

Question Number	Question / Comment	Response
1	<p>Program Delivery Contract consists of what services and products I am interested but not sure what services etc. you are requesting.</p>	<p>The scope of services will be provided in the Request for Qualifications (RFQ). It is anticipated that the contract will seek program management, program integration and coordination, and program delivery services for the entire project through an architectural and engineering based RFQ procurement.</p> <p>Please visit the following link for additional information: www.hsr.ca.gov/business-opportunities/contractors/program-delivery-support.</p> <p>To request a copy of the current Rail Delivery Partner contract, which includes the detailed scope of services requested in the last procurement, please visit the Authority's Public Records Act Portal. Find more information about the Public Records Act (PRA) request process, including additional document request methods, on the PRA webpage at: www.hsr.ca.gov/about/public-records-act.</p>
2	<p>What will be the small business goal for this procurement? Please discuss how this goal will be achieved?</p>	<p>This contract will include a 30 percent Small Business utilization goal, inclusive of a 10 percent Disadvantaged Business Enterprise goal and a 3 percent Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise goal. The Small Business Program details small business compliance and utilization requirements.</p> <p>For information about the Authority's Small Business Program, please see: www.hsr.ca.gov/business-opportunities/small-business-program.</p> <p>Please note the Small Business Program document is not ADA compliant and is only available per request available in the link above.</p>
3	<p>Do I assume correctly that there will be no contractor services on this procurement?</p>	<p>The scope of services will be provided in the Request for Qualifications (RFQ). There will be no construction related "contractor services" in this architectural and engineering based RFQ and resulting contract.</p> <p>Please visit the following link for additional information: www.hsr.ca.gov/business-opportunities/contractors/program-delivery-support.</p> <p>To request a copy of the current Rail Delivery Partner contract, please visit the Authority's Public Records Act Portal. Find more information about the Public Records Act (PRA) request process, including additional document request methods, on the PRA webpage at: www.hsr.ca.gov/about/public-records-act.</p>
4	<p>When will small business participation be resolved on the Track & Systems contract?</p>	<p>Questions regarding the Track & Systems procurement should be submitted to TS1@hsr.ca.gov.</p> <p>For updates on the Track & Systems procurement, see www.hsr.ca.gov/business-opportunities/contractors/track-systems.</p>
5	<p>Also, when will selection of prime [for the Track & Systems contract] be complete?</p>	<p>Questions regarding the Track & Systems procurement should be submitted to TS1@hsr.ca.gov.</p> <p>For updates on the Track & Systems procurement, see: www.hsr.ca.gov/business-opportunities/contractors/track-systems.</p>

Question Number	Question / Comment	Response
6	If a small business is not under contract on Track & Systems, do I assume that there will NOT be a conflict of interest with providing Program Delivery Support?	<p>In order to ensure the integrity of contracts and procurements, the California High-Speed Rail Authority adopted an Organizational Conflict of Interest Policy that complies with applicable state and federal law. This policy is intended to accomplish the following goals regarding the Authority's procurement and contracting process: (1) Promote integrity, transparency, competitiveness and fairness; (2) Prevent bidders from obtaining or appearing to obtain an unfair competitive advantage; (3) Provide guidance to enable informed decisions; and (4) Protect the validity of the Authority procurements, contracts, confidential and sensitive information. The policy was revised in November 2020, and can be downloaded from the Authority's website at: www.hsr.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/docs/about/doing_business/Organizational_Conflict_Interest_Policy.pdf.</p> <p>A few regularly-seen examples of situations that may create an Organizational Conflict of Interest result when a Contractor:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Performs work on multiple contracts, and work performed under one contract could result in the Contractor being in a position to accept or evaluate the work it performs under a different contract. • Provides services related to a procurement and then bids on it (which creates a financial interest and results in an unfair competitive advantage). • Has information that has not been made public or disclosed to other participants in the procurement so that it has an unfair competitive advantage over other bidders. <p>Requests for Organizational Conflict of Interest determinations should be submitted to the Authority's Chief Counsel, Alicia Fowler, at Legal@hsr.ca.gov, referencing "Early Determination for Program Delivery Support Contract."</p>
