

Posting Date: 01/13/2020
Mahoning River Corridor in Mahoning & Trumbull Counties
PID No. NA
Eastgate Regional Council of Governments
Response Due Date: 02/07/2020

Communications Restrictions

Please note the following policy concerning communication between Consultants and the Eastgate Regional Council of Governments during the announcement and selection process:

During the time period between advertisement and the announcement of final consultant selection, communication with consultants (or their agents) shall be limited as follows:

All questions shall be directed to the Director of Planning, Joann Esenwein, in writing by 4:00 pm **January 27, 2020**. Questions will only be accepted via email (jesenwein@eastgatecog.org). No calls will be taken during this process. All comments will be addressed on Eastgate's website by **February 3, 2020**.

Project Description

The Eastgate Regional Council of Governments is seeking to retain the services of a Consultant to perform a Comprehensive Study along the Mahoning River from Pitcher Ohltown Rd. in Trumbull County to the Pennsylvania line in Mahoning County, approximately 200 ft. on each side of the River. The exact limits will be defined as part of the scope/contract.

The goal of the comprehensive plan is to provide a roadmap that will serve three purposes: spur economic development, provide recreational opportunities and preserve natural habitats. In the end, a comprehensive river plan will improve daily life for residents and visitors in the region.

Estimated Construction Cost: up to \$400,000.00

Prequalification Requirements

A minimum of two (2) years' experience performing Comprehensive Plan Studies, and A minimum of two (2) years' experience performing HEC-RAS calculations.

Selection Subfactors

There are no selection subfactors for this project.

Estimated Date of Authorization

It is anticipated that the selected Consultant will be authorized to proceed by April 10, 2020

Completion Schedule

1. Request for Proposals (RFP) Advertisement:	January 13, 2020
2. Preproposal questions deadline	January 27, 2020
3. Response to questions available	February 3, 2020
4. Proposals due:	February 7, 2020
5. Proposal Review completed	March 6, 2020
6. Target award date:	April 10, 2020
7. Part 1 Report due	no later than August 1, 2020
8. Part 2 due	no later than April 12, 2021
9. Part 3, if authorized due	no later than July 1, 2020

Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Participation Goal

It is the policy of the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) that firms certified by ODOT as Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBEs) shall have equal opportunity to compete for and participate in agreements included in this request for Letters of Interest, either as a prime consultant or subconsultant. The Consultant must use good faith efforts to include DBE participation. Consequently, the requirements of Title 49 CFR Part 26 will apply. The Consultant must ensure that the DBE firms participating in the agreement are performing a "commercially useful function" as defined in 49 CFR 26.55.

Suspended or Debarred Firms

Firms included on the current Federal list of firms suspended or debarred are not eligible for selection.

Terms and Conditions

The Department's Specifications for Consulting Services 2016 Edition will be included in all agreements selected under this request for letters of interest.

Compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964

The Eastgate Regional Council of Governments, in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (78 Stat. 252, 42 U.S.C. §§ 2000d to 2000d-4) and the Regulations, hereby notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively ensure that any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, all bidders, including disadvantaged business enterprises, will be afforded full and fair opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, low-income status, or limited English proficiency in consideration for an award.

Selection Procedures

Eastgate will directly select a consultant based on the Letter of Interest (Lol). The requirements for the Lol and the Programmatic Consultant Selection Rating Form that will be used to select the consultant are shown below.

Firms interested in being considered for selection should respond by submitting six (6) copies of the Letter of Interest to the following address **by 2:00 PM on the response due date** listed above.

Eastgate Regional Council of Governments
100 E. Federal St.
Suite 1000
Youngstown, OH 44503
ATN: Joann Esenwein, Director of Planning

Responses received after 2:00 PM on the response due date will not be considered.

Scope of Services

The Scope of Services document is included below.

Requirements for Letters of Interest, Programmatic Selection Process

- A. Instructions for Preparing and Submitting a Letter of Interest
 1. Provide the information requested in the Letter of Interest Content (Item B below), in the same order listed, in a letter signed by an officer of the firm. Do not send additional forms, resumes, brochures, or other material.
 2. Letters of Interest shall be limited to ten (10) 8½" x 11" single sided pages plus two (2) pages for the Project Approach (Item B.3 below).
 3. Please adhere to the following requirements in preparing and binding letters of interest:
 - a. Please use a minimum font size of 12-point and maintain margins of 1" on all four sides.
 - b. Page numbers must be centered at the bottom of each page.
 - c. Use 8½" x 11" paper only.
 - d. Bind letters of interest by stapling at the upper left-hand corner only. Do not utilize any other binding system.
 - e. Do not provide tabbed inserts or other features that may interfere with machine copying.
- B. Letter of Interest Content
 1. List the Project Manager and other key staff members, including key subconsultant staff. Include project engineers for important disciplines and staff members that will be responsible for the work, and the project responsibility of each.

Address the experience of the key staff members on similar projects, and the staff qualifications relative to the selection subfactors noted.

2. Describe the capacity of your staff and their ability to perform the work in a timely manner, relative to present workload, and the availability of the assigned staff.
3. Provide a description of your Project Approach, not to exceed two pages Confirm that the firm has visited the site and address your firm's: 1) Technical approach; 2) Understanding of the project; 3) Qualifications for the project; 4) Knowledge and experience concerning relevant ODOT and local standards, procedures and guidance documents; 5) Innovative ideas; 6) Project specific plan for ensuring increased quality, reduced project delivery time and reduced project costs.

Items 1 and 2 must be included within the 10-page body of the Lol. Remaining space within the ten (10) pages may be utilized to provide personnel resumes or additional information concerning general qualifications.

