

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS FOR MULTI – DISCIPLINARY ENGINEERING SERVICES

1. Could you provide a copy of the proposed Agreement and insurance requirements?
 - a. Response:
 - i. A copy of a draft agreement is posted on the web site.
 - ii. The insurance requirements are identified in the draft agreement.
2. Could you provide a copy of the City's Quality Assurance Plan?
 - a. Response:
 - i. A copy of the City's Quality Assurance Plan is posted on the web site.
3. We understand that there are federal funds involved in this program. What is the DBE goal for this contract?
 - a. Response:
 - i. There are no federal funds involved in this program. We are only requesting qualifications from firms that are experts in handling federal or state funded projects as project managers for the City.
 - ii. There are no DBE goals for this contract.
4. Please clarify the meaning of "new construction" for both Upjohn Avenue (China Lake Blvd. to Downs Street) and Downs Street (Upjohn Ave. to Ridgecrest Blvd.) improvements.
 - a. Response:
 - i. The definition of "new construction" for these two project areas means that there is significant design of new street improvements, curb, gutter, sidewalk, paving, etc. in each project reach. Along with the "new construction" in each project area will also be a combination of reconstruction and/or rehabilitation of existing asphalt surfaces.
5. Please clarify the project limit for the existing signal evaluations along China Lake Blvd.
 - a. Response:
 - i. The project limit for the existing signal evaluations along China Lake Blvd. will extend from the existing traffic signal at China Lake Blvd. and College Heights Blvd. north to include coordination with the Caltrans traffic signal located at China Lake Blvd. and Ridgecrest Blvd. Intersection signals within this reach will be existing College Hts., future Bowman, future Rader, future Upjohn, existing Church, existing California and existing Caltrans signal at Ridgecrest.
6. Please clarify the meaning of "intersection improvements" for the intersection of China Lake Blvd. and College Heights Blvd.
 - a. Response:
 - i. A traffic impact analysis for a Walmart project was prepared by Austin-Foust Associates in September 2006. The analysis indicated the signalized intersection will operate at an unacceptable level of service "E" with 55 to 80 second delays when the Walmart develops along with area residential developments. The analysis recommends signal improvements along with adding a second southbound left turn lane and adding a separate wet bound right-turn lane.
7. We understand that we will need to provide preliminary scope and estimated timing for those categories we wish to be considered. What is the definition for "estimated timing?" Do we need to provide estimated project duration for those categories?
 - a. Response:
 - i. Yes we expect project duration for those categories. We want a simple estimate though. We anticipate that if you really are an expert in that category that you will have ample experience with projects similar in size to give an estimated timing for that category.
8. Sec. II. 1 – Is it the intention of the City to engage "each" project in CEQA process?

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- a. Response:
 - i. Due to the uncertainty of when each project may be launched and having multiple projects in different phases of operation; it is our initial thought that each project would have to stand alone with its own CEQA process. This may change however; if it can be orchestrated that multiple projects can be included in a single CEQA process.
9. Has City performed any preliminary property assessment (Phase 1 or Phase 2) for the projects identified? or,
 - a. Have specific projects been identified for any level of Environmental Study/ Impact, Categorical Exemption, Negative Declaration, etc.?
 - i. Response:
 1. No; preliminary property assessments have not been performed.
 2. No level of Environmental Study/ Impact, Categorical Exemption, Neg. Dec. have been identified.
10. Sec. II. 2.b. – Is it the City’s intent for the consulting professional take responsibility for the City’s property in the form of survey boundaries, topography and/or geology; or,
 - a. Response:
 - i. No, unless your firm has these resources to be evaluated for those categories.
11. Will the consulting professional be limited to assisting in procurement of these services, on behalf of the City of Ridgecrest?
 - a. Response:
 - i. The City currently has Municipal Professional Consulting Services in which to call upon to assist in the procurement of these services.
12. Sec. II. 2.f. – Are geological evaluations limited to pavement projects; exempt from building/ pool facilities/ above grade structural elements?
 - a. Response:
 - i. Geological evaluations are not limited to pavement projects. Soils and geological analysis will be required on all project if warranted.
13. Sec II. 3. – Is your terminology for Construction Management intended to mean a person or entity conducting independent construction oversight, separate from the architect/ engineer in responsible charge? or, Is this to mean providing assistance in the administration of the construction contract between the City and builder(s)?
 - a. Response:
 - i. It is our intent to have a firm provide independent construction oversight, separate from the architect of engineer of record for some of the more complex projects. For some of the less complex projects we reserve the right to solicit a separate proposal from the architect or engineer of record to provide the construction management.
14. Is the City intending on having the consultant professional pay for soils and testing services normally conducted by “independent” agencies to assure quality control?
 - a. Response:
 - i. No; the intent is to retain independent soils & materials testing services on an as needed basis for any of the projects launched.
15. Does the City mean the consulting professional to render oversight to the builder in preparation of “its” as-built conditions of construction into record documents? or,

