

**ENGINEERING AND RELATED SERVICES
MARCH 27, 2015**

**CONTRACT NO. 4400005873
RETAINER CONTRACT FOR
STAGE 0 STUDIES
STATEWIDE**

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DBE/WBE GOAL = 4%

Under Authority granted by Title 48 of Louisiana Revised Statutes, the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (DOTD) hereby issues a Request for Qualification Statements (RFQ) on DOTD Form 24-102 (24-102), "Professional Engineering and Related Services", revised November 2011, from Consulting Firms (Consultant) to provide engineering and related services. Consultants who are a Louisiana or foreign LLC or corporation should be appropriately registered with the Louisiana Secretary of State, as contemplated by Title 12 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes, and with LAPELS under its rules for FIRMS. If a Consultant fails to place itself in good standing in accordance with those provisions, it may be subject to consequences contemplated in Title 12 and/or the LAPELS rules. **All requirements of Louisiana Professional Engineering and Land Surveying (LAPELS) Board must be met and all Consultants shall be registered with the Federal Government using SAM.gov at the time of submittal.**

Only one (1) 24-102 submittal is required for this Advertisement, and it represents the Prime-Consultant/Sub-Consultant(s) Team's qualifications and submittal for both of the two (2) referenced projects. Both identifying contract numbers must be listed on your 24-102 submittals cover page.

Note that only one (1) Prime-Consultant/Sub-Consultant(s) Team will be selected for each of these projects. No Team will be selected for more than one project.

Project Manager – Ms. Connie Betts

All inquiries concerning this advertisement should be sent in writing to hadi.shirazi@la.gov and heather.huval@la.gov.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The selected Consultant will perform engineering and related services for Stage 0 Studies covered by a Retainer Contract under separate Task Orders. The Consultant will be required to execute a Task Order which will specify the scope of services, contract time, and compensation. Each Task Order will become a part of the Retainer Contract.

SCOPE OF SERVICES

The services to be rendered for this Retainer Contract shall consist of the following Stage and Parts:

Stage 0: Feasibility Studies

Part I: Feasibility Study

Part II: Environmental Inventory

The selected Consultant will be responsible for assisting the DOTD's Planning Staff in performing Stage 0 feasibility and scoping studies for projects under consideration by the DOTD. In some cases, the Consultant may be required to perform an environmental inventory as part of Stage 0.

The Consultant should have a comprehensive professional engineering knowledge of the transportation system across all modes, as well as an in-depth knowledge of DOTD's planning, programming, environmental, federal funding mechanisms, design standards and knowledge of project management techniques.

Tasks to be performed by the Consultant on assigned projects include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Conduct Stage 0 feasibility studies and prepare studies/checklists as requested by DOTD's Scoping Unit. The Stage 0 studies/checklists must be prepared as outlined in DOTD's Stage 0 manual, Stage 0: Manual of Standard Practices. The Stage 0 manual can be found on DOTD's website (http://wwwsp.dotd.la.gov/Inside_LaDOTD/Divisions/Multimodal/Pages/Stage_0.aspx).
2. Discuss and explain the purpose and need for the project in detail in the feasibility study and the Stage 0 Preliminary Scope and Budget Checklist.
3. Obtain, organize and review the engineering data required to prepare the studies/checklists. It may include, but is not limited to the following items:
 - a. Existing traffic data
 - b. Accident data
 - c. Existing highway plans (as-builts)
 - d. Utility information

