



Request for Application (RFA)

For

**Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure
(EVCI) Phase 2**

RFA No. EVCI-RFA-02

Department of Environmental Protection
Division of Air Resource Management
2600 Blair Stone Road
Tallahassee, Florida 32399
Email: VWMitigation@FloridaDEP.gov



Contents

1	Introduction.....	4
1.1	Background and Program Information.....	4
1.2	EVCI Phase 2 – Grant Program Objectives.....	5
1.3	EVCI Phase 2 Segments Eligible for Funding.....	6
1.4	Map of Eligible Interstate Corridor Segments – Phase 2.....	7
1.5	Anticipated Agreement Term & Renewals.....	8
1.6	Definitions	8
1.7	Grant Administrator	8
1.8	Special Accommodations.....	8
1.9	Timeline of Events.....	8
1.10	List of Attachments	9
2	RFA Process	9
2.1	Applicant Responsibilities.....	9
2.2	Who May Respond.....	9
2.3	Overview of the RFA.....	10
2.3.1	Application Phase.....	10
2.3.2	Minimum Mandatory Requirement Review Phase.....	10
2.3.3	Evaluation Phase	10
2.4	Conformance to Requirements.....	11
2.5	Addenda/Amendments to the RFA.....	11
2.6	Agreement Formation.....	11
2.7	Disclosure of Application Contents	11
2.8	Withdrawal of Applications	11
2.9	Administrative Cure Process.....	12
2.10	Clarification Process.....	12
2.11	Information from Other Sources	12
2.12	Right to Reject.....	12
2.13	Cancellation, Non-Award, and Withdrawal.....	12
2.14	Misrepresentations	13
2.15	Licensure & Registration	13
2.16	Replacement and Alternate Applications.....	13



2.17	Exclusivity	13
2.18	Diversity.....	13
3	Application Instructions	14
3.1	MyFloridaMarketPlace (MFMP) Vendor Registration.....	14
3.2	Submission of Applications.....	14
3.3	Application Content Requirements.....	14
3.3.1	Volume I – Business Information and Past Performance	14
3.3.2	Volume II – Segment and Site-Specific Information.....	15
3.4	Confidential Application Materials and Redacted Submissions	16
4	Grant Work Plan	17
4.1	Project	17
4.2	Definitions	17
4.3	Grantee Responsibilities.....	18
4.4	Overall Completion Criteria and Date	18
4.5	Deliverables	19
4.6	Additional Financial Consequences for Non-Performance.....	21
4.7	Project Components Eligible for Funding.....	21
4.8	Project Components Ineligible for Funding	21
5	Evaluation Criteria	21
5.1	Evaluation of Volume I, Business Information and Past Performance.....	21
5.2	Evaluation of Volume II, Segment and Project Specific Response.....	23
5.3	Compilation of Evaluation Scores	24
6	Award.....	24
6.1	Basis of Award.....	24
6.2	Posting of Decision.....	24
6.3	Execution of Agreement.....	24



1 Introduction

The Florida Department of Environmental Protection (Department) hereby issues this Request for Application (RFA) to provide funding for Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure (EVCI) Phase 2. This RFA is available through the Vendor Bid System (VBS) and the Department's website. Applicants interested in submitting an Application must comply with all of the terms and conditions described in this RFA. Applications will be submitted via electronic mail to VWMitigation@FloridaDEP.gov

1.1 Background and Program Information

The Diesel Emissions Mitigation Program (DEMP) utilizes funds from the Volkswagen Settlement and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Diesel Emissions Reduction Act (DERA) State Grant Program for projects which mitigate mobile sources of emissions. The primary objective of DEMP is to fund projects that reduce mobile source emissions such as nitrogen oxides, particulate matter, and organic hazardous air pollutants in areas where people live, work, and visit.

On October 2, 2017, the Environmental Mitigation Trust Agreement for State Beneficiaries (Final Trust Agreement) was filed with the federal district court in Northern District of California, establishing the terms and conditions of the Mitigation Trust.

Florida became a beneficiary under the Mitigation Trust on January 30, 2018, with the Department designated as Lead Agency to administer the approximately \$166 million allocated to the state (State Beneficiary Funds).

As a requirement under the Mitigation Trust, the Department published a Beneficiary Mitigation Plan which, among other required components, identifies which allowable mitigation actions the Department selects for project specific funding, and how the funds will be allocated between the mitigation actions. Florida's Beneficiary Mitigation Plan identifies the following project types and funding amounts:

- Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure: Maximum allowable 15% (Approximately \$25 million)
- School, Transit, and Shuttle Bus: 70% (Approximately \$116 million)
- Diesel Emissions Reduction Act (DERA) State Grant Program: 15% (Approximately \$25 million)

On February 10, 2020, the Department published a Notice of Funding Availability in the Florida Administrative Register and the Vendor Bid System for the EVCI Phase 1 Request for Applications. On July 10, the Department posted a notice of awarded grants for 27 charging station locations along I-75, I-275, I-95, I-295, and I-4. These 27 charging station locations add 74 fast chargers, which increases the number of publicly available fast chargers by 35 percent. EVCI Phase 1 grants total \$9 million in VW mitigation funds.



1.2 EVCI Phase 2 – Grant Program Objectives

The Department intends to make an award for each of the 32 segments; however, the Department reserves the right to award to one Applicant multiple segments, or to make no award, as determined to be in the best interest of the State.

Due to Federal Highway Administration rules, sites may not be located on the actual highway or within the interchange. The primary objective of Phase 2 is to provide sufficient fast charging opportunities in the event of an evacuation due to natural disaster. Daily use of these charging stations may benefit regional and local economies through encouraging electric vehicle adoption, increasing tourism, and meeting local sustainability and resilience goals.

EVCI Phase 2 will award projects for the remaining \$16 million for the EVCI Initiative. EVCI Phase 2 provides for 32 charging station locations (segments) along Florida's Interstate highway system. This consists of 14 segments along Interstate 10 and 18 segments that to complete charging corridors along Interstates 95, 75, and 4. Each project will add at least 2 fast chargers per charging station location and will be capped at \$500,000. This will add a minimum of 64 fast chargers along the interstate highway system.

