

May 4, 2023

The Washington Asparagus Commission (WAC), contemplates awarding a sole source contract to Agriculture Development Group, Inc. to provide research on Washington Asparagus.

WAC requires research to be conducted on Washington Asparagus to remain in compliance with Chapter 16-557 WAC, the Washington Asparagus Commission's marketing order which includes research as a purpose of the order. WAC intends to issue a contract to Agriculture Development Group, Inc. to conduct the research required.

The Washington Asparagus Commission will enter into a multi-year contract with Agriculture Development Group, Inc. The contract will be issued on or after May 23, 2023 and will expire December 31, 2026. The cost of this contract for year 2023 is \$10,000, for years 2024, 2025 and 2026 the contract value will be determined based on the Washington Asparagus Commission budget. In addition to changes in contract value, there may also be changes to the specific research projects for Washington Asparagus. The total contract value is not to exceed \$80,000.

Vendors contemplating the above requirements are required to submit capability statements detailing their ability to meet the state's requirements within five (5) working days of this announcement.

Capability statements should address the following state requirements:

- Contractor must demonstrate the experience and knowledge of asparagus research more specifically the unique needs for the Pacific Northwest Region;
- Contractor must demonstrate the ability to begin the research work immediately upon contract signing; and
- Contractor will be required to manage multiple research projects and must demonstrate the ability to provide ongoing updates to a governing board.

In the absence of other qualified sources, it is the state's intent to make a sole source award of the contract. To submit capability statements or for questions, contact:

Name: Megan Finkenbinder Phone: 360-902-1887 Email: <u>mfinkenbinder@agr.wa.gov</u>