



To: Community Representatives

From: Janyce Hedetniemi, Director
Office of Community Liaison
National Institutes of Health (NIH)

Date: February 2001

NOTES FROM THE DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF COMMUNITY LIAISON

I would like to take this opportunity to give you a detailed update on a community issue. I'm sure that many of you recall the controversy that occurred almost a year and a half ago, when it appeared that NIH was proceeding with a plan to have a pipeline constructed through the community to help meet the agency's need for an additional supply of natural gas on campus. In truth, NIH was a long way away from any such construction project and had no intention of proceeding on the project without appropriate community involvement. Moreover, we also have no desire to proceed without consideration of the community's concerns.

A number of activities have come together to bring us to the heart of my report to you today. First, in the process of reviewing options for providing the natural gas service, NIH decided to engage in a competitive process for the service and has made plans to issue a Request for Proposals (RFP) to provide "Firm Natural Gas Transportation Service" for the Bethesda, Maryland campus of NIH.

Second, NIH held a public forum in February 2000, at which time we provided data on NIH's need for more power on campus, making the transport service for additional natural gas necessary. As a result of that forum, the NIH Community Liaison Council (CLC) formed a Pipeline Working Group to address the community's concerns about the proposed project. That group, whose members are Mr. Pat Southerland, Dr. Mort Goldman, Ms. Ginny Miller, Ms. Jeanne Goldstein, Dr. Robert Resnik, Mr. Ralph Schofer, Ms. Carolyn Revelle Hufbauer (MNCPPC), Ms. Stella Serras-Fiotas (NIH), and Dr. Robert McKinney (NIH), met regularly over the past nine months, and I want to thank them for their hard work. Theirs was not an easy task. They were charged with identifying those issues that are of concern to the community with reference to a proposed new pipeline to the NIH campus and developing from the issues a *Community and Environmental Impacts* section of the RFP. The final draft report from the Working Group was reviewed and approved by the CLC at its November meeting.

(continued on page 2)

The Community Liaison Council (CLC) will hold its next meeting on **Thursday, February 15**, at **4:00 p.m.** in the Natcher Conference Center, Building 45, Conference Room D on the NIH campus.

(continued from page 1)

The *Community and Environmental Impacts* section has been given a weight of 40 points out of 100 total points in the RFP. The RFP is now being put into final form and will be published in the *Commerce Business Daily*. A copy will be placed in the NIH Environmental Reading Room. In the interim, however, we have provided with this issue of the *OCL Update* the draft of the *Community and Environmental Impacts* section.

As soon as the RFP is final, we also will be able to give you the timeline for the competition. Please feel free to contact me at any time with questions. We remain committed to working with you to ensure that community interests are addressed in this process.

Another activity ongoing at this time involves the update of the 1995 Master Plan. Together with the Office of Facilities Planning in NIH's Office of Research Services, which is responsible for the development of the NIH Master Plan, we organized three working groups to maximize community participation in the five-year update of the 1995 Master Plan. The three working groups, which are subcommittees to the CLC, will consider transportation, environmental impacts, and construction impacts within the context of the Master Plan for the NIH Bethesda campus. You should have received a letter from me in the past month inviting your participation in one or more of the working groups. The groups will meet between regularly scheduled CLC meetings and report their findings to the CLC. For more information about the working groups or the Master Plan process in general, please contact my office.

Finally, I would like to assure all members of the community who have been concerned about the prospect of a temporary contractor parking lot on the NIH campus that your letters and phone calls are being heard. No final decision has been made at this writing, but I continue to ensure that your concerns are considered. The formal NIH statement regarding this possible lot immediately follows these notes. I will keep you informed of any developments regarding this issue.

NIH Statement on the Proposed Temporary Parking Lot

by Janyce Hedetniemi, Director
NIH Office of Community Liaison

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) is taking all concerns of the community into account as we evaluate alternatives to the proposed temporary parking lot. With certainty, I can assure you that whatever lot is constructed, it will not be in the buffer zone established between NIH and our neighbors.

