## NOTICE

## INVITATION TO BID TO METROPOLITAN WATER RECLAMATION DISTRICT OF GREATER CHICAGO FOR

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICES FOR TARP MAINSTREAM TUNNEL INSPECTION FROM DS-M114N TO CS-ADD CONTRACT 25-RFP-14

The Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago ("District") requests proposals from any prospective Proposer for the above-captioned subject, which is described in document 25-RFP-14.

## PROPOSALS ARE DUE JANUARY 9th, 2026

Sealed proposals, endorsed as above, will be submitted to the District via an electronic upload to the Euna Portal only. See "Submission Via the Euna Portal" for instructions. Proposals will be accepted from the date of the Invitation to Bid, up to 11:00 A.M. (Central Time), on January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2026. Bids will be deemed non-responsive if not submitted using the Euna-project specific URL link, provided by the District with the bidding documents.

No bids will be accepted after 11:00 A.M. (Central Time) on the above scheduled due date. Faxed, mailed, emailed, or hand delivered proposals will not be accepted. There is no Bid Depository safe for this purpose.

The objective of this RFP is to solicit proposals from qualified firms to provide professional services for a comprehensive Tunnel and Reservoir Plan (TARP) Mainstream Tunnel Inspection from drop shaft (DS) DS-M114N to construction shaft (CS) CS-ADD. The RFP is divided into four major tasks: i) Review documentation and develop a work plan to assess the condition, safety, and functionality of 5.26 miles of 30-foot and 4.54 miles of 22-foot diameter rock tunnels, 34 drop shafts and 2 construction shafts, and all associated connecting tunnels from Addison Street to Wilmette Harbor, in the Villages of Lincolnwood, Skokie, and Wilmette, and the Cities of Chicago and Evanston, Illinois ii) Coordinate, Schedule and Perform Inspection, iii) Develop a condition assessment and recommended actions report, and iv) Supplemental Services.

The estimated total cost for this proposal is \$2,000,000.00. A deposit is not required to submit a Proposal. There should be only one submitted Proposal per Proposer. The anticipated service period will begin June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2026 and last through March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2028. Funding of all contract items is subject to the Board of Commissioners' approval of the budget for those years.

Copies of the RFP are only available online from the District's website at  $\underline{\text{www.mwrd.org}}$  (Doing Business  $\rightarrow$  Procurement and Materials Management  $\rightarrow$  Contract Announcements). No fee is required for the RFP documents. Any questions regarding the downloading of the RFP documents should be directed to contractdesk@mwrd.org or call (312) 751-6643.

The Affirmative Action Goals for this Request for Proposal are 20% Minority-owned Business Enterprises (MBE) and 10% Women-owned Business Enterprises (WBE).

Further, the District assumes no liability or responsibility for the failure or inability of any Proposer to successfully download any and all contract documents, including but not limited to specifications, proposal forms and/or plans, as a result of any type of technological computer and/or software system failure or breakdown that restricts, prohibits or prevents successful downloading of any and all District contract documents by the Proposer, whether caused by the District or other parties, directly or indirectly.

The Proposer shall refer to Appendix A for the provisions of the District's Minority and Women Business Enterprise Requirements. Appendix A attached.

All Proposers shall conform to all the terms and conditions of the RFP as stated in this document. Failure to conform to the terms and conditions of the RFP will render the proposal non-responsive and ineligible for further consideration. A successful Proposer will be required to comply with all applicable Federal and State of Illinois Equal Opportunity Regulations as required.

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Proposers are to include with their proposal signed copies of any addenda, or acknowledge receipt of any addenda, if the District issued any addenda to this RFP. Failure to do so may result in the rejection of any proposal. RFP documents are available online, and any addenda issued for this RFP will be available online at the District's website, <a href="www.mwrd.org">www.mwrd.org</a>. The path is as follows: Doing Business  $\rightarrow$  Procurement and Materials Management  $\rightarrow$  Contract Announcements. Addenda will also be emailed/faxed to each person receiving a set of such RFP documents and to such other prospective Proposers as shall have requested that they be furnished with a copy of the addenda.

If any potential Proposer contemplating to submit a proposal is in doubt as to the true meaning of any part of the RFP documents, such inquiry should be submitted online at the District's website, <a href="www.mwrd.org">www.mwrd.org</a> (Doing Business \rightarrow Procurement and Materials Management \rightarrow Contract Announcements). The District will provide an online response to such inquiries, as the District deems appropriate. Strings of appropriate questions and answers regarding the RFP documents will be available online on the District's website until the due date of the RFP submission. No questions will be accepted by telephone, fax, email, mail, or any other such form of delivery.

The District will only respond to questions received online up to ONE WEEK prior to the date set to receive proposals. The District will not respond to questions received after this date. The District does not guarantee the timeliness of responses provided online, nor does the District guarantee that such responses will be provided in adequate time to affect the submission of proposals. The District shall provide responses online ONLY if the responses do not interpret or otherwise change the RFP documents.

The District's responses online are NOT official responses and, therefore, are not binding to the RFP documents. Any official interpretation or change to the RFP documents will be made only by addenda duly issued to all plan holders on record by the Director of Procurement and Materials Management.

Failure on the part of a prospective Proposer to receive written interpretation prior to the time of the proposal deadline will not be grounds for withdrawal of their proposal.

Bidders are STRONGLY URGED to inspect all publicly accessible areas of the work sites, prior to bidding, to familiarize themselves with the nature of the work and the method of accomplishing the same.

The Voluntary Technical Pre-Bid meeting will be held online via a Zoom meeting on Wednesday November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2025, at 10:30 a.m. CT. The link to the Zoom meeting is attached in a separate Word document under the "Additional Documents" column on the District's website at mwrd.org (Doing Business → Procurement & Materials Management → Contract Announcements → (Find correct project) → Bidding Documents). The purpose of the Voluntary Technical Pre-Bid meeting is to review the scope of work, to provide for identification and discussion of potential problems that might arise during the administration of this Contract, and to seek clarification of technical or procedural aspects of this Contract. There will be a Q&A session at the end of the meeting. Also, all Proposers must give their contact information to register prior to entering the Zoom Pre-Bid meeting.

The contact person for the RFP is Mircea Mihalache P.E., Senior Civil Engineer. Mr. Mihalache will provide online responses to online inquiries through the District's website.

The District reserves the right to accept any RFP or any part thereof or to reject any and all RFPs.

The Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago

<u>Darlene A. LoCascio</u>
By Darlene A. LoCascio,
Director of Procurement and Materials Management

DATE OF ADVERTISEMENT: Wednesday, October 29th, 2025

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