

# RFP Questions and Answers

1. Do you see the equity component as a distinct plan element in addition to being interwoven throughout?
  - a. While it does not have to be a separate component; meetings, charrettes, and surveys may reveal an element that may guide plan development into creating a separate element. All processes in the comprehensive plan process should consider addressing equity.
2. Are you contemplating a detailed market analysis as the Resilient Economy section of the RFP?
  - a. Yes. And we would consider any comparable alternatives that would address this requirement.
3. Under Responsible Regionalism, will the plan involve direct input meetings with regional stakeholders in addition to more indirect evaluation and coordination of the various regional plans.
  - a. With Hattiesburg being the largest jurisdiction in the MSA, the city would benefit from a more open conversation about regional growth and development. Additionally, local plans may be hard to find if any exist at all. Yes, at least 1 meeting should occur that attempts to bring local jurisdictions together.
4. Can you estimate the number of neighborhoods that might be engaged in the process?
  - a. The City has 42 Neighborhood Associations with 36 of them being considered “active”. The City also has 5 historic districts with active neighborhood associations that may require a more tailored approach.
5. Is the city anticipating a charrette format (or multiple charrettes) for plan development?
  - a. Yes. Thorough planning that engages the community and provides for thoughtful discussion does not happen without many tools at the disposal. The process will likely involve presenting new ideas,

challenging current concepts, and preparing for change. We would anticipate on having multiple charrettes to achieve the desired amount of input for a Comprehensive Plan.

6. Is the city open to a longer process that may take up to 14-15 months?
  - a. Yes, as long there is a schedule and a statement that explains the longer time frame in the proposal.
7. What is your budget for the plan?
  - a. Currently, the city is estimating a budget in the range of \$150,000 – \$175,000. An increase may be considered based on the thoroughness of the proposal. Proposals that provide education about needs, desires, economic sustainability, best management practices, and innovation as well as receive and document input from city leadership, citizens, and stakeholders may have a higher budget. Additionally, the amount of community outreach/meetings may impact the budget.