures in the forthcoming field season if necessary. The City will provide Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for project participants. Preference for prior COVID-19 vaccination.

I. Security and Confidentiality Considerations

- The work products (documentation, photographs, maps, reports, etc.) are owned by the City.
- The City will provide security for the site.
- The City will manage press and coordinate press briefings.
- The consultant will not engage with members of the press regarding their work on this investigation unless specifically asked to do so by the City or Project Principals.
- No personal photography of the excavations will be permitted by members of the team who are not otherwise authorized or asked to do so by Project Principals.

#### VII. **EVALUATION OF PROPOSALS:**

A panel consisting of not less than three City of Tulsa employees or Project Principals will evaluate proposals. Final selection shall be the sole determination of the City, and if a selection is made it will be to the Respondent whose proposal is determined to be in the best interests of the City. The approval of the selected Respondent will be subject to the final determination of the City and will be contingent on the successful completion of a contract between the City and the selected Respondent(s).

#### VIII TIME FRAME FOR REVIEW:

The time frame for review of proposals is expected to be three (3) to six (6) weeks, but the City reserves the right to vary the period as necessary to meet its objectives. At the discretion of the City, one or more Respondents may be invited to be interviewed for purposes of clarification or discussion of their proposals.

#### IX AWARD OF PROPOSALS:

Per Tulsa Revised Ordinances (TRO) Title 6, Chapter 4, in addition to Price, these factors may be considered in the evaluation and award of proposals:

- 1. The ability, capacity and skill of the Respondent to perform the contract or provide the service required,
- 2. Whether the Respondent can perform the contract or provide the service promptly or within the time specified, without delay or interference,
- 3. The character, integrity, reputation, judgment, experience and efficiency of the Respondent,
- 4. The quality of performance by Respondent of previous contracts or services,
- 5. The previous and existing compliance by the Respondent with laws and ordinances relating to the contract or service,
- 6. The sufficiency of the financial resources and ability of the Respondent to perform the contract or provide the service,

- 7. The quality, availability and adaptability of the Supplies, Services, and Information Technology Systems offered by Respondent to the particular use required,
- 8. The ability of the Respondent to provide future maintenance, support and service related to Respondent's offer,
- 9. Where an earlier delivery date would be of great benefit to the Using Department, the date and terms of delivery may be considered in the Proposal award,
- 10. The degree to which the Proposal submitted is complete, clear, and addresses the requirements in the Proposal specifications,
- 11. If a point system has been utilized in the Proposal specifications, the number of points earned by the Respondent.
- 12. The total cost of ownership, including the costs of supplies, materials, maintenance, and support necessary to perform the item's intended function.
- 13. If an evaluation committee performs the evaluation, the recommendation of such committee.

#### X <u>MISCELLANEOUS</u>

- A. The City expects to enter into a written Agreement (the "Agreement") with the chosen Respondent that shall incorporate this RFP and your proposal. Further, Respondent will be bound to comply with the provisions set forth in this RFP. In addition to any terms and conditions included in this RFP, the City may include in the Agreement other terms and conditions as deemed necessary. Your response to this RFP will be considered part of the Agreement, if one is awarded to you.
- **B.** All data included in this RFP, as well as any attachments, are proprietary to the City of Tulsa.
- **C.** The use of the City of Tulsa's name in any way as a potential customer is strictly prohibited except as authorized in writing by the City of Tulsa.
- D. Your proposal must clearly indicate the name of the responding organization, including the Respondent's e-mail address and web site information, if applicable, as well as the name, address, telephone number and e-mail address of the organization's primary contact for this proposal. Your proposal must include the name, address, telephone number and e-mail address of the Respondent and/or team of Respondents assigned to the City account.

- **E.** The City assumes no responsibility or liability for any costs you may incur in responding to this RFP, including attending meetings or contract negotiations.
- **F.** The City is bound to comply with Oklahoma's Open Records Act, and information submitted with your proposal, with few exceptions, is a matter of public record. For specifics on the Oklahoma Open Records Act, see the link below:

https://libraries.ok.gov/law-legislative-reference/library-laws/statutes-open-records/

The City shall not be under any obligation to return any materials submitted in response to this RFP request.

G. The City shall not infringe upon any intellectual property right of any Respondent, but specifically reserves the right to use any concept or methods contained in the proposal. Any desired restrictions on the use of information contained in the proposal should be clearly stated. Responses containing your proprietary data shall be safeguarded with the same degree of protection as the City's own proprietary data. All such proprietary data contained in your proposal must be clearly identified. The City shall not be under any obligation to return any materials submitted in response to this RFP.

