

NOTICE TO ALL CONSULTING ENGINEERING FIRMS

Solicitation Number S-131-14

The **SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (SCDOT)** requests a letter of interest and a current resume of qualifications from all interested consulting firms experienced in providing **Engineering Services** necessary for the preparation of an environmental impact statement, right of way plans, and final construction plans for roadways and bridges for improvements to the I-20, I-26, I-126 corridor in Richland and Lexington Counties. Requested services include but are not limited to: notice of intent, project scoping (surveying and mapping, public involvement, purpose and need, traffic studies and analysis, and alternatives analysis), preparation of draft environmental impact statements, preparation of draft interchange modification report, preparation of final environmental impact statement, technical memorandums, assistance with record of decision, administrative record, project management and financial plan, and other related duties deemed necessary. Services may also include the development of right-of-way and/or construction plans for selected improvements. Due to the unknown impacts of the corridor improvement, it is anticipated that this project will be divided into multiple phases, with notice of intent and project scoping being the first phase contracted. Subsequent phases of development will be at the discretion of SCDOT based on the results of the first phase. The project team should be capable of providing all services outlined above.

Supplemental information associated with this solicitation is located at the following link:
http://www.scdot.org/doing/constructionLetting_Services.aspx.

For questions, please contact the SCDOT Contracting Officer, Wendy Hollingsworth, at (803) 737-0746 or via email at Hollingswg@scdot.org. Electronic Submissions are due no later than 2:00 PM, March 26, 2014.

I-20/26/126 Corridor Improvement Project ANTICIPATED SCOPE OF SERVICES

Introduction

The I-20/26/126 Corridor is generally defined as I-20 from the Saluda River to the Broad River, I-26 from US 378 to Broad River Road, and I-126 from Colonial Life Boulevard to I-26. In order to address the existing and anticipated traffic volumes, the South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) intends to develop an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) that will promote informed decision making in the development of a solution to reduce congestion, improve traffic operations, increase safety and increase capacity. While the corridor defined above is where traffic improvements are needed, alternative solutions could exist beyond this corridor that will improve traffic conditions within the corridor. This scope is not intended to limit the consultant to alternatives solely within the corridor identified above.

Due to the unknown impacts of this corridor improvement, the project is to be divided into multiple phases of work. The first phase will consist of Notice of Intent and Project Scoping. Project Scoping will include additional surveys and mapping, public involvement, agency coordination, development of purpose and need, data collection and traffic analysis, and screening of comprehensive list of potential alternatives. Subsequent phases will be at the discretion of SCDOT and may include analyzing and evaluating a short list of alternatives in detail; comparing alternatives and preparing a Draft EIS (DEIS) identifying the preferred alternative; preparing a draft interchange modification report for any affected interchanges; responding to comments, revising, and preparing the Final EIS (FEIS); assistance with securing a Record of Decision (ROD); the administrative record; development of a project management and financial plan; and development of right-of-way and construction plans for any recommended improvements.

SCDOT intends to contract with one consultant team for development of the first phase of the project. Subsequent phase development will be at the discretion of SCDOT based on the results of the first phase.

Summary of Anticipated Services – Phase 1

The services outlined below are those anticipated for Phase 1 of the project and expected to be included in the basic agreement.

- Notice of Intent
- Project Scoping
 - Additional Surveys & Mapping
 - Public Involvement & Outreach
 - Resource Agency Coordination
 - Purpose & Need
 - Traffic Analysis
 - Alternatives Analysis

NOTICE OF INTENT

- Prepare notice of intent

PROJECT SCOPING

Additional Surveys and Mapping

In 2009, SCDOT obtained aerial surveying services along the I-20/26/126 project corridor. The surveys included a combination of aerial photography and mapping at a map scale of 1"=300' using a fixed winged aircraft as well as low altitude aerial photography and mapping at a scale of 1"=50' using a helicopter. The project included all of I-126 from Elmwood Avenue to I-26, approximately 9 miles of I-26 from Mile Marker 100 to approximately Mile Marker 109 and approximately 3.5 miles of I-20 from the Saluda River to the Broad River.

The 1"=300' mapping included a 1000' wide corridor of all areas outside the pavement surfaces of the Interstates. Some additional areas along Colonial Life Boulevard, Bush River Road, and the Harbison area were also mapped at 1"=300'. The 1"=50' mapping included all Interstate pavement surfaces, medians and ramps. The pavement surfaces, medians, and ramps of I-20 were not mapped at 1"=50' because of an interstate rehabilitation project that was planned for the corridor.

The project will include any necessary additional surveys of the project area needed for use during the environmental studies and preparation of the alternatives.

