



INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES DEPARTMENT
PUBLIC WORKS DIVISION

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December 13, 2010

Re: County RFQ Written Inquiry Responses

To Whom It May Concern:

Bexar County Public Works is responding to the written questions received on its Request for Statement of Qualifications for Professional Engineering Services on Street and Drainage Improvement Projects. Consultant SOQs must be submitted by interested candidates no later than 4:00 pm on December 29, 2010.

Note that substantive deficiencies in vital areas could result in non-selection of a firm.

Is there a number of pages minimum/maximum or specific format requirements for this SOQ submittal?

There are no established page number criteria for the SOQ submittals. Refer to section 2.10 of the RFQ for additional information, and refer to section 3 for information required from Service Provider.

The county's RFQ requires the professional to perform periodic inspection of construction (page 1 mid page and 1.4.4). In accordance with the comprehensive general liability insurance required by the county (item 2.8.3), our insurance carrier requires that we substitute construction observation for inspection. Is this acceptable to the county?

Yes

What may be included in environmental permitting of these projects? Just standard SW3P and NPDES permitting? ...wetlands permit? ... COE 404 permit? Do you see any of these services being a negotiated fee within the professional's contract?

The County expects the successful firm/team to have the requisite environmental expertise to be able to identify environmental permits that may be required for the individual projects. Provision of professional permitting services will be negotiated as a part of the County's Engineering Services Agreement with the selected firm/team.

For item 1.3.1 Benton City Road Drainage/Low Water Crossing, what is the design storm for the structure? What permits may be included in the phrase "any other permits deemed appropriate?"

The County has not targeted a specific design storm frequency and fully anticipates this decision to be a function of the engineering design process. As stated in the RFQ, the County envisions an improved conveyance of stormwater runoff while having no impact

to the existing 100-yr WSEL. Regarding the question of which permits may be required, please refer to the previous question. Bexar County is specifically securing the services of design and environmental professionals to make these determinations.

For item 1.3.1 Benton City Road Drainage/Low Water Crossing, what permits may be included in the phrase “any other permits deemed appropriate?”

Regarding the question of which permits may be required, please refer to the previous question on permitting. Bexar County is specifically securing the services of design and environmental professionals to make these determinations.

For item 1.3.1, will additional right of way be obtained or will proposed improvements be required to fit within the approximate 62’ noted?

Again, what is required will be a function of an iterative design process. While it is desirable from a fiscal and timeline standpoint that all work be done within existing right of way (ROW), the possibility certainly exists that additional ROW or easements may be required.

For item 1.3.2 Bulverde Road Reconstruction Project Phase V, will SUE and geotechnical services be a liability under the professional’s contract or will these services be coordinated under the professional’s contract but liable to and paid by the County? Can you describe what the County might request within the professional’s contract with the phrase “other general engineering services” and what if any of these might be considered additional services?

SUE and geotechnical services will be under the prime consultant’s contract and liability.

For item 1.3.2 Bulverde Road Reconstruction Project Phase V, can you describe what the County might request within the professional’s contract with the phrase “other general engineering services” and what if any of these might be considered additional services?

The wording simply indicates the reality that unanticipated engineering services may be determined to be required as a function of the design process. If specific services are not negotiated within the scope of the successful consultant’s contract, the provision of those services will be deemed “additional services” and will be compensated for as such.

Item 4.2 identifies there is an accelerated schedule but doesn’t provide what that schedule is. Will the County provide schedules for each of these projects?

The intent of the wording is to emphasize the importance of an expeditious design. The County does not have specific timelines established for the design and construction of the projects.

Item 4.5 is unclear if alternates will be weeded out during a programming phase or if alternates will be developed enough to the point of pricing by a contractor. Will an alternate be selected and proceed to 100 percent construction documents after the programming phase?

Section 4.5 of the RFQ is specific to information that will allow the County to select a consultant for design services, and does not necessarily have any bearing on the design phase and construction documents. The intent of this section is to emphasize the importance of cost awareness, and to determine what, if any, ideas the prospective consultant may have regarding possible design alternatives with respect to the individual projects that will be ultimately beneficial to the County.

What exactly is required on the sub-consultants on the FY 2011 Street and Drainage RFQ? Do they also have to complete all of the items listed under Service Provider information?

Please provide information on all of the subs that are a part of your team. Information related to sections 3.3.1 through 3.3.6 should be easy enough to identify for each of the subs. Section 3.3.7 is essentially targeted to the Prime. Also, on 3.3.5, you only need to fill out one Enterprise Owner Information Form, with your subs listed on there.

If a subconsultant is in the process of, or will begin the process for renewing their SWMBE status, can the subconsultant be included on the team to meet SWMBE goals?

Yes. Firms have 90 days to get certified. Once they submit an application to the SCTRCA, they should notify Renee Watson at (210) 335-2478 to have this expedited.

Hopefully, these responses to the questions submitted by the consultants will assist you in the preparation of your Statement of Qualifications.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David R. Wegmann". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

David R. Wegmann
Capital Projects Coordinator