Questions Asked at the Smart and Connected Community Solicitation Webinar on October 20, 2016

1. In the context of the solicitation, can a university or university system itself be a smart and connected community or does it have to be working with a municipality?

A university or university system has to be working with a well-defined community, as described in the solicitation and FAQ 17-025. Neither a university nor a university system in itself represents the type of community envisioned for the solicitation. However, the municipality surrounding the university, if engaged, is an example of a community envisioned in the solicitation.

2. Can National Laboratories participate in a proposal?

NSF does not normally support research or education activities by scientists, engineers or educators employed by Federal agencies or Federally-Funded Research and Development Centers (FFRDCs). NSF recommends reviewing the Proposal & Award Policies & Procedures Guide ([PAPPG](#)) for specific requirements and then contacting the cognizant Program Officers for the S&CC program solicitation.

3. Is there a limit on the number of preliminary proposals?

*The limit on the number of Integrative Research Grants (IRG) Track 1 and 2 proposals per PI, co-PI, or other senior personnel is **one**; therefore, we anticipate prospective PIs to submit **one** corresponding preliminary proposal.*

4. Can the title and scope of a full IRG proposal differ from that of the corresponding preliminary proposal?

We anticipate the topic, scope and direction of the full proposal to be the same as the preliminary proposal, but details may differ or change. The title should convey the same topic, scope and direction but is not required to be exactly the same.

5. What is the difference between IRG Track 1 and 2?

Track 1 and 2 proposals are distinguished by the size of the research team as well as the scope and duration of the proposed activities. For a given proposal, rationale should be included explaining why the corresponding budget is required to carry out the proposed work.

6. Can you provide examples of successful RCN?

You can view a list of successful awards made through the RCN program, including links to award abstracts, on the [NSF Awards database](#).

7. In what role might community representatives serve on the proposal?

It is up to the PI to determine the role of the community representative(s) (e.g., co-PI, senior personnel, other personnel, or other means to demonstrate engagement).

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8. **Can letters of collaboration be submitted as part of an IRG Track 1 or 2 preliminary proposal?**

    As stated in the S&CC program solicitation (see Section V.A, Proposal Preparation Instructions), no letters of collaboration are to be included in the submission of a preliminary proposal.

9. **Is there a limit to the number of co-PIs on a proposal?**

    As stated in PAPPG Part I, Chapter II, a proposal may identify up to four additional co-PIs.