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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Request for Qualifications

Professional Services for US-275/72nd St Interchange, Corridor Study, Environmental Assessment & Preliminary/Final Engineering

June 2020

Statements of Qualifications are due Friday, July 10, 2020, 1:00 P.M.

GENERAL

In accordance with Nebraska Consultants' Competitive Negotiation Act ([Neb. Rev. Stat. §81-1702](#)), the Brooks Act ([40 USC 1101](#)), and [23 CFR 172.5](#), the State of Nebraska, Department of Transportation (NDOT), is issuing a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for preparation of the corridor study, environmental documentation, preliminary design, and final design for the US-275/72nd St Interchange project, NH-275-7(194), CN 22469. Qualified consultants are invited to submit a statement of qualifications as outlined below. The NDOT's website referred to in this document is located at: <https://dot.nebraska.gov/business-center/>.

All consultants interested in providing professional services for the NDOT are strongly encouraged to review the NDOT's template [Standard Professional Services Agreement](#), [Sample Fees and Payments Exhibit](#), and [Insurance Requirements for Professional Service Providers](#) prior to responding to this RFQ. By submitting a statement of qualifications in response to this RFQ, Consultant, and all subconsultants, agree to meet the substantive requirements of these documents. These documents can be found on NDOT's website. **An agreement will not be executed unless consultant provides proof of meeting the insurance requirements in the form of an [Insurance ACORD](#).** Further information regarding insurance, including a [checklist](#) to assist in submitting an acceptable certificate, can be found at <https://dot.nebraska.gov/business-center/consultant/insurance/>.

The NDOT is seeking a statement of qualifications from consultants who wish to be considered to provide these services.

This RFQ does not commit the NDOT to award a contract, to pay any costs incurred in the preparation of a response to this request, or to procure or contract for services. The NDOT reserves the right to award contracts to more than one qualified consultant, to accept or reject any or all responses received as a result of this request, to negotiate with any qualified consultant or to modify or cancel in part or in its entirety the RFQ, if it is in the best interest of the NDOT to do so.

In accordance with Nebraska Revised Statute [84-712](#) et.seq., Nebraska Public Records Act, documents provided to NDOT are public records subject to disclosure unless consultant requests in writing that documents must be kept confidential and can demonstrate that such records are confidential under federal or state law.

SCOPE OF SERVICES

Standard Work Categories anticipated on this project are:

- 100 Corridor Studies
- 101A NEPA Studies
- 103 Traffic Operation Studies

105	Highway Design
107	Bridge Design
209	Hydraulic and Hydrologic Studies
210	Right of Way Design (includes land ownership research, ROW plans, legal descriptions / plats)
211	Public Involvement

Information regarding the [Standard Work Categories](#) can be found on NDOT's website. For specific information on each category of work for this project, please refer to the attached Exhibits that describe the basis scope of services (BSOS).

A. GENERAL PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Nebraska Department of Transportation (NDOT) and the City of Omaha performed a [feasibility study](#) for the US-275 (L Street)/72nd Street Interchange Bridge in 2015. The purpose of the feasibility study was to identify transportation issues in the area, and develop and evaluate a range of interchange and at-grade intersection alternatives to determine which would provide acceptable traffic operations at this location. NDOT believes that this initial study's scope was constrained to point that some innovative solutions may have been omitted or screened out early in the study. As a result, NDOT is looking to revisit potential alternatives at this location.

This project will take what was learned about traffic operations and the public comments received from the above mentioned feasibility study along with additional data that may be required and consider new alternatives. The new alternatives will consider the surrounding development, proposed adjacent planned street improvements, traffic operations within the corridor, adjacent public and business input and the input of the City of Omaha and the City of Ralston.

This project will be developed in three separate phases:

Phase 1 – Corridor, Traffic and Feasibility Study

Phase 2 – NEPA, Preliminary Design and Public Involvement

Phase 3 – Final Design

Interested firms are expected to review the attachments to this RFQ for additional details on the Basic Scope of Services (BSOS).