- e. Previous studies and reports
 - f. Unit cost data
 - g. Map to identify project site
 - h. Aerial photography
4. Provide geometric layouts of reasonable alternatives using aerial photography and DOTD's design standards.
 5. Establish approximate right-of-way limits and area based on a standard template. Depict both the apparent right-of-way and the required right-of-way on the geometric layouts.
 6. Develop preliminary cost estimates for each alternative based on unit cost data. The estimates will include the costs associated with engineering, environmental, construction, right-of-way acquisition, utility relocation and contingencies.
 7. Complete DOTD's Environmental Checklist and include it in the feasibility report. Analysis of each alternative, including the no build, will be made to the extent practicable. Items to be considered include, but are not limited to social, economic, historic, cultural, recreational, archeological, noise, air, wetlands, flood plains, endangered or threatened species and/or their habitat and farmland. Identify and define the apparent environmentally sensitive areas, hazardous material sites and natural or manmade constraints to project development within the project's limits, using field reconnaissance and aerial photography. This task includes use of publicly available data sets and field review to locate community resources, utilities, etc. In some cases, a complete environmental inventory will be necessary. Analysis results and any information collected will be documented in a manner consistent with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).
 8. Review the alignment of each alternative configuration with the department to discuss the workability and development.

REFERENCES

All services and documents will meet the standard requirements as to format and content of the DOTD; and will be prepared in accordance with the latest applicable editions, supplements and revisions of the following:

1. AASHTO Standard, ASTM Standards or DOTD Test Procedures
2. DOTD Location and Survey Manual
3. DOTD Roadway Design Procedures and Details
4. DOTD Hydraulics Manual
5. DOTD Standard Specification for Roads and Bridges
6. Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices
7. DOTD Traffic Signal Design Manual

8. National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)
9. National Electric Safety Code
10. National Electric Code (NFPA 70)
11. DOTD Environmental Impact Procedures (Vols. I-III)
12. Policy on Geometric Design of Highways and Streets
13. Construction Contract Administration Manual
14. Materials Sampling Manual
15. DOTD Bridge Design Manual
16. Consultant Contract Services Manual
17. Geotechnical Engineering Services Document
18. Bridge Inspectors Reference Manual
19. DOTD Stage 0 Manual of Standard Practice
20. DOTD Stage 1 Manual of Standard Practice
21. Highway Safety Manual 1st Edition

Follow link below for the individual reference links:

<http://webmail.dotd.louisiana.gov/ContWEB.nsf/b88769326453bef886256fe00047183a/18fc2860512aba5886257a62006133b8?OpenDocument>

COMPENSATION

Compensation to the Consultant for services rendered in connection with each TO shall be based on negotiated work-hours using DOTD established billable rates for the actual work performed on the Task Order.

The amount payable under this Retainer Contract for services to be performed under the various TO's shall not exceed a maximum of **\$1,500,000 for each contract**. Each TO shall be payable under the respective TO project number which shall be obtained by the Project Manager.

The Consultant may request to have the initial billable rates updated on a yearly basis. However, any adjustment to the Contract billable rates shall not be cause for an increase in the maximum compensation limitation imposed herein.

All travel related expenses will be compensated under direct expenses, and will be in accordance with Louisiana Office of State Travel regulations found at: <http://www.doa.louisiana.gov/osp/travel/travelpolicy.htm>. Vehicle rental rates will require prior approval from the DOTD Project Manager.

DIRECT EXPENSES

All direct expense items which are not paid for in the firm's overhead which are needed and will be consumed during the life of the contract must be identified by the consultant during contract development. Standard equipment to be used in the provision of services rendered for this contract will not be considered for payment under direct expenses.

Failure to provide the above information will deem items as non-qualifying for direct expenses.

The Consultant shall provide a minimum of three rate quotes for any specialty vehicle or equipment. Any and all items for which said quotes are not submitted shall be deemed as non-qualifying for payment as direct expenses.

CONTRACT TIME AND NOTICE TO PROCEED

This Retainer Contract shall be in effect for the duration of **three years**. The services to be performed for each Task Order (TO) will be determined prior to the execution of the TO. The Consultant will proceed with the services required in the TO upon issuance of the Notice to Proceed from the DOTD. The contract time for each TO, will be specified in the executed TO. Any TO in effect, prior to the expiration date of the Retainer Contract shall be completed.

