

**DETERMINATION AND FINDINGS
FOR A
SOLE SOURCE PROCUREMENT**

CONTRACT NO: RQ870799

CAPTION: Workshop Partner for 2014 National Workshop on Large Landscape Conservation
October 23-24, 2014

PROPOSED CONTRACTOR: Chesapeake Bay Conservancy

PROGRAM AGENCY: District Department of the Environment

FINDINGS

1. **AUTHORIZATION:**

D.C. Official Code §2-354.04 and 27 DCMR §§ 1304, 1702

2. **MINIMUM NEED:**

The District Department of the Environment (DDOE) has a need to become a partner in the Practitioners' Network for the 2014 National Workshop on Large Landscape Conservation, to be held in Washington, DC on October 23–24, 2014. The Chesapeake Bay Conservancy coordinates the network's activities. The US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Chesapeake Bay Program has asked for DDOE's participation in this network through its Chesapeake Bay Regulatory and Accountability grant.

The goal of the procurement is to solicit a partner to help DDOE and EPA engage large land owners in the District of Columbia such as US National Park Service and US General Services through partnerships such as the Practitioner's Network for Large Landscape Conservation as part of the District's commitment to help clean the Chesapeake Bay.

In particular, DDOE seeks the following deliverables:

- Partnership and sponsorship in a national alliance that promote landscape conservation;
- and
- Forum to facilitate dialogues of innovative ways to control storm water runoff in the District of Columbia

3. **ESTIMATED REASONABLE PRICE:** \$20,000

4. FACTS THAT JUSTIFY SOLE SOURCE PROCUREMENT:

The Practitioners' Network for Large Landscape Conservation is an alliance of professionals and citizens engaged in leading, managing, researching, advocating, funding, educating, or setting policy to advance large landscape conservation initiatives. Large landscape conservation initiatives are those efforts which are focused on large areas of recognized conservation value, sensitivity, and/or threat and require a broad-based, multi-jurisdictional, multi-sector, multi-purpose (economic, social, and environmental) approach with specific, measurable conservation objectives.

Conservation practitioners and policymakers from across North America will be meeting in Washington, DC for the National Workshop on Large Landscape Conservation on October 23–24, 2014. Workshop attendees will share ideas on the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead in implementing large landscape conservation, as well as the most effective tools, strategies, and science available to inform large landscape initiatives.

The Chesapeake Conservancy will host the workshop, which will focus largely on issues local to the Chesapeake Bay watershed. Two key questions with a direct impact on the District of Columbia (District) will be addressed in the workshop. The first is how can government agencies, including the EPA and DDOE, effectively invest for measurable results and environmental resiliency in the context of climate change? The second is how can these agencies, across the continuum from urban areas to wilderness areas, engage diverse communities in the green spaces outside their doors?

The workshop will address issues of science related to large landscape conservation (e.g., water quality benefits) and will provide attendees the opportunity to understand how to leverage partnerships with large landscape landholders in the future. This is extremely pertinent to the District, where large land areas, such as Rock Creek Park, Anacostia Park, and Fort Dupont, are owned and managed by NPS but are a component of the District's Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) implementation plans. In order to advance the conservation, restoration, and sustainability goals established by the District, DDOE must leverage partnerships with such landholders. This is particularly important to the District in its effort to implement its Bay TMDL Watershed Implementation Plan.

Current workshop partners include NPS, the US Fish and Wildlife Service, and the US Natural Resources Conservation Service (a full list of partners can be found at <http://www.largelandscapenetwork.org/2014-national-workshop/workshop-partners/>). As a partner, DDOE will join this list of agencies and organizations, better-enabling it to work with the network partners to advance its own goal of improving the water quality of the Anacostia and Potomac Rivers, Rock Creek, and the Chesapeake Bay.

5. CERTIFICATION BY AGENCY HEAD:

I hereby certify that the above findings are true, correct and complete.

Date

Keith A. Anderson
Agency Director
District Department of the Environment

6. CERTIFICATION BY CONTRACTING OFFICER:

I have reviewed the above findings and certify that they are sufficient to justify the use of the sole source method of procurement under the cited authority. I certify that the notice of intent to award a sole source contract was published in accordance with 27 DCMR § 1304 and that no response was received. I recommend that the Chief Procurement Officer approve the use of the sole source procurement method for this proposed contract.

Date

Robyn N Johnson
Agency Contracting Officer
District Department of the Environment

DETERMINATION

Based on the above findings and in accordance with the cited authority, I hereby determine that it is not feasible or practical to invoke the competitive solicitation process under either Section 402 or 403 of the District of Columbia Procurement Practices Reform Act of 2010 (D.C. Law 18-371; D.C. Official Code § 2-354.02 or 2-354.03). Accordingly, I determine that the District is justified in using the sole source method of procurement.

Date

Robyn N Johnson
Agency Contracting Officer
District Department of the Environment