Since the average grant awarded during EVCI Phase 1 was approximately \$320,000, DARM estimates that there will be around \$6 million remaining after awarding grants to the 32 awardees in EVCI Phase 2. Any remaining funds will be allocated by awarding locations selected from both unawarded EVCI Phase 1 and EVCI Phase 2 applications. The excess funding would likely result in approximately 18 charging station locations. The Department will consider the following factors for selecting unawarded EVCI Phase 1 and 2 applications: 1) the total points received in evaluating the application; 2) the location of the proposed charging station with respect to other awarded locations and existing charging infrastructure; and 3) the cost of the application.

The EVCI program will spend the maximum allowable 15 percent (about \$25 million) of State Beneficiary Funds identified in Florida's Beneficiary Mitigation Plan. Cost reimbursement funding will be provided at the following maximum allowable percentages, although applicants may provide a greater cost share to increase competitiveness:

- Up to 100 percent for publicly accessible EVCI on government property
- Up to 80 percent for publicly accessible EVCI on nongovernment property

The Department has divided Phase 2 corridors into 32 segments. One project will be competitively selected for each of the 32 segments. Eligible applicants may apply for any combination of segments. However, each segment will be funded individually through cost reimbursement. Each project funded per segment will provide the relative cost share percentages, up to \$500,000 in cost reimbursement for eligible expenditures.

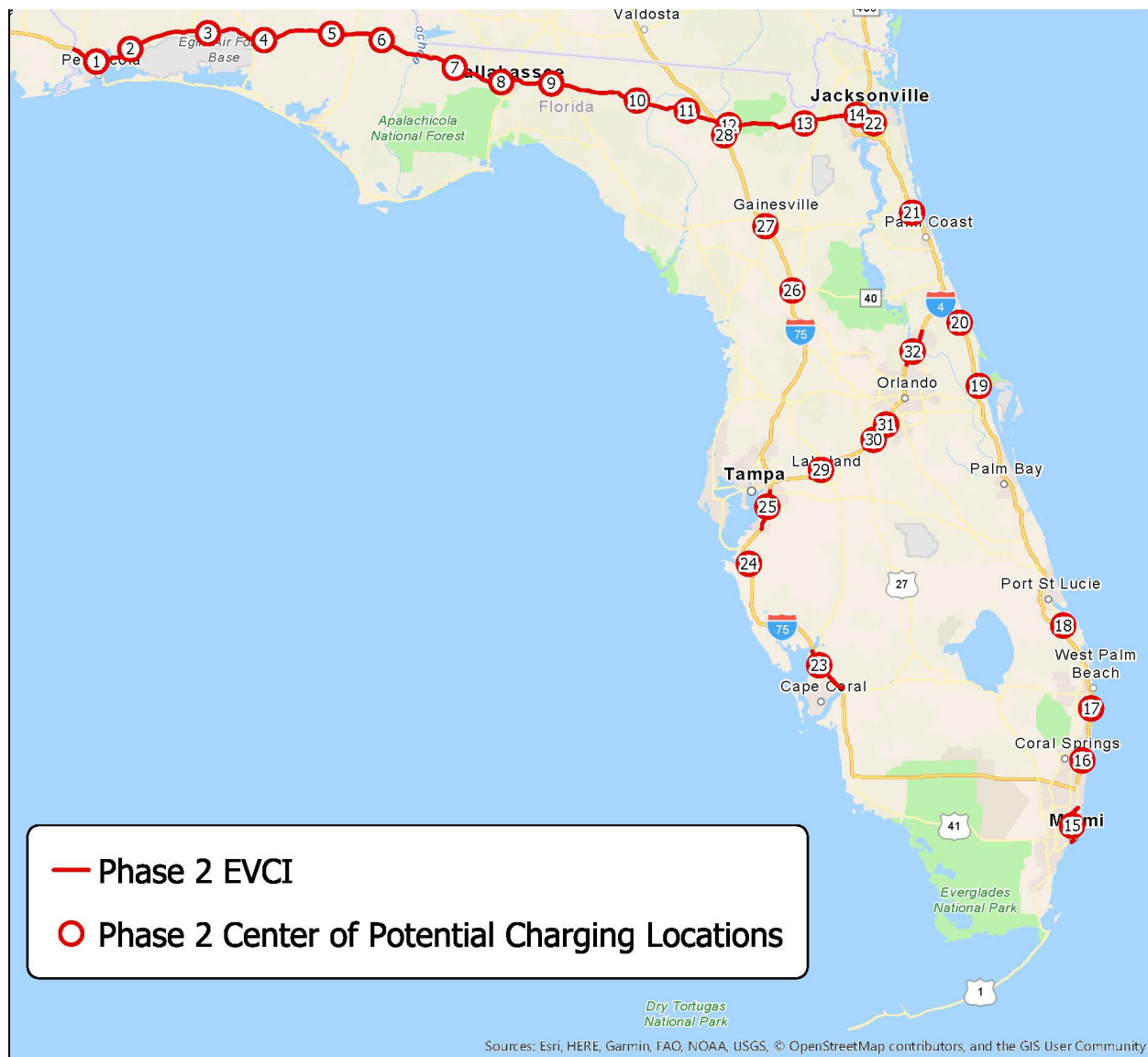


1.3 EVCI Phase 2 Segments Eligible for Funding

Segment Number	Interstate	Eligible Exits
1	10	7 through 17
2	10	26 through 31
3	10	56 and 70
4	10	85 and 96
5	10	112 through 130
6	10	142 only
7	10	174 and 181
8	10	192 through 209
9	10	217 and 225
10	10	258 and 262
11	10	283 only
12	10	301 only
13	10	333 through 343
14	10	351 through 362
15	95	1 through 16
16	95	33 through 42
17	95	57 through 66
18	95	96 through 102
19	95	215 through 223
20	95	249 only
21	95	298 and 305
22	95	341 through 348
23	75	143 through 164
24	75	220 through 224
25	75	240 through 257
26	75	352 through 358
27	75	382 and 384
28	75	423 and 427
29	4	27 through 38
30	4	48 through 62
31	4	64 through 72
32	4	98 through 114



1.4 Map of Eligible Interstate Corridor Segments – Phase 2



Note: Numbers inside circles correspond to the segment numbers in the previous table.



1.5 Anticipated Agreement Term & Renewals

The initial term of the Agreement will be two (2) years. At the discretion of the Department, the Agreement may be renewed to complete the project, subject to the terms and conditions specified in the Agreement.

1.6 Definitions

In addition to the definitions in Section 4.2, the following definitions apply to this RFA:

- a. “Agreement” means the agreement that results from this competitive procurement, if any, between the Department and the Grantee.
- b. “Applicant” means an entity that submits an Application to this RFA.
- c. “Business Days” means Monday through Friday, inclusive, except for State government holidays.
- d. “Confidential Information” means any documents, data, or records that are confidential and not subject to disclosure pursuant to Chapter 119, Florida Statute (F.S.), the Florida Constitution, or any other authority.
- e. “Grantee(s)” means the Applicant(s) awarded an Agreement pursuant to this RFA.
- f. “State” means the State of Florida.

1.7 Grant Administrator

The Grant Administrator is the Department’s sole point of contact for information regarding this RFA from the date of release until an Agency Decision is posted on the VBS and the Department’s website. Violation of this provision may be grounds for rejecting an Application.

Refer ALL inquiries in writing to the Grant Administrator by email at VWMitigation@floridadep.gov. Timely questions posed to the Grant Administrator will be posted on the Department’s website and VBS at http://myflorida.com/apps/vbs/vbs_main_menu and in accordance with Section 2.3.1.2 below.

The Department will not talk to any Applicants or their agents regarding a pending application. Questions will NOT be answered via telephone.

1.8 Special Accommodations

Any person requiring a special accommodation due to a disability should contact the Department’s Grant Administrator.

1.9 Timeline of Events

The following schedule will be strictly adhered to in all actions relative to this RFA. The Department reserves the right to modify this schedule and will notify participants in the RFA by posting an addendum to this RFA on VBS and the Department’s website (<https://www.floridadep.gov/volkswagen>). It is the responsibility of the Applicant to check VBS and the Department’s website on a regular basis for such updates.

Event	Date	Time*	Location/Method
RFA Advertised	November 9, 2020		Vendor Bid System and Department Website



Questions Due	November 25, 2020	11:59 PM E.T.	Electronic mail to: VWMitigation@FloridaDEP.gov
Answers Posted (Anticipated)	December 11, 2020	5:00 PM E.T.	Department Website/Vendor Bid System
Applications Due	January 8, 2021 January 19, 2021	5:00 PM E.T.	Electronic mail to: VWMitigation@FloridaDEP.gov
Award Date (Anticipated)	March – April 2021		Electronic Mail/Vendor Bid System

*All times are Eastern Time Zone.

1.10 List of Attachments

The Attachment below is incorporated by reference. Copies of this document are available in the VBS advertisement and on the Department's website that accompany the RFA posting.

Attachment	Title
1	Draft Contract (This is not to be completed by the Applicant. It is an example of the grant agreement that will be awarded by the Department to successful Applicants.)

2 RFA Process

2.1 Applicant Responsibilities

Applicants should carefully read the entire RFA, all attachments, and any addenda before submitting an Application. Applicants interested in submitting an Application must comply with all instructions, terms, and conditions of this RFA to be considered for Award.

Applicants are responsible for understanding all terms and conditions of this RFA, its attachments, addenda, and proposed resulting Agreement. If an Applicant does not understand these requirements, Applicant should submit formal questions to the Department in accordance with Section 2.3.1.1.

2.2 Who May Respond

Applicants who possess the financial capability, experience, and personnel resources described in this RFA are invited to submit Applications. Entities on the Convicted, Suspended, Discriminatory Vendor List(s), and/or the Scrutinized List(s) of Prohibited Companies may not submit an Application. List available at:

- https://www.dms.myflorida.com/business_operations/state_purchasing/state_agency_resources/vendor_registration_and_vendor_lists
- https://www.sbafla.com/fsb/Portals/FSB/Content/GlobalGovernanceMandates/QuarterlyReports/2019/2019_01_29_%20Israel%20scrutinized%20companies%20list%20for%20web.pdf

Eligible Applicants:

- Governmental Entities – as defined in section 4.2 of this RFA.
- Electric Utilities – Includes public utilities, municipal utilities, and cooperative utilities.
- Businesses – any partnership, corporation, business trust, joint venture, or other legal



business entity registered with the State of Florida. This primarily includes site hosts, service providers, and original equipment manufacturers (OEM).

- Not-for-profit organizations – any organization listed as a 501(c)(3) under the Internal Revenue Code and must be registered with the State of Florida.
- Partnerships – Any combination of eligible applicants with a clear primary point of contact and proposed roles for the project. Applicants can apply both as part of a partnership and individually for the same segment but may not apply twice for any one segment as an individual applicant.

2.3 Overview of the RFA

The RFA is a method of competitively awarding grants. The RFA process involves three phases: Application, Minimum Mandatory Requirement Review, and Evaluation.

2.3.1 Application Phase

2.3.1.1 Question and Answer Period

Applicants may submit questions regarding the terms, conditions, and requirements of the RFA to the Grant Administrator via email to VWMitigation@FloridaDEP.gov by the deadline listed in the Timeline, Section 1.9 of the RFA.

Answers to questions will be posted on the Department’s webpage and VBS.

All emails shall have the RFA number in the subject line. The Department recommends that questions be submitted in the following format:

RFA Section	RFA Page #	Question

2.3.1.2 Submission of Applications

Once the Department posts the answers to the questions, Applicants may begin submitting Applications as indicated in Section 3.3. Applicants are encouraged to submit their Applications no earlier than five

(5) days prior to the submission deadline. Applications must be submitted in PDF or Word format by the deadline listed in the Timeline above to VWMitigation@FloridaDEP.gov.

2.3.2 Minimum Mandatory Requirement Review Phase

All Applications will be reviewed by the Grant Administrator to ensure that Applications contain all mandatory sections and are complete. Complete Applications will be sent to the Evaluation Team for their qualitative review.

2.3.3 Evaluation Phase

The Department will evaluate Applications from responsive and responsible Applicants that provide the documentation required in this RFA. All Applicants and Applications that meet the minimum mandatory requirements reviewed by the Grant Administrator will be evaluated according to the Evaluation Criteria in Section 5. Each evaluation team member will work independently using the Evaluation Criteria contained Section 5, to review and score Applicant’s Technical Application. Upon completion of the



Technical Application evaluation, the evaluators will submit their scores to the Grant Administrator for tabulation.

