

09-10-18 Posting Date
Mahoning River Restoration River Corridor Evaluation
PID No. N/A
Eastgate Regional Council of Governments
Response Due Date: 11-02-18

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

I. Introduction

Eastgate Regional Council of Governments (Eastgate) is seeking to retain the services of an Engineering Firm to perform the Mahoning River Corridor Evaluation.

At the completion of this project, the goal is a Mahoning River Corridor Evaluation to augment the positive effects of the current plans for multiple dam removals on the Mahoning River.

II. General Scope of Services

To achieve this goal, it important to know how the river corridor is currently functioning and identify areas for improvement of both the natural and human environment in the corridor. Existing GIS data will be used to examine at the river corridor on a landscape level to determine the best places for meaningful improvements to the river corridor on a large scale. These improvements will likely include:

1. Identifying existing high-quality areas for protection
2. Identifying degraded riparian areas for enhancement through plantings
3. Improving access to the Mahoning River Water Trail
4. Improving access to the riparian corridor and Mahoning River by linking existing trail systems (Mill Creek, Lowellville, Miles, and Lake to River Bike Paths) into a river-wide network
5. Floodplain restoration to reconnect the River to its floodplains and associated wetlands
6. Riverbank restoration in appropriate locations, while preserving historically important human structures
7. See the attached scope of work.
8. The project completion date is anticipated to be **December 31, 2019**

III. Project Objectives

Eastgate's objective is to enter into a contract with an Engineering Firm to provide the above-referenced Work thru Quality Based Selection identified in ORC 153.

STEP 1

I. Request for Proposal (RFP)

Each Firm is required to submit the following specified information, in the order outlined below, in order to be considered for this project. RFP's presented should include those for the entire proposed team, including the prime and subcontractors.

1. Competence to perform the required Services.
 - A. Experience of the firm's Services relating to the corridor evaluations.
 1. Training of assigned personnel
 2. Education of assigned personnel.
 3. Experience of assigned personnel on projects.
 4. Identify the Engineer of records.
2. Ability of the Identified Firm Members to complete the Work.
 - A. Current Workload (contracts in progress)
 - B. Availability of key personnel during the anticipated schedule.
 - C. Availability of equipment required to perform the work.
 - D. Experience of the Firm
 1. Representative Project Experience completed for at least 3 years but no longer than 5 years.
 2. Describe the scope of services provided for each project.
 3. Describe the role of personnel and subcontractors that are being proposed for the Project.
 4. Representative projects should include a description of how Item 3. A. 1-4 were met.

II. **Request for Proposal shall also include:**

Each Firm shall include in their proposal:

- A. Description of the Project
- B. Preliminary Schedule
- C. Description of Services to be Provided

Each Firm shall submit a total of five (5) copies of the Proposal in a sealed envelope clearly marked on the outside "Proposal for Mahoning River Restoration River Corridor Evaluation."

Eastgate will accept Proposals **until 12:00 noon, Friday November 2, 2018**, at:

**Director of Planning's Office
100 E. Federal St., Suite 1000
Youngstown, OH 44503**

Eastgate retains the option of rejecting or accepting any Proposals.

All questions shall be directed to Eastgate's Director of Planning, Joann Esenwein, in writing by 4:00 pm **October 5, 2018**. Questions will only be accepted via facsimile (330) 779.3838 or by email (**jesenwein@eastgatecog.org**). No calls will be taken during this process. All comments will be addressed and distributed via email response by **October 19, 2019** by Eastgate.

III. Evaluation Criteria

Each RFP will be reviewed by the evaluation committee based on the below criteria and their respective weighted score.

1. Competence to perform the required Services. (25%)
2. Ability of the Identified Team Members to complete the Work. (30%)
3. Past Performance of the Team in delivering projects. (15%)
4. Understanding of the project (15%)
5. Additional Qualifications to perform the project. (15%)

SCOPE OF WORK

Mahoning River Restoration, River Corridor Evaluation

The overall goal is to restore the Mahoning River corridor from Braceville to Lowellville, to improve the ecological function and use attainment status of the River, as well as to provide more opportunities for positive interactions between the citizens and the River. This is intended to augment the positive effects of the current plans for multiple dam removals on the Mahoning.

To achieve this goal, it important to know how the river corridor is currently functioning and identify areas for improvement of both the natural and human environment in the corridor. Existing GIS data will be used to examine at the river corridor on a landscape level to determine the best places for meaningful improvements to the river corridor on a large scale. These improvements will likely include:

- Identifying existing high-quality areas for protection
- Identifying degraded riparian areas for enhancement through plantings
- Improving access to the Mahoning River Water Trail
- Improving access to the riparian corridor and Mahoning River by linking existing trail systems (Mill Creek, Lowellville, Miles, and Lake to River Bike Paths) into a river-wide network
- Floodplain restoration to reconnect the River to its floodplains and associated wetlands
- Riverbank restoration in appropriate locations, while preserving historically important human structures

The following task were identified to accomplish our goals.

Task 1. 2009 Mahoning River Corridor Initiative Review

The 2009 Mahoning River Corridor Initiative Feasibility Study Report (The Report) shall be reviewed to identify points of interest for inclusion on The Plan. Recreational enhancements, along with other corridor enhancements of interest, shall be identified and discussed with a Project Team identified by the Eastgate Regional Council of Governments. Once confirmed by the Project Team, the selected enhancements shall be incorporated in The Plan to identify the location and name of each enhancement.

Task 2. Property Use Evaluation

Property use along the Mahoning River Corridor shall be reviewed for possible locations. Access through each property will be evaluated for potential locations of access along the Mahoning River. An overview of property use shall be completed for this project. Access spurs to specific points of interest shall also be evaluated. Points of interest include, but are not limited to; parks, historic areas of the region, access and egress locations to and from the Mahoning River, and the selected enhancement areas from The Report.

Task 3. GIS Mapping

A GIS map shall be generated for entire corridor identifying points of interest, potential recreational locations, property access locations, and egress locations to and from the Mahoning River. The map shall include an overview of the corridor including all points of interest selected by the Project Team. An electronic version of the map shall also be provided to the Project Team. Eastgate will assist with the GIS work to save project funding for the other tasks.

Task 4. Implementation Plan

This plan will include a recommended, prioritized, list of obtainable projects and possible funding sources for each. A planning level estimate for each project will be part of the plan, along with a schedule for applying for the funds.

Task 5. Project Meetings/Public Participation

Meetings shall be held with the Project Team to discuss the scope of work and after a DRAFT report has been submitted and reviewed, prior to completing the final report. An estimated three meetings will be required for the report. These meetings will be with Eastgate and the Ohio EPA. An estimated nine meetings to meet with the municipalities along the River, Newton Falls, Warren, Niles, Girard, McDonald, Youngstown, Struthers, Campbell, and Lowellville, and one meeting with Project Team. These will be Public meetings and meetings with Government Officials.

Task 6. Final Report

The Final Report will identify; existing high quality areas for protection, degraded riparian areas for enhancement through plantings, ways to improve access to the Mahoning River Water Trail, ways to improve access to the riparian corridor and Mahoning River by linking existing trail systems (Mill Creek, Lowellville, Miles, and Lake to River Bike Paths) into a river-wide network, floodplain restoration to reconnect the River to its floodplains and associated wetlands, and appropriate locations along the Riverbank for restoration , and how to preserve historically important human structures. The report will also include the products from Tasks 1 – 4. Fifteen reports will be provided along with an electronic copy for distribution.

The maximum prime compensation for this project will not exceed \$50,000.00.