



## **REQUEST for LETTERS of INTEREST (RFLOI)**

**TITLE:** Construction Engineering and Inspection for U-5190, U-5019A and U-5019B

**ISSUE DATE:** 02/22/2021

**SUBMITTAL DEADLINE:** 03/18/2021, 4:00pm

**ISSUING AGENCY:** City of Asheville, NC

### **I. SYNOPSIS**

Subconsultants are permitted under this contract. This contract shall be partially reimbursed with Federal-aid funding through the North Carolina Department of Transportation (hereinafter referred to as the Department). The solicitation, selection, and negotiation of a contract shall be conducted in accordance with all Department requirements and guidelines.

The primary and/or subconsultant firm(s) shall be pre-qualified by the Department to perform any combination of the Discipline Codes listed below for the City of Asheville. Discipline Codes required are: **00195 Roadway Construction Engineering & Inspection**

WORK CODES for each primary and/or subconsultant firm(s) SHALL be listed on the respective RS-2 FORMS (see section VI).

This RFLOI is to solicit Letters of Interest from qualified firms to provide professional consulting services to:

### **II. PROPOSED CONTRACT SCOPE SUMMARY**

The New Leicester Highway sidewalk project includes an estimated \$2M construction budget, and both greenways include an estimated \$7M construction budget consisting of:

#### U-5190 New Leicester Highway Sidewalk Project

The New Leicester Highway Sidewalk project is a 2.5 mile sidewalk project consisting of sidewalk, curb and gutter, driveway crossings and alterations, utility relocations, pedestrian crossing upgrades, and associated sidewalk accessories. The project spans the area between the intersection of New Leicester Highway and Patton Ave., extending to the intersection of New Leicester Highway and Old County Home Rd., just north of Westwood Drive (Old County Home Rd. crosses New Leicester Highway at numerous points).

#### U-5019B French Broad River West Greenway

The French Broad River West Greenway is a 1.2 mile off-road multimodal facility that completes a key link in the riverfront with the area and city-wide greenway system. This new segment will connect Asheville's French Broad River park system at its southern terminus to the Riverway and the site of New Belgium Brewing at its northern terminus. The project will construct an asphalt trail, retaining walls, and associated stormwater management features, landscaping and amenities.

#### U-5019A Nasty Branch Greenway

The Nasty Branch Greenway is a ¾-mile greenway that starts at the Grant Southside Center on Depot Street and Livingston Street and terminates at Phifer Street near the McDowell and Southside intersection. This greenway lies on flat terrain along the banks of the creek called



Nasty Branch. The project will construct an asphalt trail, retaining walls, a pedestrian bridge, solar lighting, associated stormwater management features, landscaping and amenities.

A not-for-construction, informational set of construction drawings for each of the projects listed above may be downloaded through Google Drive at the following address:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1Kbl2GxN-Bka2uo-UjpfTrZEJ1AkvZZKL?usp=sharing>

This RFLOI is being posted for all listed projects, but the eventual CEI reporting and invoicing will be done separately for each individual project.

Electronic LOIs should be submitted in .pdf format using software such as Adobe, CutePDF PDF Writer, Docudesk deskPDF, etc.

LOIs SHALL be received electronically. **The address for electronic deliveries is: [dclemens@asheville.nc.gov](mailto:dclemens@asheville.nc.gov)**

The deadline for receipt of LOIs is **03/18/2021, 4:00pm LOIs received after this deadline will not be considered.**

Except as provided below any firm wishing to be considered must be properly registered with the Office of the Secretary of State and with the North Carolina Board of Examiners for Engineers and Surveyors. Any firm proposing to use corporate subsidiaries or subcontractors must include a statement that these companies are properly registered with the North Carolina Board of Examiners for Engineers and Surveyors and/or the NC Board for Licensing of Geologists. The Engineers performing the work and in responsible charge of the work must be registered Professional Engineers in the State of North Carolina and must have a good ethical and professional standing. It will be the responsibility of the selected private firm to verify the registration of any corporate subsidiary or subcontractor prior to submitting a Letter of Interest. Firms which are not providing engineering services need not be registered with the North Carolina Board of Examiners for Engineers and Surveyors. Some of the services being solicited may not require a license. It is the responsibility of each firm to adhere to all laws of the State of North Carolina.

The firm must have the financial ability to undertake the work and assume the liability. The selected firm(s) will be required to furnish proof of Professional Liability insurance coverage in the minimum amount of \$1,000,000.00. The firm(s) must have an adequate accounting system to identify costs chargeable to the project.

