



Good Life. Great Journey.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Request for Qualifications

Professional Services for L-56G, Newberry Interchange to US-30, North Platte

July 31, 2024

Statements of Qualifications are due Wednesday, August 14, 2024, 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 design services for L-56G, Newberry Interchange to US-30. Qualified consultants are invited to submit a statement of qualifications as outlined below. NDOT's website referred to in this document is located at: <http://www.dot.nebraska.gov/business-center/consultant/>

All consultants interested in providing professional services for NDOT are strongly encouraged to review 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 a current overhead (indirect cost rate) schedule and 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/>.

This RFQ does not commit 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. 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 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.

Required Title VI Non-discrimination General Assurance

The Nebraska Department of Transportation, 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 bidders/offerors that it will affirmatively insure {ensure} that any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, disadvantaged business enterprises

will be afforded full opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, or national origin in consideration for an award.

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

STANDARD WORK CATEGORIES

Standard Work Categories anticipated on this project are listed below. Consultant/team must be certified in the following Standard Work Categories. Information regarding the [Standard Work Categories](#) can be found on NDOT's website.

- 111 NEPA Categorical Exclusion
 - 112 NEPA Environmental Assessment
 - 113 NEPA Environmental Impact Statement
One of the above environmental studies will be required for this project and will be determined when the probable class of action is determined.
 - 120 Roadway Design
 - 140 Traffic Operations Studies & Design
 - 160 Right-of-Way Design (Land Ownership Plans)
 - 161 Right-of-Way Design (ROW Plans)
 - 162 Right-of-Way Design (Legal Descriptions/Plats)
 - 215 Land Surveying (ROW)
 - 211 Public Involvement
- (Bridge design and H&H services will be performed in house)*

SCOPE OF SERVICES**PROJECT LOCATION**

The project is located in Lincoln County, beginning just south of the I-80 and L-56G interchange at the beginning of L-56G (RP 0.00) and extends north 1.99 miles to the junction of US-30 and L-56G (RP 1.99).

OVERVIEW

NDOT plans to expand L-56G using a 2+2 strategy which involves utilizing the existing two lanes and adding two new lanes adjacent to the existing lanes. The resulting roadway cross section will be a 4-lane divided highway. Where practical, the existing lanes will remain on alignment, and it is proposed to maintain the existing profile. It is assumed that the existing lanes will be resurfaced upon completion of the new lanes.

There are two (2) existing bridge structures and one (1) bridge-sized box culvert that will be considered for replacement, rehabilitation, repair, or extension with twin structures built adjacent to the existing bridge structures to accommodate the new 2+2 facility.

New right-of-way (ROW), utility rehabilitation, extensive grading, and culvert work will be required for the expansion of L-56G.

Consultant must have the capabilities to conduct the necessary environmental reviews and create documents required to support an Individual Section 404 Permit application.

This corridor will be developed in two phases, as described below.

PHASE I – Corridor Study, Preliminary/Functional Design

The consultant will collect data and conduct a corridor study to start the preliminary design process. The corridor study would determine if the existing two lanes meet 3R minimum design standards. The study would recommend design criteria for the 3R segments, and the new and reconstruction segments, typical cross-sections, and median width. The study would propose intersection improvements at the US-30 and L-56G Junction, as well as reviews at other local intersections along the corridor.

All intersections will be reviewed for operations and safety and alternative intersections considered. The Consultant will consider crashes, traffic volumes, turning movements, costs, and environmental resources.

Alternatives would be considered as part of the of the Section 404(b)(1) permitting process.

The plans would be further developed as part of the preliminary and functional design steps. The plans would be updated as part of the public involvement, environmental permitting process. The public involvement process will involve stakeholder and public meetings. This phase would conclude after establishing the Preliminary Least Environmentally Damaging Practicable Alternative (PLEDPA).

PHASE II – Final Design

Consultant will provide final design services. Design plans will be detailed, limits of construction developed, and permits secured. Final plans, quantities/estimates and specifications will be prepared for PS&E submittal. Services during construction for revisions to the plans may also be requested.

Consultant shall have the necessary knowledge, education, training, certification, and experience to complete the following tasks which support both phases of this project:

PRELIMINARY SCOPE OF SERVICES

Preliminary Design services, including Environmental Documentation as required by the FHWA, must be completed for project approval and 404 permitting.

Environmental Services

- Prepare necessary environmental documentation including other environmental surveys or services necessary to support and complete the Section 404(b)(1) evaluation process.
- Wetland delineation services to support a Section 404 Permit application.
- Development of a 404 Permit application on behalf of NDOT. NDOT assumes an Individual Section 404 permit will likely be required.
- Aid in development of wetland mitigation requirements:
 - Conceptual mitigation plan and mitigation ratio development
 - Mitigation site baseline delineation
 - Final mitigation plan
- A preliminary Scope of Services (SOS) for this work category is included with the RFQ supporting documents.

Roadway Design Services

- Roadway Design to support the services being performed internally and externally for the other work categories.
- Preparation of Corridor study, Preliminary plans, Functional plans (Phase I), Limits of Construction plans, plans for distribution to utilities and plans for PS&E submittal (Phase II).
- The Roadway Design will be conducted with consideration of practical design opportunities, solving transportation and safety problems in a manner to minimize cost of improvements that provide positive performance benefits.
- Documenting design decisions and, when necessary, preparing and presenting design exceptions to the FHWA and design relaxations to the Board of Public Roads Classifications and Standards.
- A preliminary SOS for this work category is included with the RFQ supporting documents.

Traffic Engineering Services

- The study would propose intersection improvements or alternative intersection designs at the junction of US-30 and L-56G, as well as reviews at other intersections along the corridor.
- This study will include a safety review of the crash history along this corridor.

