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**DATE:** July 31, 2020

**SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR CYBER RESILIENCE CENTER**

Pursuant to the Cyber Resilience Center Request for Proposals (RFP), all proposers were to submit any questions regarding this RFP no later than Wednesday, July 29, 2020. Questions were to be answered in writing and all questions and responses were to be posted on the Department's website. Below is a list of questions received from proposers and the Department's response:

**1. Q: Is the CRC expected to ingest, analyze and report emerging or ongoing cyberattack data from stakeholder systems?**

A: The CRC is expected to receive, analyze and share information to and from participating stakeholders. Stakeholders will have the control to decide if, and how, to use the information from the CRC.

**2. Q: Will CRC personnel be expected to analyze incidents and develop defensive measures based on stakeholder data?**

A: The CRC is expected to be an information resource that stakeholders may use. Stakeholders will have the control to decide if, and how, to use the information from the CRC.

**3. Q: Is the CRC expected to identify and report vulnerabilities or threats in stakeholder systems?**

A: No. Per RFP requirement 2.1.10, the CRC shall not identify or expose stakeholder cyber vulnerabilities.

**4. Q: Is the CRC expected to provide tools for stakeholders to analyze their log data for vulnerabilities or threats?**

A: No. Per RFP requirement 2.1.8, the CRC shall not be invasive or disruptive to existing systems of participating stakeholders.

**5. Q: Has a basic set of requirements been established?**

A: The basic set of requirements are in the RFP.

**6. Q: Is it assumed stakeholders will self-report their respective cyber posture to formulate the overall posture?**

A: It is assumed that stakeholder will report cyber threats in accordance with the Data Sharing Agreement. It is not assumed that stakeholders will report their respective cyber posture.

**7. Q: Do you have an estimate as to the total amount of data that needs to be ingested by the CRC on a daily basis (e.g. 1 GB/day)?**

A: The proposed solution will ingest cyber threat information from up to 100 stakeholders, but not their full logs. Contractor should state their assumption based on their experience with ingestion from up to 100 similar stakeholders for their proposed solution.

**8. Q: Attachment 1, item 2.7, of the RFP requests a CRC Operations Manual and asks that the responder indicate whether the requirement is met or not. It's not possible to deliver an Operations Manual before some details are known. For clarity, do you require submission of the CRC Operations Manual at the time that the RFP proposal is submitted? Or is the request that we confirm that we will deliver an Operations Manual if we are selected as the vendor?**

A: The completed CRC Operations Manual is not to be submitted with the RFP proposal. The purpose of Attachment 1, item 2.7 is to confirm that the vendor will develop and deliver the CRC Operations Manual as part of its proposed solution.

**9. Q: I understand that staff members must pass criminal and drug background checks. Answer 64 in the posted questions said that staff members must be US citizens. Do they also need a government security clearances (e.g. Secret, Top Secret)?**

A: Secret or Top Secret government security clearances are not required.

**10. Q: Regarding 40217 Cyber Resilience Center, I noticed that there were two other almost equivalent RFPs (39049 and 37438) for a Cyber Resilience Center with the Port Authority. Responses were due in Sep 2019 and March 2020. Why were those two bids closed? If someone was awarded those bids, why was this bid (40217) open since it looks to be for the same thing?**

A: Awards were not made for the two previous Cyber Resilience Center RFPs.

**11. Q: The link to the Los Angeles travel policy on page 8 didn't work for me. While the majority of our staff will be based in Los Angeles, a few are based elsewhere. If those remote staff need to travel to the Los Angeles facility, will travel expenses be reimbursed?**

A: Travel expenses that are expected to be reimbursed must be included in the proposal. Reimbursement amounts will be in compliance with the City of Los Angeles travel policy which can be accessed through this link:  
<http://controller.insidela.org/travel/policy>

**12. Q: The RFP states the procurement and maintaining of furniture are responsibilities of the contractor. Please clarify the definition of "furniture" Is it desks/chairs, couch, enclosures, etc?**

A: The vendor will be required to procure and maintain everything that it provides under the contract, for the duration of the contract.

**13. Q: Will the Notice to Proceed be issued AFTER the first 4 months and the Design has been completed or potentially before? We are concerned for the overall timeline based on notice to proceed.**

A: The Notice to Proceed will be issued after the Design has been completed and after an acceptable number of Data Sharing Agreements have been signed. This may or may not be 4 months.

