

**09-10-18 Posting Date**  
**Nine-Element Nonpoint Source Implementation**  
**Strategic (NPS-IS) Plan For The Lower Mahoning River**  
**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 a Lower Mahoning River Nine-Element Nonpoint Source Implementation Strategic (NPS-IS) plan.

At the completion of this project, the goal is a completed Nine-Element NPS-IS plan for Chocolate Run-Mahoning River (HUC 12: 050301030406) and City of Warren-Mahoning River (HUC 12: 050301030603)

### **II. General Scope of Services**

1. Nine-Element Nonpoint Source Implementation Strategic Plan.
  - a. Work with agency staff to gather data and background information for development of Nine-Element NPS-IS plans for identified HUC 12's;
  - b. Organize information according to the Ohio EPA's "Guide to Developing Nine-Element Nonpoint Source Implementation Strategic Plans";
  - c. Write NPS-IS plan for identified HUC 12s.
  - d. Seek Ohio EPA and US EPA endorsement of each plan
2. See the attached scope of work.
3. The project completion date is anticipated to be **October 1, 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, to be considered for this project. Proposals presented should include those for the entire proposed team, including the prime and subcontractors.

1. Competence to perform the required Services.

Experience of the firm's Services relating to development of Nine-Element NPS-IS plans based on the guidelines set forth by the US EPA, adopted by the Ohio EPA, and based on the guidance provided at the following link:

<http://www.epa.state.oh.us/dsw/nps/index#120845160-9-element-nps-is>

- A.
  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 the Lower Mahoning River NPS-IS Plan."

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](mailto: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**

#### **Lower Mahoning River Nonpoint Source Implementation Strategic (NPS-IS) Plans**

##### **Project Background**

Section 319 (h) grants can be used as supplemental funding for stream restoration projects that among other things, "restores natural flow and habitat conditions and improve natural assimilation of nutrient and nonpoint source pollutant". According to the Ohio EPA, section 319(h) funding was established for Ohio waters where NPS pollution is a significant cause of aquatic life use impairments. However, to receive funding, projects must be in a watershed with a 9- element watershed plan that is either in progress or endorsed by the State of Ohio. A Nine-Element Nonpoint Source Implementation Strategic Plan (NPS-IS Plan) is a specific type of watershed plan that focuses on a watershed at the HUC 12 level, allowing local communities to effectively propose and implement nonpoint source pollution projects utilizing funding made available through the Clean Water Act Section 319 (319). Eligibility for these grant programs in Ohio is restricted to projects identified within a critical area of an approved NPS-IS Plan. To emphasize the importance of the plans, Ohio EPA stated in their January 2, 2018 Request for Proposal letter, "proposed projects must be identified within a 9-element HUS-12 nonpoint source implementation strategy (NPS-IS) that has been approved by both Ohio EPA and US EPA".

The Lower Mahoning River has five (5) HUC 12 watersheds containing low head dams. River communities and the Trumbull County Metroparks are showing interest in proactively seeking WRRSP funding to assist in removing the river's low head dams, but due to the competitiveness of the program, they realize funding may fall short. To fill any funding shortfalls, Eastgate proposes developing 319-grant ready NPS-IS plans. Utilizing the Ohio EPA's "Guide to Developing Nine-Element Nonpoint Source Implementation Strategic Plans in Ohio" Eastgate proposes developing plans for the following identified HUC 12's in the Lower Mahoning River:

- Chocolate Run- Mahoning River (HUC 12: 050301030406)
- City of Warren- Mahoning River (HUC 12: 050301030603)

Both HUC 12's are identified as the next logical dams to be removed due to county ownership and/or location status.

Objectives:

- Develop Nonpoint Source Implementation Strategic (NPS-IS) plans for identified HUC 12's;
- Seek Ohio EPA and US EPA endorsement of each plan;
- Implement the NPS-IS plan by applying for 319 grant funds to supplement WRRSP funding.

The work will be completed in accordance with the Ohio's Nonpoint Source Management Plan updated (FY2014 to FY 2018).

The maximum prime compensation for this project will be \$40,000.00.