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February 9, 2026

TO: Interested Offerors

FROM: Geena Chau
Procurement Agent

SUBJECT: Request for Proposals ("RFP") No. RE 2026-007, Addendum No. 2
Native Hawaiian Data Book Website Redesign

Questions and Answers

1. We are currently preparing our response to RFP No. RE 2026-007 – Native Hawaiian Data Book Website Redesign, issued by the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA), and respectfully request formal clarification regarding the timing of certain compliance documentation requirements. The RFP (Attachment 1 – Proposal Submittal Checklist) references the following compliance items: Insurance certificates Tax and labor compliance documentation (including Hawaii Compliance Express (HCE) Certificate of Vendor Compliance or individual clearances from DOTAX, IRS, DCCA, and DLIR) Wage Certificate (Attachment 3) Corporate Resolution (indicating authorized signer for proposal and contractual documents) To ensure full compliance with the solicitation and avoid any risk of non-responsiveness, please confirm whether the above-listed items are required at the time of proposal submission through the HIEPRO portal or may be provided post-award as a condition of contract execution. As this clarification directly affects proposal eligibility and compliance determination, we kindly request a written confirmation for record and audit purposes.

Please submit the items listed in the RFP through HIEPRO.

2. In Section 3, subsection 3.H there is mention of needing a staffed office in Hawai'i to be eligible for this project. Is this a requirement or just a 5 point deduction on proposal scoring if no office exists?

It would be a five-point deduction.

3. Will the SOW for this project include replacement for the databases and/or user interfaces at <https://kipukadatabase.com/> or <https://www.papakilodatabase.com/>?

No.

4. What platform is the current site built on?

The Native Hawaiian Data Book website is a basic HTML website; however, we anticipate a redesign and are open to using other platforms to achieve the desired end result.

5. How are datasets currently stored (CMS, database, spreadsheets)?

Excel spreadsheets.

6. Are datasets updated manually or programmatically?

The datasets were manually uploaded; however, automated or programmed updates will be considered if it meets OHA's expectations.

7. What are the biggest pain points with the current site?

The major challenges with the current site are an outdated presentation, inefficient process to update dataset, and inability to customize exported datasets into a visually user-friendly product.

8. Approximately how many datasets exist today?

It is currently unknown and expected to be included in the assessment portion of the contract.

9. Will historical datasets require reformatting or normalization and are they currently structured consistently?

Yes.

10. Has the existing website undergone any formal accessibility audit, and if so, will those findings be made available to the selected vendor?

No formal audit has been conducted on the existing website, hence the need for an assessment.

11. Does OHA anticipate requiring third-party accessibility testing, certification, or formal conformance reporting as part of this project?

Yes.

12. Are downloadable documents (e.g., PDFs) expected to meet WCAG 2.1 AA accessibility standards, and is remediation of existing documents within scope?

Yes. OHA expects the final product to comply with all WCAG 2.1 AA accessibility standards.

13. Which features are required at launch vs future phases?

OHA expects all agreed upon deliverables to be completed prior to the launch unless otherwise stated in the contract.

14. Are there example data portals the organization considers best-in-class?

Yes, we consider <https://tewhata.io/> to be best-in-class.

15. What is the anticipated number of staff that will actively manage content in the CMS?

One staff member.

16. The RFP references 6–12 months of post-launch support. Can OHA clarify whether this period is intended to cover bug fixes and security updates only, or whether functional enhancements and feature refinements are also anticipated?

The 6-12 month post-launch for bug fixes, development of training materials and training staff on the CMS.

17. Based on the volume of data and long-term needs described in the RFP, does OHA anticipate that a more complex or custom platform (e.g., a decoupled or headless approach) will be required, or would a simpler CMS-based approach meet all functional and accessibility requirements?

All proposed solutions will be considered that best fit OHA's needs, the functional and accessibility requirements CMS system, as well as future data uploads.

