

Mississippi Department of Transportation

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS

A DESIGN-BUILD PROJECT

**Improvements to Interstate 55
Pike and Lincoln Counties, Mississippi**

Project Numbers

DB/IM-0055-02(226)/105444303

DB/IM-0055-02(226)/105444304

March 11, 2013

PURPOSE OF REQUEST

The purpose of this Request For Qualifications (RFQ) is to solicit Statements of Qualifications (SOQs) from firms interested in providing design and construction services necessary for the construction of the Improvements to Interstate 55 in Pike and Lincoln Counties, Mississippi.

The Mississippi Transportation Commission, hereinafter referred to as the “Commission”, and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) will be utilizing the Design-Build method of contracting for this Project. The proposed widening or replacement of the selected bridges, modifications to the I-55 and SR 24 interchange and the associated roadway work will hereinafter be referred to as the “Project”. The term “Responder” as used herein includes a firm or firms, partnerships, joint ventures and others responding to this RFQ. The term “Proposer” as used herein includes a firm or firms, partnerships, joint ventures and others, who upon the request of the Commission, will be invited to submit a proposal in response to the Request for Proposals (RFP).

The Commission will use a two-step process to select a Proposer with whom to execute 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 a minimum of three (3) Responders. A stipend of \$25,000.00 will be available to the short-listed responsive Proposers to whom the contract is not awarded.

The selected Proposers will be asked to submit a technical proposal, number of bridges proposed, a cost proposal and schedule. Information about the format, contents and evaluation criteria for the responses to the RFP will be provided to the selected Proposers. Upon evaluation of the technical proposal, cost proposal, the number of bridge locations to be widened or replaced including associated roadwork and schedule, the Commission intends to select a Proposer for contract award and execution.

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 required by this RFQ and other information regarding qualifications and experience.

OVERVIEW

The bridges on I-55 in Pike and Lincoln Counties will be widened or replaced to improve the bridges to the current roadway standards. This improvement project shall also include replacement of existing bearing devices, and repair of existing bridge joints. Roadway work may include raising of the I-55 travel lanes, matching bridge modifications to meet vertical clearance requirements and modifications to the ramps at the SR 24 Interchange.

The proposed interchange improvements will be described in the RFP. MDOT intends to maximize the number of bridges to be improved as part of this Project. The proposed bridge locations that may be part of this Project are:

- I-55 NB and SB over Tangipahoa River (Mile Marker 8.4)
- I-55 NB and SB over SR 24 / US 98 (Mile Marker 15.4)
- I-55 NB and SB over Little Tangipahoa River (Mile Marker 16.2)
- I-55 NB and SB over Beaver Creek (Mile Marker 22.6)
- I-55 NB and SB over US 84 (Mile Marker 37.5)

The order of preference for the above listed bridge locations will be provided to the shortlisted responders in the RFP.

Construction of the Project will be within Mississippi Department of Transportation (MDOT) right-of-way. The Commission has secured the Categorical Exclusion for the construction of the Project. Any additional permits required will be the responsibility of the Proposer.

Project services shall include but are not limited to:

- Design Services – complete development of construction plans and additional permitting
- Utility Coordination
- Construction Services–necessary to build and ensure high quality workmanship of the designed facility

MDOT will be responsible for the Construction Inspection and Job Acceptance Testing; however, the Proposer's Design Engineering Firm will be responsible for Design Quality Control. The Contractor will be responsible for the Quality Control Testing of asphalt and concrete mixtures. The Contractor will also be responsible for providing the Pile Dynamic Analysis (PDA) and pile driving criteria for all bridge sites, and as a result, provide recommended pile lengths to be approved by MDOT.

The Project will include as many of the above listed bridge locations that can be

widened or replaced and improved up to a maximum lump sum proposal price of \$10 Million. The Proposers will be required to determine the maximum number of bridge locations to be widened or replaced in pairs (i.e. both the northbound and southbound bridge at each location as applicable), and associated roadway improvements at each site.

SCOPE

The scope of work for this Project will include, but is not limited to, the following Design and Construction work items:

Design:

- Preliminary and Final Roadway Design and Plan Preparation
- Preliminary and Final Bridge Superstructure and Substructure Design and Plan Preparation
- Erosion Control Plan
- Traffic Control Plan
- Utility Coordination
- Environmental Coordination
- Roadway and Bridge Drainage Design
- Geotechnical Design
- QC for Design
- Surveying

Design shall meet all appropriate AASHTO *Policy on Geometric Design of Highways and Streets* (latest edition), AASHTO *Standard Specifications for the Design of Highway Bridges* (latest edition), AASHTO *LRFD Bridge Design Specifications* (6th edition), *Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices* (latest edition) (MUTCD) and MDOT design criteria as modified by the RFP. Microstation and Geopak shall be used in the preparation of CADD files.

