



# Woods Hole, Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket Steamship Authority

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**NOTICE OF**  
**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**  
**TO PROVIDE A FREIGHT TRANSPORTATION SERVICE**  
**FOR THE ISLAND OF MARTHA'S VINEYARD**  
  
**CONTRACT NO. 10-2022**

The Woods Hole, Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket Steamship Authority (the "SSA") has issued a Request for Proposals ("RFP") from responsible and eligible proponents who wish to be considered for a license agreement to provide a freight transportation service for the island of Martha's Vineyard. Proposals will be accepted until **2:00 p.m. Eastern Daylight Savings Time on Tuesday, August 2, 2022**, at the SSA's Procurement Office, which is located on the second floor of the SSA's Administrative Offices, 228 Palmer Avenue, Falmouth, Massachusetts 02540.

The SSA has established this deadline for submitting proposals so that potential proponents will have sufficient time to submit questions and suggestions regarding the RFP after reviewing both the RFP and the documents referred to therein. The SSA asks that such questions and suggestions be submitted as soon as possible so that the SSA in turn has sufficient time to respond to them well in advance of the deadline for submitting proposals.

The SSA's hope is that the successful proponent's new freight service will become a long-term part of the marine transportation network providing the island of Martha's Vineyard with adequate transportation of persons and necessities of life. Towards this end, although the SSA anticipates that most proponents will submit proposals to provide a conventional roll-on/roll-off ferry service to carry freight trucks and other vehicles between the mainland and the island of Martha's Vineyard, the SSA encourages the submission of proposals to provide other methods of transporting freight to and from Martha's Vineyard that might be more efficient, economical and/or ecofriendly than a conventional ferry service. If a proponent would like to submit such a proposal and is not certain whether its proposal would be considered responsive to the RFP or suitably evaluated under the evaluation criteria set forth in the RFP, the proponent should contact the SSA so that this RFP can be appropriately revised well in advance of the due date for the submission of proposals without prejudice to fair competition.

In order to receive electronic versions of the RFP and all subsequent addenda issued by the SSA to the RFP, please email the SSA's Procurement Officer, Peggy Nickerson, whose email address is [pnickerson@steamshipauthority.com](mailto:pnickerson@steamshipauthority.com). Electronic versions of those documents may also be

requested by calling Ms. Nickerson at (508) 548-5011, ext. 515, during the SSA's regular business hours.

The SSA is utilizing a RFP procurement process for this License Agreement. Under such a process, the selection of the most advantageous proposal will be based upon proposed compensation and other evaluation factors specified in the RFP. The RFP fully details the procurement process and the requirements for each proposal, and persons interested in submitting proposals for the License Agreement must comply with the provisions thereof. Unless all proposals are rejected, the SSA shall award the License Agreement to the eligible and responsible proponent who offers the most advantageous proposal to the SSA, based upon the RFP requirements and the evaluation criteria established for the License Agreement.

The SSA is soliciting competitive proposals pursuant to a determination that such a process best serves the interest of the SSA and the general public, and not because of any legal requirement to do so. The SSA reserves the right to accept or to reject any and all proposals, to modify or amend with the consent of the proponent any proposal prior to acceptance, and to waive any informality, all as the SSA in its sole judgment and discretion may deem to be in its best interest.

*Issued: March 18, 2022*