



Fulton County, GA

Department of Purchasing & Contract Compliance

July 30, 2014

Re: 14RFP070714K-NH 2015 STANDBY ENGINEERING SERVICES

Dear Vendors:

Attached is one (1) copy of Addendum 1, hereby made a part of the above referenced Request for Proposals.

The following information is provided in response to questions and requests for clarification.

Question 1. Section 3-1 Indicates the proposals be marked as "2014 Standby Engineering Services for the Department of Water Resources", but the title of the RFP states "2015 Standby Engineering Services for the Department of Water Resources". Please confirm the proper RFP title for the proposal document and the title you want on the outside of the package.

Response: The correct RFP number and title are as follows: **14RFP070714K-NH 2015 STANDBY ENGINEERING SERVICES** for the **Department of Water Resources** as stated on the solicitation cover page

Question 2. Does "Section 2 Instructions to Proposers" apply to this RFP response? This section was omitted in the RFP posted online.

Response: Section 2 is included in this addendum as an attachment.

Question 3. Should our response to the cost proposal include the Cost Proposal forms on pages 3-24 to 3-27 or should we fill out the cost proposal forms on pages 9-4 to 9-7?

Response: 9-4 to 9-7.

Except as provided herein, all terms and conditions in the project referenced above remain unchanged and in full force and effect.

Sincerely,

Nancy Harrison

Nancy Harrison, CPPO, CPPB
Assistant Purchasing Agent

Attachments:

Winner 2000 - 2009 Achievement of Excellence in
Procurement Award • National Purchasing Institute



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF ADDENDUM NO. 1

The undersigned bidder acknowledges receipt of this addendum by returning one (1) copy of this form with the RFP package to the Department of Purchasing & Contract Compliance, Fulton County Public Safety Building, 130 Peachtree Street, Suite 1168, Atlanta, Georgia 30303 by the due date and time specified in this document.

This is to acknowledge receipt of Addendum No. 1, _____ day of _____, 2014.

Legal Name of Bidder

Signature of Authorized Representative

Title

SECTION 2 INSTRUCTIONS TO PROPOSERS

2.1 PROCUREMENT PROCESS

The procurement will be on a formally advertised basis. All technical requirements, unless otherwise specified, must be met, or be capable of being met by the Proposer or their proposal will be disqualified as being non-responsive.

2.2 CONTRACT DEFINITIONS

In addition to any other terms that may be defined in this solicitation, the following terms have the following meaning:

Addendum – Revision to the RFP documents issued by the County prior to the receipt of proposals

Administrator/Secretary – Performs administrative, clerical, and accounting functions.

Agreement-refers to the executed contract between the County and Contracting Entity.

Construction Manager -Individual directing construction administration services.

County- Fulton County Government and its authorized representatives.

Contact Person-Purchasing staff designated by the Fulton County Department of Purchasing and Contract Compliance to submit any questions and suggestions to.

EIT Engineer- Conducts limited and specific engineering tasks.

Engineering Technician/CAD Operator – Performs routine design procedures under the direction of an engineer/Performs computerized drafting under supervision of an engineer.

Engineer Principal- Manages company-wide engineering operations and projects.

Firm- The team that is proposed by the proposer to provide all design and engineering services necessary to execute the scope of work in accordance

with this RFP.

Fulton County Project Manager – The Owner's designated representative in charge of day to day activities of the project and corresponding/coordinating with the consulting firm and contractor.

GA Registered Engineer-Independently performs conventional engineering tasks and stamps plans.

Owner-Fulton County Government.

Offeror – the entity of individual submitting a proposal in response to this RFP.

Proposal – the document submitted by the offeror in response to this RFP.

Proposer – the entity or individual submitting a proposal in response to his RFP.

Project Engineer-Lead engineer on multidisciplinary projects.

Project Manager-The designated person contracted to be in charge of the day to day activities of assigned task orders managing execution of multidisciplinary projects including the supervision of managers, supervisors and staff.

