



City of Malibu

Request for Proposals

Administrative Hearing Officer

Release Date: April 27, 2021

Submissions Due: 4:00 PM on May 27, 2021

1. Introduction

The City of Malibu is seeking proposals from qualified individuals to serve as an Administrative Hearing Officer to preside over appeals of the Planning Director's actions on Wireless Communication Facility applications. The contract shall be for a minimum of two years.

2. Background

The City of Malibu (City) is a coastal city located in the northwestern portion of Los Angeles County, California, with a population of approximately 13,000 people. The City was incorporated in 1991, operates under the Council/Manager form of government, and is considered a contract city. The five members of the City Council are elected at-large. They serve staggered four-year terms, with the Mayor being selected from among the Council Members.

The City covers approximately 21 miles along the coast and offers a full range of municipal services. The City has an equivalent of 88.67 full-time employees. The City's seven (7) departments provide several in-house services including management and administrative services, building safety, community services, environmental sustainability, planning, public works, and engineering. Police and fire services are provided via contract with Los Angeles County. Other services such as the City Attorney, water, street maintenance and garbage collection services are also provided via contract or by Los Angeles County. The City of Malibu's Adopted Fiscal Year 2020-2021 General Fund Operating Budget is \$29.54 million and the City's Overall Budget is \$63.79 million.

The Planning Department assists the community in planning for the future and managing development consistent with the community vision, while meeting City regulatory obligations. Staff provides a wide range of professional advice and services to the public, applicants, outside agencies, the Planning Commission, and the City Council. The Planning Department provides current and long-range planning, biological services, and code enforcement, as well as a robust public information and records management program. In addition to these services, the Planning Department is responsible for the

conformance review of wireless communications facility applications to the Malibu Municipal Code and the Local Coastal Program and state and federal regulations.

The City of Malibu Planning Department is seeking to retain the services of one or more individuals to serve as an Administrative Hearing Officer. The Administrative Hearing Officer will be responsible for conducting hearings and making a written determination.

3. Scope of Services

The selected consultant shall:

- A. Provide Administrative Hearing Officer services to consider appeals authorized under Malibu Municipal Code Sections 12.02.040(B) and 17.46.030(E).
- B. Preside over the appeal administrative hearing and hears testimony and considers evidence from parties.
- C. Prepare a written determination which sets the basis for the decision. The decision is prepared by the Hearing Officer on a format prescribed by the City. A draft shall be provided to the Planning Director within 72 hours of the hearing.
- D. Prepare for hearings which *could* include, but is not limited to, reviewing case documents, reading the agenda and file materials, conduct field observation, knowledge of relevant City ordinances, State and Federal laws. All preparation for hearings may be limited to a total of 10-14 days.
- E. Collaborate with staff regarding scheduling. The number of hearings will vary.
- F. Confirm the absence of conflicts before undertaking any new matters for the City. The Administrative Hearing Officer will inform and seek the consent of the City before representing another client in any matter directly adverse to the City (e.g., transactions, negotiations, proceedings, or other representations involving specific parties.)
- G. Conduct hearings onsite at City Hall or on a format prescribed by the Planning Director.
- H. Respond within one (1) business day to questions from City staff.
- I. In rare cases, attend Planning Commission and City Council meetings as requested by the Planning Director.
- J. Recommend modifications to the City's guidelines and codes, as appropriate, to maintain best practices.
- K. Attend court appearances, provide expert witness testimony, and conduct legal research at the request of the City.

- L. Shall provide all labor, clerical support, equipment and materials to perform services.
- M. Responsible for all travel, mileage, and telephone/electronic expenses.
- N. Maintain detailed accounting of fees including fixed fees and time and materials fees.

4. Qualifications

The following qualifications are desirable but an equivalent of combined experience will be considered:

- Previous experience as an administrative hearing officer.
- Be an attorney licensed to practice law in the State of California, mediator, arbitrator, judge, municipal administrator, or municipal commissioner/councilmember/board member or any profession / position dealing with conflict resolution and consideration of evidence in making written determinations.
- Experience in municipal law and/or knowledgeable in the area of wireless communication facilities.
- Be familiar with Malibu and its unique character.
- Experience providing legal or planning services to municipalities or similar government entities will be given preference.
- Be able to perform the Scope of Services and other agreement requirements.