7	Will small business be part of the submission package in the proposal?	<p>This contract will include a 30 percent Small Business utilization goal, inclusive of a 10 percent Disadvantaged Business Enterprise goal and a 3 percent Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise goal.</p> <p>For information about the Authority's Small Business Program, please see: www.hsr.ca.gov/business-opportunities/small-business-program.</p> <p>Please note the Small Business Program document is not ADA compliant and is only available per request available in the link above.</p>
8	Please provide or discuss major milestones for this procurement?	<p>The scope of services will be provided in the Request for Qualifications (RFQ). As to current program major milestones, please refer to the current 2020 Business Plan: https://hsr.ca.gov/about/high-speed-rail-business-plans/2020-business-plan.</p> <p>Please visit the following link for additional information: www.hsr.ca.gov/business-opportunities/contractors/program-delivery-support.</p> <p>To request a copy of the current Rail Delivery Partner contract, which includes major contract components in the prior contract, please visit the Authority's Public Records Act Portal. Find more information about the Public Records Act (PRA) request process, including additional document request methods, on the PRA webpage at: www.hsr.ca.gov/about/public-records-act.</p>
9	Have the primes been identified and can that information be provided?	<p>No, potential primes have not been identified, but certain firms that participated in the Virtual Industry Forum have self-identified as being a potential prime contractor. Companies seeking to team with other firms (primes and subconsultants) are encouraged to view the Virtual Industry Forum List that was posted in August 2021: https://hsr.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/2021-08-18-PDS-Contract-Virtual-Industry-Forum-List-of-Registrants-Final.pdf.</p> <p>It is anticipated that the California High-Speed Rail Authority will conduct a Pre-Bid Conference, and all interested parties, including primes, contractors, subcontractors, small businesses and DBE/DVBEs, are encouraged to participate. For future details please refer to: www.hsr.ca.gov/business-opportunities/contractors/program-delivery-support.</p>
10	Has a budget and duration been established for this project?	<p>The PDS contract term is anticipated to be four years, with options to extend the contract. The current estimate for the PDS contract amount is \$380 million.</p>

Question Number	Question / Comment	Response
11	How will CHSR ensure small business goals are achieved?	<p>This contract will include a 30 percent Small Business utilization goal, inclusive of a 10 percent Disadvantaged Business Enterprise and a 3 percent Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise goal. The Small Business Program details Small Business compliance and utilization requirements.</p> <p>For information about the Authority's Small Business Program, please see: www.hsr.ca.gov/business-opportunities/small-business-program.</p> <p>Please note the Small Business Program document is not ADA compliant and is only available per request available in the link above.</p>
12	What are the conflict of interest lines with other on going work packages to complete the overall CHSR system?	<p>In order to ensure the integrity of contracts and procurements, the California High-Speed Rail Authority adopted an Organizational Conflict of Interest Policy that complies with applicable state and federal law. This policy is intended to accomplish the following goals regarding the Authority's procurement and contracting process: (1) Promote integrity, transparency, competitiveness and fairness; (2) Prevent bidders from obtaining or appearing to obtain an unfair competitive advantage; (3) Provide guidance to enable informed decisions; and (4) Protect the validity of the Authority procurements, contracts, confidential and sensitive information. The policy was revised in November 2020, and can be downloaded from the Authority's website at: www.hsr.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/docs/about/doing_business/Organizational_Conflict_Interest_Policy.pdf.</p> <p>A few regularly-seen examples of situations that may create an Organizational Conflict of Interest result when a Contractor:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Performs work on multiple contracts, and work performed under one contract could result in the Contractor being in a position to accept or evaluate the work it performs under a different contract. • Provides services related to a procurement and then bids on it (which creates a financial interest and results in an unfair competitive advantage). • Has information that has not been made public or disclosed to other participants in the procurement so that it has an unfair competitive advantage over other bidders. <p>Requests for Organizational Conflict of Interest determinations should be submitted to the Authority's Chief Counsel, Alicia Fowler, at Legal@hsr.ca.gov, referencing "Early Determination for Program Delivery Support Contract."</p>
