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## REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

January 2018

**Opening Date:** January 11, 2018

**Question & Answer Period:** Ongoing

**Responses Due:** Ongoing. However, to be considered for Phase I and April's Tricentennial Market events, the RFI and all supporting documents must be received by 5pm on **March 1, 2018**. Deadlines for Phases II through IV will be provided at later dates.

**Submit by email:** [vrainey@foundationforlouisiana.org](mailto:vrainey@foundationforlouisiana.org)

**Submit in person:** Tuesdays 4p-8p & Thursdays 8a-12noon, address above

**Questions or to set an appointment:** Val Rainey, 504-439-6747

**Summary:** This Request for Information (RFI) is to seek and identify qualified retail and non-retail service providers to participate in Phase I of the Claiborne Corridor Cultural Innovation District (CID) and is for informational purposes only. The CID is a 19-block transformation of the elevated I-10 expressway along Claiborne Avenue, from Canal Street to St. Bernard Avenue. The CID will showcase indigenous New Orleans culture, such as arts, crafts, foods, music, and deepen the sense of belonging and ownership by residents, businesses and stakeholders who naturally identify with the celebratory and resilient nature of life as they engage it "under the Bridge". Restoring entrepreneurship, cultural preservation, and innovation to the core of industry and economic development on Claiborne Avenue is the goal of the CID. This RFI is a first step in the CID marketplace selection process. The project is managed by Foundation for Louisiana, in a joint venture partnership with other selected community operators.

**Needed Services:** The Cultural Innovation District needs indigenous cultural producers, artists, entrepreneurs, professional and social service providers, and other vendors with business aptitude, a plan, and interest in using your vision and creative energy to transform an obstacle into an opportunity. In addition to commerce, CID will offer interactive technology and education demonstrations, thriving as a host site for community projects, youth programming, health, environmental, and social services, workshops and special events for residents of the Claiborne Corridor. The CID will be a new and unique destination for locals, visitors, and international guests. We are seeking entrepreneurs with both general audience and specialized expertise to create experiences that spotlight the history, culture, and traditions of the area, while envisioning and shaping its future. Final vendor agreements will include architectural, mechanical, electrical, and other services required to achieve the community space and marketplace.

**Submission must provide the following:**

- Completed RFI form; please answer all questions.
- Copy of Occupational License and/or Food Serving & Handler Certificates; or indication that assistance in obtaining certifications is required.
- Names and dates of any Technical Assistance workshops completed.

**Review process:** All RFI's will be acknowledged upon receipt, reviewed for completion by staff, and blind juried by a selection committee. Tricentennial vendors will be notified of their interview date by **Friday, March 16, 2018**.