

Frequently Asked Questions for Urban Restore Contract Bids

Q: Is the 95% accuracy required for all land cover classification categories or just tree canopy?

A: 95% accuracy on tree canopy and land cover maps.

Q: What does the MFC mean by a "height categorization" tree canopy map?

A: Obtain the heights of trees using Lidar.

Q: Does the MFC require a written report, or individual city reports as a deliverable?

A: Both. The report should include a bid per municipality and a total project bid for all municipalities. For each city, the report should provide a project overview & study area, objective, methodology, outcomes like static forms of the deliverables (tables, maps, pictures), and conclusion.

Q: Tree Inventory Data is listed as a deliverable; can you elaborate on how the contractor is to develop tree inventory data? Or is the data already available from the city, and the contractor is to develop maps?

A: We need location and size data, not species data. Tree inventory will be a separate project/contract later.

Q: Is the MFC looking for a software subscription to display the maps, or would google maps or static pdf maps suffice?

A: No, we do not want or need a software subscription. The data provided needs to be viewable and storable by municipalities and MFC without any special subscriptions. We want the digital Raster classes (Geotif) or Vector polygons (Shapefile) of the canopy data derived from the raster. Any field samples conducted should be in Point (shapefiles). The reports should provide additional map files in PDF (Ansi E or D). We can print them.

Q: Is there a Sample Contract available for review?

A: No. There is no sample contract for this.

Q: Are there any related bid tabs available for review?

A: No. There are no related bid tabs available.

Q: Can we leverage existing tree inventory data?

A: Yes, however, we prefer that any historic field tree inventory information be used with caution as ancillary data to not impede on the accuracy (spatially & temporally) of the remotely sensed interpretation of the tree canopy classes. Furthermore, any interpolation or filling due to remotely sensed holes and gaps, while not always avoidable, should be communicated.

Q: Can we consider the use of UASs to bridge the gap between field tree inventories and models developed using UASs to extrapolate at more regional scales?

A: Yes.

Q: The scope of work specifies that bid proposals should be based on cost per square mile for each municipality. Is there a minimum number of square miles the agency will award? Is there a minimum number of municipalities that will be awarded?

A: We cannot answer this at this time, without having a cost-per-square-mile breakdown to estimate future work under these grant funds. We want to map the 17 municipalities based on the scope of work of the Restore project.

Q: Will all municipalities be awarded in total (entire boundary/all square miles) or may some be awarded in part?

A: The number of municipalities ultimately awarded will be determined by cost per square mile. Depending on cost, some may be awarded in part.

Q: The RFP is somewhat open-ended with regard to tree inventory data. The bid form requires bids to be submitted in a specific way with no additional or hidden fees, so there is no way to propose a square mile or municipality with or without field work. While location and size are direct outputs of this type of analysis, species identification is not. Hardwood and softwood differentiation is about as specific as can be obtained without field data collection. As this is a remote sensing exercise, what types of tree inventory data are you requiring at a minimum?

A: Hardwood and softwood differentiation is sufficient for this project.

Q: For the location of work, may all of the work within the listed study areas be performed remotely?

A: The canopy study can be done remotely, but there needs to be ground truthing to confirm the accuracy of the classification. Specifics may be negotiated with the agency if chosen for a contract.

Q: Is there previously existing land cover/tree canopy data to be used?

A: MFC does not have any tree canopy data to provide.

Q: Can you provide a GIS data file and/or square miles for each municipality listed?

A: Yes. Municipal boundaries are provided upon request here. (Shodges@mfc.ms.gov)