

Somerset County Library Commission

PO Box 6700
Bridgewater Library
Bridgewater, New Jersey, 08807

Administrative Office
Brian Morgan, QPA
Director of Finance



Phone: (908) 458-8402
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NOTICE OF RFP

The SOMERSET COUNTY LIBRARY COMMISSION is soliciting proposals through a competitive contracting process in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:11-4.1, et seq.

Sealed RFP responses will be received by Brian Morgan, Finance Director, on Wednesday, October 18, 2023 at the Somerset County Library, 1 Vogt Drive, Bridgewater, NJ 08807 at which time and place responses will be opened for:

1. Website Design and Development

Specifications and instructions may be obtained at the

Somerset County/Bridgewater Library
1 Vogt Drive
Bridgewater, NJ 08807

or on the SOMERSET COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM website at <http://www.sclsnj.org/>

Respondents are required to comply with the requirements of N.J.S.A. 10: 5-31 et seq. and N.J.A.C. 17:27-1 et seq.

Brian Morgan, Finance Director
September 14, 2023

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Project Overview

RFP/Contract #:	Procurement contact:	Brian Morgan, Finance Director
Date issued:	09/11/2023	Somerset County Library System
Questions due:	10/10/2023	1 Vogt Drive
Proposal due:	10/18/2023	PO Box 6700
	11:00 A.M. Eastern time	Bridgewater, NJ 08807
		bmorgan@sclibnj.org

The SOMERSET COUNTY LIBRARY COMMISSION is seeking qualified service provider(s) to assist with development of a new iteration of SCLSNJ.org. This contract is to provide design and development services that will deliver a refreshed website, built on a flexible and customizable content management platform.

SCLSNJ.org provides information about the Somerset County Library System of New Jersey's (SCLSNJ) eleven branches and in-person services, and functions as the gateway for a variety of third-party virtual services, including:

- Customer access to the web-based library catalog for finding materials and managing library accounts
- A wide variety of subscription databases for research and reference
- Overdrive, the Library's platform for downloadable ebooks and eaudiobooks
- The SCLSNJ public event calendar
- A mobile app

The project is expected to be substantially complete by March 1, 2024.

1. Background

The Somerset County Library System of New Jersey (SCLSNJ, or "the Library") is an publicly-funded library system of eleven branches, serving a diverse suburban population of around 200,000 in central New Jersey. SCLSNJ is governed by the Somerset County Library Commission (SCLC, or "the Commission"). The Library's web presence is executed through a number of channels, including a variety of social media platforms (managed by the Marketing Department) and the library website, sclsnj.org.

The current iteration of the website dates from a redesign project in 2010 which focused on updating the look and feel to match existing branding, and completing the updates as expeditiously as possible. The most direct solution was to hard code static HTML pages with the intent that the site would be developed further to take advantage of a dynamic content management system. With other more pressing priorities demanding our staff resources, however, further development has fallen to the back burner, leaving SCLSNJ with a web site that does not meet current expectations from our customers regarding usability, responsive design for mobile compatibility, and accessibility.

1.1. Current Website

WordPress, managed by host
Custom theme
Avada tool suite

1.1.1. Integrations

Service or Content	Provider	Integration mechanism
Single search box https://sclsnj.org	Custom code	
Programs & Events https://sclsnj.org	Communico	iFrame widget
Newsletter signup https://sclsnj.org	MailChimp (possibly Patron Point in 2024)	Embedded form
Homepage alert https://sclsnj.org	Custom code	

New & Coming Soon https://sclsnj.org/read-listen-view/new-coming-soon/	Custom code	New materials reports generated twice a month from our catalog and pushed into the page via Zapier
Apply for a Library Card https://sclsnj.org/ecard-en/	Quipu Group (possibly Patron Point in 2024)	Embedded form

1.2. Current Technical Approach and Capacity

When it comes to making technology decisions, SCLSNJ is guided by the following principles:

Functional access to underlying data. Whenever possible, we look for products and services that expose underlying system data for reuse and integration via APIs, webhooks, and other tools. When we have an idea for connecting two systems or automating a process, we want to do our own tinkering and exploration.

Work farther up the stack. For the Library, this means putting our time and effort as close as possible to our users, whether staff members or library customers. We would rather focus on UX and integration than on servers or device management.

Compromise on details, not strategy. We have some atypical approaches in place – like using our Google Workspace domain as our primary identity and permissions infrastructure. There may be turnkey solutions that meet our needs in terms of features, but we aren't interested if they require Active Directory, for instance, or don't offer open access to data.

We serve everybody. Providing information and technology resources in a public library environment always means working with the long tail. Our mission requires us to maintain as much backward compatibility as possible.

2. Scope of Work

2.1. Project Goals

SCLSNJ's Website Redesign Project has four goals:

1. Focus on the primary site users – Library customers – and improve usability for common tasks
2. Update SCLSNJ website look and feel to be consistent with current visual identity guidelines
3. Add functionality for granular distributed management of site content

4. Ensure the site is widely usable by adhering to industry standards for accessibility and responsiveness

The project is expected to be substantially complete by March 1, 2024.

2.2. Areas of Responsibility

The project will be divided into three major components:

- Developing the back-end content management system (CMS)
- Establishing visual and graphic design specifications
- Re-organizing site content

Work will proceed simultaneously on all three components, with occasional coordinating meetings to keep work on track.

2.2.1. Content Management System

The successful Respondent will be responsible for recommending, developing and implementing a content management system for the site. SCLSNJ staff have the knowledge and skill to learn a CMS from scratch, but their time is already over-committed. The goal is to outsource the initial development and roll-out to a firm with this as an area of expertise, and then to bring ongoing maintenance and further development in-house.

