

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS (Total 4 pages)

**SOLICITATION # SKU20016Q0021 – PALM TREE REPLACEMENT PROJECT.**

**Abbreviations:**

**FAC - Embassy Facility Office**

**SDH – Embassy Staff Diplomatic Housing**

**RSO - Embassy Regional Security Office**

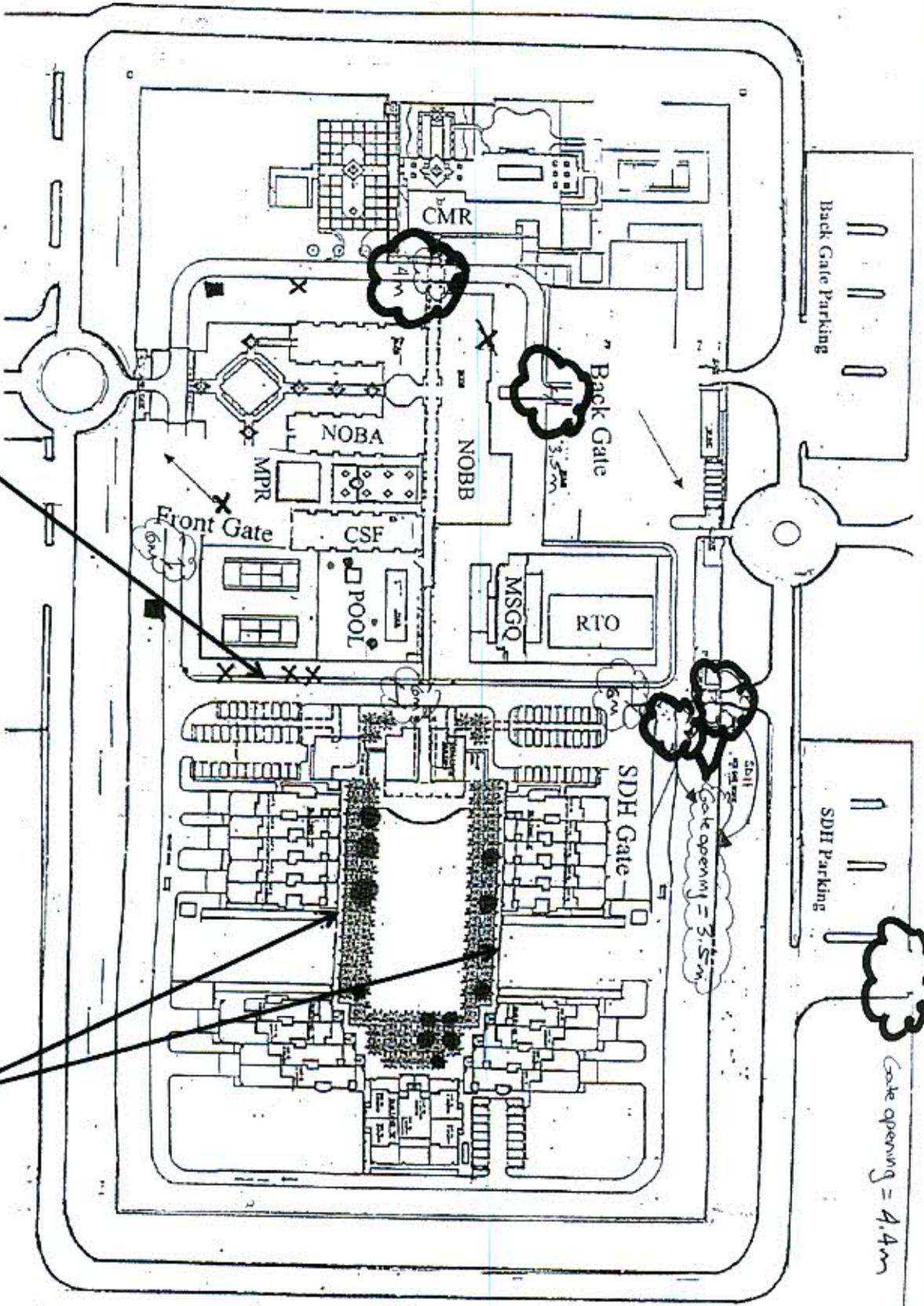
**USG – United States Government**

Question	Answer
1. Could you provide us the internal road dimension (length & width) , because we have to make sure that the crane can smoothly move inside the compound with no difficulties or obstacles. If you can mark it in the same attachment, it would be really helpful.	We are providing attached dimensions of “pinch points” for cranes, etc. (Refer to the attached Map) The winning contractor would need to perform a pre-construction walkthrough where they would review their installation plan and could fine tune at that point.
2. Where can we find the applicable drawings for the site, (i.e. infrastructure drawings with existing mechanical and irrigation systems, etc.) to avoid any damage while excavating?	Excavation should be by hand. In locations where it is a one for one tree replacement, there should not be a concern about hitting infrastructure directly under where the existing tree was.
3. What are the heights of the Ficus Evergreen and Prosopis trees? (Ref. PWS Paragraph 3.5)	Ficus = 5-6 m Prosopis = 6.5 m
4. What are the "Background and Regional Security Office" forms, and where can we find them? (Ref. PWS Paragraph 8.2)	The requirement is that the winning contractor provides a list of his personnel for the project. Copies of Civil ID's, Passport copies as well as vehicle/crane information (make, model, tag #). RSO will investigate from there and provide clearance for the contractors to work under escort.
5. Is there alternate access to the work site which will allow minimal damage to the fence and grass areas? Our concern is that a crane is needed to deliver the Date Palm trees which are approximately 6 meters tall, and that the narrow road leading to the site is not wide enough.	The main SDH grass/lawn area is only accessible through 6 gates around the perimeter. The Rough “free opening space” of these gates are provided. The “side” grass areas can be accessed through the perimeter access road, however, this requires driving over grass and a curb. Any damage to these areas is the contractors responsibility to repair. The contractor is responsible for determining the proper crane size to lift from areas the deem accessible from accessible locations. Alternatively, the contractor might choose to remove a section of the perimeter wall to allow access, then re-install/repair after the work. The procedure/plan needs to be spelled out in the contractors work-plan. This is