Request for Proposal (RFP) – all documents, whether attached or incorporated by reference, utilized for soliciting sealed proposals.

Responsible Offeror – A person or entity that has the capability in all respects to perform fully and reliably the contract requirements.

Responsive Offeror – A person or entity that has submitted a bid or proposal that conforms in all material respects to the requirements set forth in the invitation for bids or request for proposals.

Scope of Work – All the services specified, indicated, shown, or contemplated by the Contract, and furnishing by the Contractor of all materials, equipment, labor, methods, processes, construction and manufacturing materials and equipment, tools, plants, supplies, power, water, transportation and other things necessary to complete such services in accordance with the Contract.

Subcontractor/sub-consultant – An individual, firm, corporation or any combination thereof, having a direct contract with Consultant/Contractor for the performance of a part of the work.

2.3 NO CONTACT DURING PROCUREMENT PROCESS

It is the policy of Fulton County that the evaluation and award process for County contracts shall be free from both actual and perceived impropriety, and that contacts between potential vendors and County officials, elected officials and staff regarding pending awards of County contracts shall be prohibited.

- A. No person, firm, or business entity, however situated or composed, obtaining a copy of or responding to this solicitation, shall initiate or continue any verbal or written communication regarding this solicitation with any County officer, elected official, employee, or designated County representative, between the date of the issuance of this solicitation and the date of the County Manager's recommendation to the Board of Commissioners for award of the subject contract, except as may otherwise be specifically authorized and permitted by the terms and conditions of this solicitation.
- B. All verbal and written communications initiated by such person, firm, or entity regarding this solicitation, if same are authorized and permitted by the terms and conditions of this solicitation, shall be directed to the Purchasing Agent.
- C. Any violation of this prohibition of the initiation or continuation of verbal or written communications with County officers, elected officials, employees, or designated County representatives shall result in a written finding by the Purchasing Agent that the submitted bid or proposal of the person, firm, or entity in violation is "non-responsive", and same shall not be considered for award.

2.4 CLARIFICATION & ADDENDA

Proposers may submit requests for clarifications or interpretations regarding this RFP and the Contract. Proposers must prepare such requests in writing for the County's consideration as set forth in this section of this RFP. While the County has not placed an initial limitation on the number of requests which can be submitted, Proposers are cautioned that if Proposers do not request meaningful clarifications or interpretations in an organized manner (e.g., limited frequency of requests), the County will set restrictions on the frequency and number of requests permitted. The County will not respond to requests, oral or written, received after **August 8, 2014; 10:00 AM** local prevailing time. Proposers are advised that this section places no obligation on the part of the County to respond to any or all requests for clarification or interpretation, and that the County's failure to respond to any such request will not relieve the Proposer of any obligations or conditions required by this RFP.

Requests for clarification or interpretation regarding this RFP shall only be submitted in writing (letter, fax or email) to:

Fulton County Department of Purchasing & Contract Compliance
Attn: Nancy Harrison, Assistant Purchasing Agent
Public Safety Building
130 Peachtree Street S.W. Suite 1168
Atlanta GA 30303
Email: nancy.harrison@fultoncountyga.gov
F: (404) 893-1744
RE: 14RFP070714K-NH 2014 Standby Engineering Services for the
Department of Water Resources

Telephone inquiries will not be accepted.

All responses to written requests for clarification, interpretation, or additional information will be distributed as addenda to this RFP and posted on the Fulton County website www.fultoncountyga.gov.

No oral interpretation, instruction, or information concerning this RFP given by any employee or agent of the County shall be binding on the County. Proposers who submit a Proposal in reliance on any such oral information risk having their response to this RFP deemed non-responsive by the County. Only written responses issued by addendum to this RFP should be considered by the Proposers.