5. Instructions and Proposal Requirements

5.1 Proposal Requirements

Proposals should not include any materials to be returned to the consultant and should be a concise statement. Each proposal must include the following information:

A. Organization, Credentials, and Experience

- i. Provide a summary of the company's and/or individuals' qualifications, credentials and related past experience.
- ii. Provide resumes of the Administrative Hearing Officer in performing this type of work which highlight special qualifications relevant to the assignment, and specific reference to experience.
- iii. Provide a list of three (3) of the company's similar clients including the names, titles, addresses, and telephone numbers of the appropriate persons which the City can contact.

B. Professional Services Agreement

- i. The selected provider must use and comply with the terms and conditions of the City's standard Professional Services Agreement as provided in Attachment 1 of this RFP.

C. Compliance

- i. A written statement that the Consultant shall comply with the California Labor Code. Pursuant to said regulations entitled: Federal Labor Standards provisions; Federal Prevailing Wage Decision; and State of California Prevailing Wage Rates, respectively.

D. Litigation

- i. Firms are required to list past, current, or pending litigation resulting from professional services rendered over the past five years. If a court or an arbitrator rendered a decision, state the results.

E. References

- i. Provide a minimum of three (3) references for current or recent projects or work assignments within the last five (5) years of similar scope and content, preferably for the assigned Principal and Assistant Biologist.

F. Fees

- i. **Under Separate Cover** provide professional rate proposal. The professional rate proposal shall include hourly rates and identify the costs per task.

G. Timeline

- i. The City intends to award a professional service agreement for a base term of two years.

5.2 Submittal Procedure

Clarifications: The City will respond to requests for clarification to the Request for Proposals in written RFP Addendum(s) as needed. Inquiries should be directed by email to psalazar@malibucity.org. No verbal requests will be accepted. All requests for clarification must be received by **Tuesday, May 18, 2021**.

Submittal Deadline

Proposals and cost proposals shall be submitted electronically to psalazar@malibucity.org.

All Proposals are due no later than **4:00 PM on Thursday, May 27, 2021**.

The City reserves the right to extend the deadline or accept a late submittal with good cause shown.

Response Preparations: No reimbursement will be made by the City for costs incurred in the preparation of the response to this Request for Proposals. Submitted materials will not be returned and become the property of the City of Malibu.

Right to Reject Submittals: Submission of proposals indicates acceptance by the firm of the conditions contained in this request for proposals unless clearly and specifically noted in the submittal and confirmed in the agreement between the City of Malibu and the firm selected. The City of Malibu reserves the right without prejudice to reject any or all submittals.

ATTACHMENT 1

AGREEMENT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

AGREEMENT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

This Agreement is made and entered into as of _____ by and between the City of Malibu (hereinafter referred to as the "City"), and _____. (hereinafter referred to as "Consultant").

The City and the Consultant agree as follows:

RECITALS

A. The City does not have the personnel able and/or available to perform the services required under this Agreement.

B. The City desires to contract out for consulting services pertaining to Administrative Hearing Officer for certain wireless facilities applications.

C. The Consultant warrants to the City that it has the qualifications, experience and facilities to perform properly and timely the services under this Agreement.

D. The City desires to contract with the Consultant to perform the services as described in Exhibit A of this Agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE, the City and the Consultant agree as follows:

1.0 SCOPE OF THE CONSULTANT'S SERVICES. The Consultant agrees to provide the services and perform the tasks set forth in the Scope of Work, attached to and made part of this Agreement, except that, to the extent that any provision in Exhibit A conflicts with this Agreement, the provisions of this Agreement govern. The Scope of Work may be amended from time to time by way of a written directive from the City.

2.0 TERM OF AGREEMENT. This Agreement will become effective on _____, 2021, and will remain in effect for a period of two years from said date unless otherwise expressly extended and agreed to by both parties or terminated by either party as provided herein.

3.0 CITY AGENT. The City Manager, or her designee, for the purposes of this Agreement, is the agent for the City; whenever approval or authorization is required, Consultant understands that the City Manager, or her designee, has the authority to provide that approval or authorization.

4.0 COMPENSATION FOR SERVICES. The City shall pay the Consultant for its professional services rendered and costs incurred pursuant to this Agreement in accordance with the Scope of Work's and fee and cost schedule. The total cost of services shall not exceed _____. No additional compensation shall be paid for any other expenses incurred, unless first approved by the City Manager, or her designee.