2.2.2. Graphic Design

The look and feel of the site, including all graphic design and visual identity decisions, will be determined by the SCLSNJ Marketing Department

2.2.3. Site Content

A small team of library staff will review existing usability research, and will develop a plan for organizing and presenting site content in a way that best meets the needs of the public.

2.2.4 Integrations

Where applicable, please include proposals for the following website integrations:

- Calendars, room reservations, programs
- Mobile app

2.3. Project Timing

	Content Management System (Respondent)	Graphic Design (Marketing Department)	Site Content (Library Staff)
Oct	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Receive and evaluate RFP responses 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review best practices in public library website usability 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review best practices in public library website usability
Nov	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recommend contract award to Commission Start work on CMS design by 11/15/2023 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop initial wireframes for user interface and major content areas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop initial wireframes for user interface and major content areas
Dec	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Initial CMS structure ready by 12/31/2023 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide core visual standards for CMS development Develop main graphical elements 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Outline organization of site content Develop strategy for incorporating existing third-party tools (e.g. EDS)
Jan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refine CMS structure Develop additional CMS features (new calendar?) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Further develop graphics and visual standards 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Flesh out organization of site content Assign responsibility for content areas
Feb	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CMS ready for population with content by 2/1/2024 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide look and feel support as content areas are populated 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure complete population of content areas

NOTE: This timeline should be considered a draft. The Library reserves the right to deviate from this schedule.

3. Technical Requirements

3.1. Core Technology

The content management system (CMS) will be built on an existing platform with wide adoption. Once the site is up and running, we anticipate that SCLSNJ staff members will not only maintain the site, but will continue to develop the back-end to add functionality. They primarily have experience with PHP and Javascript, making existing platforms such as Drupal or Joomla possible starting points for development. Open source platforms are preferred; proprietary platforms may be considered as long as the Respondent can demonstrate that the ability to develop added functionality locally is well supported.

3.2. Basic Functionality

The CMS should support functionality that includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- Content editing must be available via an intuitive, web-based WYSIWYG editor, with the ability to directly edit content code as well.
- Levels of permissions must allow site administrators, supervisors, and staff to contribute to and edit the site's content. Settings should be granular by user, page and level of permission.
- The CMS must track changes to page content and metadata by date and time, and by individual user, with the option for users to subscribe to change notification emails. Users must have the ability to revert to a previous version of page content.
- The site must be natively responsive and be compatible with all major browsers. Design should include accommodation for legacy, non-standards-compliant browsers whenever possible.
- The site will be developed to meet all Federally-mandated accessibility requirements adopted by the Federal Access Board under section 508 subsection 1194.22 of the Rehabilitation Act, and in accordance with W3C Web Content Accessibility Guidelines version 2.1 (as is anticipated to be required for local government websites via a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking for Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act in April 2023).
- Site design must meet the highest and most current security guidelines as defined by the W3C.
- No logo or other advertisement for the consultant or any third party not authorized by Library staff will be permitted on the site.
- The primary entry point for users will be a search box providing access to the Library's online catalog and other resources. The specific search target(s) will be determined by Library staff; some can be accessed using APIs provided by existing partners, but some may require the development of custom interface elements.
- Other key user interactions are:
 - Branch locator, including search by current location, mapping and directions. (This may potentially be integrated with SCLSNJ's Google My Business listings.)
 - Searchable and filterable event calendar for library programs and events. (The Library currently contracts with a third-party to provide an event calendar product. We are open to other options, but they must include attendee self-registration for events, and a means of managing use of program and event spaces.)
 - Prime visual space for promoting services, collections and programs.
 - Integration with SCLSNJ's social media activities. (Currently this primarily includes Facebook and Twitter, but we need to be able to incorporate other tools as they arise.)

- Integration with information resources to which the Library subscribes but that are not easily accessible through the library catalog (such as Naxos).
- Access to library account information to renew books, pay fines, review reserved items, etc. (ILS: Carl.Solution)
- Integration with PCI-compliant ecommerce platform for processing fine payments, donations, etc.
- The site should integrate fully with Google Analytics, enabling the Library to track traffic, browsing paths, visitor trends, individual page views, entry pages, top pages, exit pages, page and site length of stay, and analysis of browsers and platforms.

Additional desired functionality includes:

- Easy integration with the Library’s domain-level Google Drive accounts to function as a document server

3.3. Site Administration

The current site is wholly administered by SCLSNJ staff, with hosting provided by a third-party. SCLSNJ is prepared to continue managing this model for site administration.

The Library is also open to managed hosting solutions, and will evaluate the cost of annual contracts for service against the up-front costs of self-hosted products, taking into consideration the ease of management and the ability of Library staff members to develop additional functions.

3.4 Technical Specifications

- e-Commerce functionality such as payment gateways
- SSL – is this required and how it should be implemented
- Multilingual capabilities
- User roles and capabilities – multiple user roles with page specific permission
- Analytics and tracking
- Specific functionality around search
- Performance requirements
- Browser optimization (Chrome, Firefox, Safari, Edge)
- Cloud hosting
- Search engine optimization
- Accessible/ADA compliant
- Integration with calendaring software, social media, mobile app (preferably within one system or with third parties)
- Updates to plug-ins, ongoing maintenance and security

4. Response Submission

Submission Date and Time:

11:00 AM Wednesday October 18, 2023

One (1) Original & One (1) copy.

