

Addendum No. 2 to RFP #27-14



CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS
Department of Procurement and Contracting Services
JAKE WILSON
MAYOR

To: All Parties on Record with the City of Somerville as Holding RFP #27-14 The Green and Cool Somerville: Sustainable Sidewalks and Trees Project

From: Felisa Gárate, Senior Procurement Manager

Date: 9/22/2026

Re: Questions and Answers

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Please acknowledge receipt of this Addendum by signing below and including this form in your proposal package. Failure to do so may subject the proposer to disqualification.

NAME OF COMPANY / INDIVIDUAL: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP: _____

TELEPHONE/FAX/EMAIL: _____

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED INDIVIDUAL: _____

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF ADDENDA:

Addendum #1 _____ **#2** _____ **#3** _____ **#4** _____

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#	Question	Answer
1.	Task 9 includes professional survey and detailed site documentation for pilot sites that will not be selected until later in the project. Because the locations, number of contiguous pilot areas, and required survey limits are not yet known, can assumptions be provided that proposers should use to develop a lump-sum fee for professional survey, including the anticipated number of contiguous survey areas, approximate linear feet or acreage, and required level of survey. Alternatively, will the survey scope and fee be established following pilot site selection?	Based on the 100 trees goal, and a typical spacing of 40' between trees, the result would be a total street length of approximately 2000' (assuming trees on both sides). Provide a survey fee for a cumulative 2000' of street, assume the total street width is 35' (back-of-sidewalk to back-of-sidewalk). This length may be broken up into multiple streets or sections of streets. We will negotiate an amendment if the recommended pilot area is substantially different.
2a.	What design review milestones should be assumed for Task 9 (e.g., 30%, 60%, 90%, and final), and how many City review/comment cycles should be included?	We anticipate the following milestones, each of which will require review by City staff from Public Space and Urban Forestry, Sustainability & Environment, and Engineering Department:
2b.	How many pilot project deliverable milestones and City review cycles are anticipated (e.g., SD, DD, 90% CD, 100% CD/Bid Documents)? Will design review be by multiple City Departments? How much time is anticipated for each review period?	Stage 1: survey; consultant will identify, measure, and map suitable sites for pilot tree planting and sidewalk construction Stage 2: 50% design; consultant will develop pilot project concept and interim design Stage 3: 90% design: consultant will produce draft of pilot 100% design for review and comments by City and grant program Stage 4: 100% design: consultant will revise draft of pilot 100% design to incorporate edits and comments by City and grant program and finalize the documents Stage 5: Bid documents; consultant will develop pilot project requirements, scope, and bid evaluation Review and comments by City staff will be completed in a maximum of 2 weeks for each stage.
3.	Has the City performed environmental soil characterization or identified known or suspected contaminated soil at any potential pilot locations? If available, will existing environmental reports or soil analytical data be provided to the consultant?	The City does not anticipate soil contamination beyond typical urban fill material. The City will provide soils reports and/or tests from the pilot locations, if available.

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4.	Should proposers include environmental soil sampling, laboratory analysis, soil management planning, and/or LSP services within the lump-sum fee?	No.
5.	For subsurface investigations needed to characterize soil conditions and support design of the pilot improvements, will the City provide or coordinate excavation equipment and associated support for test pits and other exploratory work, or should proposers include these costs in the lump-sum fee? Please also provide any assumptions regarding the anticipated extent of subsurface investigation to be included.	No, the City does not provide excavation services. Subsurface investigations are typically limited to records research. Soils in street corridors are assumed to be dense graded gravel over typical urban granular fill.
6.	For Task 9.2, should the consultant rely on available City GIS, record utility information, and surface observations, or should the scope include private utility locating, GPR, vacuum excavation/test pits, or other subsurface utility verification?	Records research is typically sufficient. If there is substantial lack of records, vacuum excavation and/or test pits may be considered as an additional service.
7.	Is the consultant expected to perform a detailed ADA/MAAB existing-conditions assessment at all approximately 100 sites and design corrections to existing accessibility deficiencies adjacent to the proposed work, or only address accessibility requirements associated with the proposed improvements?	A detailed ADA/MAAB existing assessment is not anticipated. The proposed designs shall include completely ADA/MAAB compliant street cross-section at each tree location and on either side of the tree location.
8a.	What is the anticipated construction budget for implementation of the approximately 100 pilot tree planting sites?	The 100 trees pilot project would be incorporated into an annual street reconstruction project, which typically includes the reconstruction of sidewalk, curbing and roadway. A 2000' section of street incorporating 100 trees would have a construction budget of approximately \$2.5 million.
8b.	Has a construction budget been established for the pilot project implementation?	
9.	Please confirm that ground survey of existing conditions for the selected implementation sites will be contracted through and provided by the City as owner. Please clarify any expectations for timing/scheduling of anticipate survey services as it relates to development of the pilot project construction documents.	Task 9 includes professional survey as a scope item for this project.
10.	Please confirm existing City GIS database includes information for existing utilities (electrical, storm, sewer, water, other) within roadway and sidewalk ROWs. Does the City anticipate the need to transfer information from utility as-builts or other existing documentation as part of the pilot project construction documentation?	The City has the following GIS datasets available: • Environmental Justice communities • Existing (2018) Canopy Cover • Current Public Tree Inventory • Sidewalk locations and widths • Sewer infrastructure (stormwater gravity mains, sanitary sewer mains, storm drains)

