



REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS

Westbound US 84 Mississippi River Bridge
Painting and Pin and Link Replacements
Adams County, Mississippi and Concordia Parish, Louisiana

Project Number
BR-0015-01(129)/106736-301000

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS

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I. PURPOSE OF REQUEST

The purpose of this Request for Qualifications (RFQ) is to solicit Statements of Qualifications (SOQs) from contractors interested in providing construction services necessary for painting and pin and link replacements on the westbound US 84 Mississippi River Bridge in Adams County, Mississippi, and Concordia Parish, Louisiana (known hereinafter as the “Project”).

The term “Responder” as used herein includes a firm or firms, partnerships, joint ventures, and others responding to this RFQ document. The term “Bidder” as used herein includes a firm or firms, partnerships, joint ventures, and others, who have been short-listed based on evaluation and scoring of their submitted SOQ and will be asked to submit a bid based on the stamped contract plans and/or contract proposal provided by the Mississippi Department of Transportation (MDOT). The term “Contractor,” as used here, is defined as the Bidder with whom the contract is executed.

The Commission intends to use a two-step process to award a contract for this Project. This RFQ represents the first step in the process. After evaluation and scoring of responsive SOQs, the Commission intends to short-list the most qualified Responders (a minimum of three (3)). Those short-listed Responders will be asked to submit bids based on the stamped contract plans and/or contract proposal. The Commission intends to select a Bidder based on the lowest responsive bid.

It is not the intention of the Commission to receive project-specific design or engineering recommendations as part of the SOQ. Responders should limit their submittals to the information requested herein. A stipend will not be issued for this Project.

II. OVERVIEW

The Project may include cleaning and paint disposal, painting, structural item replacement, roadway work and construction items, and other repair work on the westbound US 84 Mississippi River Bridge in Adams County, Mississippi, and Concordia Parish, Louisiana. The westbound US 84 Mississippi River Bridge is a five (5)-span cantilever through-truss with multiple steel approach spans that carries US 84 over the Mississippi River from Natchez, Mississippi, to Vidalia, Louisiana. The cantilever through-truss consists of built-up box members and built-up H-sections. The approach spans consist of built-up plate girders. The cantilever through-truss consists of roughly 1,000,000 square feet of structural steel, and the approach spans consist of approximately 50,000 square feet of structural steel.

The cantilever truss has one (1) suspended span located between Piers 1 and 2 and multiple pins and links. The westbound bridge has a 24'-0" clear roadway width, 2'-0¼" wide steel curb and rail, and a 7¼" thick deck.

PROJECT HISTORY

PAINTING

The bridge was last cleaned and painted in the 1980s and contains lead paint from when it was constructed.

STRUCTURAL REPAIRS

In 2014, MDOT let a contract to replace the pins and links at U29 downstream and U49 upstream trusses. Crossovers were installed and westbound traffic detoured to the eastbound bridge for eleven (11) weeks while the contractor made the necessary structural repairs. Temporary restraints were utilized for replacement of the existing pins and links. Crossovers were left in place for future projects.

MDOT has provided Responders with the plans from the previous westbound US 84 Mississippi River Bridge Pin and Link Replacements project (Project No. BR-0015-01(120)/106487-301000) on the MDOT Design-Build and Special Projects website (mdot.ms.gov – under Contracts and Letting, Design-Build and Special Projects).

CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULE

MDOT intends to allow a maximum of nine (9) consecutive months for the complete structural repair to the westbound US 84 Mississippi River Bridge, during which time the Contractor will detour traffic from the westbound bridge to the eastbound bridge utilizing the previously constructed crossovers. The Contractor will be allowed to perform some construction activities, including cleaning and painting, outside of the nine-month bridge closure (specific construction activities to be further described in the stamped contract plans and/or contract proposal); however, replacement of pins and links must be completed within the bridge closure period. Work performed outside of the

nine-month closure will be performed with the westbound US 84 Mississippi River Bridge open to normal traffic. Single lane closures between specified hours are allowed for the work outside of the nine-month closure. The Contractor will be responsible for coordinating phasing of the work between the painting and pin and link replacements.

