

BOARD OF CONTRACT AND SUPPLY
CITY OF PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Item Description: RE-BID - TEMPORARY OR PERMANENT ACQUISITION OF THE CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS STATUE FORMERLY LOCATED AT COLUMBUS SQUARE

Date to be opened: JANUARY 30, 2023

Issuing Department: PARKS DEPARTMENT

QUESTIONS

- Please direct questions relative to the bidding process, how to fill out forms, and how to submit a bid (Pages 1-8) to Purchasing Agent Liza Perez.
 - Phone: (401) 680-5264
 - Email: Operez@providenceri.gov
 - Please use the subject line “**RFP Question**”
- Please direct questions relative to the Minority and Women’s Business Enterprise Program and the corresponding forms (Pages 9-13) to the MBE/WBE Outreach Director for the City of Providence, Grace Diaz
 - Phone: (401) 680-5766
 - Email: gdiaz@providenceri.gov
 - Please use subject line “**MBE WBE Forms**”
- Please direct questions relative to the specifications outlined (beginning on page 14) to the issuing department’s subject matter expert:
 - Wendy Nilsson – Parks Superintendent
 - Wnilsson@providenceri.gov

Pre-bid Conference

None



**BOARD OF CONTRACT AND SUPPLY
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INSTRUCTIONS FOR SUBMISSION

Bids may be submitted up to **2:15 P.M.** on the above meeting date at the **Department of the City Clerk, Room 311, City Hall, 25 Dorrance Street, Providence.** At 2:15 P.M. all bids will be publicly opened and read at the Board of Contract Meeting in the City Council Chambers, on the 3rd floor of City Hall.

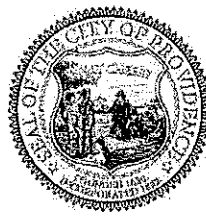
- Bidders must submit **2 copies** of their bid in sealed envelopes or packages labeled with the captioned **Item Description** and the **City Department to which the RFP and bid are related and must include the company name and address on the envelope as well.** (On page 1).
- If required by the Department, please keep the original bid bond and check in only one of the envelopes.
- Communications to the Board of Contract and Supply that are not competitive sealed bids (i.e. product information/samples) should have **“NOT A BID”** written on the envelope or wrapper.
- Only use form versions and templates included in this RFP. If you have an old version of a form do not recycle it for use in this bid.
- The bid envelope and information relative to the bid must be addressed to:

**Board of Contract and Supply
Department of the City Clerk – City Hall, Room 311
25 Dorrance Street
Providence, RI 02903**

****PLEASE NOTE:** This bid may include details regarding information that you will need to provide (such as proof of licenses) to the issuing department before the formalization of an award.

This information is NOT requested to be provided in your initial bid by design.

All bids submitted to the City Clerk become public record. Failure to follow instructions could result in information considered private being posted to the city’s Open Meetings Portal and made available as a public record. The City has made a conscious effort to avoid the posting of sensitive information on the City’s Open Meetings Portal, by requesting that such sensitive information be submitted to the issuing department only at their request.



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BID PACKAGE CHECKLIST

Digital forms are available in the City of Providence Purchasing Department Office or online at <http://www.providenceri.gov/purchasing/how-to-submit-a-bid/>

The bid package **MUST** include the following, in this order:

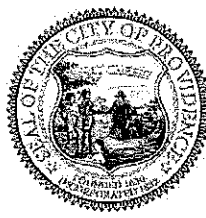
- Bid Form 1: Bidder's Blank as the cover page/ 1st page (*see page 6 of this document*)
- Bid Form 2: Certification of Bidder as 2nd page (*see page 7 of this document*)
- Bid Form 3: Certificate Regarding Public Records (*see page 8 of this document*)
- Forms from the Minority and Women Business Enterprise Program: Based on Bidder Category. *See forms and instructions enclosed (pages 9-13) or on: <https://www.providenceri.gov/purchasing/minority-women-owned-business-mbewbe-procurement-program/>*

***Please note: MBE/WBE forms must be completed for EVERY bid submitted and must be inclusive of ALL required signatures. Forms without all required signatures will be considered incomplete.**

- Bidder's Proposal/Packet: Formal response to the specifications outlined in this RFP, including pricing information and details related to the good(s) or service(s) being provided. Please be mindful of formatting responses as requested to ensure clarity.
- Financial Assurance, *if requested* (as indicated on page 5 of this document under "Bid Terms")

All of the above listed documents are REQUIRED. (With the exception of financial assurances, which are only required if specified on page 5.)

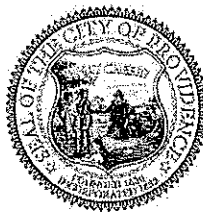
******Failure to meet specified deadlines, follow specific submission instructions, or enclose all required documents with all applicable signatures will result in disqualification, or in an inability to appropriately evaluate bids.***



