REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS

EXECUTIVE ARCHITECT

FOR THE

BIRCH AQUARIUM EXPANSION
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO

CPM Project No. 5164

Proposals due
MONDAY, JULY 31, 2017

Issue Date – July 11, 2017
I. **INTRODUCTION**

UC San Diego will be selecting an Executive Architect to prepare a phased Master Development Plan including: field investigations, programming development, planning, and concept design for proposed renovations for the Birch Aquarium.

As the public outreach and exploration center for Scripps Institution of Oceanography (SIO) at UC San Diego, Birch Aquarium at Scripps (BAS) is a nationally renowned aquarium and science museum known for excellence in ocean science, education, and conservation. In sharing the important research discoveries of SIO and UC San Diego with the public, BAS becomes the vehicle that helps people better understand and protect our planet.

BAS provides an entirely different emphasis than most every public aquarium, with a focus on translation of complex science to the public, deep programmatic engagement with the community, and, most importantly, a personal, welcoming experience warmed by friendly volunteer and staff interactions. BAS expects to serve as a role model for aquariums by effectively connecting current research to the visitor experience. This is exemplified with the recent opening of a 13,000-gallon tank, “Research in Action: the 100 Island Challenge.” This new tank is uniquely designed to function as an authentic research facility, where SIO researchers test new mapping technologies and protocols before application in the field. Demonstrating our commitment to sustainable seas, the tank houses only captive born or certified sustainably-caught fish and corals. Finally, 3D prints of actual coral reefs with augmented reality media overlays (depicting water columns and fish communities) demonstrate how the intersection of art, science and technology can be used to capture the imagination of today’s audiences.

Membership is increasing dramatically and the momentum is exciting. Nearly half a million guests, including 50,000 K-12 students and teachers, visit the facility annually. To date, more than nine million people from all over the world have visited BAS. Updates and additions to the physical facility need to enable a deepening mission of connecting ‘Understanding to Protecting the Planet.’ The project goal is to create a world-class destination that showcases SIO research and embodies the institution’s legacy of innovation and discovery.

The existing facility, constructed 25 years ago, is approximately 30,000 assignable square feet (ASF) and 77,000 overall gross square feet (OGSF), containing aquarium and museum-type exhibit display space, education areas, staff offices, a gift shop, and related support space. More space is needed for nearly every function. Exhibits are all designed to engage, inspire and empower visitors. This project, through the initial development of a master plan, will assist in the goals for expansion of outreach, services, exhibits, infrastructure and technology, and support the upcoming Association of Zoos & Aquariums accreditation evaluations. The construction budget may range from $10,000,000 - $30,000,000 at CCCI 7860. The project will be subject to the campus/university academic and administrative approval process.
II. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The proposed Aquarium expansion project will provide flexible and updatable space in order to keep pace with current SIO research and new discoveries. Initial internal pre-programming has conceptualized an expansion of the BAS footprint to integrate 3-4 new pavilions, potentially inclusive of a replacement shark and ray exhibit with adjacent plaza for public programs, a publicly accessible research space showcasing, first-hand, SIO’s pioneering discoveries to the public, a renovated tide pool area to include shoreline exhibits, and boardwalks linking public spaces to each other and adjacent regional trails. The renovation will also expand and enhance dining options available to visitors, with opportunities for private event space. Additionally, a new entryway progression and façade improvements will be included, as well as redevelopment of some of the administrative areas to create a denser, more efficient core. The expansion and renovation will also seek to upgrade and modernize the existing facility infrastructure and building systems. Parking and transit needs will also be evaluated.

Physical Planning Context: The BAS site is located on top of a knoll surrounded by sensitive habitat where there are a number of inherent site constraints. During Phase I potential expansion areas adjacent to the existing BAS will be evaluated. In conjunction with the site analysis, the conceptual program will be studied and prioritized to ensure that the key programmatic elements can be located within an appropriate development envelope.

Sustainability: This project is required to participate in the LEED Certification process through USGBC. The minimum level of certification for this project shall be LEED Gold. The project will be required to exceed by 20% the new minimum mandatory requirements of the 2016 Building Energy Efficiency Standards Code, Title 24, Part 6 and Associated Administrative Regulations in Part 1 and meet UCOP Green Building Policy, including participating in SDG&E’s Savings by Design Program.

III. SCOPE OF SERVICES

Phase I will consist of the development of plans and concept designs that will facilitate philanthropic fundraising, design charrettes, work group sessions as well as conceptual testing of the program. Services shall include building and site investigation, visioning & programming, precursory agency review, massing studies, concept design, research into building systems and infrastructure, phasing options, and cost estimating to ensure project scope-budget alignment. Upon the Architect’s successful completion of Phase I, the University, at its discretion, may authorize Phase II.

Phase II will entail basic architectural services to support design, bidding and construction of the Birch Aquarium. The authorization of Phase II, will be dependent on the fundraising campaign. If there is a distinct project for Phase II, it is anticipated to be completed by June 2022.
IV. **JOINT VENTURES/ASSOCIATIONS**

The University will not entertain Joint Ventures or Associations on this project.

