

July 22, 2015

Colleagues:

As California State Architect, it gives me great pleasure to invite you to participate in the Division of the State Architect's (DSA's) initiative, 7x7x7: Case Studies in School Energy and Water Reduction.

This initiative was designed specifically to engage *seven* qualified firms to provide training services through the development of *seven* conceptual case studies in school energy and water reduction on *seven* distinct school campuses.

To that end, DSA seeks seven qualified firms to provide training services to assist school districts in increasing the energy and water efficiency of California's more than 10,000 existing K-12 public school campuses and 112 community college facilities.

The focus of the training program is to provide school board members and facilities directors, as well as legislators and other decision makers, with creative yet practical examples for reducing their energy costs and water consumption (both within buildings and externally in the landscape) while simultaneously improving the built environment for quality education.

The following will be important to the success of the program:

- Cost of construction, while obviously important, can be significantly trumped by life-cycle cost savings. The resulting life-cycle savings can then be transferred to educational programs.
- Many of the steps taken to reduce energy and water usage can have a positive visual impact on the built environment and, thus, improve both the educational environment and the revitalization of the larger community's image.
- Innovative, energy-and water-focused design can highlight energy and water consumption awareness and, therefore, have an impact on how future generations view their role in the sustainability of our planet.

With Zero Net Energy (ZNE) as the aspirational goal, and reduction of water consumption as a requirement, DSA intends to engage seven architectural teams as trainers in the presentation of seven conceptual design scenarios for seven distinct school campuses. These scenarios shall illustrate various creative, yet feasible, approaches to reducing energy and water consumption in California's stock of older existing school buildings.

DSA will select the existing campus scenarios. It is intended that each scenario will include a typical classroom building and a typical multi-purpose building, gymnasium or similar building. These scenarios will be representative of the design and construction practices in place during various eras of California's development, including:

- A typical urban school with limited available land.
- A typical suburban school.
- A typical rural school.
- A typical school located in a desert climate.
- A typical school located in a mountain/snow climate.
- A school housed in a building that is recognized as being historically significant.
- A typical, multi-story community college building.

Each training team will be assigned a different scenario and will be provided electronic versions of the original working drawings for the building(s). The resulting conceptual design scenarios will be presented by each of the training teams at four regional events in various locations in California and one final “call to action” event in Sacramento.

Prior to commencement of the design process, it is anticipated that the California Energy Commission will provide an existing energy use model for each scenario. Upon completion of the design process, DSA will engage two separate teams to provide a construction cost estimate and Life-Cycle Cost Analysis for each element of the various scenarios.

A fee of \$7,000, plus reimbursable expenses of up to \$5,000, will be provided to each training team. As an architect and a former architectural firm owner, I would like for us all to consider that this initiative goes beyond monetary investment. By providing school facilities decision makers with creative and practical examples for reducing their energy costs and water consumption while simultaneously improving the built environment for quality education we are making an investment in California’s future.

If you believe that your firm is able to offer these services, please submit a two-page, maximum, letter of interest (with a minimum font size of 11), identifying the roles and responsibilities of the training team members and information about the firm. The letter should include:

- Information that supports the team’s special interest in a specific project type (e.g. historic building, school located in a desert climate, urban school, etc.).
- Firm’s experience in the design and construction of K-12 and/or community college projects, with a specific emphasis on creative approaches to energy and water reduction. These may include both modernization and/or new construction projects.
- Overview of team members’ experience and responsibility on this.
- Identification of any combination of at least three LEED Gold or Platinum, or CHPS Verified projects in the last five years.
- Demonstration of a minimum combined 20 years of experience among the training team.
- Recognition and/or award(s) received for an innovative sustainable design.
- Any additional relevant information.

Letters more than two pages in length will automatically be disqualified.

It should be noted that this is *not* a competitive award process and seeks only to gain an understanding of the availability of services within the market. Based on the response, DSA may opt to request additional information from one or more of the firms that submit a letter of interest, in order to make a determination of the final firms.

Please note that should a firm be awarded a contract, they will need to complete the following, as directed and provided by the Acquisition Analyst at DGS:

- Payee Data Record (STD 204), which can be viewed and downloaded at the following internet site: <http://www.documents.dgs.ca.gov/dgs/fmc/pdf/std204.pdf>
- Bidder Declaration (GSPD-05-105), which can be viewed and downloaded at the following internet site: <http://www.documents.dgs.ca.gov/pd/delegations/GSPD105.pdf>
- Contractor Certification Clauses (CCC - 307), which can be viewed and downloaded at <http://www.documents.dgs.ca.gov/ols/CCC-307.doc>
- Certificate of Insurance
- Darfur Contracting Act Certification (Pursuant to Darfur Contracting Act of 2008)
- Three (3) satisfactory professional references
- Business License

Any agreement entered into with the State of California will have the following included by reference:

- General Terms and Conditions (GTC - 610), which can be viewed and downloaded at the following internet site: <http://www.documents.dgs.ca.gov/ols/GTC-610.doc>

The State reserves the right to withdraw this contracting opportunity.

All questions about the School District Facility Design Initiative Training Program (7x7x7) should be submitted electronically, via email, to Jordan Aquino at Jordan.Aquino@dgs.ca.gov, no later than 5:00 p.m., Friday, July 31, 2015. Responses to all questions will be posted on DSA's 7x7x7 Web page no later than August 7, 2015.

All letters of interest should be submitted electronically, via email, to Jordan Aquino at Jordan.Aquino@dgs.ca.gov, no later than 5:00 p.m., Friday, August 21, 2015.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Chester A. Widom". The signature is stylized and includes a large initial "C" and "W".

Chester A. Widom, FAIA
State Architect