ELECTRONIC DELIVERABLES

The Consultant hereby agrees to produce electronic deliverables in conformance with the DOTD Software and Deliverable Standards for Electronic Plans document. The Consultant is also responsible for ensuring that Sub-Consultants submit their electronic deliverables in conformance with the same standards. The DOTD Software and Deliverable Standards for Electronic Plans document and DOTD CAD Standards Downloads are available via links on the DOTD web site.

The Consultant shall apply patches to CAD Standard Resources and install incremental updates of software as needed or required. The Consultant hereby agrees to install major updates to software versions and CAD Standard Resources in a timely manner. Major updates of CAD standards and software versions shall be applied per directive or approval of the DOTD Design Automation Manager. Such updates will not have a significant impact on the plan development time or project delivery date, nor will they require the Consultant to purchase additional software. Prior to proceeding with plan development, the Consultant shall contact the Project Manager for any special instructions regarding project-specific requirements.

In the event that any electronic standard conflicts with written documentation, including DOTD plan-development Manuals, the electronic standard typically governs. The Consultant is responsible for contacting the Project Manager should questions arise.

The Consultant shall upload (or check in) electronic deliverables directly into the DOTD ProjectWise repository at each plan delivery milestone. Consultants are responsible for performing certain operations at each milestone including, but not limited to, the following:

- Upload (or check in) CAD plan deliverables to the discipline “Plans” folder
- Apply and maintain indexing attributes to CAD plans (and other deliverables as needed)

- Publish PDF format plan submittals in ProjectWise using automated publishing tools
- Digitally sign PDF format plan submittals in ProjectWise according to DOTD standards and procedures (Final Plans, Revisions and Change Orders). Signatures shall be applied in signature blocks provided with electronic seals and Title Sheets.

Additionally, after reviewing deliverables for each submittal milestone, the Project Manager shall notify the Consultant regarding the availability of two automatically-generated informational reports in ProjectWise. These reports document the completion status and other information regarding indexing attributes and CAD standards. Consultants shall take these reports into account and make any necessary adjustments to plans before the next submittal milestone; or sooner, if directed by the Project Manager.

QUALITY CONTROL/QUALITY ASSURANCE

The DOTD requires the Consultant to develop a Quality Control/Quality Assurance program; in order to provide a mechanism by which all contracted services can be subject to a systematic and consistent review. Consultants must ensure quality and adhere to established design policies, procedures, standards, and guidelines in the preparation and review of all design products. The DOTD shall provide limited input and technical assistance to the Consultant.

ITEMS TO BE PROVIDED BY DOTD

The DOTD shall provide copies of or access to maps, surveys, plans, right-of-way information and/or any other pertinent information in its files that may assist the Consultant in performing this work.

MINIMUM PERSONNEL REQUIREMENTS

The following requirements must be met at the time of submittal:

1. At least one Principal of the Prime-Consultant must be a Professional Engineer registered in the State of Louisiana.
2. The Prime-Consultant must employ on a full time basis, a minimum of one Professional Civil Engineer registered in the State of Louisiana, with at least three years experience in the preparation of planning and environmental documents.
3. The Prime-Consultant must employ on a full time basis, one Professional Civil Engineer registered in the State of Louisiana, with at least five years of experience in roadway design. This requirement can be met by Minimum Personnel Requirement No. 2.
4. The Prime-Consultant must also employ on a full-time basis or through the use of a Sub-Consultant:

- a. Two Professional Civil Engineers registered in the State of Louisiana, with a minimum of five years experience in traffic analysis and certified as Professional Traffic Operations Engineers (PTOE).
- b. One Professional Engineer registered in the State of Louisiana, with a minimum of five years of experience in bridge design.
- c. One Professional Civil Engineer registered in the State of Louisiana who has been trained in the use of the Highway Safety Manual. Acceptable courses are the 2 ½ day workshops conducted by the FHWA Resource Center, NCHRP 17-38 or equivalent as approved by DOTD. This requirement can be met by any of the above described Minimum Personnel Requirement numbers 2 through 4b.
- d. One Environmental Professional with a minimum of three years of experience in the preparation of documents in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) for the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). The DOTD requires all Project Managers performing NEPA work take the NHI Course No. 142005, "National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and Transportation Decision Making", or an equivalent course approved by the DOTD Environmental Administrator.

