NCRT RFP Questions & Answers:

1. **Q:** What style of graphics and sign installation is anticipated? Should proposals include budgets for different sign installation types?
   **A:** The graphics and design of the sign installation should consider the MBSST Master Plan Trail Design Standards, the SST Standards Manual, and stakeholder input. Proposals may include a range of costs for sign installation that address different design features and installations.

2. **Q:** The Request for Proposals identifies September 2020 as the start date. What is the desired delivery date?
   **A:** The site plan, content, proposed platform and hardware for all proposed interpretive, wayfinding, and trail etiquette signage should be complete by February 2021.

3. **Q:** Is the Request for Proposals to design and construct the interpretive and wayfinding signs?
   **A:** No. The final deliverable includes: Sign design plans including sign measurements, sign text, graphics, fonts, colors, materials, and styles of interpretive content. An optional task would be to fabricate the interpretive signs and deliver to the site to be installed.

4. **Q:** What is the project budget?
   **A:** The project budget is $60,000.

5. **Q:** How do you anticipate that interpretive content will be communicated to the public? What type of technology will be incorporated into this project?
   **A:** The interpretive signs are anticipated to be static freestanding panels, which may include sculptural elements, and contain relevant historical, cultural, environmental and geographic content. The consultant may propose technological components to be considered by RTC staff and project stakeholders as appropriate.

6. **Q:** Are you requiring a 20-year warranty on all signage, including graphics?
   **A:** Signage and equipment will be expected to last a minimum of 20 years.

7. **Q:** Will proposals be evaluated based on the use of local contractors?
   **A:** No. Geographic location of contractors is not an evaluation criteria.

8. **Q:** How does the scope of work define interpretive signs and exhibits?
   **A:** Interpretive signs are the panels to be installed at rest areas and other key locations along the North Coast Rail Trail. Exhibits refer to content on the interpretive signs. Interpretive signs may include multiple exhibits. For example, one interpretive sign panel may have exhibits describing both historical features and agricultural features.

9. **Q:** Can you define orientation signs?
   **A:** Orientation signs will introduce the trail at key access points. The primary element of the orientation signs is a map of the North Coast Rail Trail and information about the Monterey Bay Scenic Sanctuary Trail. Orientation signs will also provide information about trail elements and points of interest.
10. **Q:** What is the ongoing role of the stakeholder group?
   **A:** The stakeholder group will provide input on the location, design, and content of interpretive and wayfinding signs. The stakeholder group will include content specialists and partner agencies.

11. **Q:** How much would the interpretive sign engage with the landscape?
    **A:** Interpretive signs should enhance the visitors experience and create a feeling of stewardship for the natural, historical, cultural and geographic features within the North Coast Rail Trail project area.

12. **Q:** Should the cost estimate include the fabrication of signs?
    **A:** Yes, a cost estimate for sign fabrication should be included.

13. **Q:** Is this a qualification-based procurement?
    **A:** No. This is a Request for Proposal to provide professional services and the evaluation criteria includes cost.

14. **Q:** Has the Interpretive and Wayfinding Sign Services contract been awarded. Is a list of cost proposals received available?
    **A:** No, the contract for Interpretive and Wayfinding Sign Services has not been awarded. Responses to the Request for Proposals are due by August 10th. Proposals, including cost proposals, are confidential until the contract is awarded.

15. **Q:** Is the consultant responsible for preparing the interpretive sign content?
    **A:** Content will be prepared by the consultant and shall incorporate input from RTC staff and project stakeholders.