Public Involvement Services

- Public Involvement services would include public mailers, meeting notices, legal notices, news releases, website development, planning and coordinating stakeholder and public meetings, and responding to public comments.
- Public Involvement services necessary to gather input on project alternatives and for Section 404 permitting process.
- Presentation support is anticipated before local boards, chambers of commerce, and citizen groups, and potentially, individual stakeholders and landowners.
- A preliminary SOS for this work category is included with the RFQ supporting documents.

Right-Of-Way Services

- The following services will be performed either in-house or by the selected consultant and will be determined when individual project schedules are established:
 - Preparation of ownership and right-of-way (ROW) design plans, creation of legal descriptions and condemnation plats
 - Title research services to establish the boundaries and ownership interests in properties along or affected by the project
 - ROW Survey
- NDOT will perform review and oversight for the ROW design process.
- A preliminary SOS for this work category is included with the RFQ supporting documents.

SCHEDULE:

This project is currently in the Five-Year Planning Program – Capital Improvement Projects. The schedule will continue to be assessed based on funding availability.

DETAILS

It is anticipated that three (3) consultants will be short-listed for interviews, with one (1) consultant will be awarded the contract for the work. The evaluation criteria to be used for the short-listing and final selection is outlined below. The payment method for the contract may be Lump Sum, Cost Plus Fixed Fee, or Specific Rates of Compensation.

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

NDOT will not hold a briefing. All information is contained within this RFQ and on 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 be certified by NDOT or have a completed certification form on file with NDOT prior to the deadline identified in the Schedule of Activities. Instructions for completing the NDOT Annual Consultant Certification form is available at: <https://dot.nebraska.gov/media/g1qb344b/cert-instruc-annual-certification.pdf>

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 via email to: NDOT.PDAnnualCertification@nebraska.gov

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

EVALUATION CRITERIA

Short List (60 pts)

A. QUALIFICATIONS (30 pts)

1. Qualifications of the project manager and key team members to perform the services described in this RFQ.
2. Consultant's knowledge and understanding of applicable federal regulations, and State and Federal procedures related to providing the environmental services.
3. Consultant has demonstrated they will allocate appropriate and sufficient staff resources or qualified subconsultants to meet project objectives and schedules.
4. Qualifications and capability of key subconsultants to perform the services outlined in this RFQ.
5. Applicability and relevance of comparable projects provided by the consultant.

6. Computer capability of the firm; OpenRoads Designer – Connect Edition V2023 technology for design.
7. Knowledge of NDOT Roadway Design Manual, Nebraska Board of Public Roads Minimum Design Standards, Federal Design Standards, and AASHTO's "A Policy on Geometric Design of Highways and Streets".

B. PERFORMANCE DATA (15 pts)

1. Cooperation, communication, and timeliness of deliverables with NDOT and/or LPA staff on previous projects. If the consultant's team has no experience with NDOT, the consultant should include three (3) references in their response, including contact information, that have directly been involved with similar services.
2. The consultant's team has environmental technical documents with minimal revision.

C. UNDERSTANDING OF THE SERVICES TO BE PROVIDED (15 pts)

1. Consultant demonstrated understanding of the nature and scope of work for the project.
2. The consultant has recognized and identified special circumstances to be considered for the project.
3. Consultant provided a logical approach to efficiently get consensus on project decisions and complete tasks.

Final Selection (40 pts, 100 pts total)

D. DISCUSSION OF FOCUS AREA TOPICS (30 pts)

1. Consultant's interview presentation was clear and concise.
2. Consultant showed knowledge and understanding of topics.

E. COMMITTEE Q&A SESSION (10 pts)

1. Consultant answered committee questions logically and thoroughly.

SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES	Date (2024)	Time (CST)
RFQ posted	July 31, August 7	
Last day questions will be accepted	August 5	4:00 PM
Last day Q&A or updates to RFQ may be posted	August 9	4:00 PM
NDOT Form 497 & Drug-Free Workplace Policy on file at NDOT	August 14	4:00 PM
Statement of Qualifications Due	August 14	1:00 PM
Post Short-List Consultants & Interview Schedule	August 29	4:00 PM
Interview	September 16	1:30 PM – 4 PM
Post Final Selections	September 20	4:00 PM

NOTE – Shortlisted Firms may be asked to provide verification that they and all subconsultants have submitted their indirect cost rates and certifications for their latest fiscal year. Latest fiscal year means the last fiscal year with an end date no more than 6 months in the past.

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 (PDF format) of your firm's statement of qualification (SOQ) must be

submitted using the Online "[SOQ Submittal Form](#)" link found on the Consultant Services Business Opportunities page. Please "reduce file size" of PDF before submitting.

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 five (5) pages.
5. A maximum of five (5) pages of additional supportive material such as charts, tables, resumes, or photos.
6. [NDOT Form 498, "Architect, Engineer, & Related Services Supplement to Statement of Qualifications"](#) ([MS Word version](#)) not to exceed six (6) pages for the consultant and six (6) pages for each subconsultant. A separate NDOT Form 498 must be submitted for each subconsultant to be used.

Additional submittal requirements are:

1. All material in the submittal must be formatted for 8½ x 11 paper, single or double spaced.
2. Submittal covers and dividers between the sections are allowed and not included in the page limit.

INTERVIEWS

NDOT's selection committee will conduct interviews with the short-listed consultants via WebEx on the date and time specified in the Schedule of Activities. Interviews will be capped at 20 minutes, followed by up to 10 minutes of Q&A. Consultant may contact the Procurement Engineer to make any special arrangements.

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

Upon completion of scoring and approval of the Deputy Director, NDOT will post the final selections on NDOT's website prior to the deadline identified in the Schedule of Activities, or as soon as possible.

Vicki Kramer, Director
Nebraska Department of Transportation

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER