



City of Cambridge

O-15
IN CITY COUNCIL
October 31, 2016

COUNCILLOR DEVEREUX
COUNCILLOR MAZEN
COUNCILLOR CARLONE

- WHEREAS: A Request for Proposal (RFP File 7430) for consultant services related to the visioning, programming, governance, and repurposing of the Harvard Square Kiosk was issued by the City's Purchasing Department on October 27, 2016; and
- WHEREAS: This RFP set a deadline for any questions from applicants on November 8, 2016, and a deadline for receipt of sealed price bids by November 17, 2016; and
- WHEREAS: The rushed timing of this RFP process is so foreshortened that it is likely to preclude a broad and open competition and public process in determining whose vision will drive this project; and
- WHEREAS: Citizens recently submitted a petition to landmark the Kiosk, and the Council agenda for October 31, 2016 includes a policy resolution to support initiating a landmark study; and
- WHEREAS: The Historical Commission will meet on November 3, 2016 to decide whether to go forward with a landmarking study on the Kiosk; and
- WHEREAS: The process and outcome of a landmark study could impact the Kiosk's eventual design treatment and potentially its use, and would affect the timing of the project; and
- WHEREAS: The agreed-upon task force or working group to help guide the vision and execution of the Kiosk project has not yet been formed, and hiring a consultant before this group has begun to meet may serve to limit the extent, authenticity and transparency of the public's participation in the process and potentially could steer the outcome in a direction that does not win broad public support; now therefore be it
- ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to revise and reissue the Kiosk consultant RFP to extend the due dates for questions and bids to January 1 and January 31, 2017, respectively, so as to allow the City adequate time to broadly advertise and promote the consultant contract in order to solicit bids from a larger, more diverse applicant pool, and so that the soon-to-be-named task force has the opportunity to meet at least once before questions and bids are due; and be it further
- ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to revise the RFP so that all applicants are required to make a public presentation of their proposals; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to commit that the task force will review the non-price bids along with City staff in order to give the public a voice in selecting the consultant for this important public project.

In City Council October 31, 2016.
Adopted by the affirmative vote of nine members.
Attest:- Donna P. Lopez, City Clerk

A true copy;

ATTEST:-

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Donna P. Lopez".

Donna P. Lopez, City Clerk