REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATION
Downtown Beautification Plan

Village of Antioch
874 Main Street
Antioch, Illinois 60002

All RFP’s are to be marked clearly on the outside “Downtown Beautification Plan Proposals”. RFQ documents may be downloaded from our website, www.antioch.il.gov or requested by e-mail. Send all requests for documents, questions, or inquiries to lromine@antioch.il.gov by Friday, November 13, 2020 by 5:00 p.m. (CST)

The right is reserved to reject all Proposals or to accept the Proposal which is deemed by the Village of Antioch to be in its’ best interest. The Village also reserves the right to waive any irregularities and/or informalities in the process.

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATION REQUEST

The Village of Antioch is seeking RFQ’s from professional planning and landscape design firms specializing in urban and landscape design. This is a request for qualification for such consulting services, that will complete a “Downtown Beautification Plan” for Downtown Antioch, as delineated in the herewith attached map (Exhibit A).

Please submit your final proposal to the office of the Village Clerk by Friday, November 13, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. to:

Lori Romine, Village Clerk
Village of Antioch
874 Main Street
Antioch, IL 60002

Final RFQ submissions may be submitted via postmarked mail or physically delivered to the above address and will be time stamped from the date and time received. Sealed packets must contain three
(3) hard copies of full proposal and all its’ contents along with three (3) flash drives with the same materials

BACKGROUND

The Village of Antioch is a community of approximately 15,000 people and is located approximately 50 miles northwest of Chicago and is located at the northwest corner of Lake County and approximately 50 miles southwest of Milwaukee. Historically, a gateway to the recreational activities of the Chain of Lakes, Antioch contains a historic Downtown that continues to attract new businesses. Antioch is surrounded by Lake County Forest Preserves and the Village takes great pride in its natural resources as reflected in the Village’s moniker, “Authentic by Nature”. During the past several decades, the community has experienced new residential growth. The median family income of the Village is $87,604.00 and median home value is approximately $220,000.00.

Downtown Antioch continues to serve as the commerce center of the Village with its rich history dating back to the 1840’s. Lined with an architectural variety of historic buildings, Main Street in many ways represents the prototypical classic “American” Main Street with its canopy of mature trees and terminal vista of the “United Methodist Church”. Over the past generation, like many Main Streets throughout the nation, Downtown Antioch has experienced disinvestment and the loss of many of its family owned retail stores. While many of the stores that once catered to the daily needs of the Village’s residents have moved on, new restaurants and retail stores have located in the Downtown over the past decade.

It’s been over twenty (20) years since the Village completed a comprehensive streetscape enhancement of the Downtown’s public realm, including sidewalks, streetlights, street furnishing, and municipal parking lots. In 2020, new wayfinding signage for the Downtown was completed.

Over the past several months, the Village Staff has been working with the Antioch Economic Development Task Force to find ways to promote Downtown Antioch. Based on discussions with the task force and direction from the Village Board, there is an agreement that the Village needs to improve the public realm including hardscape, landscape, existing parking lots, pedestrian connections and lighting.

SCOPE OF DOWNTOWN BEAUTIFICATION PLAN PROGRAM

The purpose of this Downtown Beautification Plan

- To improve the public realm and to create a pedestrian friendly and walkable Downtown in a way that attracts residents and visitors to the Downtown Antioch.
- To create safe sidewalks, walkways, and parking lots that make pedestrians feel comfortable and wanting to spend more time in Downtown Antioch.
- Create a visually interesting and attractive public realm that promotes pedestrian activity and areas for people to gather, celebrate, and spend their leisure time.
- To create an attractive environment that becomes the center of the community for the residents who now reside in the community and for future generations to come.
SCOPE OF SERVICES

Village of Antioch is requesting proposals for professional design services related, but not limited to, the following placemaking improvements in the Downtown (Please refer to Exhibit A) The design package should be a functional and aesthetic layer of furnishings and amenities overlaid on top of the existing street infrastructure. (Future phases of the project may address underlying infrastructure, such as roadway and sidewalk configuration, as additional capital funds are made available.)

Streets
- Identifying street furnishings including seating options and trash receptacles;
- Hardscape improvements, including dedicated outdoor dining areas
- Pedestrian-scaled lighting options;
- Street trees and/or planters;
- Public art opportunities;
- Additional amenities including bike corrals/racks, bollards, etc...

Arcades
- Opportunities to extend arcades through municipal parking lots
- Hardscape Improvements
- Landscaping and planters
- Lighting
- Additional amenities
- Public art opportunities

Parking Lots
- Hardscape and paving improvements
- Opportunities for Best Management Practices for stormwater
- Landscape islands
- Lighting
- Crosswalk pavement improvements

The ideal design plan should be rooted in proven placemaking methods and techniques. After a series of initial conversations with Staff and members from the Antioch Economic Development Task Force, the following topic areas emerged as priority design principles. The following list and corresponding descriptions are not exhaustive and may evolve during the design process:

- Enhance the pedestrian experience;
- Consider design elements that will identify Downtown Antioch as a unique place.
• Provide a cohesive design aesthetic comprised of unique elements and components;
• Be bold, embrace color and greenery;
• Prioritize elements that have a light touch but big impact.

IMPLEMENTATION

The consultant will develop an action plan for implementation of the brand in enough detail to allow staff to understand the approach and work plan. An Action Plan should include, but not limited to the following:

a. Estimated costs/budget associated with the beautification plan:
b. Timeline for future improvements
c. Phasing plan for proposed improvements

FINAL DELIVERABLES

This project is the first phase of a more comprehensive “Downtown Beautification Plan” project. It is expected that this preliminary design process will result in a robust and useful plan identifying appropriate beautification and placemaking amenities, proposed locations of improvements, and general budgetary numbers for a Phase II implementation plan including, but not limited to, costs associated with sourcing and installing the corridor amenities.

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Cover Letter — Include a summary of your firm’s interest in this project and your understanding of the services needed and topics addressed. Explain why your firm is best qualified to provide these services and outline any special or unique qualities that would distinguish your proposal. Please include firm name, address, phone number, email, and website.

Project Approach — Describe your methodological design process and approach, especially as it relates to the specifics of this project.

References — Please include at least three (3) professional references with full contact information.

Work Samples — Please include as many work samples as you see fit to adequately showcase your firm’s capability as it relates to public space placemaking or streetscape beautification. Other information that you believe highlights your firm’s ability and capacity may also be included here.

Project Team — Please include brief resumes or descriptions of the individual(s) who will lead or manage this project.

Budget — Estimate anticipated compensation for the scope and duration of the project contract. Please note current scope and corresponding budget should be reflective of professional and/or design services only and shall not be inclusive of material sourcing or fabrication expenses.

TOTAL COST

This is a request for qualification and the final price will be negotiated with the selected design team. We ask each submission to include a rough budget estimate and/or budget range.