**BOARD OF CONTRACT AND SUPPLY
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NOTICE TO VENDORS

1. The Board of Contract and Supply will make the award to the lowest qualified and responsible bidder.
2. In determining the lowest responsible bidder, cash discounts based on preferable payment terms will not be considered.
3. Where prices are the same, the Board of Contract and Supply reserves the right to award to one bidder, or to split the award.
4. No proposal will be accepted if the bid is made in collusion with any other bidder.
5. Bids may be submitted on an "equal in quality" basis. The City reserves the right to decide equality. Bidders must indicate brand or the make being offered and submit detailed specifications if other than brand requested.
6. A bidder who is an out-of-state corporation shall qualify or register to transact business in this State, in accordance with the Rhode Island Business Corporation Act, RIGL Sec. 7-1.2-1401, et seq.
7. The Board of Contract and Supply reserves the right to reject any and all bids.
8. Competing bids may be viewed in person at the Department of the City Clerk, City Hall, Providence, immediately upon the conclusion of the formal Board of Contract and Supply meeting during which the bids were unsealed/opened. Bids may also be accessed electronically on the internet via the City's Open Meetings Portal.
9. As the City of Providence is exempt from the payment of Federal Excise Taxes and Rhode Island Sales Tax, prices quoted are not to include these taxes.
10. In case of error in the extension of prices quoted, the unit price will govern.
11. The contractor will **NOT** be permitted to: a) assign or underlet the contract, or b) assign either legally or equitably any monies or any claim thereto without the previous written consent of the City Purchasing Director.
12. Delivery dates must be shown in the bid. If no delivery date is specified, it will be assumed that an immediate delivery from stock will be made.
13. A certificate of insurance will normally be required of a successful vendor.
14. For many contracts involving construction, alteration and/or repair work, State law provisions concerning payment of prevailing wage rates apply (RIGL Sec. 37-13-1 et seq.)
15. No goods should be delivered, or work started without a Purchase Order.
16. **Submit 2 copies of the bid to the City Clerk, unless the specification section of this document indicates otherwise.**
17. Bidder must certify that it does not unlawfully discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation and/or religion in its business and hiring practices and that all of its employees are lawfully employed under all applicable federal, state and local laws, rules and regulations. (See Bid Form 2.)



**BOARD OF CONTRACT AND SUPPLY
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BID TERMS

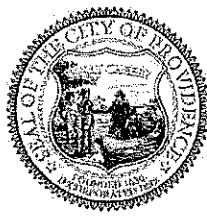
1. Financial assurances may be required in order to be a successful bidder for Commodity or Construction and Service contracts. If either of the first two checkboxes below is checked, the specified assurance must accompany a bid, or the bid will not be considered by the Board of Contract and Supply. The third checkbox indicates the lowest responsible bidder will be contacted and required to post a bond to be awarded the contract.
 - a) A certified check for \$_____ must be deposited with the City Clerk as a guarantee that the Contract will be signed and delivered by the bidder.
 - b) A bid bond in the amount of _____ per centum (%) of the proposed total price, must be deposited with the City Clerk as a guarantee that the contract will be signed and delivered by the bidder; and the amount of such bid bond shall be retained for the use of the City as liquidated damages in case of default.
 - c) A performance and payment bond with a satisfactory surety company will be posted by the bidder in a sum equal to one hundred per centum (100%) of the awarded contract.
 - d) No financial assurance is necessary for this item.
2. Awards will be made within **sixty (60) days of bid opening**. All bid prices will be considered firm, unless qualified otherwise. Requests for price increases will not be honored.
3. Failure to deliver within the time quoted or failure to meet specifications may result in default in accordance with the general specifications. It is agreed that deliveries and/or completion are subject to strikes, lockouts, accidents and Acts of God.

The following entry applies only for COMMODITY BID TERMS:

4. Payment for partial delivery will not be allowed except when provided for in blanket or term contracts.

The following entries apply only for CONSTRUCTION AND SERVICE BID TERMS:

5. Only one shipping charge will be applied in the event of partial deliveries for blanket or term contracts.
6. Prior to commencing performance under the contract, the successful bidder shall attest to compliance with the provisions of the Rhode Island Worker's Compensation Act, RIGL 28-29-1, et seq. If exempt from compliance, the successful bidder shall submit a sworn Affidavit by a corporate officer to that effect, which shall accompany the signed contract.
7. Prior to commencing performance under the contract, the successful bidder shall, submit a certificate of insurance, in a form and in an amount satisfactory to the City.



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BID FORM 1: Bidders Blank

1. Bids must meet the attached specifications. Any exceptions or modifications must be noted and fully explained.
2. Bidder's responses must be in ink or typewritten, and all blanks on the bid form should be completed.
3. The price or prices proposed should be stated both in **WRITING** and in **FIGURES**, and any proposal not so stated may be rejected. **Contracts exceeding twelve months must specify annual costs for each year.**
4. Bids **SHOULD BE TOTALED** so that the final cost is clearly stated (unless submitting a unit price bid), however **each item should be priced individually**. Do not group items. Awards may be made on the basis of *total* bid or by *individual items*.
5. All bids **MUST BE SIGNED IN INK.**

Name of Bidder (Firm or Individual): _____

Contact Name: _____

Business Address: _____

Business Phone #: _____

Contact Email Address: _____

Agrees to bid on (Write the "Item Description" here): _____

If the bidder's company is based in a state *other than Rhode Island*, list name and contact information for a local agent for service of process that *is located within Rhode Island* _____

Delivery Date (if applicable): _____

Name of Surety Company (if applicable): _____

Total Amount in Writing*: _____

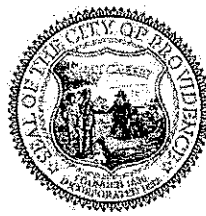
Total Amount in Figures*: _____

** If you are submitting a unit price bid, please insert "Unit Price Bid"*

Use additional pages if necessary for additional bidding details.

Signature of Representation

Title



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BID FORM 2: Certification of Bidder
(Non-Discrimination/Hiring)

Upon behalf of _____ (Firm or Individual Bidding),

I, _____ (Name of Person Making Certification),

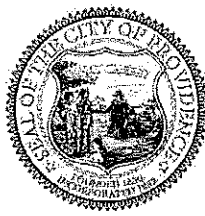
being its _____ (Title or "Self"), hereby certify that:

1. Bidder does not unlawfully discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, sexual orientation and/or religion in its business and hiring practices.
2. All of Bidder's employees have been hired in compliance with all applicable federal, state and local laws, rules and regulations.

I affirm by signing below that I am duly authorized on behalf of Bidder, on
this _____ day of _____ 20____.

