NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION
JOHN C. STENNIS SPACE CENTER
STENNIS SPACE CENTER, MS 39529-6000

JUSTIFICATION FOR OTHER THAN FULL AND OPEN COMPETITION

1.0 AGENCY/CONTRACTING ACTIVITY

National Aeronautics and Space Administration
John C. Stennis Space Center
Office of Procurement
Stennis Space Center, MS 39529

2.0 DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTION BEING APPROVED

The action to be approved is the sole source procurement to lease space in support of NASA's Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) educational efforts at the INFINITY Science Center (ISC). Functional requirements include space for classrooms, conference rooms and offices/storage space for STEM staff. It is anticipated that this requirement will be provided under a firm fixed price purchase order. The estimated period of performance is one year with options to renew annually through August 31, 2017.

3.0 DESCRIPTION OF SERVICES

These requirements include functional space for classrooms, conference rooms, and offices/storage space for the STEM staff. This action is necessary to fulfill the Office of Education's requirement for a controlled access area for the Astro Camp program on the second floor of Building 3801 for a period of 12 weeks each summer. This will allow time for set-up, staff training, and breakdown of the camps each year as well as the need for space in the same secured area for four one-day weekend Astro Camps and associated activities for a period of 4 days of occupancy each of these weekends. Furthermore, this action is necessary to fulfill the space requirements for offices/storage space in the controlled access area on the second floor of Building 3801 for SSC Education support services who perform these STEM-based education outreach activities mentioned above as well as by additional means. Finally, this requirement includes ISC admissions for up to 700 Astro Campers at any time during their weeks of Astro Camp and for 500 other visitors in support of NASA-sponsored events during the course of the year.

This action provides for a single location for Education Support to include an Educator Resource Center (ERC), camps and other such STEM related activities outside the SSC secure gate, but still within the physical property of SSC. The period of performance of this contract will be for approximately four (4) years and four (4) months from date of award consisting of one (1) base year period and three (3) one year option periods and a fourth option period of approximately four (4) months ending on August 31, 2017. The lease period for the Digital Learning Network (DLN) room will begin on August 1, 2013 due to the requirement to not interrupt the DLN during the summer months.

The total estimated cost of this effort is $705,000.

4.0 STATUTORY AUTHORITY

The statutory authority permitting other than full and open competition is FAR 6.302-1 (a) (2) and 10 U.S.C. 2304 (c)(1), as there is only one responsible source and no other supplies or services will satisfy Agency requirements.

5.0 NATURE OF THE ACTION THAT REQUIRES USE OF THE AUTHORITY CITED

INFINITY Science Center, which was built to provide a modern and futuristic atmosphere for STEM outreach and investigation, provides an engaging location for the intersection of Education professionals with the public in general and students and educators in particular. It facilitates and enhances the availability of STEM outreach as it is outside the secure portion of SSC, which can be closed to outside visitors at any point if SSC goes into the highest level of security readiness.

NASA also has a requirement to move the remainder of Education Services from their present location in Building 1200 since it is now on the SSC demolition list, required to meet broad requirements by the Federal Government and NASA to reduce Current Replacement Value (CRV) of NASA real property assets to reduce the strain on NASA's budget.

The ERC is to be located free of charge to NASA in ISC Classroom 4. Other STEM related activities will be performed throughout the building in training rooms originally slated for Astro Camps on the first floor. To effectively vacate Building 1200 for future demolition, locating the SSC Education support services who perform these STEM-based education outreach activities mentioned above, into office space at ISC is required. In addition, the Aerospace Education Service Project and the Digital Learning Network closely collaborate with the other Education Services employees and their co-location in ISC is the most efficient location for their services, once the rest of the staff has moved there. Offices for all these Education services personnel mentioned above were not originally planned for ISC. The location of the offices would be best located in the secure area on the second floor of ISC where the Astro Camps are to be held. It provides a level of privacy to the employees and their work since it is behind the secure doors. These areas are presently outlined as conference rooms and offices that were to be used by ISC as space for lease. The offices upstairs are additional to the room made available for the ERC at no cost to NASA on the first floor of ISC.

