

Request for Statements of Qualifications and Proposals for Bond Counsel Services

Proposal Deadline: November 6, 2020, 4:00pm

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REQUEST FOR STATEMENTS OF QUALIFICATIONS AND PROPOSALS FOR BOND COUNSEL SERVICES

I. OBJECTIVE

The Sacramento City Unified School District (District) is seeking proposals from qualified firms to serve as bond counsel, tax counsel, and disclosure counsel for the District's current and future general obligation bond program, its TRAN program, and COP program. Proposals should be submitted as requested below and should include all elements described under "Contents of Proposal".

The overall objective of this Request for Proposal is to permit firms the opportunity to submit their relevant school district legal experience, client references and proposed schedule of charges for consideration.

II. INSTRUCTIONS

Qualified firms are invited to submit a PDF version of proposals via email by 4:00 p.m. on November 6, 2020 to: <u>Jessica-sulli@scusd.edu</u>. It is the Proposer's sole responsibility to ensure that their proposal is received prior to the scheduled closing time for receipt of proposals. No corrected or resubmitted proposals will be accepted after the deadline.

This Request for Proposals does not commit the Sacramento City Unified School District to award a contract or pay any costs incurred in the preparation of a proposal responsive to this request. The District reserves the right to accept all or part of any proposal or to cancel in part or in its entirety this Request for Proposals. The District further reserves the right to accept the proposal that it considers to be in the best interest of the District.

All requirements must be addressed in your proposal. Non-responsive proposals will not be considered. All proposals, whether selected or rejected, shall become the property of the District. Firms are responsible for checking the website periodically for any updates or revisions to the RFP.

Requests for Information

Questions related to this RFP should be submitted in writing to Jessica Sulli, Contract Specialist, at <u>jessica-sulli@scusd.edu</u> no later than October 30, 2020. Specify "RFP for Bond Counsel Services" in the subject line. Responses to all questions received will be posted on the Districts website no later than November 3, 2020.

III. BACKGROUND

The Sacramento City Unified School District (SCUSD) is the 13th largest school district in California and one of the 100 largest in the United States, serving 40,660 students on 77 campuses. Neighborhoods served range from leafy affluent areas around the Capitol to federal housing projects. 72% of SCUSD students qualify for free or reduced-price lunch.

On October 25, 2007, the District issued 2007 General Obligation Bonds totaling \$64,997,966. Bond proceeds are to be used for construction related projects.

On June 30, 2011, the District issued 2011 General Obligation Refunding Bonds totaling \$79,585,000. Bond proceeds were used to refund a portion of the District's 1999 Series B, 1999 Series C, and General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2001. The refunded bonds were paid off as of June 30, 2019.

On June 14, 2012, the District issued 2012 General Obligation Refunding Bonds totaling

\$113,245,000. Bond proceeds were used to advance refund all of the District's 1999 Series B, 1999 Series C, General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2001, and the 2002 Series A. Proceeds were also used to advance refund a portion of the District's 1999 Series D Bonds. The refunded bonds were paid off as of June 30, 2019.

On June 27, 2013, the District issued 2013 Series A and Series B General Obligation Bonds totaling \$70,000,000. Bond proceeds are to be used for construction related projects.

On January 15, 2014, the District issued 2014 General Obligation Refunding Bonds totaling \$44,535,000. Bond proceeds were used to refund a portion of the District's Series 2005 General Obligation Bonds. The refunded bonds were paid off as of June 30, 2019.

On January 8, 2015, the District issued 2015 General Obligation Refunding Bonds totaling \$32,740,000. Bond proceeds were used to refund the District's Series 2005 and 2007 General Obligation Bonds. The refunded bonds were paid off as of June 30, 2019.

On May 24, 2016, the District issued 2016 Series D General Obligation Bonds totaling \$14,000,000. Bond proceeds are to be used for construction related projects.

On May 25, 2017, the District issued 2017 Series C and Series E General Obligation Bonds totaling \$122,000,000. Bond proceeds are to be used for construction related projects.

On July 1, 2018, the District issued 2018 Series F General Obligation Bonds totaling \$10,000,000. Bond proceeds are to be used for construction related projects.

On December 1, 2019, the District issued 2019 Series D General Obligation Bonds totaling \$30,900,000. Bond proceeds are to be used for construction related projects.

On February 4, 2014, the District issued Lease Revenue Refunding Bonds, 2014 Series A and Series B, totaling \$44,825,000 and \$29,460,000, respectively. Bond proceeds were used to make lease payments to the District pursuant to the Facility Lease and additionally, advance refund all of the District's 2002 Variable Rate Certificates of Participation (2002 COP). The Series A and Series B Bonds are secured by certain revenues, which consist of rental payments to be made by the District out of its general fund under a facility sublease as well as interest earning on funds held under a trust agreement.

IV. SOOPE OF WORK

It is anticipated that the successful firm will be asked to provide the following scope of services (not necessarily inclusive):

- 1. Provide an objective legal opinion with respect to the authorization and issuance of the debt obligations and whether interest paid is tax-exempt under Federal and/or State laws and regulations.
- 2. Examine applicable state and federal laws, prepare authorizing documents, consult with parties to the transactions, review proceedings, and perform additional duties as necessary to render the opinion(s).
- 3. Provide continuing advice regarding any actions necessary to ensure that interest will continue to be tax-exempt.

- 4. Prepare and review all legal documents for the issuance, sale and delivery of a bond or TRANs financing, including necessary resolutions, closing documents and transcripts.

 5. Review legal issues relating to the structure of a bond issue.

 6. Draft enabling legislation if required.

- 7. Assist in presenting information to the bond rating agencies and credit enhancers relating to legal