



**CITY OF EL CERRITO
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**

**HILLSIDE NATURAL AREA FIRE RESILIENCE AND
FOREST CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT PLAN RFP**

Q&A

To: All Proposers

April 19, 2023

Please find below answers to questions received regarding the City of El Cerrito's Hillside Natural Area (HNA) Fire Resilience and Forest Conservation Management Plan (Plan) Request for Proposals (RFP), issued March 30, 2023.

Question 1: The RFP requires "assessment of cultural and social value of project area, trails, access and infrastructure." Under CEQA, a cultural resources analysis is required, including a record search, archival research, field surveys, and a Cultural Resources Assessment Report. Has the City conducted the required cultural resource assessments and if not, is the preparation of this report part of the Scope?

Answer: No, a cultural assessment has not been conducted and is part of Task 1.2 for the selected firm to complete and prepare the report if necessary.

Question 2: Does the City anticipate any changes in traffic, public infrastructure, GHG emissions and other CEQA relevant issues as part of this project, which would trigger additional studies? If so, which studies have been completed and which are included as deliverable in the scope for this RFP?

Answer: No studies have been completed. City staff don't anticipate traffic and public infrastructure changes. Depending on the selected firm's recommendations in the Plan, the Initial Study may identify the need for additional studies as part of the project.

Question 3: Does the City have a Corps-approved jurisdictional wetlands delineation for the site?

Answer: No, but Task 1.2 requires that the selected firm conduct a site assessment to determine if a wetland is present per the Corps and other agency definitions.

Question 4: Can you please clarify the extent and acreage of the area to be covered by the Management Plan? Is it only intended to cover the City's Hillside Natural Area, or is it intended to cover other areas of the City?

Answer: The Plan covers the City's Hillside Natural Area which is ~ 107 acres. See the rough extent of the area below.



Question 5: Does the City expect that the Plan will evaluate and address access improvements for fire suppression/Fire Department access?

Answer: Yes, the grant requires that the plan address emergency vehicle access in the HNA by evaluating and recommending improvements and connectivity. The City is not, however, expecting an in depth analysis (i.e. geotechnical investigation).

Question 6: On page 5 of the RFP, under (3) Statement of Experience and Qualifications, the third bullet asks for firm's ability and approach for conducting Fire Resilience and Forest Conservation Management plans. An approach is also requested in (5) Approach, Scope, and Timelines. Would you like to see our approach in both sections?

Answer: Yes, although Section 5 should focus more on approach and Section 3 should focus on the firm's experience with similar plans.