

Question #	Question	Response
1	We understand this project has the potential for new bridges to be constructed for the trail. Is VCTC aware of any slope stability issues along the SPBL corridor that would affect planning or design of these structures?	Storms during January 2023 resulted in erosion of the northern slope onto the railroad tracks in the Fillmore Railyard area (approx. MP 425.35), which has subsequently been cleaned up with debris removed from the tracks and right-of-way. VCTC is not aware of other slope stability issues along the SPBL, but evaluation of such conditions would reasonably be included in the assessment of existing conditions included in the Master Plan Update.
2	What is the nexus for Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and who will serve as the lead Section 106 agency?	As discussed in Section 4.4 (Cultural Resources) of the original SPBL Trail Master Plan EIR, the SPBL trail "extends through an area rich with historical and archaeological value," and the EIR includes measures to avoid disturbance of sites with cultural, historic, and archaeological importance. The SPBL Trail Master Plan Update incorporates environmental impact study consistent with Federal (NEPA) guidelines to enable access to potential future Federal grant funding for construction to complete the trail. In addition, an anticipated need for U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Section 404 permits elicits NHPA Section 106 compliance. A determination as to the lead Section 106 agency for the project remains to be made. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers or the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) are possible candidates.
3	If a trail project was completed with a CEQA/NEPA review that was not an EIR/EIS, can that still be used as one of the minimum requirement projects?	Yes, environmental review for projects completed at less than an EIR/EIS level can be used to satisfy minimum requirement projects.
4	Can the minimum requirement projects be substantially complete or do they have to be entirely completed?	Yes, minimum requirement projects may be substantially complete.
5	Can a subconsultant project be used as one of the minimum requirement projects?	Yes, a subconsultant project may be used as one of the minimum requirement projects.
6	Can 11x17s be used in the proposal and do they count as 1-page?	Yes, 11x17 pages may be used in the proposal and count as 1-page.
7	Is Section 4 limited to only the Proposer or can subconsultants be included?	Section III.B.4 is not limited to the Proposer. Subconsultants may be included.
8	Do we need a reference for every subconsultant or only those from which the subconsultant was part of a minimum requirement project in our statement of qualifications?	Please include at least one reference for each subconsultant. Referenced projects do not necessarily need to meet the minimum qualifications, but should in general demonstrate the qualifications of the subconsultant for the type of work proposed by/for that subconsultant.
9	Is the calendar in the cost proposal template organized by fiscal year? Example, does Q1 from 2024-25 start with July 2024?	Yes, the calendar is organized by VCTC's Fiscal Year (July 1 - June 30). Q1 from 2024-25 is July 2024. The project is anticipated to begin during Q3 of VCTC's Fiscal Year 2024-25.

10	What milepost will be the eastern terminus of the trail near Piru?	The eastern terminus of the study area is approximately Mile Post 435, at the end of the VCTC-owned right-of-way. There is a completed section of trail east of Piru (approx. MP 432 - MP 433) that should be incorporated into the planning for existing conditions and any trail improvements, along with the approximately two additional miles of VCTC-owned right-of-way beyond the end of the Piru trail.
11	Is 90% completion for deliverables a draft milestone that will be reviewed in advance of submitting a final version?	Yes, as noted in the RFP, all deliverables shall be submitted to VCTC at a 90% completion stage for review by VCTC, prior to final completion.
12	Will VCTC host the website described in Task 3.4?	Yes, VCTC will host the website prepared by the consultant team. VCTC is also open to alternative approaches to web hosting, such as use of ArcGIS StoryMaps or similar format.
13	Should the initial study be a deliverable for Task 6?	Yes, the Initial Study should be a deliverable for Task 6.
14	What permits in Task 11.2 do you foresee as part of the master planning services?	Section IV, Task 11.2 states, "11.2. Permits: USACE, RWQCB, CDFW: The Consultant shall identify necessary environmental regulatory permits, and prepare and assist VCTC to secure permits from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Regional Water Quality Control Board, and California Department of Fish and Wildlife, if/as required. The Santa Clara River and certain tributaries may be under the jurisdiction of these agencies." VCTC is looking to the Consultant team to assist VCTC to identify necessary permits. For example, the original SPBL Trail Master Plan EIR cites a need for Section 404 permits from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to comply with the Federal Clean Water Act for activities within project area creeks or drainages associated with proposed bridges. In addition, Section 4.2 of the original SPBL Trail Master Plan EIR notes that the project could be constructed as a single unified project under VCTC, but if the project is phased as individual projects implemented by other local agencies, then a Conditional Use Permit may be required by the County of Ventura.
15	Are all CAC and TAC conducted virtually?	VCTC is open to a mix of virtual and in-person CAC and TAC meetings, with the expectation that in-person meetings will be conducted at key project milestones (i.e. kick-off and close-out). Proposals should specify a projected mix of virtual and in-person meetings for the CAC and TAC.
16	Is the Community Workshop (and charrette) conducted in-person?	VCTC is open to a mix of virtual and in-person community workshops, such as two in-person and one virtual workshop. It is anticipated that charrettes would be conducted in-person; however, VCTC is open to alternative approaches. Proposals should specify a projected mix of virtual and in-person workshop and charrette options.
17	Social media ads: Will Consultant be granted social media access? Or will content be provided to VCTC for posting?	Content will be provided to VCTC for posting by VCTC's social media team.

18	In-language: For all public-facing materials (i.e. surveys, social media etc), is Spanish or other languages required for translation?	Spanish language translation of key public-facing materials, such as surveys, social media, fact sheets, and executive summary documents, should be included in the proposal.
19	Ad budget: What is the typical ad budget used for meeting notifications?	Typical newspaper advertisements in the VC Star are approximately \$300 each. The estimated budget for website, social media page, and surveys is \$20,000.
20	Community events: Will VCTC determine the list of community events for attendance? Or will Consultant provide proposed list?	Consultant will provide proposed list of community events for feedback from VCTC.
21	Is there a preferred Survey platform? (i.e. SurveyMonkey, SurveyHero)	VCTC does not have a preferred survey platform. Other VCTC projects have used a variety of approaches and tools, such as Survey Monkey, Survey 123, Maptionnaire, and others.
22	In the pre-proposal meeting a request was made to include exceptions to the sample agreement template. Can you confirm where this section should be in the technical proposal?	Proposers should provide any proposed exceptions to the template agreement as an attachment to the proposal. This may be located at the end of the proposal, after Section 10. Such attachment will not count towards the proposal page count limits.