This Project includes federal funds. Construction of the Project will be within the Commission's and the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development's right of way. The Commission has secured the Programmatic Categorical Exclusion for the construction of the Project. Except for the documents related to the NEPA process, any additional permits and/or permit modifications required will be the responsibility of the Contractor and must be in compliance with all relevant state specifications and federal regulations. It is also the responsibility of the Contractor to coordinate with the United States Coast Guard, as necessary.

III. SCOPE

The Project may include necessary construction services which primarily consist of cleaning (near white finish) and painting the cantilever through-truss and steel approach spans on the westbound US 84 Mississippi River Bridge in Adams County and Concordia Parish and disposing of the paint. Additional services to be included are the installation of temporary restraints and replacement of the existing pins and links on the westbound cantilever through-truss at up to six (6) locations, removal of existing crossovers, performance of roadway work and miscellaneous construction items, and making other repairs on the westbound US 84 Mississippi River Bridge. The proposed pin and link locations that may be part of this Project are:

- U19 upstream truss
- U19 downstream truss
- U29 upstream truss
- U49 downstream truss
- U69 upstream truss
- U69 downstream truss

All teams are hereby notified that the total value of all work performed by the prime contractor shall be no less than 40 percent of the value of the Bidder's submitted cost proposal/bid per Subsection 108.01.1 of the *Mississippi Standard Specifications for Road and Bridge Construction* (<http://sp.mdot.ms.gov/Construction/Pages/Standard%20Specifications.aspx> – under Division 100 – General Provisions, Subsection 108.01.1).

It is anticipated that the cost of the pin and link replacements will be less than 40 percent of the cost of the contract.

This Project may include, but is not limited to, the following construction work items:

- Cleaning and paint disposal as per Special Provision No. 907-845-3, available on the MDOT Design-Build and Special Projects website (mdot.ms.gov – under Contracts and Letting, Design-Build and Special Projects)
- Painting as per Special Provision No. 907-845-3, available on the MDOT Design-Build and Special Projects website (mdot.ms.gov – under Contracts and Letting, Design-Build and Special Projects)
- Removal of existing crossovers
- Installation of temporary restraints
- Structural item replacement
- Quality control for painting items
- Minor repairs
- Traffic control
- Erosion control
- Landscaping
- Concrete work
- Roadway lighting

IV. SUBMITTAL INSTRUCTIONS

SOQs must be received by the date and time specified in the Milestone Schedule located at the end of this document. Deliver **seven (7)** copies of the SOQ sequentially numbered on the lower right hand cover sheet from 1 to 7, and one (1) CD containing the SOQ in a PDF file to:

Mr. Billy Owen, P.E.
Contract Administration Engineer
Mississippi Department of Transportation
401 North West Street
Post Office Box 1850
Jackson, Mississippi 39215-1850
Phone: (601) 359-7730
Fax: (601) 359-7732

V. SUBMITTAL FORMAT

The SOQ must be submitted according to the Milestone Schedule located at the end of this document. The recommended length of the SOQ is no more than thirty-five (35) pages, double-spaced, exclusive of appendices. Pages (size 8.5 inches by 11 inches) will each be counted as one (1) page of the recommended 35-page maximum. Margins should be at least one inch on all four sides, typed on one side only, excluding appendices. All text information in the recommended 35-page limit should be shown in a readable font, size 12 points or larger. No more than five pages may be 11 inches by 17 inches, but they shall count as two sheets each against the recommended 35-page maximum. Headers, footers, charts, and other graphics may be provided in a different font type and size providing they are legible. Section dividers are not counted as part of the recommended 35-page maximum. A single-page cover letter and table of contents will not be counted as part of the recommended 35-page maximum. Resumes, licenses, and certifications may be provided in the appendices and will not count against the recommended 35-page maximum. It is preferred that all resumes be limited to one (1) page.

The overall quality of the SOQ submittal will be evaluated. This will include, but will not be limited to overall layout and readability of the submittal, organization and comprehensiveness of the required content, conformance with formatting guidelines, and any other characteristics of the SOQ that increase the quality of the document. Responders are encouraged to thoroughly address the requirements of the RFQ for the highest quality response. Failure to provide any of the information in the appropriate location indicated below may adversely affect the Responder's score.

