

**ENGINEERING AND RELATED SERVICES
NOVEMBER 10, 2015**

**CONTRACT NO. 4400007738
RETAINER CONTRACT FOR UNDERWATER BRIDGE INSPECTION
STATEWIDE**

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 the Prime Consultants shall be registered with the Federal Government using SAM.gov at the time of submittal. One Prime-Consultant/Sub-Consultant(s) will be selected for this Contract.**

DOTD employees may not submit a proposal, nor be included as part of a Consultant's team.

Project Manager – Haylye Brown

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 provide underwater bridge inspection statewide for all bridges that require a National Bridge Inspection Standards (NBIS) underwater bridge inspection of submerged elements for statewide projects 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 selected Consultant will be required to provide some or all of the following services for each Task Order (TO):

A Level I inspection (visual, tactile inspection) of 100% of the underwater elements for all bridges indicated by the project manager requiring underwater inspection, from the mudline to the High Water Mark (HWM).

A Level II inspection shall be performed on a minimum of 10% of the underwater elements.

A Level III inspection shall be performed on 5% of steel elements underwater, measuring the remaining thickness of the element.

Soundings shall be taken at the upstream and downstream fascia of the bridge as well as 25 feet upstream and downstream from the fascia. These soundings shall be taken at the bent locations as well as at the mid-span if the spans are over 50 feet in length.

Underwater Imaging will be used to augment dive inspections on major waterway bridges when dive conditions are hazardous and authorized by the project manager.

Inspection information will be recorded on the DOTD bridge inspection system by condition state for each element as per the DOTD Pontis Manual or its successor. The consultant will be responsible for entering the NBIS Routine Inspection into the LADOTD database. The District Bridge Engineer or Project Manager will provide quality assurance and approve the inspection.

A report is to be prepared that shall include as a minimum the following data:

1. Recall Number
2. Route and Crossing description
3. Control Section
4. Inspection Staff(Team Leader/Inspectors)
5. Date of Inspection
6. Recommended Frequency
7. Table of sketch of Soundings
8. Flow rate and flow direction
9. Water Level reference
10. High Water Mark (HWM) reference
11. Comments/field notes
 - a. Locate, Identify and describe any cracks, spalling, or scaling on the concrete elements and note any exposed reinforcing steel and deterioration
 - b. Locate, Identify and describe any corrosion or loss of section on steel elements
 - c. Locate, Identify and describe any decay and/or deterioration of timber elements
 - d. Locate, Identify and describe any scour patterns
 - e. Describe presence of debris in the waterway

12. Elements and Element condition States
13. NBIS Ratings for Item 60 and 61.
14. Location of Boat Launch or access point
15. Sketches and/or photographs that depict any significant deviations from as-built conditions and/or findings. At a minimum, the report shall include an overall fascia and photos of typical conditions.
16. Provide recommendations for repair and/or maintenance related to the inspection.

REFERENCES

The inspection services shall be performed in accordance with the following publications (latest edition) covering bridge inspection standards of practice. 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 Manual for Bridge Evaluation, latest edition United States Department of Transportation / Federal Highway Administration.
2. Bridge Inspector's Reference Manual, latest edition United States Department of Transportation / Federal Highway Administration.
3. Inspection of Fracture Critical Bridge Members United States Department of Transportation / Federal Highway Administration.
4. National Bridge Inspection Standard, Code of Federal Regulations 23 - Highways, Part 650, Subpart C.
5. LADOTD Maintenance Directives
6. LADOTD Maintenance Traffic Control Handbook

Manuals listed above may be purchased from the vendors listed below:

AASHTO Publications
American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials
444 N. Capitol Street, NW, Suite 225
Washington, D.C. 20001
Telephone 1-888-227-4860

FHWA Manuals
U.S. Government Printing Office
Washington, D.C. 20402
Telephone (301) 577-0818

Follow link below for the individual reference links:

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

COMPENSATION

Compensation for the required services rendered in connection with this Contract will be negotiated work-hours using DOTD established billable rates for the actual time spent on the project, with a maximum limitation.

The amount payable under this Retainer Contract for services to be performed under the various TO's shall not exceed a maximum of **\$8,000,000**. Each TO shall be payable under the respective TO project number which shall be obtained by the Project Manager.

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 **six 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. Any TO which has not expired may be supplemented as long as the Retainer Contracts funds have not been exhausted.

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

In addition to any services previously indicated to be performed by the DOTD, the following services and data shall also be provided, if available.

- Bridge inspection reports and plans

MINIMUM PERSONNEL REQUIREMENTS

The following requirements must be met by the Prime-Consultant at the time of submittal:

1. At least one Principal of the Prime-Consultant shall be a Professional Engineer registered in the State of Louisiana.
2. In addition to the above requirements, the Prime-Consultant must also employ on a full time basis, or through the use of a Sub-Consultant(s):
 - a. The Prime Consultant must employ on a full-time basis, one Inspection Team Leader Project Manager who must have at least five years of experience in managing underwater inspection projects and meet the minimum qualification of the National Bridge Inspection Standards (NBIS) for a team leader. Documentation to support compliance of meeting the minimum NBIS qualification as a team leader shall be submitted to the project manager.
 - b. The underwater bridge inspection dive team must meet the minimum NBIS training requirements for Underwater Bridge Inspection and meet the Association of Diving Contractors (ADC) Consensus. Documentation to support compliance of meeting the minimum NBIS underwater inspection training requirement shall be submitted to the project manager prior to any inspection work.
 - c. Professional Land Surveyor, registered in the State of Louisiana.
 - d. An individual with a minimum of five years of experience in underwater imaging.

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 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 with DOTD, weighting factor of 5;
6. Location where the work will be performed, weighting factor of 4; **

* The Bridge Design (BZ) performance rating will be used for this project.

** Location will be based from Marksville, Louisiana.

Consultants with no past performance rating in a rating category will be assigned the average rating of the firms submitting; with ratings capped at the statewide average rating for that category as of the date the advertisement was posted.

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. The rating will then be multiplied by the corresponding weighting factor. The firm's rating 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. Haylye Brown– Project Manager
3. Steven Sibley
4. David Miller
5. Lee Wallace
6. Lance Broom

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 of 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. The Prime-Consultant may require the Sub-Consultant(s) to carry professional liability insurance. 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/Team shall provide to the DOTD Audit Section an *independent* Certified Public Accountant (CPA) audited overhead rate developed in accordance with Federal Acquisition Regulations (FAR) and guidelines provided by the DOTD Audit Section. In addition, the selected Consultant/Team will allow the DOTD Audit Section to perform an overhead audit of its books, at the DOTD's sole discretion. The performance of such an audit by the DOTD Audit Section shall not relieve the Consultant/Team of its responsibilities under this paragraph.

Consultants are also required to submit labor rate information twice a year to the DOTD's Audit Section and/or as requested by DOTD. Newly selected firms must have audited salaries and overhead rates on file with the DOTD's Audit Section before starting any additional stage/phase of their contracts. All Qualification Statements (24-102) submitted to DOTD by Consultants currently under contract may be considered non-responsive if the consultant is not in compliance with the above audit requirements.

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 **Contract No. 4400007738**, and will be submitted **prior to 3:00 p.m. CST on Tuesday, December 01, 2015**, by hand delivery or mail, addressed to:

Department of Transportation and Development
Attn.: Mr. Hadi Shirazi, P.E., PTOE
Consultant Contracts Services Administrator
1201 Capitol Access Road, **Room 405-E**
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.