

NC MWBE Coordinators' Network

Request for Proposal: Lobbying Services

Introduction

In 1987, few municipalities had legally established programs that featured the notion of inclusion for commodity purchases or construction projects. In that same year, the North Carolina Minority and Women Business Enterprise Coordinators' Network ('Network') was established with seven members as a "think tank" to share strategies and ideas on administering minority business programs.

Over the past 33 years, the members of the NC MWBE Coordinators' Network have been committed to ensuring that all segments of the community have an equitable opportunity to participate in professional service contracts, procurement contracts, and construction projects in both public and private sectors.

Scope of Lobbying Services

The Network requires a firm to lobby the North Carolina General Assembly on its behalf. The Network is searching for a firm to perform these Services for the 2020 session. The Firm shall work under the direction of the Network Board.

The Firm will actively and continuously lobby the General Assembly to assist the Network in key areas including, but not limited to, the following:

- Minority/Women/HUB Businesses;
- Small businesses;
- Public Contracting (i.e.: Construction, Goods, and Services)
- Economic development
- Other Board priorities.

The Firm shall also:

- Maintain liaison with the leadership of the General Assembly;
- Maintain liaison with key delegation leading legislation in key policy areas;
- Counsel the Network President, Executive Committee, and Full Board on the development and improvement of relationships with the leadership of the General Assembly and State Delegation;
- Review state executive proposals, legislation under consideration, proposed and adopted administrative rules and regulations, and other developments for the purpose of advising the Network of issues that may have a bearing on MWBE/HUB firms and the Network's mission;
- Identify and aggressively act to promote legislation that positively impacts key areas;

- Identify and aggressively act to discourage or mitigate legislation that negatively impacts key areas;
- Develop briefing materials and talking points for meetings and phone calls with state officials;
- Review on a continuing basis all existing and proposed state policies, programs, and legislation. Identify those issues that may affect the Network, and regularly inform the Network on these matters. Provide legislative expertise and consulting services;
- Alert the Network to potential new opportunities that will further the Network's interests and to posing threats that could negatively impact the Network's interest;
- Provide written monthly updates and quarterly status reports on the firm's achievements as they relate to the goals and objectives set forth in the Network's legislative program;
- Confer with the Network President, Board, and Legislative Committee on preparation and implementation of legislative agendas.

Contract Term

The term for any contract resulting from this Request for Proposal (RFP) is for the 2020 session. The contract may be extended for an additional twelve (12) month period, provided that both parties are in agreement and funds are made available for this purpose.

Proposal Response

Thank you for your interest in providing a response to this request. Please offer a brief (2 page) response, providing your approach to lobbying services and accomplishing the required scope of work. Include the qualifications of the firm, background, and experience. Also, please provide past/current clients and pricing.

Please email your response to Denisha Harris at president@mwbecoordinators.org by Tuesday, September 8, 2020 at 5pm.