Furthermore, this move will locate Education support staff with other support personnel already located in ISC under the same management, thus creating a better management span of control, and will be located in the same location of camps and workshops that they are responsible for. For these reasons, and others listed under Section 9.0, OTHER SUPPORTING FACTS, the ISC (Building 3801) is the only location that can satisfy these requirements, justifying this procurement to the INFINITY Science Center, Inc.

6.0 SOLICITATION EFFORTS

Efforts were made by synopsizing a notice to the public as required by FAR Subpart 5.2. This synopsis was made to ensure that potential offerors were aware of the requirement and it provided an opportunity to submit capabilities and qualification statements as required by the synopsis. See results of synopsis in paragraph 10.

7.0 COST CERTIFICATION

The estimated cost for furnishing the space described in Section 3.0 is deemed realistic based on comparison of rates from other office space in the area surrounding the SSC Buffer Zone. Additionally, the limited travelling distance to and from SSC for tours and student exposure to NASA Exploration Systems at SSC is also a factor. The Contracting Officer will determine price reasonableness through cost/price analysis and negotiation. The Contracting Officer's certification is contained in Section 13 below.

8.0 MARKET SURVEY

An announcement was published on the NAIS and FEDBizOpps on March 12, 2013 with a response date of March 26, 2013 expressing the Government's intent to award the subject requirement to INFINITY Science Center, Inc. The announcement further stated that all responsible sources may submit a capability statement, which shall be considered by the Agency. See results of synopsis in paragraph 10.

9.0 OTHER SUPPORTING FACTS

Under the current Non-Reimbursable Space Act Agreement between NASA and ISC it was planned that NASA would conduct Astro Camp on the first floor of the ISC. However, to ensure that NASA has taken all the necessary steps available for the safety and security of the participants, the NASA Education Office now requires NASA Astro Camp to be relocated to the second floor of the ISC. The relocation to the second floor will ensure there is significantly reduced exposure of the participants to the general public inside the ISC as well as exposure from the close proximity of Interstate 10 which is directly to the north of the ISC. Additionally, the access to the second floor is controlled by key card and, should there be a breach of security, there is a safe room located on the second floor that could be used to safeguard the participants when and if required. A comprehensive review of the second floor plan layout indicates that this space will be able to meet and/or exceed all the Education Office's expectations for conducting NASA Astro Camp and should serve to enhance the overall experience for all the participants. This approach will focus on Goal #6 of the NASA Strategic Plan, to share NASA with the public, educators, and students to provide opportunities to participate in our Mission, foster innovation, and contribute to a strong national economy. Similarly, it will support efforts in STEM education. The Education program is enhanced by activities, such as Astro Camp, at the official SSC Visitor's Center which is intended to serve as an interface with the public and educators.

10.0 SOURCES EXPRESSING AN INTEREST IN THIS PROCUREMENT

No sources submitted capability statements in response to the synopsis.

11.0 AGENCY ACTIONS TO REMOVE BARRIERS

There are no other science center locations in close proximity to SSC. This barrier may only be removed by new construction outside the secure perimeter of SSC. Center Operations will continue to review the need for additional space and changing market conditions to ensure all potential offerors are afforded an equal opportunity to provide this requirement in the future.

12.0 TECHNICAL REPRESENTATIVE CERTIFICATION

I do hereby certify that the support data under my cognizance that are included in this justification are accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief. In addition, I certify that the anticipated price to the Government will be thoroughly evaluated to ensure that it is fair and reasonable prior to award.

Ronald G. Magee
Assistant to Director of Center Operations

Date 4/26/13

13.0 APPROVE/DISAPPROVE:

I certify that this justification for other than full and open competition for lease of space at ISC is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief. I further certify that the anticipated costs to the Government will be determined fair and reasonable prior to award.

SUBMITTED BY: Beth L. Bradley — Date 4/26/13
Contracting Officer and Division Chief/DA20

CONCURRENCE: Robert S. Harris — Date 4/30/13
Procurement Officer/DA00

APPROVAL: Jerry R. Cook — Date 5/6/2013
Center Competition Advocate/AA00