

## ReUSE Minnesota

Reporting, Measurement & Oversight RFP

Q&A Addendum – 7/29/19

- 1. Have you identified a target timeline for completion of the tasks outlined in the RFP? If so, how flexible is this target timeline? Is the timeline driven by any special considerations (funder demands, a board meeting or other ‘event’ that you have in mind, etc.)?**

We estimate project will take approximately 6 months. Project start 9/9/19; project completion by 3/9/20.

- 2. Which stakeholders will be involved in planning and implementing this project?**

- Reuse / repair / rental shops (*excluding auto*)
- ReuseMN funders/members
- PCA
- EPA
- Local and State governments
- Corporations and their Foundations
- Customers and the Public
- Business and Industry Associations
- Technical Assistance Providers
- Educational Institutions

ReUSE MN will ultimately be the lead stakeholder partner for planning/implementation.

- 3. Is there any flexibility in the project budget?**

No. But if a vendor proposes a way to cover extra expenses, ReUSE will entertain the recommendation. Nevertheless, the core proposal must complete the requested scope of work within the prescribed budget.

- 4. The RFP notes that frameworks have been developed to quantify the economic and environmental impacts of the reuse, repair, and rental sectors in Minnesota, but that the selected contractor's work would not duplicate these efforts. Can you give additional detail on how the scope of this project relates to that existing work? Do you expect that the economic and environmental impact analyses would largely rely on those existing frameworks and replicate the existing analyses (where applicable)?**

ReUSE MN would like applicants to make a recommendation on what they feel is the most accurate approach to assessing environmental, economic, and social impacts. If those align with what has been done already it can serve as a starting point given the organization's partnership with the MPCA, or if they differ then it will be a matter of ensuring the two efforts don't conflict since the measurements would impact the same businesses/organizations with outreach. Whatever approach is recommended, ReUSE expects the vendor to describe the strengths and shortcomings of that approach.

5. **Is it possible to access a draft version of the environmental impact approach that is currently being finalized? If for some reason this document cannot be made available prior to the proposal deadline, would it be available to the selected contractor when the project begins?**

The MPCA is using an [economic input-output life cycle assessment \(LCA\) model developed originally by Carnegie Mellon](#) and since adopted by the EPA. Process-based LCA was considered originally; however, while it offers more granularity and is preferable for product comparisons and/or material selections, boundary setting and the lack of availability for the necessary data on a sector-wide or industry-wide level led to the shift towards EIO LCA.

6. **A 2011 economic impact analysis is available on the PCA website. Is that the most recent version of this analysis?**

*From answers presented in Webinar:*

- o [2011 Economic Study](#) (methodology in appendices of the report)
  - o [2015 Solid Waste Policy Report](#) (economic update of the 2011 report starts on page 20)
- Yes. The analysis has not been updated.

7. **Would the selected contractor have access to additional files from the prior economic analysis, e.g. datasets, computations or syntax files, etc., beyond what is available in the public report?**

The datasets aren't available due to the license, but the methodology is listed in the 2011 appendices.

8. **Have you identified any changes that you would expect the selected contractor to make to the existing frameworks for quantifying the economic and environmental impacts? If so, what changes would you expect?**

No expected changes.

We expect the vendor (based on their experience and expertise) to identify changes that could make existing models better. Or, again, based on their expertise, a vendor may suggest different models.

9. **The RFP notes that an approach has not yet been developed to measure the social impacts of reuse. Can you provide any additional information about the desired process for developing this approach or which stakeholders might collaborate with the selected contractor in this process?**

At this point there hasn't been an approach or scope defined for the social impacts - ReUSE MN is excited to work with the contractor to understand the best approach to quantifying this aspect of reuse. The stakeholders chosen will depend on the desired information. We expect several of our member businesses to be involved no matter what, because they lead social enterprises in the reuse sector. For instance, ARC Value Village uses sales from their thrift stores to fund programs to help adults and children with disabilities.

ReUSE expects the vendor to recommend which social impacts are most appropriate given the scope and focus of this project

**10. Can you provide some examples of the social impacts that may be considered for this analysis?**

Impacts that get the most attention are job creation, skill enhancement, and funding programs that help community members such as recently-released incarcerated or people with disabilities. We are open to the best solution and would like a recommendation to be provided by the vendor in their proposal.

**11. Have you identified a desired format for the presented results? (For example, do you expect a written report, similar to the existing PCA report on the economic impact of the reuse, repair, and rental sectors?)**

*From answers presented in Webinar:*

ReUSE MN expects a report such as the PCA study but is open to vendor recommendations for additional outputs.

**12. Who is the anticipated audience for the deliverable(s) of this project?**

- Reuse businesses and organizations interested in communicating the economic, environmental, and social impacts of the sector
- State and local government advocating for ordinances, policies, etc. to further support and advance the reuse sector

**13. Could you please say more about the expected tasks involved in item #4 in the scope of work, "Use impact data to frame reuse practices in five (5) Minnesota counties and ten (10) Minnesota municipalities"?**

ReUSE will use the methodology developed by the vendor to generate impact data for reuse and repair businesses in a select number of Minnesota counties and cities. This data will help inform reforms in policy and practice in those communities. The reforms are aimed at reducing waste and its associated environmental impacts by increasing reuse and repair practices. The impact measurement tools developed by the vendor will be used to document the multiple benefits of these reforms. Understandable, the funds of this project might not be enough to evaluate all counties in Minnesota. The smaller segment is meant to test the methodology that ReUSE could then use in the rest of the state after this contract is completed.