4.1 The Consultant shall submit to the City, by no later than the 10th day of each month, its bill for services itemizing the fees and costs incurred during the previous month. The City shall pay the Consultant all uncontested amounts set forth in the Consultant's bill within 30 days after it is received.

5.0 CONFLICT OF INTEREST. The Consultant represents that it presently has no interest and shall not acquire any interest, direct or indirect, in any real property located in the City which may be affected by the services to be performed by the Consultant under this Agreement. The Consultant further represents that in performance of this Agreement, no person having any such interest shall be employed by it.

5.1 The Consultant represents that no City employee or official has a material financial interest in the Consultant's business. During the term of this Agreement and/or as a result of being awarded this contract, the Consultant shall not offer, encourage or accept any financial interest in the Consultant's business by any City employee or official.

5.2 If a portion of the Consultant's services called for under this Agreement shall ultimately be paid for by reimbursement from and through an agreement with a developer of any land within the City or with a City franchisee, the Consultant warrants that it has not performed any work for such developer/franchisee within the last 12 months, and shall not negotiate, offer or accept any contract or request to perform services for that identified developer/franchisee during the term of this Agreement.

6.0 GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS.

6.1 Termination. Either the City Manager or the Consultant may terminate this Agreement, without cause, by giving the other party ten (10) days written notice of such termination and the effective date thereof.

6.1.1 In the event of such termination, all finished or unfinished documents, reports, photographs, films, charts, data, studies, surveys, drawings, models, maps, or other documentation prepared by or in the possession of the Consultant under this Agreement shall be returned to the City. If the City terminates this Agreement without cause, the Consultant shall prepare and shall be entitled to receive compensation pursuant to a close-out bill for services rendered and fees incurred pursuant to this Agreement through the notice of termination. If the Consultant terminates this Agreement without cause, the Consultant shall be paid only for those services completed in a manner satisfactory to the City.

6.1.2 If the Consultant or the City fail to fulfill in a timely and proper manner its obligations under this Agreement, or if the Consultant or the City violate any of the covenants, agreements, or stipulations of this Agreement, the Consultant or the City shall have the right to terminate this Agreement by giving written notice to the other party of such termination and specifying the effective date of such termination. The Consultant shall be entitled to receive compensation in accordance with the terms of this Agreement for any work satisfactorily completed hereunder. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Consultants shall not be relieved of liability for damage sustained by virtue of any breach of this Agreement and any payments due under this Agreement may be withheld to off-set anticipated damages.

6.2 Non-Assignability. The Consultant shall not assign or transfer any interest in this Agreement without the express prior written consent of the City.

6.3 Non-Discrimination. The Consultant shall not discriminate as to race, creed, gender, color, national origin or sexual orientation in the performance of its services and duties pursuant to this Agreement, and will comply with all applicable laws, ordinances and codes of the Federal, State, County and City governments.

6.4 Insurance. The Consultant shall submit to the City certificates indicating compliance with the following minimum insurance requirements no less than one (1) day prior to beginning of performance under this Agreement:

(a) Workers Compensation Insurance as required by law. The Consultant shall require all subcontractors similarly to provide such compensation insurance for their respective employees.

(b) Comprehensive general and automobile liability insurance protecting the Consultant in amounts not less than \$1,000,000 for personal injury to any one person, \$1,000,000 for injuries arising out of one occurrence, and \$500,000 for property damages or a combined single limit of \$1,000,000. Each such policy of insurance shall:

1) Be issued by a financially responsible insurance company or companies admitted and authorized to do business in the State of California or which is approved in writing by City.

2) Name and list as additional insured the City, its officers and employees.

3) Specify its acts as primary insurance.

4) Contain a clause substantially in the following words: "It is hereby understood and agreed that this policy shall not be canceled nor materially changed except upon thirty (30) days prior written notice to the City of such cancellation or material change."

5) Cover the operations of the Consultant pursuant to the terms of this Agreement.

