

NOTICE

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

OVERBURDEN REMOVAL
AT LOCATION OF BATTERY E
TERRENCE J. O'BRIEN WATER RECLAMATION PLANT
CONTRACT 23-098-3P

PROPOSALS ARE DUE TUESDAY, MAY 7, 2024

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 her designee at 11:00 A.M. CT on Tuesday, May 7, 2024. The public cannot attend but can view the bid opening at <http://mwrld.org/bid-opening>.

NO BIDS WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER 11:00 A.M. CT ON THE ABOVE SCHEDULED BID DATE. ALL BIDS FAXED, MAILED, E-MAILED 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://mwrld.bonfire-hub.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."

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.mwrld.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@mwrld.org or call 312-751-6643.

Further 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.

Tenders are invited for the work consisting of furnishing all materials, labor, and equipment required to:

1. Prepare the construction work site.
 - a. Install road traffic signage along Howard Street at job site construction access point.
 - b. Prepare the equipment and trailer (optional) staging area.
 - c. Prepare the truck staging and wash area.
 - d. Prepare existing guard house facility for use.
 - e. Install and maintain a stabilized construction entrance.
 - f. Maintain the construction gravel road throughout the length of the project.
2. Implement dust, erosion and sediment run-off control measures.
 - a. Install a silt fence around the perimeter of the work area and install straw bales and inlet protection baskets at all affected drainage structures as identified on the Plans.
 - b. Use a mechanical sweeper to keep the roadways clean inside and outside the plant.
 - A. Roads outside the plant within a 2-mile travel distance (Howard Street, McCormick Boulevard and Oakton Street) require constant sweeping throughout the soil removal process.
 - B. All roads inside the plant also require regular daily sweeping.
 - c. Keep and use a misting truck on-site for dust control.
 - d. Perform regular inspections of the erosion and sedimentation control measures.
 - e. Clean and flush all the drainage structures at the completion of the work.
3. Properly dispose of existing construction debris and other misc. materials.
 - a. Remove and legally dispose of off-site any existing concrete blocks, portions of manholes, remnants of old aeration system, and any miscellaneous metal and wood construction materials identified on the Plans.
 - b. Existing jersey barriers should be utilized on-site as directed by the Resident Engineer.
 - c. Remove existing utilities (existing sprinkler system) as shown on the Plans.
4. Perform clearing and grubbing.
 - a. Remove all trees and shrubs as identified on the Plans.
5. Remove the overburden soil.
 - a. A certified soil contamination report has been prepared and will be used as basis for soil disposal at different soil disposal facilities.
 - A. The contractor shall not perform any additional soil testing unless as requested and/or coordinated with the Resident Engineer.
 - b. There are portions of the soil that are contaminated which need to be disposed of at a Non-Special Waste (NSW) landfill.
 - c. The remaining soil is classified as CCDD and can be disposed of at a CCDD facility or other approved location.
 - d. A specific sequence of excavation and removal shall be followed as presented in the Plans.

- e. A land surveyor shall be utilized to outline the contaminated zones as identified on the Plans, establishing perimeters and elevations of the soil disposal zones, during different phases of the removal process.
6. Restore the work site after the overburden soil removal.
 - a. Perform final grading as shown on the Plans.
 - b. Spread topsoil and provide seeding per the landscaping specification.
7. Perform other work as specified in the Specifications and as shown on the Plans.

The site of construction is at the Terrence J. O'Brien Water Reclamation Plant, 3500 W. Howard St, Skokie, County of Cook, Illinois, 60076.

The estimated cost of the work under Contract 23-098-3P is between **\$8,326,750.00** and **\$10,079,750.00**.

The Voluntary Pre-Bid Site Walkthrough will be held on April 24, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. CT at the Terrence J. O'Brien Water Reclamation Plant. Bidders will meet at the parking lot north of the Process Control Building. This location can be found on drawing LP-001 of Volume 3 of the contract documents. Bidders are **STRONGLY URGED** to inspect the work site, prior to bidding, to familiarize themselves with the nature of the work and the method of accomplishing the same. Form SV-1 (Site Visit Release and Indemnity Agreement), which is included in the contract documents, will be required to be completed for each individual choosing to participate in the optional site walkthrough. **The completed SV-1 form will need to be provided via e-mail to Casey Bajerek at bajerekk@mwr.org prior to the scheduled site walkthrough.** Bidders are reminded that no questions will be taken during any site inspections. The District's website (www.mwr.org) will be used for addressing any questions, as indicated in the Invitation to Bid documents for this Contract. The path is as follows: Doing Business → Procurement & Materials Management → Contract Announcements → (Find correct project) → Ask a Question.