18. The RFP describes a full redesign within existing branding guidelines and references several different types of pages (e.g., data sections, reports, dashboards, search tools). Can OHA clarify whether the redesign is expected to focus on a small set of core page layouts, or if a wider range of distinct layouts should be anticipated?

The proposal is expected to address the entire website.

19. The RFP notes that solutions relying primarily on “theme + plugin” implementations may not be suitable. Can OHA clarify whether this guidance is intended to exclude certain CMS platforms entirely, or whether it is meant to discourage overly plugin-dependent or minimally customized implementations?

All proposed solutions will be considered that best fit OHA’s needs, the functional and accessibility requirements CMS system, as well as future data uploads.

20. The RFP references improving usability for administrators and content editors. Can OHA share specific pain points or limitations with the current site that this project should prioritize addressing?

Currently, the website utilizes an HTML CMS that is outdated. The purpose of the project is to not only update the website, but to build a custom CMS that allows for OHA staff to efficiently manage and upload datasets to the website as well as user generated queries and produce data visualizations based on query results.

21. Does OHA have any requirements or constraints regarding hosting and infrastructure, or should the selected vendor propose a recommended hosting approach based on security, performance, and scalability needs?

OHA will provide access to the current contractor that manages the site’s server.

22. Are there existing websites OHA considers strong examples of data presentation, usability, or accessibility that may help inform the redesign?

Yes, <https://tewhata.io/> is a strong example of data presentation, usability and accessibility.

23. Can OHA clarify what third-party platforms are currently integrated with or used on the website (if any), and the general level of integration involved?

None

24. The RFP references advanced search, filtering, and querying. Can OHA clarify whether these capabilities are primarily intended to support faceted filtering to help users locate relevant datasets, or whether users are also expected to filter, query, and interact with data within individual datasets (e.g., dynamically adjusting tables or charts)?

OHA anticipates the website to provide both capabilities.

25. Can OHA clarify whether datasets will be provided primarily as already-processed files (e.g., Excel files with summaries and chart like

https://www.ohadatabook.com/go_statlinks.23.html), or as structured source data intended to support dynamic querying and visualization?

OHA anticipates providing both previously processed files in addition to structured source data intended to support dynamic querying and visualization.

26. What level of interactivity is expected for data visualizations? For example, should visualizations be dynamically generated from datasets within the platform, or primarily present pre-built charts and graphics derived from uploaded files?

OHA expects that users will have the ability to query census and demographic data and apply custom filters and/or visualizations of the resulting datasets.

27. Is OHA currently using, or open to using, third-party data visualization tools integrated into the website to support interactive charts and graphics?

OHA is currently not utilizing any third-party data visualization tools and are open to all proposed solutions.

28. Does the current site use any formal taxonomy or categorization system, and should that structure be preserved or revisited during migration?

OHA is open to reviewing all proposed categorization systems submitted by the Offeror.

29. Does OHA anticipate migrating all existing content and datasets, or curating and retiring content as part of the redesign process?

Migration would be ideal.

30. As per RFP it states that we must have Hawaii'i office with at least with one staff member. How much weightage will be given to having Hawaii'i office?

Referencing to the Evaluation Form, this category awards between 1-5 points.

31. Where will assets like photography, video, etc. come from? Is there an existing content library for photos or videos?

Media will be provided by the OHA.

32. Could you briefly describe the existing personas in place for your primary target audiences?

Currently, the Native Hawaiian Data Book website is designed archive and disseminate Native Hawaiian demographic and census data to OHA staff, researchers, policy makers, Native Hawaiian organizations, and the general public.

33. What is the allocated budget for this project?

This project has a budget of \$225,000 in FY26 and \$75,000 in FY27.

34. What is your current Tech Stack?

The Native Hawaiian Data Book website is a static site consisting of 200+ pages built using HTML and CSS, some of which with legacy frame-based layouts, and with downloadable files such as XLSX and PDF. It is served via an Apache web server on a Linux platform. There is no server-side application layer, API, or database.

