



REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

For

SPACE LIFE SCIENCES LABORATORY CAPABILITIES AND IMPROVEMENTS

RFI-SF-01-01-2019/PE

Publication Date: 04/08/2019

Due Date: Responses are Due: 05/06/2019

This is a Request for Information Only: All responses are purely voluntary and without compensation. Responding or not responding to this RFI will neither enhance or hinder a firm's ranking for any later procurement process.

Space Florida ("SF") is dedicated to fostering the growth and development of a sustainable and world-leading aerospace industry in the State of Florida. SF promotes aerospace business development by facilitating business financing, spaceport operations, research and development, workforce development, and innovative education programs. Critically, SF is designated by state statute as the developer and operator of the Cape Canaveral Spaceport, and leads planning and development of facilities and infrastructure to support the commercial space industry. SF is an independent special district and a subdivision of the State of Florida and is governed by Part II of Chapter 331 of the Florida Statutes.

THIS IS A REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ONLY. SF is issuing this Request for Information ("RFI") solely for informational and planning purposes; it does not constitute a solicitation or a promise to issue a solicitation in the future. This RFI does not commit SF to contract for goods or services. Failure to respond to this RFI does not preclude participation in a future solicitation, if issued. It is SF's intent that based on the information received in response to this RFI, that SF may issue a request for proposal to engage a Respondent to provide certain services. The information provided in response to this RFI may be used by SF in developing a solicitation and the related scope of services, performance work statement and statement of objectives or performance specifications.



RFI PURPOSE

A. Background:

The Space Life Sciences Laboratory (SLSL) was purpose built in the early 2000's to provide for the preparation and processing of biological experiments launched to and returned from the International Space Station (ISS). Originally deemed the Space Experiments Research and Processing Laboratory (SERPL), it was a joint venture between NASA and the State of Florida, built on Federal land at the Kennedy Space Center (KSC). Later, the KSC Security fence was moved to allow public and commercial access to the facility by U.S. Persons and Foreign Nationals. After the flyout of the Space Shuttle program, circa 2011, NASA turned the facility back to Space Florida for operations and management. Also, around that time, NASA relocated researchers to laboratories inside the secured perimeter of KSC and Space Florida revamped the business model of the SLSL to accommodate additional commercial, academic, and government tenants.

The original intent of the SLSL was to provide ground-based facilities to enable and support space-based research and development on the ISS. Space Florida now seeks to reevaluate that need, reassess the purpose of the SLSL, and develop a long-term management strategy to best support the evolving mission of the ISS and other platforms dedicated to space-based research in the sub-orbital and low Earth orbit (LEO) environments. Space Florida proposes to use this management strategy to implement best practices to upgrade the capabilities, facilities, and infrastructure at the SLSL to provide the best possible support and amenities for commercial, academic, and government sponsored research at the Cape Canaveral Spaceport now and in the future.

B. Objectives:

This RFI seeks to provide potential Respondents an opportunity to provide input assessing needs, capabilities and technological opportunities or other ideas to Space Florida that could be used for future RFQ's and RFP's for an array of services, technology, and capabilities at the SLSL.

The three main objectives of this effort are (1) to support a reassessment of the SLSL and its capabilities for supporting research on the ISS and other reduced gravity research platforms, (2) identify near-term opportunities for Space Florida to modernize existing facilities to meet current and future needs in space-enabled research and technology development, and (3) suggest facility enhancements to create new processing capabilities capable of expanding research and development needs at the SLSL for the commercialization of low Earth orbit.

Space Florida is seeking interest and input to the following four categories:

1. Animal Care Facility (Vivarium) research support – gauge industry interest in providing services to Space Florida, NASA, other government agencies, and commercial research institutions flying rodents to and returning from the ISS. Provide animal husbandry, lab



management, clean room management, AAALAC accreditation and IACUC management. As part of this category, Space Florida seeks to become better informed on current market opportunities for utilization of the Animal Care Facility, and to begin to determine whether a business case can be made to continue devoting significant floor space within the SLSL to this function.