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		• Water mains • Sewer Segment Intersection with 20' Tree Buffer Zones • Other City Infrastructure The City does not anticipate the need to transfer any information from city-owned utility as-builts. The City recommends contacting private utilities (electric, tel/com, gas, etc.) for the availability of their infrastructure data.
11.	Please confirm the City of Somerville Engineering Division and DPW consider construction documents stamped and sealed by a professional landscape architect registered in MA to be acceptable.	Yes.
12.	Please clarify the degree to which pilot projects are anticipated or expected to include “associated streetscape improvements” (ref 2.0 Project Goals, objective #7) beyond the implementation of tree plantings and immediate sidewalk modifications — i.e., changes to curb lines or vehicular traffic lanes, widening or regrading of sidewalks, integration of bicycle infrastructure, modifications to existing utility infrastructure.	Though not specifically required, changes to curb lines, sidewalks, etc. may be necessary to accomplish tree goals while providing for acceptable ADA/MAAB and vehicular access requirements.
13.	Does the city anticipate performing any geotechnical investigations (soil borings, infiltration testing) for the pilot sites, given the emphasis on engineered soil systems and stormwater integration, or is this expected the design team will rely on existing published soil data?	Published data is generally acceptable.
14.	For the approximately 100 pilot tree planting sites, can the City provide an anticipated number and/or geographic extent of the contiguous pilot areas or street segments to be surveyed and designed? Does the City have specific streets, neighborhoods or sites in mind already based on previous studies and/or community engagement?	The goal of this project is to identify pilot locations. No construction is involved with this project. Refer to Question 1 of this addendum regarding survey recommendations. The selected pilot streets should be primarily based on the street list in the latest 5-year Pavement Management Plan: found by clicking here
15.	Will the City be responsible for preparing upfront specifications (Div 00 and 01) for bid documents?	Yes.
16.	What are the standard city specifications (Divisions 00, 01, etc.) that will be provided?	An example of standard street specifications can be found on one of our more recent projects, such as: click here

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17.	For pilot project implementation, how much survey work (and soil testing, if any) is anticipated?	See the answers to questions 1 through 5 above.
18.	Do you have an anticipated number of pilot sites associated with the approximately 100 tree plantings? We understand the intent is to group sites where feasible, but can you provide an estimated or maximum number of pilot locations that may ultimately be included? Additionally, will construction documents for all pilot sites be issued as a single bid package?	The City would prefer a maximum of five sites, since that is the total number of streets we typically construct in a single year. Yes, the pilot sites will be included in a single bid package that will likely include other streets for reconstruction.
19.	We have one additional question after reviewing Addendum 1, Question No. 6. The response states that the current funding is for a one-year project, while the Project Milestone and Schedule indicates October 2026–June 2027, which is nine months. Could you please confirm whether we should base our proposal and fee on a 9-month or 12-month project duration? The duration will affect our fee and staffing assumptions.	Correction from the answer to question number 6 from Addendum 1; this is an approximately 9-month project, which must be completed by the end of this fiscal year. Funding expires at the end of June 2027.