During the period provided for the preparation of Proposals, the County may issue addenda to this RFP. These addenda will be numbered consecutively and will be posted on the Fulton County website, www.fultoncountyga.gov. These addenda will

be issued by, or on behalf of, the County and will constitute a part of this RFP. Each Proposer is required to acknowledge receipt of each addendum by submitting an executed acknowledgment form. This acknowledgment shall include all addenda distributed prior to the Proposal Submission Date. All responses to this RFP shall be prepared with full consideration of the addenda issued prior to the Proposal Submission Date.

2.5 TERM OF CONTRACT

The initial term of the contract shall be for 365 days from the issuance of the Notice to Proceed, with two (2), twelve month renewal options.

2.6 RFP SUBMITTALS

See **Exhibit 1** for the RFP Submittal Checklist. This checklist will assist you to ensure that all submittals are included in your proposal. Failure to submit all submittals may deem your proposal non-responsive.

2.7 PROPOSAL EVALUATION

All proposals will be evaluated using the criteria specified in Section 4 of this RFP. Selection will include an analysis of proposals by a Vendor Selection Committee composed of County personnel who will review the proposal submittals in accordance with the submittal requirements and the evaluation criteria set forth in Section 4 of this RFP. The committee may request oral interviews and/or site visits. Awards will not necessarily be based on cost alone. Other factors, as detailed in the RFP, will be considered in determining what proposal will be deemed to best meet the needs of Fulton County.

2.8 DISQUALIFICATION OF PROPOSERS

The submission of more than one (1) proposal to the County as the primary Proposer or member of a joint venture for the same work by an individual firm, partnership or corporation under the same or different names may be grounds for disqualification of a Proposer and the rejection of the proposal.

2.9 RESERVED RIGHTS

The County reserves the right to accept or reject any and/or all proposals, to waive irregularities and technicalities, and to request resubmission. Any sole response that is received may or may not be rejected by the County depending on available competition and timely needs of the County. There is no obligation on the part of the County to award the contract to the lowest proposer and the County reserves

the right to award the contract to the responsible proposers submitting responsive proposals with resulting agreements most advantageous and in the best interest of the County. The County shall be the sole judge of the proposals and the resulting agreements that are in its best interest and its decision shall be final. Also, the County reserves the right to make such investigation as it deems necessary to determine the ability of any proposer to perform the work or service requested. Information the County deems necessary to make this determination shall be provided by the proposer. Such information may include, but shall not be limited to, current financial statements by an independent CPA; verification of availability of personnel; and past performance records.

2.10 APPLICABLE LAWS

All applicable laws and regulations of the State of Georgia and ordinances and regulations of Fulton County shall apply. Protestors shall seek resolution of their complaints in the manner provided in the Fulton County Purchasing Code Section 102-448 which is incorporated by reference herein.

2.11 INSURANCE AND RISK MANAGEMENT PROVISIONS

Insurance and Risk Management provisions and Indemnification and Hold Harmless provisions are outlined in Section 7 of this RFP.

2.12 ACCURACY OF RFP AND RELATED DOCUMENTS

The County assumes no responsibility that the specified technical and background information presented in this RFP, or otherwise distributed or made available during this procurement process, is complete or accurate. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the County will not be bound by or be responsible for any explanation or interpretation of the Proposal documents other than those given in writing as an addendum to this RFP.

Should a recipient of this RFP find discrepancies in or omissions from this RFP and related documents, the recipient of this RFP shall immediately notify the Purchasing Contact Person identified in Section 1.11 in writing at the following address: Fulton County Department of Purchasing and Contract Compliance, Public Safety Bldg, 130 Peachtree Street S.W., Suite 1168 Atlanta, GA 30303. A written addendum, if necessary, then will be made available to each recipient of this RFP.

2.13 RESPONSIBILITY OF PROPOSER

Each Proposer is encouraged to conduct all necessary investigations and review all available and relevant data and information, which are necessary in its judgment in order to assume this responsibility prior to the submittal of its Proposal. Proposers

are reminded of Fulton County's "**No Contact During Procurement**" policy and shall only contact the person designated by the RFP.

2.14 CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION

If any Proposal contains technical, financial, or other confidential information that the Proposer believes is exempt from disclosure, the Proposer must clearly label the specific portions sought to be kept confidential and specify on what the exemption is based. The County, at its sole discretion and subject to applicable law, will determine whether such exemption applies. The County has sole discretion to make such determination regarding the disclosure of information, and by responding to this RFP, Proposers waive any challenge to the County's decisions in this regard. Marking all or substantially all of a Proposal as confidential may result in the Proposer being deemed non-responsive to this RFP.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, Proposers recognize and agree that the County, its staff, and its Consultants will not be responsible or liable in any way for any losses that the Proposer may suffer from the disclosure of information or materials to third parties.

2.15 COUNTY RIGHTS AND OPTIONS

This RFP constitutes an invitation to submit Proposals to the County. Without limitation or penalty, the County reserves and holds at its sole discretion, the following rights and options:

- This RFP does not obligate the County to select, procure or contract for any services whatsoever.
- Fulton County reserves the right to award a contract based on this RFP and the proposal(s) received (in whole or in part) to one or several vendors.
- The County reserves the right to change or alter the schedule for any events associated with this procurement and, if required, notify the Proposers. A Proposer, by submitting a Proposal, agrees to be bound by any modifications made by the County
- All costs incurred by a Proposer in connection with responding to this RFP, the evaluation and selection process undertaken in connection with this procurement, and any negotiations with the County will be borne by the Proposer.
- The County reserves the right to reject all Proposals and components thereof

to eliminate all Proposers responding to this RFP from further consideration for this procurement, and to notify such Proposers of the County's determination.

- The County may cancel this RFP without the substitution of another RFP and terminate this procurement at any time without any liability whatsoever.
- The County reserves the right to waive any technicalities or irregularities in the Proposals.
- The County reserves the right to eliminate any Proposer who submits incomplete or inadequate responses or is not responsive to the requirements of this RFP.
- The County may request Proposers to send representatives to the County for interviews and presentations.
- To the extent deemed appropriate by the County, the County may select and enter into discussion and negotiations with the Proposer(s) submitting Proposal(s), which are found to be reasonably susceptible for award.
- The County reserves the right to discontinue negotiations with any selected Proposer.
- The County reserves the right, without prior notice, to supplement, amend, or otherwise modify this RFP.
- All Proposals (other than portions thereof subject to patent or copyright protection) become the property of the County and will not be returned, and the County reserves the right to utilize all such information contained in the Proposals without further cost to the County
- The County may add to or delete from the Project Scope of Work set forth in this RFP.
- Any and all Proposals not received by the Proposal Submission Date shall be rejected and returned unopened.
- Neither the County, its staff, its representatives, nor any of its consultants or attorneys will be liable for any claims or damages resulting from the solicitation, collection, review, or evaluation of responses to this RFP.
- The County, including its representatives and consultants, reserves the right

to visit and examine any of the facilities referenced in any Proposal and to observe and investigate the operations of such facilities.

By responding to this RFP, Proposers acknowledge and consent to the rights and conditions set forth in this RFP.

2.16 COST OF PROPOSAL PREPARATION AND SELECTION PROCESS

Each Proposal, including preparation of all information required to be included in a Proposal pursuant to this RFP, shall be prepared at the sole cost and expense (including, but not limited to, engineering and legal costs) of the Proposer. In addition, the Proposer shall be solely responsible for all costs (including engineering and legal costs) incurred by such Proposer in connection with this selection process, including any costs incurred by the Proposer in any subsequent negotiations entered into in connection with developing the Proposal. There shall be no claims whatsoever against the County, its staff, or its consultants for reimbursement for the costs or expenses (including, but not limited to, engineering and legal costs) incurred during the preparation of the Proposal or other information required by this RFP or procurement process or in connection with the selection process or any negotiations.

