

## Request for Proposals

**Green Building United (GBU)** is seeking a consultant to assist with training and resource development to support energy code compliance in Philadelphia. The consultant will work collaboratively with GBU staff to accomplish the project deliverables and goals.

Responses to this request must be received **no later than 5pm on Monday, November 5, 2018.**

## About GBU

Founded in 2002, GBU (formerly Delaware Valley Green Building Council/DVGBC) is an independent 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Our mission is to foster transformative impact in our communities through green building education and advocacy, and our vision is a sustainable, healthy, and resilient built environment for all. Through education, advocacy, and strategic initiatives, GBU informs and engages individuals and organizations to transform the way buildings are designed, built, and operated to better serve all communities. GBU's community is made up of architects, engineers, policy makers and advocates, developers, contractors, building managers, building operators, government workers, and more.

## Project Background and Goals

With the [recent passage](#) of the 2018 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) in Philadelphia for commercial buildings, the Sustainable Development Fund has granted funds to GBU to ensure a smooth transition to this updated code edition.

A wealth of research and training materials already exists to support code compliance and enforcement. Rather than duplicate existing resources, GBU proposes instead to leverage its high-performance building community to ensure that the full potential for energy and carbon savings under Philadelphia new and future energy codes is realized.

To that end, GBU seeks a consultant with expertise in commercial energy codes, energy modeling, and above-code standards to design and deliver trainings and develop resources.

## Commercial Energy Codes

GBU has interviewed many of its members and partner organizations to determine the gaps in commercial energy code trainings. Responses included the need for a half- to full-day training for architects, designers, builders, and code officials focused on the architectural impacts of the 2018 IECC. Topics should include changes to roof and wall insulation, air leakage, fenestration, and commissioning requirements for new construction. In addition to an understanding of key provision changes and their energy impacts, participants should emerge with an understanding of how the 2018 IECC impacts how buildings are built as well as options for meeting the new requirements.

GBU and its selection committee will prioritize proposals that include interactive engagement with the material, e.g. asking attendees to mark up plans for different building types indicating where drawings would need to be updated in order to comply with the 2018 IECC.

### Energy Modeling

A modification in ASHRAE 90.1-2016 Appendix G now allows energy modelers to demonstrate code compliance using the same building baseline model that demonstrates compliance for beyond code programs. This shift to a consistent baseline provides stability for future modeling software, reducing cost and improving accuracy, and better facilitating the use of integrative design to improve holistic building energy efficiency.

GBU seeks to capitalize on this compliance path modification to expand the use of energy modeling locally. As energy modeling becomes more commonplace, it sets the conditions for greater adoption of performance- and outcome-based energy code compliance as opposed to choosing a prescriptive path. The transition to performance- and outcome-based codes is necessary to achieve the deep energy reductions necessary to keep pace with global climate goals including AIA 2030 and the 2030 Challenge for Planning.

GBU seeks to convene professional energy modelers for discussions on how to scale the use and improve the quality of energy models and how to communicate the value of modeling in the context of code compliance. In addition, GBU would like to engage this group around effective utility incentives for energy modeling to help drive projects toward a performance-based compliance path.

Following the energy modeler roundtables, GBU would like to share these insights with a non-modeler audience in the form of a half- to full-day training on the value of energy modeling in the context of code compliance and high-performance buildings.

### Above-Code Standards

By raising the minimum standard for building energy efficiency in Philadelphia, the gap between meeting the energy requirements of an above-code standard and achieving energy code compliance has been reduced.

GBU seeks to familiarize the broader building codes stakeholder community with the specific energy requirements and choices of above-code standards and their interaction with base commercial energy code with the intent to expand their use through two 2-hour educational sessions.

In addition, GBU's community, including stakeholders from the affordable housing sector, have requested the development of a resource that cross-compares various above-code standards with base code.

## **Tasks and Deliverables**

### Task 1 – Commercial Energy Codes

## Deliverable

- Attend a kickoff meeting with Green Building United in Fall 2018\*
- Design and deliver a half- to full-day training on the architectonic impacts of the 2018 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) – Commercial Provisions in Winter 2019

## Task 2 – Energy Modeling

### Deliverables

- Facilitate two 1.5-hour roundtable discussions of energy modelers one in Fall 2018 and one in Spring 2019 to determine opportunities to scale the use of modeling in code compliance and above-code standards
- Design and deliver a half- to full-day training on the value of energy modeling in the context of code compliance and high-performance buildings in Spring 2019

## Task 3 – Above-Code Standards

### Deliverables

- Develop collateral that compares the energy requirements of various above-code standards to 2018 IECC
- Design and deliver two (2) two-hour in-person sessions to review the findings of the review of comparative energy requirements between code and various above-code standards, one in Winter 2019 and one in Spring 2019. One of the two sessions will focus on the various above-code standards that are commonly used in the affordable housing sector.

\*Fall 2018 indicates a time period of September 21, 2018 through December 21, 2018. Each season follows in three-month increments accordingly.

## **How to Submit a Proposal**

Responses should be emailed to Katie Bartolotta at [kbartolotta@greenbuildingunited.org](mailto:kbartolotta@greenbuildingunited.org), by November 5. Proposals should not exceed \$35,000.

The submission should include:

- A description of the key qualifications of the consultant team.
- A brief work plan that incorporates the scope of services outlined above and reflects a collaborative approach to working with GBU staff to accomplish the project deliverables and goals. Applicants may propose modifications to the scope of work that do not jeopardize the project goals. Applicants should include a short reasoning alongside any modifications made to the scope.
- A task-based project budget indicating estimated costs for carrying out the proposed work, including personnel cost divided into curriculum development, training delivery, travel, and other necessary expenses.
- A list of the names, titles, and roles of the key individuals who will contribute to the project.

- Resumes of key individuals associated with the proposed project.
- A minimum of three references with contact information (phone and email) for which the consultant has provided similar services to those specified in the RFP.
- A summary and samples of the consultant's work on similar projects.

Please contact Katie Bartolotta, Policy and Program Director at GBU at [kbartolotta@greenbuildingunited.org](mailto:kbartolotta@greenbuildingunited.org) with any questions by 5pm on Tuesday, October 30. You will receive a response within two business days.