Submission Office:

Brian Morgan, Finance Director
Somerset County Library
1 Vogt Drive
P.O. Box 6700
Bridgewater, NJ 08807

Proposals may *not* be faxed or emailed under current public procurement regulations. Clearly mark the submittal package with the title of this RFP and the name of the responding firm, addressed to the Somerset County Library Finance Director. The original proposal shall be marked to distinguish it from the one (1) copy. Only those RFP responses received prior to or on the submission date will be considered. Responses delivered before the submission date and time specified above may be withdrawn upon written application of the Respondent who shall be required to produce evidence showing that the individual is or represents the principal or principals involved in the proposal. After the submission date and time specified above, responses must remain firm for a period of sixty (60) days.

4.1. Proposal Forms

In order for a proposal to be considered complete, the following must be submitted with the proposal:

1. Form of Proposal
2. Proposed Website Development Plan
3. Qualification Statement
4. Key Personnel
5. References
6. Affirmative Action Mandatory Language
7. Affirmative Action Statement
8. Non-Collusion Affidavit
9. Statement of Ownership Disclosure
10. Americans with Disabilities Act Mandatory Language

11. Disclosure of Investment Activities in Iran
12. Acknowledgement of Receipt of Addenda (if applicable)

Additionally, a **NJ Business Registration Certificate** is to be provided no later than the date scheduled for contract award.

4.2. Proposed Website Development Plan

The Respondent shall provide details regarding the proposed CMS solution for the Library's website, and a description of the benefits of the proposed solution to SCLSNJ.

4.3. Qualification Statement

The Respondent shall provide a statement briefly describing the company, its industry, its ownership and history, and its experience with the services proposed.

4.4. Key Personnel

The Respondent shall provide the identity, credentials and area of responsibility of those the Library could expect to work with, should the Respondent be awarded the contract for the proposed service.

4.5. References

The Respondent shall provide a list of three (3) customers for whom the Respondent has performed similar web development work and where the site has been up and running for at least six months but no longer than two years. At least one (1) reference shall be for a public library or other non-profit entity with similar needs regarding integration with third party tools and services. Contact, company name, address, and telephone number should be included.

5. Response Evaluation

Evaluation
Governing Body Action

late October 2023
November 1, 2023

5.1. Evaluation Process

An evaluation team will review all proposals. The team will determine if the proposals satisfy the Proposal Requirements, determine if a proposal should be rejected and then evaluate the proposals based upon the Evaluation Criteria. The highest-ranking Respondent will then be recommended to the governing body for award of contract, based on price and other factors. **In certain areas, multiple contracts may be awarded.**

5.2. Evaluation Criteria

Listed below are the criteria that the SCLC will consider in the evaluation of each proposal. The arrangement of the criteria does not imply order of importance in the selection process. All criteria will be used to select the successful Respondent.

5.2.1. Understanding of the Requested Work

Proposals will be evaluated for general compliance with instructions and requests issued in the RFP. Non-compliance with significant instructions shall be grounds for disqualification of proposals.

5.2.2. Knowledge and Technical Competence

The ability of the Respondent to perform all of the tasks and fulfill the stated requirements will be evaluated based on information in the proposal, including a proposed website development plan that addresses all of the technical specifications (3.4)

5.2.3. Management, Experience and Personnel Qualifications

Expertise of the firm shall be demonstrated by past contract successes providing government agencies with similar services by the:

1. Provision of references that adequately demonstrate experience with the services proposed (4.5)
2. Demonstration of company expertise, including the qualifications of key personnel (4.3 and 4.4)

5.2.4. Ability to Complete the Project/ Services in a Timely Manner

Proposals will be evaluated to determine the ability of the Respondent to perform the work within the timeframe specified. (3.3)

5.2.5. Flexibility for Future Development

The proposed solution will be evaluated to determine how readily it affords the Library the flexibility to actively develop additional site functionality in the future without additional development costs.

5.2.6. Cost

Cost is a key evaluation factor. The Library will evaluate the cost of annual contracts for hosting and other services against the flat up-front costs of locally hosted solutions, taking into consideration the ease of management and the ability of Library staff members to develop additional functions.

6. Administrative Conditions and Requirements

The following items express the administrative conditions and requirements of this RFP. Together with the other RFP sections, they will apply to the RFP process, the subsequent contract, and the provision of materials and services. Any proposed change, modification, or exception to these conditions and requirements may be the basis for the SOMERSET COUNTY LIBRARY COMMISSION, hereinafter referred to as SCLC, to determine the proposal non-responsive to the RFP, and will be a factor in the determination of an award of contract. The contents of the proposal of the successful Respondent, as accepted by the SCLC, will become part of any contract awarded as a result of this RFP.

6.1. Interpretations and Addenda

Respondents are expected to examine the RFP with care and observe all its requirements. All questions about the meaning or intent of this RFP and all interpretations and clarifications considered necessary by the SCLC representative in response to such comments and questions will be issued by Addenda posted to the website on the Exempt Services RFP notice button. Only comments and questions responded to by formal written Addenda will be binding. Oral interpretations, statements or clarifications are without legal effect.

6.2. Estimates of Quantities

Wherever the estimated quantities of work to be done are shown in any section of this RFP, including the Proposal Cost Form, they are given for use in comparing proposals.

The SCLC especially reserves the right (except as herein otherwise specifically limited) to increase or diminish the quantities as may be deemed reasonably necessary or desirable by the SCLC to complete the work detailed by the contract. Such increase or diminution shall in no way violate this contract, nor shall any such increase or diminution give cause for claims or liability for damages.

6.3. Cost Liability and Additional Costs

The SCLC assumes no responsibility or liability for costs incurred by the Respondent prior to the issuance of an agreement. The liability of the SCLC shall be limited to the terms and conditions of the contract.