Responders should address each of the following categories in their SOQ in the same order as listed below. However, resumes, licenses, and certifications may be provided in the appendices. The SOQ categories should be numbered/lettered in a manner consistent with this RFQ as indicated below.

A. TEAM APPROACH AND RESOURCES

1. Identify the prime contractor and other primary members of the Responder's team (as identified in the organizational chart defined in number 2). Name the entity with whom the Commission will be contracting (Contractor) and identify if this will be a partnership, corporation, or joint venture. In addition, provide the Responder's current Society for Protective Coatings (SSPC) QP1 and QP2 certificates in the appendix. (Current QP1 and QP2 certificates must also be presented fourteen (14) days prior to the beginning of coatings work.) Describe the following about the Responder's team:
 - a. How and why the team has been so structured.
 - b. The roles and responsibilities of each firm as part of the Responder's team and an estimated percentage of work anticipated from each firm.
 - c. How these responsibilities will be advantageous to facilitating the successful completion of the Project.
 - d. Identify any firms on the team or Key Individuals who have previously worked together on similar projects.

All teams are hereby notified that the total value of all work performed by the prime contractor shall be no less than 40 percent of the value of the Bidder's submitted cost proposal/bid per Subsection 108.01.1 of the *Mississippi Standard Specifications for Road and Bridge Construction* (<http://sp.mdot.ms.gov/Construction/Pages/Standard%20Specifications.aspx> – under Division 100 – General Provisions, Subsection 108.01.1).

It is anticipated that the cost of the pin and link replacements will be less than 40 percent of the cost of the contract.

2. Provide an organizational chart of the Responder's team members including, at a minimum, all Key Individuals and other members of the team indicated in this section of the RFQ. The team organizational chart should include each individual's name, job description (for this Project), and company of employment. The organizational chart should be tabbed and clearly defined. Changes to Key Individuals shall not be made after initial submittal of this SOQ without MDOT approval.

Key Individuals are defined as the following members of the team: Project Director, Structural Project Manager, Painting Project Manager, Structural Superintendent, Painting Superintendent, Painting Quality Control Supervisor, and Traffic Control Manager.

3. The following information identifies MDOT's expectations of Key Individuals.
 - a. Project Director - The Project Director should be the primary person in charge of and responsible for the delivery of the Project in accordance with the contract requirements. The Project Director should have full authority to make the final decisions on behalf of the Contractor and have responsibility for communicating these decisions directly to MDOT.
 - b. Structural Project Manager – The Structural Project Manager should be in charge of and responsible for advising the Project Director on technical/engineering questions, approved re-designs, and additional temporary works deemed necessary by the Contractor. The Structural Project Manager will be responsible for inspecting all temporary structures when they are erected and prior to any post-tensioning. The Structural Project Manager must be present at the site full-time during removal of the existing pins and links and until the new pins and links are successfully replaced. The Structural Project Manager is required to be a Professional Engineer licensed in the State of Mississippi. Mississippi registration is not required to propose on the Project but is required prior to commencing the work.
 - c. Painting Project Manager – The Painting Project Manager should be in charge of and responsible for advising the Project Director on all painting operations and environmental compliance (related to painting and paint disposal) with all applicable laws and regulations. The Painting Project Manager must be present at the site full-time during painting operations.
 - d. Structural Superintendent – The Structural Superintendent reports directly to the Structural Project Manager and should be responsible for the overall coordination of the structural repairs. The Structural Superintendent must be present at the site full-time during structural repairs.
 - e. Painting Superintendent - The Painting Superintendent reports directly to the Painting Project Manager and should be responsible for the overall coordination of the painting. The Painting Superintendent must be present at the site full-time.
 - f. Painting Quality Control Supervisor – The Painting Quality Control Supervisor should be responsible for assuring that all painting, cleaning, and paint disposal, as well as materials for these types of work, are in compliance with the contract requirements. The Painting Quality Control Supervisor is required to be certified either as a National Association of Corrosion Engineers (NACE) Coating Inspector Level 3 or a Society for Protective Coatings (SSPC) Level 2 Bridge Coating Inspector.

- g. Traffic Control Manager – The Traffic Control Manager should have knowledge of the *Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices* (MUTCD). This Key Individual shall be available on a twenty-four (24) hour per day basis throughout construction and be prepared to coordinate response to the Project upon notification of an emergency situation.