Signature of Representation

Printed Name



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BID FORM 3: Certificate Regarding Public Records

Upon behalf of _____ (Firm or Individual Bidding),

I, _____ (Name of Person Making Certification),

being its _____ (Title or "Self"), hereby certify an

understanding that:

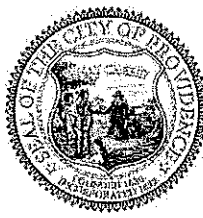
1. All bids submitted in response to Requests for Proposals (RFP's) and Requests for Qualification (RFQ's), documents contained within, and the details outlined on those documents become public record upon receipt by the City Clerk's office and opening at the corresponding Board of Contract and Supply (BOCS) meeting.
2. The Purchasing Department and the issuing department for this RFP/RFQ have made a conscious effort to request that sensitive/personal information be submitted directly to the issuing department and only at request if verification of specific details is critical the evaluation of a vendor's bid.
3. The requested supplemental information may be crucial to evaluating bids. Failure to provide such details may result in disqualification, or an inability to appropriately evaluate bids.
4. If sensitive information that has not been requested is enclosed or if a bidder opts to enclose the defined supplemental information prior to the issuing department's request in the bidding packet submitted to the City Clerk, the City of Providence has no obligation to redact those details and bears no liability associated with the information becoming public record.
5. The City of Providence observes a public and transparent bidding process. Information required in the bidding packet may not be submitted directly to the issuing department at the discretion of the bidder in order to protect other information, such as pricing terms, from becoming public. Bidders who make such an attempt will be disqualified.

I affirm by signing below that I am duly authorized on behalf of Bidder, on

this _____ day of _____ 20_____.

Signature of Representation

Printed Name



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WBE/MBE Form Instructions

The City of Providence actively seeks Minority and Women business enterprises to participate in bids to meet the City's procurement needs. Pursuant to the City of Providence Code of Ordinances, Chapter 21, Article II, Sec. 21-52 (Minority and Women's Business Enterprise) and Rhode Island General Laws (as amended), Chapter 31-14, et seq. (Minority Business Enterprise), Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) and Women's Business Enterprise (WBE) participation goals apply to contracts.

The goal for Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) participation is **10%** of the total bid value.
The goal for Women's Business Enterprise (WBE) participation is **10%** of the total bid value.
The goal for combined MBE/WBE participation is **20%** of the total bid value.

Only businesses certified with the State of Rhode Island as minority and/or women business enterprises are counted towards the City's goals. Eligible minority or women-owned businesses are encouraged to seek certification from the State of Rhode Island Minority Business Enterprise Compliance Office at: <http://odeo.ri.gov/offices/mbeco/>

Note: MBE certification with the State of Rhode Island on the basis of Portuguese heritage is not currently recognized by the City of Providence's MBE program.

Bid Requirements:

All Bidders: All bidders must complete and submit the *MBE/WBE Participation Affidavit* indicating whether or not they are a state-certified MBE/WBE and acknowledging the City's participation goals. Submission of this form is **required with every bid**. **Your bid will not be accepted without an affidavit.**

Bidders who will be subcontracting: In addition to the *MBE/WBE Participation Affidavit*, Bidders who will be subcontracting must submit the *Subcontractor Disclosure Form* as part of their bid submission. All subcontractors, regardless of MBE/WBE status, must be listed on this form. Business NAICS codes can be found at <https://www.naics.com/search/>. Awarded bidders are required to submit

Subcontractor Utilization and Payment Reports with each invoice.

Waiver Requests:

- a) If the percentage of the total amount of the bid being awarded to MBE or WBE vendors is less than 20% (Box F on the Subcontractor Disclosure Form) and the prime contractor is not a Rhode Island State-certified MBE or WBE, the Bidder must complete the *MBE/WBE Waiver Request Form* for review.
- b) If the prime contractor company has the capacity to perform the whole project, the City of Providence requires the contractor to meet the city's goal of a combined 20% of MBE and WBE participation.
- c) If the contractor is a nonprofit organization, the City of Providence requires the nonprofit organization to provide the *MBE/WBE Participation Affidavit Form* and proof of its nonprofit status.
- d) If the contractor has researched the RI Certified minority list (<http://odeo.ri.gov/offices/mbeco/mbe-wbe.php>) and the state does not have any companies in the desired trade, the City of Providence requires the contractor to provide the *MBE/WBE Participation Affidavit Form*.



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- e) Waivers will be considered for approval on a case-by-case basis.

Verifying MBE/WBE Certification

It is the responsibility of the bidder to confirm that every MBE or WBE named in a proposal and included on a contract is certified by the Rhode Island Minority Business Enterprise Compliance Office. The current MBE/WBE directory is available at the State of RI MBE Office, One Capitol Hill, 2nd Floor, Providence, RI, or online at <http://odeo.ri.gov/offices/mbeco/mbe-wbe.php>. You can also call (401) 574-8670 to verify certification, expiration dates, and services that the MBE/WBE is certified to provide. Note: MBE certification with the State of Rhode Island on the basis of Portuguese heritage is not currently recognized by the City of Providence's MBE program.

Form Instructions:

Access all bid forms from <http://www.providenceri.gov/oeo/> or <http://www.providenceri.gov/purchasing/minority-women-owned-business-mbewbe-procurement-program/>. Download the forms as blank PDFs. Once saved on your computer, fill them out using the Adobe program. The fillable PDFs must be completed in Adobe in order to be saved properly. Google Chrome and similar platforms do not allow for the forms to be saved as filled PDFs. Therefore, please download the blank forms to your computer, then fill them out and save.

Assistance with Form Requirements

Examples of completed forms can be found on the City of Providence website at <http://www.providenceri.gov/oeo/> or <http://www.providenceri.gov/purchasing/minority-women-owned-business-mbewbe-procurement-program/>.

Contract Requirements:

Prime contractors engaging subcontractors must submit the *Subcontractor Utilization and Payment Report* to the City Department's Fiscal Agent with every invoice and request for final payment. A copy of all forms should be sent to the MBE/WBE Outreach Director Office, Grace Diaz at gdiaz@providenceri.gov. This form is not submitted as a part of the initial bid package. For contracts with durations of less than 3 months, this form must be submitted along with the contractor's request for final payment. The form must include all subcontractors utilized on the contract, both MBE/WBE and non- MBE/WBE, the total amount paid to each subcontractor for the given period and to date, A copy of all forms should be sent to the MBE/WBE Outreach Director Office, Grace Diaz at gdiaz@providenceri.gov. During the term of the contract, any unjustified failure to comply with the MBE/WBE participation requirements is a material breach of contract.

Questions?

For more information or for assistance with MBE/WBE Forms, contact the City of Providence MBE/WBE Outreach Director, Grace Diaz, at gdiaz@providenceri.gov or (401) 680-5766.



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MBE/WBE PARTICIPATION AFFIDAVIT

Project /Item Description (as seen on RFP):

Prime Bidder: _____ Contact Email and Phone _____

Company Name, Address and Trade: _____

Which one of the following describes your business' status in terms of Minority and/or Woman-Owned Business Enterprise certification with the State of Rhode Island? _____ MBE _____ WBE _____ Neither MBE nor WBE

By initialing the following sections and signing the bottom of this document in my capacity as the contractor or an authorized representative of contractor, I make this Affidavit:

It is the policy of the City of Providence that minority business enterprises (MBEs) and women business enterprises (WBEs) should have the maximum opportunity to participate in procurements and projects as prime contractors and vendors. Pursuant to Sec. 21-52 of the Providence Code of Ordinances and Chapter 31-14 *et seq.* of the Rhode Island General Laws (as amended), MBE and WBE participation goals apply to contracts.

The goal for Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) participation is 10% of the total bid value.
The goal for Women's Business Enterprise (WBE) participation is 10% of the total bid value.
The goal for combined MBE/WBE participation is 20% of the total bid value.

I acknowledge the City of Providence's goals of supporting MBE/WBE certified businesses. Initial _____

If awarded the contract, I understand that my company must submit to the Minority and Women's Business Coordinator at the City of Providence (MBE/WBE Office), copies of all executed agreements with the subcontractor(s) being utilized to achieve the participation goals and other requirements of the RI General Laws. **I understand that these documents must be submitted prior to the issuance of a notice to proceed.** Initial _____

I understand that, if awarded the contract, my firm must submit to the MBE/WBE Office canceled checks and reports required by the MBE/WBE Office on a quarterly basis verifying payments to the subcontractors(s) utilized on the contract. Initial _____

If I am awarded this contract and find that I am unable to utilize the subcontractor(s) identified in my Statement of Intent, I understand that I must substitute another certified MBE and WBE firm(s) to meet the participation goals. **I understand that I may not make a substitution until I have obtained the written approval of the MBE/WBE Office.** Initial _____

If awarded this contract, I understand that authorized representatives of the City of Providence may examine the books, records and files of my firm from time to time, to the extent that such material is relevant to a determination of whether my firm is complying with the City's MBE/WBE participation requirements. Initial _____

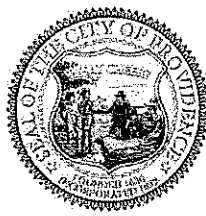
I do solemnly declare and affirm under the penalty of perjury that the contents of the foregoing Affidavit are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief.

Signature of Bidder

Printed Name

Company Name

Date



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SUBCONTRACTOR DISCLOSURE FORM

Fill out this form only if you **WILL SUBCONTRACT** with other parties. If you will not subcontract any portion of the proposed bid, do not fill out this form.

Prime Bidder: _____ Primary NAICS _____

Code: _____

Item Description (as seen on RFP): _____

Please list all Subcontractors below. Include the total dollar value that you propose to share with each subcontractor and the dollar amount to be subcontracted. Please check off MBE and WBE where applicable. The directory of all state-certified MBE/WBE firms is located at www.mbe.ri.gov. Business NAICS codes can be found at <https://www.naics.com/search/>

Proposed Subcontractor	MBE	WBE	Primary NAICS Code	Date of Mobilization	\$ Value of Subcontract
					\$
					\$
					\$
					\$
					\$
					\$
A. MBE SUBCONTRACTED AMOUNT:					\$
B. WBE SUBCONTRACTED AMOUNT:					\$
C. NON-MBE WBE SUBCONTRACTED AMOUNT:					\$
D. DOLLAR AMOUNT OF WORK DONE BY THE PRIME CONTRACTOR:					\$
E. TOTAL AMOUNT OF BID (SUM OF A, B, C, & D):					\$
F. PERCENTAGE OF BID SUBCONTRACTED TO MBEs AND WBEs. (Divide the sum of A and B by E and multiply result by 100).					%

Please read and initial the following statement acknowledging you understand. If the percentage of the total amount of the bid being awarded to MBE or WBE vendors is less than 20% (Box (F) and the prime contractor is NOT a Rhode Island State-certified MBE or WBE, you must fill out the **MBE/WBE WAIVER REQUEST FORM** for consideration by City of Providence MBE/WBE Outreach Director. Initial _____ Required

Signature of Bidder _____

Printed Name _____



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MBE/WBE Waiver Request Form

Fill out this form only if you did not meet the 20% MBE/WBE participation goal.
State-certified MBE or WBE Prime Bidders are **NOT REQUIRED** to fill out this form.

Submit this form to the City of Providence MBE/WBE Outreach Director, Grace Diaz, at mbe-wbe@providenceri.gov, for review prior to bid submission. This waiver applies only to the current bid which you are submitting to the City of Providence and does not apply to other bids your company may submit in the future. **In case a waiver is need it City Department Directors should not recommend a bidder for award if this form is not included, absent or is not signed by the city of Providence MBE/WBE director.**

Prime Bidder: _____ Contact Email and Phone _____
Company Name, Address: _____ Trade _____
Project /Item Description (as seen on RFP): _____

To receive a waiver, you must list the certified MBE and/or WBE companies you contacted, the name of the primary individual with whom you interacted, and the reason the MBE/WBE company could not participate on this project.

MBE/WBE Company Name	Individual's Name	Company Name	Why did you choose not to work with this company?

I acknowledge the City of Providence's goal of a combined MBE/WBE participation is 20% of the total bid value. I am requesting a waiver of _____ % MBE/WBE (20% minus the value of **Box F** on the Subcontractor Disclosure Form). If an opportunity is identified to subcontract any task associated with the fulfillment of this contract, a good faith effort will be made to select MBE/WBE certified businesses as partners.

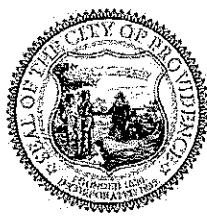
Signature of Prime Contractor / or Duly Authorized Representative
Date Signed

Printed Name

Signature of City of Providence (or Designee (Only)
MBE/WBE Outreach Director

Printed Name of City of Providence
MBE/WBE Outreach Director

Date Signed



BOARD OF CONTRACT AND SUPPLY
CITY OF PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

BID PACKAGE SPECIFICATIONS

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

Request for Proposals for the Temporary or Permanent Acquisition of the Christopher Columbus Statue Formerly Located in Columbus Square in Providence.

After removal of the Christopher Columbus Statue in 2020, the Special Committee for the Review of Commemorative Works, convened by the Department of Art, Culture + Tourism recommended to the Board of Park Commissioners (BOPC) that the statue be permanently removed and sold, with the caveat that any proceeds be reinvested in Columbus Square or other parks located in the Elmwood neighborhood. At the BOPC meeting held in the fall of 2021, the park commissioners learned details of the committee's process and recommendations. They also heard testimony from people representing various entities interested in obtaining or repurposing the statue but did not reach a decision on the recommendation of the committee. The matter was tabled for future discussion. At the July 20, 2022 BOPC meeting, the board discussed the option to solicit ideas for the disposition of the statue via a Request for Proposals (RFP) to sell, transfer ownership of the statue, or enter into a long-term lease agreement. This offer is extended to any museum, historical society, educational organization, or other entities or individuals interested in acquiring the statue for relocation and placement.

The submissions must meet the **Special Condition** outlined in this RFP and detail where the organization or individual proposes to display the statue and what historical or other information will be included with the display.

The BOPC will review and consider all submissions and may invite applicants to interview before the Board in a meeting that will be open to the public. The Board of Park Commissioners will review all proposals and select one that is in the best interest of the City of Providence Parks Department and the communities it serves.

Submissions are accepted through September 26, 2022 at 2:00 PM.

Brief overview of Christopher Columbus Statue:

Columbus is a historic statue previously located in Columbus Square in the Elmwood neighborhood of Providence. It was removed by the Providence Parks Department and stored in 2020. *Columbus* is a bronze cast of a sterling silver statue which was created by Rhode Island's Gorham Manufacturing Company for the 1892 Columbian Exposition in Chicago. The original silver statue was not meant for permanent exhibition, but rather as a demonstration of the skills of the Gorham Company, and was later melted down. The bronze cast was dedicated November 8, 1893 as a gift from the Elmwood Association to the City of Providence. The statue was created in 1893 by Frédéric Auguste Bartholdi and added to the National Register of Historic Places in 2001. In the fall of 2021, the Special Committee for the Review of Commemorative Works, convened by the Department of Art, Culture + Tourism, recommended to the Board of Park Commissioners that the statue be permanently removed and sold, with the caveat that any proceeds be reinvested in Columbus Square or other parks located in Elmwood.

Attached please find the Background on Christopher Columbus statue and recommendation of Special Committee.



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The Board of Park Commissioners (BOPC) will consider proposals that provide for temporary acquisition, transfer of ownership, or sale.

Special Condition

The statue must be well preserved, protected, and not be damaged, altered, manipulated, or melted down in any way.

Proposal

Describe your organization's history and mission.

Tell us why this statue is important to you and your organization and why you would like to acquire, lease or purchase it.

Provide goals, plans, location and timeline for the statue. Include any partner organizations/entities and how they are involved in the statue project.

Please state whether the statue would be on display to the public while under your care, and if so, on what schedule and for what fee, if any.

Describe how you will address the Special Condition listed above. Will you provide insurance for the statue? If so, please describe the type of insurance and the policy limit(s).

if displaying the statue, please provide a draft narrative of any interpretive or other signage you would include.

Provide the amount you would offer for sale. If for lease, please indicate the preferred terms of the lease, including payment. If you would like to transfer ownership, please provide a rationale.

Provide deaccession plan (if appropriate).

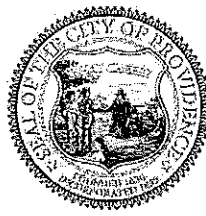
Provide plan for transporting the statue and indicate if you are able to cover any associated costs.

Please share anything else you would like us to know about your organization or plans for the statue.

Budget

The funding from the lease or sale of the Columbus statue will be reinvested in Elmwood Parks.

Please describe total payment and schedule for payment for lease or purchase.



**BOARD OF CONTRACT AND SUPPLY
CITY OF PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND**

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

If the issuing department for this RFP determines that your firm's bid is best suited to accommodate their need, you will be asked to provide proof of the following prior to formalizing an award.

An inability to provide the outlined items at the request of the department may lead to the disqualification of your bid.

*This information is **NOT** requested to be provided in your initial bid that you will submit to the City Clerk's office by the "date to be opened" noted on page 1. This list only serves as a list of items that your firm should be ready to provide on request.*

All bids submitted to the City Clerk become public record. Failure to follow instructions could result in information considered private being posted to the city's Open Meetings Portal and made available as a public record.



Special Committee for Commemorative Works

Regular Meeting

~ Meeting Minutes ~

Thursday, October 7, 2021

12:00 PM

Hybrid In-Person and Virtual Meeting

*This meeting was live streamed and the recording is available on our
YouTube Channel: <https://youtu.be/A06JszUT7Rw>*

PRESENT: April H. Brown; Ray Rickman; Dr. Erik B. Christiansen and
Rebecca Davis – 4.

ABSENT: Marco McWilliams – 1.

Also present are Stephanie Fortunato, Director, Arts, Culture and Tourism;
Caleb Horton, Archivist, City Archives; Micah Salkind, Special Projects Manager,
Arts, Culture and Tourism; and Jason Martin, Principal Planner, Department of
Planning .

(The **Archivist and Director of Art, Culture and Tourism** are ex-officio and
non-voting members but are part of the commission and are to provide support for
the commission.)

1. **Call to Order**

Chairman Ray Rickman welcomes the members of the board at 12:11 p.m.

2. **Item 1 - Request for Modification: LaFazia Square Memorial Marker**

Councilman David Salvatore notes that the item is listed second on the
agenda. The Councilman says that in 2013 the City re-paved Admiral St. and the
monument for first class private Carlo LaFazia went missing. He says that the City
re-dedicated and re-installed the monument in 2017, but that it was vandalized.
The petitioners, supported by the Councilman, are requesting that the monument
be moved across the street. Salvatore also notes that the monument serves not only
to recognize LaFazia, but other servicemen who never made it back from WWI.
He then invites Tom and Jerry O'Connor to share their uncle's story.

Stephanie Fortunato shows photographs of Carlo LaFazia brought by the
O'Connor brothers with the Committee members.

Jerry O'Connor says that his uncle's remains were never recovered. He notes that the City dedicated LaFazia to his memory in 1933. LaFazia was honored in the Argonne cemetery in France in well. O'Connor notes that he came in 2012 to look at the Square, where the memorial had been reconstructed. He contacted Councilman Salvatore to re-dedicate the square in 2017, but that the memorial was in a turn section. O'Connor saw one day this past year that the stone had been knocked over and broken. He calls the stone Carlo LaFazia's spiritual burial as there was no body recovered to bury him. O'Connor requests that one of the pictures he brought to the meeting be added to a new, larger monument in the new site to better identify the man with the stone marker, suggesting that it will be less likely to be vandalized if it has a connection to the person. He notes that he wants to thank Councilman Salvatore, and that, although he now lives in Seekonk, MA, he was born in the City, as was his uncle. O'Connor calls him a favorite Italian son. O'Connor asks that whatever is done in LaFazia square be of a size and amount of money to properly recognize Carlo LaFazia.

Chairman Ray Rickman asks that the City Archivist, Caleb Horton, provide an official briefing for the request for modification.

Caleb Horton notes LaFazia's biography, noting that LaFazia was part of the Argonne Offensive during the 100 Days Offensive where more than 27,000 soldiers were killed in 1918, just a month before the Armistice. Horton notes that LaFazia was honored August 3, 1933 during the dedication of the square, and during the re-dedication November 11, 2017. Horton says he would like to have a ceremony during the re-dedication of a bigger and better monument, noting that he approves of having an etching on the stone to make a connection to the person being memorialized.

Chairman Rickman asks Jerry O'Connor if he is speaking on behalf of his siblings.

O'Connor says that he is speaking on behalf of the family.

Chairman Rickman invites additional questions of the Committee.

Becci Davis thanks O'Connor for sharing his story and says that she thinks it's a wonderful idea to share the literal story of LaFazia at the site and that having language that pertains to Carlo's life and sacrifice will ensure that they are remembered there and communicate the sacredness of the site.

April Brown thanks Mr. O'Connor for his story and asks about the location of the marker and where it will be moved.

Stephanie Fortunato explains that the marker will be moved from a traffic island to an area in front of businesses across the square into an empty tree well.

April Brown clarifies that the move would add depth and breadth so that people can understand it's a monument as opposed to a marker.

Stephanie Fortunato says that it would, and that ACT has had conversations with the City Forester about repurposing the tree well and that ACT will reach out to the business owners to make sure they are in agreement about this change in space usage. Fortunato notes that the space would be treated similarly to the marker discussed in the spring Committee meeting out of respect.

April Brown asks whether the City has anything that talks about WWI in terms of its memorials.

Stephanie Fortunato directs the question to Caleb Horton.

Caleb Horton says that the City does have the WWI Memorial on South Main Street.

Chairman Rickman asks Brown what she is thinking about.

April Brown says she is thinking about how to connect the LaFazia memorial to the other WWI memorial. She notes that it would be nice to have references because ignorance is connected to the destruction of the memorial.

Chairman Rickman says that there are a number of memorials in the middle of the street and that the public almost never pauses to reflect upon them. He notes that even if someone were across the street they could see the new memorial.

Mr. O'Connor says that he would like to go to the new proposed site and lay flags there. He notes that the site is not just representative of LaFazia's resting place, but stands for all veterans.

Chairman Rickman commends the Parks Department for cleaning up around the Korean War Veterans Memorial, suggesting that Mr. O'Connor should consider finding someone to adopt the LaFazia Square memorial.

Mr. O'Connor suggests connecting students at Veazie St. School to the Memorial.

Chairman Rickman suggests seeking the Councilman's support for a connection.

Councilman Salvatore asks whether there is an opportunity to have a conversation with the Committee about public school education and a museum of commemorative works to mitigate vandalism and provide students with opportunities to learn about individuals being honored and remembered.

April Brown suggests talking about all of the memorials because the lack of connection between them makes them vulnerable to vandalism.

Caleb Horton says that LeFazia's story connects to the Italian immigration story, and the second-generation experience, as well as the immigrant experience in the neighborhood.