13	The Authority has indicated that they would like to expand the management of the High Speed Rail project by State Staff, how will this expanded State role work with the Project Delivery Support team and how will that approach be different that the current role played by the Rail Delivery Partner (RDP)?	<p>In July 2020, the Authority received a number of new state positions as part of a workload adjustment that will reduce the reliance on outside contracted resources, while increasing state oversight of critical functions (Form-to-Function). More detail of Authority and RDP FTE numbers can be found at www.hsr.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/Executive_Summary-August-2021_A11Y.pdf, which includes a projected impact on RDP headcount.</p> <p>The full scope of the PDS contract is currently under review. The current RDP contract does include program management services, but in the Central Valley Segment (CVS) the Authority is sourcing project and construction management (PCM) services through separate PCM contracts, and CVS construction utilizes design-build contracts. The Authority is considering its approach to future segments, as well as to the project and construction management approach for its Track and Systems contract.</p>
14	The Authority Board has expressed concerns with pursuing another multi-million-dollar consultant procurement like the current RDP (\$700 million over 5 years), how will the proposed PDS contract be structured in terms of duration and potential contract extensions?	<p>The PDS contract term is anticipated to be four years, with options to extend. The current estimate for the PDS contract amount is \$380 million.</p>

Question Number	Question / Comment	Response
15	Will the PDS take over all management aspects of the High-Speed Rail Program? e.g., (Program management, Construction Management, DSDC, etc.)	The full scope of the PDS contract is currently under review and will be provided in the RFQ. The current RDP contract includes program management services, program integration and coordination, and program delivery services, which are also anticipated in the PDS contract. The Authority continues to evaluate its approach related to these types of services in future segments, as well as the project and construction management approach for its upcoming Track and Systems contract.
16	What are the key characteristics that HSR is seeking in its new Project Delivery Support Team? What or how will HSR restructure and what will the new organization look like? To what level of the HSR organization will the PDS leadership report?	The characteristics, roles, and responsibilities of the PDS consultant are currently under review by the Authority. Currently the RDP head executive reports to the acting COO and CEO. As to the current Authority organization and program, please refer to the current 2020 Business Plan: https://hsr.ca.gov/about/high-speed-rail-business-plans/2020-business-plan .
17	Is there support for a Joint Venture to assume the role of the PDS? This would assume direct oversight and engagement by Authority staff.	The Offeror's team structure can be flexible and could include a joint venture, provided it meets criteria as set forth in the RFQ.
18	Will there be any PM/CM, opportunities under the PDS Team or will they remain a separately managed procurement?	The full scope of the PDS contract is currently under review and will be provided in the RFQ. The current RDP contract includes program management services, program integration and coordination, and program delivery services, which are also anticipated in the PDS contract. The Authority is considering its approach to future segments, as well as to the project and construction management approach for its Track and Systems contract.
19	Will the Track & Systems contract be under the management of the PDS or will it remain a separately managed procurement and project?	The full scope of the PDS contract is currently under review and will be provided in the RFQ. The current RDP contract includes program management services, program integration and coordination, and program delivery services, which are also anticipated in the PDS contract but in the Central Valley Segment (CVS) the Authority is sourcing project and construction management (PCM) services through separate PCM contracts, and CVS construction utilizes design-build contracts. The Authority continues to evaluate its approach related to these types of services in future segments, as well as to the project and construction management approach for its upcoming Track and Systems contract.
20	Will the PDS be expected to pay its subconsultants prior to receiving the respective invoiced proceeds from the HSR?	Payment will be made within the specified time period as defined in the PDS contract upon proof of work, incurred and actual costs. Please refer to the draft agreement that will be included in the RFQ. Additionally, the PDS contract will be subject to the Prompt Payment Act.