**14. Q: Will the back end systems be located in the CRC room, CRC building (server room) or will the be remote? If the servers reside in the CRC room or a server room at that location will all power and HVAC provided according to design specification? If it is the CRC room or server room in the building there could be multiple racks with servers and storage arrays that will have power and cooling requirements.**

A: The location of the backend systems will depend on the proposed solution. It can be cloud/remote or on-premise. If on-premise, the location can be assumed to be in the CRC building, but in a separate room that is adjacent to the CRC room. Required power and HVAC design specifications for your solution must be stated in the proposal.

**15. Q: Does data cabling require union labor at that location? We assume that all power cabling for CRC room will be in place when installation begins.**

A: Data cabling does not require union labor, however labor must comply with the requirements of the contract agreement, including the City of Los Angeles Living Wage and other requirements in Appendix A.

Power cabling to the CRC room can be assumed to be available. However, vendor may be need to install additional power cabling within the room depending on where the power outlets are and where power is needed for its solution.

**16. Q: Does the Alternative Facility require a room for people to work? If it does require a room for people to work does it need to be available immediately when needed?**

A: For the purpose of the proposal, the Alternate Facility Location design requirement does not have any physical design. The Alternate Facility Location design requirement is for the CRC systems, such that the CRC systems can be accessed from another location with an internet connection.

**17. Q: What practical incentives or requirements can the executive committee expect to ensure that the target number of shareholders are signed-up. Will the sole responsibility for signing up 20 – 100 Shareholders (after the initial 20) reside 100% with the CRC or will it be a shared responsibility with the Harbor?**

A: All aspects of the CRC work shall employ a collaborative approach with participating stakeholders. Through this collaborative approach, the CRC design

and Data Sharing Agreements are expected to meet stakeholder requirements. The selection of stakeholders 21-100 will be done by the CRC Executive Steering Committee. Responsibility for obtaining each participating stakeholder's approval to enter into the Data Sharing Agreement resides with the contractor, per requirement 3.4.

**18. Q: Requirement: Two Dedicated Diverse Managed Internet Connections (1Gig Minimum) different ISPs. Will you accept two Fully Diverse Internet Access connections with the same ISP?**

A: No. Two independent Internet Service Provider (ISP) connections from different providers are required during the Operations phase.

**19. Q: Upon delivery of RFP, what is the maximum file size allowed through your email server?**

A: The maximum email file size is 25MB.

**20. Q: What is the anticipated scope of the Data Sharing Agreement? Will this just refer to stakeholder data or also include CRC data and contractor data? Will the contractor and the stakeholder be the only parties to this agreement or will CRC also be a party?**

A: The scope of the Data Sharing Agreement includes all data that will be shared (received and distributed) between the CRC and the participating stakeholders. The parties to the Data Sharing Agreement will be the contractor, stakeholder and Port of Los Angeles.

**21. Q: What type of cyber threat information is expected to be shared under this Data Sharing Agreement?**

A: The types of cyber threat information will be developed in collaboration with the stakeholders during the Design phase.

**22. Q: Is the contractor expected to be directly liable to all 100 stakeholders under these Data Sharing Agreements?**

A: The Data Sharing Agreements shall include responsibilities of the contractor, stakeholder and the Port of Los Angeles. Liability shall be in accordance with the final contract agreement.

**23. Q: Is the contractor expected to enter into possible negotiations of these Data Sharing Agreements with any or all of these stakeholders?**

A: The Data Sharing Agreement is expected to be based on the CRC Design, which is expected to be collaboratively developed with the participating stakeholders. A uniform/standardized Data Sharing Agreement is expected for all participating stakeholders.

**24. Q: Does CRC or the Harbor Department Executive Director have any specific language that they would require to be in this agreement, or does the contractor have discretion on the terms and conditions that should be included in the Data Sharing Agreement?**

A: The Data Sharing Agreement will also require review and approval from the Los Angeles City Attorney, as part of the approval from the Harbor Department Executive Director.

**25. Q: What are the main target platforms that will be receiving the data (i.e. Splunk, Databases, etc.)?**

A: Stakeholders are expected to have different platforms. The proposed CRC solution must be able to handle the range of stakeholder capabilities.

**26. Q: Is CRS expecting raw logs, STIX/TAXI, API or some other protocol to be used?**

A: Some stakeholders will have minimal capabilities while others will be more mature. The proposed CRC solution must be able to handle this range of stakeholder capabilities.

**27. Q: What confidentiality and authentication methods does CRC use for securing data as it is transferred to CRC?**

A: This depends on the proposed CRC solution, provided they meet the requirements.