

**NOTICE
INVITATION TO BID
TO
METROPOLITAN WATER RECLAMATION DISTRICT OF GREATER CHICAGO
FOR**

FARMING AT THE HANOVER PARK
WATER RECLAMATION PLANT

CONTRACT 24-753-11

PROPOSALS ARE DUE NOVEMBER 21, 2023

Sealed proposals, endorsed as above, will be submitted back to the District via an electronic upload to the Bonfire Portal only, from the date of the Invitation to Bid, up to 11:00 A.M. Central Time (CT), on the bid opening date, and will be opened publicly by the Director of Procurement and Materials Management or designee at 11:00 AM on November 21, 2023. The public cannot attend but can view the bid opening at <https://mwrld.org/bid-opening>.

NO BIDS WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER 11:00 AM CT ON THE ABOVE SCHEDULED BID OPENING DATE. ALL BIDS FAXED, MAILED, EMAILED, OR HAND DELIVERED WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED AND WILL BE RETURNED TO THE BIDDER. THERE IS NO BID DEPOSITORY SAFE AVAILABLE FOR MAILING OR HAND DELIVERING BIDS. THE DISTRICT WILL ONLY ACCEPT BIDS ELECTRONICALLY UPLOADED TO THE BONFIRE PORTAL (HTTPS://MWRD.BONFIREHUB.COM/). PLEASE SEE SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS ON HOW TO UPLOAD YOUR BID TO THE BONFIRE PORTAL IN THE BID DOCUMENT ENTITLED "SUBMISSION VIA THE BONFIRE PORTAL." THE BONFIRE LINK IS UNIQUE TO EACH SOLICITATION. BIDS WILL BE DEEMED NON-RESPONSIVE IF NOT SUBMITTED USING THE PROJECT-SPECIFIC BONFIRE URL LINK PROVIDED BY THE DISTRICT WITH THE BIDDING DOCUMENTS.

Tenders are invited for farming operations and sub-surface injection of biosolids for the fields at the Hanover Park Water Reclamation Plant for an approximate three (3) year period beginning upon approval of the Contractor's Bond and terminating December 31, 2026, or upon the expenditure of available funds, whichever occurs sooner.

The estimated cost of the work under this Contract is \$890,000.00.

There is no bid deposit required for this Contract.

Funding of all Contract items is subject to the Board of Commissioners' approval of the District's budget for all years under this Contract.

The Contract is divided, for purposes of bidding, into three (3) Items. Bidders must submit bids for all three (3) Items or the bid will be rejected as non-responsive. The District intends to award one (1) Contract to one (1) Bidder for all the work to be performed.

Specifications, proposal forms and/or plans may be obtained from the Department of Procurement and Materials Management by downloading online from the District's website at www.mwrd.org(Doing Business → Procurement & Materials Management → Contract Announcements). No fee is required for the Contract Documents. Any questions regarding the downloading of the Contract Document should be directed to the following email: contractdesk@mwrd.org or call 312-751-6643.

The District assumes no liability or responsibility for the failure or inability of any Bidder 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 Bidder, whether caused by the District or other parties, directly or indirectly.

Bidding documents are only available online, and all addenda issued for this contract will be available online at the District's website, www.mwrd.org. The path is as follows: Doing Business → Procurement and Materials Management → Contract Announcements. A copy of such addenda will also be emailed/faxed to each person which downloads a set of such contract documents.

Bidders shall acknowledge receipt of each addendum issued in space provided on proposal signature page or submit a signed copy of each addendum with the Bidder's proposal at the time and date set to receive bids. Oral explanations will not be binding.

Any Proposal which indicates multiple or alternate bids will be deemed non-responsive and will be rejected by the Director of Procurement and Materials Management.

Proposals shall conform to all the terms and conditions of the Bidding Requirements attached hereto. Failure to submit the required documents as specified may render the bid non-responsive and the bid may be rejected.

If any potential Bidder contemplating to submit a proposal is in doubt as to the true meaning of any part of the specifications or other Contract documents, such inquiry should be submitted online at the District's website, www.mwrd.org. The path is as follows: Doing Business → Procurement and Materials Management → Contract Announcements → (Find correct project) → Ask a Question. The District will provide an online response to such inquiries, as the District deems appropriate. Strings of appropriate questions and answers regarding the bidding documents will be available online on the District's website until the bid opening date of the bidding documents. 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 (1) WEEK prior to the bid opening date of the bidding documents.

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 bids. The District shall provide responses online ONLY if the responses do not interpret or otherwise change the bidding documents.

The District's responses online are NOT official responses and, therefore, are not binding to the bidding documents. Any official interpretation or change to the bidding 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 the prospective Bidder to receive a written interpretation prior to the time of the opening of bids will not be grounds for withdrawal of proposal.

The contact person for this Contract is Mr. John D'Ambrosia. This contact person will provide online responses to online inquiries.

Bidders are **STRONGLY URGED** to inspect all areas of the work sites prior to bidding, to familiarize themselves with the nature of the work and the method of accomplishing the same. To schedule a site inspection, prospective Bidders may contact the Resident Engineer, Mr. John D'Ambrosia, at (630) 736-4215, between the hours of 8:00 A.M. and 3:00 P.M., Monday through Friday. Bidders are reminded that no questions will be taken during any site inspections.

Bidders should read the bidding requirements set forth on pages R-1 through R-6, and in particular page R-2, Paragraph 6, in regards to questions on this Contract.

All Contracts for the Construction of Public Works are subject to the Illinois Prevailing Wage Act (820 ILCS 130/1 et. Seq.).

Bidders are required to review Illinois Public Act 103-0327 regarding the removal, hauling, and transportation of biosolids, lime sludge, and lime residue from a water treatment plant or facility and the disposal of biosolids, lime sludge, and lime residue removed from a water treatment plant or facility at a landfill.

The Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago reserves the right to reject any or all Proposals.

Metropolitan Water Reclamation District
of Greater Chicago

By Darlene A. LoCascio
Director of Procurement
and Materials Management

Chicago, Illinois
November 1, 2023