### **III. PROPOSED CONTRACT SCOPE**

The City of Asheville is soliciting proposals for the services of a firm/team for the following contract scope of work: **00195 Roadway Construction Engineering & Inspection**

| <b>TASK</b>                                 | <b>DESCRIPTION</b>   | <b>DELIVERABLE</b>   |
|---|--|--|
| 1 Inspections and observations              | Inspections and observations per NCDOT/FHWA standards and procedures, including NCDOT's Quality Assurance Program or 23 CFR 637.               | Daily inspection reports to include log documentation of pay quantities and material receipts. |
| 2 Construction material testing and reports | Test all construction materials, including but not limited to asphalt, earthwork and concrete according to NCDOT requirements and frequencies. | Test results and formal reports  |

|   |                          |  |   |
|---|--------------------------|--|---|
| 3 | Preconstruction meetings | Attend preconstruction meetings organized by the contractor to explain inspection and testing procedures | Preconstruction agenda related to inspections and material testing. |
| 4 | Post-construction audits | Provide construction narratives and records, as needed   | Documentation   |

**PROPOSED CONTRACT TIME:**

The anticipated construction start date and duration for each project is as follows:

|   |         |           |
|---|---------|-----------|
| U-5019B French Broad River West Greenway      | 04/2021 | 14 months |
| U-5019A Nasty Branch Greenway                 | 06/2021 | 12 months |
| U-5190 New Leicester Highway Sidewalk Project | 09/2021 | 12 months |

**PROPOSED CONTRACT PAYMENT TYPE: Lump Sum**

**IV. SUBMITTAL REQUIREMENTS**

Interested parties are required to provide one (1) digital pdf copy of their Letter of interest submittal. Submittals must follow the Organization and Information Requirements outlined in Section VI. The overall page count shall be limited to twenty five (25) pages – any page size is acceptable. RS2 forms will not count towards the page count restrictions.

**Firms submitting LOIs are encouraged to carefully check them for conformance to the requirements stated above. If LOIs do not meet ALL of these requirements they will be disqualified. No exception will be granted.**

**TITLE VI NONDISCRIMINATION NOTIFICATION**

The LGA in accordance with the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (78 Stat. 252, 42 U.S.C. §§ 2000d to 2000d-4) and the Regulations, hereby notifies all RESPONDENTS that it will affirmatively ensure that any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, disadvantaged business enterprises will be afforded full and fair opportunity to submit LETTERS of INTEREST (LOIs) in response to this ADVERTISEMENT and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, or national origin in consideration for an award.

**SMALL PROFESSIONAL SERVICE FIRM (SPSF) PARTICIPATION**

The Department encourages the use of Small Professional Services Firms (SPSF). Small businesses determined to be eligible for participation in the SPSF program are those meeting size standards defined by Small Business Administration (SBA) regulations, 13 CFR Part 121 in Sector 54 under the North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS). The SPSF program is a race, ethnicity, and gender neutral program designed to increase the availability of contracting opportunities for small businesses on federal, state or locally funded contracts. SPSF participation is not contingent upon the funding source.

The Firm, at the time the Letter of Interest is submitted, shall submit a listing of all known SPSF firms that will participate in the performance of the identified work. The participation shall be



submitted on the Department's Subconsultant Form RS-2. RS-2 forms may be accessed on the Department's website at [NCDOT Connect Guidelines & Forms](#). The SPSF must be qualified with the Department to perform the work for which they are listed.

## **PREQUALIFICATION**

The Department maintains on file the qualifications and key personnel for each approved discipline, as well as any required samples of work. Each year on the anniversary date of the company, the firm shall renew their prequalified disciplines. If your firm has not renewed its application as required by your anniversary date or if your firm is not currently prequalified, please submit an application to the Department **prior to submittal of your LOI**. An application may be accessed on the Department's website at [Prequalifying Private Consulting Firms](#) -- Learn how to become Prequalified as a Private Consulting Firm with NCDOT. Having this data on file with the Department eliminates the need to resubmit this data with each letter of interest.

Professional Services Contracts are race and gender neutral and do not contain goals. However, the Respondent is encouraged to give every opportunity to allow Disadvantaged, Minority-Owned and Women-Owned Business Enterprises (DBE/MBE/WBE) subconsultant utilization on all LOIs, contracts and supplemental agreements. The Firm, subconsultant and subfirm shall not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, color, national origin, age, disability or sex in the performance of this contract.

## **DIRECTORY OF FIRMS AND DEPARTMENT ENDORSEMENT**

Real-time information about firms doing business with the Department, and information regarding their prequalifications and certifications, is available in the Directory of Transportation Firms. The Directory can be accessed on the Department's website at [Directory of Firms](#) -- Complete listing of certified and prequalified firms.

The listing of an individual firm in the Department's directory shall not be construed as an endorsement of the firm.

## **V. SELECTION PROCESS**

Following is a general description of the selection process:

- The LGA's Selection Committee will review all qualifying LOI submittals.
- For Project-Specific Contracts (non On-Call type contracts), the LGA's Selection Committee MAY, at the LGA's discretion, shortlist a minimum of three (3) firms to be interviewed. IF APPLICABLE, dates of shortlisting and dates for interviews are shown in the section SUBMISSION SCHEDULE AND KEY DATES at the end of this RFLOI.
- In order to be considered for selection, consultants must submit a complete response to this RFLOI prior to the specified deadlines. Failure to submit all information in a timely manner will result in disqualification.

