

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING SERVICES

I. OVERVIEW

The County of Columbus has received funding from the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality (NCDEQ) Division of Water Infrastructure as follows:

Columbus County Water District II is experiencing new growth in the Marlowe Road and Dothan areas of the County and the existing infrastructure is undersized to sustain properties under construction and those new developments under consideration with the Columbus County Planning Board. With its close proximity to Myrtle Beach, considerable residential development of the southern end of Columbus County is being planned.

To properly provide water service to this area, approximately 24,000 feet of new water mains; an elevated storage tank; three (3) deep wells; and an assortment of valves, fire hydrants and water services will be required.

In order to properly plan for the future design of this system, Columbus County has received a \$400,000.00 Pre-Construction Planning Grant from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA).

The first milestone in the development of this project is the submittal of a preliminary project scope that includes a cost estimate and schedule for each major task by June 1, 2023.

II. SCOPE OF WORK:

Engineering services for all work must comply with NCDEQ-DWI guidance documents and receive acceptance and/or approval from NCDEQ-DWI prior to final payments by the County of Columbus.

III. SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

RFQ submissions must include at a minimum:

1. Individual or Firm Information: firm's legal name, address, email, and telephone number, the principal(s) of the firm and the firm's experience and qualifications; and
2. Water System Experience: The specialized experience and technical competence of the staff to be assigned to the project with respect to water improvements or related work, description of firm's prior experience, including any similar projects, construction cost, and names of local officials knowledgeable regarding the firm's performance on related work. Include at least five references within the past five years; and
3. Firm Capacity and Capability: The capacity and capability of the firm to perform the work in question, including specialized services, within the period of the grant, the past record of performance of the firm with respect to such factors as control of costs, quality of work, and ability to meet schedules; description of firm's current work activities, capability of carrying out all aspects of related activities, and firm's anticipated availability during the term of the project; and
4. The proposed work plan and schedule for activities to be performed; and
5. Documentation of compliance with state and federal debarment/eligibility requirements.

Submissions will be evaluated according to the following factors: The County of Columbus will identify the number of points for each of the criteria below:

1. Qualifications, Competence, and Reputation of Firm and Personnel	20 points
2. Firm's Capability to Meet Time and Project Budget Requirements	20 points
3. Present and Project Workload of Firm	20 points
4. Related Experience on Similar Projects	20 points
5. Recent and Current Work for the County	20 points
Total Points	100 points

Upon completion of the review, the County of Columbus will award and contract the work as authorized by the Columbus County Board of Commissioners.

Respondents may review the grant application which include descriptions of the proposed work including activities, budgets, schedules, and other pertinent information by visiting the Assistant County Manager's Office at 127 West Webster Street, B Building, 3rd Floor, Whiteville, NC 28472, during regular office hours.

IV. CONTRACT AWARD:

Once the most qualified firm is selected, costs for the services will be negotiated. Contracts shall be contingent upon formal grant awards. If an agreement of Contract compensation cannot be determined with the first qualified firm, the County of Columbus will eliminate that firm and begin discussion with the next most qualified firm.

The above information must be received no later than 3:00 PM on May 10, 2023, at 127 West Webster Street, B Building, 3rd Floor, Whiteville, NC 28472. Electronic submittals via email are acceptable. For more information, contact Gail E. Edwards, Assistant County Manager, at (910) 640-6630 or gedwards@columbusco.org. Columbus County is an Equal Opportunity Employer and invites the submission of proposals from minority and women-owned firms.