Chairman Rickman asks the City Archivist to address the specifics with the Director of ACT and calls for a motion.

April Brown makes a motion to modify the LeFazia Square marker per the request of the petitioner.

Dr. Erik Christiansen seconds Brown's motion.

Chairman Rickman calls for a vote.

The Special Committee votes unanimously in favor of the motion.

3 Request for Modification: Replica of sculpture by Theodora Alice Ruggles Kitson – "The Hiker" (1906)

Chairman Rickman invites the City Archivist to speak on the Hiker.

Caleb Horton gives the official briefing about “The Hiker.”

Dr. Erik Christiansen clarifies that a “Hiker” statue is also in the Burial Ground, suggesting that it may be the original.

Stephanie Fortunato says that the statue was originally designed for the University of Minnesota and that Gorham purchased the design and made about 50 copies. She says the statue conflates histories of four American imperial endeavors and that it embodies many characteristics of white supremacy culture in that it connects to the Spanish American War, the Cuban expedition, the Philippines and the Boxer Rebellion in China. The dates on it line up with the Filipino American War. It acknowledges the soldiers that participated in all of those expeditions.

The Chairman invites Mark Bhen Alan to present his modification to “The Hiker.”

Mark Bhen Alan introduces himself and his proposed modification, the addition of a traditional Filipino banig, or mat, to “The Hiker.” He says the mat will not obstruct or cover the statue, but honor it through capping/draping. Light rope will be used to affix the mat to the statue, with small weights at the bottom for security. The installation would take place throughout the month of June 2022. Alan says that insurance for the project is still pending. In explaining why he believes the modification should be permitted, the artist says that his project will showcase diverse voices; bring visibility to Filipino art, culture, and people; promote sustainability, recycling and upcycling in that the mat is entirely made of recycled materials; promote community building among Filipino immigrants and Diasporic populations in Rhode Island and beyond; and bring color to Kennedy Plaza.

Chairman Rickman recognizes Becci Davis.

Becci Davis asks whether the modification will be a temporary month-long modification.

Mark Bhen Alan says that it will be so.

Becci Davis asks whether Alan has a sense of how the materials will age over that span of time.

Mark Bhen Alan says the plastic will stay as it is for the whole month. It will not obstruct, destroy or make marks to the statue.

Becci Davis asks whether there is a plan to activate the site for performance, ritual, or ceremony that would celebrate and tell the story of what the modification means.

Mark Bhen Alan says that he plans to activate the statue on Filipino Independence Day, Saturday, June 12, 2022. He says he wants to create programming that connects archival research, readings, artist talks, and Filipino cultural dance, clothing, and food.

Becci Davis asks whether there is a plan to document the modification and the activation and ritual/ceremony.

Mark Bhen Alan says he plans to document all aspects of the work, including its creation, installation, and any celebrations. He also hopes to submit documentation to the City Archives.

Dr. Erik Christiansen commends the artist and asks the artist to provide context for the work for non-Filipino audiences.

Mark Bhen Alan says he hopes to have a textual display to introduce and explain the modification. He says he will introduce the work's context during any programming as well.

Dr. Erik Christiansen asks whether it is within the committee's purview to review textual materials.

Chairman Rickman suggests that its not the job of the Committee, but that the City might take such a role.

Stephanie Fortunato reminds the Committee its role is solely to determine social and cultural merit, but that the City welcomes its members' contributions and thinking once as project develops.

April Brown says she is worried about contextualization and safety for the piece and asks the artist if there is a plan for curriculum, or a learning tool associated with the project.

Mark Bhen Alan says that there is an educational opportunity through programming with younger people, particularly through instruction in weaving.

Stephanie Fortunato says there will be an opportunity to connect to PVDFest 2022 to make sure there is a wide audience engaging with these themes. She says that the theme of education is coming up regularly, and that the Committee Advisory Group is also interested in creating platforms for a commemorative work inventory.

Micah Salkind asks a question for Sylvia Soares regarding safety for the piece.

Stephanie clarifies that technical review will take place after review for social and cultural merit.

Becci Davis thanks the artist for their proposal, and suggests increasing the life of the modification in the site, or adding permanent interpretive text, or other documentation that persists beyond the temporary modification.

Chairman Rickman asks whether Mark Bhen Alan will consider creating a more permanent element.

Mark Bhen Alan would be amenable to creating a more permanent

component to the work.

Chairman Rickman suggests connecting with Rhode Island Cuban associations to develop the work further. He also encourages the artist to create a didactic website that can help promote and archive the work.

Mark Bhen Alan says he is considering creating a website to share the display, process and activation, as well as using social media tools.

Chairman Rickman suggests connecting with book stores to ensure a contextual, historical framework for the modification.

Becci Davis makes a motion to approve the petitioner's proposed modification.

Dr. Erik Christiansen seconds the motion.

Chairman Rickman calls for a vote. The Committee votes unanimously in support of the motion.

4 Proposal for a New Commemorative Work: Edward Mitchell Bannister

Chairman Rickman asks the petitioner to introduce herself.

Nancy Goucher-Thomas introduces herself, and her accompaniment, professor Bob Dilworth, URI emeritus, and sculptor Gage Prentiss. She says her proposal has been submitted on behalf of the Providence Art Club and gives a brief history of the Club and its relationship to Edward Mitchell Bannister. Goucher-Thomas also acknowledges the importance of the artist's wife, Christiana Carteaux Bannister, to the social and cultural merit of the Art Club's proposed commemorative work honoring Bannister. She notes that Bannister's house, as well as Bannister Street, both serve to commemorate his legacy. Goucher-Thomas says that Bannister is significant as a founding member of the Art Club, and a founding board member of RISD, in addition to being a notable artist,

philanthropist, and thinker. She reviews the support materials provided to the Committee, and notes that she has an additional letter of support from

Professor Bob Dilworth discusses the impact of Bannister on his work as a Black artist in Rhode Island over the last thirty years. He notes the importance of having a life-size sculpture of Bannister.

