



Introduction

The Greater Cleveland Partnership (GCP) is currently exploring for qualified candidates to conduct a comprehensive tax analysis – a study to examine Cuyahoga County’s tax competitiveness and investments compared to similar markets in the Great Lakes region. GCP is issuing this Request for Information (RFI) to source the best candidate to execute a plan. The RFI process allows for the gathering of in-depth knowledge of suppliers’ abilities and strategies with respect to a tax analysis. We welcome candidates to accept our invitation for submissions by April 20, 2018 at 5:00 p.m. EST.

Background

A few years ago, GCP and our partners commissioned a study that analyzed proposed changes to select Ohio taxes included in the Ohio Executive budget proposal and Ohio House Bill 64 at that time. The report reviewed several of the major provisions of the proposal related to changes to the personal income tax, the commercial activity tax (CAT), and the sales tax. The final report considered the economic effects of each proposal.

This year, GCP has been collecting member input and feedback to shape and prioritize the initiatives of the GCP Strategic Plan. One of the takeaways from the process is that GCP should continue to advocate for tax policies that balance the need for additional resources to drive economic development, without needlessly increasing the overall burden on businesses. Therefore, GCP is exploring the need for a new study that could examine the tax landscape in Cuyahoga County compared to similar markets.

Purpose

The GCP is in the process of developing a list or a menu (see below) of levies and taxes GCP may choose to have analyzed. Feedback from our members will be a key part of the process, as the GCP begins to prioritize the issues that require further expert research.

Local Levies

- Cuyahoga Community College (2)
 - Tri-C has two ten-year property tax operating levies, spaced five years apart. Combined, the levies fund 40% of the school's operating budget.
- County Health & Human Service (2)
 - Cuyahoga County has two property tax levies supporting an assortment of services for Cuyahoga County residents. These services include: senior services, child/family services, mental health services, alcohol and drug services and health care (including services at MetroHealth).
- Cleveland Metropolitan School District (Operating/Cleveland Plan)
 - CMSD has one property tax operating levy as a part of the community-wide effort in support of Cleveland's Plan for Transforming Schools.
- Cleveland Metropolitan School District (Capital)
 - CMSD has two property tax capital levies that support school facilities.
- Port Authority
 - Cleveland-Cuyahoga Port Authority has one property tax levy supporting just over a third of their operating budget. This .13 mill levy generates roughly \$3 million annually.
- Cleveland Public Library
 - Cleveland Public Library has one property tax levy that supports nearly fifty percent of its budget. This 5.8 mill levy generates just over \$22 million annually.
- Cleveland Metroparks
 - Cleveland Metroparks has one property tax levy supporting over 60% of the park's operating budget. This 2.7 mill levy generates over \$50 million annually and expires in 2023.
- Cuyahoga County Arts & Culture
 - Cuyahoga Arts & Culture has a 30 cent per pack ten-year cigarette tax.
- Sin Tax
 - Countywide tax on alcohol and cigarettes on the ballot every 20 years; the county's sin tax pays for stadium maintenance through 2035.

Local Taxes

- Vehicle Registration Tax
- Property Tax Rate
- Personal Income Tax Rate
- Sales Tax Rate
- Sin Tax (see above)
- Potential Grocery Bag Tax

State Taxes

- Personal Income Tax Rate
- Sales Tax Rate
- Sales Tax Base
- Small Business Tax Deduction
- Commercial Activity Tax (CAT) Rate
- Commercial Activity Tax (CAT) Exemption
- New Markets Tax Credit
- Historic Preservation Tax Credit

Process

TIMELINE

RFI ISSUE DATE: March 29, 2018

RFI SUBMISSION CLOSING DATE AND TIME: April 20, 2018

POINT OF CONTACT

Please direct any inquiries regarding this opportunity and the RFI process to:

Sante Ghetti

Vice President, Government Advocacy

Greater Cleveland Partnership

1240 Huron Rd. East

Cleveland, Ohio 44115

(216) 592-2392 direct

sghetti@gcppartnership.com

RESPONSE SUBMISSION METHOD

E-mail information to sghetti@gcppartnership.com by April 20, 2018 at 5:00 p.m. EST.

RESPONSE SUBMISSION COSTS

There is no fee associated with the RFI submission. However, any costs incurred relating to the submission process are the sole responsibility of the party supplying the response.

GCP COMMITMENT TO DIVERSITY & INCLUSION

The GCP strives to be a civic model for the development and implementation of diversity and inclusion strategies that advance productivity, innovation, and economic growth. Our commitment to this goal and to diverse suppliers is evident in our leadership policies, employment practices, purchasing priorities, business partners, and community investments.

Information Requested

SUPPLIER INFORMATION

AGENCY NAME		CONTACT NAME	
ADDRESS		CONTACT TITLE	
		PHONE	
		EMAIL	
		WEBSITE	

SUPPLIER BACKGROUND

AGENCY HISTORY OF OWNERSHIP AND AFFILIATIONS	
OFFICE LOCATIONS	
BRIEF STATEMENT OF CORE BUSINESS COMPETENCIES	
SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS	

CAPABILITIES AND EXPERIENCE

CAPABILITIES	
EXPERIENCE	
WHY WE'RE A GOOD FIT & HOW WE WOULD APPROACH THIS WORK	

PROPOSED ACCOUNT TEAM OVERVIEW

Divulge information only with employee's expressed consent.

BIO 1	
BIO 2	
BIO 3	
BIO 4	
BIO 5	

DO YOU SUBCONTRACT WORK TO THIRD PARTIES?	IF "YES," EXPLAIN:
YES / NO	

CERTIFICATIONS / AWARDS / TRADE ORGANIZATIONS / INSURANCE / POLICIES

CERTIFICATIONS AND AWARDS	
TRADE ORGANIZATION MEMBERSHIPS	

ESTIMATED COSTS / FEES

ESTIMATE		ADDITIONAL COMMENTS
INITIAL FEES	\$	
RECURRING FEES	\$	
ASSUMPTIONS	\$	
PRICING METHODOLOGY		

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Detail any further information believed to be beneficial to the requesting party in support of this Request for Information review process.

ATTACHMENTS

List any supporting attached documentation or provided electronic links.