

May 2013

Questions and Answers
Request for Proposals (RFP) for
Buffalo Billion Investment Strategy Implementation Support Services

QUESTION: How much / what types of assistance are envisioned for those initiatives whose launch is not being supported (Center for Mfg Innovation, SPaRC and Business Challenge)? For example, will these initiatives require ongoing 'problem solving' and recommendations on strategy implementation from the PMO? Will they require assistance in developing work plans to be combined into the "overall integrated work plan"?

ANSWER: Yes, all initiatives will require on-going problem solving and coordination among initiatives. They will not require the Project Manager to develop the specific work plan since each of those not directly supported have their own infrastructure in place for management of the initiative. The PMO focus is more on coordination and support on overall implementation.

QUESTION: Page 8 of the RFP notes that, in year 1, solicitations will be completed for private sector partners to redevelop key properties in Downtown Niagara Falls, and for partners to provide enhanced programming at NY State Park. Is it envisioned that the work to execute on these solicitations will be underway by the end of year 1?

ANSWER: Yes.

QUESTION: Have any target NY State Park investments been identified at this point?

ANSWER: Yes but that information is not yet available.

QUESTION: With regard to the Niagara Falls Challenge, is there a timeframe set until the State acquires the first parcel of land for development?

ANSWER: The goal for acquisition is end of 2013.

QUESTION: What (if any) work has been completed to date establishing the Buffalo Skills Partnership?

ANSWER: NYS Department of Labor is dedicating a project manager to assist in the development of the Buffalo Skills partnership and we are launching a pilot of this program from June – December of 2013.

QUESTION: Page 9 of the RFP suggests this initiative will "develop an advanced manufacturing and energy training institute". Can you please comment on how (if at all) this is related to the workforce component of the activities executed by the Buffalo Niagara Institute for Advanced Manufacturing Competitiveness (Initiative #1) described on pages 29 to 31 of the Buffalo Billion Investment Development Plan?

ANSWER: It is possible that the two facilities may be co-located to optimize synergies, but that has not yet been determined. It is envisioned that the two operations will be highly collaborative.

QUESTION: What (if any) work has been completed to date to help develop the Better Buffalo Fund?

ANSWER: Focus areas have been determined; work is underway on a stakeholder input process to finalize neighbourhood revitalization plans.

QUESTION: Page 9 of the RFP identifies a number of projects "for key revitalization" activities. Have all the projects listed been confirmed to receive awards?

ANSWER: No

QUESTION: Does the RFP require that awards for each of these projects is made within the first year of the implementation of the plan?

ANSWER: The RFP is not yet complete, but it is envisioned that ability to implement will weigh into award decisions.

QUESTION: Page 19 of the RFP outlines required insurance. Can the selected contractor provide this evidence once they have been selected to execute the contract? Or must this evidence be provided at the time of RFP submission?

ANSWER: You do not need to provide it with their proposal. Insurance requirements must be met if selected and prior to execution of the contract.

QUESTION: We have several collaborators/subcontractors on our proposal. At the time of submission what documentation will we need to submit with the proposal for each organization?

ANSWER: Background on their relevant experience and resumes of any staff that will be used for this project.