



## REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP) FOR CITY OF COLUMBUS

### REUSE OF CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS STATUE

#### **Project Overview**

The City of Columbus is seeking proposals for the re-use of a large fiberglass statue of Christopher Columbus. The City is interested to consider how community and cultural organizations may re-use the statue in or around the City of Columbus, although parties outside of the Columbus area who have a serious interest in obtaining the statue may also submit proposals for consideration.

#### **Background**

The City of Columbus recently removed a Christopher Columbus statue from Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WISDOT) property. The Statue, the property where it was displayed, money and memorabilia were transferred to the City of Columbus in 2012 at the request of the 1992 Columbus Quincentennial Celebration, Inc. organization. In 2015, as part of a State Highway 16/60 project, WISDOT expanded the Right of Way, and they took ownership of the land where the statue was displayed. During the property transfer, WISDOT did not issue a permit for the statue to remain in the Right of Way. The City Council recently voted to remove the statue from the WISDOT land, but retain ownership in hopes of identifying a new owner or caretaker group.

The statue is approximately 9 feet tall, with an extended arm and sword reaching approximately 14 feet. The statue appears substantially weathered after many years exposed to the elements without dedicated maintenance. A brief visual inspection revealed a fiberglass base with several cracks near mounting holes and fissures running through the base, an old bullet hole through the Spanish "Lions and Castles" flag, a faded and cracked finish on the statue and various holes, cracks, and damage found throughout the fiberglass surface.

#### **Planning Timeline**

RFP Issued:	August 19, 2020
RFP Deadline:	September 4, 2020
Staff Complete Review of RFP Submissions	September 11, 2020
Committee of the Whole Receives RFP Submissions	September 15, 2020

Committee of the Whole Discusses RFP Submissions and Considers Preferred Submission. Staff conduct follow-up as needed.	September 15, 2020 - October 8, 2020
Committee of the Whole Recommends Disposition of the Statue and funds	October 8, 2020
City Council Considers disposition of Statue and related funds	October 22, 2020
Statue and funds transferred according to City Council Determination	By November 20, 2020

**Criteria for Selection**

- **Clarity and Feasibility:** Respondent clearly details who they are, what their specific proposal for the statue is, when their plan could be executed, where the statue will be located, why the respondent wants to receive the statue (what is their goal or purpose), and information related to how they plan to display the statue. Respondent should also discuss how they intend to move the statue to its proposed location. Does the plan seem reasonably achievable?
- **Capability:** The respondent shall provide a description of their experience and ability to accept the statue, implement their plan, and devote resources to maintain the statue over time. Has the respondent existed for a substantial amount of time?
- **Permissibility:** Respondent shall present information related to their ability to display the statue as they propose. Respondents shall include information about the display location, zoning suitability, and any permissions, permits, or approvals needed to implement their proposed plan.
- **Local Benefit:** How does the submission benefit the City of Columbus? If the submission will not locate the statue in or near Columbus, how does the submission create local benefit where it will be located. Is there an educational or cultural component to the proposal?
- **Financial:** Respondent details a financial plan to install and care for the statue, or provides information substantiating adequate financial resources to achieve the proposal.

**Selection Process**

City Staff will provide an initial review of all submissions to determine completeness, consider how the submission addressed the elements of evaluation, and identify any questions or items of concern. The Committee of the Whole will receive all complete submissions and related

documents, will deliberate regarding the submissions and elements of review, and make a recommendation to the City Council regarding the disposition of the statue and funds.

If the City Council, for any reason, determines there are no satisfactory proposals, the City reserves the right to: reject all proposals, make a counter-proposal to one or more of the respondents, re-issue another RFP, maintain ownership of the statue, or pursue any other course of action deemed in the best interest of the City of Columbus.

### **Submission Requirements**

Proposals are due by 4:00 PM on Friday, September 4, 2020 via mail or hand delivery of five (5) copies to Matt Schreiber, Columbus City Hall, 105 N Dickason Blvd, Columbus, WI 53925.

### **RFP Point of Contact**

For any questions about this RFP please contact:

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