6.5 Indemnification. Consultant shall indemnify, defend with counsel approved by City, and hold harmless City, its officers, officials, employees and volunteers from and against all liability, loss, damage, expense, cost (including without limitation reasonable attorneys fees, expert fees and all other costs and fees of litigation) of every nature arising out of or in connection with Consultant's performance of work hereunder or its failure to comply with any of its obligations contained in this Agreement, regardless of City's passive negligence, but excepting such loss or damage which is caused by the sole active negligence or willful misconduct of the City. Should City in its sole discretion find Consultant's legal counsel unacceptable, then Consultant shall reimburse the City its costs of defense, including without

limitation reasonable attorneys fees, expert fees and all other costs and fees of litigation. The Consultant shall promptly pay any final judgment rendered against the City (and its officers, officials, employees and volunteers) covered by this indemnity obligation. It is expressly understood and agreed that the foregoing provisions are intended to be as broad and inclusive as is permitted by the law of the State of California and will survive termination of this Agreement.

6.6 Compliance with Applicable Law. The Consultant and the City shall comply with all applicable laws, ordinances and codes of the federal, state, county and city governments, including, without limitation, Malibu Municipal Code Chapter 5.36 Minimum Wage.

6.7 Independent Contractor. This Agreement is by and between the City and the Consultant and is not intended, and shall not be construed, to create the relationship of agency, servant, employee, partnership, joint venture or association, as between the City and the Consultant.

6.7.1. The Consultant shall be an independent contractor, and shall have no power to incur any debt or obligation for or on behalf of the City. Neither the City nor any of its officers or employees shall have any control over the conduct of the Consultant, or any of the Consultant's employees, except as herein set forth, and the Consultant expressly warrants not to, at any time or in any manner, represent that it, or any of its agents, servants or employees are in any manner employees of the City, it being distinctly understood that the Consultant is and shall at all times remain to the City a wholly independent contractor and the Consultant's obligations to the City are solely such as are prescribed by this Agreement.

6.8 Copyright. No reports, maps or other documents produced in whole or in part under this Agreement shall be the subject of an application for copyright by or on behalf of the Consultant.

6.9 Legal Construction.

(a) This Agreement is made and entered into in the State of California and shall in all respects be interpreted, enforced and governed under the laws of the State of California.

(b) This Agreement shall be construed without regard to the identity of the persons who drafted its various provisions. Each and every provision of this Agreement shall be construed as though each of the parties participated equally in the drafting of same, and any rule of construction that a document is to be construed against the drafting party shall not be applicable to this Agreement.

(c) The article and section, captions and headings herein have been inserted for convenience only and shall not be considered or referred to in resolving questions of interpretation or construction.

(d) Whenever in this Agreement the context may so require, the masculine gender shall be deemed to refer to and include the feminine and neuter, and the singular shall refer to and include the plural.

6.10 Counterparts. This Agreement may be executed in counterparts and as so executed shall constitute an agreement which shall be binding upon all parties hereto.

6.11 Final Payment Acceptance Constitutes Release. The acceptance by the Consultant of the final payment made under this Agreement shall operate as and be a release of the City from all claims and liabilities for compensation to the Consultant for anything done, furnished or relating to the Consultant's work or services. Acceptance of payment shall be any negotiation of the City's check or the failure to make a written extra compensation claim within ten (10) calendar days of the receipt of that check. However, approval or payment by the City shall not constitute, nor be deemed, a release of the responsibility and liability of the Consultant, its employees, sub-consultants and agents for the accuracy and competency of the information provided and/or work performed; nor shall such approval or payment be deemed to be an assumption of such responsibility or liability by the City for any defect or error in the work prepared by the Consultant, its employees, sub-consultants and agents.

6.12 Corrections. In addition to the above indemnification obligations, the Consultant shall correct, at its expense, all errors in the work which may be disclosed during the City's review of the Consultant's report or plans. Should the Consultant fail to make such correction in a reasonably timely manner, such correction shall be made by the City, and the cost thereof shall be charged to the Consultant.

6.13 Files. All files of the Consultant pertaining to the City shall be and remain the property of the City. The Consultant will control the physical location of such files during the term of this Agreement and shall be entitled to retain copies of such files upon termination of this Agreement.