21	It appears that the Authority has pushed the RFQ release date back from September to October, will the Authority continue to hold to the current SOQ due date of January 2022, or will that date be moved back as well?	The anticipated RFQ release date is subsequent to Board approval in October 2021 and anticipated SOQ submission date is January 2022. For updates on the procurement timeline, please visit the Authority's website at: www.hsr.ca.gov/business-opportunities/contractors/program-delivery-support .
22	Thank you for the presentation today. I was wondering are there any Event Management/Event Planning RFP Opportunity coming up?	Presently, this work is not anticipated to be within the scope of the PDS contract. Please review scope in the RFQ and possibly contact prime consultants for business opportunities once the RFQ is released.
23	I see its mostly construction. How we can be of service in terms of events is groundbreaking, grand opening celebration or community event celebration. When the Gold line opened they did an event that at some designated stops they have a party where they invite the community/residence out to come check it out and enjoy the festivity (music, games, food and drink). We would do a fantastic job. We have done several large community events as well as grand openings and groundbreakings.	Thank you for your interest in the project and providing these types of services. Presently, this type of work is not anticipated to be within the scope of the PDS contract. Please review scope in the RFQ and possibly contact prime consultants for business opportunities once the RFQ is released. As to future business opportunities, the Authority will post contracting opportunities at: https://hsr.ca.gov/business-opportunities/contractors/contracts-out-for-bid .
24	I was not able to attend yesterday's webinar and there is no video copy of the meeting on the HSR website. Could you please send me a copy of the powerpoint presentation.	The video recording and PowerPoint for the Virtual Industry Forum is available on the Authority's website at: www.hsr.ca.gov/business-opportunities/contractors/program-delivery-support .

Question Number	Question / Comment	Response
25	Please confirm the Authority has updated the Conflict of Interest Policy for this procurement, specifically with respect to work on Third Party projects utilizing Authority funding.	<p>In order to ensure the integrity of contracts and procurements, the California High-Speed Rail Authority adopted an Organizational Conflict of Interest Policy that complies with applicable state and federal law. This policy is intended to accomplish the following goals regarding the Authority's procurement and contracting process: (1) Promote integrity, transparency, competitiveness and fairness; (2) Prevent bidders from obtaining or appearing to obtain an unfair competitive advantage; (3) Provide guidance to enable informed decisions; and (4) Protect the validity of the Authority procurements, contracts, confidential and sensitive information. The policy was revised in November 2020, and can be downloaded from the Authority's website at: www.hsr.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/docs/about/doing_business/Organizational_Conflict_Interest_Policy.pdf.</p> <p>A few regularly-seen examples of situations that may create an Organizational Conflict of Interest result when a Contractor:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Performs work on multiple contracts, and work performed under one contract could result in the Contractor being in a position to accept or evaluate the work it performs under a different contract. • Provides services related to a procurement and then bids on it (which creates a financial interest and results in an unfair competitive advantage). • Has information that has not been made public or disclosed to other participants in the procurement so that it has an unfair competitive advantage over other bidders. <p>Requests for Organizational Conflict of Interest determinations should be submitted to the Authority's Chief Counsel, Alicia Fowler, at Legal@hsr.ca.gov, referencing "Early Determination for Program Delivery Support Contract."</p>

Question Number	Question / Comment	Response
26	Please confirm a firm is permitted to bid this contract if performing as a sub consultant on Third Part HSR work.	<p>In order to ensure the integrity of contracts and procurements, the California High-Speed Rail Authority adopted an Organizational Conflict of Interest Policy that complies with applicable state and federal law. This policy is intended to accomplish the following goals regarding the Authority's procurement and contracting process: (1) Promote integrity, transparency, competitiveness and fairness; (2) Prevent bidders from obtaining or appearing to obtain an unfair competitive advantage; (3) Provide guidance to enable informed decisions; and (4) Protect the validity of the Authority procurements, contracts, confidential and sensitive information. The policy was revised in November 2020, and can be downloaded from the Authority's website at: www.hsr.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/docs/about/doing_business/Organizational_Conflict_Interest_Policy.pdf.</p> <p>A few regularly-seen examples of situations that may create an Organizational Conflict of Interest result when a Contractor:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Performs work on multiple contracts, and work performed under one contract could result in the Contractor being in a position to accept or evaluate the work it performs under a different contract. • Provides services related to a procurement and then bids on it (which creates a financial interest and results in an unfair competitive advantage). • Has information that has not been made public or disclosed to other participants in the procurement so that it has an unfair competitive advantage over other bidders. <p>Requests for Organizational Conflict of Interest determinations should be submitted to the Authority's Chief Counsel, Alicia Fowler, at Legal@hsr.ca.gov, referencing "Early Determination for Program Delivery Support Contract."</p>