Training Certifications/Certifications of Compliance must be submitted with and made part of the Consultants DOTD Form 24-102 for all Personnel Requirements listed herein.

EVALUATION CRITERIA

The general criteria to be used by DOTD (when applicable) in evaluating responses for the selection of a Consultant to perform these services are:

1. Consultant's firm experience on similar projects, weighting factor of 3;
2. Consultant's personnel experience on similar projects, weighting factor of 4;
3. Consultant's firm size as related to the estimated project cost, weighting factor of 3;
4. Consultant's past performance on similar DOTD projects, weighting factor of 6;**
5. Consultant's current work load, weighting factor of 5;
6. Location where the work will be performed, weighting factor of 4. *

*Location will be based from Marksville, Louisiana.

**The Feasibility/Environmental (PE) (75%) and Planning (PL) (25%) performance rating will be used for this project.

Complexity level: **normal**

Consultants will be evaluated as indicated in Items 1- 6. The evaluation will be by means of a point-based rating system. Each of the above criteria will receive a rating on a scale of 0-4. Then the rating will be multiplied by the corresponding weighting factor. The

firm's ratings in each category will then be added to arrive at the Consultant's final rating.

If Sub-Consultants are used, the Prime Consultant must perform a minimum of 51% of the work for the overall project. Each member of the Consultant/Team will be evaluated on their part of the contract, proportional to the amount of their work. The individual team member ratings will then be added to arrive at the Consultant/Team rating.

Communication Protocol

DOTD's Project Evaluation Team will be responsible for performing the above described evaluation, and will present a short-list of the three (if three are qualified) highest rated Consultants to the Secretary of the DOTD. The Secretary will make the final selection. **Below are the proposed Team members. DOTD may substitute for any reason provided the members meet the requirements of R.S. 48:291.**

1. Hadi Shirazi – Ex officio
2. Connie Betts – Project Manager
3. Dilton Anderson
4. Wayne Nguyen
5. Ryan Hoyt
6. Jose Rodriguez

Rules of Contact (Title 48 Engineering and Related Services)

These rules are designed to promote a fair, unbiased, legally defensible selection process. The LA DOTD is the single source of information regarding the Contract selection. The following rules of contact will apply during the Contract selection process and will commence on the date of advertisement and cease at the contract execution by the selected firm. Contact includes face-to-face, telephone, facsimile, Electronic-mail (E-mail), or formal written communications. Any contact determined to be improper, at the sole discretion of the LA DOTD, may result in the rejection of the submittal (24-102):

- A. The Consultant shall correspond with the LA DOTD regarding this advertisement only through the LA DOTD Consultant Contracts Services Administrator;
- B. Neither the Consultant, nor any other party on behalf of the Consultant, shall contact any LA DOTD employees, including but not limited to, department heads; members of the evaluation teams; and any official who may participate in the decision to award the contract resulting from this advertisement except through the process identified above. Contact between Consultant organizations and LA DOTD employees is allowed during LA DOTD sponsored one-on-one meetings;
- C. Any communication determined to be improper, at the sole discretion of the LA DOTD, may result in the rejection of submittal, at the sole discretion of the LA DOTD;

- D. Any official information regarding the project will be disseminated from the LA DOTD'S designated representative on the LA DOTD website. Any official correspondence will be in writing;
- E. The LA DOTD will not be responsible for any verbal exchange or any other information or exchange that occurs outside the official process specified herein.

By submission of a response to this RFQ, the Consultant agrees to the communication protocol herein.

CONTRACT REQUIREMENTS

The selected Consultant will be required to execute the contract within 10 days after receipt of the contract.

INSURANCE - During the term of this contract, the Consultant will carry professional liability insurance in the amount of \$1,000,000. This insurance will be written on a "claims-made" basis. Prior to executing the contract, the Consultant will provide a Certificate of Insurance to DOTD showing evidence of such professional liability insurance.