2.17 TERMINATION OF NEGOTIATIONS

The County at its sole discretion may, at any time, to the extent permitted by Applicable Law, exclude a Proposer from further participation in any negotiation process if the County determines that such Proposer is failing to progress in the negotiations or if the terms of its Proposal are less advantageous than those of other Proposers and such Proposer is deemed to be no longer susceptible of selection. The County will give written notice of its decision to the Proposer, which shall be sent in writing, signed by the County.

2.18 WAGE CLAUSE

Pursuant to 102-413, each Contractor shall agree that in the performance of the Contract he will comply with all lawful agreements, if any, which the Contractor had made with any association, union, or other entity, with respect to wages, salaries, and working conditions, so as not to cause inconvenience, picketing, or work stoppage.

2.19 ADDITIONAL OR SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

After receipt of the submittals, the County will evaluate the responses, including the references, financial statements, experience and other data relating to the Respondent's qualifications. If requested by the Fulton County Department of

Purchasing and Contract Compliance, Respondent's maybe required to submit additional or supplemental information to determine whether the Respondent meets all of the qualification requirements.

2.20 REPORTING RESPONSIBILITIES

The successful Proposer will report directly to the Department of Water Resources, or its designated representative.

2.21 GEORGIA SECURITY AND IMMIGRATION COMPLIANCE ACT

This Request for Proposal is subject to the Georgia Security & Immigration Compliance Act. Effective July 1, 2013, bidders and proposers are notified that all bids/proposals for services that are to be physically performed within the State of Georgia must be accompanied by proof of their registration with and continuing and future participation in the E-Verify program established by the United States Department of Homeland Security. Physical performance of services means any performance of labor or services for a public employer using a bidding process or by contract wherein the labor or services exceed \$2,499.99 (except for services performed by an individual who is licensed pursuant to Title 26, Title 43, or the State Bar of Georgia).

A completed affidavit must be submitted on the top of the bid/proposal at the time of submission, prior to the time for opening bids/proposals. Under state law, the County cannot consider any bid/proposal which does not include a completed affidavit. It is not the intent of this notice to provide detailed information or legal advice concerning the Georgia Security & Immigration Compliance Act. All bidders/proposers intending to do business with the County are responsible for independently apprising themselves and complying with the requirements of that law and its effect on County procurements and their participation in those procurements. For additional information on the E-Verify program or to enroll in the program, go to: <https://e-verify.uscis.gov/enroll>.

The Director of Purchasing & Contract Compliance is authorized to conduct random audits of a contractor's or subcontractors' compliance with the Illegal Immigration Reform and Enforcement Act and the rules and regulations of the Georgia Department of Labor.

See Section 5, Proposal Forms for declarations and affidavits.

2.22 AUTHORIZATION TO TRANSACT BUSINESS

If the Proposer is a Georgia corporation, the corporation, prior to contract execution, shall submit documentary evidence from the Secretary of State that the Corporation

is in good standing and that the corporation is authorized to transact business in the State of Georgia.

If the Proposer is a foreign (non-Georgia) corporation, the corporation, prior to contract execution shall submit a Certificate of Authority and documentary evidence from the Georgia Secretary of State of good standing which reflects that the corporation is authorized to do business in the State of Georgia.

2.23 RIGHT TO PROTEST

Any actual bidder or offeror that has submitted a bid/proposal for a particular procurement and is aggrieved in connection with the solicitation or award of the contract shall protest in writing to the purchasing agent after the date that the specific bid or proposal is submitted. No protest will be accepted or considered prior to the date the specific bid or proposal is submitted; it will be considered untimely. All protests shall set forth in full detail the factual and legal bases for the protest and specific relief sought by the protestor. Protests arising from factual or legal bases that the protestor knew or should have known prior to the submission of the bid/proposal must be submitted within three business days of the submission of the bid/proposal. Protests arising from factual or legal bases that the protestor knew or should have known subsequent to the date the bid/proposal was submitted must be submitted within ten business days after the protestor knew or should have known of such bases, but in no event shall any protest be submitted more than ten business days after the award of the contract. Untimely protests will not be considered by the purchasing agent and will be simply denied as untimely. Decisions on timeliness by the purchasing agent are not appealable. An oral protest or a protest to an official, employee, User Department, or other person apart from the Director of Purchasing & Contract Compliance does not comply.