Question Number	Question / Comment	Response
27	<p>We are unlikely to bid on the Program Delivery Support RFQ, but we are very interested in working with you - or the Prime Contractor - to deliver state-of-the-art cybersecurity to support what you currently have, and what you're building. Since California passed the seminal Data Breach Disclosure law in 2004, we have built a unique solution to protect sensitive data. Leveraging "disruptive defenses", it delivers more risk-management controls to protect sensitive data than any other solution does in a single appliance. And, this solution is manufactured by our small business right here in California. As an open-source solution.</p> <p>If your RFQ does not include "Data Security Controls", I would strongly encourage including them based on the risks identified in the linked Forbes article. Not focusing on cybersecurity up-front, or adding it as an after-thought, only leads to the kinds of data breaches California was trying protect us from in 2004.</p>	<p>This work is not anticipated to be within the scope of the PDS contract. For all future contracting opportunities, please check our website at: https://hsr.ca.gov/business-opportunities/contractors/contracts-out-for-bid.</p> <p>Thank you for your comment and your interest in the program.</p>
28	<p>Just wanted to touch base if there was any union furniture installation team needed for the program? If so we have 2 offices in Norcal and SoCal.</p> <p>If this isn't the correct email/contact for this I apologies.</p>	<p>This work is not presently anticipated to be within the scope of the PDS contract.</p> <p>Please watch for future contracting opportunities on our website at: https://hsr.ca.gov/business-opportunities/contractors/contracts-out-for-bid.</p> <p>Thank you for your comment and your interest in the program.</p>
29	<p>When do you expect to have a video copy of the 8/4 webinar posted on the HSR's PDS webpage?</p>	<p>The video recording and PowerPoint for the Industry Forum is now available on the Authority's website at: www.hsr.ca.gov/business-opportunities/contractors/program-delivery-support.</p>
30	<p>I was unable to attend the virtual forum on 8/4/2021. Is it possible to obtain a copy of the presentation? If it is available? If it is available. please email me a copy.</p>	<p>The video recording and PowerPoint for the Industry Forum is now available on the Authority's website at: www.hsr.ca.gov/business-opportunities/contractors/program-delivery-support.</p>
31	<p>I would greatly appreciate the opportunity to discuss our global capabilities and CA strategic plans with CAHSR. Capabilities statement attached.</p>	<p>This is not within the scope of the PDS contract.</p> <p>Thank you for your comment and your interest in the program.</p>

Question Number	Question / Comment	Response
32	Is there a list available identifying all the firms that are part of the existing Project Delivery Consultant Contract (or, a website link to view it)? This would be helpful for our firm as a DBE/SBE and Woman-Owned Business, seeking potential teaming opportunities. Thanks.	<p>No, potential primes have not yet been identified, but certain firms that participated in the Virtual Industry Forum have self-identified as being a potential prime contractor. Companies seeking to team with other firms (primes and subconsultants) are encouraged to view the Virtual Industry Forum List that was posted in August 2021: https://hsr.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/2021-08-18-PDS-Contract-Virtual-Industry-Forum-List-of-Registrants-Final.pdf.</p> <p>It is anticipated that the California High-Speed Rail Authority will conduct a Pre-Bid Conference, and all interested parties, including primes, contractors, subcontractors, small businesses and DBE/DVBEs, are encouraged to participate. For future details please refer to: www.hsr.ca.gov/business-opportunities/contractors/program-delivery-support.</p>
33	We strongly recommend that the Authority move away from a single, Rail Delivery Partner-like contract, and toward a smaller contract with meaningful scope distribution. Smaller contracts would provide the Authority with more opportunity to oversee the work and make adjustments as necessary. The idea is to have a core PM group augment HSR staff with the same level of responsibility and accountability. Remove redundancies by having an authority rep, a PDS rep and a PCM rep doing the same job.	The scope of work for the PDS contract is currently under development and review by the Authority. Please refer to the final scope of work in the Request for Qualifications (RFQ).
