

## Request for Proposals by Ramona Food & Clothes Closet for Solar Power

The Ramona Food & Clothes Closet, Inc (RFCC) is seeking a licensed solar vendor (SV) to design and install a solar PV system at 773 Main St, Ramona, CA. RFCC was awarded a contract by the County of San Diego ("County") to purchase and install a solar system to reduce utility costs. This project must be done in accordance with the U.S. Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program regulations.

A walk through of the affected RFCC spaces will be offered to all interested bidders one time and one time only on April 16, 2021. This will be an opportunity to see the main breaker panel, location of future shade structures, and SDG&E's infrastructure. Contact Pete Reinagel, RFCC Project Manager (PM) by email, [pete.reinagel@foodandclothescloset.org](mailto:pete.reinagel@foodandclothescloset.org) NLT April 15, 2021 to sign up for this walk through. Questions may also be emailed to the RFCC PM with the understanding that the answers will be shared with other bidders.

RFCC desires to have the solar system operational no later than September 29, 2021 and there are no known obstacles to the successful bidder from commencing the project immediately upon award. Funds are available thanks to the County of San Diego and the CDBG program.

All proposals to be delivered to RFCC, Attention: RFCC SOLAR BID, 773 Main Street, Ramona, CA 92065 by USPS or hand delivered NLT 4 PM, Pacific Time on April 26, 2021.

Successful vendor shall execute a contract with RFCC within one week of notification. Failure to execute the contract in a timely manner will cause RFCC to offer the award to the next successful SV. Within one week of contract signing, the SV shall meet with RFCC to hold a kickoff meeting to meet key personnel, exchange contact information, review the contract, discuss expectations, and next steps.

### **Solar System Requirements // Statement of Work**

1. System size is 50kW DC (Nominal).
2. The solar photovoltaic (PV) panels shall be installed in RFCC's parking lot directly behind the RFCC Thrift Store. The approximate solar panel locations are shown below. Proposals for different locations will need sufficient justification. Roof mounted solutions will not be considered.
3. Solar PV Panels shall be mounted on an elevated canted, shade structure with the lowest edge no less than nine feet above grade. Shade structure shall be selected and provided by the SV with RFCC's concurrence prior to purchase.
4. Permit. The solar system shall be designed in accordance with current California Building Code (Code) and approved under a building permit to be obtained by the SV from the County.
5. Foundation. Elevated shade structure shall comply with California Building Code and local building codes (Code). We anticipate that a drilled column foundation will be used. A soils study shall be required.
6. Lighting. The SV shall add manual and automatic switched lighting for safety under the solar panels. Lighting solution shall meet Code.
7. Storage. SV shall pair on-site renewable generation (e.g. solar PV) and storage to provide the ability to have continuous backup power for two hours minimum. Backup battery power shall provide sufficient power to keep the RFCC'S thrift store lights and cash register running for two

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hours. This feature shall be priced as an option. The intent is to leverage the Self-Generation Incentive Program (SGIP) for a discounted backup battery.

8. SGIP. SV shall submit all required documents to [www.selfgenca.com](http://www.selfgenca.com) to obtain a discounted backup battery under the SGIP.
9. Connections. Solar Vendor shall prepare and submit a Net Energy Metering (NEM) application to SDGE on behalf of RFCC. SV shall have the solar system approved for NEM and interconnection to SDGE by submitting all required documents and coordinating inspections.
10. Monitoring. SV shall include local and remote monitoring the system's performance.
11. Drawings at completion. SV shall provide one copy of the as-built drawings and one copy of the County approved drawings to RFCC before final payment will be made.

