

Rail Design, Facilities Design (Rail), Bridge & Structure Design, and Transportation Planning Studies Services - CSO Solicitation No. 2097

THIS SOLICITATION IS BEING EXTENDED TO PREQUALIFIED FIRMS AND IS POSTED HERE FOR INFORMATION ONLY.

The Connecticut Department of Transportation (Department) is seeking to engage a professional consulting firm to provide Program Management services associated with statewide improvements related to commuter and inter-city high-speed rail service. This will include establishing upgraded rail service along a 62 mile rail corridor stretching from New Haven through Hartford and on to the Springfield area. However, the work may also include improvements to the New Haven Line, Shore Line East, and other associated freight lines in order to improve commuter and inter-city rail service associated with the Northeast Rail corridor. The scope of this contract shall include preliminary engineering studies, preliminary design, schedule development, budget control, program coordination, design review, and environmental permitting for all aspects of the program including new and upgraded facilities and infrastructure. This assignment also includes coordinating the efforts of three other consultants, who will be hired through separate selection processes, for the final design of (1) stations; (2) track, signal, communication, and at-grade crossings; and (3) bridges, culverts, and track support structures. This assignment also includes coordinating with Amtrak who will be performing portions of the design and construction under this program. Work under this assignment may extend through beneficial use of the system and includes systems and operational certifications.

The following specific tasks may be included in this assignment:

- Analyze and incorporate the findings of the Rail Implementation Study, Track 1A and Track 2 Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) Grant Applications, and associated environmental documents.
- Perform field inspection of existing stations, bridges, culverts, retaining walls, at-grade crossings, signal huts, and track signals.
- Analyze existing electric power distribution systems along the corridor to determine the feasibility of providing power for railroad electrification.
- Assist the Department in coordinating with Amtrak and Metro-North Railroad to determine the specific infrastructure improvements that will be required to upgrade the corridor and to provide for high speed service and electrification.
- Perform survey, including wetland delineation at specific locations along the corridor to supplement the existing survey completed by the Department.
- Prepare preliminary design documents for new and upgraded rail stations along the upgraded rail corridor. This task may include assisting the Department in the station site selection process.
- Prepare preliminary design documents for new and rehabilitated railroad bridges, track support structures, and culverts along the upgraded corridor.
- Prepare preliminary design documents for new and upgraded track including crossovers and sidings
- Prepare preliminary design documents for upgraded signal systems.
- Prepare preliminary design documents for improvements to at-grade crossings.
- Inventory and evaluate the Department's current rolling stock fleet and determine what additional equipment will be required to operate the upgraded corridor.
- Develop preliminary schedules and Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Standard Cost Category (SCC) cost estimates for the entire program.
- Assist the Department in developing scopes of work for consultants performing final design
- Perform design review, and coordinate and manage the design review process with the Department, Amtrak, freight railroads, Metro-North Railroad, utility companies, Federal Railroad Administration (FRA), FTA, Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection (CTDEP), Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE), and other regulatory agencies.
- Provide project management documents as required by FTA, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), and FRA regulations.
- Potentially prepare NEPA and CEPA documentation for specific projects in the program and for the corridor as a whole. Coordinate the efforts of other Consultants who may be performing NEPA/CEPA documentation for the program.
- Provide support to the Department for public involvement, including coordination with local elected officials, preparing periodic reports, public notices, and web site development.

- Determine environmental permit requirements for the entire program.
- Complete applications and coordinate the permitting process for any environmental permits that may be required to complete the program including any necessary hydraulic modeling as may be required in preliminary design.
- Coordinate construction phasing, contractor limitations of operations, requirements for work on railroad property, and railroad force account requirements for construction projects included in the program.
- Manage the purchase of additional rolling stock that may be required to operate along the upgraded corridor.
- Provide operating simulations, ridership forecasts, and railroad service level and performance agreements.
- Provide support including schedule development, cost estimating, review and reconciliation, change control, status reporting, risk assessment and engineering support.

Please be advised that the selected firm will be required to maintain a suitably furnished office in Connecticut where the work will be accomplished for the duration of the assignment. Firms responding to this request should be of adequate size and sufficiently staffed and experienced to perform this assignment. Specifically excluded from the potential breadth of this assignment is construction engineering and inspection services.

All firms are advised of the following restrictions: (1) No firm will be allowed to simultaneously subcontract with the Program Management firm and also have a contract with the Department for one of the projects that the Program Management firm will be overseeing; (2) No firm will be allowed to simultaneously subcontract with the Program Management firm and also subcontract with another firm that has a contract with the Department for one of the projects that the Program Management firm will be overseeing; (3) No firm who subcontracts with the Program Management firm during the preconstruction phase of one of the projects will be allowed to work on that same aspect/element with another firm that has a contract with the Department for one of the projects that the Program Management firm will be overseeing during the construction phase; and (4) The selected Program Management firm will not be allowed to also have a contract or subcontract on any of the individual projects that the Program Management firm will be overseeing.

If your firm would like to be considered for this assignment, your submittal should consist of a Letter of Interest (no more than three pages), and a Department Form CSO 255, with résumés of key personnel who will be utilized on assignments. One of the résumés must be that of the proposed Project Manager/Director who will be in charge of this assignment, and assurances that he/she will be available for work when required. Included in the submittal, must be a brief narrative summarizing your firm's current workload and a description of proposed staff, qualifications, and discipline experience and expertise in: 1) Railroad Station Design and Construction; 2) Railroad Engineering including the Design and Construction of Track, Signals including Amtrak's Advanced Civil Speed Enforcement System (ACSES), communication, and Electrification on Amtrak Right of Way; 3) Highway and Railroad Bridge Design; 4) Highway Design, Sitework and Utility Design including Sanitary Sewer, Water Supply, Natural Gas and Electric Power Transmission; 5) Project Management including Cost Estimating, construction scheduling and the use of Construction Management Document Control Systems and Engineering Content Management Systems including the Department's Digital Design Environment; 6) Public Involvement/Outreach and Webpage Design; 7) NEPA and CEPA documentation; 8) Specification of railroad rolling stock; 9) Railroad system implementation, testing, and certification; 10) Preparation of Federal Grant Applications and Federal and State Environmental Permits, including hydraulic and floodplain analysis; and 11) Familiarity with Federal Regulations including FTA and FRA procurement and contracting regulations, and Department Policies, Procedures and Standards. The location of the office where the work will be performed, and the staff size of that office, should also be indicated. **Five (5) copies of the submittal are required, and they must be postmarked by September 30, 2010, or if hand-delivered, received by 3:00 p.m. on that date.**

Do not send additional documentation other than what is requested. The Consultant Selection Panel may reject your submittal, and your firm may not be considered for this project if you provide additional documentation such as corporate brochures, background information, and histories.

You are advised that a disadvantaged business sub-consultant goal of 13% applies to this project. Within the Letter of Interest submittal, you must include the designated certified Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) sub-consultant(s) which you plan to use. The DBE sub-consultants must be currently certified by the Department. All firms are advised that the prime consultant must perform the major part of the work with employees of the firm. Sub-consultants may be used to comply with DBE requirements or perform specialized work. Joint venturing assignments will not be allowed.

Please be advised that the Office of Policy and Management has updated its contracting affidavits and certifications, as well as the timeline of when these documents are required to be completed, signed and returned. For the purposes of Form 1 (Gift and Campaign Contribution Certification), the planning date is defined as the date when the Commissioner granted approval to hire a consultant. For this project, the planning date is September 2, 2010. This is the date the selected firm must use when completing Form 1 at the time the agreement/contract is executed in accordance with the Connecticut General Statute (CGS) Section 4-252 and Executive Order No. 7C, paragraph 10. Please be advised that Form 5 (Consulting Agreement Affidavit), in its revised format (Rev. 2-1-10), must be completed and **one copy** should be submitted with your letter-of-interest package. Please do not staple or bind the affidavit in your submittal package. Forms 1 and 5 apply to all consulting agreements/contracts which have a total value to the State of fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) or more in a calendar or fiscal year. Any consultant that does not make the certifications required under subsection (c) of CGS 4-252 or refuses to submit the affidavit required under subsection (b) of CGS 4a-81 shall be disqualified and the Department shall award the agreement/contract to the next highest ranked consultant or seek new submittals in accordance with subsection (d) of CGS 4-252 and subsection (d) of CGS 4a-81. Further information on these requirements can be obtained online at <http://www.ct.gov/opm> via the Ethics Affidavits link.

For all State contracts, as defined in P.A. 07-1, having a value in a calendar year of \$50,000 or more or a combination or series of such agreements or contracts having a value of \$100,000 or more, the authorized signatory to this submission in response to the State's solicitation expressly acknowledges receipt of the State Elections Enforcement Commission's notice advising state contractors of state campaign contribution and solicitation prohibitions, and will inform its principals of the contents of the notice. The SEEC Form 11 is attached hereto and hereby made a part of this solicitation.

Prior to the negotiation process, the selected firm will be required to have a Department-approved audit and affirmative action plan, as well as current corporate registration with the Secretary of State (partnerships excluded). The selected firm will also be required to maintain insurance coverage from a firm licensed to do business in the State of Connecticut. A minimum of \$10,000,000 will be required with a deductible of \$250,000. Proof of coverage must be submitted on Department FORM CON-32 (revised 11/07, for Commercial General Liability, Automobile, Valuable Papers and Records, Railroad Protective Liability, and Workers Compensation Insurance (if applicable)) and DOC-001 (revised 3/08, for Professional Liability coverage) prior to the start of the negotiations process.

Circumstances may require the rescheduling or cancellation of projects. Should this action be necessary, the Department would be under no obligation to provide supplementary work for the firm selected for this assignment. The Department reserves the right to award subsequent phases of an assignment to other qualified firms. The Department reserves the right to add additional project(s) of a similar nature for a separate selection, should additional project(s) become available prior to the interview phase of the selection process.

Please be advised that firms must also be pre-qualified in the particular year a shortlist is finalized and/or a selection is made.

Please review the following website: www.nhhsrail.com for further information on the rail corridor. All inquiries regarding this Request for Letters of Interest shall be directed to Ms. Simone Cristofori of the Consultant Selection Office, at (860) 594-3017.