An Applicant's Application is the only material which will be considered by the evaluators, subject to the exceptions given in Section 2.11. No oral or written representations, prior conversations, meetings, projects, or outside information, other than what is specifically requested to be in an Application, will be considered by the evaluators.

2.4 Conformance to Requirements

In order to be considered for Award, Applications submitted to the Department must conform in all material aspects to the requirements included in this RFA. Applications failing to conform in all material aspects to the requirements included in this RFA are Non-Responsive and are not eligible for Award, at the sole discretion of the Department.

2.5 Addenda/Amendments to the RFA

The Department reserves the right to modify this RFA by issuing addenda and/or amendments. All changes to the RFA will be made through addenda or amendments posted on the VBS and Department website. It is the responsibility of the Applicant to check for any changes on the VBS and Department website. Issuance of written Addenda and/or amendments is the only method by which a RFA may be modified.

2.6 Agreement Formation

The Department will issue a notice of award, if any, to successful Applicant(s). No contract shall be formed between the Department and the awarded Applicant until both parties sign the Agreement. The Department will not be liable for any costs incurred by an Applicant in preparing or producing its Application or for any work performed before the Agreement is effective.

The Agreement will consist of the Agreement and attachments, which will incorporate the Grant Work Plan, below in Section 4, and relevant portions of the Application submitted by the awarded Applicant (if any). If there is any discrepancy between the Grant Work Plan and the incorporated relevant portions of the Application, the terms most favorable to the Department shall prevail.

The Department objects to and shall not consider any additional terms or conditions submitted by an Applicant, including any appearing in documents attached as part of an Application, except those identified in the Agreement. The Agreement that results from this RFA will be posted on the Florida Accountability Agreement Tracking System (FACTS) website in accordance with section 215.985, F.S., "Transparency Florida Act."

2.7 Disclosure of Application Contents

All documentation produced as part of the RFA will become the exclusive property of the Department and will not be returned to the Applicant unless it is withdrawn prior to the Application opening in accordance with Section 2.8. Once the Grant Administrator opens the Application, the Application may be disclosed pursuant to a public records request, subject to any confidentiality claims and the timeframes identified in section 119.071(1)(b), F.S.

2.8 Withdrawal of Applications

The Applicant may withdraw or modify an Application at any time prior to the due date by submitting a request to the Grant Administrator.



2.9 Administrative Cure Process

In the interest of maximizing competition, the Application qualification and cure process seeks to minimize, if not eliminate, Applicant disqualifications resulting from nonmaterial, curable deficiencies in the Application that are identified in the Minimum Mandatory Review Phase. Therefore, the

Department may, in its sole discretion, notify Applicants whose qualifying information or documentation does not meet the requirements of the RFA and allow for the correction of errors and omissions prior to making a final determination of responsiveness. Timely cures made pursuant to this section will be accepted by the Department.

2.10 Clarification Process

The Department may request clarification from the Applicant for the purpose of resolving ambiguities or questioning information presented in the Application. Clarifications may be requested throughout the Application process. The Applicant's answers to requested clarifications must be in writing and must address only the information requested. Applicant's answers to requested clarifications must be submitted to the Department within the time specified by the Department in the requested clarification.

2.11 Information from Other Sources

The Department reserves the right to seek information from outside sources regarding the Applicant, the Applicant's offerings, capabilities, references, and the Applicant's performance, if the Department determines that such information is pertinent to the RFA. The Department may consider such information throughout the Application process including, but not limited to, determining whether the award is ultimately in the best interest of the State. This may include, but is not limited to, the Department engaging consultants, subject matter experts, and others to ensure that the Department has a complete understanding of the information provided pursuant to the Application.

2.12 Right to Reject

The Department may reject any Application not submitted in the manner specified by the RFA documents. Applicants whose past performance, current status, or Application does not reflect the capability, integrity, or reliability to fully, and in good faith, perform the requirements of Agreement may be rejected as Non-Responsible and are not eligible for Award.

2.13 Cancellation, Non-Award, and Withdrawal

When the Department determines that it is in the best interest of the State, it reserves the right to:

- Cancel this RFA.
- Make no Award and reject all Applications.
- Withdraw the RFA at any time, including after an award is made.
- Withdraw or amend its Notice of Award at any time prior to execution of a contract, including, but not limited to situations in which the Grantee(s) fails to execute the contract.
- Issue another RFA.



2.14 Misrepresentations

All information submitted, and all representations made, by the Applicant in an Application may be relied upon by the Department in determining Responsibility of an Applicant for Award. Any misstatement or omission, whether intentional or not, may be treated by the Department as a fraudulent concealment of the true facts relating to the Application. Such misrepresentation will be a basis for the Department to disqualify the Applicant as Non-Responsible, and bar the Applicant from participation in any re-application pertaining to this subject matter (regardless of whether the re-application resulted from Applicant's misrepresentation) and may be punishable under law, including, but not limited to, Chapter 817, F.S.

2.15 Licensure & Registration

Prior to the execution of an Agreement, the selected Applicant must be properly licensed to do business within the State, and all entities must be appropriately registered with the Florida Department of State, if required by federal or state law.

2.16 Replacement and Alternate Applications

The Department will consider one (1) Application packet per individual Applicant. An entity which applies individually may also participate in an application(s) listed as a partnership between multiple entities.

An application packet consists of one (1) version of Volume I and the total number of Volume II's equal to the total number of segments identified in section 1.3 of this RFA that the Applicant wishes to apply for project funding. For example, if Applicant "A" would like to be awarded Segments 1, 7, 16, and 26, Applicant "A" would submit four Volume II's and one Volume I.

Applicants may submit revised Responses at any time prior to the Response Due Date as specified in the Timeline of Events. Revised Responses must include a statement, signed and dated by an Authorized Signatory, withdrawing all prior Responses from the Applicant.

2.17 Exclusivity

This RFA will not result in an exclusive license to receive State funding for building EVCI's as described in this RFA or the resulting Agreement. The Department may, in compliance with applicable laws, contract with other or provide money to other Applicants or entities to provide funding for building EVCI's if the Department determines that doing so will serve the State's best interests.

