

GOLDEN STATE FINANCE AUTHORITY
Request for Proposals (RFP 22-02)
Contract Services for Countywide Broadband Strategic Plans

Response to RFP Questions

1. Under the Deliverable Section the RFP states that the “components listed above, to be completed no later October 1, 2023.” Later in the RFP under the Project Schedule it states that “Respondents should use October 31, 2023 as the date...” Could you please confirm which date we should use?

Our apologies. You should use October 31, 2023.

2. To what extent are in-state (i.e., California) respondents weighted versus out-of-state respondents that may offer other advantages (i.e., cost savings)?

There will be no preferential points given to in-state vs. out-of-state Respondents. Respondents will be rated strictly on the proposal components outlined in the RFP.

3. We understand and expect that the development of a comprehensive Broadband Strategic Plan for each county will necessarily require respondents to be physically present during the development and information gathering phase of the plan development (e.g., stakeholder engagement, community outreach, town hall meetings, etc.) Additionally, the RFP states that GSFA will serve as project manager and grant administrator, managing “[a]dherence to project timelines, deliverables, payments, and grant administration...” So that it can inform the cost proposal, can you share rough expectations for additional in-person meetings or other engagements, beyond our proposed stakeholder engagement as well as the final presentations discussed in the RFP, that may require a physical presence throughout the course of this engagement?

Reviewers will look to the project strategy proposed by the Respondent to ensure that sufficient community outreach and stakeholder engagement has taken place. It is not assumed that this work would be done in-person. The use of technology for group or one-on-one meetings, and/or to implement survey instruments is anticipated and is acceptable. Each County included in the RFP will form (or has formed) a Broadband Task Force to facilitate stakeholder engagement and community outreach.

Respondents should plan on presenting an overview of the final work product to the respective County Boards of Supervisors in-person.

4. The RFP anticipates the successful bidder using the recently released FCC Broadband Map locational data to identify deficiencies in broadband availability in the various

counties. However, the FCC broadband map data is still subject to the challenge process, and thus the depiction of unserved and undeserved areas may be subject to change pending the outcome(s) of the challenge process. How does GSFA anticipate allowing for revisions or updates to the broadband plans to accommodate for potential changes to the broadband map data as a result of the challenge process during the work period of January – October 2023?

The FCC National Broadband Map was released on November 18, 2022, with the challenge period closing on January 13, 2023. The FCC anticipates that the final version of the map will be released in summer 2023.

At present, GSFA does not have additional financial resources, beyond those identified within the RFP for this project.

For purposes of the project work outlined in the RFP, the Review Team will look to the Respondents to propose how this information will be incorporated into the Broadband Strategic Plans so that upon completion in October 2023, the most current information is included in the plans.