NIH would prefer not to have to do this project if it doesn't have to, and we are currently reviewing options. The reason this has even been brought to the table is because of the tremendous strain that escalating construction costs have placed on the budget for the new Clinical Research Center (CRC). Over the past 12 months, prices for materials and labor in the construction market have increased dramatically, and we are struggling to contain costs on the CRC project. We have already reduced the program scope in the new CRC, including removing architectural features such as a central stairway in the atrium, which was seen as a "signature feature" of the project. Further reductions to the project at this point will begin to affect its functionality. The proposed temporary lot would allow money currently being spent by the CRC contractor on off-campus parking and shuttles, as well as costs for loss of productivity due to lengthier travel times to the construction site, to be reassigned to the construction project itself.

Please know that the NIH has worked diligently on our traffic and transportation management. Over the past five years, NIH has reduced the number of available parking spaces on the campus by approximately 2,000. We have increased the amount and the number of employees that receive the Transshare commuting subsidy, thus encouraging public transportation use as opposed to the use of personal vehicles. Through these and other transportation management initiatives, we have reduced peak period vehicle traffic to the NIH campus by over 30 percent. We believe that these efforts, sometimes overlooked, put NIH at the forefront of successful traffic management in the region.

As things stand now, we have reduced the size of the temporary lot from the original proposal, and it will not be in the buffer zone. Additionally, this proposal will be revisited with our community. I will make sure that the community is kept informed about any updates to the project.

NIH CAMPUS NEWS AND ACTIVITIES

NIH Invites Community to Help Plan 2001 Health Forum

NIH is inviting area residents to share their thoughts and ideas for the fourth annual "Share the Health: An Exposition of Health Resources from NIH to Its Neighbors" free community health forum. In February, the NIH Office of Community Liaison (OCL) will be arranging a focus group of interested persons to use their feedback to help plan this year's "Share the Health," which will be held on Saturday, October 27, 2001, at NIH. Free health seminars, screenings, workshops, exhibits, and demonstrations have been featured at previous health forums. Please help the OCL better serve your health information needs by joining us to plan for this important community health event. For more information or to participate in the focus group, call the OCL at 301-496-3931.

NIH Joins Local Organizations to Provide Free Heart Health Screenings



The National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI) at NIH has planned a unique Valentine's Day gift for area community members this month—it has joined a group of local heart organizations to offer free health screenings throughout the Washington, D.C. metropolitan

area. Sister to Sister—Everyone Has a Heart, a partnership of local organizations that have identified cardiovascular disease (CVD) as a preventable major health problem for women of all ages, will offer blood pressure and cholesterol tests along with health risk questionnaires at various locations February 16–23, 2001. NHLBI is sponsoring one of the screening sites from 4 to 8 p.m. on Thursday, February 22 in the Natcher Conference Center Atrium, Building 45, 45 Center Drive, on the NIH campus in Bethesda, Maryland.

The week's worth of events will culminate in a health fair entitled "Women's Heart Day," on Friday, February 23, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., at the

MCI Center in Washington, D.C. NHLBI Director Dr. Claude Lenfant will lead a panel discussion on heart disease awareness, and presentations on stress management, nutrition, and fitness will also be featured. Educational materials will be on exhibit and available for the public as well as fitness and healthy cooking demonstrations. NHLBI is currently planning to make the presentations available on the Internet through the NIH Videocast system. For more information, call NHLBI at 301-496-4236.

OCL Sponsors Presentation on State College Education Program at NIH

On Friday, February 9, 2001, the NIH Office of Community Liaison (OCL) invites parents from NIH and the surrounding community to participate in a free presentation on the Maryland Prepaid College Trust Program—a state program allowing parents to save for their children's future education based upon what Maryland public colleges cost today. Jointly sponsored by the OCL, the NIH Recreation & Welfare Association, and the NIH Federal Credit Union, the presentation will take place from noon to 1 p.m. in Conference Room 6, on the 6th floor of the C-wing in Building 31 on the NIH campus. A representative of the program will give an overview of the trust, distribute free enrollment booklets, and answer any questions. For more information, call the OCL at 301-496-4931, or visit the trust's Web site at <http://www.prepaid.usmd.edu>. For free copies of the enrollment booklet, call 1-888-4MD-GRAD or send an e-mail to mpct@mdbusiness.state.md.us.

