**CREATIVE ECONOMY STRATEGIC PLAN RFP# CESP2021-3725**

**QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**

The Q&A period for this RFP is now closed. Proposals are due 4:00pm on November 9, 2021.

1. I wanted to confirm with you that for-profit business entities licensed to do work in the State of Washington are not eligible as the prime proposer for this project.

**Commerce response:** Yes, the verbiage in the budget bill as passed specifies this: “…for the department to contract with a nonprofit organization with demonstrated expertise in the creative arts and strategic planning to establish a Washington state creative economy work group that within two years, and with the advice of the work group, develops a strategic plan to improve the Washington state creative economy that can be rolled out in incremental phases to reach identified economic, social justice, and business development goals.”

1. If [we] were to be awarded the Creative Economy Work Group RFP, we would work with some of our historical subcontractors.  While our partners are interested in the work, they are unable to commit until there is a timeline and contract in place. If those that we work with are unavailable, can you tell us the criteria by which the Department of Commerce would approve an alternative subcontractor?

**Commerce response:** If any particular subcontractor cannot commit to the project at this time you may identify the work to be completed by a subcontractor. Please see General Term and Condition Section 32 in the included sample contract template for subcontractor requirements.

1. Are there any restrictions on the businesses that we would subcontract with if awarded the RFP?

**Commerce response:** All businesses must be licensed to do business in Washington. Please see General Term and Condition Section 32 in the included sample contract template for subcontractor requirements.

1. Would the Department of Commerce consider extending the deadline for submitting the RFP?

**Commerce response:** The deadline is very unlikely to be extended.

1. One of the minimum qualifications asks bidders to be ‘”licensed to do business in the State of Washington as a non-profit”. Does this mean you do not seek traditional consulting services in response to this RFP?

**Commerce response:** The lead organization must be licensed in Washington as a non-profit corporation.