VECTOR Town Hall FAQs

1. **What is VECTOR?**
    Veteran Enterprise Contracting for Transformation and Operational Readiness (VECTOR) is a multiple-award indefinite delivery/indefinite quantity (IDIA) contract that authorizes firm fixed price and labor hour type task orders. The contract vehicle supports administrative management and general management consulting services at the Department of Veterans Affairs. The contract was exclusively set-aside for Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Businesses (SDVOSB)

2. **Who are the VECTOR Primes?**
    A current list of the VECTOR Primes will be posted on the OSDBU website after all protest corrective actions are completed.

3. **What service groups does the VECTOR contract support?**
    There are six service groups supported under VECTOR. They include:

a. Management Oversight and Improvement – 25 Awards
    - Program and Project Management
    - Strategic Planning
    - Performance Measurement
    - Business Process Reengineering
    - Change Management and Transition
    - Quality Measurement
    - Data Governance

b. Analyses – 25 Awards
    - Studies/Surveys
    - Statistical and Actuarial Analysis
    - Management Analysis
    - Records Information Management
    - Financial and Business Performance Auditing

c. Training – 25 Awards
    - Training Development
    - Training Delivery

d. Outreach – 6 Awards
    - Advertising and Media Buying Services
    - Public Relations Services/Outreach
    - Conference, Events, and Tradeshow Planning Services
    - Promotional Materials, Video/Film Production and Graphics Design

e. Supply Chain – 16 Awards
    - Supply Chain Analysis and Management
    - Supply Chain Planning and Optimization
    - Inventory Management and Operation

f. Human Resources and Staffing – 12 Awards
    - Performance Development Planning
    - Human Resources Operations
    - Manpower Surveys
    - Collective Bargaining Analysis and Assessments

3. **How many awardees won the VECTOR contract?**
    69 small businesses were awarded on VECTOR (see attached listing). All awardees are listed under VA's Vendor Information Pages (VIP).

4. **How many awards were provided through VECTOR?**
    A total of 109 awards were distributed under VECTOR. See VECTOR Summary Chart to view the number of awards by service group.

5. **What is the VECTOR ordering period?**
    The ordering period is a five-year base plus one additional five-year option period beginning on September 29, 2017.

6. **What system is VA using to enable pre-award and post-award communications for this contract?**
    VA will be using the Acquisition Task Order Management System (ATOMS) to oversee VECTOR awards with prime vendors.

7. **Will past performance of prime contractors be evaluated?**
    Yes, past performance will be evaluated at the task order level.

8. **Will past performance of subcontractors be evaluated?**
    The past performance of subcontractors may be evaluated.

9. **What tools will be used to evaluate past performance?**
    Past Performance Questionnaires (PPQ) and CPARS are two tools VA may use to evaluate prime contractors.

10. **Are there any protests for VECTOR?**
    Yes, there are.

11. **Can task orders crossover service groups?**
    No, they cannot.

12. **What will the tiered evaluation process look like?**
    Tiered evaluations will be mandatory for every task order proposal request (TOPR) and will be performed in order to ensure preference to SDVOSB prime contractors, as well as, primes who subcontract or team with Veteran-Owned Small Businesses.
    - Tier 1 Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Businesses (SDVOSB) that team/subcontract exclusively with SDVOSBs and Veteran-Owned Small Businesses (VOSB)
    - Tier 2 SDVOSBs that team/subcontract with small businesses (Other than SDVOSBs and VOSBs), joint ventures that include small businesses
    - Tier 3 SDVOSBs that team/subcontract with large businesses, joint ventures that include large businesses

13. **How does on/off ramping of awardees work (based on yearly size re-certification)?**
    - Contractors may be off ramped if:
        - The contractor outgrows their SDVOSB size status
        - The contractor does not propose on task orders
    - Contractors may be on ramped if:
        - A determination is made that additional competition would be beneficial to the Government

14. **How are service groups assigned?**
    The program manager will recommend the service group assignment and the contracting officer will confirm that it is correct, assign a different group (if appropriate), or recommend a different contracting vehicle, depending on the most appropriate solution.

15. **Can prime contractors team on other service groups?**
    Yes, they can. Original proposed teams are not required throughout the course of the contract. Primes cannot subcontract under service groups in which they have an award.

16. **Can prime contractors change subcontractors?**
    Prime contractors can change subcontractors once a TOPR has been awarded only if they receive approval from the contracting officer.

17. **Can primes market VECTOR to potential customers?**
    No, primes cannot market VECTOR to potential customers.

18. **Will the ADVISOR contract continue?**
    Yes.

19. **Does the Service Contract Act apply to VECTOR?**
    No, it does not.

20. **Do the limitations on subcontracting apply to each TOPR?**
    Yes.

21. **What is the Procurement Action Lead Time (PALT) on VECTOR task orders?**
    45-60 days > $150k

22. **How long does it take to perform a background check?**
    Generally 30-45 days.

23. **How much business will go through VECTOR?**
    We only evaluated Tier 1 for service groups 1, 2, 3, 5, and 6. For service group 4 (Outreach), we evaluated Tiers 1, 2, and 3, but the awardees were all in Tier 1. This evaluation was only for contract award. Awardees may fall into a different Tier based on their proposals for any given task order.