### Terms & Conditions

1. **Additional Terms.** A statement that the SV has read and shall comply with all the terms and conditions that apply to the SV as a subcontractor to RFCC in the Agreement between the County of SD and RFCC ("Attachment 1"). Articles 3, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14 and 16 in Attachment 1 directly apply and other articles give context and the County's intent.
2. **Prevailing Wages.** The requirements of Chapter 1 (commencing with Section 1720) of Part 7 of the Labor Code (pertaining to the payment of prevailing wages and administered by the California Department of Industrial Relations) shall be met.
3. **Davis-Bacon Act** (40 U.S.C., 3141 *et seq.*). Davis-Bacon labor standards stipulate the wage payment requirements for Carpenters, Electricians, Plumbers, Roofers, Laborers, and other construction work classifications that may be needed for the project. These requirements are triggered when construction work over \$2,000 is financed in whole or in part with CDBG funds. This Act is explained at <https://files.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/Making-Davis-Bacon-Work-Contractors-Guide-Prevailing-Wage-Requirements.pdf>
4. The Davis-Bacon Wage Decision is a listing of different work classifications and the minimum wage rates that must be paid to anyone performing work in those classifications. The details of this may be found at [beta.SAM.gov](http://beta.SAM.gov) | Home under Wage Determination (WD) for San Diego County. As of this publication date, the latest WD is # CA20210001. This may be superseded by higher authorities.
5. The SV will post the Wage Determination and an Employee Rights poster on the work site.
6. A **bid guarantee** from each bidder equivalent to 5 percent of the bid price. The "bid guarantee" must be a firm commitment in the form of a bid bond, certified check, or other negotiable instrument as assurance that the bidder is prepared to execute a contract within the time specified for the bid amount.
7. **Non-Discrimination.** The SV shall not discriminate in any manner during the execution of this contract. Refer to Non-Discrimination Clause in Article 8, in particular, 8.3, 8.4, 8.5, 8.6, & 8.7 in Attachment 1.
8. **Women's Business Enterprise Policy.** SV shall comply with EEO Executive Order 11246 that established requirements for non-discriminatory practices in hiring and employment on the part of U.S. government contractors. It "prohibits federal contractors and federally assisted construction contractors and subcontractors, who do over \$10,000 in Government business in one year from discriminating in employment decisions on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, or national origin." It also requires contractors to "take affirmative action to ensure that applicants are employed, and that employees are treated during employment, without regard to their race, color, religion, sex or national origin."

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9. SV shall comply with Executive Order 12138 in support of women's business enterprise and to prohibit actions or policies which discriminate against women's business enterprise on the ground of sex.
10. **MBE.** SV shall comply with Executive Orders 11625 and 12432 by making efforts to foster and promote minority business enterprises.
11. **Copeland Anti-Kickback Act** (40 U.S.C., 3145). Requires that workers be paid weekly, that deductions from workers' pay be permissible, and that contractors maintain and submit weekly payrolls.
12. **Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act** (CWHSSA) (40 U.S.C., 3701 *et seq.*). Applies to contracts over \$100,000 and requires that workers receive overtime compensation for hours worked in excess of 40 hours in one week.
13. **The Fair Labor Standards Act** (FLSA). The FLSA contains Federal minimum wage rates, overtime (O/T), and child labor requirements. These requirements generally apply to any labor performed. The Dept of Labor (DOL) has the authority to administer and enforce FLSA. HUD will refer to the DOL any possible FLSA violations that are found on HUD projects.
14. A **performance bond** from the SV for 100 percent of the contract price to secure the SV's fulfillment of all obligations under the contract will be required when the contract is executed.
15. A **payment bond** from the SV for 100 percent of the contract price to assure payment of all persons supplying labor and material under the contract will be required when the contract is executed.
16. **HUD Section 3** requirements are not applicable since this project does not involve housing construction, rehabilitation, or other public construction. However, participants in HUD's assistance programs—recipients and contractors—are required to make good faith efforts to provide "to the greatest extent feasible" opportunities to Section 3 area residents and Section 3 business concerns. The HUD Section 3 program is explained here:  
[https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/dam/sdc/sdhcd/new-docs/Section\\_3\\_Compliance\\_Guide\\_Final\\_5\\_17\\_16.pdf](https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/dam/sdc/sdhcd/new-docs/Section_3_Compliance_Guide_Final_5_17_16.pdf)