2. SLSL environmental control chambers for plant and other model organisms for flight (suborbital and LEO) research.
3. Capabilities and Hardware – what does the next generation/state of the art research support ground node need to support R&D until the retirement of the ISS and beyond? What new platforms are in development for LEO Research and how can the SLSL transition or upgrade to be in the best posture to support?
4. What additional research and development opportunities could the SLSL support? Please see the attached questionnaire designed to assess the current condition of the SLSL and provide information that could help guide a long-term strategy for the SLSL.

C. Specific Details or Deliverables:

Respondents are requested to provide answers and input to the categories listed above in any fashion and format they see fit. Space Florida also requests respondents to fill out and attach the questionnaire that accompanies this RFI.

Please see the attached Questionnaire, Attachment A. Space Florida requests potential Respondents, tenants, or other interested parties please fill out and return as part of their RFI response package.

Instructions for submitting the information is below:

Director of Contracts: All Respondent communications concerning this request should be directed to the Director of Contracts listed below.

Name: Annette O'Donnell
Address: Space Florida
505 Odyssey Way, Suite 300
Exploration Park, FL 32953

Telephone: 321-730-5301, Extension 210
E-Mail: aodonnell@spaceflorida.gov

RFI Manager: All responses should be directed to the RFI Manager listed below:



Name: Pete Eggert
Address: Space Florida
505 Odyssey Way, Suite 300
Exploration Park, FL 32953

Telephone: 321-730-5301, Extension 123
E-Mail: peggert@spaceflorida.gov

INSTRUCTIONS TO RESPONDENTS

Responses: Space Florida is requesting information specific to the four objectives listed above.

Information: Respondents to this RFI are asked to be as thorough and specific as is practical. The RFI response should include the following:

- a. Company name, address, website URL and point of contact (name, telephone number, fax number and email address).
- b. Type of business, location of headquarters and whether offices are located in the State of Florida, and if so, where.
- c. Address the items outlined in the Objectives of this RFI Section. Freely discuss responses to the statements and the validity, or lack thereof, of the assumptions and provide details of proposed solutions, innovative strategies or services would meet the requirements or how alternative solutions would be superior.

Deadline and Delivery of the Information Packages: All responses are respectfully requested to be received by Pete Eggert no later than 1700 (EST) on 05/06/2019.

“REQUEST FOR INFORMATION, SPACE LIFE SCIENCES LABORATORY CAPABILITIES AND IMPROVEMENTS” on the outside of the package.

Preliminary Schedule: These dates are estimates only and are subject to change by SF and the schedule of pertinent events for this RFI may be viewed on SF’s website @ www.spaceflorida.gov.

Event	Date	Time
Announcement of RFI	4/8/2019	N/A
Submissions Due	5/6/2019	1700
Review of Submissions	As submitted	N/A

*Any questions should be submitted by e-mail to the SF Director of Contracts. All answers will be



posted to the SF and DemandStar websites.

Responses: SF requests that the information be submitted on 8-1/2" X 11" paper, Times New Roman, 12-point font. Respondents are respectfully requested to submit (1) one hard copy and one (1) electronic copy on a USB Drive in Microsoft Word (.doc) or Adobe Acrobat (.pdf) format. Responses are due by 17:00 (EST) Date: 05/06/2019.

Discussions with Respondents: SF may, in its sole discretion, choose to meet with some or all respondents to this RFI to conduct discussions to obtain further clarification of the respondent's submission. Respondents that submit documentation to this RFI may be invited to present in person or discuss their ideas via teleconference with SF.

Property of SF: All information submitted by Respondent will become part of the project file and, unless otherwise exempt or confidential in accordance with Florida law, will become a public record. All responses and accompanying documentation will become the property of SF and will not be returned.