NIH-Sponsored Project in Iowa Links Rural Areas to Top-Notch Medical Advice

It can be difficult to coordinate the teams of doctors, caregivers, and therapists needed to provide proper medical care for a child with a complicated disease or problem. Families in rural areas have an even tougher time getting their children to the right specialists, let alone coordinating their course of care. In Iowa, the University of Iowa's Child Interdisciplinary Disability Project (CIDP) is making this task a little easier thanks to some high-tech help financed by NIH's National Library of

(continued on page 4)

(continued from page 3)

Medicine. Using a fiber optic network and interactive audiovisual devices, university experts can perform clinical evaluations and plan a course of care for children living hundreds of miles away. As a result, the family avoids repeated long car trips and missed work. "The family can tap into the best medical advice the state has to offer without leaving their hometown. Perhaps, best of all, with the various experts all assembled, they can collaborate with ease," said NLM Director Donald A.B. Lindberg, M.D.

The system works with a video monitor for a team of specialists at the hospital and another monitor at a central location for the patient, his family, and local doctors. After scheduling the time, the specialists can talk to and view the patient as well as discuss his care with local physicians and parents. Because of the demand from the rural community and the success of the telemedicine project, CIDP officials plan to promote the project throughout the state. In addition, congressional officials are hopeful that the project will serve as a model for Americans nationwide. To learn more about the project, visit <http://www.medicine.uiowa.edu/uhs/execsum.cfm>.

NIH Announces Availability of Dietary Supplement Research Bibliography



NIH's Office of Dietary Supplements (ODS) has announced the availability of its first *Annual Bibliography of Significant Advances in Dietary Supplement Research 1999*, which was developed in partnership with the Consumer Healthcare Products Association.

NIH officials said they are pleased to provide a publication that highlights scientifically sound research on dietary supplements and their role in health maintenance, and work has already begun on the 2000 publication. ODS Deputy Director Rebecca Costello, Ph.D., said,

"We envision this bibliography will serve as a useful reference source for nutrition and health professionals, educators, and health communicators, as well as the scientists who conduct the research." For copies of the publication, visit the ODS Web site at <http://ods.od.nih.gov/publications/publications.html> or call 301-435-2920 (for single copies only).

NINDS Honored as One of 10 Best Federal Web Sites

The National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS) was selected as one of 10 winners for the "Best Feds on the Web" in 2000 by GovExec.com, *Government Executive* magazine's Web site. Selected from 55 nominations, the site was chosen for its practical design, its depth of information, and its accessibility. Other winners covered topics from air traffic control to public health to patents. The following criteria were used to determine Web site winners:

- Provides excellent customer service by having a well-designed Web site that includes a large amount of useful information;
- Uses the Web to improve business practices in their agencies or across government; and/or
- Makes use of new technologies that other federal sites should consider emulating.

The NINDS Web site is located at <http://www.ninds.nih.gov>. A complete list of winners with links to the winning Web sites can be found at <http://www.govexec.com/bestfeds/>.

Federal Government Operating Information Available Online

Next time it snows, don't bother switching from news station to news station trying to find out if the federal government is closed. Go to the weather emergencies online information page at <http://www.opm.gov/weather/index.htm>, where you can receive the most recent information about the federal government's operating status. The site, operated by the U.S. Office of Personnel Management, provides guidelines during weather emergencies for all federal agencies within the Washington Capital Beltway, except the U.S. Postal Service.

NIH CALENDAR OF EVENTS

February 4

FAES Chamber Music Series: *Trio di Parma*, 4 p.m., Masur Auditorium, Building 10, NIH, \$25 (\$10 for students and fellows), open to the public. For more information or for tickets, call 301-496-7975 or visit <http://www.faes.org/music.htm>.

February 5

NIH Neuroscience Seminar Series: *Does High Frequency Stimulation Excite or Inhibit Neural Structures?* by Dr. Alim-Louis Benabid, Université Joseph Fourier, noon–1 p.m., Lipsett Amphitheater, Building 10, NIH, free and open to the public. CME credit is available. For more information, call Dr. Story Landis at 301-435-2232.

WFLC Faces & Phases of Life Seminar Series: *Kinship Care—Grandparents and Other Relatives Raising Children*, 12–1:30 p.m., Building 31, Room 6C6, NIH, free and open to the public. For more information or to pre-register, call 301-435-1619.

February 7

2000–2001 Wednesday Afternoon Lecture Series: *Beyond Health Disparities: Behavior and Cultural Diversity in Health* by Susan Scrimshaw, Ph.D., University of Illinois at Chicago, 3–4 p.m., Masur Auditorium, Building 10, NIH, free and open to the public. For more information, call Hilda Madine at 301-594-5595 or visit <http://www1.od.nih.gov/wals/>.

February 12

NIH Neuroscience Seminar Series: *Attention and the Perception of Scenes* by Dr. Ronald Rensink, Cambridge Basic Research Center, noon–1 p.m., Lipsett Amphitheater, Building 10, NIH, free and open to the public. CME credit is available. For more information, call Dr. Story Landis at 301-435-2232.

Manchester String Quartet Music Series: *Mendelssohn Quartet in A Minor, Opus 13*, 12:30 p.m., Masur Auditorium, Building 10, NIH, free and open to the public. For more information, call Sharon Greenwell at 301-496-4713.

February 13

WFLC Faces & Phases of Life Seminar Series: *Change Management*, 12–1:30 p.m., Building 1, Wilson Hall, NIH, free and open to the public. For more information or to pre-register, call 301-435-1619.

February 14

National Library of Medicine History of Medicine Seminar Series: *The Cultural History of Afro-American Alternative Medicine* by Dr. Eric J. Bailey, National Cancer Institute, 2–3:15 p.m., Conference Room B, Building 38, NIH, free and open to the public. For more information, call 301-402-8878.

2000–2001 Wednesday Afternoon Lecture Series: *The Ethics of Clinical Trials* by Marcia Angell, M.D., Harvard Medical School, 3–4 p.m., Masur Auditorium, Building 10, NIH, free and open to the public. For more information, call Hilda Madine at 301-594-5595 or visit <http://www1.od.nih.gov/wals/>.

February 18

FAES Chamber Music Series: *Tokyo String Quartet*, 4 p.m., Masur Auditorium, Building 10, NIH, \$25 (\$10 for students and fellows), open to the public. For more information or for tickets, call 301-496-7975 or visit <http://www.faes.org/music.htm>.

Foreign Movie Screening and Discussion: *Antonia's Line*, foreign movie screening followed by discussion, Cinema Bethesda at NIH, 5:30 p.m., Lipsett Amphitheater, Building 10, NIH, \$12, open to public. For more information, call 301-365-3679.

February 21

2000–2001 Wednesday Afternoon Lecture Series: *Tuning Signal Transduction with Synthetic Ligands* by Laura Kiessling, Ph.D., University of Wisconsin, 3–4 p.m., Masur Auditorium, Building 10, NIH, free and open to the public. For more information, call Hilda Madine at 301-594-5595 or visit <http://www1.od.nih.gov/wals/>.

February 22

WFLC Faces & Phases of Life Seminar Series: *Networking for Career Success*, 12–2 p.m., Building 31, Room 6C6, NIH, free and open to the public. For more information or to pre-register, call 301-435-1619.

February 23

2000–2001 NIH Director's Seminar Series: *Lessons for AIDS Pathogenesis and Vaccine Design from Animal Models* by Vanessa Hirsch, D.V.M., Sc.D., National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, NIH, noon–1 p.m., Wilson Hall, Building 1, NIH, free and open to the public. For more information, call 301-496-1921.

February 26

NIH Neuroscience Seminar Series: *Structure and Function of Ionotropic Glutamate Receptors* by Dr. Eric Gouaux, Columbia University, noon–1 p.m., Lipsett Amphitheater, Building 10, NIH, free and open to the public. CME credit is available. For more information, call Dr. Story Landis at 301-435-2232.

February 27

WFLC Faces & Phases of Life Seminar Series: *Develop Your Interpersonal Effectiveness: Sharpen Your Emotional IQ*, 1–4:30 p.m., Building 31, Room 6C6, NIH, free and open to the public. For more information or to pre-register, call 301-435-1619.

February 28**2000–2001 Wednesday Afternoon Lecture Series:**

Structural Insights into Signal Recognition Particle Function
by Jennifer Doudna, Ph.D., Yale University, 3–4 p.m.,
Masur Auditorium, Building 10, NIH, free and open to the
public. For more information, call Hilda Madine at
301-594-5595 or visit <http://www1.od.nih.gov/wals/>.

OTHER NEWS AND ACTIVITIES OF INTEREST**Park and Planning Meeting Calendar Available Online**

The National Capital Park and Planning Commission (NCPC) has made information about its monthly planning meetings more accessible to the public. Citizens interested in the commission's meeting agendas can now visit http://www.ncpc.gov/meeting_info.html to learn the dates, times, and locations of future meetings, the action items to be discussed at the meetings, and how to submit comments for review or speak at the meetings. Commission meetings are open to the public, and citizens are invited to present their views on the agenda topics. Planning reports and analyses that accompany agenda action items are also available for review. To review materials, submit comments, or for more information, call Patrick Tribe or Deborah Young at 202-482-7200. The NCPC is located at 401 9th Street, NW, North Lobby, Suite 500, Washington, D.C.

Put Old Cell Phones to Good Use; Donate to County Schools

If you received a new mobile phone this holiday season and don't know what to do with the old one, why not donate it to Montgomery County Public Schools? The county uses the donated phones on its school buses in the event of emergencies. Mobile phones can be used to dial 911 even if there is

no active phone service connected to the phone. To make a donation, drop off the mobile phone at any county public school. For more information about the program, call 240-777-7828.

Strathmore Hall Arts Center Presents Crafts Collection, Children's Arts Festival

This month, Strathmore Hall Arts Center will feature two free arts events—the 2001 Crafts Collection and the Discover Me Youth Arts Festival at White Flint mall. Sponsored by the Creative Crafts Council, the crafts exhibit, which runs from February 24 to April 7, 2001 at Strathmore, showcases a variety of juried crafts from local arts organizations. Entitled “The Ebb and Flow of Nature,” the diverse exhibit celebrates the change of seasons with displays of pottery, glass, and more. Gallery hours are from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on Wednesday, when the center stays open until 9 p.m., and from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturdays. Strathmore Hall Arts Center is located at 10701 Rockville Pike in North Bethesda, Maryland.

On February 19, children of all ages will have an opportunity to meet talented young artists, musicians, dancers, and actors at the free Discover Me Youth Arts Festival at White Flint mall. From 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., children can watch these young artists as they make a painting, create a sculpture, or perform music. Through these performances, demonstrations, and interactive educational stations, children can learn about the arts and discover what ignites their own imaginations. White Flint mall is located at 11301 Rockville Pike in North Bethesda, Maryland. For more information about these and other Strathmore programs, call 301-530-0540 or visit <http://www.strathmore.org>.

County Offers Free Recycling Course

Ever wondered what happens to all that trash we toss out or recycle each week? Well, beginning on March 1, Montgomery County will show interested individuals in a free six-week course, “Behind the Scenes,” on Thursdays from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Solid Waste Transfer Station in Derwood, Maryland. Residents will be able to tour waste management facilities, learn ways to better protect the environment, and take an optional field trip to the county's central composting facility and renovated Gothic Barn, which features composting toilets and geothermal heating and cooling. Course topics include

recycling do's and don'ts, proper hazardous waste removal, mixed paper recycling, and composting. The Solid Waste Transfer Station is located near the intersection of Route 355 and Shady Grove Road. Pre-registration is required. For more information or to register, call 240-777-6400 or visit <http://www.mcrecycles.org/bts/> to register online.

BAPA Presents Two Shows in February

This month, the Bethesda Academy of Performing Arts (BAPA) presents two children's theater programs—*The Magic Babushka and Other Russian Tales* and *The Rough-Face Girl*. *The Magic Babushka*, which runs through February 11, is performed by BAPA's nationally acclaimed Deaf Access Company. The performance of these Russian folktales combines sign language with the spoken voice in a unique style for children ages 4 to 12, incorporating music, mime, and dance. Opening on February 17 is *Rough-Face Girl*, a Native American version of Cinderella, which includes drums, movement, and traditional songs. This show is recommended for children between the ages of 6 and 12. Performances are on Saturdays and Sundays at 12:30 p.m. and 3 p.m. at BAPA's Imagination Stage on the second level in White Flint mall, 11301 Rockville Pike in North Bethesda, Maryland. Tickets are \$6.50. For more information or for tickets, call 301-881-5106.