2.24 FIRST SOURCE JOBS POLICY

It is the policy of Fulton County Government to provide employment opportunities to the citizens of Fulton County. This policy will apply to all contracts procured through the Department of Purchasing & Contract Compliance valued in excess of \$200,000. The Prime Contract is expected to utilize the First Source Jobs Program to fill 50% of the entry level jobs which arise as a result of any project funded in whole or in part with County funds with residents of Fulton County. Forms are provided in Section 6 of this RFP.

2.25 NON-COLLUSION

By submitting a signed proposal, Offeror certifies that there has been no collusion with any other Offeror. Reasonable grounds for believing Offeror has an interest in more than one proposal will result in rejection of all proposals in which the Offeror

has an interest. Any party to collusion may not be considered in future proposals for the same or similar work. See Section 5, Proposal Forms for declarations and affidavits.

2.26 EXCEPTIONS TO THE COUNTY'S CONTRACT

If Offeror takes exception to any term or condition set forth in the Sample Contract, see Section 8 of this RFP, and any of its exhibits, appendices or attachments, said exceptions must be clearly identified in the response to this RFP. Exceptions or modifications to any of the terms and conditions must be submitted as a separate document accompanying the Offeror's proposal clearly marked as "Exceptions."

The County shall be the sole determiner of the acceptability of any exception. See Section 5, Proposal Forms for declarations and affidavits.

2.27 GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

1. Proposals may be withdrawn upon receipt of a written request prior to the stated due date and time. If a firm seeks to withdraw a proposal after the due date and time, the firm must present a notarized statement indicating that an error was made, with an explanation of how it occurred. The withdrawal request must be accompanied by documentation supporting the claim. Prior to approving or disapproving the request, an opinion will be obtained from Fulton County's Legal Counsel indicating whether the firm is bound by its proposal.

Proposals for projects that are solicited pursuant to the Georgia Local Government Public Works Construction Law (O.C.G.A. § 36-91-1 et seq.) may be withdrawn as follows:

The County must advise Offerors in the request for proposals of the number of days that Offerors will be required to honor their proposals. If an Offeror is not selected within 60 days of opening the proposals, any Offeror that is determined by the governmental entity to be unlikely of being selected for contract award will be released from the proposal.

2. Fulton County shall be the sole judge of the quality and the applicability of all proposals. Design, features, overall quality, local facilities, terms and other pertinent considerations will be taken into account in determining acceptability.
3. The successful Offeror must assume full responsibility for delivery of all goods and services proposed.

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4. The successful Offeror must assume full responsibility for replacement of all defective or damaged goods and/or performance of contracted services within thirty (30) days notice by the County of such defect, damage or deficiency.
 5. The successful Offeror must assume full responsibility for providing warranty service on all goods, materials, or equipment provided to the County with warranty coverage. Should a vendor be other than the manufacturer, the vendor and not the County is responsible for contacting the manufacturer. The Offeror is solely responsible for arranging for the service to be performed.
 6. The successful Offeror shall be responsible for the proper training and certification of personnel used in the performance of the services proposed.
 7. The successful Offeror shall not assign, transfer, convey, sublet, or otherwise dispose of any contract resulting from the RFP or of any of its rights, title or interest therein without prior written consent of the Fulton County Board of Commissioners.
 8. In case of default by the successful Offeror, Fulton County may procure the articles or services from another source and hold the successful Vendor responsible for any resultant excess cost.
 9. All proposals and bids submitted to Fulton County are subject to the Georgia "Open Records Act", Official Code of Georgia, Annotated (O.C.G.A.) § 50-18-70 et seq.
 10. All proposals and bids submitted to Fulton County involving Utility Contracting are subject to the Georgia law governing licensing of Utility Contractors, O.C.G.A. §43-14-8.2(h).