Respondents will assume responsibility for all costs not stated in their proposals. All unit rates either stated in the proposal or used as a basis for its pricing are required to be all-inclusive. Additional charges, unless incurred for additional work performed by request of the SCLC, are not to be billed and will not be paid.

6.4. Statutory and Other Requirements

6.4.1. Compliance with Laws

Any contract entered into between the contractor and the SCLC must be in accordance with, and subject to, compliance by both parties with the New Jersey Local Public Contracts Law. The contractor must agree to comply with the non-discrimination provisions of that law and all other laws and regulations applicable to the performance of services there under. The Respondent shall sign and acknowledge such forms and certificates as may be required by this section.

6.4.2. Mandatory Affirmative Action Compliance

No firm may be issued a contract unless it complies with the Affirmative Action regulations of P. L. 1975, C. 127 as identified in the documents attached hereto. The form shall be properly executed in order for SCLC to determine compliance.

6.4.3. New Jersey Anti-Discrimination – N.J.S.A. 10:2-1

There shall be no discrimination against any employee engaged in the work required to produce the goods and services covered by any contract resulting from this bid, or against any applicant to such employment because of race, religion, sex, national origin, creed, color, ancestry, age, marital status, affectional or sexual orientation, familial status, liability for service in the Armed Forces of the

United States, or nationality. This provision shall include, but not be limited to the following: employment upgrading, demotion, transfer, recruitment or recruitment advertising, layoff or termination, rates of pay or other forms of compensation, and selection for training, including apprenticeship. The contractor shall insert a similar provision in all subcontracts for services to be covered by any contract resulting from this RFP.

6.4.4. Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990

Discrimination on the basis of disability in contracting for the delivery of services is prohibited. Respondents are required to read the American with Disabilities language that is part of the documents attached hereto and agree that the provisions of Title II of the Act are made part of the contract. The contractor is obligated to comply with the Act and hold the SCLC harmless.

6.4.5. Statement of Ownership Disclosure

No corporation or partnership shall be awarded any contract for the performance of any work or the furnishing of any goods, unless, with receipt of the proposal of said corporation or partnership, there is submitted a statement setting forth the names and addresses of all stockholders in the corporation or partnership who own ten (10) percent or greater interest therein. The Respondent shall complete and submit the certification form that is included in this RFP.

6.4.6. Non-Collusion Affidavit

The Non-Collusion Affidavit, which is part of this RFP, shall be properly executed and submitted with the RFP response.

6.4.7. N.J. Business Registration Certificate

A N.J. Business Registration Certificate is required prior to award of contract, pursuant to C57, PL2004; failure to be registered by time of contract award may be cause for rejection. Entities or individuals that need to file for a certificate may do so on-line through the NJ Division of Local Government Services at the following link:

<http://www.state.nj.us/treasury/revenue/busreqcert.shtml>

6.4.8. Disclosure of Investment Activities in Iran

P.L. 2012, c.25 prohibits State and local public contracts with persons or entities engaging in certain investment activities in energy or finance sectors of Iran.

6.4.9. Insurance and Indemnification

If it becomes necessary for the contractor, either as principal or by agent or employee, to enter upon the premises or property of the SCLC in order to construct, erect, inspect, make delivery or remove property hereunder, the contractor hereby covenants and agrees to take, use, provide and make all proper, necessary and sufficient precautions, safeguards, and protection against the occurrence of happenings of any accident, injuries, damages, or hurt to person or property during the course of the work herein covered and his/her sole responsibility.

The contractor further covenants and agrees to indemnify and save harmless the SCLC from the payment of all sums of money or any other consideration(s) by reason of any, or all, such accidents, injuries, damages, or hurt that may happen or occur upon or about such work and all fines, penalties and loss incurred for or by reason of the violation of any SCLC regulation, ordinance or the laws of the State, or the United States while said work is in progress.

The contractor shall maintain sufficient insurance to protect against all claims under Workers Compensation, General Liability and Automobile and shall be subject to approval for adequacy of protection and shall provide such certificates of insurance when requested.

6.5. Multiple Proposals Not Accepted

More than one separate proposal from an individual, firm, partnership, corporation or association under the same or different names shall not be considered. However, vendors may respond to more than one service or alternate, but must list each service or alternate separately on the proposal cost form and must state their relevant qualifications for each service or alternate.

6.6. Partial Award

The Library reserves the right to award contracts for all or part of the services.

6.7. Failure to Enter Contract

Should the Respondent to whom the contract is awarded fail to enter into a contract within ten (10) days, Sundays and holidays excepted, the SCLC may then, at its option, accept the proposal of another Respondent.

6.8. Commencement of Work

The contractor agrees to commence work after the date of award by the SCLC and upon notice from the using department.

6.9. Termination of Contract

If, through any cause, the contractor shall fail to fulfill in a timely and proper manner its obligations under the Contract, or if the contractor violates any requirements of the Contract, the SCLC shall thereupon have the right to terminate the Contract by giving written notice to the contractor of such termination at least thirty (30) days prior to the proposed effective date of the termination. Such termination shall relieve the SCLC of any obligation for the balances to the contractor of any sum or sums set forth in the Contract.

The contractor agrees to indemnify and hold the SCLC harmless from any liability to subcontractors/suppliers concerning payment for work performed or goods supplied arising out of the lawful termination of the Contract by the SCLC under this provision.

In case of default by the contractor, the SCLC may procure the articles or services from other sources and hold the contractor responsible for any excess cost occasioned thereby.

6.10. Challenge of Specifications

Any Respondent who wishes to challenge a specification shall file such challenge in writing with the Somerset County Library System Finance Director no less than three (3) business days prior to the opening of the RFP's. Challenges filed after that time shall be considered void and will have no impact on the SCLC or the award of contract.