Dollhouses on Display at Beall-Dawson

Dollhouses have been favorite toys for children throughout the years. Beginning on February 4 and continuing through April 8, 2001, the Montgomery County Historical Society (MCHS) will feature a unique exhibit, "Miniature Mansions of Montgomery County," which displays dollhouses with county ties dating back to the 19th century. Both private and MCHS houses will be featured. To accompany the show opening on February 4, Washington doll experts will be on hand to answer questions and discuss the dollhouses and their furnishings. Other special programs are also planned. Admission is \$3 for adults, \$2 for students and seniors, and free for MCHS members and children under 6 years of age. Beall-Dawson House is located at 103 West Montgomery Avenue in Rockville,

Maryland. For more information, call 301-762-1492 or visit <http://www.montgomeryhistory.org>.

Suburban Hospital Offers Assortment of Free Health Seminars

Suburban Hospital is once again offering a variety of free community health seminars in the coming months, with topics varying from back problems to diabetes to eating disorders. Dates, times, and locations are listed below for this month's free seminar schedule. Advance registration is required. For more information or to register, call 301-896-3939.

February 8

- 1 p.m. Keeping Your Gastrointestinal Tract Fit***
Rockville Senior Center,
1150 Carnation Dr., Rockville, MD
- 1:15 p.m. Don't Get Knocked Off Your Feet**
Holiday Park Community Center,
3950 Ferrara Dr., Wheaton, MD

February 15

- 1 p.m. Osteoporosis**
Hebrew Home of Greater Washington,
Wasserman Bldg., 6121 Montrose Rd.,
Rockville, MD
- 8:30 p.m. Beating Diabetes Burnout!**
Suburban Hospital Conference Center,
8600 Old Georgetown Rd., Bethesda, MD

February 21

- 1 p.m. Back Problems Common in the Elderly**
Friendship Heights Community Center,
4433 S. Park Ave., Chevy Chase, MD

February 28

- 7 p.m. The ABCs of Eating Disorders**
Suburban Hospital Auditorium,
8600 Old Georgetown Rd., Bethesda, MD

**To register for this seminar, call 301-309-3050.*

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Child, Teen Obesity Studies Available

Overweight children and teens are at risk for developing serious medical problems. Enroll your overweight child, aged 6 to 17, in one of two new studies by the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development to test potential weight-loss medication. There is no charge to participate in the study. For more information, call 1-800-411-1222 or 866-411-1010 for TTY users.

Overweight Males Needed

Overweight men that are in good general health and between the ages of 25 and 40 are needed to participate in a study comparing the effects of low-fat and low-carbohydrate diets on weight-regulating hormones. Study participation includes following a low-fat or low-carbohydrate diet for at least

two weeks, a visit to the NIH Clinical Center, and a 24-hour admission to the Clinical Center for blood sampling. Compensation will be provided. For more information, call Dr. Al-Zubaidi at 301-496-7731 or Lori Hanton, R.N., M.S.N, at 301-496-0862.

TRY THIS WEB SITE:

<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/services/guide.html>

The National Library of Medicine (NLM) at NIH offers consumers an easy-to-use online guide to health information at this Web site. The guide outlines what visitors can find from NLM health information resources, what information is available at most public and medical libraries, and how to search for and evaluate online health information. The site also provides a listing of some major federal health information Web sites, as well as access to more specific health-related organizations. The guide can also be printed out for future use and reference.

The OCL Update is available on our Web site at <http://ocl.od.nih.gov/>. If you would rather view this document online and not receive a printed version, please contact the OCL office at 301-496-3931 or send us an e-mail at jh69z@nih.gov. If you would like to list an upcoming event of interest to the local community, call Terry LaMotte at Palladian Partners, OCL support contractor, at 301-650-8660, or e-mail tlamotte@palladianpartners.com.

Office of Community Liaison

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First Class Mail
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The National Institutes of Health
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
FIRM NATURAL GAS TRANSPORTATION SERVICE
FINAL DRAFT
11/21/00

SUMMARY

The National Institutes of Health (NIH), an agency of the Federal Government, is seeking proposals for Transportation Service of natural gas on a firm basis to meet its future needs from Qualified Transporters.