Public Involvement and Outreach

- In accordance with SAFETEA-LU 6002, develop a public involvement plan to effectively communicate with stakeholders, the general public, and resource agencies throughout the development of the EIS
- Media Campaign/PR
 - Develop a project logo
 - Develop and maintain in coordination with SCDOT a website to keep public informed of upcoming meetings or study events, provide project information (i.e., background and contact information, published reports, etc.) and methods to communicate with the study team. The website will be linked through SCDOT's website.
 - Schedule, secure sites, and prepare necessary drawings, handouts, and mailings for public meetings, hearings, or workshops necessary for the project. Record meetings/hearings to satisfy NEPA requirements. Coordinate with SCDOT to publish required notices including local advertisement and Federal Register notices.
 - Develop a Public Information Video
 - Develop newsletters
 - Billboards
 - Stakeholder Working Group
 - Meetings with Elected Officials
 - Press Packets
 - Newspaper Article Synthesis

- Tools necessary to effectively communicate with all the stakeholders on this large project
- Visualization - Develop visualizations and animated virtual tours to assist the public in understanding the various alternatives and the impacts to the community.

Purpose and Need

- Assist with the development of a purpose and need statement for the project
- The purpose and need statement will include measurable goals for the project
- Each alternative will be evaluated on how well it meets these goals of the project

Traffic Analysis

The traffic analysis will include a thorough review of existing conditions and planned improvements in the area. Traffic analysis is anticipated to include the following:

- Defining the study area
- Identifying the objectives of the traffic analysis
- Confirming the freeway segments and interchange ramps to be evaluated
- Establishing base, design and intermediate traffic analysis forecast years
- Determination of need to collect additional traffic data
- Determination of COATS model updating/calibration needs
- Origin and destination studies
- Data collection and field observations
- Analysis and reporting

Alternatives Analysis

The alternative evaluation process will include the exploration and objective evaluation of a reasonable range of alternatives. The alternatives analysis will be conducted on an increasing level of detail. Alternatives will address:

- Purpose and need for the project
- Public comments and input
- Existing and future development
- Current and future land use
- Environmental impacts
- Socioeconomic issues
- Geographic features
- Political issues
- Traffic volumes
- Traffic service
- Utility impacts
- Transportation infrastructure
- Cost
- Alignment criteria

The comprehensive list of alternatives will be narrowed down to a short list of “Reasonable Alternatives” to carry forward for a more detailed analysis in the Draft EIS.

Summary of Anticipated Services – Phase 2

The services outlined below are those anticipated after the completion of Phase 1 of the project, and at the discretion of SCDOT, may be included in modifications to the basic agreement.

- Draft EIS
- Final EIS
- Technical Memoranda to support the Final EIS
- Record of Decision
- Administrative Record
- Project Management and Financial Plan
- Development of Right-of-Way and/or Construction Plans

DRAFT EIS

- Based on the information from the Resource Agencies and public involvement meetings, finalize and reduce the alternatives to a Preferred Alternative
- Prepare a draft Alternatives Analysis Tech Memo
- Prepare draft EIS
- Prepare preliminary engineering and plans as necessary on principal alternatives to assist in selection of preferred alternative
- Prepare detailed cost estimates for alternatives
- Evaluate effectiveness of alternatives
- Prepare detailed analysis of impacts of alternatives
- Prepared detailed documentation of decisions
- Prepare conceptual mitigation measures
- Assistance as required for a Value Engineering Study (VE) prior to selection of preferred alternative including presenting project to VE Study Team and addressing approved changes that result from VE study

FINAL EIS

- After approval and circulation of draft EIS, prepare a final EIS
- Identify the preferred alternative and evaluate all reasonable alternatives considered
- Discussion of substantive comments received on draft EIS and responses
- Summarize the public involvement and outreach
- Describe mitigation measures that are to be incorporated
- Assist in resolution of interagency disagreements
- Identify any unresolved issues and the efforts made to resolve the issues
- Assist as necessary in the legal sufficiency review
- Development of a Draft Interchange Modification Report (IMR) (one IMR is anticipated to cover all the affected interchanges in this project)
- Preparation of conceptual roadway plans and detailed cost estimate on preferred alternative

TECHNICAL MEMORANDUMS

- Prepare technical memorandums as necessary to support final EIS

RECORD OF DECISION

- Assist as necessary with preparation of record of decision

ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD

- Maintain a spreadsheet and copies of all documentation required for administrative record including, but not limited to, draft EIS, final EIS, comment letters, scientific/technical reports, studies considered, computer modeling, contracts, and all relevant correspondence including e-mails
- After signing of the record of decision, submit complete administrative record to SCDOT

DRAFT PROJECT MANAGEMENT AND FINANCIAL PLAN

- Project Management Plan shall define roles, responsibilities, procedures, and processes needed for the successful management and completion of the project.
- Develop a construction sequencing plan that outlines a feasible approach to constructing the preferred alternative
- Construction sequencing plan shall identify individual project segments with independent utility
- Develop and maintain a financial plan for the overall project based on detailed annual estimates of the cost to complete the project and reasonable assumptions of future increases in the cost to complete the project
- Financial plan will provide information on the immediate and long term financial implications resulting from the project initiation
- Financial plan will evaluate the impact on the state's transportation capital improvement program
- Assistance shall be provided to update the financial plan on an annual basis

