Questions and Responses for EBMUD RFP 26-557-01
Local Watershed Tree Planting, Maintenance, and Monitoring
November 16, 2026

1. Should we include our estimated cost for biological monitoring in the proposal pricing form in addition to the specified allowance, or is the allowance intended to serve as the sole cost reference for biological monitoring, with no separate cost estimate required from us?

   The costs required for completion of Task 1 through 4 should be provided in the bid proposal form. Allowance #2 for biological monitoring only covers as-needed biological monitoring to protect special status plants and wildlife species during planting only (see pages 10-11). Notably, it does not cover the tree monitoring required in Task 4. For biological monitoring specifically covered by Allowance #2 as described on pages 10-11, the proposal form already includes a cost of $50,000; the proposer should not provide their own separate cost estimate.

   The listed Allowance #2 amount will be included in all submitted bids and will only be used on a time-and-materials basis, as needed during planting, with approval by the District.

2. Exhibit B, "Insurance Requirements," requires the Contractor to carry Professional Liability Insurance. Exhibit B, Paragraph C, requires subcontractors to carry the required insurance to the extent it applies to the services they perform. Since only the Contractor's subcontractor will perform work that requires Professional Liability Insurance, will the District allow the Contractor to meet this requirement through the subcontractor's Professional Liability Insurance?

   The Contractor and/or subcontracting completing the work that requires Professional Liability insurance must carry the insurance to the stated coverage limits. If the Contractor elects to ask their subcontractor to carry the insurance, the Contractor must still sign the verification forms included in Exhibit B when a Contract is executed with the selected Contractor.

3. Exhibit C, "General Requirements," does not include a differing site conditions provision. Exhibit C, Article 19, "Damages," and Exhibit A, "Proposer Information and Acceptance," Item 6, place the risk of unknown conditions on the Contractor. Will the District add a provision giving the Contractor additional time and compensation for extra work caused by site conditions that differ materially from those indicated in the RFP documents?

   The District will not be adding a provision for extra work caused by site conditions that differ materially from those indicated in the RFP documents. However, an allowance (Allowance #1) has been included in the RFP to be used for unforeseen site improvements needed to allow the Contractor to effectively conduct their work with tree planting, establishment, monitoring, and reporting. Examples of these such conditions might be to add fencing or gate repair to prevent cattle access.

   The listed Allowance #1 amount will be included in all submitted bids and will only be used on a time-and-materials basis, as needed, with approval by the District.

4. Is any monitoring required other than tree survival? Do project permits require any other success criteria such as minimum native vegetation cover requirements or invasive weed cover/species thresholds?

Monitoring required is percent survival of trees, a qualitative assessment of trees including height and health, recommended assessment of actions for the following year to help meet the minimum survival rate at the end of the 4-year monitoring period, and photo documentation. This is included in Paragraph I.D of the RFP, under Statement of Work. Requirements for the Baseline Report are also included in Paragraph I.D.

5. Should rare plant surveys be conducted at the Shuteman Site in 2027 as part of this contract? Have any rare plant surveys been conducted in this area?

   Rare plant surveys are not required as part of this contract. No rare plant surveys have been conducted.

6. Do invasive weeds need to be controlled on the site for any reason other than to improve tree survivorship to meet the minimum 85% 4-year survival rate?

   There is no need to control invasive weeds on the site other than to improve tree survivorship. If this is needed and not included in the base scope of services, this may be authorized (at the District's PM's discretion) to be completed under Allowance #1.

7. Why does maintenance only have 200 days allocated, if the overall duration of the maintenance/monitoring required is a total of 5 years?

   While the trees must be maintained for a total of 5 years, the 200 days included is an estimated quantity of active maintenance time that the District believes the Contractor will likely need to spend over the 5-year period.