

Rhode Island Commerce Corporation

Solicitation Information

April 2014

Request for Information

Title: Safety & Security Planning Services for 2015 Volvo Ocean Race Stopover Newport, RI

Submission Deadline: April 25th, 2014 @ 4:30 PM (Eastern Time)

Section 1: Introduction

Commerce RI is soliciting information for services to assist specifically with providing event safety planning and security operations management for the Newport VOR stopover from approximately April 15th-May 17, 2015. This is a Request for Information, not an Invitation to Bid; responses will be evaluated on the basis of relative merits of the proposals. There will be no public opening and reading of the responses received by the Rhode Island Commerce Corporation (Commerce RI) pursuant to this Request, other than to name those offerors who have submitted proposals.

This is an information gathering exercise. No award will be made as a result of this solicitation. Any information submitted in response to this Request for Information WILL NOT be in the public domain, as no award will be made. Of the information garnered through this RFI be determined to be favorable to the State, a Request for Proposals may be issued at a later date.

Section 2: Background

In 2013, Sail Newport (www.sailnewport.org) was awarded the opportunity to host the only United States stopover for Volvo Ocean Race 2014-2015. (See www.volvoceanrace.com for more details). The Volvo Ocean Race (VOR) is the world's pre-eminent round-the-world yacht race and one of the most coveted prizes in the sport. The Race is owned by Volvo Cars and Volvo Group and managed by a dedicated team working from state-of-the-art headquarters in Alicante, Spain. The 38,739-nautical mile route will include stopovers in Cape Town (South Africa), Abu Dhabi (UAE), Sanya (China), Auckland (New Zealand), Itajaí (Brazil), Newport (Rhode Island, US), Lisbon (Portugal), Lorient (France) and a 24-hour pit-stop in The Hague (Netherlands) on the final leg.

The United States stopover will be held at Ft. Adams State Park in Newport, RI from May 4-17, 2015. Sail Newport, the Rhode Island Commerce Corporation (Commerce RI), the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management (DEM), and the Rhode Island Department of Administration (DOA) will be undertaking the various operational activities required to ensure a successful event for both participants and spectators. The planning and managing of security for a major special event such as VOR requires planning and coordination for federal, state, municipal and private law enforcement agencies. An event

of this kind will often include a variety of VIPs, political figures and is also a potential target for terrorists, criminals, and protestors.

Section 3: Response Specifics

Potential offerors shall prepare their response in the format specified in this section, and shall include the following requested documents in their Response:

1. Provide the name of your company and the name, address and telephone number and email address of a person with whom our office can communicate regarding this RFI;
2. Describe your company's years of experience and other relevant information to help Commerce RI understand your company's size, resources and the nature of your business. Tell us if your company or individual has had experience with event security planning for large scale sporting events similar in format and duration as VOR;
3. Describe how your company would coordinate with offsite public safety entities (federal, state, municipal and private security entities);
4. Describe in detail your company's licenses and insurance (including employee insurance and third party liability);
5. Resumes for principles of company and resume of potential employee you would choose as point of contact for this event highlighting experience with VIP/Dignitary Security and Crowd Management;
6. Identify payment models you would suggest;
7. References from past events similar in format and duration as VOR.

Pre-Submission Conference: NO

Questions concerning this solicitation must be received by the Rhode Island Commerce Corporation (Commerce RI) at pharden@commerceri.com no later than April 9th @ 12 Noon (ET). Questions should be submitted in a Microsoft word attachment. Please reference the RFI title on all correspondence. Questions received, if any, and responses will be posted on the internet at www.Commerceri.com and the RI State Purchasing Website by April 16, 2014 as an addendum to this solicitation. It is the responsibility of all interested parties to download and review this information.

NOTIFICATIONS

1. Equal Employment Opportunity (RIGL 28-5.1) – 28-5.1-1 Declaration of policy – (a)Equal opportunity and affirmative action toward its achievement is the policy of all units of Rhode Island state government, including all public and quasi-public agencies, commissions, boards and authorities, and in the classified, unclassified, and non-classified services of state employment. This policy applies to all areas where the State dollar is spent, in employment, public services, grants and financial assistance, and in state licensing and regulation. For further information, contact the Rhode Island Equal Opportunity Office at (401) 222-3090.

2. In accordance with Title 7, Chapter 1.1 of the General Laws of Rhode Island, no foreign corporation, a corporation without a Rhode Island business address, shall have the right to transact business in the State until it shall have procured a Certificate of Authority to do so from the Rhode Island Secretary of State (401-222-3040). This is a requirement only of the successful Contractor.
3. The offeror should be aware of the State's MBE requirements, which address the State's goal of ten percent (10%) participation by MBE's in all State procurements. For further information, contact the MBE Administrator at (401) 574-8253 or visit the website www.mbe.ri.gov or contact dorinda.keene@doa.ri.gov.
4. Responses shall be concisely written and the response letter shall be signed by an authorized signing officer of the respondent, and shall indicate name, title, and contact information.

Response Date

Responses to this RFI are due by April 25th, 2014 at 4:30pm. Include one (1) electronic (PDF) version and five (5) printed copies of the complete proposal and should be mailed or hand-delivered in a sealed envelope marked:

Rhode Island Commerce Corporation
Attn. RFI Volvo Ocean Race 2014-2015 Security Plans
315 Iron Horse Way, Suite 101
Providence, RI 02908

Possible RFP

Based on the material submitted and the discussions with interested providers, a decision will be made if an RFP will be issued. If an RFP is issued, it is expected that it will be released no later than June 1, 2014.

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