V. **PROJECT DELIVERY METHOD**

The project delivery method will be CM/GC (Construction Manager/General Contractor). Executive Architect will be expected to collaborate with the general contractor during the design and construction phases to meet project scope, budget, and schedule expectations.

VI. **CONSULTANTS**

The University is only selecting the Executive Architect at this time. All sub-consultants, such as, but not limited to, civil, landscape, structural, mechanical, plumbing, electrical, lighting, acoustical etc., will be selected later in collaboration with the selected Executive Architect firm.

VII. **SUBMITTAL REQUIREMENTS AND SELECTION CRITERIA**

The University of California, San Diego, requests the following submittal material for use in the selection of a professional design firm to perform the Scope of Services described in Section III.

Firms are asked to submit appropriate graphic material demonstrating design creativity and excellence on comparable projects. **For each comparable project example depicted, please note the responsible lead designer.** Proposals should include examples of comparable design work accomplished by the proposed lead designer for this specific project. Work accomplished by the lead designer while in the employ of other firms should be clearly noted.

A. Demonstrated experience and excellence in programming development with Science and/or Institutional research-based clients, with special consideration for investigations, programming, and scoping experience with Aquariums, Science Centers, Museums, Zoos and other similar animal care/plant/ecological interactive and live exhibits.

B. Demonstrated experience and excellence in design and construction administration of comparable new or renovated Aquariums, Science Centers, Museums, Zoos and/or expansion projects in comparable settings. Special design consideration will be granted for experience shown in the expansion of existing operational, living collections and/or interactive display facilities.

C. Demonstrated experience and excellence in the design and construction administration of marine biology exhibits and/or other similar animal care/plant/ecological science museums where interactive displays or exhibits are partnered within a research-based institutional framework.

D. Proven capabilities for generating creative and innovative design solutions on above project types. Special consideration will be granted for teams incorporating innovative solutions,
especially for multi-use spaces that have income generating potential. Firms should consider that the location of this facility is on a prominent and visible site in the Scripps Institution of Oceanography area.

E. Demonstrated experience in programming and site planning in environmentally sensitive and/or constrained and challenging sites.

F. Demonstrated experience in developing graphic materials and renderings for Owner/Client use in project marketing and fundraising.

G. Demonstrated experience in USGBC LEED NC and/or CI analyses and project development. Identify level of LEED classification for projects listed, e.g. Silver, Gold, etc.

H. Proven technical, scheduling, quality control and cost management capabilities.

I. Qualifications of the Principals and Project Team Members, including a clear definition of the primary responsibility of each.

J. Outline of the basic work plan to accomplish the work.

K. Definition and track record of Outreach Program to local small and disadvantaged sub-consultant businesses. (S/D/W/M/DVBE, see Section IX)

L. Ability to provide Professional Liability Insurance in the amount of $2,000,000 Each Occurrence and $4,000,000 per Project Aggregate.

VIII. STATEMENT OF UNDERSTANDING
All Short-listed firms will be required to sign a Statement of Understanding. By signing the document, it is acknowledged that a draft copy of the standard Executive Design Professional Agreement (EDPA) has been read, and with reservation of rights, the terms and conditions are generally agreed upon. Additionally, notwithstanding this is a qualification based selection process, it is understood that fees for basic services are expected to fall within the Professional Services Fee Guideline which will be provided to all shortlisted firms.

IX. PROCEDURES FOR SUBMISSION
Architectural firms wishing to be considered should submit electronic materials, under a coversheet, indicating their past experience in the programming and renovation of university buildings or other comparable institutional facilities, per section VII, including references, Standard Forms 330, University of California Consultant Experience Form (Attachment A) and University Statement of Qualifications (Attachment B). One electronic copy on CD or flash drive, in pdf format, should be submitted, with any graphic images, spreadsheets or pages larger than 8.5” x 11” submitted in landscape.
view. No paper copies or emailed submittals will be accepted. Proposals are due no later than 4:00 p.m., Monday, July 31, 2017.

**Mailing Address:**

University of California, San Diego  
Jessica Cuevas, Contracts Analyst  
Office of Capital Program Management  
(formally Facilities Design and Construction)  
9500 Gilman Drive MC 0916  
La Jolla, CA 92093-0916

**Delivery or Overnight Mail Physical Address:**

University of California, San Diego  
Jessica Cuevas, Contracts Analyst  
Office of Capital Program Management  
(formally Facilities Design and Construction)  
10280 North Torrey Pines Road, Suite 465  
La Jolla, CA 92037

Hours of business: Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Technical questions or questions regarding the scope of the project should be directed to, Marie Clark, Project Manager at [mjclark@ucsd.edu](mailto:mjclark@ucsd.edu). UC San Diego requests that interested firms refrain from contacting any other party regarding this project.

UC San Diego encourages the participation of Small, Disadvantaged, Minority-owned, Women-owned and Service/Disabled Veteran-owned Business Enterprises (S/D/M/W/DVBE’s) and is committed to promote a diverse pool of firms for our building programs.

Every effort will be made to ensure that all persons have equal access to contracts and other business opportunities with the University within the limits imposed by law or University policy. Each candidate firm may be required to show evidence of its equal employment opportunity policy.

The University of California is an Equal Opportunity Employer – minorities and women are encouraged to apply for consideration.