



Request for Interest

Sale, Removal, Transportation and Proper Use, Reuse, and/or Disposal of Water Vessels

in

The Woodlands, Texas

Issuance Date:
June 20, 2018

Due Date:
July 31, 2018

Request for Interest on Sale, Removal, Transportation and Proper Use, Reuse, and/or Disposal of Water Vessels

I. BACKGROUND INFORMATION REGARDING THE WATER VESSELS

Located just thirty (30) minutes north of Houston, Texas and minutes from George Bush Intercontinental Airport, The Woodlands, Texas is a destination for corporate and convention meetings, business travel, leisure travel and special events and activities. At the heart of its “downtown” area is The Woodlands Waterway (the “Waterway”), a 1.4-mile-long transportation corridor that features rubber-wheel trolleys, bike and running paths and a canal for boats.

A marina/maintenance facility is conveniently located on the Waterway at the corner of Lake Robbins Drive and the southbound feeder road of Interstate I-45 in The Woodlands Texas, which is owned by Brazos Transit District (“Brazos”). For the past fourteen (14) years, Brazos, The Woodlands Land Development Company (“TWLDC”), and The Woodlands Convention and Visitors Bureau (“TWCVB”) had operated six (6) boats on the Waterway (the “Water Vessels”), however, the custom-made boats are reaching the end of their estimated useful life.

The Water Vessels’ operations first began as a private operation by Water Taxi, Inc. out of Fort Lauderdale, Florida in 2004. For several years, TWLDC owned and operated the Water Vessels until the company gifted them to TWCVB. The Water Vessels were then operated until early 2016 by Brazos. The original useful life of the Water Vessels was estimated to be fifteen (15) years, and the Water Vessels have logged over 434,000 trips along the Waterway serving an estimated total number of more than 500,000 passengers in fourteen (14) years of service.

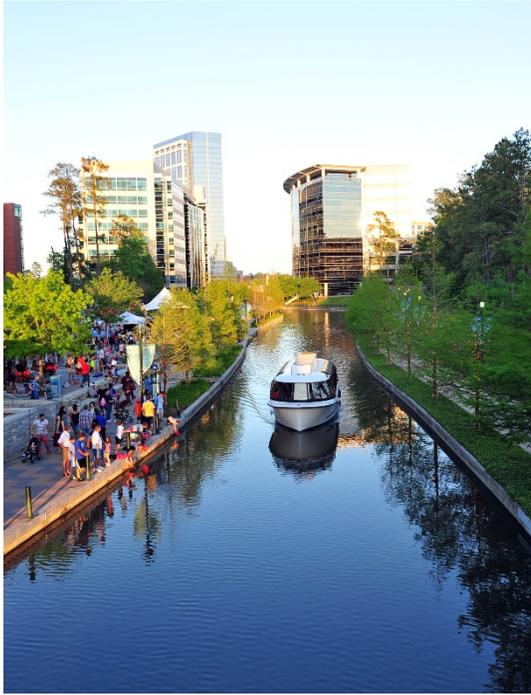
II. PURPOSE OF REQUEST FOR INTEREST ON SALE, REMOVAL, TRANSPORTATION AND PROPER USE, REUSE, AND/OR DISPOSAL OF WATER VESSELS

Rather than invest tens of thousands of dollars in these existing Water Vessels, TWCVB is seeking opportunities to sell the Water Vessels and replace them with new attractions for the downtown area and the Waterway. TWCVB is inquiring of experienced firms/professionals in boat sales and operations who are willing to purchase the Water Vessels, bear the costs of removal and transportation, and might make use of the Water Vessels in destinations like cities, amusement venues and other destinations. Alternatively, TWCVB is inquiring of parties or who specialize in purchasing and salvaging similar boats or who would be willing to safely remove, transport and dispose of the watercraft at their cost. The purchase and removal of all six (6) of the Water Vessels, ideally, would be included in any response to this Request

for Interest. Depending on what responses TWCVB receives, however, plans for purchase and removal of some, but not all, of the Boats will be considered.

The Woodlands, TX prides itself on being environmentally friendly and as such, TWCVB and other involved parties, may consider the environmental impacts of each response in choosing, or not choosing, any particular response to this Request for Interest.

