

Questions and Answers

Lab Photos

- What functions are done (or will be done) in the lab?

Entomology, Quality Assurance and Vector with PCR lab

- What types of specialty lab equipment will need to be incorporated?

A large teaching lab space (taxonomy lab using dissecting microscopes) with 14 stations including workspace for a computer with a minimum of 6 feet x 2.5 feet of desk area. A ventilation system for noxious odors/fumes. Some drawers/cabinetry for each workstation. Adjustable height workstations or smaller, adjustable area for each microscope. The main lab space functions as a taxonomy lab specializing in arthropod identifications. We require freezer space, a flammables cabinet and storage space for samples. Lots of electrical outlets - 6-8 per workstation plus ethernet ports. Dishwashing area with multiple sinks (we currently have 3 sinks with double basins). A separate room for an insectary with secondary containment. Surfaces should be one color. Screened ventilation. Two incubators. Independent heating and cooling. Lights on a timer. Whole room environmental chamber. Need for chill tables in entomology lab. Local environmental controls.

- Any BSL classification or other special considerations?

The PCR lab space should follow BSL 2 classification

- What is the approximate construction budget for each project

The very preliminary budget is 3-4 million for the lab remodel and 2- 3 million for the Maple Grove storage warehouse. These numbers are just placeholders, and we will be looking for the successful Architect to provide more concrete numbers.

- Should the fee proposal be broken out into the two projects lab remodel and storage warehouse?

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If the fee structure is different, then yes. The two are very dissimilar in their complexity and location. We are anticipating the storage space to simply be a slab on grade untampered space. The lab remodel will be significant, complete with mechanical, electrical, and plumbing replacement.

- When does MMCD want these projects to be completed?

Because of the nature of our work, we anticipate most of the lab work to be done in our “off season” November-March. This factor may require staging construction and prolonging that project or providing enough resources to complete it in a tight window. It is anticipated that work at Maple Grove will not have the same constraints. We will ask the successful Architectural firm to provide a more defined timeline after stakeholder meetings and a better understanding of organizational needs.

- Does MMCD wish to have a simultaneous design and construction timeline for both projects?

For this RFP a timeline is not required. If you wish to provide on average times for the two potential scenarios, staggered construction or tight windows, along with how that affects costs, we will not hold that as an official timeline or budget.

- Are there any specific sustainable ratings or certifications that need to be met or obtained (LEED, B#, SB2030, etc.)

We are not required by statute to follow any sustainability specifications such as B3 but as an organization, Environmental sustainability and stewardship is one of the main pillars in who we are. While we currently are not looking for a specific certification we are looking for designs to follow many of the tenets of those programs.

- Has any preliminary design work been completed prior to the RFP being issued?

No, we are at the start in this process.