6.11. Payment

The SCLC issues checks once a month on the first Wednesday of each month, excluding holidays. A purchase order/voucher with the vendor's signature must be attached to all invoices and be in the ordering department's possession roughly two weeks prior to the first Wednesday of the following month in order for a check to be ready on that date.

The SCLC will not pay interest or late fees.

6.12. Ownership of Material

The SCLC shall retain all of its rights and interest in any and all documents and property, both hard copy and digital, furnished by the SCLC to the contractor for the purpose of assisting the contractor in the performance of this contract. All such items shall be returned immediately to the SCLC at the expiration or termination of the contract or completion of any related services, pursuant thereto, whichever comes first. None of the documents and/or property shall, without the written consent of the SCLC, be disclosed to others or used by the contractor or permitted by the contractor to be used by their parties at any time except in the performance of the resulting contract.

Ownership of all data, materials and documentation originated and prepared for the SCLC pursuant to this contract shall belong exclusively to the SCLC. All data, reports, computerized information, programs and materials related to this project shall be delivered to and become the property of the SCLC upon completion of the project. The contractor shall not have the right to use, sell, or disclose the total of the interim or final work products, or make available to third parties, without the prior written consent of the SCLC. All information supplied to the SCLC may be required to be supplied on storage media compatible with standard operating systems and file formats.

6.13. Proposals to Remain Subject to Acceptance

RFP responses shall remain open for a period of sixty (60) calendar days from the stated submittal date. The SCLC will either award the Contract within the applicable time period or reject all proposals.

The SCLC may extend the decision to award or reject all proposals beyond the sixty (60) calendar days and the proposals of any Respondents who consent thereto may, at the request of the SCLC, be held for consideration for such longer period as may be agreed upon.

6.14. Rejection of Proposals

The SCLC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals, or to reject any proposals if the evidence submitted by, or investigation of such evidence fails to satisfy the SCLC that such Respondent is properly qualified to carry out the obligations of the RFP and to complete the work contemplated therein. The SCLC reserves the right to waive any minor informality in the RFP.

6.15. Notice of Award

The successful Respondent will be notified of the award of contract upon a favorable decision by the governing body. The SCLC Finance Director may then send a Purchase Order/Voucher to the contractor.

Contracts for award of “fair and open” procurements for professional services and extraordinary unspecifiable services (EUS) will be prepared by the SCLC.

Term of the contract: One year with two options to renew for two additional one year terms, for a potential total of three years.

6.16. Payment

Payment will be made on presentation of the SCLC’s voucher duly signed and executed and in accordance with the payment timetable established by the SCLC.

7. Forms

The following checklist is provided as assistance to the development of the RFP Response. It in no way supersedes or replaces the requirements of the RFP.

Please initial on the lines below for each document/section attesting to the fact that you have read and/or included the documents with your RFP.

- Proposed Website Development Plan (p. 10) _____
- Qualification Statement (p. 10) _____
- Key Personnel (p. 10) _____
- References (p. 10) _____
- Form of Proposal (p. 20-21) _____
- Affirmative Action Mandatory Language (p. 22-23) _____
- Affirmative Action Statement (p. 24) _____
- Non-Collusion Affidavit (p. 25) _____
- Statement of Ownership Disclosure (p. 26- 27) _____
- Americans with Disabilities Act Mandatory Language (p. 28) _____
- Business Registration Certificate (p. 29) _____
- Disclosure of Investment Activities in Iran (p. 30) _____
- Acknowledgement of Receipt of Addenda (p. 31) _____

6. FORM OF PROPOSAL

6.1. Proposal Form

TO THE SOMERSET COUNTY LIBRARY COMMISSION:

The undersigned declares that he/she has read the Notice, Instructions, Affidavits and Scope of Services attached, that he/she has determined the conditions affecting the proposal and agrees, if this proposal is accepted, to furnish and deliver services per the attached schedule of fees for the following:

WEBSITE DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT

Company Name _____

Federal I.D. or Social Security # _____

Address _____

Signature of Authorized Agent _____

Type or Print Name _____

Title: _____

Date _____

Telephone Number _____

Fax Number _____

E-mail address _____

NOTE: Respondents should refer to Section 3, "Scope of Work" (p. 8-9) for detailed information regarding the name and minimum requirements for each service.

6. FORM OF PROPOSAL

6.2. Proposal Cost Form

Cost details:

Total up-front cost for proposal as recommended: \$ _____

Breakout of costs, including any ongoing costs for proposed hosting or other services:

<u>Description</u>	<u>Cost</u>
_____	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____

Optional alternate or additional components:

<u>Description</u>	<u>Cost</u>
_____	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____

6.3 AFFIRMATIVE ACTION

MANDATORY EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY LANGUAGE

N.J.S.A 10:5-31 et seq., N.J.A.C. 17:27

GOODS, PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AND GENERAL SERVICE CONTRACTS

During the performance of this contract, the contractor agrees as follows:

The contractor or subcontractor, where applicable, will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of age, race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, marital status, affectional or sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, disability, nationality or sex. Except with respect to affectional or sexual orientation and gender identity or expression, the contractor will ensure that equal employment opportunity is afforded to such applicants in recruitment and employment, and that employees are treated during employment, without regard to their age, race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, marital status, affectional or sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, disability, nationality or sex. Such equal employment opportunity shall include, but not be limited to the following: employment, upgrading, demotion, or transfer; recruitment or recruitment advertising; layoff or termination; rates of pay or other forms of compensation; and selection for training, including apprenticeship. The contractor agrees to post in conspicuous places, available to employees and applicants for employment, notices to be provided by the Public Agency Compliance Officer setting forth provisions of this nondiscrimination clause.