TWCVB submits this request in search of a qualifying entity to purchase and remove the six (6) Water Vessels. TWCVB is primarily looking for an entity to remove and haul off the Water Vessels to a new destination or handle their proper salvage and disposal. Any plan that includes reuse of the Water Vessels for a similar or other beneficial purpose is preferred; however, TWCVB is mainly concerned with the safe removal of the Boats and will seriously consider any response that can show that this removal will be done safely and at no cost to TWCVB.



III. GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR SUBMISSION

Submission

In order to be considered a response to this RFI, Respondents are urged to submit a letter of interest that includes, at minimum, the following information and forms:

- I. General Company/Individual Info/Detailed Audited Financial Report;
- II. A detailed plan, preferably with dates, explaining the proposed process of removal and transportation to the future use or disposal site of the Water Vessels. This plan should also include the Respondent's plan should any damage be caused upon removal of the Water Vessels; and
- III. A description of the future use and/or disposal of the Water Vessels. If a use is proposed, a description of the background of the location of the proposed use and reasoning for implementing the Water Vessels is required.

Due Date

The letter of interest and any attachments should be emailed, delivered or mailed to the individual listed below (under Contact Information) and received no later than 4:00 p.m., on **July 31, 2018**. It is the responsibility of the Respondent to ensure that the letter of interest is received by TWCVB by the date and time specified above. Late proposals will not be considered. All costs incurred in the preparation of the proposal to this RFI will be the task of the Respondent and will not be reimbursed by TWCVB. Additionally, TWCVB shall incur no liability for the preparation and/or submission of any letter of interest incurred by a Respondent. Any conditional submission may be cause for rejection. TWCVB, being funded by tax dollars and staffed by employees of The Woodlands Township, operates in compliance with the Texas Open Meetings Act/Texas Open Records Act, and therefore all submissions and resulting analysis may be subject to disclosure to the public.

Contact Information

Please address all correspondence and requests to the following individual:

Nick Wolda
President
The Woodlands CVB
2801 Technology Forest Blvd.
The Woodlands, Texas 77381

info@visitthewoodlands.com

Questions

Questions concerning this RFI should be addressed to Nick Wolda by July 25, 2018 at 4:00 p.m. After this time, TWCVB reserves the right to deny response to submitted inquiries. **Inquiries should be submitted by email only** and can be followed up with phone conversation or onsite meeting. Open house for inspection of the boats will be held:

Monday, July 9, 2018

Monday, July 16, 2018

Monday, July 23, 2018

Appointments need to be scheduled the Friday before each Monday.

Post-Submittal

TWCVB will review RFI submissions and conduct meetings with Respondents if appropriate and at TWCVB's sole discretion.

Disclaimer

This RFI in no manner obligates TWCVB to pursue any contractual relationship with an entity that responds to this RFI. TWCVB further reserves the right to cancel this RFI at any time if deemed to be in the best interest of TWCVB. TWCVB expressly reserves the right to reject any and all submissions, in whole or in part, received in response to this RFI; to accept any submission(s) that it determines shall best meet TWCVB's goals, objectives, and standards, regardless of whether or not said submission is lowest in cost; to waive any non-material defect, informality, or irregularity in any submission or submission procedure; and/or to negotiate separately the terms and conditions of all or any part of the submissions as determined to be in TWCVB's best interest and sole discretion. Any contract for the accepted submission will be based upon the factors described in this RFI and may contain additional legal terms and conditions. TWCVB reserves the right to amend or revise this RFI in whole or in part as it deems necessary and without further notice to the public.

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Water Vessels
REQUEST FOR INTEREST
TABULATION FORM**

Factors	Points Awarded	Maximum Points
1. Removal and transportation plan		25 Points
2. Use or disposal plan		25 Points
3. Financial Benefit and/or cost to TWCVB		25 Points
4. References		25 Points
Total		100 Points

I, _____, certify that this submission is made without prior understanding, agreement or connection with any corporation, firm, or person submitting a submission for the services and products and is in all respects fair and without collusion or fraud. I agree to abide by all conditions of the RFI Packet and certify that I am authorized to sign this submission for the Respondent.

DATE

SIGNATURE

PRINT/TYPE NAME

TITLE

COMPANY