35. If there is an incumbent provider, what challenges or gaps have led to considering other design and development agencies?

There is no incumbent provider. The website was developed and maintained in-house and has not been updated in over two years.

36. Could you clarify how the RFP was developed? Specifically, were any external consultants or vendors involved in drafting or providing guidance on its content?

The RFP was developed internally at the Office of Hawaiian Affairs.

37. What was the cost incurred for the design and development of the current website?

The design, development, and maintenance of the current website was handled by previous OHA staff.

38. What is your current annual spend on hosting?

Annual hosting costs for the Native Hawaiian Data Book are \$2737.50, which includes hosting on a dedicated virtual machine on a US-based cloud platform, with daily offsite backups. Also includes Hardware and Operating System Support and Maintenance which includes regular updates (typically weekly, but more often if significant security events occur) and server

operating system upgrades. Also includes an automated monitoring service to detect failures, monitoring and regular testing of the backup processes, to ensure all the hosted data is backed up appropriately.

39. What is your current annual spend on support?

Currently, there is no annual budget for this support aside from hosting services.

40. Do you need the vendor to provide hosting services as well?

No.

41. What are the expectation for uptime guarantees?

The Native Hawaiian Data Book is a public-facing resource used by researchers, policymakers, community organizations, and the general public. Its availability is expected to be 99%. Planned maintenance windows may be acceptable, but unplanned outages should be rare and short.

42. Are there any specific mobile device types or OS versions that must be prioritized?

The website must be utilize responsive design ensuring that it adapts to all mobile devices.

43. Do you need integration with any third-party applications?

Currently, no other integration with other data sources are required. However, should the Offeror provide necessary options for third-party applications, they will be considered and agreed upon prior to the finalization of the contract terms.

44. Do you require API level integrations for any of the listed third-party applications or is it just hyperlinking?

Currently, no other integration with other data sources are required, however, the final product should be constructed to utilize future API integrations and queries as proper agreements with other data sources are acquired.

45. What specific metrics and KPIs are being used to measure website success?

Google Analytics is utilized to track the number of users, events, sessions, and location of users.

46. Do you have an internal technical team responsible for website development?

No.

47. Do you have any specific design preferences (websites you like), or are we free to create a modern UI?

One website example includes <https://tewhata.io/> however OHA will consider all proposed solutions and platforms.

48. Do you need localization? Which specific languages do you need for localization?

Currently, the Native Hawaiian Data Book needs to only support English.

49. How many users are required to be trained?

We anticipate training no more than five administrators and 10 users.

50. How frequently does site content change?

The site should be able to be updated as new data is released throughout the year.

51. What is the total number of pages currently? More specifically, how many templates do you have currently?

This should be revealed in the assessment.

52. Can you share website traffic statistics? How many visits per year, average monthly page views etc.?

Metric	FY25 (July 1, 2024- June 30, 2025)	
Sessions/Visits	4,251	
Users/Unique visitors	3,537	
Pageviews	10,165	
New visitors	3,533	
Events	18,553	
Top 5 States	1,237	HI
	569	CA
	300	NJ
	128	NY
	117	VA

53. Do you prefer a tailored solution or off-the-shelf products for this project?

OHA will consider all proposed options; however, it is expected that there will be some customization of the CMS to fit OHA’s needs.

54. What key elements of branding or visual identity are crucial to retain?

The OHA branding only.

55. Does OHA have existing hosting infrastructure for the Native Hawaiian Data Book website, or is the selected vendor expected to provide and manage the hosting environment as part of the service?

OHA currently outsources the hosting of the Native Hawaiian Data Book website to an existing contractor.

56. Can OHA provide current website traffic statistics, such as average monthly page views or unique visitors per year, to help Offerors understand the scale and user engagement?

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57. Are there any existing websites, either within the government sector or private industry, that OHA particularly likes or dislikes in terms of user interface, user experience, functionality, or overall aesthetic that could serve as a guide for design preferences?