AUDIT - The selected Consultant will allow the DOTD Audit Section to perform an annual overhead audit of their books, or provide an *independent* Certified Public Accountant (CPA) audited overhead rate. This rate must be developed using Federal Acquisition Regulations (FAR) and guidelines provided by the DOTD Audit Section. In addition, the Consultant will submit semi-annual labor rate information, when requested by DOTD.

DBE/WBE - The selected Consultant Team will have a DBE/WBE goal of 4% of the contract fee. DBE/WBE participation will be limited to the firms listed on the LA DOTD UCP DBE Directory which can be found at the following link: <http://www8.dotd.la.gov/UCP/UCPSearch.aspx>. The DOTD Project Manager shall review submitted invoices to determine if the DBE/WBE goals are being achieved. If the Consultant has failed to meet the goal and no good faith efforts have been made, the DOTD Project Manager shall notify the Compliance Section, and at that time the DBE/WBE portion of the Contract fee will be withheld from the Prime Consultant.

The selected Consultant will maintain, an approved Project Cost System and segregate direct from indirect cost in their General Ledger. Pre-award and post audits, as well as interim audits, may be required. For audit purposes, the selected Consultant will maintain accounting records for a minimum of five years after final contract payment.

Any Consultant currently under contract with the DOTD and who failed to meet all the audit requirements documented in the manual and/or notices posted on the DOTD

Consultant Contract Services Website (www.dotd.louisiana.gov), will not be considered for this project.

SUBMITTAL REQUIREMENTS

One original (**stamped “original”**) and **five** copies of the DOTD Form 24-102 must be submitted to DOTD, **along with an electronic copy (USB flash drive only) in a searchable Portable Document Format (pdf). If you wish to have your flash drive returned, please include a postage paid, self-addressed envelope.** All submittals must be in accordance with the requirements of this advertisement and the Consultant Contract Services Manual. Any Consultant/Team failing to submit any of the information required on the 24-102, or providing inaccurate information on the 24-102, will be considered non-responsive.

Any Sub-Consultants to be used, including Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBE), in performance of this Contract, must also submit a 24-102, which is completely filled out and contains all information pertinent to the work to be performed.

The Sub-Consultant’s 24-102 must be firmly bound to the Consultant’s 24-102. In Section 8, the Consultant’s 24-102 must describe the **work elements** to be performed by the Sub-Consultant(s), and state the approximate **percentage** of each work element to be subcontracted to each Sub-Consultant.

Contract employees may be allowed for a period of time for a particular element or task on a project. Contract employees should be shown in **Section 9a. Project Staffing Plan** with resumes included in **Section 10**.

Use of contract employees requires prior approval by the Consultant Contract Services Section for each element or task on a project. The approval request shall be made prior to the submittal of the 24-102 form.

Name(s) of the Consultant/Team listed on the 24-102, must precisely match the name(s) filed with the Louisiana Secretary of State, Corporation Division, and the Louisiana State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors.

The DOTD Form 24-102 will be identified with **Contracts No. 4400005873 and 4400005874**, and will be submitted **prior to 3:00 p.m. CST on Tuesday, April 14, 2015**, by hand delivery or mail, addressed to:

Department of Transportation and Development
Attn.: Mr. Hadi Shirazi, P.E.
Consultant Contracts Services Administrator
1201 Capitol Access Road, **Room 405-T**
Baton Rouge, LA 70802-4438 or
Telephone: (225) 379-1929

REVISIONS TO THE RFQ

DOTD reserves the right to revise any part of the RFQ by issuing an addendum to the RFQ at any time. Issuance of this RFQ in no way constitutes a commitment by DOTD to award a contract. DOTD reserves the right to accept or reject, in whole or part, all Qualification Statements submitted and/or cancel this announcement if it is determined to be in DOTD's best interest. All materials submitted in response to this announcement become the property of DOTD and selection or rejection of a submittal does not affect this right. DOTD also reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to waive administrative informalities contained in the RFQ.