2.18 Diversity

The State is dedicated to fostering the continued development and economic growth of minority-owned, veteran-owned, and woman-owned businesses. Participation of a diverse group of Applicants doing business with the Department is central to the State's effort.

The Office of Supplier Diversity (OSD) has been established within the Florida Department of Management Services (DMS) to certify qualifying minority-owned, veteran-owned, and woman-owned business enterprises (CBEs). CBEs are encouraged to participate in the State's procurement process as both prime Applicants and subcontractors. Non-CBE Applicants are encouraged to partner with CBEs for Agreement performance.



3 Application Instructions

3.1 MyFloridaMarketPlace (MFMP) Vendor Registration

Prior to execution of the Agreement by the Department, the Applicant must be registered with MFMP. Information about the registration process is available on, and registration may be completed at <https://vendor.myfloridamarketplace.com/>.

Prospective Applicants who do not have internet access may request assistance from the Grant Administrator.

3.2 Submission of Applications

Applicants shall submit a completed application packet via electronic mail to VWMitigation@FloridaDEP.gov. Application packages must show, in the email subject line, the Applicant's name and the RFA number. If multiple electronic mails are sent, electronic mail sequences (i.e. 1 of 3, 2 of 4, etc.) must also be indicated in the subject line.

Any Application that is received after the exact time specified in the Timeline of Events is late. Late Applications, as well as Applications submitted through facsimile or hardcopy, are Non-Responsive and will not be evaluated.

3.3 Application Content Requirements

Applicant's Applications must be submitted via electronic mail with attached copies divided into volumes containing the information specified below:

Volume	Name	Copies
Volume I	Business Information and Past Performance	One per applicant
Volume II	Segment and Project-Specific Response	One per segment

Each applicant will submit one copy of Volume I and as many Volume II's as needed, based on the number of segments the applicant wishes to respond to for award. Applicants do not need to fully secure site hosts prior to submitting an Application. Applicants are encouraged to provide information to supplement the requirements of Volume I and Volume II.

3.3.1 Volume I – Business Information and Past Performance

Volume I information must include, at a minimum, the following:

1. **Business Model** – A detailed explanation of the applicant or applicants, the role or roles of each entity, and the value of those entities based on the sustainability of the business model, experience, and role within the region or industry. If a lead applicant is participating in more than one partnership, then the lead applicant must submit one Volume I per partnership.
2. **Equipment Used** – An explanation of the types of equipment available for use, and the process for acquiring necessary equipment, installation, activation, and proof of meeting minimum equipment requirements. EVCI features based on minimum requirements and additional features should be identified in this section. Applicants with different types of equipment based on site-specific considerations should list all types of equipment in Volume I and detail the types of equipment used in Volume II for each segment.



3. **Services Provided** – Identify the following services and the maintenance of each service to assure availability at each site:
 - **Customer Service** – An easily visible phone number for customer support which provides immediate assistance 24 hours a day, and 7 days a week.
 - **Network** – EVCI will be connected to a network through any form of connection, (i.e., ethernet, Wi-Fi, or cellular).
 - **Data Collection/Billing** – This service will have the following two features:
 1. Each charging station session (transaction) will provide to the user:
 - Date and time of the session
 - Price of the session
 - Total energy (kWh) provided in the session
 2. Any fees shall be displayed on the charging station, a screen on the charging station, or other method such as a smart phone application, text message, or electronic mail. No specific method to accept credit cards (such as credit card readers) is prescribed; however, the option to use a credit card is required.
4. **Projects of a Similar Size and Scope** – Applicant will provide an example(s) of past projects that are complete and operational of a similar size and scope.

3.3.2 Volume II – Segment and Site-Specific Information

Volume II must include, at a minimum, the following:

1. **Segment Number:** Applicant will provide the segment number at the top of the first page of Volume II.
2. **Cost Effectiveness:** Applicant will identify the percentage of cost share the applicant will provide and will receive points based on the table below. Project sites must be one of the following two types of locations with corresponding maximum cost share percentages:
 - Publicly accessible government owned property – Up to 100% cost share
 - Publicly accessible non-government owned property – Up to 80% cost share Note: Applicants may use in-house labor as an eligible value to contribute to cost share. In- house labor consistent with Section 4.7 is eligible for cost reimbursement.

Land Owner	Less than 5%	5.0% to 9.9%	10.0% to 14.9%	15.0% to 19.9%	20.0% to 24.9%	25% or more
Public	5 pts.	6 pts.	7 pts.	8 pts.	9 pts.	10 pts.
Private	*	*	*	*	5 pts.	10 pts.

* Failing to provide at least 20% cost share for a proposed site on private land will result in rejection of the Application.

3. **Site Location and Proximity Within Each Segment:** Identify the site where the project will take place by identifying the following (scoring criteria provided in section 5.2 of this RFA):
 - The land owner and/or the entity hosting the site if different from the land owner,
 - The physical address and GPS coordinates of the project site, and
 - Distance between the project site and the closest interstate interchange (the interchange shall not be “exit only”) based on road-measured distance, not linear distance.
4. **Proximity to Amenities:** Accessibility to amenities for travelers and daily users such as restrooms, restaurants, shopping, and hospitality (scoring criteria provided in section 5.2 of this RFA).



5. DC Fast Charge Site-Specific Requirements: Identify the equipment that will be used to complete the project both in narrative and itemized format. Include information on the following:
- A minimum of two parking spaces and two DC Fast Charge (50kW or higher) charging stations (or analogous successor technologies),
 - Electrical, local, and any other required permits,
 - Planning for future expansion of charging stations and parking spots,
 - A description of the signage to be displayed on/near the project site, and the electronic platforms through which travelers will be able to locate the charging station.
 - EVCI must have a 5-year warranty. Each site must have a maintenance plan to demonstrate how all outages will be addressed within 72 hours. Proof of warranty and maintenance plan will be required in detail in the grant agreement and will be a deliverable for cost reimbursement eligibility.
 - Estimated Project Cost: Applicant will provide a table detailing the total cost of the project. The Applicant shall provide a table detailing eligible project costs over time to be reimbursed once per quarter. Each project may receive no more than \$500,000 in grant funds from this solicitation.

