



ILLINOIS GAMING BOARD

JB Pritzker • Governor Charles Schmadeke • Chairman Marcus D. Fruchter • Administrator

Press Release

For Immediate Release
April 5, 2021

Illinois Gaming Board (“IGB”) publishes RFP for a business consulting firm to assist in the competitive bid process for new casino applicants

CHICAGO – On March 24, 2021, the Illinois Gaming Board (the “Board” or “IGB”) published on bidbuy.illinois.gov a request for proposal (“RFP”) for a business consulting firm to assist in the competitive bid process for new casino applicants in Illinois host communities with multiple applicants under Section 7 of the Illinois Gambling (Act 230 ILCS 10/7). The selected firm must (“Vendor”) have experience in the hospitality, resort, or entertainment projects and an understanding of the Illinois Procurement Code (30 ILCS 500) and associated rules, policies, and guidelines for agencies and vendors. The RFP will be available from March 24 to April 16, 2021 and can be found [here](#).

BACKGROUND

Public Act 101-31 amended the Illinois Gambling Act to authorize the Board to issue a casino license to operate casinos in six additional Illinois host communities. 230 ILCS 10/7(e-5). In circumstances where multiple applicants are seeking a single new casino license within the same host community, the Board will conduct an open and competitive bidding process before issuing the license. 230 ILCS 10/7.12. The Board is expressly authorized to obtain an investment banking firm to assist the Board in conducting the competitive bidding process. 230 ILCS 10/7.5. To that end, the Board is seeking a consultant to act as the investment banking firm for the competitive bid process for certain newly authorized casino licenses. Vendor must also assist in analyzing and evaluating projections for the applicants submitting competitive bids. The Board will use the competitive bid process to award any casino license for which there is more than one applicant. Currently, the Board has more than one applicant for two casino licenses: the license authorized to operate in Waukegan, and the license authorized to operate in what is commonly referred to as the “South Suburbs” (of Chicago).

The procurement will result in a single award to a Vendor who will be responsible for the analysis and evaluation of prospective casino licensees, including economic effects on the region in which the project is located, potential job growth created by the project, and overall financial projections for the project. During the initial term, Vendor will be responsible for administering the competitive bid process and providing evaluation and analysis to the Board of the applicants for the Waukegan and South Suburbs casino licenses.

For more information on this RFP please click [here](#).