Request for Qualifications
Landscape Architecture Services

Issue Date: July 15, 2019

RFQ CML # 19-016

Issued by
Procurement Department
96 S. Grant Ave.
Columbus, OH 43215

Deadline for Submittal
August 6, 2019
No later than 12:00 NOON EST
REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS

The Columbus Metropolitan Library is seeking sealed, signed, written qualifications for Landscape Architecture Services, according to the requirements described in the Scope and other documents included with this Request for Qualifications (“RFQ”). The Identification Number is RFQ CML # 19-016.

Sealed Statements of Qualifications (“SOQ”) submittals will be received at the Circulation Desk, First Floor, Columbus Metropolitan Library, 96 South Grant Avenue, Columbus, Ohio 43215 no later than 12:00 Noon EST on August. Any SOQs arriving after 12:00 noon will be marked late and will not be considered for selection to provide the specified equipment, supplies and/or services.

The Offeror declares to have read and understood and agrees to be bound by all the instructions, terms, conditions and specifications of this RFQ and agrees to fulfill the requirements of any contract for which it is selected to provide the specified equipment, supplies and/or services at the prices proposed during negotiations with the firm determined most qualified to provide the required services. The Offeror certifies, by signature affixed to this Cover Sheet, that the information provided by it in response to the RFQ, including certified statements, is accurate and complete.

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<tr>
<th>Federal Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Name of person signing submittal (Please print or type)</td>
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<td>Offeror Name</td>
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THIS FORM MUST BE SIGNED AND SUBMITTED WITH THE SOQ
Qualifications

The Columbus Metropolitan Library (“Library”) seeks to establish a prequalified listing of landscape architectural design firms that will be available to provide design services for multiple projects over the course of five years. Any firm selected to be included on the prequalified list must update its qualifications annually to remain on the list. Qualified firms will be ranked per project at the time when the Library is ready to begin the project. Projects may be added or deleted at the Library’s discretion. The Library will assume that each firm submitting its qualifications in response to this RFQ is interested in all aspects of the scope of this RFQ.

Background

The Library is a county district library established in accordance with §3375.20 of the Ohio Revised Code. The Library, which is a separate legal entity, is financially, managerially and operationally independent from both Franklin County and the City of Columbus. The Library is a fully funded political subdivision and receives the majority of its funding from the State of Ohio and locally voted property taxes.

Scope of Service

The landscape design firm selected will provide a variety of work that will vary per project. Presence in the State of Ohio is a requirement for all qualified firms. Qualified firms may:

- Provide analysis of existing hardscape and landscape conditions and make recommendations for enhancement and improvement.
- Provide design services to improve, repair, and/or enhance library property related but not limited to landscaping, hardscapes (ex. parking lots, plazas, sidewalks), and rain gardens.
- Provide experience in and knowledge of the local building code, including all applicable rules and regulations of the city of Columbus, Franklin County and the State of Ohio that will apply to the design and installation of the improvement.
- Prepare the construction documents for a project, including providing the professional seal required by Ohio law.
- Provide construction administration services.
- Provide post-construction and warranty support.

In addition, the Library views the ability to collaborate with CML staff and other design professionals as a critical component of success. Qualified firms must demonstrate the ability to work with all members of the project team as a cohesive team.

The Library reserves the right to contract with and add a supplemental library design architect/engineer/consultant to any project.

Anticipated Projects per Location

Below is a general list of anticipated projects with identified scope. Full scope will be determined after analysis of the property including all hardscapes (sidewalks, plazas, parking lots) and landscapes.
• Canal Winchester: Analysis of existing landscaping and hardscapes. Design and implement approved recommendations.
• Driving Park: Analysis of existing landscaping, hardscapes, and rain garden. Design and implement approved recommendations.
• Dublin: Analysis of existing landscaping, hardscapes, and rain garden. Design and implement approved recommendations.
• Franklinton: Analysis of existing landscaping and hardscapes. Design and implement approved recommendations.
• Gahanna: Analysis of existing landscaping and hardscapes. Design and implement approved recommendations.
• Hilliard: Analysis of existing landscaping and hardscapes. Design and implement approved recommendations.
• Hilltop: Analysis of existing landscaping and hardscapes. Design and implement approved recommendations.
• Karl Road: Analysis of existing landscaping and hardscapes. Design and implement approved recommendations.
• Linden: Analysis of existing landscaping and hardscapes. Design and implement approved recommendations.
• Livingston: Analysis of existing landscaping and hardscapes. Design and implement approved recommendations.
• Main Library: Analysis of existing landscaping and hardscapes; includes front and rear plazas. Design and implement approved recommendations.
• Marion-Franklin: Analysis of existing landscaping and hardscapes. Design and implement approved recommendations.
• Martin Luther King: Analysis of existing landscaping and hardscapes. Design and implement approved recommendations.
• New Albany: Analysis of existing landscaping and hardscapes; includes investigating integrating the “backyard” into the new Rose Run Park. Design and implement approved recommendations.
• Northern Lights: Analysis of existing landscaping, hardscapes, and rain garden. Design and implement approved recommendations.
• Northside: Analysis of existing landscaping, hardscapes, and rain garden. Design and implement approved recommendations.
• Parsons: Analysis of existing landscaping, hardscapes, and rain garden. Design and implement approved recommendations.
• Reynoldsburg: Analysis of existing landscaping and hardscapes. Design and implement approved recommendations.
• Shepard: Analysis of existing landscaping and hardscapes. Design and implement approved recommendations.
• South High: Analysis of existing landscaping and hardscapes. Design and implement approved recommendations.
• Southeast: Analysis of existing landscaping and hardscapes. Design and implement approved recommendations.
• Whetstone: Analysis of existing landscaping and hardscapes. Design and implement approved recommendations.
• Whitehall: Analysis of existing landscaping and hardscapes. Design and implement approved recommendations.
**Submittal Requirements**

To facilitate comparison of SOQs, each page of the SOQ should state the name of the firm, the RFQ number (RFQ# 19-016), and the page number and should be submitted in a format that corresponds to the order below.

**ALL FIRMS INTERESTED MUST SUBMIT THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:**

A. RFQ Cover Sheet – signed by an officer of your company.

B. One (1) page description of your firm’s process for analyzing existing landscapes and making recommendations for improvement.

C. Statement as to the firm’s particular abilities and qualifications, including the number of years the firm has been in business, the geographical area of operations and professional affiliations. Also indicate the principals in the organization and the size and composition of the organization.

D. Provide the name of all team members who would be assigned to CML’s projects from beginning to end and the specific role that they will play. Include a brief description of certifications, skills and abilities of each team member.

E. A statement, in clear terms, of your understanding of the intent of this RFQ. Describe what you consider visionary and innovative about your firm’s approach to landscape design in civic spaces, such as libraries.

F. Provide information that demonstrates experience in and knowledge of local codes, including all applicable rules and regulations related to the City of Columbus, Franklin County and the State of Ohio as it applies to landscaping.

G. Provide a portfolio and/or digital resume (or a link) of the proposed team’s most innovative work. We are not interested in general projects by the firm as a whole, only projects that the proposed team worked on.

H. Describe the firm’s approach and methodology related to progress meetings and presentations to the Library’s key stakeholders.

I. Describe your firm’s ability to collaborate with CML staff and other design professionals. If possible, provide examples of your prior experience that demonstrate your approach to collaborations.

J. Describe any special equipment, software or procedures available to the firm which will facilitate completion of the project.

K. Include any other information documentation believed to be pertinent, but not specifically mentioned in this RFQ, which may be useful and applicable to the library.

L. Disclose all information concerning any suits filed, judgments entered or claims made against the firm during the last five years with respect to architectural services provided by the firm or any declaration of default or termination for cause against the firm with respect to such services. In addition, state...
whether during the past five years the firm has been suspended from submitting proposals for or entering into any government contract.