	the responsibility for the contractor to determine the installation/erection method that allows them to install the trees in a safe manner.
6. Can you please post a list of the site visit attendee names and companies represented ?	This is proprietary information; therefore, the U.S. Embassy will not post the names and company attendee's.
7. Can you state how many U.S. Small Businesses of any type are now interested bidders ?	The U.S. Embassy does not carry this information.
8. Can you provide distances for the widths of the paths bordering the tree installation points for all locations. ATTCHD is same site map with arrows and questioned widths.	1. Width of sidewalk from the adjacent wall to the grass area: 10'-6" 2. Width of sidewalk near the pool 5'-8" 3. Not asked but useful information – “free space” width of the gates leading into the SDH area from the grassy areas is 5'9” up to 6'-1” depending on the gate.
9. It was stated at site visit payment would be after the completion of project. Yet there is the tree installation removal phase and there is a monthly maintenance phase. Is the payment at the end of 12 months after completion of the final month of maintenance ?	Please refer to the Amendment# A01 . Priced line items should be separate for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Cost for trees &amp; installation</li> <li>2. Cost for warranty and maintenance period of 12months.</li> </ul>
10. Can you please provide a copy of the current irrigation to each of the tree installation sites so that we can arrange for access to supply water to the installed trees ?	FAC will assure that each tree location has adequate drip sprinkler, or spray sprinkler coverage. It is the contractors responsibility to review with FAC to ensure that the water received by the trees is sufficient to support them.
11. What is the current watering schedule to the trees ?	Watering is done on a daily basis through bubblers and sprinklers depending on location and weather.
12. Is contractor responsible for the tree watering schedule ?	Contractor is responsible to review tree health and watering schedule on a routine basis with FAC and advise if changes are required
13. What ton crane has been driven on the footpath near the palm trees in the past ?	This information is not available.
14. During past tree installations of the palm trees – did any of the sidewalk or pathway break due to the weight of the crane ?	This information is not available.
15. We request one additional day to review the Questions and Answers to ask additional questions based on the answers.	Bid Closing date is extended to August 28, 2016 @ 2:00 p.m Kuwait local time.
16. What is the width of sidewalk or path near pool	1. Width of sidewalk from the adjacent wall to the grass area: 10'-6" 2. Width of sidewalk near the pool 5'-8"