3.4 Confidential Application Materials and Redacted Submissions

If the Applicant considers any portion of its Application to be Confidential Information or exempt under Chapter 119, F.S., or other authority (Public Records Law), then the Applicant must simultaneously provide the Department with an unredacted version of the materials and a separate redacted copy of the materials the Applicant claims as Confidential Information or exempt and in an index, as described below.

The Applicant shall mark the unredacted version of the document as “Unredacted version – contains Confidential Information” and place such information in an encrypted electronic form or a sealed separate envelope.

If submitting a redacted version of its Application, the Applicant shall mark the cover of the redacted copy with the Applicant’s name, Department’s RFA name, and number, and the words “Redacted Copy.” The Redacted Copy should only redact those portions of material that the Applicant claims are Confidential Information or exempt from Public Records Law. An entire Application should not be redacted. An entire page or paragraph which contains Confidential Information or exempt material should not be redacted unless the entire page or paragraph is wholly Confidential Information or exempt from Public Records Law. In the Redacted Copy, the Applicant shall redact and maintain in confidence any materials the Department provides or seeks regarding security of a proposed technology system or information subject to sections 119.011(14), 119.071(1)(f), and 119.071(3), F.S.

In addition, the Applicant should submit a separate index listing the Confidential Information or exempt portions of its Application. The index should briefly describe in writing the grounds for claiming exemption from the Public Records Law, including the specific statutory citation for such exemption.

The Redacted Copy will be used to fulfill public records and other disclosure requests and will be posted on the FACTS website. In addition, the Department will follow the procedures described in Attachment 4, Public Records Requirements, of the Draft Agreement.

By submitting an Application, the Applicant agrees to protect, defend, and indemnify the Department for any and all claims arising from or relating to the Applicant’s determination that the redacted portions of



its Application are Confidential Information or otherwise not subject to disclosure. If the Applicant fails to submit a Redacted Copy of its Application, the Department is authorized to produce the entire unredacted Application submitted to the Department in response to a public records request.

4 Grant Work Plan

4.1 Project

Grantee shall be responsible for the purchase and installation of DC fast charge electric vehicle charging infrastructure (EVCI) within a five (5) mile proximity to its Awarded Segment(s) (individually, a "Project"). The Grantee shall furnish all equipment, tools, materials, labor and everything known and necessary and shall complete the Project.

4.2 Definitions

In this Agreement, the following terms shall be defined as set forth below:

- a. "Alternating Current (AC) Charging" means charging providing energy to the on-board charger in an electric vehicle (EV), which turns the AC to Direct Current (DC) to sustain energy within the EV's battery.
- b. "CHAdemo" means the direct current (DC) fast charging standard (plug) which is one of several competing charging plugs adopted by many electric vehicle manufacturers.
- c. "Combined Charging System (CCS)" means the DC fast charging standard (plug) that is certified by the Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE)
- d. "DC Fast Charging" means a direct current (DC) rapid charging standard which provides energy directly to an electric vehicle battery. The minimum requirement to be considered a DC fast charger is 50kW.
- e. "Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure (EVCI)" means the equipment used to enable the use of electric powered vehicles (e.g. charging stations). Eligible EVCI shall be certified by a nationally recognized testing laboratory or organization.
- f. "Government" or "Governmental Entity" means a federal, state, regional, or local government agency within Florida (including a school district, public college or university, municipality, city, county, special district, transportation authority, joint powers authority, airport authority or port authority, owning fleets purchased with government funds), and a tribal government or native village.
- g. "Nongovernment" means any property owner that does not meet the definition of government.
- h. "Private property" means nongovernment-owned property.
- i. "Proprietary Charger" means any component of EVCI which can only be utilized based on vehicle brand-specific specifications.
- j. "Publicly Accessible" means EVCI located on public or private property to be used by an electric vehicle owner at any time during normal hours of operation. EVCI located behind a security gate which requires a form other than payment to enter the premises (e.g., security identification badge or other method that requires private membership) is not publicly accessible.
- k. "Public Property" means government-owned property.
- l. "Universal Charger" means any charging station which features CHAdemo and/or CCS plugs which are not individually brand specific.



4.3 Grantee Responsibilities

1. Grantee must provide the Deliverables in accordance with the requirements of this RFA as described in section 4.5 below.
2. Project site must be located at the area identified within the Grantee's RFA response Volume II.
3. Grantee must ensure operation of funded EVCI projects for a minimum of 5 years.
4. Grantee must ensure the project site remains publicly accessible a minimum of 5 years.
5. Grantee shall ensure the EVCI provides 50kW of higher (or analogous successor technologies) DC fast charging.
6. Grantee shall ensure each EVCI purchased come with a 5-year warranty. EVCI shall also meet minimum standards for safety, including enclosures for equipment and the use of equipment to reasonably withstand environmental factors.
7. Grantee shall provide a maintenance plan for each site that demonstrates how all outages will be addressed within 72 hours. Proof of warranty and maintenance plan will be required in detail in the grant agreement and will be a deliverable for cost reimbursement eligibility.
8. Grantee shall install at least two universal charging stations with one or more plugs per station.
9. Grantee shall ensure the project area is well lit and publicly accessible seven days a week.
10. If payment is required to use the EVCI, the Grantee must ensure the EVCI accepts credit card information (not limited to credit card readers). The Grantee must adhere to all applicable laws governing the collection and processing of credit card data.
11. The Grantee must ensure the EVCI is connected to a network through any form of connection, (i.e., ethernet, Wi-Fi, or cellular).
12. The Grantee shall ensure that any fees are displayed on the charging station, a screen on the charging station, or other method such as a smart phone application, text message, or electronic mail.
13. The Grantee must ensure that each charging station session provide to the user:
 - Date and time of the session
 - Price of the session
 - Total energy (kWh) provided in the session
14. Information related to the current functionality of the individual EVCI station. The Grantee must provide the following charging utilization data to the Department quarterly for 5 years:
 - Number of charging sessions/events during reporting period.
 - Number of unique vehicle consumers during reporting period.
 - Energy output information (e.g., total kWh provided, average kWh provided per charging session, average duration of a charging session) during reporting period.
15. Grantee must provide immediate customer support 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, through a phone number that is easily visible on or near the charging station, for a minimum of 5 years.

