

NASEO Response to questions received in response to Request for Proposals, NASEO Codes and Energy Resilience, Solicitation Number: NASEO-2024-RFP-005

January 6, 2025

Question: We're wondering if NASEO would consider a one-week extension of the due date for responses to this RFP.

Answer: Yes, NASEO has granted a one week extension to the deadline, effectively January 7, 2025. Responses will now be due on January 24, 2025 at 5:00 p.m. ET.

Question: Is there a not-to-exceed budget for this project?

Answer: Organizations should submit proposals which include their best offer. The target budget for this project is between \$75,000 and \$125,000.

Question: How many specific examples does NASEO anticipate proposers will provide in the inventory created with existing state and local energy efficiency and resilience codes?

Answer: NASEO does not have a target number of examples. The Consultant will be expected to identify a representative number of energy and resilience codes from states and localities with a diversity of geography and [climate zones](#).

Question: Will the consultant be expected to create an inventory for all state and local codes nationwide?

Answer: No, the inventory should include a representative sample, but is not intended to include all state and local codes nationwide.

Question: If so, how are home rule states impacted when a code is adopted by a local jurisdiction? Is the expectation to review all local codes in these states, as well?

Answer: The expectation is to identify certain examples of innovative or particularly effective codes that promote energy efficiency, passive survivability, and structural or energy resilience.

Question: Does the scope include commercial plus residential codes?

Answer: See page 2 of the RFP: "The inventory and Rubric Toolkit will focus on low-rise residential building codes (buildings covered by the International Residential Code)."

Question: Can you clarify the following statement? "The Consultant should be prepared to address cost, resilience, and equity."

Answer: The Consultant should be prepared to address the potential impacts of code measures identified to promote energy efficiency, passive survivability, and structural or energy resilience on the cost of housing, resilience of housing, and how those impacts are distributed across the occupants of new homes (equity). The consultant may consider factors such as homeowners insurance cost and availability, cost of energy, and potential damage to the home in an extreme weather event, as well as any other factors that the Consultant feels are relevant based on their expertise.

Question: As multiple interpretations may impact the level of work for the project, please provide specific guidance on what "cost" refers to, is it:

- Evaluating the cost effectiveness of various code measures in stretch/resiliency codes, or
- Avoided costs from disasters by adopting energy efficient codes, or
- Additional costs to embed equity provisions into code adoptions, or
- A different interpretation/expectation?

Answer: The Consultant should be prepared to provide guidance for States to evaluate the potential cost of various building code measures using the Rubric deliverable, which will provide a structure for evaluation of code measures against factors such as hazards present in a state, alignment with state energy, resilience, economic, and emission reduction goals.

Question: Will this project use existing tools to calculate costs or require creating new tools?

Answer: The Consultant may use *existing tools or new approaches to calculate costs, pending discussion with and approval by NASEO.*

Question: Can you clarify how equity will be addressed?

Answer: *The Consultant, NASEO, and members of NASEO's Buildings Committee will collaborate to identify relevant measures to support equitable outcomes, leveraging NASEO's [Opportunities for Equity-Focused Building Code Activities](#) as guidance.*

Question: Is the project focused on only energy codes, or does it include building codes (i.e., mechanical, structural)?

Answer: *The project is focused on building codes including mechanical and structural. See page 3 of the RFP:*

*“Examples from **energy and non-energy sections** of the code that promote energy efficiency, passive survivability, and structural or energy resilience (structural measures, for instance; in colder climates, requirements that pipes be insulated; in flood-prone areas, requirements that energy equipment be elevated; etc.) should be included in the inventory.”*

Question: Is the project assessing the effectiveness of states that have adopted model codes unamended (i.e., IECC, IRC, IBC) or at specific examples of communities that have unique codes above the model code (i.e., adoptees of stretch or resiliency codes)?

Answer: *The project is assessing specific examples of states or communities that have unique codes above the model code (i.e., adoptees of stretch or resiliency codes).*

Question: How much flexibility is there regarding the timing of this study, given the fairly short estimated schedule described in the RFP once one accounts for the draft review cycle?

Answer: *The timing of the schedule is bound by NASEO's contract with the funder and has very little flexibility.*