PROPOSAL EVALUATION CRITERIA

Community and Environmental Impacts – 40 points (out of 100 total)

The NIH is committed to maintaining good relations with its neighbors and surrounding communities, and protecting and preserving the local and regional natural environment. Preference will be given to proposals that minimize intrusion in residential neighborhoods and have the least impact on the environment. NIH will award up to 40 points based on how well the proposed Transportation Service meets the goals of minimizing the disturbance of residential areas, addressing issues of public concern and minimizing environmental impacts. The following specific criteria will be applied in the evaluation of competing proposals, with particular weight given to issues of primary concern to the public:

1. Public Concern Issues

- 1.1 Right-of-way maximizes use of existing public rights-of-way under paved public roadways.
- 1.2 Right-of-way avoids easements across private properties.
- 1.3 Right-of-way avoids disturbance to trees. When this is not possible, a tree preservation plan to attenuate impacts on trees will be in place before award of the contract. The plan will include replacement of any damaged trees.
- 1.4 Construction methods will use best available technology with regard to leak detection and explosion prevention.
- 1.5 Construction traffic and disruption to traffic patterns is minimized as described in the respondent's traffic management plan.

- 1.6 Staging/lay down areas are located to minimally disrupt residential zones.
- 1.7 Duration of construction schedule is minimized to the extent feasible.
- 1.8 Daily construction schedule is restricted to the hours permitted by local ordinance.
- 1.9 Respondent adequately addresses safety concerns during construction and operation, including an estimate of public risk from accidents.
- 1.10 Respondent's community involvement plan adequately addresses the concerns of public stakeholders, including issues of public safety, traffic disruption in residential, arterial and commercial areas, tree removal, and other environmental impacts.
- 1.11 Respondent adequately addresses the location and outside appearance of aboveground structures, signage and permanent pipeline markers in a manner unobtrusive to the community in which they are sited.
- 1.12 Respondent adequately addresses restoration of disturbed property to a condition as good or better than before disturbance including, as necessary, landscaping of similar or greater value than that disturbed.

2. Environmental Right-of-Way Issues

- 2.1 Right-of-way or aboveground structures do not encroach on wetlands or wetlands buffer zones as defined by U.S. Dept. of the Interior National Wetland Inventory mapping and Maryland Dept. of Natural Resources Wetlands of State Special Concern mapping.
- 2.2 Right-of-way or aboveground structures do not traverse or occupy critical habitat for threatened and endangered species as defined by the Maryland Dept. of Natural Resources and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Threatened and Endangered Species Coordinators.
- 2.3 Right-of-way or aboveground structures do not encroach on national, state, county, municipal, or other public parks as indicated in ADC mapping for Montgomery County.
- 2.4 Right-of-way or aboveground structures are not located within any 100-year floodplain as defined by Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) flood insurance mapping.
- 2.5 Right-of-way or aboveground structures do not traverse properties listed on, or eligible for inclusion in, the National Register of Historic Places as indicated by the

Maryland State Historic Preservation Officer at the Maryland Historic Trust, nor properties listed in the Montgomery County Master Plan for Historic Preservation.

2.6 Right-of-way or aboveground structures do not cause an impact to sites subject to use by American Indians for religious purposes.

2.7 Right-of-way or aboveground structures are not located in national or state forests or wilderness areas as indicated in US Dept. of the Interior USGS Topographic mapping; national natural landmarks or national or state natural heritage and biodiversity conservation areas as indicated by the MD Dept. of Natural Resources; MD Sensitive Species Project Review Zones, MD Greenway Corridors and MD Environmental Trust Easements as indicated by the MD Dept. of Natural Resources; or, wildlife refuges, sanctuaries or management areas as indicated in ADC Montgomery County mapping.

3. Environmental Construction Impacts

3.1 Construction methods incorporate best practices for mitigating noise impacts.

3.2 Construction methods incorporate best practices for mitigating odors.

3.3 Construction methods incorporate best practices for mitigating dust.

3.4 Construction methods incorporate best practices for erosion and sediment control, and respondent will prepare an erosion and sediment control plan.