B. OVERVIEW OF THE WORK:

- To replace, rehabilitate, or remove the US-275 (L Street) bridge over 72nd Street and perform capital improvements to the intersection/interchange including frontage roads and ramps. Frontage roads on both sides of US-275 would be evaluated as part of the improvement. Business input will be an important factor in the evaluation of alternatives.
- To provide traffic operations at the intersection of US-275 (L Street) with 72nd Street that are commensurate with adjacent corridor segments based on the forecasted future traffic volumes.
- To consider the frequency, type and severity of vehicle crashes.
- To enhance safety through access management consistent with NDOT and City of Omaha policies and guidelines.
- To provide pedestrian and bicycle accessibility in the project area; particularly along the 72nd Street Corridor.
- All reasonable and feasible at-grade and interchange solutions will be considered with emphasis placed on innovative solutions to satisfy operations, safety, and access.

The selected consultant would be responsible for all aspects of Environmental Studies and the development of the environmental document, currently assumed to be an Environmental Assessment pending approval of the probable class of action determination. Tasks would include, but are not limited to, reviews and/or surveys for wetlands and streams, floodplains, threatened and endangered species, historic resources, Section 4(f) and 6(f) properties, noise, air quality, hazardous materials, environmental justice, social and economic impacts, and cumulative and secondary impacts. Please refer to the environmental basic scope of services for additional information.

Given the location of the project, extensive public involvement would be expected. The selected consultant would be responsible for preparing, conducting, and participating in informational stakeholder meetings, public meetings and hearings with property owners and community leaders.

Additional information;

1. The project limits start at 81st Street and extends to 61st Ave. with limits on 72nd Street approximately 1,000 feet north and south of US-275. These limits are approximate and will be specifically determined as the environmental process proceeds.
2. The project development will be phased. Phase 1 includes preparation of a corridor study that will consider the project purpose and need and develop new alternatives. Traffic operations studies will play an important role in the development of innovative solutions. Alternatives will be communicated through a public involvement process that includes comments from community and the adjacent property owners. Phase 2 includes Preliminary Design, NEPA, and Public Involvement. Phase 3 includes Final Design, Utilities Coordination, Right of Way (ROW) Design and PS&E submittal.
3. The Environmental Study Area is generally considered to be the area within the proposed Right-of-Way and adjacent to the existing roadway; however, for some resources, the Environmental Study Area may be expanded, to consider potential impacts due to proximity. Potential impacts to traffic, access and businesses beyond the ROW will need to be considered.
4. Collection of current traffic data will be required for this project

C. QUALIFICATIONS, KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE:

D. SOFTWARE AND EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS:

E. EXPECTATIONS FOR THE DELIVERABLES:

Please review the Exhibits to this RFQ for additional details on the Basic Scope of Services (BSOS) for items C, D, and E above.

F. SCHEDULE:

It is NDOT's goal to have the corridor/feasibility study completed by Fall 2021. Phase 2, NEPA and Preliminary Design, will be scheduled following Phase I.

DETAILS

It is anticipated that one (1) consultant will be awarded the contract for this work. The payment method for the contract may be Cost Plus Fixed Fee or Specific Rates of Compensation.

A minimum of three (3) consultants will be short-listed for interviews. The evaluation criteria to be used for the short-listing and final selection is outlined below.

The NDOT reserves the right to abandon or terminate any contract at any time and either re-advertise services or utilize its own forces. The NDOT also reserves the right to accomplish

services for future phases on all projects with the selected consultant, select another consultant, or utilize its own forces.

The NDOT will not hold a briefing. All information is contained within this RFQ and on the NDOT's website. If additional information is deemed necessary, it will be posted on the same web page as this RFQ and will be labeled as an update. Consultants interested in this RFQ are responsible for checking for updated information.