The Voluntary Technical Pre-Bid meeting will be held online via a Zoom meeting on April 26, 2024, at 10:00 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 mwr.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 seek clarification of technical or procedural aspects of this Contract. There will be a Q&A session at the end of the meeting. Also, suppliers must give their contact information to register prior to entering the Zoom Pre-Bid meeting.

Each proposal must be accompanied by a bid deposit in the form of a bid bond in the amount of **FOUR HUNDRED THREE THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED NINETY DOLLARS (\$403,190.00)**. Each bid bond must be underwritten by a surety licensed to do business in the State of Illinois, listed in the latest copy of the Federal Register and approved by the Director of Procurement and Materials Management. The bid bond must contain signatures from the Bidder and Surety Company. Failure to provide signatures on the bid bond will result in the rejection of the bid. Photographic and/or stamped signatures are acceptable. Any proposal submitted without being

accompanied by the required bid deposit, in the aforesaid form, will not be considered and will not be read after it is publicly opened.

Prior to award of the contract, the lowest responsible bidder must demonstrate compliance with the MWRDGC 2017 Multi-Project Labor Agreement by submitting to the Director of Procurement and Materials Management a signed Certification of Compliance with the Multi-Project Labor Agreement. The Agreement and Certificate of Compliance are contained in the Contract Documents.

The bid money value of all materials purchased directly by the Contractor, together with the bid money value of all work performed by personnel and facilities provided directly by the Contractor, shall not be less than 25% of the money value of all work performed under this Contract. Any bid money value of work performed by the Subcontractors for work on the job site utilizing Subcontractors' materials, labor and facilities cannot be included in the percent of work to be completed by the Contractor.

Bidders on contracts in excess of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00) will be required to comply with the President's Executive Order No. 11246, as amended to date, regarding NON-DISCRIMINATION IN EMPLOYMENT. The requirements for bidders and contractors under this order are explained in Appendix C of the Contract Documents. The provisions of Appendix C also apply to each Subcontractor on contracts in excess of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00).

The Bidder agrees to fulfill the Special Training Provisions for Apprentices as specified in the Appendix K and to provide training opportunities throughout the life of the contract. The requirements of the Special Training Provisions for Apprentices are 290 Minority and/or Female hours for the purposes of this contract.

The bidder shall submit with the Proposal a signed and completed MBE, WBE Utilization Plan, which lists the firms intended to be used as MBE, WBE, the type of work or service each will perform, and the dollar amount to be allocated to each MBE, WBE.

1.) Each Bidder must submit with their proposals a signed and completed **MBE/WBE Utilization Plan** which lists each business intended to be used as a MBE and WBE on pages UP-2 and UP-3 and supplemental pages as necessary. **The Bidder must sign the Signature Section page on UP-4.** Failure to submit a signed MBE/WBE Utilization Plan will result in a bid being deemed non-responsive and the bid will be rejected. Also, if a Waiver is sought, the Bidder is required to sign pages UP-4 and UP-5, which is the Waiver Request Form; failure to do so will be viewed as non-responsive and the bid will be rejected.

2.) Each Bidder must submit **with their bid package** an original or facsimile copy of the **MBE/WBE Subcontractor's Letter of Intent, page UP-6** for each subcontractor listed on their MBE/WBE Utilization Plan. The submitted MBE/WBE Subcontractor's Letter of Intent must be completed and signed by the subcontractor and accompanied with a copy of the subcontractor's current Letter of Certification from a state, local government or agency or documentation demonstrating that the subcontractor is a MBE or WBE within the meaning of the **Affirmative Action Ordinance, Revised Appendix D**. Failure to submit the MBE/WBE Utilization Plan signed by the Bidder at the time of the bid opening and the MBE/WBE Subcontractor's Letter of Intent signed by each MBE and WBE will be viewed as non-responsive and the bid will be rejected.

3.) If the Bidder exceeds the allowable *Supplier Utilization* amount which is stated in the bid documents, the bid will be viewed as non-responsive. Therefore, the Bidder may not exceed the use of a MBE or WBE supplier for more than 50% of each respective MBE or WBE, goal, unless the Administrator has authorized a Supplier's Exception notated on page AU-I.

