

STOCKBRIDGE-MUNSEE COMMUNITY

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES

September 2020

I. INTRODUCTION

The Stockbridge-Munsee Community (“Tribe”), a federally-recognized Indian tribe, is seeking proposals from qualified firms or individuals to provide professional Archaeological survey services to fulfill the Tribe’s objectives of the “Stockbridge Meeting House and National Register Update Project.” The project is grant-funded to the Tribe from the National Parks Service. The successful bidder will be expected to apply for a Massachusetts Historical Commission archaeology permit for the project and conduct a survey to document cultural resource interests of the Tribe in Stockbridge, Massachusetts.

II. SCHEDULE

Sealed proposals for the services requested in the RFP **will be received until Monday, October 12, 2020 at 4:00 PM**, Central Daylight Time. Proposal must be identified as being “Bid for Archeological Services” on the outside of the envelope. Proposals shall be delivered to the:

Stockbridge-Munsee Tribal Secretary
N8476 Moh He Con Nuck Road
P.O. Box 70
Bowler, WI 54416
Telephone: 715-793-4387

Email submissions are not accepted. The Tribe anticipates that a successful bidder will be selected by the Tribal Council on or about October 21, 2020.

III. PROJECT AND SCOPE OF SERVICES

The Tribe is a federally-recognized Indian tribe with a reservation in central Wisconsin. The Tribe has approximately 1,500 members and employs individuals both in tribal government operations as well as through a number of tribal enterprises. The Tribe has a Historic Preservation program which has offices both on the reservation and an extension office in Troy, New York. The Tribal Historic Preservation Office (THPO) currently covers a territory of six eastern states and reviews more than 400 cultural resource projects annually. More information can be found within our website at www.mohican.com

The Tribe is requesting proposals for firms or individuals to provide professional archeological services for the Tribe’s Historic Preservation program to fulfill a component of a funded research project, “Stockbridge Meeting House and National Register Update Project.” The services the Tribe is seeking is to survey the historic 1739 Stockbridge Meetinghouse site. The Meetinghouse

building is where religious services and political meetings were held and represents the vision or ideal of what the “Indiantown” experiment was intended to be—an experience of joint governance between Mohicans and English co-existing and co-mingling in an English-style Town. The Meetinghouse site is in the vicinity of the Chime Tower on Main Street near the First Congregational Church, and is part of the Main Street Historic District National Register statement. However, the National Register listing only gives a brief mention of Meetinghouse site’s location and states that it has archaeological potential for future study. The survey of the Meetinghouse site will provide crucial information ground-truthing the location of the Meetinghouse, both with survey information from the use of ground penetrating radar to determine the site boundaries as well as through a limited phase 1A/B archaeological survey. This information will be used in revising the National Register listing as well as guiding future development in the location and public education interpretive activities.

More specifically, the Tribe requests that bidders provide the following services:

- Due to the location on Town land, prepare and submit Massachusetts Historical Commission **Permit Application**, including any necessary rounds of revisions, until permit is approved.
- Conduct **Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) survey** over the approx. 2,000 square foot site area.
- Conduct a **Phase 1A/B archaeological survey** on this same area based upon the GPR results. Tribe’s THPO will partner on all aspects of the fieldwork.
- Analyze GPR data, and process artifacts in an archaeological laboratory to produce a **final survey report** that will include catalogued artifacts, maps, and GPS data and that is prepared to meet the standards of State (Massachusetts Historical Commission) guidelines. Update existing/generate new archeological site inventory forms as needed.

Due to funder timeframes, the final survey report and inventory form must be completed by September 2021.

IV. STANDARDS AND QUALIFICATIONS

1. Must meet Federal professional standards as described in *Archeology and Historic Preservation; Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines* (48 FR 44716-44742)
2. Demonstrate successful execution of Native American archeological research investigations within the Hudson River Valley region of New York or Housatonic River Valley region of Massachusetts.
3. Expertise in preparing technical reports documenting the results of archeological field surveys and excavations including producing documents and reports, compiling data, and producing maps and graphics, using Geographical Information System (GIS), database, and graphics software.
4. Prior experience with Massachusetts Historical Commission State Archaeologist's permit (950 CMR 70) process

5. Technical expertise in use of Ground Penetrating Radar and possession of all necessary equipment.

V. PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS

At a minimum, proposals must contain the following information. A proposal that does not contain this information shall be deemed non-responsible and is subject to rejection.

1. Identify the bidder's qualifications to provide the services.
2. Describe how bidder intends to provide these services.
3. Identify fee for these services and, if any reimbursable expenses, specify what such costs will be in detail.
4. Bidders should have a federal employer identification number.
5. Identify key personnel and the areas of responsibility, including the Owner's contact. Provide CV or resume for key personnel.
6. Describe your availability to complete this project and all reporting by July 2021, and your anticipated field schedule.
7. Provide at least 3 references
8. Identify any deviations from this RFP.

Written questions concerning this RFP shall be forwarded, by fax, email or mail, to the Stockbridge-Munsee Tribal Secretary at N8476 Moh He Con Nuck Road, P.O. Box 70, Bowler, WI 54416 (fax: 715-793-4887) (email: jody.hartwig@mohican-nsn.gov).

V. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The successful bidder will be selected in accordance with tribal bid policies, as applicable. This RFP does not commit the Tribe to award a contract or pay any costs associated with the preparation and presentation of a proposal. The Tribe reserves the right to revise the selection process and, in its sole discretion, to accept or reject any or all responses to this RFP. The Tribe may negotiate with or request additional information from any or all considered bidders. The Tribe may waive informalities or irregularities in a proposal.

The Tribe intends to hire the successful bidder as an independent contractor and such bidder will be required to enter into a written professional services contract with the Tribe. The successful bidder will be required to carry all appropriate insurance, such as professional liability, errors and omissions, general liability, vehicle and worker compensation coverages. The successful bidder must not engage in discriminatory conduct and may not be a barred contractor under tribal or federal contracting requirements.