Q1. What is the LTRC policy regarding proposer's confidential information provided in the proposal? Is any confidential information provided to enable the LTRC to better understand the intent of the proposal protected from other use or being shared with anyone else?

A1. Yes, all the confidential information provided to LTRC will be kept as confidential and protected from sharing with others or use.

Q2. Can the DOTD pavement management guidelines and/or manual be made available, preferably electronically?

A2. Yes, the guidelines and/or manual are available, but not electronically as a download. Send an e-mail request to Said Ismail, Pavement Management Engineer of LA DOTD, at said.ismail@la.gov.

Q3. Does the DOTD have a distress collection manual, and can it be made available electronically?

A3. Yes, the DOTD pavement distress collection manual is available, but not electronically as a download. Send an e-mail request to Said Ismail, Pavement Management Engineer of DOTD, at said.ismail@la.gov.

Q4. Should a submittal from a private consultant also follow Chapter 2 of the LRTC Manual of Research Procedures, or does a different Chapter in the same manual should apply?

A4. A private consultant is also required to follow Chapter 2 of the LRTC Manual of Research Procedures.

Q5. Since the cost looks like it is set up specifically for universities, can private companies bid on this proposal?

A5. Yes, absolutely.

Q6. How would you like the cost sheet prepared for private engineering companies which have a one pool overhead rate? Should we use the one pool rate under the Employee Benefits section for our entire one pool rate or try to split the benefits out of our audited one pool rate. The 25% limit on overhead seems very low for private companies. Is this an absolute maximum? Where on the cost spreadsheet do you put the profit factor?

A6. Private companies are not restricted to the 25 percent maximum. They may use a single overhead rate without showing benefit fit in the direct cost line in the budget sheet. The proposal should provide more cost breakdown of manpower rates and time devoted to project.
Q7. Special Note B indicates the budget for the first three tasks is limited to 20% of the project budget. Special Note E requires 3 meetings, two of which are within the first three tasks. We believe these two meetings are of major importance to the success of the project and would like our Principal staff members to participate. The cost of this travel would leave little of the 20% budget for other work. Can the 20% budget constraint be increased?

A7. Not at this point. Beyond the 7 day limit of closing for making agenda.

Q8. Could you please further explain the second sentence? Does this mean there is an opportunity later to revise the original draft schedule?

A8. You can send the request to the project review committee if yours is selected.