M. Proposed Modification to Agreement Terms – The “Terms and Conditions” for all projects pursuant to this RFQ are attached hereto. If your firm would like to propose any deviation from such terms, you must identify those terms and submit your proposed modified language in detail in your statement of qualifications in a section clearly titled “Proposed Modification to Terms and Conditions”. Failure to do so shall be deemed to be a waiver of the right to negotiate the terms. Modifications may be accepted in the Owner’s sole discretion and may be taken into account by Owner when ranking the most-qualified firms. The Owner reserves the right to modify the form of Terms and Conditions as well as any terms.

Diversity
Because Columbus Metropolitan Library serves a diverse central Ohio population, CML has a strong preference for professional service providers to make good faith efforts to propose teams made up of MBE/WBE certified staff to provide CML with a diverse professional staff representative of the central Ohio region in which they will be working and of the customers that CML serves every day. Minority and Women Business Enterprises are encouraged to respond to this RFQ.

Evaluation of Qualifications
The Library’s evaluation team, consisting of selected members of various work units, will evaluate responses received to the RFQ and select firms to be included on our pre-qualified list.

Specific criteria that will be considered during the evaluation include:

- Evidence of landscape design and technical excellence/innovation
- Public/Civic/Library landscape design experience
- Team qualifications, references and demonstrated capacity to implement and complete
- Approach to collaboration with Library staff and other design professionals
- Quality of the SOQ, including adherence to instructions
- References
- Proposed modifications to the Terms and Conditions

The Library reserves the right to waive irregularities in any SOQ submission, to request additional information from any firm that submits its qualifications and a SOQ for consideration, and to reject any or all submittals. The submission of a firm’s qualifications does not result in any right to be included in the prequalified file of design professionals if the Library’s selection team determines that the firm is not qualified to provide design services.

Qualification Process
1. The complete RFQ will be e-mailed in Portable Document Format (PDF) to firms identified by the Library to be included on the distribution list and to anyone requesting a copy. In addition, the notice of the RFQ will be announced on the State of Ohio Office of Procurement Services Website and the Library’s website (at minimum).
2. The selection team will review all SOQs, identifying firms that meet the minimum qualifications and create the list of pre-qualified firms. Each firm submitting a SOQ will be notified of their qualification status.

3. The Library reserves the right to conduct interviews with select firms during the qualification process.

4. All qualified firms, including both those selected and not selected for any project, will remain on the prequalified list of architectural & engineering firms capable of providing services during the term identified in this RFQ. Any firm selected to be included on the prequalified list must update its qualifications annually to remain on the list.

**Firm Selection Process**

Qualified firms will be selected on a per project basis. Projects are anticipated to start between 2019-2024. Qualified firms will be ranked per project at the time when the Library is ready to begin the project. The Library will notify the top ranked firm to discuss availability to complete the work, verify scope of work, and negotiate a fee proposal. If the top ranked firm is not available to complete the work or the fee proposal is not acceptable to the Library, the Library will go to the next ranked firm.

**SCHEDULE**

<table>
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<tr>
<td>July 15, 2019</td>
<td>RFQ notifications e-mailed to distribution list, posted on State of Ohio Office of Procurement Services and Library Websites</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 6, 2019</td>
<td>RFQ due by 12:00 Noon EST</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 9, 2019</td>
<td>Interviews as needed</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 12, 2019</td>
<td>Notification of pre-qualified status</td>
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Each firm must submit a SOQ clearly marked:

**LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE SERVICES**  
**RFQ# 19-016**

One (1) original, completed and signed in blue ink, and ten (10) copies are required. SOQs are due no later than **August 6, 2019 at 12:00 Noon EST**.

SOQs submitted by e-mail or fax are not acceptable and will not be considered.

**Proposals must be submitted to:**

Columbus Metropolitan Library  
Attn:  Wanda Dixon  
96 South Grant Avenue  
Columbus, OH  43215

The Library will return unopened any SOQs that are received after the deadline.
CONTACT INFORMATION:

Every effort has been made to include enough information within this RFQ to enable firms to prepare a response that thoroughly and fairly represents their respective capabilities to meet the Library’s requirements. If there are questions concerning the contents of this document, the Library is willing to provide responses in as timely a manner as possible.