The contractor or subcontractor, where applicable will, in all solicitations or advertisements for employees placed by or on behalf of the contractor, state that all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to age, race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, marital status, affectional or sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, disability, nationality or sex.

The contractor or subcontractor, where applicable, will send to each labor union, with which it has a collective bargaining agreement, a notice, to be provided by the agency contracting officer advising the labor union of the contractor's commitments under this act and shall post copies of the notice in conspicuous places available to employees and applicants for employment.

The contractor or subcontractor where applicable, agrees to comply with any regulations promulgated by the Treasurer pursuant to **N.J.S.A. 10:5-31 et seq.** as amended and supplemented from the time to time and the Americans with Disabilities Act.

The contractor or subcontractor agrees to make good faith efforts to meet targeted county employment goals established in accordance with **N.J.A.C 17:27-5.2.**

The contractor or subcontractor agrees to inform in writing its appropriate recruitment agencies including, but not limited to, employment agencies, placement bureaus, colleges, universities, labor unions, that it does not discriminate on the basis of age, race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, marital status, affectional or sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, disability, nationality or sex, and that it will discontinue the use of any recruitment agency which engages in direct or indirect discriminatory practices.

The contractor or subcontractor agrees to revise any of its testing procedures, if necessary, to assure that all personnel testing conforms with the principles of job-related testing, as established by the statutes and court decisions of the State of New Jersey and as established by applicable Federal law and applicable Federal court decisions.

In conforming with the targeted employment goals, the contractor or subcontractor agrees to review all procedures relating to transfer, upgrading, downgrading and layoff to ensure that all such actions are taken without regard to age, race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, marital status, affectional or sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, disability, nationality, or sex, consistent with the statutes and court decisions of the State of New Jersey, and applicable Federal law and applicable Federal court decisions.

The contractor shall submit to the public agency, after notification of award but prior to execution of a goods and services contract, one of the following three documents

Federal Letter of Affirmative Action Plan Approval

Certificate of Employee Information Report

Affirmative Action Employee Information Report (Form AA302 – electronically provided by the Division and distributed to the public agency through the Division’s website at www.state.nj.us/treasury/contract_compliance)

The contractor and its subcontractor shall furnish such reports or other documents to the Division of Public Contracts Equal Employment Opportunity Compliance as may be requested by the office from time to time in order to carry out the purposes of these regulations, and public agencies shall furnish such information as may be requested by the Division of Public Contracts Equal Employment Opportunity Compliance for conducting a compliance investigation pursuant to **Subchapter 10 of the Administrative Code at N.J.A.C.17:27**.

6.4 AFFIRMATIVE ACTION STATEMENT

P.L. 1975, c. 127 (N.J.A.C. 17:27)

REQUIRED EVIDENCE

If awarded a contract, all procurement and service contractors will be required to comply with the requirements of P.L. 1975, c. 127, (N.J.A.C. 17:27). Within seven (7) days after receipt of the notification of intent to award the contract or receipt of the contract, whichever is sooner, the contractor should present one of the following to the Somerset County Library System Finance Director:

- 1. A letter from the U.S. Department of Labor that the contractor has an existing federally-approved or sanctioned Affirmative Action Program.
OR
- 2. A Certificate of Employee Information Report Approval.
OR
- 3. An Affirmative Action Employee Information Report (Form A.A. 302)
OR
- 4. All successful contractors must submit at signing of the contract an Initial Project Manning Report (AA201) for any contract award that meets or exceeds the Public Agency bidding threshold (available upon request). **NO FIRM MAY BE ISSUED A CONTRACT UNLESS THEY COMPLY WITH THE AFFIRMATIVE ACTION REGULATIONS OF P.L. 1975, c. 127**

The following questions must be answered by all bidders:

1. Do you have a federally-approved or sanctioned Affirmative Action Program?

YES _____ NO _____

If yes, please submit a photo static copy of such approval.

2. Do you have a State Certificate of Employee Information Report Approval?

YES _____ NO _____

If yes, please submit a photo static copy of such certificate.

THE UNDERSIGNED CONTRACTOR CERTIFIES THAT HE IS AWARE OF THE COMMITMENT TO COMPLY WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF P.L. 1975, c. 127 AND AGREES TO FURNISH THE REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION PURSUANT TO THE LAW.

Company _____

Signature _____

Title _____

NOTE: A CONTRACTOR MUST BE REJECTED AS NON-RESPONSIVE IF A CONTRACTOR FAILS TO COMPLY WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF P.L. 1975, c. 127, WITHIN THE TIME FRAME.

6.5 NON-COLLUSION AFFIDAVIT

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

COUNTY OF _____ ss:

I, _____ of the City of _____ in the County of _____ and the State of _____ of full age, being duly sworn according to law on my oath depose and say that:

I am _____ of the firm of _____, the bidder making the Proposal for the above named project, and that I executed the said proposal with full authority so to do; that said bidder has not, directly or indirectly entered into any agreement, participated in any collusion, or otherwise taken any action in restraint of free, competitive bidding in connection with the above named project; and that all statements contained in said proposal and in this affidavit are true and correct, and made with full knowledge that the SOMERSET COUNTY LIBRARY COMMISSION relies upon the truth of the statements contained in said Proposal and in the statements contained in this affidavit in awarding the contract for the said project.

I further warrant that no person or selling agency has been employed or retained to solicit or secure such contract upon an agreement or understanding for a commission, percentage, brokerage or contingent fee, except bona fide employees or bona fide established commercial or selling agencies maintained by

(name of contractor)
(N.J.S.A. 52:34-25)

Subscribed and sworn to

before me this _____ day
of _____, _____.

