

June 23, 2025
Rhode Island Commerce Corporation
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Solicitation Number: **RFP-2512**

ADDENDUM NO. 1

Questions & Answers

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
Rhode Island Destination Stewardship Plan

The Rhode Island Commerce Corporation (Corporation) is seeking the services of a professional organization to conduct a destination assessment and develop a statewide Destination Stewardship Plan that addresses social, economic, transportation, and environmental risks and opportunities.

Question 1: Is there any flexibility with the end date (October 15) for the project deliverable? Would a timeline that has delivery of a final draft report on October 15 be acceptable?

Answer 1: Vendor is required to deliver a final draft document on or before October 15, 2025, per the RFP

Question 2: What is the project budget?

Answer: Proposers to this RFP shall provide a proposed fee structure for providing services necessary to complete the proposed scope items. The proposers shall include a total maximum price to accomplish the scope items incorporated in the proposal.

Question 3: Will the consultant have access to existing tourism-related data (e.g., visitor volume, lodging performance, origin markets, resident sentiment), or should we plan to collect new data as part of the assessment?

Answer: Contracted vendor will have access to available third-party tourism related data including visitor volume, lodging performance, origin markets, Vender will need to assess resident sentiment.

Question 4: Are there specific regions of the state or types of tourism that should be emphasized or treated with more focus in the plan?

Answer: As per the RFP the Statewide Destination Stewardship Plan will be an inclusive statewide plan evaluating all sectors of the visitor economy.

Question 5: Will the Corporation assist in convening or recruiting stakeholders for interviews, surveys, or workshops—particularly among local governments, tourism entities, and industry groups?

Answer: Rhode Island Commerce will assist vendors with access to stakeholders.

Question 6: Is October 15, 2025, deadline intended for the final delivery of all approved materials, or would you expect a draft version to be submitted earlier for review and feedback?

Answer: As per the RFP October 15, is the deadline for delivery of the final draft.

Question 7: Is there a target or not-to-exceed budget range for this engagement that you can share to help us scale the proposal appropriately?

Answer: See answer to question 2.

Question 8: Are there any strategic plans, frameworks, or metrics already in place that we should align with (e.g., climate action plans, economic development strategies, or performance benchmarks)?

Answer: There is no central resource, vendor will be required to compile existing stakeholder assets strategies, and plans.

Question 9: Are subcontractors permitted for specific components of the scope (e.g., environmental risk assessment, design support), and if so, should they be identified in the proposal?

Answer: Subcontractors are permitted and must be identified as part of the vendors' team.

Question 10: Given the short timeframe between the expected award and the October 15, 2025 completion deadline, would the Corporation consider a phased or draft-final delivery model—especially for stakeholder engagement and final plan refinement?

Answer: Vendor is required to deliver a final draft document on or before October 15, 2025, per the RFP

Question 11: Are any in-person events or meetings expected? If so, approximately how many?

Answer: RFP requires engagement with visitors, residents, local government, transportation providers and local planners, key industry stakeholders, business leaders, civic leaders, national representatives, and public lands managers to include input from a diverse and true representation of the community. There are no in-person meetings minimums. Engagement may be conducted virtually or by survey.

Question 12: Is there a project budget or budget range allocated for this work?

Answer: See answer to question 2.

***End of Addendum ***