

Health + Hospitals – Correctional Health Services

OTxHU – EIS and Conceptual Design Scope

March 8, 2019

OTxHU EIS and Conceptual Design Scope of Services

Introduction

The NYC Health + Hospitals/ Correctional Health Services (CHS), in partnership with the Department of Correction (DOC) and the Mayor’s Office of Criminal Justice (MOCJ), is requesting a proposal to provide consultant services to explore the feasibility, conceptual design, and cost for Outposted Therapeutic Housing Units (OTxHU), the proposed project. Based on the findings of the feasibility study and a subsequent decision by the City to proceed as outlined below, the City may also task the selected consultant to: (1) prepare environmental review materials, as warranted, and/or (2) prepare applications and assist with public approval processes that may also be required to implement some or all of the components of the proposed project.

Background

CHS is studying the feasibility of a new service in the establishment of Outposted Therapeutic Housing Unit (OTxHU) beds, located within or adjacent to existing Health + Hospital (H+H) acute care facilities. This feasibility study will assess options related to the development of OTxHUs in or near three to six existing H+H facilities. It is anticipated that these locked units would be operated by CHS in conjunction with the DOC, which would provide custody management.

Patients placed in OTxHUs are expected to be those whose clinical conditions are not so acute as to warrant inpatient medical or psychiatric admission, but who would otherwise benefit from close and frequent access to specialty and subspecialty care available in H+H facilities. The OTxHU beds are separate and distinct from the jail-based therapeutic housing units (TxHU) and from existing inpatient forensic beds at Bellevue and Elmhurst Hospitals. It is expected that the OTxHUs would allow for easier access to specialty services for patients and reduce resources associated with DOC transportation and logistics. Similar to the current TxHUs, admission criteria to the OTxHUs would be primarily clinical in nature and determined by CHS.

Development and potential implementation of the OTxHU model would fill a critical need within the correctional health care continuum, and one that we think has widespread support by the system, the City, and we anticipate, the community. The additional benefits to patients and clinicians within CHS and H+H include clinical rotations within the hospitals’ inpatient, outpatient, and OTxHU services, promoting continuity of care and opportunities for cross-discipline exposure and collaborations. The model also supports more effective leveraging of the full range of medical services and specialties within the H+H system. Finally, there may be public acceptance of OTxHUs that will securely but more humanely house higher-need patients in settings more conducive to meeting their health needs, including efforts to place patients within their borough of residence.

The conceptual design phase includes, among other things, an assessment of feasibility based on the development of a program including the allocation of space for service provision, test fitting the program within identified sites, and a cost estimate. The feasibility findings will inform the decision by the City

regarding whether or not to proceed and, if so, the number of beds that may be outposted, and would provide critical information concerning, among other things, the need for future approvals and review processes, including compliance with all applicable environmental review requirements. The consultant would work with the named parties in the development of these materials and associated analysis.

Scope

Feasibility Analysis and Scoping

As noted above, CHS and its partners are seeking to retain a lead consultant (and sub-consultants as needed) for the preparation of a feasibility study that will include a conceptual design and cost analysis of the proposed project. The consultant shall also work with the City to identify any necessary regulatory approvals, zoning actions or Board of Standards variances, as well as any required review procedures should the City decide to proceed with any/all of the identified facilities. If the City determines to proceed as outlined above, the consultant may also be asked to prepare applications and assist with public approval processes that may also be required to implement some or all of the components of the proposed project.

City Optional Rider: Environmental Review

For the purposes of this proposal, please provide allowances for two possible options, prepared in accordance with the 2014 City Environmental Quality Review (CEQR) Technical Manual:

- (1) The preparation of an Environmental Assessment Statement; and
- (2) The preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement, including identifying areas where detailed technical analyses the consultant thinks would likely be warranted.

In addressing the above rider, please provide scope and cost estimates to conduct an environmental review depending on the outcomes of the Feasibility Analysis and Scoping.

General

Upon completion of the feasibility study, for any facility that the City decides to proceed with, the full list of anticipated discretionary actions will be confirmed by the City before the selected consultant is directed to perform additional work as described herein. The proposed project may require discretionary actions including, but not limited to: the commitment of City capital funding for the construction of the proposed project and/or site selection of a capital project, and possibly zoning changes.

The response to this solicitation should, at minimum:

- Clearly identify major operational and design inputs needed to complete the conceptual design, layout, and cost estimates for the OTxHUs;
- The general timing with which these inputs would be required;
- A milestone level schedule, demonstrating the sequential completion of Feasibility Analysis and Scoping and potential environmental review and the critical path data inputs and decisions needed to accomplish the proposed schedule.

Review of deliverables and management of this scope of work will be undertaken by H+H and CHS in conjunction with MOCJ and DOC, with input from OMB. Unless expressly stated, all deliverables should be delivered electronically to CHS for distribution to the other involved agencies.