

Request for Proposals



Explosive Detection Canine Teams at Navy Pier

Navy Pier, Inc.

600 E Grand Avenue

Chicago, IL 60611

May 7, 2025

Partially Federally Funded Project

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Summary

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS Information:

REQUEST Title: *Explosive Detection Canine Teams at Navy Pier*

Date Issued: 5/7/2025

Contact Person: Dan O'Shea

Email Address: DOshea@navypier.org

Proposals Due: 6/6/2025 at 3:00PM

Project Completion: 12/31/2027

Introduction

Navy Pier, Inc. ("NPI") is an Illinois 501(c)(3) not-for-profit corporation, responsible for the development, operation, and maintenance of Navy Pier in Chicago, Illinois.

Situated on Lake Michigan, Navy Pier is one of the top-attended destinations in the Midwest. The 109-year-old Pier stretches into the water more than six city blocks and offers authentic Chicago experiences alongside one-of-a-kind vistas. Since it first opened in 1916, the Pier has been integral to the city's social, cultural, and economic advancement. Today, the organization's mission statement guides its activities: Navy Pier is the People's Pier, Chicago's lakefront treasure, welcoming all and offering dynamic and eclectic experiences through partnerships and programs that inspire discovery and wonder. As a mission-driven organization, Navy Pier is committed to its values of Integrity, Diversity, Excellence, and Stewardship. Contributing to the community, creating meaningful partnerships, and providing unparalleled guest experiences represent the core of the organization's operations.

Navy Pier consists of fifty acres of public space on Chicago's lakefront and features an array of diverse offerings: shops, restaurants, and entertainment throughout the Family Pavilion including Flyover; Pier Park with the iconic Ferris Wheel, Wave Swinger, and Drop Tower; commercial sightseeing and dinner boat cruises; cultural anchor partners the Chicago Children's Museum and Chicago Shakespeare Theater; Festival Hall's exhibition and meeting spaces; an outdoor Beer Garden; and the historic Aon Grand Ballroom. Navy Pier has distinguished itself as Illinois' top tourist attraction, with more than 8.5 million visitors annually. NPI operates the Pier seven days per week, 363 days per year, closing on Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day.

NPI is responsible for maintaining and developing the resources necessary to prevent, protect against, mitigate, respond to, and recover from various threats against the facility and neighboring critical infrastructure. Because Navy Pier is Chicago's busiest facility for commercial cruise operations, NPI follows the MTSA of 2002, operates in compliance with 33 CFR, Parts 101, 103 and 105, and has actions relative to MARSEC Levels I, II, & III that coincide with DHS Threat Advisory Levels. NPI has security protocols in place



to ensure that state and local emergency responders can provide an adequate level of support in response to any emergency, including acts of terrorism affecting the Pier and the surrounding area. This includes NPI's own security personnel, led by two former Chicago Police Department leaders, contracted security personnel, and various local, county, and federal law enforcement details.

Opportunity

NPI seeks Proposals from qualified firms ("Respondent") to provide Explosive Detection Canine Team (EDCT) services. NPI expects the EDCT services to be deployed and operational no later than June 20, 2025. NPI intends to use these teams across a variety of operational scenarios, both indoors and out. The EDCTs will be deployed on weekends and during special events—not full-time. NPI anticipates deploying EDCTs for a total of approximately 1,000 hours annually.

This request is in response to NPI's evolving need for solutions that support its complex security operations. NPI currently does not deploy any explosive detection solution as part of its facility security strategy. This limits NPI's capability to deter and prevent IED-style attacks. The successful Respondent will provide detail as to why their proposed services will improve facility security outcomes.

Scope of Work / Deliverables

The proposed scope of work acquires EDCT services to perform screenings and searches at Navy Pier's garage facilities and other high visibility areas. EDCTs will also conduct continual threat assessments of the entire publicly accessible facility with special emphasis on person-borne threats and unattended items. The selected firm will have the capacity to deploy as many as two fully certified EDCTs simultaneously upon reasonable request by NPI. The EDCTs will be deployed for approximately 1,000 hours per year, cumulatively.

The successful Respondent must provide details about the EDCT services they propose to provide. The successful Respondent will include a fixed, firm hourly rate for EDCT services that will be effective for the full duration of each year of the contract's 3-year term.

Submittal Requirements

This section of the proposal should demonstrate that the Respondent has the expertise, experience and capacity necessary to successfully provide the services requested.

Minimum Qualifications:

Each Respondent must demonstrate that they meet the following minimum qualifications:

- Respondent must have had a minimum of 3 years in business providing EDCT services.



