

Note: interested vendors should contact William D. Erwin, U-M Sr. Procurement Agent at wierwin@umich.edu.

Proposed Request for Information and Qualification (RFI) Content for Onsite Solar Development

Introduction

The University of Michigan (U-M) and the City of Ann Arbor (City) have each made bold commitments to address the global climate crisis with justice as a core principle, and are working collaboratively to advance progress on shared goals.

U-M is committed to achieving carbon neutrality for Scope 2 emissions (purchased electricity) university wide by 2025 and eliminating all Scope 1 (direct) emissions by 2040. The City has declared a climate emergency and set a 2030 carbon neutrality target for emission Scopes 1 and 2 within the entire City boundary.

Both U-M and the City are taking swift actions to achieve their goals and currently have a shared priority to build out solar photovoltaic (solar PV) installations on their respective properties.

U-M is targeting 25 MW of solar PV installations, in total, across its Dearborn, Flint, and Ann Arbor campuses, including Michigan Medicine and Athletics. The City has previously contracted for installations of just over 4 MW of solar PV on its municipal facilities and is now seeking an additional 1-2 MW through a separate RFP issued by the City.

U-M is seeking information via this RFI from parties that are qualified to either design, build and transfer (DBT) the solar PV installations or to design, build, own, operate and maintain (DBOOM) them through an energy as a service model. Additionally, we are seeking firms with a demonstrated track record of delivering projects at our intended scale over the noted timeframe.

Firms are encouraged to respond to both U-M and the City solicitations.

University of Michigan Request for Information

U-M Project Scope

U-M seeks detailed information on potential campus solar generation options that meet the following requirements:

- **Capacity and term length**

The University is seeking to install approximately 25 MW of solar capacity. As described above, the University will consider DBT or DBOOM project models. Please indicate your firm's interest in participating in either model. For DBOOM projects the term length will be 20 years. During the life

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of the agreement, the University reserves the right to remove or relocate solar installations at its cost. Relocations will not adversely affect system generation.

- **Installation Locations**

U-M seeks to install on campus solar generation across its 3 campuses targeting 25 MW.

Installations at each campus are anticipated to be within the following ranges:

Ann Arbor	15-20 MW
Dearborn	1-5 MW
Flint	1-5 MW

Priority will be given to installations with elevated structures located on existing parking decks, parking lots, and large rooftops. The University may also consider ground installations at its discretion. The University will work with the successful firm(s) to ensure installation sites are consistent with the overall Campus Integrated Master Plan. Providers are welcome to bid on the entirety of the MW volume or smaller portions therein. The University will prioritize installations that are behind the meter, connecting to adjacent buildings or the campus electrical distribution system. The University will work with the successful firm to optimize the connection. In instances where connection is not made behind the meter or the installation will result in grid sell back, the successful firm is responsible for securing the utility interconnection. Annual campus purchased electric per campus is approximately:

Ann Arbor	325,000,000 kWh
Dearborn	24,000,000 kWh
Flint	10,500,000 kWh

For the Ann Arbor Campus, the University of Michigan owns and operates its own 13.2 kv and 4.8 kv electrical distribution systems. Individual building electrical usage data can be found in the University of Michigan Annual Utilities Report located at:

<https://utilities.fo.umich.edu/services/energy-utilities/business-services/annual-reports/>

Campus maps identifying buildings, parking structures and lots for each university campus can be found on the following websites:

Ann Arbor - <https://umaec.umich.edu/maps-detours/campus-construction-maps/>

Dearborn - www.dropbox.com/s/bjxmme3ihcyomzu/2022_UM_DearbornMap-no%20bleed.pdf

Flint - <https://www.umflint.edu/campus-map/>

- **Schedule**

Solar energy project(s) are expected to be constructed in a phased approach. The University envisions the system to be commercially operational as soon as possible and no later than December 31, 2025.

- **Responsible Material Sourcing and Management**

Preference will be given to goods or services manufactured or provided in the United States of America if they are competitively priced and of comparable quality. Additional preference will be

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given to goods or services manufactured or provided by Michigan businesses if they are competitively priced and of comparable quality.

- **Education and Research Opportunities**

Preference will be given to projects that enhance the University's mission of research and education.

III. Format of Response

Prospective firms shall submit responses that address the scope as identified in this RFI including the firm's approach and assumptions for executing the project. Responses should also include:

- An estimated transfer cost range for DBT projects.
- Estimated energy purchase cost range including escalation schedule for DBOOM projects. Estimate cost to exit for each year of the 20 year term duration.
- Identify partner or subcontracted firms who would contribute to this project during each phase.
- Firm profile including size and any other information supporting the firm's ability to successfully complete the project.
- Submit up to five similar projects in which the submitting firm is now involved or which the submitting firm has completed within the past six years. Projects selected should in some way relate to the scope of work of this project in terms of size, scope or complexity. Describe the cost performance of each project in comparison to the initial project budget. Provide a reference name and telephone number for each project.
- Submit any education and/or research opportunities that would be available for the U-M community (students, staff and faculty) over the project lifespan (e.g., live data availability, research opportunities on or around project site(s), etc.).
- Submit proposed schedule from award to completion, with detailed breakdown of intermediate milestones, demonstrating your firm's ability to meet project timing requirements.

IV. Selection Process and Criteria

U-M will review the responses to this RFI, identify qualified candidates and solicit detailed technical solutions and costs. Selection criteria includes but is not limited to:

- The proposals alignment with scope and project objectives.
- Relevancy and success of company's comparable projects.
- Team Experience: Individual proposed team members' experience in working on similar projects.
- Demonstrated adequate financial, planning and execution resources.
- Proposed phasing of the project.
- Transfer cost or energy purchase cost as applicable.
- Firm's philosophy regarding installation locations and interconnection to the campus system.

V. Other Considerations

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Respondents are advised that RFI submissions received are likely to demonstrate a diverse range of approaches, and therefore, may not be directly comparable to one another. As a result, the University of Michigan may exercise a broad range of discretion in evaluating and/or short-listing respondents. The evaluation may be based on both subjective and objective criteria.

In its sole discretion, the University of Michigan may contact any one or more references of any one or more responding firms, and such references may affect the evaluation of the responding firm in question.

The University of Michigan reserves the right to not proceed with this assignment; to proceed with a phased approach, or with only certain elements of a proposal submitted.

No assumption should be made that the submission evaluators have any knowledge of the experience, expertise and performance of the responding firm or its projects other than what is submitted in this RFI response.