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### **NON-COLLUSION AFFIDAVIT**

(Required by Oklahoma law, 74 O.S. §85.22-85.25)

STATE OF			
COUNTY OF_		)ss. )	
I,sworn, state tha		, of lawful age, being first duly	
1.	the exist employ governi	e authorized agent of Seller herein for the purposes of certifying facts pertaining to stence of collusion between and among Respondents and municipal officials or rees, as well as facts pertaining to the giving or offering of things of value to ment personnel in return for special consideration in the letting of any contract nt to the proposal to which this statement is attached.	
2.	to whicl	lly aware of the facts and circumstances surrounding the making of Seller's Proposal th this statement is attached, and I have been personally and directly involved in the dings leading to the submission of such proposal; and	
3.	Neither a. b.	to any collusion among Respondents in restraint of freedom of competition by agreement to respond at a fixed price or to refrain from responding, to any collusion with any municipal official or employee as to quantity, quality, or price in the prospective contract, or as to any other terms of such prospective contract, nor in any discussions between Respondents and any municipal official concerning exchange of money or other thing of value for special consideration in the letting of a contract.	
		By:Signature	
		Signature Title:	
Subscribed and	sworn to	before me thisday of, 20	
Notary Public			
My Commission	Expires:		
Notary Commiss	sion Numl	ber:	

The Affidavit must be signed by an authorized agent and notarized

## **INTEREST AFFIDAVIT**

STATE OF	
	)ss.
COUNTY OF	
am the agent authorized by Seller to officer or employee of the City of Tulsa or more in the Respondent's business Affiant further states that the following	, of lawful age, being first duly sworn, state that I submit the attached Proposal. Affiant further states that no a either directly or indirectly owns a five percent (5%) interest s or such a percentage that constitutes a controlling interest. officers and/or employees of the City of Tulsa own an interest is less than a controlling interest, either direct or indirect.
	Por.
	By: Signature
	Title:
Subscribed and sworn to before me th	nisday of, 20
Notary Public	
My Commission Expires:	
Notary Commission Number: _	
County & State Where Notarize	od:

The Affidavit must be signed by an authorized agent and notarized

### **AFFIDAVIT OF CLAIMANT**

STATE OF	
)ss.	
COUNTY OF)	
The undersigned, of lawful age, being first duly sworr correct. Affiant further states that the work, services in accordance with the contract, plans, specification Affiant further states that (s)he has made no payment thing of value to any elected official, officer or employ which the City is a beneficiary to obtain or procure the	s or materials will be completed or supplied s, orders or requests furnished the affiant. directly or indirectly of money or any other yee of the City of Tulsa or any public trust of
Ву: _	Signature
Nam	e:
Com	pany:
Title:	
Subscribed and sworn to before me this day of	, 20
Notary Public	
My Commission Expires:	
Notary Commission Number:	

The Affidavit must be signed by an authorized agent and notarized

### **RESPONDENT INFORMATION SHEET**

Respondent's Legal Name:(Must be Respondent's company name exactly as reflected on its organizational documents, filed with the state in which Respondent is organized; not simply a DBA.)						
State of Organization:						
Respondent's Type of Legal Entity: (check one)  ( ) Sole Proprietorship ( ) Partnership ( ) Corporation ( ) Limited Partnership  Address:	( ) Limited Liability Company ( ) Limited Liability Partnership ( ) Other:					
Street	City State Zip					
Website Address:Email	Address:					
Sales Contact: Name:	Legal or Alternate Sales Contact: Name:					
Street:	Street:					
City:	City:					
State:	State:					
Phone:	Phone:					
Fax:	Fax:					
Email:	Email:					

# ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF RECEIPT OF ADDENDA/AMENDMENTS

I hereby acknowledge receipt of the following addenda or amendments and understand that such addenda or amendments are incorporated into the Bid Packet and will become a part of any resulting contract.

List Date and Title/Number of all addenda or amendments: (Write "None" if applicable).				
	Sign Here ▶			
	Printed Name:			
	Title:			
	Date:			

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## Exhibit A Price Sheet Summary

Our Archeologists estimate there could be remains of as many as 30 individuals contained within this mass grave site. Due to the uncertainty of the final body count, we are asking that the Respondent provide a fee per coffin / body that is excavated and exhumed during the course of this project, for all labor and services performed or provided.

Your proposal must include a cost not to exceed amount which encompasses all areas of work described in the Scope of Work and each item listed under Deliverables.