Submit all questions and inquiries via e-mail to:

Wanda Dixon, Procurement Analyst
Email address: procurement@columbuslibrary.org
Columbus Metropolitan Library  
Procurement Department  

Standard Contract Terms and Conditions  

**Contract Components, Entirety, Changes Interpretation**  

**Contract Components:** This contract consists of this document, the Standard Contract Terms and Conditions, the Special Contract Terms and Conditions (if any), the specifications or scope of work (SOW), and any written amendments to this document, valid Columbus Metropolitan Library (CML) purchase orders or other ordering documents (together referred to as the “Contract”).  

**Entire Agreement; Parties to the Contract:** This contract is the entire agreement between the individual or entity selected to provide equipment, supplies and/or services on the basis of a SOW submitted to CML in response to a request (referred to as the Contractor in these Terms and Conditions) and Columbus Metropolitan Library (CML).  

**Contract Changes:** Waivers, Changes or Modifications to this Contract must be made in writing and signed by both parties. If a party to this Contract does not demand strict performance of any item of this Contract, the party has not waived or relinquished any of its rights; the party may at any later time demand strict and complete performance of the term.  

**Contract Orders:** CML will order supplies or services under this Contract from the Contractor directly. The Contractor may receive purchase orders by telephone, facsimile, electronically or in person by authorized employees of CML. The Contractor is not required to fill an order date more than 30 days beyond the date of Contract expiration, termination or cancellation, unless the Contract provides for a quarterly delivery or quarterly service. Under a Contract that provides for quarterly delivery, the Contractor is not required to fill an order with a delivery date of more than 90 days beyond the date of Contract expiration, termination or cancellation.  

**Standard Invoice and Payment**  

**Invoice:** The Contractor shall submit invoices to accountspayable@columbuslibrary.org. The invoice must be a proper invoice to receive consideration for payment. A “proper Invoice” is defined as being free of defects, discrepancies, errors or other improprieties. Improper invoices will be returned to the Contractor noting the areas of discrepancy.  

**Payment:** In consideration for the Contractor’s performance, CML will pay the Contractor at the rate specified in the contract. Payments will be made by electronic funds transfer (EFT). For all transactions, the Contractor must have a valid W9 form on file with the Finance Department. The completed form should be mailed to: Finance Department, Columbus Metropolitan Library, 96 South Grant Avenue, Columbus, Ohio 43215.  

**Payment Due Date:** CML will pay invoices 30 days after it has received an invoice for supplies and services it has received and accepted, unless otherwise indicated herein.
Taxes: Columbus Metropolitan Library is exempt for all federal, state and local taxes as CML is a political subdivision of the State of Ohio.

Term of Contract: This contract is effective upon the projected beginning date of the Contract Cover Page or upon signature of CML by the Fiscal Officer, whichever comes later in time. This Contract will remain in effect until the Contract is fully performed by both parties or cancelled in accordance with the Terms found herein.

Contract Renewal: This contract may be renewed solely at the discretion of CML for a period of one month. Any further renewals will be by agreement of both parties, any number of times for any period of time. The cumulative time of all renewals may not exceed two years.

Delivery

F.O. B. The Place of Destination: The Contractor must provide the supplies or services under this Contract F.O.B., the place of delivery/destination, unless otherwise stated. The address of delivery will be specified by the purchase order or other ordering document. Freight will be prepaid unless otherwise stated.

Time of Delivery: If the Contractor is not able to deliver the supplies or services on the date and time specified by CML ordering department on the ordering document, the Contractor must coordinate an acceptable date and time for delivery. If the Contractor is not able to, or does not, provide the supplies or services to an ordering department by the time and date agreed upon, CML may obtain any remedy provided below or any other remedy at law.

Minimum Orders-Transportation Charges: For purchase orders placed that are less than the stated minimum order, the transportation will be prepaid and added to the invoice by the Contractor to the delivery location designated in the ordering documents. Shipment is to be made by private or commercial freight service, airmail, water, parcel post, express or commercial package delivery, whichever is the most economical and expeditious method for proper delivery of the item. Failure of the Contractor to utilize the most economical mode of transportation shall result in the Contractor reimbursing CML the difference between the most economical mode of transportation and the mode of transportation used by the contractor. Failure to reimburse CML shall be considered a default.