Identify, at a minimum, the Responder's roles and responsibilities which will meet or exceed MDOT's expectations for each of the Key Individuals listed above.

4. Identify and describe any painting and structural equipment the Responder has access to that would assist during construction.

B. EXPERIENCE AND QUALIFICATIONS OF PERSONNEL

1. The Responder should provide a brief written summary within the recommended 35 pages outlining the qualifications of the Key Individuals and the specific information requested below to demonstrate that each Key Individual meets the preferred minimum qualifications, in addition to providing Key Individual resumes, certifications, and licenses in the appendix:
 - a. The Responder's Project Director should have at least ten (10) years of experience managing projects of similar scope and magnitude to the Project. Describe the Project Director's experience and qualifications leading a project of similar scope and magnitude. Provide a maximum of five (5) projects that demonstrate the Project Director's ability to successfully complete a project of similar scope and magnitude. For each project listed, provide:
 - i. A brief description of each project managed, including the year(s) of construction and the size and type of the project, the location of the project, and any unusual features.
 - ii. The name of the owner for whom the work was performed and the name and phone numbers of the owner's representatives who can verify and discuss the Project Director's participation in the project.
 - b. The Responder's Structural Project Manager should have at least ten (10) years of experience of similar scope and magnitude to the Project. Describe the Structural Project Manager's experience and qualifications as well as technical knowledge and understanding of truss bridges and use of temporary structures. Provide a maximum of five (5) projects that demonstrate the Structural Project Manager's ability to successfully complete the Project. For each project listed, provide:

- i. A brief description of each project, including the year(s) of construction and the size and type of the project, the location of the project, and any unusual features.
 - ii. The name of the owner for whom the work was performed and the name and phone numbers of the owner's representatives who can verify and discuss the Structural Project Manager's participation in the project.
 - c. The Responder's Painting Project Manager should have at least ten (10) years of experience of similar scope and magnitude to the Project. Describe the Painting Project Manager's experience and qualifications managing a painting project of similar scope and magnitude. Provide a maximum of five (5) projects that demonstrate the Painting Project Manager's ability to successfully complete the Project. For each project listed, provide:
 - i. A brief description of each project, including the year(s) of construction and the size and type of the project, the location of the project, and any unusual features.
 - ii. The name of the owner for whom the work was performed and the name and phone numbers of the owner's representatives who can verify and discuss the Painting Project Manager's participation in the project.
 - d. The Responder's Structural Superintendent should have at least ten (10) years of experience managing projects of similar scope and magnitude.
 - e. The Responder's Painting Superintendent should have at least ten (10) years of experience managing projects of similar scope and magnitude.
 - f. The Responder's Painting Quality Control Supervisor should have at least ten (10) years of experience with projects of similar scope and magnitude.
 - g. The Responder's Traffic Control Manager should have at least five (5) years of experience with projects of similar scope and magnitude.
2. The Responder should provide a brief written summary within the recommended 35 pages outlining the qualifications and any relevant information for additional staff who would assist Key Individuals to demonstrate that the Responder has staff who meet the preferred minimum qualifications, in addition to providing additional staff resumes, certifications, and licenses in the appendix.

MDOT prefers that the Responder has staff with experience in the following:

- a. Painting of through-truss bridges with built-up box members within the last ten (10) years,
- b. Rehabilitation or construction of steel structures within the last ten (10) years including:
 - Past experience with rehabilitation of truss bridges
 - Past experience with removal and replacement of pins from link/hanger of similar size and magnitude to the Project
 - Past experience with removal and installation of existing links and installation of gusset plates of similar size and magnitude to the Project
- c. Jacking of steel structures within the last ten (10) years of similar size and magnitude to the ones anticipated for the Project, and
- d. Use of temporary structures within the last ten (10) years of similar size and magnitude to the ones anticipated for the Project.

Provide resumes of Key Individuals and other personnel as part of the Responder's team considered critical to the success of this Project, including personnel discussed above. It is preferred that all resumes be limited to one (1) page. This information may be included in the appendices and will not be counted against the 35-page maximum. Any licenses or certifications may be provided in the appendices. Key Individuals are to remain for the duration of the Project, and changes cannot be made without MDOT approval.