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- a. Does the City mean the As-Built drawings are to be “certified” as documented by the consulting professional, from information and mark-ups provided by other builders and inspectors and incorporated into a record set of documents? or,
 - b. Is it the intent of the City to have the licensed professional actually, prepare, “stamp and sign” a record of information transferred from the builder set of documents? (this may have legal consequences contrary to the California Architects and Engineers Practice Act).
 - i. Response:
 1. Typically for less complex projects the construction management firm, which may be the engineer or architect of record, will prepare as built drawings from information and or mark ups provided by the inspector and contractor. For more complex projects where record data is more important for future use, the construction management firm would have more responsibility by overseeing the builder for the preparation of as-built drawings. The stamp and sign requirement by the CA&EPA is subject to further review and may be necessary by the act in some circumstances or dependent upon the complexity of the project.
16. The RFQ doesn’t identify a requirement for résumés of proposed individuals in-charge or managing the project. Do you need such information?
- a. No, the RFQ did not ask for resumes just qualifications of the Project Manager. Keep it simple!
17. Sec. V. 5. Evaluation Criteria- The “quality of response” clause appears vague or without limits. Is this concept intended to mean “completeness” and/or “essential and distinguishing” character of responses?
- a. Response:
 - i. This is strictly a qualifications based selection of the top ranked firms in which multiple firms for each category will be selected as qualified to perform work for the city. The city reserves the right to judge the quality of response of all submittals. It is up to the candidate to prepare as concise and complete of RFQ as they feel necessary to win the opinion of the reviewers. Essential and distinguishing are considered more terms of art than substance.
18. In relation to the “mandatory license” requirement, does the City of Ridgecrest have a business license requirement that must be met prior to submitting qualifications?
- a. Response:
 - i. A business license is not required prior to submitting qualifications. A business license will be required if you are selected as one of the qualified firms.
19. Can we anticipate an interview process for this RFQ, or will the selection process be based solely on the received document?
- a. Response:
 - i. Due to the wide open invitation to submit qualifications, the large number of responses anticipated and limited city resources to process the qualifications; the responses will be evaluated and ranked. A short list will be prepared and recommendations will be made to Administrative Staff for the final selection process.
20. City DBE goals are identified in Section II.4 for assistance with federal and state funded projects. Does the city have goals for the prequalification for other sections?
- a. Response:
 - i. No; there are no DBE goals for the prequalification process.
21. Our firm is looking forward to providing our Qualifications for Construction Management services. In Section III of the RFQ, item 5, it lists projects in the environmental, civil, architectural, traffic, soils and materials

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testing categories, but does not list Construction Management services. In Items a - f, there are some design and some construction projects listed. Please clarify which, if any of the projects, we would address in regard to our CM approach.

a. Response:

- i. All of the projects listed with the exception of Pavement Management System will require construction management services after the design and authorization to bid has been obtained.

22. In IV. FORMAT OF PROPOSALS, #2. you say that all pages of the proposal must be numbered. Please confirm that you want us to start the numbering with the cover page/executive summary.

a. Response:

- i. The RFQ asks for a cover letter with an executive summary. Please start numbering with the cover letter. The cover letter is for you to specify which categories you wish to be considered for and any other pertinent information, exceptions or assumptions you wish to state.

23. Do you want a cover letter in addition to the executive summary?

a. Response:

- i. Yes; as previously stated the cover letter has some specifics that you are required to address and any other pertinent information that you wish to state.