

Agenda Item # 186
Date 5/5/21

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

To: Engineering Floodplain Professionals

From: Dodge County, NE (via the Joint Water Management Advisory Board)

Subject: Request for Proposal (RFP) to develop eligible, cost effective and technically feasible "shovel-ready" Dodge County Drainage Improvement Project.

Issue Date: May 5th, 2021

Due Date: May 28th, 2021 at 4:30 p.m.

Project Timeframe: 7/1/2021 to 8/1/2023 (24 months)

Dodge County, on behalf of The Joint Water Management Advisory Board (JWMAB), Dodge County Nebraska, is seeking a professional engineering firm to provide consulting services for a FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Program Advanced Assistance project. Dodge County has been approved for Advanced Assistance to scope and develop/engineer a Drainage Improvement Project to address water drainage in east Fremont and Elkhorn Township. The intent of Advance Assistance under HMGP is to develop eligible, cost effective and technically feasible mitigation projects in the future. To that end, Advance Assistance funding is used to develop/engineer "shovel-ready" Drainage Improvement Project that is ready to go should funding become available.

Prior to the 2019 Flooding, Dodge County, City of Fremont, and Lower Platte Natural Resource District began discussions to create a consortium to address the drainage across Dodge County. Following the 2019 floods, the consortium was formed, called the Dodge County Joint Water Management Advisory Board (JWMAB), comprised of members representing twelve different local governing bodies. Drainage improvement projects remain the highest priority for the JWMAB. The JWMAB will facilitate the process for the collaborative development of project evaluation criteria and assure that each option is evaluated against such criteria. The concept design alternatives will explore variations on feasibility, efficiency, land use, environmental, and historical considerations. A preferred alternative will be selected and documented by the JWMAB to bring forward to the Dodge County Board and local governing bodies.

BACKGROUND

The Elkhorn Township ditch network captures flood- and stormwater from many sources, including the Maple Creek, Elkhorn River, City of Fremont, and Rawhide Creek before diverting the water back into the Elkhorn River. This network of ditches provide drainage for the City of Fremont, including areas around critical infrastructure, County roads, U.S. Highways 275 and 30, and a Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad line. The project area is concentrated on fifty-four miles of ditches draining

approximately 25,000 acres of land, including the City of Fremont (population 26,509).

SCOPE

This Drainage Improvement Project's overall goal will be to develop/engineer a drainage improvement project to be readily implemented in the Elkhorn Township area (East Fremont). A project study will be completed to assess Fremont's internal drainage needs and examine the out-letting drainage ditch system in the Elkhorn Township area east of Fremont. This project will assess the holistic situation and propose project alternatives to be pursued. Project funding covers the cost of development of hydrologic and hydraulic studies, environmental compliance consultation, historical compliance consultation, land right (purchase/easement) consideration summary, conceptual designs, final engineering of project design, project estimate development, project summary, a completed cost/benefit analysis, and a finalized hazard mitigation application to submit to State and Federal partners. Conceptual project design options will reflect future needs with respect to existing area conditions, including constraints and opportunities. Drainage improvement strategies to be explored include, but not limited to, establishing wells in the Fremont area to pump groundwater to help dewater high water table where development is located or planned, detention basins/ponds (wet or dry) to be developed into dry basins or wetlands, and widening existing ditches, rerouting ditches, or straightening existing drainage ditches or a combination of aforementioned strategies.

The selected engineering firm will perform activities related to mitigation and resiliency measures for the JWMAB, including, but not limited to:

- Stakeholder engagement and coordination
- Historical damage data collection
- Existing drainage infrastructure assessment (conveyance and constrictions)
- Hydrologic and hydraulic analyses to assess flood risks
- Identifying potential flood risk mitigation measures
- Environmental, Historical, Land Right Considerations
- Cost/benefit ratio of any proposed measure or improvement
- Conceptual Solution Design
- Detailed Design for selected Project Alternatives
- State HMPG project application completion
- Funding Source Analysis
- Project Summary Report

QUALIFICATIONS

The professional engineering firm shall be:

1. Independent of any contractors, suppliers, manufacturers, or any interest that is construed as a conflict of interest to the proposal.
2. A professional firm that has experience in projects of similar scope and size as described in the scope of services section.

SUBMITTAL REQUIREMENTS

The Consultant shall include in the submittal:

1. Letter of Interest (limited to 2 single-sided pages).
2. A brief discussion of your project understanding and scope of work outlining your project approach for the study. (limited to 3 single-sided pages).
3. List of proposed team members including project specific experience and proposed roles in the project (Specific emphasis on grant writing team is expected).
4. List of similar projects completed in the last 5 years.
5. Proposed timeline assuming 100% funding.

SELECTION PROCESS

The final selection shall be determined by (but not limited to) a combination of the following criteria (interviews are not planned):

1. Consultant's understanding and recommended approach to complete the project.
2. Consultants history in successfully obtaining grant funding.
3. Consultant history on similar projects.
4. Consultant's ability to complete the project in a timely manner.

Submittals (including 3 hard copies and 1 digital copy) shall be delivered to the Dodge County Emergency Manager by May 28th, 2021 at 4:30 p.m.

Submittals shall be delivered to:

Dodge County Emergency Manager
435 N Park Ave STE 101 B
Fremont, NE 68025

All submittals must be received no later than May 28th, 2021 at 4:30 p.m.