4.4 Overall Completion Criteria and Date

Project must be complete within 24 months of executed grant agreement. Grantee must provide the charging utilization data identified in section 4.3 to the Department for 5 years.



4.5 Deliverables

Task 1: Site Host Agreements and Schedule of Values:

Deliverables: Grantee shall obtain a completed site host agreement within 60 days of the executed Agreement. Grantee shall submit an initial detailed project schedule of values (SOV) that detail costs, planning, and construction timelines as well as affirming the Grantee responsibilities identified in the EVCI Phase 2 RFA and the Grantee's application (Exhibit F). The instructions for the SOV are located in the Schedule of Values and Grantee Responsibilities Worksheet. The final schedule, as accepted by the Department, will establish the timeframes and due dates for the other Tasks without need of a formal amendment. However, modifications to the final schedule must be accomplished through a change order which shall be formally executed by both parties.

Documentation: The Grantee will submit a completed site host agreement and initial project SOV. A completed site host agreement consists of the completed Site Host Agreement Worksheet with corresponding documentation. A completed SOV consists of the completed Schedule of Values and Grantee Responsibilities Worksheet with corresponding documents.

Performance Standard: The Department's Grant Manager will review the documentation to verify that the deliverables are completed as described above and elsewhere in the Agreement. The Department shall review the proposed project schedule and the Grantee shall correct or revise the schedule if it is deemed necessary by the Department. Upon written acceptance of the final schedule by the Department's Grant Manager, the Grantee may proceed with Task 2.

Payment Request Schedule: There is no payment request schedule for Task 1.

Deliverable Due Date: The site host agreement deliverable is due within 60 days of the execution of this grant. The SOV deliverable does not have a due date but must be submitted to and approved by the Department prior to completing Task 2. Failure to provide the Site Host Agreement may result in termination of the grant agreement as set forth in Attachment 1 and the Department will award the grant to another applicant. If the Department decides to terminate the grant agreement, the Department will provide notice of termination as set forth in Attachment 1.

Task 2: Design, Permitting, and Utility Connection for Power

Deliverables: Grantee shall obtain the appropriate federal, state, and local permits and coordinate with the utility (if Grantee is not the utility) providing energy to the site to connect the EVCI through a power agreement in accordance with the permits, connection process, and timeframes established in the final SOV developed in Task 1.

Documentation: Grantee shall provide proof of approved permits and coordination with the utility to connect the EVCI project to receive power. If Grantee seeks the optional cost reimbursement at the completion of Task 2, the submitted Payment Request Form must be accompanied by a detailed invoice showing eligible costs for reimbursement.

Performance Standard: The Department's Grant Manager will review the documentation to verify that the deliverables are completed as described above and elsewhere in the Agreement. Upon review and written acceptance by the Department's Grant Manager, the Grantee may proceed with an optional payment request submittal.



Payment Request Schedule: The Grantee may submit a payment request for cost reimbursement for eligible expenditures under Task 1 and Task 2 after the completion of Task 2. If the Grantee submits a payment request after completion of Task 2, the Department will provide the overall cost share percentage (75 percent) for eligible costs incurred to this point referenced in the Budget Summary Table in this Work Plan. The cost reimbursement for this task may not exceed 50 percent of the total grant amount. The Grantee may, at its own option, defer its Task 2 payment request until completion of Task 3 for a one-time cost-reimbursement.

Deliverable Due Date: All task related work must be completed by and all deliverables must be received by the dates specified in the SOV.

Task 3: Acquisition and Installation of Charging Stations

Deliverables: Grantee shall acquire and install charging stations, as detailed in the Grantee's application (Exhibit F) and in accordance with the SOV approved in Task 1.

Documentation: Grantee shall provide documentation of milestones identified in the SOV. The Grantee will provide documentation proving the operability of the charging stations and services provided by the Grantee by completing the EVCI Installation Worksheet and Exhibit B Property Reporting Form.

Performance Standard: The Department's Grant Manager will review the documentation to verify that the deliverables are completed as described above and elsewhere in the Agreement. Upon review and written acceptance by the Department's Grant Manager, the Grantee may proceed with payment request submittal.

Payment Request Schedule: The Grantee may submit a payment request for cost reimbursement. Final payment shall be made after proof is submitted that the charging station is fully functional as required by the Agreement. If Grantee requests cost-reimbursement after the completion of Task 2, the Department will provide the remaining cost share upon proof of EVCI functionality.

Deliverable Due Date: All task related work must be completed by, and all deliverables must be received by the date specified in the SOV.

Task 4: Data Reporting and Ongoing Performance

Deliverables: Grantee shall provide charging station data reporting for a 5-year period beginning after installation.

Documentation: Grantee shall provide the report quarterly after the completion of installation as required in this Agreement. There is no standardized template for providing data for reporting usage. Grantee may provide the report in more than one format; however, one format must be as an Excel Spreadsheet. In accordance with the data reporting requirements in the original RFA and the Grantee's Application (Exhibit F), the following data are required in every quarterly report for five (5) consecutive years starting from the date the EVCI are fully functional:

- Number of charging sessions/events during reporting period.
- Number of unique vehicle consumers during reporting period.
- Energy output information (e.g., total kWh provided, average kWh provided per charging session, average duration of a charging session) during reporting period.



Performance Standard: The Department's Grant Manager will review the documentation to verify that the deliverables are completed as described above and elsewhere in the Agreement. The Department may impose a penalty of up to \$5,000 on the Grantee in the event the Grantee fails to provide its quarterly report within 30 days after the report is due.

Payment Request Schedule: This is a no cost deliverable.

4.6 Additional Financial Consequences for Non-Performance

If at any time during the 5-year period after installation the Project, the Grantee fails to maintain the Project, site access becomes restrictive, or if the site is otherwise no longer used for the purposes described in this Agreement, the Grantee shall immediately return all State funds received under this Agreement.

4.7 Project Components Eligible for Funding

The following expenses are eligible for cost reimbursement:

- 50kW or higher (or analogous successor technologies) DC fast charging EVCI.
- Labor costs for site identification, design, and engineering.
- Necessary upgrades to utility equipment and infrastructure to provide electric service.
- Installation, construction, permit, and service activation costs.
- Concrete or asphalt addition or replacement.
- Signage, bollards, and parking space preparation (including safety features).
- Warranty and maintenance agreement costs for the EVCI.

