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**A & E DESIGN SERVICES REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)**

RFP Submitted By: Beech Community Services Inc. (BCS)

Date Released: November 11, 2020

Responses Due: December 9, 2020

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that proposals and qualifications are being solicited by BCS ("Owner") to obtain architectural and engineering design services for the Dox Thrash House located at 2340 Cecil B Moore Ave.

Proposals must be emailed in PDF format to Akeem J. Dixon, Project Consultant  
[adixon@beechinterplex.com](mailto:adixon@beechinterplex.com)

## **DESCRIPTION OF SERVICES REQUESTED**

It is expected that the selected applicant will approach the project in the most efficient manner possible. Once selected the consultant/firm shall provide:

1. Architectural services for pre-design
2. Schematic design
3. Design development
4. Construction documentation and construction administration
5. Inspections to complete façade improvements

A written report will address the following space and functional issues:

1. Description of various uses with square footage requirements.
2. Description of intended multi-use areas to meet various community needs.
3. Conceptual layout identifying all uses and building functionality.
4. Operations and maintenance considerations.
5. Storage, equipment, and security considerations.
6. Consideration of renovating and building to meet LEED or other environmental qualifications.
7. Description of renovations of current facility.

***A written report will detail cost estimates by component, estimated renovation, construction time-frame, and potential problems that may be encountered in the renovation and construction process.***



## **PROJECT BACKGROUND**

Dox Thrash was a distinguished African American artist, and an important figure in the history of printmaking. Thrash purchased the three-story brick structure located at 2340 Cecil B. Moore Avenue (North Philadelphia) in 1944. He is most widely recognized as the creator of the printmaking process called carborundum. Thrash's discovery of the carborundum print process was hailed at the time as "one of the most important developments in the technique of fine print reproduction." Thrash has also been credited for raising awareness of the African American female nude, which prior to the 1970s had been virtually absent within American art. Since Thrash's death, his artwork has gained appreciation from art historians, culminating in a retrospective at the Philadelphia Museum of Art in 2001.

### **Building & Site**

The parcel is a row house at 2340 Cecil B. Moore Avenue. The remaining structure consists of a 3-story brick façade wall and partial side-bearing wall with internal wood bracing to support the structure that front along Cecil B. Moore Avenue. Given the location of the property along Cecil B. Moore and its proximity to other neighborhood assets such as the library and recreation center, the site is poised to become an anchor for the community.

Beech Community Services development forecast includes a commercial space on the first floor. The 2nd & 3rd floors will be residential lofts studios / living space.

The goal is to redevelop the structure because of its historical value to the community: both residential and artist.

*Key factors include:*

- the building was the home of Dox Thrash, a black Philadelphia artist and businessman.
- the architecture represents a unique style.
- the role the building can have in the revitalization of the Cecil B Moore Avenue Commercial Corridor

## **PROPOSALS SHOULD INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING**

- 1) Name, email address and telephone number of firm or individual submitting the proposal.
- 2) General approach to the project.
- 3) Scope of work with step-by-step breakdown of the tasks to be undertaken and the costs of each.
- 4) Schedule of work.
- 5) Description of the firm, its size, personnel, use of subcontractors, etc.
- 6) Description of the consultant's qualifications including staff capabilities and experience with similar projects.
- 7) Resumes of those proposed to do the actual work.
- 8) Minimum 2 references
- 9) List of similar projects completed in the last 48 months and brief project description.

*Respondents are encouraged to contact their insurance carriers during the proposal stage to ensure that insurance requirements can be met if selected. These requirements include: commercial general liability insurance, worker's compensation insurance, professional liability insurance, automobile liability insurance, and excess/umbrella liability. Beech Community Services, their officers, employees, and agents, shall be named as additional insureds on the General Liability Insurance policy.*

## **SELECTION PROCESS**

- 1) Knowledge and experience providing the scope of services requested.
- 2) Recommendations from past clients.
- 3) Cost.
- 4) Working knowledge of commonly accepted public facility standards.
- 5) Experience participating/facilitating in a public community meeting.
- 6) Experience working with the Philadelphia Historical Commission.

BCS will award the Dox Thrash House contract to the successful architectural consultant/firm by December 18, 2020. The contract duration will be 4 -6 months starting in January 2021.

**Please direct all questions to, Akeem J. Dixon, Project Consultant at  
[adixon@beechinterplex.com](mailto:adixon@beechinterplex.com)**





