

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

South Lawn Design

Introduction

Lincoln Park Zoo is a historic, 49-acre zoo located in the heart of Chicago and the nation's only privately-managed free admission zoo. It has approximately 294 fulltime and seasonal employees. Lincoln Park Zoo cares for nearly 200 species and welcomes 3.6 million visitors annually from around the world. It is committed to the Chicago communities, offering camps, programs and events year-round.

Overview

Lincoln Park Zoo is seeking an experienced design firm to develop new uses for the South Lawn while enhancing its existing uses. The firm will gather information and ideas from staff and stakeholders to guide the new design.

Project Scope

The South Lawn is located in Lincoln Park Zoo near Park Place Café. The space has an approximate perimeter of 900 linear feet, consists of approximately 25,000 square feet, and has an elevation change from east to west of approximately 5 feet. Existing known infrastructure consists of underground sewers, utility lines, and lighting. The space is surrounded by pathways. Within the space are several old, historic oak trees as well as turf grass and low grow gardens.

The space serves many functions, including passive recreation by Zoo visitors-- many use the grass to spread out for lunch. During special events, the space has been used to set up activities, tents and shelters, corn mazes, farmers markets, receptions, and a light show as part of Zoo Lights. Over time, the ground has become compacted, affecting the health of the trees as well as drainage.

This request for proposals seeks a firm to assist Lincoln Park Zoo in re-imagining this space, while maintaining, enhancing the health of, and protecting the existing oak trees. The firm will help zoo staff and stakeholders with design suggestions, charrettes, and workshops to develop new uses that improve the overall condition and functionality of the space including ADA accessibility. The design suggestions will include a tree succession plan. The firm will provide design drawings and cost estimates for the new design suggestions. Lincoln Park Zoo will provide the zoo design standards for reference.

Logistics

Project Schedule:

RFP Released: November 12, 2021

Proposals Due: November 30, 2021 by 5:00 p.m. (late submittals will not be accepted)

Decision communicated: December 17, 2021

Kick Off: January 3, 2022

Submission Requirements

- Overview of the company's organization and support capabilities.
- A timeline for gathering information and designing, including proposed formats (meetings, design charettes, workshops, etc.) and associated costs.
- The preferred format is PDF.
- Information regarding bidder's status as an MBE Minority or WBE Woman-owned business.
- The company's Diversity Statement or policy.
- A list of current and past references from company's clients that have similar requirements to those of Lincoln Park Zoo.
- Successful bidders must comply with the Illinois Prevailing Wage Act.

Submission Inquiries and Delivery

- If you have any questions between now and November 30, 2021, please email Brendan Daley at bdaley@lpzoo.org.
- Please submit your proposals to Brendan Daley by November 30, 2021 by 5:00 p.m. in PDF format. Late submittals will not be accepted.

Attachment – Lincoln Park Zoo Design Standards