Gage Prentiss says he learned of Edward Bannister through learning about his wife, Christiana. He says that he sculpted a small bust of Bannister for the Art Club, and he sees the positive impact his presence has on the patrons and members there. The proposed sculpture would contribute to the identity and soul of the City of Providence. Prentiss notes that he is tired of seeing warriors and politicians put on a pedestal. He compares his vision for the Bannister memorial to the Ben Franklin memorial on a bronze bench in Philadelphia, suggesting that the design of the sculpture is meant to inspire a human connection to Bannister. Prentiss notes that he will try to put Christiana Carteaux Bannister's portrait on the sketch book of the sculpture, and that he hopes the scene to be a modern one so that the sculpture is connected more substantially to the modern day.

Bob Dilworth adds that Bannister does not belong to the Art Club, the State of Rhode Island, or the US. He belongs to the world.

Prentiss notes that Bannister was Canadian.

Bob Dilworth says Bannister's work doesn't just speak to one place or person, but to the world.

Goucher-Thomas says that one of Bannister's paintings valued between \$50-70,000 went for over \$277,000.

April Brown says she questioned why the City needs another memorial to Bannister, since he is memorialized several times over in

Providence. She says she doesn't have a question, but she wants to acknowledge that he's already been recognized.

Dr. Erik Christiansen asks what memorials Brown is thinking of.

April Brown says she is thinking of Bannister House, and the Street.

Chairman Rickman says Bannister Street is named after Christiana Carteaux Bannister and Edward, but that few people who walk by the Street know who it is named for. He says that Bannister House was saved on the last day of Ruth Simmons' tenure as President of Brown University, but barely. These commemorations are not visible enough to have a significant public impact. The Carteaux Bannister in the State House has not had a significant impact on the public either, in his estimation. Rickman says 1 million people a year will see the proposed sculpture, and will thus out-equal any and everything that has been done for the Bannisters. He suggests that he will push for more copy on the work to be more inclusive of Carteaux Bannister.

Nancy Goucher-Thomas says the space that the sculpture will be in will be viewed by 100s of thousands if not millions of people who visit Rhode Island. She says she is unaware of any other artist who is honored this way. The text alongside will be significant in the contributions of both Bannisters to Providence, Rhode Island, and the world.

Bob Dilworth notes that there should be another separate commemorative work devoted to Carteaux Bannister.

Chairman Rickman notes that Washington Place will be renamed in honor of Nancy Elizabeth Prophet and that he is working to add Carteaux Bannister's name to the marker in North Burial Ground. He says that Bannister, after his death, was acknowledged as a nationally renowned American artist.

Bob Dilworth reminds the Committee that there is a Bannister Gallery at Rhode Island College.

April Brown thanks the group for understanding her reservations.

Becci Davis acknowledges the importance of the memorial for the City of Providence and appreciates the work's invitation to viewers to have personal connections with the monument through a physical, spatial relationship. She adds that the monument should have textual context and be a part of RISD's education for its students as well.

Nancy Goucher-Thomas says it will be part of the curricular engagement of the College.

Bob Dilworth agrees with the need for education and suggests adding a barcode (QR code) to access information about the work.

Gage Prentiss asks whether there is a comprehensive list of commemorative works in Providence.

Stephanie Fortunato says she is glad to see a privately funded commission of Edward Bannister for public space for locals and visitors.

Chairman Rickman says he is thrilled it will be on City property, noting the Art Club funding, and insurance, and RISD on maintenance, and the City making the land available. There will be other organizations helping with the educational aspect. He notes that the sculpture will be looking at sites of memory related to his life, such as his gallery and his wife's business across the Providence River.

Bob Dilworth encourages the group to include other institutions to ensure that all feel invested in the effort early on, and not after the fact. He says RIC in particular is a critical partner to be connected.

Chairman Rickman asks if the Committee has any additional comments.

Becci Davis asks whether there are any other monuments on the site or proposed for the area that would be on view.

Chairman Rickman says RISD has talked about putting something on the side of Market Square, but it hasn't happened.

Becci Davis says she would like to see that the Bannister effort not impede other efforts to contextualize the broader site.

Stephanie Fortunato says Market Square is a public park, so the Board of Parks Commissioners will be next to review the proposal and will determine the exact siting of the work. The project will have to go to the Art in City Life Commission after that. There may be a small plaque on the building.

Chairman Rickman says the plaque is on the front of Market Place facing North Main.

Stephanie Fortunato says that will be important to consider as the Parks Department considers where the final site might be.

Gage Prentiss says there may be a plaque facing Memorial Park but that the statue would be nowhere near that.

Stephanie Fortunato says that ACT should confirm this in an action step as a follow-up.

Chairman Rickman calls for a motion.

Dr. Erik Christiansen moves to accept the proposal as submitted to create the monument to Edward M. Bannister in Market Square.

April Brown seconds the motion.

Chairman Rickman calls for a vote. It is unanimously favorable to the motion.

5 ACT Report

Stephanie Fortunato reminds the Committee about action steps that

have come out of the last meeting. The material about the Columbus statue has been forwarded to the Board of Parks Commissioners for their consideration. She says that the meeting has been rescheduled twice and they are supposed to meet in November at a date to be determined. ACT has no update on the marker approved to be moved. Fortunato invites the Committee to review the Monument Lab National Audit. She notes that the Advisory Group is thinking about the education piece.

Chairman Rickman calls for final comments.

ADJOURNMENT: On motion of April Brown, Seconded by Becci Davis, it is voted to adjourn the meeting at 1:58 o'clock P.M.

Click on the below link to view an electronic version of this meeting with supporting documentation, minutes and audio: <https://youtu.be/A06JszUT7Rw>