- Respondent must provide verification of certifications for EDCT services they propose to provide.
- Respondent must be capable of providing services at Navy Pier in Chicago, Illinois on a regular basis.

Each respondent must include the following:

- 1. Cover/Transmittal Letter** which gives an overview of the Respondent's company, including the type of services offered and the number of years it has been in business.
- 2. Sufficient detail regarding the following items:**
 - a) Standards/Certifications achieved by Respondent's canines
 - i. Any recurring training and schedule of recurrence
 - ii. Standard for odors originally imprinted on canines
 - b) Standards/Certifications achieved by Respondent's handlers
 - i. Any recurring training and schedule of recurrence
 - ii. Required certifications
 - c) Operational schedule of EDCT
 - i. The typical schedule of an EDCT (handler & canine) for an 8-hour shift
 - ii. Cadence/cycles of rest
 - d) Whether or not handler is armed during patrol
 - i. Whether Respondent offers armed handlers as an option
 - e) Description of any on-site requirements NPI must provide to accommodate Respondent's EDCT services
 - f) Number of EDCTs employed by Respondent's firm
 - i. Capability to deploy 2 teams simultaneously to Navy Pier on a regular basis
- 3. The following details of three (3) EDCT services contracts:**
 - a) Name and contact information for party receiving EDCT services.
 - b) Number of continuous years providing EDCT services.
 - c) Brief overview of services provided.
- 4. Proposed Pricing and Fee Structure:** NPI requests that Respondents provide a firm and fixed hourly rate for each of the three years (2025–2027) during which the proposed services will be provided. These rates should be added to the pricing sheet included as Exhibit A.
- 5. Signed Copies of Exhibits A & B:** NPI requests that Respondents sign and return copies of Exhibit A – NPI EDCT RFP Pricing Sheet, and Exhibit B—Federal Funding Requirement—Byrd Anti-Lobbying Certification.

Key Information

NPI will accept Proposals electronically until 3:00 p.m. (CDT) on June 6, 2025 ("the Proposal Due Date"). All proposals must be addressed to and received by NPI's Senior



Director of Safety & Security, Dan O’Shea, at the following email address: DOShea@navypier.org.

There is a mandatory on-site demonstration component as part of this request. Respondents will be required to coordinate a date to demonstrate the capacity of their services with a representative Explosive Detecting Canine Team. These demonstrations will take place from Thursday, May 8, through Friday, May 30.

The Respondent is responsible for reviewing and understanding the required services and other content outlined within this Request in their entirety.

NPI reserves the right to reject any or all proposals submitted or make modifications to the scope of work, subject to appropriate negotiation. NPI agrees to not discriminate based on age, race, religion, sex, gender, color, national origin, marital status, family status, source of income, sexual orientation, mental or physical disability in review of the proposals or execution of agreements of the work. Navy Pier shall not be liable for any costs incurred by the Respondent in preparation or presentation of the proposal. Successful Respondent will enter into a contract with NPI.

Estimated RFP Timeline

RFP Issued:	5/7/2025
Mandatory on-site Demo:	5/8/2025–5/30/2025
Questions Due:	5/21/2025
Answers to Questions Posted no later than:	5/23/2025
Proposal Due Date:	6/6/2025
Contract Award and Negotiations:	6/9/2025*
Commencement Date:	6/13/2025*
EDCTs Deployed:	6/20/2025*

**estimated date*

Contract Term

NPI intends to enter into a three-year agreement with the successful respondent with the option to renew on an annual basis thereafter. Rates proposed by Respondent must be fixed for the duration of each year during the contract’s term.

Federal Funding Requirements

Projects Utilizing Federal Funds

This project will utilize federal funds and must comply with 2 CFR 200.317 to 200.326 of the Uniform Guidance Procurement Standards. The federal government will not be a party to the eventual contract and is not subject to any obligations or liabilities to the non-federal entity, contractor, or any other party pertaining to any matter resulting from said contract.



Contract Provisions for non-Federal Entity Contracts Under Federal Awards

Contracts for more than the simplified acquisition threshold currently set at \$250,000, which is the inflation adjusted amount determined by the Civilian Agency Acquisition Council and the Defense Acquisition Regulations Council (Councils) as authorized by 41 U.S.C. 1908, must address administrative, contractual, or legal remedies in instances where contractors violate or breach contract terms, and provide for such sanctions and penalties as appropriate.

All contracts in excess of \$10,000 must address termination for cause and for convenience by NPI including the manner by which it will be affected and the basis for settlement.

Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7401-7671q.) and the *Federal Water Pollution Control Act* (33 U.S.C. 1251-1387), as amended—Contracts and subgrants of amounts in excess of \$150,000 must contain a provision that requires the non-Federal award to agree to comply with all applicable standards, orders or regulations issued pursuant to the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7401-7671q.) and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act as amended (33 U.S.C. 1251-1387). Violations must be reported to the Federal awarding agency and the Regional Office of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

Debarment and Suspension (Executive Orders 12549 and 12689)—A contract award (see 2 CFR 180.220) must not be made to parties listed on the government wide exclusions in the System for Award Management (SAM), in accordance with the OMB guidelines at 2 CFR 180 that implement Executive Orders 12549 (3 CFR part 1986 Comp., p. 189) and 12689 (3 CFR part 1989 Comp., p. 235), "Debarment and Suspension." SAM Exclusions contains the names of parties debarred, suspended, or otherwise excluded by agencies, as well as parties declared ineligible under statutory or regulatory authority other than Executive Order 12549.

Byrd Anti-Lobbying Amendment (31 U.S.C. 1352)—Contractors that apply or bid for an award exceeding \$100,000 must file the required certification. Each tier certifies to the tier above that it will not and has not used Federal appropriated funds to pay any person or organization for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a member of Congress, officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a member of Congress in connection with obtaining any Federal contract, grant or any other award covered by 31 U.S.C. 1352. Each tier must also disclose any lobbying with non-Federal funds that takes place in connection with obtaining any Federal award. Such disclosures are forwarded from tier to tier up to the non-Federal award.

Prohibition on Contracting for Covered Telecommunications Equipment or Services—Section 889(b)(1) of the John S. McCain National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2019 (FY2019 NDAA) and 2 C.F.R. § 200.216, as implemented by FEMA Policy 405-143-1, Prohibitions on Expending FEMA Award Funds for Covered Telecommunications Equipment or Services (Interim), prohibit the obligation or expending of federal award funds on certain telecommunication products or from certain entities for national security reasons. Effective August 13, 2020, FEMA recipients and



subrecipients, as well as their contractors and subcontractors, may not obligate or expend any FEMA award funds to:

- a) Procure or obtain any equipment, system, or service that uses covered telecommunications equipment or services as a substantial or essential component of any system, or as critical technology of any system;
- b) Enter into, extend, or renew a contract to procure or obtain any equipment, system, or service that uses covered telecommunications equipment or services as a substantial or essential component of any system, or as critical technology of any system; or
- c) Enter into, extend, or renew contracts with entities that use covered telecommunications equipment or services as a substantial or essential component of any system, or as critical technology as part of any system.

Communication, Interpretation and Addenda

No Respondent is entitled to rely upon any oral interpretation by NPI or its representative concerning the meaning of this RFP.

All requests for interpretation must be made in writing and submitted no later than 3 p.m. on May 21, 2025, to NPI's Senior Director of Safety & Security, Dan O'Shea, at the following email address: DOShea@navypier.org.

Evaluation Criteria

When evaluating Proposals, NPI will consider such criteria as NPI deems, in NPI's sole and absolute discretion, to be in the best interests of NPI, including but not limited to the relative strength of the respondents in the following areas:

- a) Proposed pricing
- b) Experience and qualifications of the responding firm
- c) Suitability of Deliverables to NPI's needs
- d) Compliance with RFP submittal requirements
- e) Any other relevant factors listed as Requirements in this RFP



Exhibit B — Federal Funding Requirement — Byrd Anti-Lobbying Certification.

Required Certification. If applicable, Contractor must sign and submit to Owner the following certification. (44 CFR Appendix A to Part 18 - Certification Regarding Lobbying)

Certification for Contracts, Grants, Loans, and Cooperative Agreements

The undersigned certifies, to the best of their knowledge and belief, that:

1. No Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of the undersigned, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of an agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any Federal contract, the making of any Federal grant, the making of any Federal loan, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement.
2. If any funds other than Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement, the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," in accordance with its instructions.
3. The undersigned shall require that the language of this certification be included in the award documents for all subawards at all tiers (including subcontracts, subgrants, and contracts under grants, loans, and cooperative agreements) and that all subrecipients shall certify and disclose accordingly.

This certification is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was made or entered into. Submission of this certification is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction imposed by section 1352, title 31, U.S. Code. Any person who fails to file the required certification shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure.

The Contractor, _____, certifies or affirms the truthfulness and accuracy of each statement of its certification and disclosure, if any. In addition, the Contractor understands and agrees that the provisions of 31 U.S.C. Chap. 38, Administrative Remedies for False Claims and Statements, apply to this certification and disclosure, if any.

Signature of Contractor's Authorized Official _____

Date _____

Name of Contractor's Authorized Official _____

Title of Contractor's Authorized Official _____