



NATIONAL SAFE SKIES ALLIANCE

Program for Applied Research in Airport Security

PARAS 0031 Project Statement

Project Title:	Airport Response to Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS) Threats		
Program Officer:	Jessica Grizzle	865-738-2080	Jessica.Grizzle@sskies.org
Fiscal Year:	2020		
Contract Time:	12 Months		
Funding Cap:	\$200,000		
RFP Close Date:	April 21, 2020		
Authorization to Begin Work (estimated):	July 2020		

BACKGROUND

Federal agencies and the US Congress have identified potential threats from Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) as a major concern at airports. These threats may be the result of nefarious intent or simply a careless or uninformed UAS operator. Although UAS, or drones, have increased significantly in popularity, little guidance exists regarding response protocols for airports when a UAS is detected.

As federal agencies continue to develop a regulatory framework, there is an immediate need for guidance to assist airport operators in proactively preparing for a potential threat.

OBJECTIVE

The objective of this research is to produce guidance to assist airports in working collaboratively to plan for and respond to UAS threats. At a minimum, the guidance should include:

- Strategies for:
 - Planning
 - Identifying relevant response stakeholders
 - Identifying local, regional, and federal resources
 - Tabletops/exercises
 - Federal, state, and local agency coordination strategies
 - Identification and Threat Assessment
 - Response
 - Recovery and returning to normal operations
- Detection system considerations and response implications
- Legal considerations
- Public policy and regulatory considerations
- Relevant examples and case studies
- Community awareness and prevention

The resulting guidance should be scalable so that airports of all sizes and resource levels can benefit.

SPECIAL NOTES

- Broad airport surveys will not be conducted as part of this research effort. Targeted outreach such as interviews, working groups, or case studies should be utilized.
- Proposals should not include counter-UAS technology solutions or systems. All discussion of detection technology must be vendor and system agnostic.
- Some information gathered during the research process may be considered sensitive or restricted. Proposers should plan to protect it accordingly.
- Proposing teams should include appropriate interdisciplinary subject-matter expertise to effectively address the topic. At a minimum, expertise is needed in emergency response, airport operations, airport security, and law enforcement.
- Proposers are encouraged to ask questions regarding proposed scope and project panel intent. Questions should be directed to [Jessica Grizzle](#), PARAS Program Manager.
- Proposers should be aware of related PARAS projects, industry publications and white papers, research, and other relevant literature, documents, and initiatives, and include in the research plan their approach for considering these research efforts.

RESEARCH PLAN

PARAS is seeking the insights of proposers on how best to achieve the research objective, and is asking proposers to develop and include a detailed research plan. Proposers are expected to describe research plans that can realistically be accomplished within the constraints of available funds and contract time. Proposals must present the proposers' current thinking in sufficient detail to demonstrate their understanding of the issues, and the soundness of their approach to meeting the research objective. The work proposed must be divided into tasks, and work for each task must be described in detail.

DELIVERABLES

The research plan should include the following interim deliverables for PARAS approval at a minimum:

1. Amplified work plan
2. Literature review
3. Interim report that describes work performed in the early tasks, research results to date, an annotated outline of the anticipated guidance document, and an updated work plan for remaining tasks. **Note: Portions of the interim research results may be published if deemed appropriate by the project panel.**
4. Draft final deliverable

Additionally, the research plan should build in appropriate checkpoints with the PARAS panel, including at a minimum:

- Kick-off teleconference meeting to be held within 1 month of the contract effective date
- One face-to-face interim deliverable review meeting
- Web-enabled teleconferences tied to the panel review and PARAS approval of other interim deliverables as deemed appropriate

The final deliverables will include a guidance document and a Microsoft PowerPoint presentation that summarizes the project results, which will be used in presentations to the industry.

Note: The contract time includes 1 week for PARAS review of the amplified work plan, 2 weeks for PARAS review of the interim report, 1 month for PARAS review and comment of the draft final deliverables, and 1 month for contractor

preparation of the final deliverables. For budgeting purposes, proposers should assume that PARAS will provide access to web-enabled teleconference services. Proposers should assume that the face-to-face interim deliverable review meeting will be held in the Washington, DC area.

PROPOSAL

The essential features required in a proposal for research are detailed in the current document entitled [Guidance for Preparing Proposals](#). Proposals must be prepared according to this document, and attention is directed specifically to Section V for mandatory requirements. **Proposals that do not conform to the mandatory requirements will be rejected.**

The total funds available are made known in this Project Statement, and line items of the budget will be examined to determine the reasonableness of the allocation of funds to the various tasks. **If the proposed total cost exceeds the funds available, the proposal will be rejected.**

All proposals become the property of National Safe Skies Alliance. Final disposition will be made according to the policies thereof, including the right to reject all proposals.

Proposals (1 electronic and 15 individually-bound hard copies) are due not later than 5:00 p.m. EDT on April 21, 2020. The electronic copy should be sent via email to Jessica.Grizzle@sskies.org.

This is a firm deadline and extensions are not granted. **In order to be considered for award, the electronic copy, all 15 hard copies, and the executed, unmodified Liability Statement must be received no later than the deadline shown, or the proposal will be rejected.** Proposers may choose any carrier or delivery service for their proposals. However, proposers assume the risk of proposal rejection if the carrier or delivery service does not deliver all of the required documents by the deadline.

Delivery Address:

Jessica Grizzle
National Safe Skies Alliance, Inc.
1725 Base Pointe Way
Louisville, TN 37777
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LIABILITY STATEMENT

The signature of an authorized representative of the proposer is required on the unaltered [Liability Statement](#) in order for PARAS to accept the organization's proposal for consideration. **Proposals submitted without this executed and unaltered statement by the proposal deadline will be summarily rejected.** An executed, unaltered statement indicates the organization's intent and ability to execute a contract that includes the provisions in the statement.

GENERAL NOTES

- According to the provisions of 49 CFR § 21, which relates to nondiscrimination in federally assisted programs, all parties are hereby notified that the contract entered into pursuant to this announcement will be awarded without discrimination on the grounds of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, or disability.
- The contract type is cost reimbursement with a "not-to-exceed" limiting amount.