<p>17. What is the width of the path on both sides bordering the palm trees</p>	<p>1. Width of sidewalk from the adjacent wall to the grass area: 10'-6" 2. Width of sidewalk near the pool 5'-8"</p>
<p>18. Can we get to the site General plan dimensions and measurements , as well as an irrigation network and the whereabouts of Pipeline and valves ? And so in order to avoid a break Pipeline while working.</p>	<p>Irrigation of trees will be done by USG under guidance of contractor. All non-palm tree locations are accessible from the road. The SDH "grassy" areas on the sides of the main area have small 1 to 2" irrigation lines running through them at 6" as well as electrical conduit and a duct bank at around 80 cm.</p>
<p>19. How long is the implementation of the project and what payments system and what percentage is reserved for expected warranty ?</p>	<p>See question #9. As discussed in the site visit, contractor must include a schedule in their proposal. Installation phase we are anticipating to be 2-3 weeks.</p>
<p>20. Is there an advantage to the contractor to take hold annual maintenance of the site ?</p>	<p>The contractor who is awarded the contract is responsible for maintenance for 1 year of the installed trees and must include a schedule in their proposal. This includes all trimming, pruning, treatment (pesticide, herbicide, fertilizer), bagging and harvesting dates, verifying that watering is adequate, etc. At this time we are not advertising for any additional landscaping maintenance.</p>
<p>21. What are the permitted working hours within the site ? In other words can the contractor can work in the morning at 0400 and evening at 1900 - 2000 .</p>	<p>Current working hours/days of the embassy is Sunday through Thursday 8 am – 4:30 pm. Some flexibility with this may be granted but these are the general guidelines that need to be considered for bid purposes. Exact timing/schedule will be worked out with the winning contractor. No weekend or off-hours work will occur in the SDH area as it is an active residential area.</p>
<p>22. Is the interior roads and the surrounding work site roads able to withstand the weight of the crane without causing it harm to the pipes or conduits that lay below the surface ?</p>	<p>On the road ways around the site we have not had an issue with cranes. The contractor is responsible for any damage. We have attached a map of width's of "pinch points".</p>
<p>23. May we have As-Built drawings of any conduit piping or water piping that may be under the ground either side of the pathways to the tree installation or removal site locations ?</p>	<p>See #18. This can be discussed in further detail with the winning contractor.</p>
<p>24. Since the value of the Project is less than \$ 150,000, why is the project not being reserved for U.S. Small Businesses only ?</p>	<p>As per DOSAR 619.000 (b) - "Contracts that are both awarded and performed overseas should comply on a voluntary basis". However, The Embassy did publish a Sources Sought in FedBizOpps from June 20 – July 14 to identify small business concerns with the capability to perform the services with the intent of assessing set-aside possibilities. We have requested interested parties to provide all necessary documents No later than July 14th 4:00 p.m. Eastern Time. NO Small Business</p>

	Concerns sent a response to our Sources Sought! As a result, the Contracting Officer determined to release full and open competition combined synopsis.
25. Please advise how we can take the heavy duty crane inside the embassy compound to remove and replace the Palm trees specially the area towards the SDH gate.	For crane use contractors bring the crane through the rear entrance of the embassy "point 2" and in the "Kilo 3 – large vehicle entrance" They then bring the crane through the SDH gate onto the compound. It is the Contractor's responsibility to ensure that their proposed crane will fit on compound. Contractor must have a separate person walking with the crane at all times to ensure pedestrian and vehicle safety. All USG crane safety guidelines must be followed which are based on the US Army Corps of Engineers Safety and Health Manual EM 385-1-1. It is the contractors responsibility to determine how they will remove and set the new trees. This must be done in a safe manner and all damage to US property as a result of using a crane or other techniques must be repaired.



What is the width of sidewalk or path near pool ?

5'-8"

What is the width of the path on both sides bordering the palm trees ?

10'-6"

Back Gate Parking

SDH Parking

Gate opening = 4.4m

Gate opening = 3.5m

- Palm Tree
- Removal
- Palm Tree
- Ficus
- Ficus
- Ficus
- X Tree-oth
- ▲ Tree-oth
- Removal