One example of an existing website includes <https://tewhata.io/>

58. While OHA will provide branding guidelines, could OHA specify any key elements of its branding or visual identity that are absolutely crucial to retain and integrate into the new website design?

The current website and Data Book branding is outdated and requires redesigning. OHA seeks to update this image to a more modern style while increasing user intuitive functions.

59. The RFP states OHA will provide 'current content'. Does this include a content library for photography, video, or other multimedia assets, or should the vendor assume these will need to be sourced or created (excluding new datasets/research)?

OHA will provide all multimedia assets upon request to align with OHA's established branding standards.

60. Approximately how many OHA staff members are anticipated to require training on the new content management system and tools?

We anticipate training no more than five administrators and 10 users.

61. Could OHA provide an estimate of the total number of pages on the current Native Hawaiian Data Book website, and more specifically, the approximate number of unique page templates currently in use?

The Native Hawaiian Data Book website is a static site consisting of 200+ pages built using HTML and CSS, some of which with legacy frame-based layouts, and with downloadable files such as XLSX and PDF.

62. Could OHA please provide details on the current technology stack (e.g., CMS, programming languages, databases) of the Native Hawaiian Data Book website to assist with solution compatibility and migration planning?

The Native Hawaiian Data Book website is a static site consisting of 200+ pages built using HTML and CSS, some of which with legacy frame-based layouts, and with downloadable files such as XLSX and PDF. It is served via an Apache web server on a Linux platform. There is no server-side application layer, API, or database.

63. Is there an incumbent vendor currently managing or supporting the Native Hawaiian Data Book website? If so, what were the primary challenges or gaps that led to OHA considering new proposals for its redesign?

No. The website was developed in-house.

64. Can OHA provide an allocated budget range or a specific budget amount for this project to ensure proposals are aligned with funding expectations?

This project has a budget of \$225,000 in FY26 and \$75,000 in FY27.

65. Does OHA have an internal technical team responsible for ongoing website development, beyond content management, that the selected vendor would need to collaborate with?

OHA does not employ a technical team responsible for ongoing website development; however, we currently have a contractor to handle the hosting of the website.

66. Does OHA have a preference for a tailored, custom-built solution or the implementation of established off-the-shelf products for the website platform?

OHA will consider all proposed options; however, it is expected that there will be some customization of the CMS to fit OHA's needs.

67. what are the functional requirements of the project? what will the databook do?

The Native Hawaiian Data Book is designed to compile, organize, present, and disseminate data that informs understanding of the social, economic, and cultural conditions of Native Hawaiians. Key functional requirements include Data Collection & Integration, Standardization & Quality Control, Presentation & Visualization, and Public Sharing & Distribution.

68. we assume you want this website changed: <https://www.ohadatabook.com/> you want navigation changes or any other functionality added for the citizens

The URL will remain the same to ensure continued access to all users.

69. What are the specific domains, subdomains and data sets that will be included in the new, centralized website? Is it meant to integrate the information from linked sites such as Kipuka database and Papakilo database, or are those to remain cross-links?

Currently, OHA is not seeking any integration into the Kipuka or Papakilo Databases.

70. Do you have up-to-date statistics on the website audience's technical demographics? (ie: connection speed, browsers, devices, etc.)

OHA employs Google Analytics to track website usership and can provide this information upon request.

71. What is your historical average and peak site traffic?

Historical Average: 2025

# Traffic acquisition: Session primary channel group (Default Channel Group)					
# All Users	# Start date: 20250101	# End date: 20251231			
Session primary channel group	Sessions	Engaged sessions	Engagement rate	Events per session	Event count
Direct	4115	1190	0.289185905	4.118590522	16948
Organic Search	820	317	0.386585366	4.041463415	3314
Referral	195	103	0.528205128	4.764102564	929
Unassigned	5	0	0	1.8	9
Organic Social	2	0	0	3	6
Email	1	0	0	3	3

Peak Site Traffic: 2025 – Full report available through direct request.

