

**Long Island Columbarium Project RFP Questions and answers for phase 2 solicitation;**

**Question 1:** Can the spoils area in the Northeast part of the cemetery be used as a lay-down and storage area during construction? If not, will a different location on-site be provided?

- Yes this spoils area is probably the only area at the cemetery that can be used for this purpose, designated areas within the spoils area for this project will have to be coordinated with the cemetery director.

**Question 2:** Will the contractor be allowed to utilize the spoils area for fill material?

- Fill cannot be placed in spoils area, there is no room for it, all excavated fill that will not be re-used must be transported and disposed of off site, if additional fill is required it can be gotten from spoils area which has more than enough suitable fill for this project.

**Question 3:** Will the contractor be required to replace location signage throughout the entire cemetery to reflect the new columbaria?

- Yes, existing directory, signage, and directional signage throughout the entire cemetery will have to be updated to include the new columbarium, per VA NCA signage design guide, see SOW 7.6.8.

**Question 4:** The scope of work says, “the portion of fence along Little East Neck Road and Colonial Springs Road ending at the spoils area should be moved away from road, back 5 feet from its current location.” Please be more specific as to what area is being referenced.

- This references all the length of fence between Long Island National Cemetery and Little East Neck Road, and a portion of the fence from the corner of Little East Neck and colonial Springs roads up North West to where the new 8' high spoils area fence with privacy slats is to be located.

**Question 5:** Will the contractor be expected to provide irrigation to the new columbaria?

- Yes for the planting areas in/on the columbarium plaza deck.

**Question 6:** Is the contractor expected to budget for utility relocation along Wellwood Avenue (note electrical near maintenance facility)? What is the expected treatment of the existing backflow preventer housed in the above ground vault on Wellwood?

- We are not changing the existing asphalt road or the curb line on Well Wood Avenue. Assume existing utilities will remain at current location, no utility relocation is required along Wellwood Avenue at this time, future right turn lanes will be included in a future project, however new fence, gates, posts, piers, etc. locations need to accommodate this future roadway improvements.

**Question 7:** Can the contractor clear trees along the existing fence to accommodate extraction and reinstallation?

- Contractor can clear trees along the existing fence to accommodate relocation of the fence line only where absolutely necessary.

**Question 8:** Have there been any structures on the Columbarium site in the past that were removed previously?

- There are no structures on the Columbarium site that were removed in the past that we are aware of.

**Question 9:** Are there any utilities or storm drain lines crossing the Columbarium site?

- There is a fiber-optic line going thru the Columbarium site from the Administration Building to the Maintenance Yard that may have to be re-routed to avoid new columbarium footings. Design team will have to do a utility survey of the columbarium site to determine what if any other utilities are below grade there. For pricing assume all existing utilities other than the fiber –optic line, can remain in place.

**Question 10:** The RFP requires “historic preservation, restoration, and relocation of 6,000 LF of existing historic iron fence and piers...” Has VA had any discussions with the NYSHPO regarding the restoration and relocation, and have any requirements been specified by the NYSHPO? We would assume the restoration will involve disassembly, cleaning, repair of damaged elements and replacement of missing parts, followed by painting and reinstalling the fence. Please confirm.

- Your assumption is correct.

**Question 11:** Is the existing historic iron fencing painted, and if so, has it been tested for Lead Based Paint?

- Fence has not been tested for lead based paint, but I think you can assume that it has been painted with lead based paint in the past.

**Question 12:** When the existing fencing is taken down for restoration and relocation, what sort of temporary fencing, if any, is required?

- Temporary chain link will be required, it can be anchored in pre-cast concrete blocks sitting on the ground. Fence removal and replacement sequence should be done in sequentially as separate sections at a time, length of sections is up to the contractor.

**Question 13:** Paragraph 7.3.2 of the Scope of Work mentions that additional width between Wellwood Avenue and the fence is required for future right turn lanes and a bus stop. All of this is to be coordinated with the NYSHPO and the Suffolk County Department of Public Works Highway Construction. Has any planning been completed as of this date regarding the turn lanes and bus stop? Are any preliminary drawings of the planned future improvements available?

- No planning has been completed, a current road project is underway that includes right turn lanes on the other side of Wellwood Avenue, we think right turn lanes would be a good idea to have at the entrance gates to our cemetery and will work with Suffolk County to make this improvement in the future. We don't want the newly relocated fence, piers and gates in the way of adding right turn lanes in the future. Design drawing for this project can show the future right turn lanes with dashed line on the plans and the design drawings must locate the new fence line, and sidewalk to accommodate this future improvement. There is adequate description in the SOW for this design feature, see 7.3.2. NCA's historic architect will submit the design drawings to NYSHPO when made available by the design build team and coordinate with NY SHPO to get approvals.