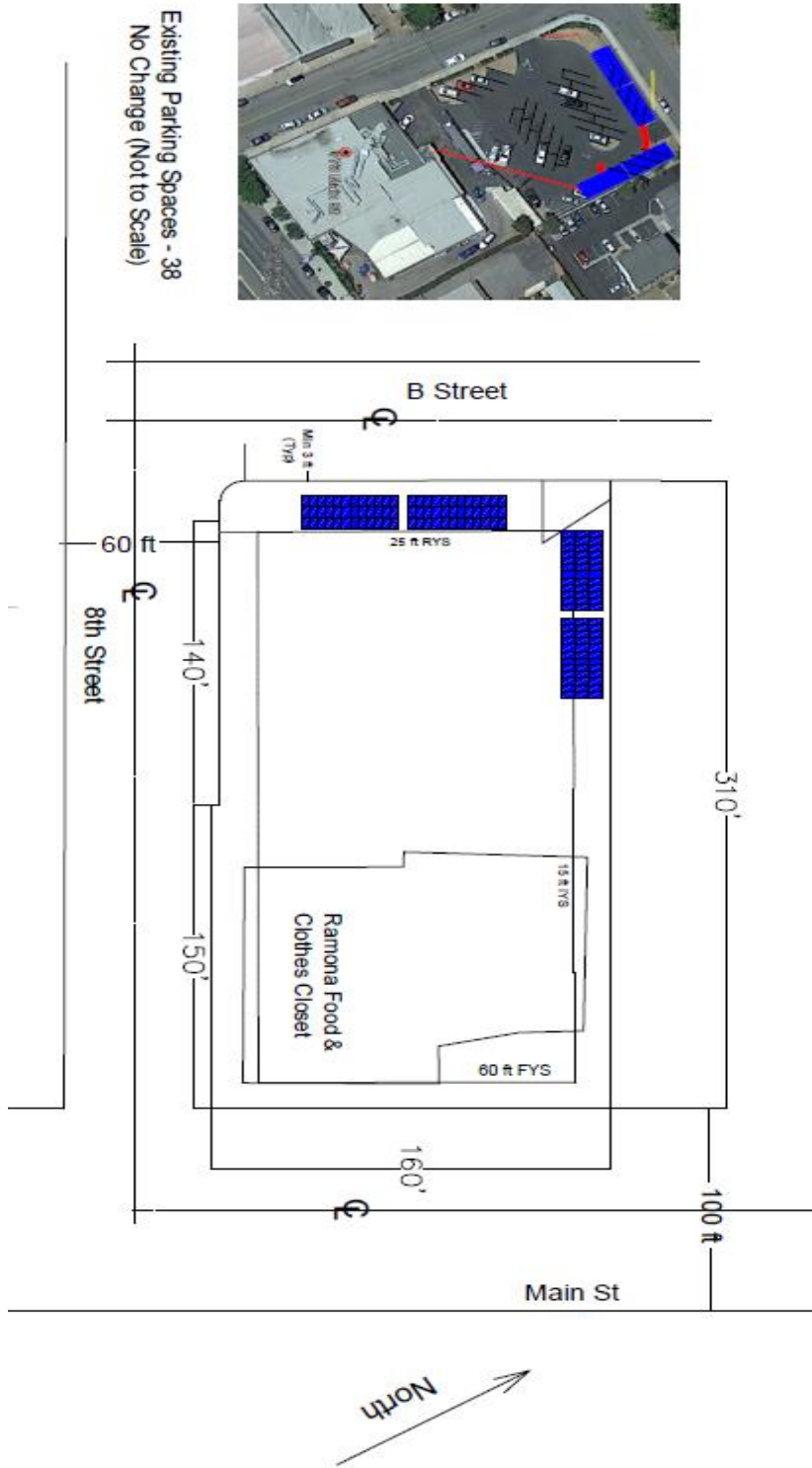
### Successful bidders shall include the following in their proposal.

1. **Prevailing Wage Experience.** Brief narrative explaining SV's experience with administering prevailing wages on a construction project. Prevailing wages are required to be paid and the appropriate documentation submitted to support compliance with this policy.
2. **Equipment Selection.** Complete description of the solar PV panels to include brand, model, quantity, power rating in watts, and OEM's warranty period. Solar panels must have a minimum 25 year warranty.
3. **Shade Structure.** Brief narrative explaining SV's experience with designing and installing elevated solar power systems.
4. **Battery.** Brief narrative explaining SV's experience with designing and installing backup power systems that are covered by California's SGIP. Include the backup battery brand, model, warranty, and duration.
5. **Small Business Support.** Brief narrative explaining SV's plans for and any experience with CDBG & HUD goals such as hiring and partnering with Minority, Women-owned, Veteran-owned, and Small Business Enterprises. This may include staffing and supply chain functions.

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6. Technical Solution. Narrative that describes the SV's technical solution by addressing their plans and process from site survey, design, reviews, permitting, structural support, purchasing, installation, interconnection, light off, and final acceptance. Include communications with stakeholders, with frequency and form throughout the process.
7. Electrical Drawing. SV shall provide a one-line drawing with the proposal to demonstrate your understanding of the proposed electrical design.
8. Timeline. A preliminary high-level project plan to cover the notional time for these phases: design, purchasing, permitting, installation, testing, and final acceptance.
9. California license number(s). Relevant licenses include A, B, and C-46.
10. Price. SV shall provide a firm fixed price in USD to include all requirements specified in this RFP and any derived requirements broken out by materials and labor. RFCC is a non-profit whose mission to provide emergency assistance as well as grants and scholarships to those in need in Ramona, Santa Ysabel, Julian, Ranchita, Borrego Springs, Warner Springs and other back country locations in San Diego County. Competitive pricing is paramount.

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