72. Does the OHA have a preferred content management system (CMS)?

No. OHA will review and evaluate all proposed CMS solutions.

73. Does the OHA have any preferred data visualization tools that it currently uses or wants to use as part of the redesign?

No. OHA will review and evaluate all proposed data visualization tools.

74. Is the OHA open to incorporating data visualization products that integrate into the content management system, but may require separate subscriptions or fees?

OHA will review and evaluate all proposed data visualization tools.

75. Do you have any tools or services that currently integrate with the website that would need to remain? (ie: newsletter systems, CRM)

No.

76. Are there any design guidelines currently in place for the website, or will the vendor be responsible for developing these as a standard?

There are no design guidelines currently in place that will be expected to carry-over. The vendor will work with OHA to develop the design guidelines that align with OHA's mission and theme.

77. Are there any plans to revise the OHA brand before or during the project?

No.

78. Is your team familiar with Agile methodologies, where work is conducted in sprints and tasks are refined and prioritized on an ongoing basis throughout the project?

OHA will consider all options and methodologies regarding the project's management.

79. Other than the optional user sign-up for notifications and the authentication for website administrators/content editors, are there any other requirements around user authentication or content behind a login?

Not at this time, however, if the Offeror proposes any solutions that may require user authentication, OHA will review them and make a final decision.

80. What are the requirements around website management workflow? Do you anticipate a complex publishing process with various levels of roles/permissions?

Currently, OHA has no established requirements or SOP's regarding the website's management workflow. All proposed solutions provided by the Offeror and included in the assessment of the website will be taken into consideration.

81. In reference to the requirement "Accessibility and usability testing with sample users": do you have access to representative users of the website that are outside the staff and close stakeholder circles?

Yes, OHA is able to provide a list of external users if necessary as needed; stakeholder input is requested during the assessment phase.

82. Are you open to user research and usability testing (specifically around the website experience) as part of this scope?

Yes.

83. Do you have existing user research around the use of this website?

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84. What is the current composition and skillsets of the team who manages the website, content and data? Will this structure remain during and after the website project?

Currently, OHA is in the process of hiring a dedicated position that will manage the website, content and data.

85. Who are the key stakeholders for this project and how integrated into the process will they be?

Native Hawaiian Researchers, Policymakers, Government agencies, OHA staff, Native Hawaiian organizations.

86. Is hosting part of the scope of this project? Does the OHA have a preferred hosting partner?

OHA currently has a contractor that hosts the website and intends to continue utilizing their services.

87. Are there specific requirements around the number or frequency of in-person meetings?

No. Meetings will primarily be online, however, there may be occasional in-person meetings requested.

88. What policies does the OHA have regarding the use of generative artificial intelligence to automate any of the tasks outlined in your scope of work, assuming they are subject to human review?

Currently, OHA does not have any policies regarding the use of generative AI to automate tasks. However, any implementation of AI automative tasks will need to be approved by OHA and

outlined in the contract.

89. What policies do you have regarding the use of generative artificial intelligence to provide site functionality?

It is preferred that the selected vendor would not use AI tools for the build/coding of the site; however, any implementation of AI automative site management tasks will need to be approved by OHA and outlined in the contract.

90. Are there any specific AI tools that you are authorized or required to use (e.g., Gemini, OpenAI, etc.)? Are there any tools that you are not allowed to use?

It is preferred that the selected vendor would not use AI tools for both the build/coding of the site, however any implementation of AI automative site management tasks will need to be approved by OHA and outlined in the contract.

91. Regarding “Locations and Operations”: If the responding Offeror is not able to have a staff member physically at a Hawai’i-based location but can meet the contact and business-hour requirements, does it disqualify the Offeror from being awarded the contract, or simply affect the RFP scoring?

It affects the RFP scoring.

92. What are the specific language requirements for the new site?

English

93. Are there requirements around capabilities for SEO/GEO?

OHA does not anticipate a need for specialized SEO/GEO capabilities. However, vendors should implement standard website best practices to support usability and general discoverability.