Contract Cancellation: Termination; Remedies

Contract Cancellation: If a Contractor fails to perform any one of its obligations under this Contract, it will be in default, and CML may cancel this Contract in accordance with this section. The cancellation will be effective on the date delineated by CML.

A. Contract Performance is Substantially Endangered: If the Contractor’s default is substantial and cannot be cured within a reasonable time, or if CML determines that the performance of the contract is substantially endangered through no fault of CML, CML may cancel this Contract by written notice to the Contractor.

B. Cancellation by Unremedied Default: If a Contractor’s default may be cured with a reasonable time, CML will provide written notice to the Contractor specifying the default and the time within which the Contractor must correct the default. If Contractor fails to cure its default in the time required, CML may cancel this Contract by providing written notice to the Contractor. If CML does not give timely notice of
default to Contractor, CML has not waived any of its rights or remedies concerning the default.

C. Cancellation by Persistent Default: CML may cancel this Contract by written notice to Contractor for defaults that are cured but persistent. “Persistent” means three or more defaults. After CML has notified Contractor of its third default, CML may cancel this Contract without providing Contractor with an opportunity to cure, if the Contractor defaults a fourth time. CML shall provide written notice of the termination to the Contractor.

D. Cancellation for Financial Instability: CML may cancel this Contract by written notice if Contractor does not pay its subcontractors and material suppliers within 10 days of payment to the Contractor by CML. To the extent permitted by law, CML may cancel this Contract by written notice to Contractor if a petition in bankruptcy or similar proceedings has been filed by or against the Contractor.

**Contract Termination:** CML may terminate this Contract for convenience after issuing 30 days written notice to the Contractor.

**Remedies for Default:**

A. Actual Damages. The Contractor is liable to CML for all actual and direct damages caused by the Contractor’s default. CML may buy substitute supplies or services, from a third party, for those that were to be provided by the Contractor, and CML may recover the costs associated with acquiring substitute supplies or service, less any expenses or costs saved by the Contractor’s default, from the Contractor.

B. Deduction of Damages for Contract Price. CML may deduct all or any part of the damages resulting from Contractor’s default from any part of the price still due on the Contract, after CML has provided prior written notice to Contractor of such default and intent to deduct damages from the Contract Price.

**Force Majeure:** If CML or Contractor is unable to perform any part of its obligation under this Contract by reason of force majeure, the party is excused from its obligations, to the extent that its performance is prevented by force majeure, for the duration of the event. The party must remedy with all reasonable dispatch the cause preventing it from carrying out its obligations under this Contract. The term “force majeure” means without limitation: Acts of God, such as epidemics, lightning, earthquakes, fires, storms, hurricanes, tornadoes, floods, washouts, droughts, and any other severe weather; explosions; arrests; restraint of government and people; strikes; and any other like events or any other cause that could not be reasonable foreseen in the exercise of ordinary care, and that is beyond the reasonable control of the party.

**CML Consent to Assign or Delegate:** The Contractor may not assign any of its rights under this contract unless CML consents to the assignment or delegation in writing. Any purported assignment or delegation made without CML’s written consent is void.

**Indemnification:** Contractor will indemnify CML, its employees, members of the Board of Trustees, and its Officers and administrators for any and all claims, damages, lawsuits, costs, judgments, expenses, liabilities that may arise out of, or are related to, the Contractor’s performance under this Contract, including the performance by Contractor’s employees and agents and any individual or entity for which the Contractor is responsible.
**Confidentiality:** Contractor may learn of information, documents, data, records and other material that is confidential in the performance of this Contract. Contractor may not disclose any information obtained by it as a result of the Contract without written permission from CML. Contractor must assume that all CML information, documents, data, records or other material is confidential.

**Publicity:** Contractor and any of its subcontractors may not use or refer to this Contract to promote solicitation of Contractor's or subcontractor's supplies or services. Contractor and its subcontractors may not disseminate information regarding this Contract, unless agreed to in writing by CML.