Cost Per Coffin / Body	\$	
Company Name:	Date:	
Signature:		
Name Printed:		
Title:		

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#### **City of Tulsa General Contract Terms**

It is anticipated that the City of Tulsa will enter into an Agreement with the selected Respondent for an initial term ending one (1) year from the date of its execution by the City's Mayor, with four (4) one-year renewals available at the option of the City. Contracts entered into by the City of Tulsa generally include, but are not limited to, the following terms:

- 1. Renewals. Contractor understands and acknowledges that any future contracts or renewals are neither automatic nor implied by this Agreement. The continuing purchase by City of the Services set forth in this Agreement is subject to City's needs and to City's annual appropriation of sufficient funds in City's fiscal year (July 1<sup>st</sup> to June 30<sup>th</sup>) in which such Services are purchased. In the event City does not appropriate or budget sufficient funds to perform this Agreement, this Agreement shall be null and void without further action by City.
- 2. No Indemnification or Arbitration by City. Contractor understands and acknowledges that City is a municipal corporation that is funded by its taxpayers to operate for the benefit of its citizens. Accordingly, and pursuant to Oklahoma law, City shall not indemnify nor hold Contractor harmless for loss, damage, expense or liability arising from or related to this Agreement, including any attorneys' fees and costs. In addition, Contractor shall not limit its liability to City for actual loss or direct damages for any claim based on a breach of this Agreement and the documents incorporated herein. City reserves the right to pursue all legal and equitable remedies to which it may be entitled. City will not agree to binding arbitration of any disputes.
- 3. Intellectual Property Indemnification by Contractor. Contractor agrees to indemnify, defend, and save harmless City and its officers, employees and agents from all suits and actions of every nature brought against them due to the use of patented, trademarked or copyright-protected appliances, products, materials or processes provided by Contractor hereunder. Contractor shall pay all royalties and charges incident to such patents, trademarks or copyrights.
- 4. General Liability and Indemnification. Contractor shall hold City harmless from any loss, damage or claims arising from or related to the performance of the Agreement herein. Contractor must exercise all reasonable and customary precaution to prevent any harm or loss to all persons and property related to this Agreement. Contractor agrees to indemnify and hold the City harmless from all claims, demands, causes of action or suits of whatever nature arising out of the services, labor, and material furnished by Contractor or Contractor's subcontractors under the scope of this Agreement.
- 5. **No Confidentiality.** Contractor understands and acknowledges that City is subject to the Oklahoma Open Records Act (51 O.S. §24A.1 *et seq.*) and therefore cannot assure the confidentiality of contract terms or other information provided by Contractor pursuant to this Agreement that would be inconsistent with City's compliance with its statutory requirements there under.
- 6. Compliance with Laws. Contractor shall be responsible for complying with all applicable federal, state and local laws. Contractor is responsible for any costs of such compliance. Contractor shall take the necessary actions to ensure its operations in performance of this contract and employment practices are in compliance with the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act. Contractor certifies that it and all of its subcontractors to be used in the performance of this agreement are in compliance with 25 O.S. Sec. 1313 and participate in the Status Verification System. The Status Verification System is defined in 25 O.S. Sec.

1313 and includes, but is not limited to, the free Employee Verification Program (E-Verify) available at www.dhs.gov/E-Verify.

- 7. Right to Audit. The parties agree that books, records, documents, accounting procedures, practices, price lists or any other items related to the Services provided hereunder are subject to inspection, examination, and copying by City or its designees. Contractor shall retain all records related to this Agreement for the duration of the contract term and a period of three years following completion and/or termination of the contract. If an audit, litigation or other action involving such records begins before the end of the three year period, the records shall be maintained for three years from the date that all issues arising out of the action are resolved or until the end of the three year retention period, whichever is later.
- 8. **Governing Law and Venue.** This Agreement is executed in and shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Oklahoma without regard to its choice of law principles, which shall be the forum for any lawsuits arising under this Agreement or incident thereto. The parties stipulate that venue is proper in a court of competent jurisdiction in Tulsa County, Oklahoma and each party waives any objection to such venue.
- 9. **No Waiver.** A waiver of any breach of any provision of this Agreement shall not constitute or operate as a waiver of any other provision, nor shall any failure to enforce any provision hereof operate as a waiver of the enforcement of such provision or any other provision.
- 10. Entire Agreement/No Assignment. This Agreement and any documents incorporated herein constitute the entire agreement of the parties and supersede any and all prior agreements, oral or otherwise, relating to the subject matter of this Agreement. This Agreement may only be modified or amended in writing and signed by both parties. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, the City does not agree to the terms of any future agreements, revisions or modifications that may be required under this Agreement unless such terms, revisions or modifications have been reduced to writing and signed by both parties. Contractor may not assign this Agreement or use subcontractors to provide the Goods and/or Services without City's prior written consent. Contractor shall not be entitled to any claim for extras of any kind or nature.
- 11. **Equal Employment Opportunity.** Contractor shall comply with all applicable laws regarding equal employment opportunity and nondiscrimination.

The undersigned Respondent agrees to the inclusion of the above provisions, among others, in any contract with the City of Tulsa.

Company Name:	Date:
Signature:	
Name Printed:	
Title:	