FY 16 State Highway Administration Research Needs

Response to Administrative & Technical Questions

Updated 10/26/15

Administrative Questions:

Question: *Is October 30 a firm deadline?*

Answer: Yes. Please submit your two unbound copies of proposal by 3 p.m. on October 30, 2015.

Technical Questions:

2016-01: Use of Compost to Establish Permanent Vegetation

Q#1 "We understand that the project requires significant field monitoring of the sites. However, we also recognize that 2 field sites may not capture some of the variables important to this topic and that too wet/dry weather can bias the results. Some laboratory testing will strengthen the results to better characterize the type and amount of vegetation that can be produced. Is there any interest in running lab tests to bridge the gap between the fundamental vegetation performance and the field work?"

SHA does not – at this time – anticipate the need for laboratory simulation. Our interest is real world application. We are trying our best to provide the two field sites big enough for five different treatments with replicated plots on each site.

Q#2 "We also recognize that the PIs will be responsible for installing materials onto plots. We strongly feel that this part of the work needs to be contracted out to a company (approved by SHA) for a high quality, rapid turn-around. We would be glad to come up with a separate budget for the subcontractor fees and include it in the final budget to SHA. Can SHA assist us in finding the right subcontractor for this task?"

The SHA (or a contactor) will be able to prepare the sites and spread the test material. The PI will need to be onsite when the material is installed at the field sites, to provide either an objective evaluation or oversight. Please do include a separate budget for this subcontract.