Modifications to the Bidder's Key Individuals and other personnel listed in Sections A and B are discouraged. Key Individuals include the Project Director, Structural Project Manager, Painting Project Manager, Structural Superintendent, Painting Superintendent, Painting Quality Control Supervisor, and Traffic Control Manager. MDOT will not approve requests for modification without justification. Examples of justification include death of a team member, changes in employment status, bankruptcy, inability to perform, organizational conflict of interest, or other such significant cause. In order to secure MDOT's approval prior to the award of the contract, a written request shall be sent to the following e-mail address: US84MSRiverBridgePainting@mdot.ms.gov.

The request shall include:

- a) the nature of the desired change,
- b) the reason for the desired change, and
- c) a statement of how the desired change will meet the required qualifications for the position/responsibility.

No such modification will be made without prior written MDOT approval.

MDOT reserves the right to obtain references from any source listed in the SOQ and any other source deemed appropriate for any of the requirements/criteria listed in this RFQ.

Mississippi Code Sections 73-13-1 through 73-13-45 (1972) (as amended) govern the practice of engineering in Mississippi. Mississippi Code Sections 73-13-71 through 73-13-105 (1972) (as amended) govern the practice of land surveying in Mississippi. Firms are required to be qualified to offer and provide services in the State of Mississippi. For more information, contact the Mississippi Board of Licensure for Professional Engineers and Surveyors at (601) 359-6160. More information can be found at the Board's web address: <http://www.pepls.state.ms.us/pepls/web.nsf>.

C. PAST PERFORMANCE

The Responder should provide the following information demonstrating the Responder's past experience:

1. Provide a maximum of five (5) painting projects, with a brief description of each, that demonstrate the Responder's ability to successfully complete the Project. It is preferred that each example painting project was completed within the last ten (10) years or that it currently be under contract and should be of similar scope and magnitude to this Project. It is preferred that Responders indicate projects in which team members previously worked together on projects of similar scope and magnitude. The Responder should indicate the location of each project, the years of construction, the amount of the construction contract, the Responder's role in the contract, the name of the owner for whom the work was performed, and the name and phone numbers of the owner's representatives who can verify and discuss the project.

MDOT prefers that the Responder provide example painting projects with experience in the following:

- Use of abrasive blast surface preparation,
 - Full containment meeting industry standards SSPC Guide 6,
 - Involving through-truss construction with built-up box members,
 - Over traffic,
 - Over a large navigable waterway,
 - At least one through-truss span length greater than 500 feet or greater, and
 - At least one bridge painting project of at least \$10,000,000 that has been completed to the owner's satisfaction in the last five (5) years.
2. Provide a maximum of five (5) structural replacement projects, with a brief description of each, that demonstrate the Responder's ability to successfully complete the Project. It is preferred that each example structural replacement project was

completed within the last ten (10) years or that it currently be under contract and should be of similar scope and magnitude to this Project. It is preferred that Responders indicate projects in which team members previously worked together on projects of similar scope and magnitude. The Responder should indicate the location of each project, the years of construction, the amount of the construction contract, the Responder's role in the contract, the name of the owner for whom the work was performed, and the name and phone numbers of the owner's representatives who can verify and discuss the project.

MDOT prefers that the Responder provide example structural replacement projects with experience in the following:

- Rehabilitation or construction of steel structures,
 - Past experience with rehabilitation of truss bridges
 - Past experience with removal and replacement of pins from link/hanger of similar size and magnitude to the Project
 - Past experience with removal and installation of existing links and installation of gusset plates of similar size and magnitude to the Project
- Jacking of steel structures of similar size or larger in scale to the Project, and
- Use of temporary structures of similar size or larger in scale to the Project.

D. SAFETY

1. Provide the OSHA Recordable Incident Rate for each painting and/or construction firm for the last five years.
2. Identify any painting and/or construction team member(s) that have been cited for OSHA violations within the last five (5) years. If a team member has been cited for a violation, provide a detailed explanation of the violation and identify the team member.
3. Provide a description of each painting and /or construction firm's safety program and any other safety- related details that may be relevant to this Project.