4.) Each Bidder must submit with their proposals a completed **VBE Commitment Form** which lists each business intended to be used as a VBE. The Bidder must make a "**Good Faith Effort**" to identify eligible Veteran Owned-Businesses by completing the VBE Commitment Form. If the Bidder is unable to identify qualified VBE subcontractors capable of providing goods or services required by the contract, the Bidder must write "**no participation**" on the VBE Commitment Form. Where a Bidder has failed to meet the VBE participation goal, the Administrator shall require the Contractor to submit a Veteran's Business Enterprise Good Faith Efforts Documentation Request Form and provide additional documentation of its good faith efforts in attempting to fulfill the VBE goal.

5) The Contractor must use the District's online compliance monitoring system administered by the Diversity Section for payment and reporting purposes, in order to fulfill the Affirmative Action Program requirements.

The Utilization Plan **MUST** be signed by the bidder, even if the bidder requests a waiver and/or offers itself to meet any of the Affirmative Action Ordinance Revised Appendix D goals. If the bidder offers itself to satisfy any of the Affirmative Action Ordinance Revised Appendix D goals, then its name shall be shown in the appropriate space(s) on the Utilization Plan.

Where a bidder is a business owned and controlled by a minority woman (M/WBE) or where the bidder utilizes a M/WBE in a joint venture or as a subcontractor, the bidder may count the M/WBE participation either toward the achievement of its MBE or WBE goal, but not both. If a waiver from the Affirmative Action Ordinance Revised Appendix D requirements is sought, the bidder should include with the bid package documentation of good-faith efforts to meet the Affirmative Action Ordinance Revised Appendix D utilization goals. Subsequent to bid opening and if it is determined by the Affirmative Action Administrator that a Contractor's Information Form is required from the apparent low bidder, the bidder must complete and submit the form within three (3) days of receiving the written request.

The work under this Contract is classified as "Construction Services" for the MBE, WBE Utilization Goals contained in the Affirmative Action Ordinance Revised Appendix D. The associated goals are **20%** Minority-owned Business Enterprises (MBE), **10%** Women-owned Business Enterprises (WBE), and **3%** Veteran- owned Business Enterprises (VBE). Should you have any questions, please contact the Diversity Office at 312-751-4035.

The bidder to whom the contract is awarded must be prepared to comply with the requirements of the Affirmative Action Ordinance Revised Appendix D during the life of the contract.

In any contract or contracts awarded under this invitation for bids, neither the State of Illinois nor any of its departments, agencies, or employees is or will be a party to this invitation for bids or any resulting contract. The procurement will be subject to regulations contained in the Procedures for

Issuing Loans from the Water Pollution Control Loan Program (35 IAC Part 365), the Davis-Bacon Act (40 USC 276a through 276a-5) as defined by the United States Department of Labor, the Employment of Illinois Workers on Public Works Act (30 ILCS 570), Illinois Works Jobs Program Act (30 ILCS 559/20-1), and the “Use of American Iron and Steel” requirements as contained in Section 436 of H.R. 3547, The Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2014. This procurement is also subject to the loan recipient’s policy regarding the increased use of disadvantaged business enterprises. The loan recipient’s policy requires all bidders to undertake specified affirmative efforts at least sixteen (16) days prior to bid opening. The policy is contained in the specifications. Bidders are also required to comply with the President’s Executive Order No. 11246, as amended. The requirements for bidders and contractors under this order are explained in 41 CFR 60-4.

Bidders should read page R-2, Paragraph 6, in regard to questions on this Contract.

Any potential bidder with questions regarding the meaning of any part of the specifications or other bidding documents should submit such inquiries online at the District’s website, www.mwrd.org, **The path is as follows: Doing Business→Procurement and Materials Management→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 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 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 e-mailed to all plan holders on record by the Director of Procurement and Materials Management.

The District will only respond to questions received online UP TO ONE WEEK prior to the bid opening date of the bidding documents. The District will not respond to questions received after this date.

The Project Manager for this contract is Mr. Casey Bajerek. This Project Manager will provide online responses to online inquiries.

All Contracts for the Construction of Public Works are subject to the Illinois Prevailing Wage Act (820 ILCS 130/.01 et.seq.)

The contract will be awarded to the lowest responsible, responsive bidder, unless all bids are rejected.

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 & Materials
Management

Chicago, Illinois
April 10, 2024

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