

Transportation Agency for Monterey County
Request for Proposal for Financial Auditing Services.

Bidder Questions and Agency Answers – v1 dated 12/11/2024

1. Is there anything specific you are looking for in the successor auditors?

Answer: Timeliness, responsiveness, and automation. Our current auditors get consumed by tax season so if we don't have the audit done by February, we lose them for several months. Our audits are consistently completed 3-6 months later than they should be. I want my emails replied to in a reasonable amount of time, and I'd like the new firm to have an audit portal for managing document requests and exchange.

2. How many staff did the audit team consist of for both interim and year-end, and how many weeks did the auditor spend in the field?

Answer: They would send 2-3 people for 1-2 days for interim and year end.

3. How many audit hours did your current auditors propose under your existing contract?

Answer: Don't know. That was 7 years ago well before my time here.

4. What were the prior year's total audit fees, and can you provide the breakdown by components?

Answer: \$23,760 (TAMC \$19,390, RDIF \$2,550, Measure X \$1,790)

5. Are there any significant changes in operations expected for FY 2024-25?

Answer: No

6. Were there any significant events in 2023-24? Will there be any significant events in FY 2024-25?

Answer: No

7. Have there been any changes in your accounting system since last year or any planned changes in the future?

Answer: We are just starting an ERP needs assessment which likely implementation for FY26-27.

8. Were there any new bond issues in the current year or any planned bond issuances in the coming years?

Answer: No.

9. How many leases and subscription arrangements does the Agency have?

Answer: 6

10. How many post-closing journal entries did you have for FY 2023? How many were proposed by the auditor?

Answer: The auditor gives us the various GASB entries to make, along with the vacation accrual adjustment. I don't have a count of post-closing entries. Maybe a dozen. Lags in expense recognition and subsequent revenue recognition have been a struggle. We have new Finance staff and revised procedures in place to address this.

11. Is there any litigation not included in the 2023 Financial Statements?

Answer: Yes – 1 case filed 12/6/2024

12. Did the Agency have any layoffs, retirements, or replacements of key employees in the finance department?

Answer: Yes, all 2.5 FTEs in place 1/1/23 have now retired. The current Director started in Feb 2023, our new Finance Officer started in May 2024, and part time bookkeeper started Dec 2024. We have a contract payroll/accounting person who has been with the agency for 20+ years who is still in place.

13. Do you currently have vacant or frozen positions within finance?

Answer: No

14. Is the FY 2024 audit being performed remotely? If so, is the Agency open to continuing remote audits in the future?

Answer: No. The audit firm has done their fieldwork in person. We are open to remote audits.