**Governing Laws; Severability:** The Laws of the State of Ohio govern this Contract, and venue for any dispute will be exclusively with the appropriate court of competent jurisdiction in Franklin County, Ohio. If any provision of the Contract or the application of any provision is held by a court of competent jurisdiction to be contrary to law, the remaining provisions of the Contract will remain in full force and effect to the extent that the remaining provisions continue to make sense.

**Workers Compensation:** The Contractor shall carry Workers' Compensation Liability Insurance as required by Ohio law for any work to be performed within the State of Ohio. Failure to maintain Workers Compensation Liability Insurance for the duration of the contract and any renewal hereto will be considered a default.

**Automobile and General Liability Requirements:** During the term of the Contract and any renewal hereto, the Contractor, and any agent of the Contractor, at its sole cost and expense, shall maintain a policy of automobile liability and commercial general liability insurance as described in this clause. Copies of the respective insurance certificates shall be filed with the Procurement Department within seven (7) calendar days after notification by the CML of its selection of the Contractor to provide the specified supplies and/or services. Failure to submit the insurance certificates within the time period may result in the Contractor being considered in default. Said certificates are subject to the approval of the CML Procurement Manager and shall contain a clause or endorsement providing thirty (30) days prior written notice of cancellation, non-renewal or decrease in coverage will be given to the Procurement Manager. Failure of the Contractor to maintain this coverage for the duration of the Contract, and any renewals, thereto may be considered a default.

**Automobile Liability:** Automobile Insurance is required for anyone coming onto CML branches and/or property to deliver goods or perform services using a vehicle, which is owned, leased, hired, or rented by the Contractor. Any Contractor, broker, or subcontractor who will be on CML property, but not delivering goods or performing services, is required to carry Automobile Liability Insurance that complies with the state and federal laws regarding financial responsibility. Automobile liability insurance, including hired, owned, and non-owned vehicles used in connection with the Work, shall have a combined single limit coverage covering personal injury, bodily injury (including death) and property damage of not less than $2,000,000 per accident.

**Commercial General Liability:** Insurance coverage with a $2,000,000 annual aggregate and a $1,000,000 per occurrence limit for bodily injury, personal injury, wrongful death and property damage. The defense cost shall be outside of the policy limits. Such policy shall designate CML as an Additional Insured, as its interest may appear. The policy shall also be endorsed to include a blanket waiver of subrogation. The certificate shall be endorsed to reflect a per project/per location General Aggregate limit of $2,000,000.
If the Contractor uses an umbrella/excess policy to meet the required limits, it is understood that the policy shall follow from per project/per location basis. It is agreed upon that the Contractor’s commercial general liability insurance shall be primary over any other coverage. The Procurement Department reserves the right to approve all policy deductibles and levels of self-insurance retention.

**Contract Compliance:** The participating CML branches and departments will be responsible for the administration of the Contract and will monitor the Contractor’s performance and compliance with the terms, conditions and specifications of the Contract. If a branch or department observes any infraction such shall be documented and conveyed to the Contractor for immediate correction. If the Contractor fails to rectify the infraction, the department/branch will notify the Procurement Department in order to resolve the issues. These terms and conditions will be used by the Procurement Department to resolve the issues.

**Warranties:** Unless otherwise stated, all supplies shall be new and unused. All products shall carry manufacturer’s warranties in addition to implied warranties. The Contractor warrants all supplies to be free from defects in labor, material, and workmanship (manufacturing) and be in compliance with the contract specifications.

**ADDITIONAL TERMS:**

1. This Contract represents the entire agreement of the parties hereto, and may not be amended except in writing signed by both parties.
2. All times referenced herein are Columbus, Ohio local times.
3. *CML is not responsible for any work or services provided by Contractor prior to the issuance of a P.O. by CML.*
4. Contractor will supply its own tools and materials.
5. Contractor will make arrangements for EFT (electronic funds transfer).
6. A completed W9 form is required on file with CML prior to CML issuing payment for services provided by Contractor. The W9 form can be found at [http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/fw9.pdf](http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/fw9.pdf). Please fill out the form and return with the signed contract to the Procurement Department of the Columbus Metropolitan Library at 96 S. Grant Avenue, Columbus, OH 43215 or email: procurement@columbuslibrary.org.