Trade Secrets and Information Confidential and Exempt from the Public Records Act: Trade secrets and information confidential and exempt from Subsection 119.07(1) of the *Florida Statutes* and Subsection 24(a) of Article I of the Florida Constitution, is not solicited nor desired, as information to be submitted with a response. The *Florida Statutes* and the State Constitution govern whether information in a response is confidential or exempt from the Public Records Act. If information is submitted in a response which the Respondent deems to be a trade secret or confidential and exempt from the Public Records Act, the information shall be submitted with the response in a **separate, clearly marked envelope referencing the specific statutory citation for such exemption**. SF is not obligated to agree with the Respondent's claim of an exemption and, by submitting a reply or other submission, the Respondent agrees to be responsible for defending its claim that each and every portion of the separately marked information is exempt from inspection and copying under the Public Records Act. The Respondent agrees that it shall protect, defend, and indemnify, including attorney's fees and costs, SF for any and all claims and litigation (including litigation initiated by SF) arising from or relating to Respondent's claim that the separately marked portions of its reply are not subject to disclosure. If the Respondent fails to separately mark portions of its response or mark its response "confidential" (or other similar language) in its entirety, SF is authorized to produce the entire document, data or record submitted by the Respondent in responding to a Public Records Request.

Respondent's Cost to Develop the Response: Costs for developing a response to this RFI are entirely the obligations of the Respondent and shall not be chargeable in any manner to SF.

Please Note: Information that has been submitted to SF becomes a public record, subject to public record retention requirements.



Attachment A

Space Life Sciences Laboratory Information Questionnaire

RFI-SF-01-01-2019/PE

General Instructions: Keeping in mind the objectives listed below, please answer the questions and include any additional information or narrative as appropriate:

Objectives:

Space Florida is seeking interest and input to the following four categories:

1. Animal Care Facility (Vivarium) research support – gauge industry interest in providing services to Space Florida, NASA, other government agencies, and commercial research institutions flying rodents to and returning from the ISS. Provide animal husbandry, lab management, clean room management, AAALAC accreditation and IACUC management. As part of this category, Space Florida seeks to become better informed on current market opportunities for utilization of the Animal Care Facility, and to begin to determine whether a business case can be made to continue devoting significant floor space within the SLSL to this function.
2. SLSL environmental control chambers for plant and other model organisms for flight (suborbital and LEO) research.
3. Capabilities and Hardware – what does the next generation/state of the art research support ground node need to support R&D until the retirement of the ISS and beyond? What new platforms are in development for LEO Research and how can the SLSL transition or upgrade to be in the best posture to support?
4. What additional research and development opportunities could the SLSL support? Please see the attached questionnaire designed to assess the current condition of the SLSL and provide information that could help guide a long-term strategy for the SLSL.

Please fill out completely. Some items may require additional information, graphics, or other resources. Please attach separate or additional documents as deemed important.

What hardware improvements would benefit the SLSL?

SLSL Location	Improvements
Animal Care Facility (Vivarium)	
Dry Labs	
Wet Labs	
Central Services	
Other	



What hardware improvements would benefit your leased space?

How can the SLSL improve to suit your need, processes and/or future plans and process?

Does your company have plans to use the SLSL Animal Care Facility (Vivarium) within the next 36 months? If yes, what degree of utilization do you envision (e.g., number of holding rooms required, amount of time within surgical suite, amount of time within Vivarium wet lab)?

Is your company planning to expand operations soon (1-36 months)? If so, what improvements or enhancements to the SLSL would benefit your needs?

What specific technological capabilities or innovations would benefit your research and development?

Please list specific capabilities, apps, or equipment that you are aware of.

Where do you see advancement in your industry and how can the SLSL capture that innovation or bring those innovations to the SLSL for general use?

How often have you used the Central Services equipment within the last year?

Which Central Services equipment have you used within the last year?

Are there any services your company needs that are not provided through our Standard and Premium Common Area Maintenance (CAM) services?

Would an annual "Open House" to foster collaboration between tenants be beneficial? During the Open House tenants could visit one another's Labs and discuss their work.

Would Lab space charged by the day/week/month (similar too conference room use) be beneficial?

Please use this space or attach any thoughts or ideas (no matter how wild they may seem) as to what the SLSL may need to stay relevant, cutting edge, or simply improve the capabilities that currently exist:



Space Florida thanks you for your time devoted to this important project. Please send your completed Questionnaire and attachments to Pete Eggert – his contact information is below:

Name: Pete Eggert
Address: Space Florida
505 Odyssey Way, Suite 300
Exploration Park, FL 32953

Telephone: 321-730-5301, Extension 123
E-Mail: peggert@spaceflorida.gov