DEVELOPMENT OF RIGHT-OF-WAY AND/OR CONSTRUCTION PLANS

Development of right-of-way and construction plans may include the following:

- Project Management
- Surveys & Mapping
- Environmental Permitting
- Traffic Engineering/Signal Design
- Development of Final Interchange Modification Report (IMR)
- Road Design and Plans
- Stormwater Management/Drainage Design/Hydraulic Design
- Geotechnical Investigation and Engineering
- Bridge Design and Plans
- Roadway Structure Design (Earth retaining structures and/or noise walls)

- Overhead Lighting Design
- Subsurface Utility Engineering
- Utility Coordination
- Railroad Coordination
- Work Zone Traffic Control/Transportation Management Plan
- Value Engineering Study Assistance
- Sediment and Erosion Control/NPDES Permitting
- Pavement Marking and Signing Plans
- Constructability Review
- Construction Phase Design Services
- Construction Administration

Supplemental Information for I-20/26/126 Corridor Engineering Services

Solicitation Number S-131-14

A detailed scope of services and an exhibit showing the limits of aerial survey information that will be made available to the selected consultant is located under this solicitation number (S-131-14) @ http://www.scdot.org/doing/constructionLetting_Services.aspx.

In consultant selection, the SCDOT will consider and conduct a comparative ranking of the firms submitting based upon the following:

25%	Description of the consultant's understanding of the project, including the major environmental and engineering challenges, and consultant's technical approach in the following key areas: Public involvement and outreach, traffic analysis, alternatives analysis, development of draft/final EIS, maintenance of administrative record, and development of construction sequencing and financial plan.
15%	Proposed project manager and specific experience in managing major highway corridor improvement projects. Each project listed should include the client name and point of contact for client including telephone number.
15%	Specific experience of key team members in preparing NEPA EIS documents for major highway corridors. Each project listed should include the client name, the specific role of the team member for the consultant, and a point of contact for client including telephone number.
15%	Specific experience of key team members in preparing traffic and alternatives analysis for major highway corridors. Prior experience in traffic and alternatives analysis for interstate/freeway system to system interchanges will be given greater weight.
15%	Demonstrate that the team has the personnel and experience to provide all services for the development of right-of-way and construction plans and documents for any improvements that may be identified.
10%	Proposals will be evaluated as an example of the consultant's EIS document preparation capability. Proposals should represent the clarity, conciseness, and editorial precision used to prepare an EIS.
5%	Consistent and dedicated DBE utilization plan including a percentage of work to be assigned to DBE firms.

The proposal must contain the following: letter of interest, current resume of qualifications, a direct response to each of the selection criteria identified above, and Standard Form 330 (SF

330) as required by the Federal Acquisitions Regulations. All parts of the SF 330 must be completed in its entirety for the prime consultant, any sub-consultants and any sub-contractors. Additionally, all proposals must clearly list the percentage of work for prime consultant and subconsultant(s) that will be performing work as part of the project.

Consultants are prohibited from submitting on multiple proposals as the prime consultant in response to this advertisement. The preceding, with the exception of SF 330, shall be limited to 25 double-spaced pages printed on one side only.

To qualify as a DBE on this project, the firm must be listed as approved for the type of work to be performed in the South Carolina Unified DBE Directory at the time of the bid submittal. The directory can be found at the following link:

http://www.scdot.org/doing/doingPDFs/businessDevelop/UCP_DBE_Directory.pdf.

All responding firms must utilize the SCDOT's new electronic proposal submission process. Information regarding Project Wise can be found at the following link: http://www.scdot.org/doing/constructionLetting_ProjectWise.aspx. Please contact Eric Stuckey at 803-737-1003 or StuckeyEC@scdot.org to set up an account to begin utilizing the electronic submittal process.

The SCDOT selection will be based on information submitted; however, additional information and/or an interview may be required. Interviews/presentations should not include any plans, drawings, visualizations, studies, or information of any kind related to design of the proposed project.

All responders must visibly mark as "CONFIDENTIAL" each part of their submission that they consider to contain proprietary information the release of which would constitute an unreasonable invasion of privacy. All unmarked pages will be subject to release in accordance with law. Proposer should be prepared, upon request, to provide justification of why such materials should not be disclosed under the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act, S.C. Code Section 30-4-10, et seq.

Consultants and sub-consultants must have an SCDOT approved indirect cost rate prior to contract execution. Please refer to the following link for additional information: http://www.scdot.org/doing/contractor_Audit.aspx.

Consultants shall comply with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. The SCDOT strongly encourages the use of and involvement of Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBE) on this project.

The contract will be cost plus a fixed fee with a contract maximum, or lump sum, or approved unit cost at the discretion of the SCDOT. There is no guarantee of any specific amount of work.

All electronic proposal submissions and the letter of interest should be addressed to the Contracting Officer, Room 128, at the South Carolina Department of Transportation, P.O. Box 191, Columbia, South Carolina 29202 or 955 Park Street, Room 128, Columbia, South Carolina 29201, no later than 2:00 PM, March 26, 2014.