

Blues BBQ RFP Questions
Contract No. G4876
Category: Event Production

- 1) What is the history of Blues BBQ?
Blues BBQ is going into its 19th year at Hudson River Park. It is a full day concert bringing together NYC's best BBQ restaurants which vend onsite, and Blues musicians. This is an event that has taken place at multiple piers throughout the four mile footprint including piers 26, 54, and now at 97. On average 10,000 people attend the event throughout the day, and the event runs from 2 – 9pm. The TPA has historically been for 3,000 – 4,000 people, and attendance can be affected by the weather as it is a rain or shine concert.
- 2) What is the capacity of the event and who is responsible for head counts throughout the day?
The capacity is subject to the TPA, applied for by the Producer, and takes into account the site plan and infrastructure on the pier. The Producer/Producer's staff is responsible for clicking entry/exit and keeping a current headcount throughout the event.
- 3) What is the budget of previous events?
The Trust has not included a budget in the RFP materials, the Trust would like to receive proposals that include a proposed fee schedule and sponsorship plan for this event.
- 4) If a FOIL request was submitted for the current contract, will that contract be provided?
Yes, the Trust complies with Freedom of Information Law (FOIL), and any requests submitted pursuant to FOIL will receive an acknowledgment and response in accordance with FOIL, subject to any exceptions or exclusions permitted by law.
- 5) What is the award date and start date for this contract?
The Trust recognizes the need to being planning the 2018 Blues BBQ event with efficiency and will endeavor to award the production contract as quickly as possible with due diligence. The start date will immediately follow the signing of required documentation after a selection has been awarded.
- 6) What is the infrastructure of the pier, and what is provided by the Trust?
The pier is a blank (concrete) slate. The Producer will receive the keys to the event space, and is responsible for bringing all infrastructures to the pier. No water, electric, or restrooms/plumbing is provided.
- 7) What is the pedestrian access and how do guests enter/exit the pier?
Access to pier 97 is from either the north or south esplanade areas adjacent to the entry gates. Pedestrians enter/exit through the south entry gates; the queuing process is managed by the Producer, with input by the Trust.
- 8) What is the promotion deadline?
All event details relating to talent need to be confirmed the second week in March. The Producer must submit talent recommendations to the Trust with adequate time to give feedback to the Producer and for the Producer to make changes to the lineup.
- 9) What are sponsorship requirements of the Producer?
All details related to sponsorship are contained within the RFP document.

- 10) Is there an opportunity for a vehicle company to sponsor the Event and bring a vehicle onsite?
Yes, this would be a possible sponsor activation at the Event.
- 11) Does the Trust work with a dedicated PR agency related to the Event?
No, the Trust does not work exclusively with one PR agency as relates to the Event. The Trust utilizes its social media channels and will work alongside the Producer to promote the Event.
- 12) Is the Trust open to leveraging 3rd party assets to support increased attendance at the Event?
Yes, the Trust will work with 3rd parties to increase Event attendance, at no additional cost to the Trust, and with mutually agreed-upon content.
- 13) What is the Food & Beverage history as relates to alcoholic beverages served at the Event?
Historically, only beer has been served at the Event. The Trust is open to serving other alcoholic beverages and associated vending opportunities.
- 14) How does the Producer receive the pier/event space?
The Producer receives the pier as is. The Trust will do a cleaning sweep of the pier the day prior to the Event, and any additional cleanup required is the sole responsibility of the Producer.
- 15) Are there any requirements of the site plan/green room/VIP area?
The stage cannot face East; the Trust will give feedback on the proposed site plan and work through revisions, where necessary. Green room requirements should be met per talent riders. VIP area needs include seating, portolets, shaded areas, and F&B.
- 16) Can you share details of previous Run of Shows including number of artists?
Previously, the Producer has acted as Event MC, with Trust provided talking points. There is a donor message conveyed throughout the day. There are usually five (5) musical acts with 45-60 minute sets.
- 17) What other piers has the Event been held at?
Piers 26, 54 and 84.
- 18) What are the security requirements from the Trust?
Security must be contracted for the Event, per TPA requirements. Trust Operations department will review and give feedback on proposed Event security plans. PEP (Park Enforcement Police) do not provide Event security support. Permanent bollards will be installed in the adjacent areas and will need to be considered in the security plan.
- 19) What are the Legal requirements for the Producer?
Trust insurance requirements must be met, as well as State contract language and details, which will be outlined in the Producer's contract.
- 20) Is it proper to meet with M/WBE firms interested in subcontracting opportunities regarding the proposal responses? Would such a meeting violate any of the Trust's purchasing regulations?
It is acceptable and appropriate for respondents to meet with MWBEs regarding subcontracting opportunities in connection with the RFP. The RFP has set forth a MWBE participation goal of 30%, and the Trust will review the respondents' proposed plans regarding MWBE participation, which accounts for 10% of the evaluation criteria for the RFP.
It is not acceptable to meet with other respondents or subcontractors for the purposes of restricting competition, which is set forth in more detail in the Non-Collusion Form in Exhibit 5 of the RFP. The Non-Collusion Form should be reviewed prior to any meeting to ensure compliance.