

Decatur Area Sustainability Plan RFP FAQ's

Frequently Asked Questions

1. Of the \$700,000 in EECBG funds the City of Decatur was allotted, what portion or percentage do you intend to allocate to the Sustainability Plan? Or, perhaps, what is the maximum you would spend on such a plan so you could reserve funds for other projects?
 - A. **City proposes to allocate a maximum of \$50,000 from the EECBG funding towards the sustainability plan.**
2. Along those lines, does the City intend to fund the Sustainability Plan only with EECBG funds, or does it intend to supplement them with City funds? I ask this because of the restrictions placed on EECBG funds and what topics they can be used to address in a Sustainability Plan.
 - A. **City does intend to supplement City funds, if need be.**
3. Who compiled your baselines for energy, water, transportation, and solid waste? Was this done internally by staff, or was an external partner or consultant involved?
 - A. **The baseline analysis was internally done by City staff.**
4. The RFP mentions encouraging "low impact" development practices. Does this statement specifically refer to low-impact storm water development techniques, or more generically to low-impact techniques across a range of sustainable design topics?
 - A. **The "low impact development practices" refers to the low-impact techniques across a range of sustainable design topics.**
5. The RFP asks for the consultant to "fill gaps" in the baseline analysis. Does this refer to gaps in data in the existing analysis (missing energy data, water data, etc.), or does it refer to topic area gaps, such as perhaps greenhouse gas emissions?
 - A. **The "fill gaps" refer to additional baseline analysis such as green house gas emissions, waste stream analysis, etc.,**
6. The RFP requests that data be presented in GIS whenever possible. Many of the indicators discussed, however, are not strongly spatial in character. Would other electronic formats be acceptable if the consultant has other suggestions for data organization and use?
 - A. **Data does not necessarily have to be in GIS format. It can be in a GIS compatible format like excel or DBF. Yes, other electronic formats as suggested by the consultants would be acceptable as well.**
7. Finally, do you have a list of other consultants who have requested or received the RFP? We would appreciate receiving a copy of such a list, to explore teaming opportunities.
 - A. **City has sent the RFP to the Design Assistance Experts listed on Smart Energy Design Assistance Center (SEDAC's) website at http://smartenergy.arch.uiuc.edu/html/who_staff.html#designexperts**
 - B. **City also posted the RFP on American Planning Association's website.**

Dt: 11/09/2009

8. Could you please confirm the submission date for this RFP? The front cover says 12/18 and page 9 says 12/12
 - A. **The submission date for the RFP is December 18 2009. We apologize for any confusion this might have caused**

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Dt: 11/10/2009

9. Do you prefer local consultants?
A. City will factor in the travel expenses incurred during its evaluation.
10. Is the sustainability plan the strategy for EECBG?
A. No, the sustainability plan is not the EECBG Strategy

Dt: 11/13/2009

11. What is City's primary vision for the sustainability plan?
A. The City's Primary vision is to achieve collaboration between various entities in the community to fulfill a common goal of creating a "Sustainable Decatur".
12. Could the City please provide a copy of Attachment D and all of the B-1 Activity Sheets that were filed with DOE to obtain the City's direct formula grant? This information will be helpful in more comprehensively understanding the City's goals and objectives.
A. No. The EECBG grant's primary focus is Energy Efficiency. The Sustainability Plan for City of Decatur will be a vision document for the community's future. The City envisions this plan as a comprehensive plan for sustainability that includes energy efficiency as one of the components.
13. Public Participation – Does the city envision general town hall meetings or key stake holder meetings?
A. The public participation for the sustainability plan can be the key stakeholders.
14. Can you please provide the breakdown of the EECBG funds?
A. The City was allotted \$768,200 in EECBG funds. Following is the breakdown of those monies between three (3) activities. Activity #1: Creating a sustainability plan for the community - \$50,000. Activity #2: Retrofit of the Civic Center Building (City offices are currently housed in this building) - \$334,100. Activity#3: Residential Energy Conservation Program - \$384,100.