Construction:

- Demolition of all or portions of the existing bridges with debris removal and disposal
- All necessary roadway and bridge work
- Surveying
- Drainage
- Environmental coordination
- Erosion and sediment control work items
- Traffic control
- Utility Coordination and relocation if necessary
- Project management
- Construction management
- QC testing for Asphalt and Concrete mixtures

Construction shall comply with the MDOT *Standard Specifications for Road And Bridge Construction 2004 Edition* as modified by the RFP to accommodate specific Design-Build requirements, *Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices* (latest edition), MDOT Standard Drawings, any Special Provisions, Notice to Bidders, current MDOT, AASHTO or ASTM publications.

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 twenty-five (25), double-spaced, 8.5 inch x 11 inch pages with margins of at least one inch on all four sides, typed on one side only, excluding appendices. All text information in the 25-page limit should be shown in a readable font, size 12 points or larger. No more than five pages may be 11" by 17", but they shall count as two sheets each against the recommended 25-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 25-page maximum. A single-page cover letter, table of contents, and Responder Information Form will not be counted as part of the recommended 25-page maximum. Resumes, licenses, certifications and the SF 330 Part II may be provided in the appendices and will not count against the recommended 25-page maximum. These recommendations and other formatting instructions indicated in this RFQ will be considered when evaluating the quality of the firm's SOQ.

Responders are encouraged to thoroughly and concisely 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 the same order as listed below and number those categories in a manner consistent with this RFQ.**

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.

I. TEAM APPROACH

1. Identify the firms that are part of the team and describe how and why the team has been so structured. At a minimum, this description shall include those firms identified in the organizational chart as defined in section II. Explain the roles and responsibilities of each firm as part of the Design-Build team and how these responsibilities will facilitate the successful completion of the Project.

In addition, each engineering firm should provide a completed Part II of Form SF 330 in accordance with the form's instructions. These forms should be included in the appendix. The form can be obtained at the following web address:

<http://sp.mdot.ms.gov/Consulting%20Services/Pages/Forms.aspx>

2. Describe how your team will utilize the available staff and resources to accomplish the various items of work required by the Project, as identified in the Scope, to facilitate the successful completion of the Project.

II. EXPERIENCE AND QUALIFICATIONS OF PERSONNEL

1. 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 the Project), and company of employment. The organizational chart should be tabbed and clearly defined. After initial submittal, changes to Key Individuals cannot be made without MDOT approval.

Key Individuals are defined as the following members of the team: Project Director, Lead Design Engineer, Construction Manager, Environmental Manager, Construction Superintendent, Project surveyor, Safety Officer / Traffic Control Manager, and the Geotechnical Engineer.

2. Identify the role and responsibility of each of the following Individuals for the Project and how these roles and responsibilities will support the Design-Build team:
 - a. Project Director – The Project Director shall be the primary person in charge of and responsible for delivery of the Project in accordance with the contract requirements. The Project Director shall have full authority to make the final decisions on behalf of the Responder/Proposer and have responsibility for communicating these decisions directly to MDOT.
 - b. Lead Design Engineer – The Lead Design Engineer shall be in charge of and responsible for all aspects of the design of the Project (roadway, bridge, hydrology, and geotechnical). The Lead Design Engineer is required to be a Professional Engineer licensed in the State of Mississippi. Registration is not required to propose on the Project but is required prior to commencing the work.
 - c. Construction Manager – The Construction Manager reports directly to the Project Director and shall be responsible for the overall coordination of the Project including design and construction. The Construction Manager must be present at the site fulltime.
 - d. Environmental Manager – The Environmental Manager shall be responsible for adherence to all environmental requirements and commitments, including but not limited to erosion control inspections as required by the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES), the terms of the Categorical Exclusion, if any, and all other applicable environmental rules, permits and regulations. Prior to the Notice To Proceed (NTP), the Environmental Manager shall obtain erosion control certification recognized by MDOT.
3. Provide the following information demonstrating that the Responder's following Key Individuals possess the preferred minimum qualifications listed below and any

additional relevant qualifications, including previous Design-Build experience that may be advantageous to the Project:

