

HSBID RFP: Design, Fabrication, and Delivery of Movable Seating, Movable Planters, and Curbside Decking

Responses to Submitted Questions

Updated: November 26, 2025

- 1. Q: Are there more detailed drawings for the different site furnishings proposed?**
A: No. Furnishings have not been developed beyond the descriptions provided in the RFP. The conceptual rendering is included only to illustrate the overall design intent. We are seeking vendors to propose products or systems that align with the stated design intent and performance requirements.
- 2. Q: Have the furniture items been developed with a different supplier?**
A: The furnishings shown in the conceptual rendering are simply one illustrative approach that aligns with the project's goals. They are not indicative of final dimensions, configurations, or specifications. All furnishings and decking components are fully open for proposal.
- 3. Q: Are casters a strict design guideline?**
A: Casters are considered as one effective way to satisfy NYCDOT Plaza Program requirements that plaza furnishings be movable for maintenance and emergency access. However, we are open to alternative mobility solutions, provided that they allow furnishings to be easily repositioned by maintenance staff and can be secured against unauthorized movement (excluding standard bistro tables and chairs).
- 4. Q: Would you consider the furniture to be movable by pallet jack?**
A: A pallet-jack-based system is not something our maintenance team uses, and it is unlikely to meet the mobility needs for this plaza, particularly for items within the designated emergency lane. Repositioning must be simple, quick, and manageable without specialized equipment.
- 5. Q: Should the shade element be included in the pricing proposal?**
A: Yes. The benches are expected to integrate umbrellas or shade elements, as described in the RFP. Please include your proposed shade solution and associated pricing in your submission.
- 6. Q: Is this project required to comply with the Build America, Buy America (BABA) Act?**
A: No. This project is not subject to Build America, Buy America (BABA) compliance requirements.
- 7. Q: Should proposals include specialized finish systems such as C5-rated powder coating, anti-graffiti coatings, or oiled wood finishes?**
A: The RFP does not prescribe specific finish systems at this stage. Proposers should recommend finishes appropriate for long-term exterior use in an active urban environment, consistent with the design intent and durability standards described in the RFP. Proposed finishes should support ease of maintenance and overall product longevity, as relevant to the materials proposed.
- 8. Q: Are smart-features such as USB charging, LED elements, or integrated side tables required?**

A: These features are not required. However, HSBID is open to proposals that incorporate optional amenities if they are durable, low-maintenance, and compatible with the project's design intent.

9. Q: Do the decking system components need to be movable?

A: The decking platform does not need to be movable for daily plaza operations and should not be able to be moved by a member of the public. We anticipate that the platform may need to be moved annually by our operations team for maintenance and potential repositioning. Proposers are welcome to recommend the system that they feel best meets the project goals.

10. Q: Do the small planters shown in front of the decking in the conceptual rendering need to be movable or placed on casters?

A: The planters shown in the conceptual rendering are illustrative and not final designs. In the depicted concept, these planters are integrated into the decking platform and therefore do not require mobility. Only free-standing planters located within the roadway must be movable and securable, consistent with DOT Plaza Program requirements.