

## REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

### NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION STRATEGY AREA (NRSA)

#### PROFESSIONAL CONSULTING & PLANNING SERVICES

The City of Bessemer is soliciting proposals from qualified firms with experience and understanding of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Community Planning and Development (CPD) entitlement grant funding to assist with planning and creation of a Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Area (NRSA).

The selected firm will assist the city in the preparation of a NRSA plan that is consistent with HUD regulations at HUD CPD-16-16. The strategy will assess the socioeconomic and physical characteristics of the selected NRSA boundary area, as well as the area's institutional structure (level of public, private and non-profit resources and coordination, etc.), while also identifying strengths, weaknesses and opportunities for revitalization.

In 1996, HUD established criteria for approving locally determined strategies for revitalizing an area that is among the community's most distressed. In order to provide some incentive for grantees to undertake such revitalization, the CDBG regulations provide certain benefits for the use of CDBG funds in a HUD-approved NRSA area.

Services provided by the consultant will consist of: (a) assist city staff with the development of the NRSA boundary area, (b) development of a needs assessment for the project area; (c) community consultation and collaboration; (d) coordinate with city staff on development of strategies for project area revitalization and growth; (e) assist staff with development of performance measures and reporting; (f) assist with identification of additional funding which can be used to spur redevelopment within the project area; (g) assist with submittal of the NRSA application to HUD for approval.

The city anticipates all planning and deliverables in a 6 to 9 month project, but the timetable is negotiable. The projected start date is June 1, 2021.

Firms interested in performing the work will be considered on the basis of the written response to this RFP. All applicants must submit their qualifications in a written proposal of no more than 20 pages, listing any prior experience with Federal and State programs, especially CDBG projects and/or other HUD or Federal agency related projects, particularly projects similar in nature and scope to the above services being requested.

Proposals will be rated according to the following criteria:

- Prior experience with CDBG and/or HUD programs – 25 pts
- Professional Planning Qualifications – 25 pts
- Experience with design and/or administration of projects of similar scope – 25 pts
- Proposed fee structure, budget, and timeline/availability for completion – 25 pts

All proposals will be evaluated in accordance with the evaluation criteria shown above. The City of Bessemer reserves the right to reject any and all proposals. Proposals shall be submitted in a properly sealed envelope, contain an original signature (fax and email copies are not accepted) and marked on the outside of the envelope, “**Proposal for Bessemer NRSA Professional Services**”. These proposals may be mailed or hand delivered to:

**City of Bessemer  
Economic and Community Development,  
Attn. Abraham Ward  
1700 Third Avenue North  
Bessemer, AL 35020**

**Proposals must be received no later than 4:00 pm, Monday, April 5, 2021.**

For further information please contact Toraine Norris, Mayor’s Assistant, at (205) 424-4060 or via email at [tnorris@bessemeral.org](mailto:tnorris@bessemeral.org).