- a. The Responder's Project Director should have at least ten (10) years of experience managing projects 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 size and type of 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 Construction Manager should have a minimum of ten (10) years of experience in the management of projects of similar scope and magnitude.
 - c. Each Construction Superintendent should have a minimum of five (5) years of experience in supervising projects of similar scope and magnitude.
 - d. The Project surveyor of the construction team should have a minimum of five (5) years of experience and demonstrate experience in roadway and bridge survey, layout, construction staking work, and any experience with automated machine guidance systems. The Project Surveyor is required to be a registered Professional Surveyor licensed in the State of Mississippi. Registration is not required to propose on the Project but is required prior to commencing the work.
 - e. The Environmental Manager should have experience in the environmental oversight of projects of similar scope and magnitude. Prior to the Notice To Proceed (NTP), the Environmental Manager shall obtain erosion control certification recognized by MDOT.
 - f. Safety Officer / Traffic Control Manager should demonstrate a knowledge of current OSHA requirements, *Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices* (MUTCD), and have a minimum of five (5) years of experience with projects of a similar scope and magnitude.
4. Provide the experience, qualifications, and any additional relevant information about the Responder's Lead Design Engineer that may be advantageous to the Project. It is preferred that the Lead Design Engineer have a minimum of ten (10) years of experience and expertise in the design of projects of similar scope and magnitude. The Lead Design Engineer is required to be a Professional Engineer licensed in the State of Mississippi. Registration is not required to propose on the Project but is required prior to

commencing the work.

5. Provide the experience, qualifications, and any additional relevant information about the following members of the Responder's design team. Any engineers who will be responsible for the technical design of portions of the Project are required to be Professional Engineers licensed in the State of Mississippi. Registration is not required to propose on the Project but is required prior to commencing the work. The design team should have personnel with experience and expertise in each of their respective design fields:
 - a. Bridge design
 - b. Roadway and Roadway Hydraulic design
 - c. Erosion control
6. Provide the experience, qualifications, and additional relevant information about the Geotechnical Engineer and any additional Geotechnical Staff. The Geotechnical Engineer will conduct a geotechnical investigation, as necessary, and provide specific recommendations for the design and construction of the foundations. It is preferred that this Engineer have a minimum of ten (10) years of experience in the design of bridge foundations.

Provide resumes of Key Individuals and other personnel that you consider critical to the success of this Project, including team members 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 25-page count. 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.

Any design reports, plans and specifications shall be signed and sealed by a Professional Engineer licensed in the State of Mississippi. This item is instructive as to future requirements. No response is necessary at this time.

Mississippi Code Annotated Sections 73-13-1 through 73-13-45 (1972) (as amended) govern the practice of engineering in Mississippi. Firms are encouraged to contact the Mississippi Board of Licensure for Professional Engineers and Surveyors at (601) 359-6160 to insure that individuals and firms are qualified to offer and provide services in the State of Mississippi. The Board's web address is www.pepls.state.ms.us.

All team members shall hold or obtain licenses required for performing work on the Project under state and local laws. This item is instructive as to future requirements. No response is necessary at this time.

Modifications to the Proposer's Key Individuals are discouraged. 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 forwarded to the person and address as shown in the GENERAL INFORMATION section of this RFQ. 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 MDOT approval.

III. PAST PERFORMANCE

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

1. Provide a maximum of five (5) construction projects, with a brief description of each, that demonstrate the Responder's ability to successfully complete the Project. Example construction projects should have been completed within the last five (5) years or currently be under contract and should be of similar scope and magnitude to the Project herein. The Responder should indicate the location of each project, the years of construction, 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.
2. Provide a maximum of five (5) design projects, with a brief description of each, that demonstrate the Responder's ability to successfully complete the Project. Example design projects should have been completed within the last five (5) years or currently be under contract and should be of similar scope and magnitude to the Project herein. The Responder should indicate the location of each project, the years of project services, 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.
3. Provide brief answers (Yes or No) and explanations as required to the following questions:
 - a. Has any member of the Responder's team been declared delinquent, defaulted, or been terminated on any project within the last five (5) years? If so, identify the team member(s) and project(s) and explain.
 - b. In the past five (5) years, has any member of the Responder's team been suspended, debarred, disqualified from bidding, or declared ineligible for work by any entity or are any such actions pending against them? If so, identify the team member(s) and explain.
 - c. Is any member of the Responder's team under indictment, been convicted or had any construction-related civil judgments issued against them in the past five (5) years. If so, identify the team member(s) and explain.
 - d. Has any member of the Responder's Team been assessed liquidated damages on any projects listed within the past five (5) years? If so, identify the team member(s), identify the project(s) and explain.
 - e. Does any member of the Responder's team have active projects that are behind schedule? If so, identify the team member(s) and the project(s) and describe why

- the project(s) are behind schedule and how far the project(s) are behind schedule?
- f. Has any member of the Responder's team been assessed erosion and sediment control violations and/or fines within the last five (5) years? If so, identify the team member(s) and the project(s) and explain.
 - g. Has any member of the Responder's team incurred disciplinary action by a state board of licensure for professional engineers and surveyors or similar body within the past five (5) years? If so, identify the team member(s) and explain.

IV. SAFETY

1. Provide the OSHA Recordable Incident Rate for each team member for the last five years.
2. Identify any 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 the Responder's safety goals for this Project.

V. BONDING AND INSURANCE CAPACITY

Provide information on Responder's insurance and bonding capacity.