(Also type or print name of affiant under signature)

Notary public of

My Commission expires _____.

6.6 STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP DISCLOSURE

N.J.S.A. 52:25-24.2 (P.L. 1977, c.33, as amended by P.L. 2016, c.43)

This statement shall be completed, certified to, and included with all bid and proposal submissions. Failure to submit the required information is cause for automatic rejection of the bid or proposal.

Name of Organization: _____

Organization Address: _____

PART I Check the box that represents the type of business organization:

- Sole Proprietorship (skip Parts II and III, execute certification in Part IV)
- Non-Profit Corporation (skip Parts II and III, execute certification in Part IV)
- For-Profit Corporation (any type) Limited Liability Company (LLC)
- Partnership Limited Partnership Limited Liability Partnership (LLP)
- Other (be specific): _____

PART II

- The list below contains the names and addresses of all stockholders in the corporation who own 10 percent or more of its stock, of any class, or of all individual partners in the partnership who own a 10 percent or greater interest therein, or of all members in the limited liability company who own a 10 percent or greater interest therein, as the case may be. **(COMPLETE THE LIST BELOW IN THIS SECTION)**

OR

- No one stockholder in the corporation owns 10 percent or more of its stock, of any class, or no individual partner in the partnership owns a 10 percent or greater interest therein, or no member in the limited liability company owns a 10 percent or greater interest therein, as the case may be. **(SKIP TO PART IV)**

Please attach additional sheets if more space is needed.

Name of Individual or Business Entity	Home Address (for Individuals) or Business Address

PART III Disclosure Of 10% or Greater Ownership in the Stockholders, Partners or LLC Members Listed in Part II

If a bidder has a direct or indirect parent entity which is publicly traded, and any person holds a 10 percent or greater beneficial interest in the publicly traded parent entity as of the last annual federal Security and Exchange Commission (SEC) or foreign equivalent filing, ownership disclosure can be met by providing links to the website(s) containing the last annual filing(s) with the federal Securities and Exchange Commission (or foreign equivalent) that contain the name and address of each person holding a

10% or greater beneficial interest in the publicly traded parent entity, along with the relevant page numbers of the filing(s) that contain the information on each such person. *Please attach additional sheets if more space is needed.*

Website (URL) containing the last annual SEC (or foreign equivalent) filing	Page #s

Please list the names and addresses of each stockholder, partner or member owning a 10 percent or greater interest in any corresponding corporation, partnership and/or limited liability company (LLC) listed in Part II **other than for any publicly traded parent entities referenced above**. The disclosure shall be continued until names and addresses of every non-corporate stockholder, and individual partner, and member exceeding the 10 percent ownership criteria established pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:25-24.2 has been listed. *Please attach additional sheets if more space is needed.*

Stockholder/Partner/Member and Corresponding Entity Listed in Part II	Home Address (for Individuals) or Business Address

PART IV Certification

I, being duly sworn upon my oath, hereby represent that the foregoing information and any attachments thereto to the best of my knowledge are true and complete. I acknowledge: that I am authorized to execute this certification on behalf of the bidder/proposer; that the Somerset County Library Commission is relying on the information contained herein and that I am under a continuing obligation from the date of this certification through the completion of any contracts with the Somerset County Library Commission to notify the Somerset County Library Commission in writing of any changes to the information contained herein; that I am aware that it is a criminal offense to make a false statement or misrepresentation in this certification, and if I do so, I am subject to criminal prosecution under the law and that it will constitute a material breach of my agreement(s) with the Somerset County Library Commission, permitting the Somerset County Library Commission to declare any contract(s) resulting from this certification void and unenforceable.

Full Name (Print)

Title

Signature

Date

6.7 AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT

Mandatory Language

Equal Opportunity for Individuals with Disabilities.

The CONTRACTOR and the SCLC do hereby agree that the provisions of Title II of the Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990 (the “Act”) (42 U.S.C. s12101 et seq.), which Prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability by public entities in all services, programs, and activities provided or made available by public entities, and the rules and regulations promulgated pursuant thereunto, are made a part of this contract. In providing any aid, benefit, or service on behalf of the SCLC pursuant to this contract, the CONTRACTOR agrees that the performance shall be in strict compliance with the Act. In the event that the CONTRACTOR, its agents, servants, employees, or subcontractors violate or are alleged to have violated the Act during the performance of this contract, the CONTRACTOR shall defend the SCLC in any action or administrative proceeding commenced pursuant to this Act. The CONTRACTOR shall indemnify, protect, and save harmless the SCLC, its agents, servants, and employees from and against any and all suits, claims, losses, demands, or damages of whatever kind or nature arising out of or claimed to arise out of the alleged violation. The CONTRACTOR shall, at its own expense, appear, defend, and pay any and all charges for legal services and any and all costs and other expenses arising from such action or administrative proceeding or incurred in connection therewith. In any and all complaints brought pursuant to the SCLC’S grievance procedure, the CONTRACTOR agrees to abide by any decision of the SCLC, which is rendered pursuant to, said grievance procedure. If any action or administrative proceeding results in an award of damages against the SCLC or if the SCLC incurs any expense to cure a violation of the ADA which has been brought pursuant to its grievance procedure, the CONTRACTOR shall satisfy and discharge the same at its own expense.

The SCLC shall, as soon as practicable after a claim has been made against it, give written notice thereof to the CONTRACTOR along with full and complete particulars of the claim. If any action or administrative proceeding is brought against the SCLC or any of its agents, servants, and employees, the SCLC shall expeditiously forward or have forwarded to the CONTRACTOR every demand, complaint, notice, summons, pleading, or other process received by the SCLC or its representatives.