Interested consultants must have a current [DR Form 497, "Architect, Engineer, and Related Services Certification Form"](#) on file with the NDOT prior to the deadline identified in the Schedule of Activities. If necessary, a completed DR Form 497 should be submitted to: DOR.PDAnnualCertification@nebraska.gov.

Interested consultants must currently be certified to provide NEPA services for NDOT. A list of [certified NEPA consultants](#) is available on NDOT's website.

Please submit your Drug-Free Workplace Policy (DF Policy) separate from the response to this RFQ ([DF Policy Example](#)). The DF Policy is a one-time submittal to NDOT. Please do not re-submit unless your DF Policy has changed or you never have previously submitted a DF Policy. While the DF Policy is not a submittal requirement, all consultants must have an acceptable DF Policy on file prior to the deadline identified in the Schedule of Activities. If necessary, the consultant's DF Policy may be submitted to: DOR.PDAnnualCertification@nebraska.gov

Inclusion of a Disadvantaged Business Enterprises is not a requirement in the selection of a project team.

Please do not call or write NDOT staff for information regarding the services in this RFQ. Email all inquiries/questions to Randy Eldorado, Consultant Services Engineer, at: randy.eldorado@nebraska.gov or call (402) 479-4778.

EVALUATION CRITERIA

Short List (100 pts)

A. QUALIFICATIONS (40 PTS)

1. Qualifications of the project manager and key team members to perform the work.
2. Identification and qualifications of the NEPA Project Manager, Senior Environmental Scientist to serve as NEPA document Quality Control technical reviewer, NEPA document Editorial Reviewer and key subject area experts to be used for individual environmental resource subjects pertinent to the needs of the project and its surroundings.
3. Consultant's knowledge of FHWA, NDOT, & other environmental resource cooperating agencies' standards and procedures.
4. Environmental Staff's knowledge of hazardous materials evaluation, public involvement, historic properties, socioeconomic impacts, environmental justice, and any other related environmental tasks or topics that may be associated with this project.
5. Demonstration of strong technical writing and editing background for consistency in technical detail, grammar, nomenclature and format.
6. Consultant's demonstrated understanding of the project and study area.

B. EXPERIENCE (20 PTS.)

1. Applicability and relevance of comparable projects provided by the Consultant. Consultant should limit its number of projects/programs to five (3) in their proposal.
2. Managing the NEPA process and environmental reviews for federal-aid projects and permitting.

C. PERFORMANCE DATA (20 PTS)

1. Performance evaluations by NDOT regarding the work of the Consultant.
2. Project performance and schedule adherence on previous projects with NDOT.
3. If firm has no experience with NDOT, review information obtained from Consultant's references for Consultant's performance with other states, local governments, or appropriate clients. The Consultant should list a minimum of two (2) references in their proposal.

D. ABILITY TO COMPLETE THE WORK (20 PTS)

1. Consultant has demonstrated adequate staff is available and will be assigned to meet the schedule for this project.
2. Consultant has demonstrated the anticipated work effort for the work under this RFP fits within their current workload with NDOT and other clients.
3. Consultant has provided a logical schedule to complete this work.

Final Selection (100 pts)**A. QUALIFICATIONS (30 PTS)**

1. Qualifications of the project manager and key team members to perform the work.
2. Identification and qualifications of the NEPA Project Manager, Senior Environmental Scientist to serve as NEPA document Quality Control technical reviewer, NEPA document Editorial Reviewer and key subject area experts to be used for individual environmental resource subjects pertinent to the needs of the project and its surroundings.
3. Consultant's knowledge of FHWA, NDOT, & other environmental resource cooperating agencies' standards and procedures.
4. Environmental Staff's knowledge of hazardous materials evaluation, public involvement, historic properties, socioeconomic impacts, environmental justice, and any other related environmental tasks or topics that may be associated with this project.
5. Consultant's demonstrated understanding of the project and study area.