34	We recommend that the Project Delivery Support contract should be focused on overall Program Management and Delivery and should not absorb PCM and Design work which should continue to be procured as separate contracts and managed by the Authority's Regional Directors and technical staff directly.	The scope of work for the PDS contract is currently under development and review by the Authority. Please refer to the final scope of work in the Request for Qualifications (RFQ).
35	The Project Delivery Support Team contract should include the coverage of all reasonable project related Travel Expenses and Living Expenses for staff. This would ensure that consultants can staff the field offices with their best staff and leverage firmwide resources	The scope of work for the PDS contract is currently under development and review by the Authority. Please refer to the final scope of work in the Request for Qualifications (RFQ).
36	Recommend that the Authority recognize the difficulty some small businesses have in invoicing and we would suggest that the Authority be willing to utilize other invoicing approaches to simplify the process for subs.	The scope of work for the PDS contract is currently under development and review by the Authority. Please refer to the final scope of work in the Request for Qualifications (RFQ).
37	We recommend that the PDS Team be organized as support to the Authority and not have day-to-day management responsibilities over consultants performing planning, design or PCM services. The expanded Authority staff should be the primary point of day-to-day contact and management of consultants providing these design/professional services.	The scope of work for the PDS contract is currently under development and review by the Authority. Please refer to the final scope of work in the Request for Qualifications (RFQ).
38	Are prevailing wages required on this contract?	The high-speed rail project is a public works project but not every contract is subject to prevailing wage requirements. The resulting Program Delivery Support contract will require compliance with all applicable federal and state prevailing wage laws and regulations, which generally apply to specific construction, design and pre-construction work, as well as certain types of off-site work and professional services. (See also, the Authority's Community Benefits Agreement, which defines Project Work and Exclusions.) While it is anticipated that much of this architectural and engineering contract work will not be subject to prevailing wage, the federal Davis-Bacon Act and California Prevailing Wage law may apply to certain services. This issue (as well as other fee and cost analysis work) may be addressed in more detail during the contract negotiations with the offeror ranked number one, which likely will include a contract compliance review and a cost proposal pre-award audit review.

Question Number	Question / Comment	Response
39	With the anticipated schedule for initial operations, is the Authority considering adding the potential for additional two-year extensions to maintain continuity through testing, commissioning and start of service?	The PDS contract term is anticipated to be four years, with options to extend.
40	Due to the complexity, size, and scope as well as the technical expertise required for success of the CHSR program, will the relevant experience allow for projects completed within the last 10 years in order to ensure the capture of programs most aligned with CAHSR on a global scale?	Specialized experience and demonstrated competence related to high-speed rail will be included as part of the RFQ evaluation criteria used to assess the Offeror's Statement of Qualifications. The RFQ evaluation criteria will comply with the Authority's regulation, 21 CCR § 10000.3.
41	<p>Assuming that the Program Director / Manager will be required to have HSR program experience, will a California PE be required even though the majority of HSR is outside of the US?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • And if CA PE is required, will the timing allowed for getting the California PE for other state PEs or International Engineers be 24 months to not preclude international Program Directors / Managers who can bring global expertise and best practices to CAHSR? 	The scope of work is presently under development and will be provided in the Request for Qualifications (RFQ). If specialty licenses are required for certain work, such as a California Professional Engineer license, it is anticipated that the license would be required at contract execution and/or prior to commencement of the subject work.

NOTE: Responses are provided for informational purposes only, pursuant to the Authority's notice on its Project Delivery Support Contract webpage.