Consultant Selection Rating Form
for
Programmatic Selections

Project: Mahoning River Corridor
Restoration Plan
PID: NA
Project Type: Planning
Selection Committee Members:
Representatives from Eastgate,
WRPA, Trumbull and Mahoning
Counties, and the OEPA

Firm Name:

Category	Total Value	Scoring Criteria	Score
Management & Team			
Project Manager	20	See Note 1, Exhibit 1	
Strength/Experience of Assigned Staff including Subconsultants	40	See Note 2, Exhibit 1	
Firm's Current Workload/ Availability of Personnel	10	See Note 3, Exhibit 1	
Project Approach	30		
Total	100		

Exhibit 1 - Consultant Selection Rating Form Notes

1. The proposed project manager for each consultant shall be ranked, with the highest ranked project manager receiving the greatest number of points, and lower ranked project managers receiving commensurately lower scores. The rankings and scores should be based on each project manager's experience on similar projects and past performance for the LPA and other agencies. The selection committee may contact ODOT and outside agencies if necessary. Any subfactors identified should be weighed heavily in the differential scoring.

Differential scoring should consider the relative importance of the project manager's role in the success of a given project. The project manager's role in a simple project may be less important than for a complex project, and differential scoring should reflect this, with higher differentials assigned to projects that require a larger role for the project manager.

2. The experience and strength of the assigned staff, including subconsultant staff, should be ranked and scored as noted for Number 1 above, with higher differential scores assigned on more difficult projects. Any subfactors identified in the project notification should be weighed heavily in the differential scoring.

As above, other agencies may be contacted.

3. The consultant's workload and availability of qualified personnel, equipment and facilities shall be ranked and scored on a relative, differential scoring type basis. The scoring shall consider quantifiable concerns regarding the ability of a firm (or firms) rated higher in other categories to complete the work with staff members named in the letter of interest.

Scope of Services

PART 1:

A. HEC-RAS Analysis:

- Girard, Warren, Warren township, and Leavittsburg
 - From the dam pool at the Leavittsburg Dam, downstream to the Girard Dam
- Verify future water needs to continue operations for McDonald Steel (Girard Dam Pool) and ArcelorMittal USA Inc. (S. Main St. Dam pool)
 - Analyze industry flow levels and industry water needs.
 - Recommend action to proceed

B. Cost Estimate:

- Provide a more detailed estimated cost for Dam removal of the Girard Dam and dredging.

PART 2:

A. Property Characterization

- Ownership survey
- Land Use
 - Past Use
 - Present use
 - Recommended future use
 - Wetlands and floodplains
 - Sensitive habitat areas
- Brownfield Inventory
 - Identify Brownfield sites
 - Summarize completed remediation efforts
 - Recommendations for site's remediation
- Utility Survey
 - Map of utility access

B. Quality of Life Opportunities

- Parks and Open Space inventory
- Community needs assessment
- Existing and proposed ingress/egress locations
- Recommended recreational opportunities
- Water trails
- Implementation plan

C. Community engagement and outreach

- Community input meetings to include Newton Township, Newton Falls, Braceville Township, Leavittsburg, Warren, Warren Township, Niles, McDonald

and Girard in Trumbull County, and Youngstown, Campbell, Struthers and Lowellville in Mahoning County.

- Dispel misconceptions and energize community of possibilities
 - Use Special Improvement Districts and other tools such as Opportunity Zones to promote highest and best use of lands along the River corridor
 - Understand opportunity zones and how to utilize them
 - Develop a playbook for each community
 - Provide a framework to develop viable projects
 - Help projects to be “shovel ready” for investors
- D. Identify Broadband Opportunities
- Inventory existing broadband infrastructure
 - Recommend projects to afford universal access to residents along the River Corridor
- E. Investigation of rail lines
- Identify active rail lines and abandoned lines
 - Investigate if lines can be moved to provide better River Access
- F. Review State Park Initiative
- How do you get the State Park designation?
 - What rules go along with it.
 - What are the advantages of having the designation?
 - Is this what the community wants?

Project Deliverables

Implementation plans for each community

- Recommend and prioritize projects based on studies above, to include appropriate funding sources and opportunities
- Recommend highest and best use along the river, applying a mixed-use development model that is sustainable
- Recommend any needed zoning changes or other land use covenants for recommended use

PART 3: (IF AUTHORIZED)

Eastgate Regional Council of Governments request proposals for consulting services to assess the Mahoning Valley Opportunity Zones (MVOZ) Broadband and Cable infrastructure and to propose a strategic technology plan. The MVOZ will include all the communities along the Mahoning River in Trumbull and Mahoning Counties, even if they are not in the opportunity zone.

Goals include:

1. an independent, comprehensive assessment of the MVOZ cable infrastructure,
2. a strategic plan that addresses all major aspects of cable deployment for MVOZ in the zero to two-year and two to five-year frames, and
3. tactical recommendations for improvements.

In this RFP, broadband services refer to cable, video, internet, and phone service, end user and customer, network infrastructure.

The MVOZ wants to know what options they have and the advantages and disadvantages that accompany each. In order to obtain a complete picture of how best to approach the gigabit network needed for each. Community, political and economic development leadership wants a firm they hire to provide a range of information, including:

- Needs Assessment
- Infrastructure and Deployment Recommendations
- Governance and Ownership Strategy
- Funding Sources
- Business and Financial Expectations

In addition to determining the current need for broadband in the community, we want to understand how we can prepare for future demands. We are interested in hearing multiple strategies for deployment and technology options and want to ensure that both business and residents benefit from the investment.

Final product should include, but not limited to:

- Information on funding sources that include local, state, federal and private opportunities.
- Detailed analysis about potential models for a publicly owned community network and expect detailed evaluation for review
- Evaluate public-private partnerships for each community and how it would work.