**Question 14:** Are there any drawing for the replacement chain-link? How high? Post-Spacing? Top rail? Etc.

- Believe it or not the chain link fence is on the historic register so assume it must be replaced in kind.

**Question 15:** Little Neck Road has transmission lines running adjacent? Any access easement notifications necessary for construction adjacent to easement or ROW? Can we access those easement areas or are we forbidden from entering?

- I don't know the answer to this, assume no access easement notifications are required, and assume you cannot utilize utility access easements for our construction operations.

**Question 16:** Are there any work hour restrictions on this project?

- Assume work hours will be limited to Monday thru Friday 7:30 am to 4:30 pm. No construction operations on Memorial Day and Veteran's Day.

**Question 17:** How many existing Brick Piers are to be removed?

- Assume all brick piers to be disassembled, stored, relocated on new footings and re-assembled and/or re-constructed, since we simply don't know what the final design will require. Include in your proposal a cost with overhead and profit per pier for this work so that we can get a credit for the piers that do not require relocation.

**Questions Continued:**

1. Is the Technical Proposal limited to 60 pages?

- Yes the proposal is limited to 60 pages, if any more than 60 pages are submitted the additional pages at back of the proposal will be ignored and not included for evaluations during the technical review.

2. Should a price breakdown be included in our Price Proposal?

- Yes a price breakdown must be included for each phase of design work; survey, pre-design, and progress submissions. Cost detail is also required for each construction division; construction divisions should include rolled out detail of the costs for each task within that division. The proposal review panel must be able to evaluate if the costs are reasonable for each task associated with this contract to validate the overall price.

3. Which basin will the Columbarium need to drain to?

- There are no basins to drain to, assume that sub surface slow release retention tank, or tanks, or drywells with sub-surface infiltration beds will be required for storm water management on site.

4. Scope should delineate the asphalt that will need to be replaced?

- New asphalt will be required where damaged by construction vehicles and operations during construction and only at the new parallel parking area adjacent to the new columbarium as shown on drawing RFP-01 concept plan.

5. The brick columns at the entrances are deteriorating, will this restoration work be included? And if so, to replace all face brick or patch?

- Most of the brick piers at the entrance gates will probably have to be dis-assembled and relocated to accommodate new fence line. The piers will have to be restored, existing brick could probably be replaced with new brick but the new brick would have to match the historic brick exactly, another option would be to clean and re-use the existing brick,

for broken bricks, you could use brick from another set of piers and re-build those piers with new brick to match existing brick, this is means and methods and the contractor's decision based on their own experience with the best way to do such things.

6. Fencing: other than the street side fencing, all other fencing is chain link. Is there a request to install privacy screens?

- Privacy screens are not required anywhere and would be a maintenance issue, privacy slats are required for new 8' high chain link fence around spoils area. See SOW 7.3.4

7. Fencing: the existing wrought iron fence appears to have been painted before lead standards were enacted in the 1970s. The lead based paint removal will need to be removed properly unless testing has proven otherwise. Has the VA completed a study for hazardous materials?

- Assume all portions of historic fence have been painted with lead paint in the past. Dismantling and restoration of historic fence shall comply with OSHA standards accordingly.

8. Access hours for workers?

- Assume work hours will be limited to Monday thru Friday 7:30 am to 4:30 pm. No construction operations on Memorial Day and Veteran's Day.

9. Were there any previous structures at the Columbarium site? Any foundations or substructures?

- Yes there probably are given what we have encountered working at other areas in the cemetery but we have no way of knowing, any abandoned structures encountered during excavation for columbarium footings or otherwise will have to be removed and properly disposed of off site but this will be an unforeseen condition and therefor a contract modification. What we do know is we have a fiber optic cable and conduit going thru the site.

10. Is there electrical power available to run lighting and tools, or do we need to provide generators?

- Assume no power is available for construction tools and equipment.

11. Snow removal: Will the Columbarium's pathways be salted in the winter time?—what kind of salt mix?

- Assume the worst case scenario for columbarium plaza and all new sidewalks, all rock salt, so epoxy coated woven wire fabric and epoxy coated rebar are in order for something that needs to last at least a century.

12. With respect to the NY SHPO, Section 6 notes the VA will coordinate with the NYSHPO, however, Section 7.3.2 speaks to design of turn lanes along Wellwood Avenue being coordinated with the NYSHPO. Please clarify what level of communication and coordination with the NYSHPO is to be done by the Design-Build team for the preservation component, as well as the Wellwood Avenue turn lanes and bus stop design.

