



Request for Proposals Construction & Demolition (C&D) Material Research

Context

U.S. Green Building Council – Missouri Gateway Chapter (USGBC-MGC) seeks a qualified consultant/s to complete a research project / feasibility study to develop a market for reusing or recycling C&D materials that have been proven difficult to reuse or recycle.

See project scope and project deliverables below for further information. The term of engagement envisioned is October 2012 through April 2013.

Background

The St. Louis Region and the Midwest are blessed with much open space, which means that it is easy to overlook where our generated residential and commercial waste ends up. Our landfill tipping fees, i.e. “the cost to dump”, are relatively low compared to other parts of the United States as a result of the abundance of landfill areas. Many consumers, businesses and contractors think nothing of throwing things “away and out of sight.” However, it is not environmentally responsible to dispose of items that could be salvaged, recycled or reused. It is also irresponsible to think of our landfill space as unlimited. One day there will not be an “away” for our waste disposal.

USGBC-MGC has always advocated for waste reduction, reuse and recycling as these practices are integral to green building. In 2010, we received a grant from the St. Louis Jefferson Solid Waste Management District (SWMD) in partnership with Missouri Enterprise and ReSource St. Louis to further address C&D waste reduction. That project included both research and education phases. A survey of C&D best practices and 2 focus groups with professionals in the building industry provided a foundation and background for the education phase, which included the development of a C&D toolkit as well as two live educational sessions for building industry professionals. The toolkit can be found here: <http://constructionwaste.wordpress.com/>. The educational sessions, which were presented in partnership with the Associated General Contractors of St. Louis, were very well attended with more than 80 individuals at each session.

USGBC-MGC received a second grant from SWMD in 2012 to continue our education and outreach efforts around C&D waste minimization. The work we seek through this Request for Proposals is funded by this grant.

About the USGBC – Missouri Gateway Chapter

U.S. Green Building Council – Missouri Gateway Chapter is a non-profit, membership organization that advocates for and provides education and training around sustainable building practices & principles. We strive to transform the built environment by promoting environmentally responsible, profitable and healthy place to live, work and learn. Since 2001, the Chapter’s educational programs, outreach and advocacy have played an integral role in transforming the St. Louis regional building and construction industry. We provide over 40 green building educational and networking events annually.

USGBC-MGC is a local, independent 501(c)3 and one of 80 Chapters of the US Green Building Council, the nation’s foremost coalition of leaders from across the building industry. USGBC-MGC’s 500 plus members represent all segments of the building industry and work together to transform the built environment.

Project Scope

USGBC-MGC seeks a skilled and knowledgeable consultant, who is experienced in working with small, environmentally-oriented non-profits to assist with research, reference tool development, and education program development and implementation. Experience with green building, the construction industry, sustainability and/or LEED is preferred.

Specifically, USGBC-MGC seeks one or multiple individuals to:

Complete a research project to determine whether a market or demand exists for reusing or recycling C&D materials that have been proven difficult to reuse or recycle such as drywall and painted wood.

In research conducted during the previous SWMD funded project, we found that some C&D materials are more problematic than others. For example, there are options for recycling and reusing brick, asphalt and concrete. But if any of these are painted, options become limited due to the risk of contamination. The same goes for painted drywall and wood. We also found that some materials could offer economic and market development opportunities. For example: clean wood waste from many local construction projects is currently shredded and composted or used by landfills as alternative daily cover. If there were a local manufacturer of OSB (oriented strand board, a common building material), we could recycle clean wood into a new building product to be used locally, thus diverting waste, creating jobs and minimizing the distance between the source of building materials and job sites.

USGBC-MGC would like this research project to explore solutions for both hard to recycle C&D materials as well as options and opportunities for putting C&D materials to a higher use. Specifically, we would like the research to address:

- Potential solutions for difficult to recycle and reuse C&D materials like painted drywall, painted concrete and wood with nails, etc.
- Potential market development opportunities for the reuse or recycling of common C&D materials such as wood and drywall that can help create job and economic development opportunities in our region.

Project Deliverables

- Plan of action for research project or feasibility study that includes your process and methods, potential sources of information and timeframe.
- Report that focuses on potential regional or statewide higher use solutions for difficult to recycle and reuse C&D materials and potential market development opportunities for the reuse or recycling of common C&D materials, and also includes:
 - Executive Summary that is suitable to add to the existing C&D Toolkit and to share with Chapter partners such as Associated General Contractors, the St. Louis Regional Chamber and Growth Association and other like-minded organizations.
 - Best practices from other states, regions, etc.
 - Process and methods.
 - Information sources.
 - Any other relevant information collected.

All project deliverables are subject to review by the project team and the St. Louis-Jefferson Solid Waste Management District before considered complete.

C&D References and Resources

- Regional Construction & Demolition Materials Toolkit - <http://constructionwaste.wordpress.com/>
- St. Louis-Solid Waste Management District - www.swmd.net
- ReSource St. Louis – www.resourcestlouis.org
- Waste Cap Resource Solutions - <http://www.wastecapwi.org>
- Recycling options for standard and hard to recycle items by ZIP code - www.earth911.org

Requirements

- Experience in the building industry, especially in construction preferred
- Experience working on a LEED project, LEED AP or LEED Green Associate preferred
- Experience with project management
- Experience conducting market research project or feasibility study
- Familiarity or experience with green building design, construction, or operations

Project Timeline

- RFP open on September 4, 2012
- RFP due by 5 PM CST on September 18, 2012
- Consultant selection by October 1, 2012

Deliverables due:

- Plan of action for C&D Material research project or feasibility study – November 2, 2012
- Draft Report on C&D Material research project or feasibility study – January 4, 2013
- Final Report on C&D Material research project or feasibility study – January 15, 2013

Budget:

Please include a detailed budget with the proposal outlining major tasks and their associated costs. Please also indicate any level of in-kind support that will be offered in completion of the project.

Submissions

Please submit a formal proposal including:

- Overview of proposed project methodology
- Work plan for each deliverable
- Timeline
- Budget
- Experience with green building, sustainability and/or LEED
- Experience with similar organizations and programs
- At least two references for which similar work was performed, including contact information

All proposals must be submitted as a single PDF file no larger than 5 MB and sent to usgbc-mogateway@mobot.org **by 5 PM CST on Tuesday, September 18, 2012.** Respondents are responsible for ensuring their submissions have been received by USGBC-MGC before the deadline of 5 pm, Tuesday, September 18, 2012.