

Request For Proposals

RFP539 - Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Planning, Engagement, and Implementation

Questions and Answers

- 1. Q. If data indicates that certain sites are lower priority, but local jurisdictions have committed matching funds to those locations, how should that influence project prioritization and funding allocation decisions?**

A. Matching funds provided for this project are not allocated to specific schools and therefore will not influence the site selections. Sites should be suggested by the selected contractor and finalized in conversation with ARC and local jurisdiction stakeholders.

- 2. Q. Will the initiative focus exclusively on public schools, or does the scope also include private schools?**

A. Private schools are not outlined in this project scope.

- 3. Q. Is there an expectation that prioritized schools will be evenly distributed across the three jurisdictions, or will allocation be driven by risk, need, or other prioritization criteria?**

A. Additional site selection criteria should be recommended by the selected contractor and finalized in consultation with ARC. The number of schools selected per jurisdiction will vary but should aim to be proportional relative to community size and need.

- 4. Q. Does ARC currently maintain a subscription to Replica or another safety analytics technology, and if so, is this included in what the selected consultant may be permitted to access and use for analysis?**

A. ARC does have access to Replica through a license. Consultants may access this platform for the duration of the project work while under contract with ARC.

- 5. Q. Are Road Safety Audits anticipated to be conducted at all approximately 90 schools, or only at those 12-18 schools identified as priority locations?**

A. The number of traditional Road Safety Audits will be done at a limited number of schools, in part to help inform the tactical infrastructure pop-ups to be completed during the demonstration activities. However, depending on budget, time, and priorities, the audits may be done at more schools than are selected for tactical infrastructure pop-ups.

- 6. Q. Does ARC have a preferred duration and phasing approach for pop-up infrastructure deployments (for example, minimum time in place or sequential**

versus concurrent installations), or should respondents propose an optimized model based on evaluation and cost-efficiency?

A. There is no preference for infrastructure deployments specifically as it relates to timeline. Interested firms should propose optimized models based on evaluation from the supplemental planning period and to maximize cost-efficiency.

- 7. Q. Are all three demonstration activities expected to be implemented at every participating school, or will the planning and prioritization process determine which activities are deployed at each location?**

A. No, the selected contractor should plan to make recommendations for locations for each of the demonstration activities based on feedback from the supplemental planning period.

- 8. Q. Is the consultant expected to update existing school safety action plans and/or develop new plans as part of this contract?**

A. The selected contractor should provide recommendations to the school/districts to include in their own safety action plans but will not update the safety action plans for the participating schools directly. The selected contractor will be tasked with producing a report with recommendations to update the existing ARC regional Safety Strategy.

- 9. Q. Could ARC clarify how “school pools” are defined and expected to be used within the planning, prioritization, or implementation approach? Is this specifically referring to bike bus, walking school bus, carpooling and similar initiatives?**

A. “School pools” refer to walk bus, bike bus, or carpool programs. The selected contractor should plan to use the results of the supplemental planning results to guide target schools for implementing school pool programming. The type of school pool(s) selected should reflect the feedback gathered from the supplemental planning period.

- 10. Q. If cost efficiencies are realized within specific tasks, does ARC allow reallocation or pooling of remaining funds across other tasks or jurisdictions to maximize overall program impact?**

A. If cost efficiencies are realized, reallocation or pooling of funding is possible. However, a contract amendment may be necessary.

- 11. Q. Does ARC intend to award multiple contracts from this RFP? Please clarify this statement on page 5... “ARC reserves the right to award this contract based on initial proposals received without formal interviews and to award all or part of this project to one or more firms.”**

A. ARC intends to award based on the best candidate(s) as outlined by the four scoring categories – related experience, technical approach, workplan and schedule, and budget.

Should it make sense to do so based on scoring and need, ARC could reward more than one firm.

12. Q. Will the bulk of the implementation and coordination take place while school is in session or during the summer breaks?

A. Implementation of supplemental planning and demonstration activities should align with the school year to accurately capture the behaviors and safety concerns, and to test programming and infrastructure during school time. Preparation and coordinating for the implementation may take place outside of the school year to be ready to launch, or to work on evaluations post-school year.

13. Q. Will the title page, Table of Contents, section dividers, and contract documents count as part of the 25-page maximum for the proposal?

A. Title pages, table of contents, and section dividers will not count towards the maximum 25 maximum. Contract documents, references, resumes, schedules will be counted in the 25-page maximum.

14. Q. Are the infrastructure pop-up costs (~\$130K) included in the overall budget? Is the \$130K budget per school district or per school?

A. The \$130k budget amount reflects the design, planning and review labor for the pop-up infrastructure. It should include planning for all the selected school sites across all three jurisdictions. The budget for pop-up infrastructure procurement, construction, and removal is a separate budget item, totaling no more than \$148,000 across the selected sites.

15. Q. Is the overall budget inclusive of all expenses (communication/marketing materials, mileage, printing, etc.)?

A. Yes, the overall budget includes communication, marketing materials, mileage, printing, as well as planning, evaluation, and related program implementation and NEPA costs.

16. Q. For data collection (surveys, safety audits, participation counts, etc.), will the consulting team be able to select the platform for storing, analyzing, and disseminating information?

A. The awarded contractor may select the platform for storing and disseminating information in collaboration and with approval from the ARC project team.

17. Q. Are the number of tactical infrastructure pop-ups and school pool pilot programs defined by the SS4A grant application and agreement with USDOT?

A. The application estimated 18 pop-up infrastructure school sites and 17 school pool sites. However, the agreement does not specify a number for either. Therefore, the ARC team is looking to be close to the estimated numbers but will take into consideration the recommendations from the awarded contractor around opportunity, cost efficiency, and need.