

City of Hawkinsville
c/o the Middle Georgia Regional Commission
175 Emery Highway, Suite C
Macon, Georgia 31217

MEMORANDUM

TO: Qualified Engineering Firms

FROM: The Middle Georgia Regional Commission on behalf of the City of Hawkinsville

SUBJECT: Engineering Qualifications for Sewer System and Stormwater Drainage Improvements

DATE: December 8, 2020

Enclosed is a Request for Qualifications from qualified engineering firms interested in working with the City of Hawkinsville in its effort to undertake design and construction management of a sewer system and stormwater drainage improvement project.

To be considered, proposals must be received by **5:00 pm, January 8, 2021** at the Middle Georgia Regional Commission, Attn: Holly Wharton, 175 Emery Highway, Suite C, Macon, Georgia 31217. **An electronic copy of the proposal must be included.** This may be submitted on a flash drive, CD, or via email to hwharton@mg-rc.org. Zip files will be rejected via email. All proposals must be sealed and should be clearly labeled. Proposals received after the specified date and time will not be considered.

This selected engineering firm will be expected to work with the City of Hawkinsville to complete preliminary engineering work associated with Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funded sewer and drainage system improvements. Funding for project work will be contingent on the award of grant funding.

Please direct all questions to Holly Wharton, Government Services Specialist, Middle Georgia Regional Commission at (478) 751-6160 or hwharton@mg-rc.org. Questions should be submitted no later than fifteen (15) calendar days before the deadline.

Enclosure

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS ENGINEERING SERVICES

SEWER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

Background

The City of Hawkinsville is in the process of applying for grant funding to assist with sewer and drainage system improvements.

The city is seeking an engineering firm with broad experience to provide design and construction supervision for this project that will utilize funds primarily from the CDBG grant program, if awarded. These grants are funded by the federal government and administered at the state level by the Georgia Department of Community Affairs. Therefore, all activities must be performed in strict adherence to applicable federal and state regulations. All project activities will be coordinated with Sara Myers, City Manager, and the City Commission of Hawkinsville.

Project Title for Identification Purposes

City of Hawkinsville Sewer and Drainage System Improvements

Scope

The initial work documents required of the selected firm will consist of the preparation of comprehensive engineering plans, including cost estimates. These must be prepared in close communication with the City of Hawkinsville. The primary contact for the project is Holly Wharton, who can be reached at (478) 751-6160 or by e-mail at hwharton@mg-rc.org.

The following engineering services must be provided at a minimum:

- 1 Preparation of final design, plans, and specifications.
- 2 The securing of all necessary permits, clearances, and easements as applicable to comply with state and federal mandates. For this project the engineering will be required to provide engineering plans/drawings showing all dimensions drawn to current engineering standards and the required plans in order for the contractor to apply for permits and easements.
- 3 Preparation of bid and contract documents, including advertising and bidding procedures, holding the bidders conference, bid openings, and evaluations.
- 4 Post-award services, including securing the construction firm's certifications and review of specifications, warranties, operation manuals, and as-built drawings.
- 5 Construction services including supervision/administration of construction, review of payment requests, change orders, and other coordination with the construction firm. Periodic construction review (at least one visit per week during regular working hours) and other work as required in assuring proper execution of the work. Periodic construction review must ensure that the construction firm's methods of construction provides for the same.

6 Construction close-out, final inspection, project certification, and coordination with the City of Hawkinsville and the Middle Georgia Regional Commission to provide periodic updates to satisfy all CDBG program requirements.

Schedule

To be considered, proposals must be received by **5:00 pm, January 8, 2021**, at the Middle Georgia Regional Commission, Attn: Holly Wharton. All proposals must be sealed and should be clearly labeled. Any proposals received after **5:00 pm, January 8, 2021**, or at any location other than the Middle Georgia Regional Commission at 175 Emery Highway, Suite C, Macon Georgia 31217 will not be considered. **An electronic copy of the proposal must be included.** This may be submitted on a flash drive, CD, or via email to hwharton@mg-rc.org. The successful respondent will be notified by telephone on or before **January 21, 2021** and notified in writing.

In addition to the requirements set forth in the Request for Qualifications, the selected engineering firm will be required to submit a completed Preliminary Engineering Report no later than **5:00 p.m. on March 5, 2021**. The selected engineering firm will work with the Middle Georgia Regional Commission to provide all information necessary to meet the Community Development Block Grant application deadline of **April 1, 2021**.

Proposal Contents

Responses are to be returned to the Middle Georgia Regional Commission where an initial evaluation of the proposals will be completed. Those evaluations will be submitted to the City of Hawkinsville for final selection.