- Coordination with NY SHPO will be done by the VA NCA historic architect. We would expect to get your design concept drawings and some renderings of fence/pier/gate elevations with landscaping shown along with some enlarged section details and specifications/ product samples for brick, fence, etc., and relevant finishes to submit to

NY SHPO for their approval. Design build team is to provide a drawing, specification, sample, and submittal package for the VA NCA historic architect to submit to NY SHPO for approvals, include one revision and re-submission of the NY SHPO package in your design cost.

13. Section 7.3.3 references replacing chain link fencing with ornamental fencing to match the existing historic ornamental fence. Is that new fence to be custom fabricated iron, or will aluminum fencing (to match the profile of the existing fencing) be allowed?

- Include custom fabricated Iron in the base price with an alternate cost deduct for use of aluminum powder coated fence that will match existing.

14. Section 7.3.1 references preservation, restoration and relocation of 6,000 linear feet of the historic iron fence and piers along the west and south sides.... With respect to the brick piers, are those to be relocated, as well, or restored in place, with the related iron fencing tied back into them in some way?

- Assume all brick piers to be disassembled, stored, relocated on new footings and re-assembled and/or re-constructed, since we simply don't know what the final design will require. Include in your proposal a cost with overhead and profit per pier for this work so that we can get a credit for the piers that do not require relocation. Most of the brick piers at the entrance gates will probably have to be dis-assembled and relocated to accommodate new fence line. The piers will have to be restored, existing brick could probably be replaced with new brick but the new brick would have to match the historic brick exactly, another option would be to clean and re-use the existing brick, for broken bricks you could use brick from another set of piers and re-build those piers with new brick to match existing brick, iron fencing will be reconfigured for new pier locations, this is means and methods and the contractor's decision based on their own experience with the best way to do such things.

### **Questions Continued;**

1. There is an old trench cut seen in the asphalt crossing Main Portal Drive from a transformer heading right into the project site. Please confirm the high voltage underground line from the transformer on the south side of Main Portal Drive crosses through the project site.

- Disregard, these were speed bump patches.

2. There is no sidewalk on Wellwood Ave., between Gates 3 and 4. Is the intent to install a sidewalk between these gates or leave the grass area.

- A sidewalk is required along the cemetery fence along the whole length of Wellwood Avenue see SOW 7.3.5.

3. The existing fence from Gate 4 north is already 16' away from the street curb. There is a 5' wide sidewalk 4' away from the curb. Please confirm the new fence is to be installed in the same location as existing and no sidewalk work is required here.

- The location of the new fence is up to your design team, design concept will then be reviewed and approved by the government, we want a new sidewalk adjacent to and under the new fence as specified in the SOW which will act as a mow strip for the fence on both sides of the fence, this is easier for grounds keeping.

4. Confirm existing curb is to remain for entire length on Wellwood Ave.
  - Existing curb is to remain for entire length on Wellwood Ave. If existing curb is damaged during construction operations the design build contractor will have to replace damaged sections.
5. There is an existing 6'-6" wide sidewalk and curb on the cemetery side of the fence from the South West Corner of Wellwood Ave., to Gate 1. Is this sidewalk to be extended once the fence is relocated encroaching on the existing cemetery side sidewalk?
  - Please read the SOW section 7.3.5, the sidewalk in question is to be completely removed and disposed of off site.
6. Indicates the new fence at the spoils area is to 8ft high, vinyl coated, with privacy slats. The existing fence along Colonial Springs Road and Little East Neck Road is currently a 6ft high fence. Please advise if the fence along these roads are to be 6ft high to match existing or is all new chain link fence to be 8ft high, similar to the spoils area?
  - Only all sides of the spoils area gets 8' high fencing.
7. The I style profile of the pickets may not be manufacturer led/ commercially available any more. The fence has been repaired with 5/8" square pickets over the years. Will the NCA accept the same square profile pickets used in previous repairs. If the intent is to 'recast' hundreds of 'I-shaped' pickets the cost could be significant.
  - To meet historic preservation requirements either restoration of existing elements is required or replacement of those element in kind is required , base price should be submitted accordingly, but please also provide an alternate deduct for use of commercially available parts in the proposal.
8. South of Gate 1, Wellwood Ave., do we leave the sidewalk adjacent to street/curb, or remove?
  - Remove the sidewalk at the curb it is too narrow and not safe, the public will be able to use the new sidewalk adjacent to the new fence line, they will be farther away from passing vehicles and safer.
9. Gate 3, will the VA move their equipment out of work area behind fence on VA property to allow the work to be completed?
  - VA will move the equipment.