E. BONDING AND INSURANCE CAPACITY

1. Provide information on the Responder's bonding capacity.
2. Provide information on the Responder's insurance capacity. For example, this may include the Responder's Accord form or other documentation of the Responder's insurance capacity.

F. QUALITY OF SOQ

The overall quality of the SOQ submittal will be evaluated. This will include, but will not be limited to overall layout and readability of the submittal, organization and comprehensiveness of the required content, conformance with formatting guidelines, and any other characteristics of the SOQ that increase the quality of the document.

VI. SOQ EVALUATION

The criteria shown below will be considered in determining the Responder's qualification score. The maximum points for each evaluation category will be as follows:

Approach	20
Experience and Qualifications of Personnel	30
Past Performance	35
Safety	5
Bonding and Insurance	5
Quality of SOQ	5
Maximum Score	100

VII. GENERAL INFORMATION

The Commission intends for the contract to be awarded based on the lowest responsive bid. The Commission intends for the contract type to be firm Fixed Price.

All Responders are advised that a DBE goal will be established in the stamped contract plans and/or contract proposal.

The Commission reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to cancel this procurement and proceed no further or to re-advertise in another public solicitation.

The Commission assumes no liability and will not reimburse costs incurred by Responders (whether selected or not) in developing responses to this RFQ.

MDOT reserves the right to request or obtain additional information about any and all responses to the RFQ.

MDOT may issue addenda to this RFQ, which will be posted to the MDOT Design-Build and Special Projects website (mdot.ms.gov – under Contracts and Letting, Design-Build and Special Projects). Responders shall be solely responsible for checking the website for any and all updates, responses to written questions, addenda, or other information related to the Project. Short-list results will be posted to the MDOT Design-Build and Special Projects website.

All questions related to this RFQ shall be e-mailed to:

US84MSRiverBridgePainting@mdot.ms.gov

Questions e-mailed in accordance with the above method will be accepted according to the dates established in the Milestone Schedule. Only written requests e-mailed to the above e-mail address in accordance with this RFQ will be considered. No requests for additional information or clarification to any other MDOT office, firm, or employee will be considered. All responses will be in writing and will be posted to the MDOT Design-Build and Special Projects website (mdot.ms.gov – under Contracts and Letting, Design-Build and Special Projects).

Neither the COMMISSION nor MDOT will be responsible for any oral exchange nor any other exchange of information that occurs outside the official process specified herein.

Responders are prohibited from receiving any advice or discussing any aspect relating to the Project or procurement of the Project with any person or entity with an organizational conflict of interest, including, but not limited to HNTB Corporation, and any of their affiliates. Such persons and entities are prohibited from participating on a Responder team relating to this Project.

The Responder should mark any and all pages of their SOQ considered to be proprietary information which may remain confidential in accordance with Mississippi Code 25-61-9 and 79-23-1 (1972)(as amended). Each page of the SOQ that the Responder considers trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information should be on a different color paper than non-confidential pages and be marked in the upper right hand corner with the word “CONFIDENTIAL.” Failure to clearly identify trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information will result in that information being released subject to a public records request.

All debriefing requests from Responders who are not short-listed shall be submitted by e-mail to the attention of the following individuals within one (1) week of the date that the list of short-listed Responders is posted to the Design-Build and Special Projects website (mdot.ms.gov – under Contracts and Letting, Design-Build and Special Projects).

Gina Lombard
glombard@mdot.ms.gov

and copy (Cc)
 Scot Ehrgott, P.E.
sehgott@mdot.ms.gov

The debriefing shall be limited to teams not short-listed and to the merits of the individual Responder's SOQ.

VIII. MILESTONE SCHEDULE

Advertise RFQ	June 13, 2016
Deadline for Submittal of RFQ Questions	June 27, 2016 5:00 p.m. Central Time
Target Date for MDOT to Post Final Answers and Issue Addenda	July 12, 2016
Deadline for Submittal of Seven (7) Copies and One (1) PDF File of SOQ	August 4, 2016 10:00 a.m. Central Time
Letter to Responders	October 4, 2016 (Approximate Date)
Approximate Beginning of Construction	Spring 2017
Approximate Construction Duration	18 months