Respondents are requested to include letterhead pages immediately behind the cover letter that briefly, directly, and exactly answers the following evaluation criteria questions:

1. Your firm's experience, particularly with CDBG grants as well as other grant projects. Please refer to specific pages in the proposal that answer each category of experience. References must include the names and telephone numbers of local governments, personnel involved, and a brief description of the projects.
2. Your firm's prior experience with the City of Hawkinsville. Please refer to specific pages in the proposal that answer each category of experience.
3. At a minimum, the engineering firm's proposal should also provide the following information:
 - a. A brief history of the engineering firm and its principal personnel including resumes of the principals.
 - b. The length of time the firm has been providing the specific kind of engineering services requested herein.
 - c. The name(s) and professional experience of the firm's key personnel who will be assigned to this project. Firm must also state how much direct experience the personnel assigned to this project has had with CDBG-funded projects.
 - d. Cost schedules for general services, in addition to cost schedules for additional services.
 - e. Fees for reimbursable expenses, if applicable.
 - f. The firm must provide a professional services contract. (Note: The contract will be written as "direct

costs plus a fixed fee, not to exceed a lump sum.” If the engineering firm is contracted for the project, the contract must include additional clauses pertaining to federal regulations that will be supplied by the Middle Georgia Regional Commission). The firm should also include the percentage fee that it normally charges for design and construction supervision on this size project and a list of other services included under contract.

g. A proposed plan to implement the project.

h. A written release authorizing all investigations necessary.

i. The attached Section 3 solicitation package, if Section 3 preference is being claimed.

Selection

Procedures for selection of an individual/firm will be in accordance with the RFQ package and local procurement requirements, as well as the requirements of the Uniform Administration Requirements (“the common rule”) 24 CFR Part 85.

All qualifications will be evaluated in terms of project approach, quality of work, experience, capacity to perform, mobility, and project familiarity. Past performance on other projects may also be assessed in terms of timeliness, completing within budget, and other factors.

Section 3

This is a Section 3 contract opportunity. This project is covered under the requirements of Section 3 of the HUD Act of 1968. This project must ensure that employment and other economic opportunities generated by CDBG funds shall, to the greatest extent feasible, and consistent with federal, state and local laws and regulations, be directed toward low and very low-income persons, particularly those who are recipients of government funding for housing, and to business concerns which provide economic opportunities to low and very low-income persons in coordination with the Section 3 provisions of the Housing and Urban Redevelopment Act of 1968 – 24CFR Part 135.

Fair Housing

This project must affirmatively further fair housing, take steps to analyze impediments to fair housing choice in the City of Hawkinsville, and take steps to overcome any identified impediments in efforts to promote fair housing for city residents.

Section 504

This project must ensure that no qualified individual with a disability shall, by reason of such disability, be excluded from the participation in or be denied the benefits of services, programs, or activities of a public entity, or be subjected to discrimination of any such entity as prescribed by law in the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 U.S.C. 794, as amended.

Disclaimer

The City of Hawkinsville reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals. The City of Hawkinsville is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Contents of Preliminary Engineering Reports

Preliminary planning and engineering reports generally include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Executive Summary
 - Brief description of Project Area needs, Conclusions and Recommendations
- Introduction
 - Purpose and Scope (project objectives and methodology of evaluation)
 - Authorization
 - Previous Studies
- Background
 - Target Area description
 - Plans and photos of Target Area
 - Population density
 - Population projections (if available)
 - Narrative describing existing conditions including description of needs to be addressed
 - Map of existing conditions, particularly of existing conditions to be addressed with CDBG funds, including pipe sizes and other relevant measures of existing infrastructure
- Evaluation of Alternatives
 - Descriptions of alternatives considered, including cost estimates of each alternative (capital, operation and maintenance & user fees)
 - Street and road projects should include the advantages and disadvantages of alternative typical sections (curb and gutter versus shoulder and ditch section)
 - Assessment of impacts on Target Area residents & property owners (land, right-of-way and easement acquisition requirements)
- Description of Proposed Project
 - Identification of applicable federal, state and local design standards
 - Drainage projects should include site specific preliminary hydrologic and hydraulic calculations for each drainage shed
 - Drainage projects should include a description of project outfall(s) and consideration of downstream impacts
 - Required Permits

- Operation and maintenance requirements, responsible party (Grantee, GaDOT, other) and operation and maintenance capability (available staff, equipment and expertise)
- Narrative describing the proposed improvements including a description of the impact of the proposed improvements on the quality of life of target area residents
- Map of proposed improvements, including pipe sizes and other relevant measures of proposed infrastructure
- Detailed Project Budget (Verify the math is correct, including item costs to totals to budget total)
 - Construction and material costs
 - Design and oversight fees
 - Grant Administration
 - Funding sources
 - Projected Operating Revenues and Expenses (if applicable)
 - Projected User Fees (if applicable)
- Project Schedule
- All Preliminary Engineering Reports should include an original signature and an engineering stamp. Points may be deducted for feasibility without these required features.**