VI. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The Responder's attention is directed to 23 CFR Section 636 Subpart A and in particular to Subsection 636.116 regarding organizational conflicts of interests. Section 636.103 defines "organizational conflict of interest" as follows:

"Organizational conflict of interest means that because of other activities or relationships with other persons, a person is unable or potentially unable to render impartial assistance or advice to the owner, or the person's objectivity in performing the contract work is or might be otherwise impaired, or a person has an unfair competitive advantage."

Responder shall provide information concerning potential organizational conflicts of interest and disclose all relevant facts concerning any past, present or currently planned interests which may present an organizational conflict of interest. Responder shall state how its interests or those of its chief executives, directors, Key Individuals for this Project, or any proposed consultant, contractor or subcontractor may result, or could be viewed as, an organizational conflict of interest.

Responder is 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, URS Corporation, Neel-Schaffer, Inc.,

and any of their affiliates. Such persons and entities are prohibited from participating on a Responder team relating to this project.

The Responder agrees that, if an organizational conflict of interest is discovered, the Responder must make an immediate and full disclosure to MDOT that includes a description of the action that the Responder has taken or proposes to take to avoid or mitigate such conflict. If after award of the contract, an organizational conflict of interest is determined to exist, MDOT may, at its discretion, cancel the Design-Build contract for the Project. If the Responder was aware of an organizational conflict of interest prior to the award of the contract and did not disclose the conflict to MDOT, then MDOT may terminate the contract for default.

QUALIFICATIONS EVALUATION

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

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|--|------------|
| Team Approach | 20 |
| Experience and Qualifications of Personnel | 30 |
| Past Performance | 25 |
| Safety | 10 |
| Bonding and Insurance Capacity | 5 |
| Quality of SOQ | 10 |
| Maximum Score | 100 |

SELECTION

Based upon the scoring of responsive submittals, the MDOT intends to select the most qualified Responders (a minimum of three (3)) to be invited to submit proposals for this Project.

GENERAL INFORMATION

The Commission intends for the contract to be awarded based on Best Value selection.

The Commission intends for the contract type to be firm Fixed Price.

This Project has a **10 percent DBE goal**.

The Commission reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to either 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 Responder's firms (whether selected or not) in developing responses to this RFQ.

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

The MDOT may issue addenda to the RFQ, which will be posted to the MDOT website (www.gomdot.com). 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.

After initial submittal, Key Individuals of the Responder's team cannot be changed without MDOT approval.

All Responders/Proposers must visibly mark as "CONFIDENTIAL" each part of their submission that they consider to contain confidential and/or proprietary information. All submittals will be subject to disclosure in accordance with the Mississippi Public Records Act, Miss. Code Ann. § 25-61-1, *et seq.*

All questions related to this RFQ shall be submitted in writing and directed to:

Mr. Mark McConnell, P.E.
Mississippi Department of Transportation
P.O. Box 1850
Jackson, Mississippi 39215-1850
Or e-mailed to I55PikeBridgeWidening@mdot.state.ms.us

Written questions will be accepted according to the dates established in the Milestone Schedule. Only written requests to the above addressee will be considered. No requests for additional information or clarification to any other MDOT office, consultant, or employee will be considered. All responses will be in writing and will be posted to the MDOT website (www.gomdot.com) under Contracts and Lettings, Design-Build.

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.

MDOT may disqualify a Responder if any of its major participants belong to more than one Responder's organization. The term "major participants" includes the Contractor's construction company in its entirety and the design firm from which the Lead Design Engineer is employed.

Payment and performance bonds for the entire cost of the Project shall be submitted prior

to award, in accordance with the RFP.

All Debriefing requests from non-short listed teams shall be submitted by e-mail to the attention of Scot Ehrgott @ sehrgott@mdot.state.ms.us within two (2) weeks of the notification letter of the short-listed Responders. The debriefing shall be limited to teams not short-listed and to the merits of the individual Responder's SOQ.

MILESTONE SCHEDULE

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|---|---|
| Advertise RFQ | March 11, 2013 |
| Deadline for Submittal of RFQ Questions | March 29, 2013 5:00 PM Central Time |
| Deadline for Submittal of seven (7) copies of SOQ | April 11, 2013 10:00 AM Central Time |

Submit to:

Mr. B.B. House, 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

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|---|-------------------------------------|
| Evaluation of SOQs | April 12, 2013 to May 2, 2013 |
| Letter to Responders | May 3, 2013 (Approximate Date) |
| Provide RFP to Proposers | May 3, 2013 (Approximate Date) |
| Submittal of RFP Technical Proposals (Vol. 1) | June 20, 2013 (Approximate Date) |
| Submittal of RFP Cost Proposals (Vol. 2) | July 12, 2013 (Approximate Date) |
| Notification of Award | July 23, 2013 (Approximate Date) |