B. EXPERIENCE (20 PTS.)

1. Applicability and relevance of comparable projects provided by the Consultant. Consultant should limit its number of projects/programs to three (3) in their proposal.
2. Managing the NEPA process and environmental reviews for federal-aid projects and permitting.

C. INNOVATE APPROACH (20 PTS)

1. Consultant has demonstrated a knowledge of several innovative approaches used by other communities to solve similar problems of operations, safety and access.
2. Consultant has a plan to communicate the problem and the innovative approaches to the local community and maximize the potential for concept approval.

D. PERFORMANCE DATA AND ABILITY TO COMPLETE THE WORK (20 PTS)

1. Performance evaluations by NDOT regarding the work of the Consultant.
2. Project performance and schedule adherence on previous projects with NDOT.
3. If firm has no experience with NDOT, review information obtained from Consultant's references for Consultant's performance with other states, local governments, or appropriate clients. The Consultant should list a minimum of two (2) references in their proposal.
4. Consultant has demonstrated adequate staff is available and will be assigned to meet the schedule for this project.
5. Consultant has demonstrated the anticipated work effort for the work under this RFP fits within their current workload with NDOT and other clients.
6. Consultant has provided a logical schedule to complete this work.

E. QUALITY OF INTERVIEW (10 PTS)

1. Consultant's interview was clear and concise.
2. Consultant adequately addressed evaluation factors and project issues.
3. Consultant clearly and concisely answered committee questions.

SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES	Date (2020)	Time (CST)
RFQ Posted	June 17, 24, July 1	
Last Day Updates to RFQ may be posted	July 1	4:00 PM
DR Form 497 & Drug-Free Workplace Policy on File at NDOT	July 1	4:00 PM
Statement of Qualifications Due	July 10	1:00 PM
Post Short-List Consultants & Interview Schedule	July 22	4:00 PM
Interview	July 30	1pm-4pm
Post Final Selections	July 31	4:00 PM

SUBMITTAL OF QUALIFICATIONS

All information must be received by the deadline identified in the Schedule of Activities. No exceptions to this deadline will be given.

One (1) electronic copy of the submittal must be emailed to NDOT.PDRFQinfo@nebraska.gov
 Submittals are to include the following in the order given below:

1. Front cover to include the consultant, subconsultants (if applicable), and number and title of the RFQ.
2. A letter of interest not to exceed one (1) page.
3. Organizational Chart not to exceed one (1) page.

4. A narrative responding to the established evaluation factors not to exceed ten (10) pages.
5. A maximum of ten (10) pages of additional supportive material such as charts, tables, resumes, or photos.
6. [DR Form 498, "Architect, Engineer, & Related Services Supplement to Statement of Qualifications"](#) not to exceed six (6) pages for the consultant and six (6) pages for each subconsultant. A separate DR Form 498 must be submitted for each subconsultant to be used.

Additional submittal requirements are:

1. All material in the submittal must be on 8½ x 11 format.
2. Submittal covers and dividers between the sections are allowed and not included in the page limit.
3. Fold-out pages are not allowed.

INTERVIEWS

Interview date and times for short-listed consultants will be posted on NDOT's website. Interviews will be capped at 30 minutes, followed by up to 15 minutes of Q&A with the selection committee members.

The NDOT will make every effort to post the short-listed consultants and the interview schedule on the NDOT's website prior to the deadline identified in the Schedule of Activities.

The NDOT's selection committee will conduct interviews with the short-listed consultants

1. Via conference call w/consultant's presentation PDF 'on-screen', or
2. Via WebEx teams

Upon completion of all the interviews and approval of the Director, the selected consultants will be notified by telephone. The NDOT will make every effort to post the final selections on the NDOT's website prior to the deadline identified in the Schedule of Activities.

Kyle Schneweis, P.E., Director
Nebraska Department of Transportation

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