The Allen County Public Library (“Library”) is publishing this Request for Services to design The Rolland Center for Lincoln Research from existing space at the Main Branch located at 900 Library Plaza in downtown Fort Wayne, Indiana.

The Rolland Center for Lincoln Research is a program of the Friends of the Lincoln Collection in Indiana, Inc. in partnership with the Library. The mission of this Center focuses on renewing and enhancing knowledge of the life and times of Abraham Lincoln through a timely suite of educational and professional activities. This program will be physically represented by professionally designed, environmentally controlled physical exhibit space on the first floor of the Library’s Main Branch and environmentally controlled work and archival space on lower level one of the Library’s Main Branch. The first floor space will feature exhibits of Lincoln Financial Foundation Collection items curated by the Library and the Indiana State Museum and Historic Sites in order to provide the collection with a greatly enhanced level of exposure and to raise its visibility in Fort Wayne. The lower level one space will feature archival storage; work and engagement space for the Lincoln librarians, interns and volunteers; and room for the forthcoming scholar-in-residence program.

In addition to designing professional space to display elements of the Lincoln Collection, Library leadership is very interested in creating space that will engage the community, incorporate significant technology (augmented and virtual reality, and the like) to enhance customer engagement. The space design must support easy updating of physical and virtual displays. The Library values out-of-the-box thinking and fresh approaches to creating twenty-first century experiences, and expects creative design of spaces and applications to embrace diverse and differently-abled customers. The Library expects flexible work space concepts for the lower level space that foster collaboration and enable engaging tour experiences. All spaces must include security and loss prevention solutions appropriate for protecting a highly valued, multimillion dollar collection and that integrate with existing security infrastructure.

The Library invites responses for services that include design concepts, costs for design / architectural services, the design concept / approach you would use for this project, the estimated timeline for design and construction, and an estimate of overall costs for the project (design, construction, installation of infrastructure, and moving). Questions should be directed to the Library’s Special Collections Manager, Curt Witcher at (260) 421-1226 or via email at CWitcher@ACPL.info. A tour of the current physical space designated for the renovation as well as a Q & A session will be held at the Main Library on September 19, 2019 at 1:00 p.m. Participation in this meeting will provide a much clearer vision of what the Library is looking to achieve.

Responses to the Request for Services must be received in writing or PDF file by 5:00 p.m. EDT on October 11, 2019. The responses should be directed to:

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