6.14 Waiver; Remedies Cumulative. Failure by a party to insist upon the performance of any of the provisions of this Agreement by the other party, irrespective of the length of time for which such failure continues, shall not constitute a waiver of such party's right to demand compliance by such other party in the future. No waiver by a party of a default or breach of the other party shall be effective or binding upon such party unless made in writing by such party, and no such waiver shall be implied from any omissions by a party to take any action with respect to such default or breach. No express written waiver of a specified default or breach shall affect any other default or breach, or cover any other period of time, other than any default or breach and/or period of time specified. All of the remedies permitted or available to a party under this Agreement, or at law or in equity, shall be cumulative and alternative, and invocation of any such right or remedy shall not constitute a waiver or election of remedies with respect to any other permitted or available right of remedy.

6.15 Mitigation of Damages. In all such situations arising out of this Agreement, the parties shall attempt to avoid and minimize the damages resulting from the conduct of the other party.

6.16 Partial Invalidity. If any provision in this Agreement is held by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, void or unenforceable, the remaining provisions will nevertheless continue in full force without being impaired or invalidated in any way.

6.17 Attorneys' Fees. The parties hereto acknowledge and agree that each will bear his/her or its own costs, expenses and attorneys' fees arising out of and/or connected with the negotiation, drafting and execution of the Agreement, and all matters arising out of or connected therewith except that, in the event any action is brought by any party hereto to enforce this Agreement, the prevailing party in such action shall be entitled to reasonable attorneys' fees and costs in addition to all other relief to which that party or those parties may be entitled.

6.18 Entire Agreement. This Agreement constitutes the whole agreement between the City and the Consultant, and neither party has made any representations to the other except as expressly contained herein. Neither party, in executing or performing this Agreement, is relying upon any statement or information not contained in this Agreement. Any changes or modifications to this Agreement must be made in writing appropriately executed by both the City and the Consultant.

6.19 Notices. Any notice required to be given hereunder shall be deemed to have been given by depositing said notice in the United States mail, postage prepaid, and addressed as follows:

CITY:	Richard Mollica	CONSULTANT:	
	Planning Director		
	City of Malibu		
	23825 Stuart Ranch Road		
	Malibu, CA 90265-4861		
	TEL (310) 456-2489 x 346		
	FAX (310) 456-2760		
	EMAIL rmollica@malibucity.org		

6.20 Warranty of Authorized Signatories and Acceptance of Facsimile or Electronic Signatures. Each of the signatories hereto warrants and represents that he or she is competent and authorized to enter into this Agreement on behalf of the party for whom he or she purports to sign. The Parties agree that this Contract, agreements ancillary to this Contract, and related documents to be entered into in connection with this Contract will be considered signed when the signature of a party is delivered physically or by facsimile transmission or scanned and delivered via electronic mail. Such facsimile or electronic mail copies will be treated in all respects as having the same effect as an original signature.

7.0 GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS. (City and Consultant initials required at EITHER 7.1 or 7.2)

7.1 Disclosure Required. By their respective initials next to this paragraph, City and Consultant hereby acknowledge that Consultant is a “consultant” for the purposes of the California Political Reform Act because Consultant’s duties would require him or her to make one or more of the governmental decisions set forth in Fair Political Practices Commission Regulation 18700.3(a) or otherwise serves in a staff capacity for which disclosure would otherwise be required were Consultant employed by the City. Consultant hereby acknowledges his or her assuming-office, annual, and leaving-office financial reporting obligations under the California Political Reform Act and the City’s Conflict of Interest Code and agrees to comply with those obligations at his or her expense. Prior to consultant commencing services hereunder, the City’s Manager shall prepare and deliver to consultant a memorandum detailing the extent of Consultant’s disclosure obligations in accordance with the City’s Conflict of Interest Code.

City Initials _____
Consultant Initials _____

7.2 Disclosure not Required. By their initials next to this paragraph, City and Consultant hereby acknowledge that Consultant is not a “consultant” for the purpose of the California Political Reform Act because Consultant’s duties and responsibilities are not within the scope of the definition of consultant in Fair Political Practice Commission Regulation 18700.3(a) and is otherwise not serving in staff capacity in accordance with the City’s Conflict of Interest Code.

City Initials _____
Consultant Initials _____

This Agreement is executed on _____, 2021, at Malibu, California,
and effective as of _____ 2021.

CITY OF MALIBU:

PAUL GRISANTI, Mayor

ATTEST:

KELSEY PETTIJOHN, Acting City Clerk
(seal)

CONSULTANT:

By: NAME, Title

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

JOHN COTTI, Interim City Attorney