<u>Freese Park Master Plan: RFP Questions</u>
<u>July 13, 2016</u>

1) What is the anticipated budget and does it include planning and design?

   The budget for the project is $25,000 for the scope of work detailed in the RFP.

2) Does the project include any part of the sidewalk or street?

   The project may include parts of the sidewalk.

3) Are there currently any streetscape improvements around or near the park at other intersections?

   There are currently planned intersection improvements on Wall Street and Main Street. Streetscape improvements will be made in relation to Head of the Harbor and Wall Street Place developments.

4) How does the selection process work?

   Agency staff, in conjunction with Recreation and Parks and First Taxing District, will score proposals and select the three highest scoring proposals for firm interviews and make a recommendation to the Redevelopment Agency commissioners. The Redevelopment Agency commissioners will approve a consultant and contract.

5) Is there a public committee and will there be any public inclusion throughout the project process?

   There is no public committee involvement. However, per the RFP, there should be a high amount of stakeholder involvement and input throughout the planning process.

6) What is the final timeline for the project?

   Please refer to the schedule on the cover page of the RFP.

7) Are there any opportunities to connect into the water and are there any studies on the water quality and traffic?

   There are no opportunities to connect into the water and there are no studies on the water quality and/or river traffic.

8) The RFP mentioned a site survey; can we receive more information about that?

   A site survey will likely not be necessary.

9) Will the maintenance of the park remain with the City and will control remain within the Agency?

   The maintenance and ownership of the park will remain with the City of Norwalk.

10) Who owns the Mechanic Street Esplanade?

   The Mechanic Street Esplanade is owned by the City of Norwalk / Parking Authority along with the parking lot on Mechanic Street.

11) Do you want connectivity to the Avalon Esplanade?

Connectivity to the Avalon Esplanade as well as to other surrounding areas is highly desired by the Agency.

12) **How old is the Avalon development?**

The Avalon development on Belden Ave was completed in October 2010.

13) **Did Avalon make the esplanade and who owned the esplanade and who owns it now?**

The Avalon owns the esplanade and it is publicly accessible.

14) **How does the NRVT and Harbor Loop Trail run through the Esplanade?**

The trails run parallel to each other in this specific area and run through the Avalon Esplanade as well as Freese Park. The trails then continue crossing Burnell Boulevard to the northwest and Wall Street to the east.

15) **Have there been bus ridership studies and/or parking studies?**

The Redevelopment Agency has requested this information from the Norwalk Transit District.

16) **What is the age of the bridge and the lights on the bridge?**

The Burnell Street Bridge began reconstruction in 2015 and was completed in June 2016. It was refitted with new sidewalks, pavement, railings, and light fixtures. This was a State of CT project.

17) **Has the City or Agency thought of the linkage between the esplanades and parks before?**

Please refer to the Connectivity Plan.

18) **The RFP states that the Agency is possibly looking for construction documents, engineering specs, and bid documents. Can you be more specific about the scope around these items?**

The Agency is looking for design development, construction cost estimates, final design, bid documents and specification for proposed physical improvements.

19) **To what extent does the Agency desire a landscape architect/greening strategy?**

The Agency puts a high priority on sustainable design.

20) **Should the project focus solely on Freese Park?**

The project should focus mainly on Freese Park as well as the park's connectivity to other green spaces, trails, etc.

21) **Was the walkthrough mandatory for bidders?**

The park walkthrough was not mandatory for all bidders.