## **SELECTION CRITERIA**

**All prequalified firms who submit responsive letters of interest will be considered.**

In selecting a firm/team, the selection committee will take into consideration qualification information including such factors as:

Team Qualifications: 33%; Team Experience: 33%; Technical Approach: 33%



After reviewing qualifications, if firms are equal on the evaluation review, then those qualified firms with proposed SPSF participation will be given priority consideration.

## **VI. SUBMISSION ORGANIZATION AND INFORMATION REQUIREMENTS**

The electronic LOI should be addressed to Dustin Clemens, Capital Projects Program Manager at [dclemens@ashevillenc.gov](mailto:dclemens@ashevillenc.gov) and must include the name, address, telephone number, and e-mail address of the prime consultant's contact person for this RFLOI.

The LOI must also include the information outlined below:

### Chapter 1 - Introduction

The Introduction should demonstrate the consultant's overall qualifications to fulfill the requirements of the scope of work and should contain the following elements of information:

- Expression of firm's interest in the work;
- Statement of whether firm is on register;
- Date of most recent private engineering firm qualification;
- Statement regarding firm's(') possible conflict of interest for the work; and
- Summation of information contained in the letter of interest.

### Chapter 2 - Team Qualifications

This chapter should elaborate on the general information presented in the introduction, to establish the credentials and experience of the consultant to undertake this type of effort. The following must be included:

1. Identify recent, similar projects the firm, acting as the prime contractor, has conducted which demonstrates its ability to conduct and manage the project. Provide a synopsis of each project and include the date completed, and contact person.
2. If subconsultants are involved, provide corresponding information describing their qualifications as requested in bullet number 1 above.

### Chapter 3 - Team Experience

This chapter must provide the names, classifications, and location of the firm's North Carolina employees and resources to be assigned to the advertised work; and the professional credentials and experience of the persons assigned to the project, along with any unique qualifications of key personnel. Although standard personnel resumes may be included, identify pertinent team experience to be applied to this project. Specifically, the Department is interested in the experience, expertise, and total quality of the consultant's proposed team. If principals of the firm will not be actively involved in the study/contract/project, do not list them. The submittal shall clearly indicate the Consultant's Project Manager, other key Team Members and his/her qualifications for the proposed work. Also, include the team's organization chart for the Project / Plan. A Capacity Chart / Graph (available work force) should also be included. Any other pertinent information should also be listed in this section.

**Note:** If a project team or subconsultant encounters personnel changes, or any other changes of significance dealing with the company, NCDOT should be notified immediately.

#### Chapter 4 - Technical Approach

The consultant shall provide information on its understanding of, and approach to accomplish, this project, including their envisioned scope for the work and any innovative ideas/approaches, and a schedule to achieve the dates outlined in this RFLOI (if any project-specific dates are outlined below).

#### APPENDICES-

CONSULTANT CERTIFICATION Form RS-2. Completed Form RS-2 forms SHALL be submitted with the firm's letter of interest. Submit Form RS-2 forms for the following:

- **Prime Consultant firm**
  - Prime Consultant Form RS-2 Rev 1/14/08; and
  
- **ANY/ALL Subconsultant firms** to be/anticipated to be utilized by your firm.
  - Subconsultant Form RS-2 Rev 1/15/08.
  - In the event the firm has no subconsultant, it is required that this be indicated on the Subconsultant Form RS-2 by entering the word "None" or the number "ZERO" and signing the form.

**Complete and sign each Form RS-2 (instructions are listed on the form).**

The required forms are available on the Department's website at:

<https://connect.ncdot.gov/business/consultants/Pages/Guidelines-Forms.aspx>

[Prime Consultant Form RS-2](#)

[Subconsultant Form RS-2](#)

All submissions, correspondence, and questions concerning this RFLOI should be directed to Dustin Clemens at [dclemens@ashevillenc.gov](mailto:dclemens@ashevillenc.gov)

Questions may be submitted electronically only, to the contact above. Responses will be issued in the form of an addendum available to all interested parties. Interested parties should also send a request, by email only, to the person listed above to be placed on a public correspondence list to ensure future updates regarding the RFLOI or other project information can be conveyed.

## **VII. SUBMISSION SCHEDULE AND KEY DATES**

RFLOI Release – **02/22/2021**

Deadline for Questions – **03/04/2021**

Issue Final Addendum – **03/08/2021**

Deadline for LOI Submission - **03/18/2021, 4:00pm**

Firm Selection and Notification - **March/April, 2021**

Anticipated Notice to Proceed – **April 2021**