4.8 Project Components Ineligible for Funding

The following expenses are not eligible for cost reimbursement:

- EVCI installed at multi-unit dwellings.
- EVCI installed at workplaces which are not publicly accessible.
- EVCI installed at single-family dwellings.
- Proprietary chargers.
- Purchase of real estate.
- Leasing of real estate.
- Administrative and overhead/indirect costs (excluding project-specific labor).
- Internet or cellular service connection costs.
- Leased, pre-owned, or used EVCI.
- Construction and/or maintenance of buildings and/or parking lots.
- Utility and/or electric power costs.
- Maintenance of other aspects of the project outside of an eligible maintenance agreement.

5 Evaluation Criteria

5.1 Evaluation of Volume I, Business Information and Past Performance

Business information and past performance will be scored based on the responses to the minimum requirements listed in Section 3.4.1. The Department will have an evaluation team provide independent scores which will be averaged together for an aggregate Volume I score. The aggregate Volume I score will be uniformly added to each Volume II score to provide a cumulative score for awarding segment specific projects. The Volume I evaluation criteria and scoring methodology is as follows:



Volume I (Submit only one copy)	Max. Points
<p>Applicant Organization Information – Individual or partnership information provided in narrative form. A total of 40 points are available for Volume 1 of the application. For applicants seeking funding for multiple segments, the Volume 1 score will be applied to each segment for a total score. Points will be awarded based on the following criteria:</p> <p>Business Model: A detailed explanation of the applicant or applicants, the role or roles of each entity, and the value of those entities based on the sustainability of the business model, experience, and role within the region or industry. Up to 10 points</p> <p>Equipment Used: An explanation of the types of equipment which are available for use, and the process for acquiring necessary equipment, installation, activation, and proof of meeting minimum equipment requirements. Up to 10 points</p> <p>Services Provided: Address the services and the maintenance of each service to assure availability of EVCI. Up to 10 points</p> <p>Past Projects of a Similar Scope: Applicant will provide an example(s) of past projects that are complete and operational of a similar size and scope. Up to 10 points</p>	40



5.2 Evaluation of Volume II, Segment and Project Specific Response

Applicants must complete one Volume II for each segment the applicant wishes to be awarded. For example, if Applicant “A” would like to be awarded Segments 1, 7, 16, and 26, Applicant “A” would submit four Volume II’s. The evaluation team will score each Volume II separately and based on the requirements listed in 3.4.2. An aggregate score will be provided for each segment applied for in the same manner as Volume I. The following provides the Volume II and bonus evaluation criteria and scoring methodology.

Volume II (Submit one response for each segment)							Max. Points
Cost effectiveness – Applicant will identify the percentage of cost share the applicant will provide and will receive points based on the table below:							10
Land Owner	Less than 5%	5.0% to 9.9%	10.0% to 14.9%	15.0% to 19.9%	20.0% to 24.9%	25% or more	
Public	5 pts.	6 pts.	7 pts.	8 pts.	9 pts.	10 pts.	
Private	*	*	*	*	5 pts.	10 pts.	
*Applicants with projects on privately-owned land must provide at least 20 percent of the total cost of eligible expenditures, per the Final Trust Agreement.							
Site proximity within each segment – Scores are based on the site’s proximity to the interstate within the identified segment. Proximity to the interstate includes two criteria: 1. The point of measurement shall be from the coordinates of the site to the closest point of the closest interstate interchange. The interchange may not be exitonly. 2. Measured distance shall be based on road-measured distance, as opposed to linear-measured distance. • Within 1 mile from interstate: 20 points • Between 1 mile and 2.5 miles from interstate: 15 points • Between 2.5 miles and 4 miles from interstate: 10 points • Between 4 miles and 5 miles from interstate: 5 points							20
Proximity to amenities – Accessibility to amenities for travelers and daily users such as restrooms, restaurants, shopping, and other activities that take an hour or less. • Onsite: 18 points • Offsite, but within ¼ mile: 12 points • Between ¼ mile and ½ mile: 6 points If these amenities are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week: 2 additional points							20
Resilience Considerations: An additional 10 points are available to applications providing a narrative explanation of site resilience considerations. Site resilience considerations include, but are not limited to, storm hardening, undergrounding of lines/conduits, elevation, on-site generation, and future planning for site growth, micro-grid technology, and other technology such as energy storage and/or renewable energy such as solar. Scores will be from 0 (no consideration) to 10 (thorough consideration).							10
Economic Benefit Determination: Narrative explanation that substantiates the potential economic benefits to the community surrounding the project site. Scores will be from 0 (poor) to 5 (excellent).							5
Volume II Total Points							65



5.3 Compilation of Evaluation Scores

To arrive at the Applicant's Final Evaluation Score, the Department will combine the Average Volume I Score, and the Average Volume II Score based on a total possible score of 105.

6 Award

6.1 Basis of Award

An Agreement may be awarded to the responsible and responsive Applicant(s) whose Application receives most the points for that segment.

The Department reserves the right to accept or reject any or all offers, or separable portions, and to waive any minor irregularity, technicality, or omission if the Department determines that doing so will serve the best interest of the State.

Applications that do not meet all requirements, specifications, terms, and conditions of the RFA or fail to provide all required information, documents, or materials may be rejected as non-responsive. Applicants whose Applications, past performance, or current status do not reflect the capability, integrity, or reliability to fully and in good faith perform the requirements of a contract may be rejected. The Department may request additional information, via electronic mail, pertaining to the Applicant's ability and qualifications to accomplish all services described in this RFA as deemed necessary during the RFA or after contract award.

6.2 Posting of Decision

The Department will post a Notice of Intent to Award, stating its intent to enter into one (1) or more Agreements with the Applicant(s) identified therein, on the VBS and the Department's website. If the Department decides to reject all Applications, it will post its notice on the VBS and Department website.

6.3 Execution of Agreement

The awarded Applicant(s) shall sign the Agreement within thirty (30) calendar days of receipt of the Agreement for execution. The Department reserves the right to withdraw its Notice of Intent to Award if the Agreement is not timely signed, if it determines in its sole discretion that it is in the best interest of the State to do so. The Department also reserves the right to award to the Applicant ranked second if the Department does not receive a timely signed Agreement from the awarded Applicant.