It is expressly agreed and understood that any approval by the SCLC of the services provided by the CONTRACTOR pursuant to this contract will not relieve the CONTRACTOR of the obligation to comply with the Act and to defend, indemnify, protect, and save harmless the SCLC pursuant to this paragraph.

It is further agreed and understood that the SCLC assumes no obligation to indemnify or save harmless the CONTRACTOR, its agents, servants, employees and subcontractors for any claim which may arise out of their performance of this Agreement. Furthermore, the CONTRACTOR expressly understands and agrees that the provisions of this indemnification clause shall in no way limit the CONTRACTOR’S obligations assumed in this Agreement, nor shall they be construed to relieve the CONTRACTOR from any liability, nor preclude the SCLC from taking any other actions available to it under any other provisions of this Agreement or otherwise at law.

6.8 BUSINESS REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE

Revised Contract Language for BRC Compliance

Goods and Services Contracts (including purchase orders)

** Construction Contracts (including public works related purchase orders)*

N.J.S.A. 52:32-44 imposes the following requirements on contractors and all subcontractors that **knowingly** provide goods or perform services for a contractor fulfilling this contract:

- 1) the contractor shall provide written notice to its subcontractors and suppliers to submit proof of business registration to the contractor;
- 2) subcontractors through all tiers of a project must provide written notice to their subcontractors and suppliers to submit proof of business registration and subcontractors shall collect such proofs of business registration and maintain them on file;
- 3) prior to receipt of final payment from a contracting agency, a contractor must submit to the contracting agency an accurate list of all subcontractors and suppliers* or attest that none was used; and,
- 4) during the term of this contract, the contractor and its affiliates shall collect and remit, and shall notify all subcontractors and their affiliates that they must collect and remit to the Director, New Jersey Division of Taxation, the use tax due pursuant to the Sales and Use Tax Act, (N.J.S.A. 54:32B-1 et seq.) on all sales of tangible personal property delivered into this State.

A contractor, subcontractor or supplier who fails to provide proof of business registration or provides false business registration information shall be liable to a penalty of \$25 for each day of violation, not to exceed \$50,000 for each business registration not properly provided or maintained under a contract with a contracting agency. Information on the law and its requirements is available by calling (609) 292-9292.

6.9 DISCLOSURE OF INVESTMENT ACTIVITIES IN IRAN

Respondent: _____

Pursuant to Public Law 2012, c. 25, any person or entity that submits a bid or proposal or otherwise proposes to enter into or renew a contract must complete the certification below to attest, under penalty of perjury, that the person or entity, or one of the person or entity's parents, subsidiaries, or affiliates, is not identified on a list created and maintained by the Department of the Treasury as a person or entity engaging in investment activities in Iran. If the Director finds a person or entity to be in violation of the principles which are the subject of this law, s/he shall take action as may be appropriate and provided by law, rule or contract, including but not limited to, imposing sanctions, seeking compliance, recovering damages, declaring the party in default and seeking debarment or suspension of the person or entity.

I certify, pursuant to Public Law 2012, c. 25, that the person or entity listed above for which I am authorized to submit a response/renew:

is not providing goods or services of \$20,000,000 or more in the energy sector of Iran, including a person or entity that provides oil or liquefied natural gas tankers, or products used to construct or maintain pipelines used to transport oil or liquefied natural gas, for the energy sector of Iran, **AND**

is not a financial institution that extends \$20,000,000 or more in credit to another person or entity, for 45 days or more, if that person or entity will use the credit to provide goods or services in the energy sector in Iran.

In the event that a person or entity is unable to make the above certification because it or one of its parents, subsidiaries, or affiliates has engaged in the above-referenced activities, a detailed, accurate and precise description of the activities must be provided in part 2 below to the Division of Purchase under penalty of perjury. Failure to provide such will result in the proposal being rendered as non-responsive and appropriate penalties, fines and/or sanctions will be assessed as provided by law.

PART 2: PLEASE PROVIDE FURTHER INFORMATION RELATED TO INVESTMENT ACTIVITIES IN IRAN

You must provide, accurate and precise description of the activities of the bidding person/entity, or one of its parents, subsidiaries or affiliates, engaging in the investment activities in Iran outlined above by completing the boxes below.

NAME: _____ Relationship to Respondent _____

Description of Activities _____

Duration of Engagement _____ Anticipated Cessation Date: _____

Respondent/Offeror Contact Name _____ Contact Phone Number _____

Certification: I, being duly sworn upon my oath, hereby represent and state that the foregoing information and any attachments thereto to the best of my knowledge are true and complete. I attest that I am authorized to execute this certification on behalf of the above-referenced person or entity. I acknowledge that SCLS is relying on the information contained herein and thereby acknowledge that I am under a continuing obligation from the date of this certification through the completion of any contracts with the Library to notify the Library in writing of any changes to the answers of information contained herein. I acknowledge that I am aware that it is a criminal offense to make a false statement or misrepresentation in this certification, and if I do so, I recognize that I am subject to criminal prosecution under the law and that it will also constitute a material breach of my agreement(s) with the Somerset County Library Commission and that the Library at its option may declare any contract(s) resulting from this certification void and unenforceable.

Full Name (Print) _____ Signature: _____

Title _____

Date: _____

6.10 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF ADDENDA

The undersigned respondent hereby acknowledges receipt of the following

Addenda:

Addendum Number	Dated
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Signed: _____

Title: _____

Printed Name: _____

Date: _____

Company: _____

Signature required only if addenda issued.