

**NOTICE TO CONSULTANTS**  
**REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS**  
**OWL CREEK BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROJECT**  
**COWLITZ COUNTY**

The *Cowlitz County Department of Public Works (County)* solicits interest from consulting firms with expertise in Civil, Geotechnical, Environmental and Structural Engineering Design for the Owl Creek Bridge Replacement Project. This agreement will be for approximately 36 months in duration with the option for the County to extend it for additional time and money if necessary. This project has federal funds from the Federal Highway Administration's (FHWA) Highway Bridge Program Surface Transportation Block Grant Program. This project has a **Mandatory 16% Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBE)** goal.

The funding is administered by the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT). Cowlitz County will be following the requirements of the WSDOT Local Agency Guidelines manual including Chapter 31 consultant requirements and agreement forms. The County reserves the right to amend terms of this "Request for Qualifications" (RFQ) to circulate various addenda, or to withdraw the RFQ at any time, regardless of how much time and effort consultants have spent on their responses.

**Project Description**

The work to be performed by the CONSULTANT consists of preparing civil, structural, geotechnical and environmental engineering design and permitting for replacement of the Owl Creek Bridge between milepost 0.95 and milepost 1.05. The proposed project includes replacing the existing bridge with a new bridge that is 53 feet wide and spans Owl Creek. Included in the project will be channel restoration of Owl Creek in the vicinity of the bridge and reconstruction of the road approaches to the bridge. The County will provide the topographic survey, boilerplate specifications, and pavement section. The County will be responsible for developing right of way plans, obtaining appraisals and negotiating for easement acquisition and for project bidding and award.

The major features of the project are as follows:

- Remove the existing bridge.
- Wetland and ordinary high water delineation.
- Geotechnical engineering to determine subsurface conditions and to develop foundation recommendations.
- Environmental documentation and preparation of permit applications for all federal, state and local permits (NEPA/SEPA/Critical Areas/Shorelines).
- Hydraulic design of the bridge opening.
- Determining 100 year flood water surface elevation.
- Structural Design of the new bridge.
- Temporary traffic control.
- Special Provisions.
- Load Ratings of the new bridge.
- Wetland mitigation bank use plan.

Construction obligation planned prior to September 2026 with an advertisement date in October 2026.

The County is a member of the Regional Rural Road Maintenance Program of the Endangered Species Act 4(d). There is a wetland mitigation bank currently available for mitigation credits for any project wetland or riparian area impacts.

The County reserves the right to retain the services of the successful firm(s) for any subsequent phases (construction - CN) associated with this project.

### **Evaluation Criteria**

Submittals will be evaluated and ranked based on the following criteria:

- 1) Qualification of Proposed Key Personnel (15 points)
- 2) Qualifications/Expertise/Experience of Firm and Subconsultants (20 points)
- 3) Ability to meet schedule (15 points)
- 4) Approach to project (20 points)
- 5) Familiarity with WSDOT/FHWA standards/requirements (15 points)
- 6) Past Performance/References (15 points)

**This project has a mandatory 16% DBE goal. The Consultant shall refer to Chapter 26 of the WSDOT Local Agency Guidelines. Consultant RFQ's which do not include the DBE approach and commitment will be disqualified.**

### **Submittal**

Submittals should include the following information for the Prime Consultant and Subconsultants: Firm name, phone and fax numbers; Name of Principal-in-Charge and Project Manager; and Number of employees in each firm proposed for the project.

Please submit FOUR copies of your Statement of Qualifications to: Cowlitz County Department of Public Works, 1600 13<sup>th</sup> Avenue South, Kelso, WA 98626, Attention Susan Eugenis, PE, County Engineer **no later than 3:00 p.m. on Wednesday, June 26, 2024**. Submittals will not be accepted after that time and date. Any questions regarding this project should be directed to Ron Boursaw Jr., at 360-577-3030 ext. 6542 or by e-mail at [boursawr@cowlitzwa.gov](mailto:boursawr@cowlitzwa.gov). A topographic survey is available by contacting Ron Boursaw Jr. at 360-577-3030 ext 6542 or [boursawr@cowlitzwa.gov](mailto:boursawr@cowlitzwa.gov).

### **Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Information**

Cowlitz County in accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), commits to nondiscrimination on the basis of disability, in all of its programs and activities. This material can be made available in an alternate format by emailing Cowlitz County Department of Public Works at [publicworks@cowlitzwa.gov](mailto:publicworks@cowlitzwa.gov) or by calling 360-577-3030.

**Title VI Statement**

“Cowlitz County, in accordance with the provisions of 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 in any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, 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, or national origin in consideration for an award.”

Dates of publication in The Daily News: June 4 and June 11, 2024

The Columbian: June 4 and June 11, 2024

DJC – Seattle: June 4 and June 11, 2024

DJC – Portland: June 5 and June 12, 2024