

NOTICE

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

MASTER PLAN FOR SALT CREEK AT FULLERSBURG WOODS
CONTRACT 21-863-2C

PROPOSALS ARE DUE TUESDAY, July 25, 2023

Sealed proposals, endorsed as above, will be submitted back to the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago (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 Daylight Time), on the bid opening date, and will be opened publicly by the Director of Procurement and Materials Management or designee at 11:00 AM (Central Daylight Time) on **July 25, 2023**. The public cannot attend but can view the bid opening at <https://mwrđ.org/bid-opening>.

No bids will be accepted after 11:00 AM 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://mwrđ.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." Bids will be deemed non-responsive if not submitted using the Bonfire-project specific URL link, provided by the District with the bidding documents.

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.mwrđ.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@mwrđ.org or call 312-751-6643.

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

1. DAM REMOVAL
 - a. Demolition of existing dam and bypass structure.
 - b. Soil erosion and sediment control, traffic control, and related work.
2. IN-STREAM HABITAT RESTORATION

- a. Excavation and disposal of soil, rock, and other materials to create pools.
 - b. Placement of stone to create riffles.
 - c. Soil erosion and sediment control, traffic control, and related work.
3. WETLAND AND FLOODPLAIN RESTORATION
- a. Selective clearing of non-native trees and brush.
 - b. Grading of streambanks at select locations.
 - c. Native seeding and planting.
 - d. Soil erosion and sediment control, traffic control, and related work.
4. PUBLIC ACCESS AND VISITOR ENHANCEMENTS
- a. Demolition of pathways, pedestrian bridges, fencing, and related infrastructure.
 - b. Excavation, fill placement, stone shoreline treatment, paved overlooks, floodwall waterproofing, and construction of accessible paved trails.
 - c. Installation of a motor to turn the water wheel on the historic Graue Mill.
 - d. Installation of a water pump system.
 - e. Soil erosion and sediment control, traffic control, and related work.
5. MAINTENANCE AND MONITORING
- a. Post-construction ecological maintenance, monitoring, and reporting in accordance with permit requirements.

The site of construction is Fullersburg Woods Forest Preserve within the Village of Oak Brook, County of DuPage, State of Illinois.

Funding of all contract items is subject to the Board of Commissioners' approval of the budget for those years.

The Contract is divided, for purposes of bidding, into 12 items. Bidders must submit bids for all items or the bid will be rejected as non-responsive. The District intends to issue one Contract to one bidder for all the work to be performed. The work shall be completed within 1,825 calendar days after approval of the contractor's bond.

The estimated cost of the work under Contract 21-863-2C is \$5,709,500.00 to \$6,911,500.00.

THE BID DEPOSIT FOR THE PROPOSAL IS TWO HUNDRED AND SEVENTY-SEVEN THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$277,000.00).

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.

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. 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 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.

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.

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.

Each proposal must be accompanied by a bid deposit in the form of a bid bond in the amount of TWO HUNDRED SEVENTY-SEVEN THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$277,000.00). 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.

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

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 be not less than 25% of the money value of all work performed under this Contract. Any bid

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money value of work performed by the Subcontractors, for work on the job site utilizing the 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 the Contract 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 510 minority hours and 180 female hours for the purposes of this contract.

Prior to award of the contract, the lowest responsible bidder must demonstrate compliance with the Forest Preserve District of DuPage County's Ordinance No. 21-008 An Ordinance Establishing Responsible Bidder Requirements on Construction Projects. The bidder, if awarded the contract, is prepared to comply with the terms and conditions of that ordinance during the life of the contract. A written statement signed by the bidder agreeing to comply may be submitted with the bidder's proposal. If not submitted with the proposal, the signed written statement must be submitted prior to award of the contract.

Prior to award of the contract, the lowest responsible bidder must demonstrate compliance with the Forest Preserve District of DuPage County's Ordinance No. 20-266 An Ordinance Authorizing the execution of a License Agreement to Implement a Master Plan for Salt Creek at Fullersburg Woods. The bidder, if awarded the contract, is prepared to comply with the terms and conditions of that ordinance during the life of the contract. A written statement signed by the bidder agreeing to comply may be submitted with the bidder's proposal. If not submitted with the proposal, the signed written statement must be submitted prior toward of the contract.

Each Bidder must submit with their proposals a signed and completed MBE/WBE Utilization Plan which lists each business intended to be used as an 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, the Waiver Request Form; failure to do so will be viewed as non-responsive and the bid will be rejected. 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 nonresponsive and the bid will be rejected.

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 an 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-1.

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

Where a Bidder is a business owned and controlled by a minority woman (M/WBE), or where the Bidder utilizes an M/WBE in a joint venture or as a subcontractor, the Bidder may count the M/WBE participation toward the achievement of either its MBE or WBE goal, but not both.

If a waiver from Appendix D requirements is sought, the Bidder should include with the bid package documentation of good-faith efforts to meet the Appendix D utilization goals. The documentation should be provided with the bid package on the Contractor's Information form; the form is included in the package containing the contract documents. Subsequent to the 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 (3) days of receiving the written request. The work under this Contract is classified as "Construction Services" for the Minority-owned Business Enterprises (MBE) and Women-owned Business Enterprises (WBE) Utilization goals contained in the Affirmative Action Ordinance – Revised Appendix D. The associated goals are 20% Minority-owned Business Enterprises (MBE), 9% Women-owned Business Enterprises (WBE), and 3% Veterans Business Enterprises (VBE). Should you have any questions, please contact the Diversity Office at 312-751-4035.

It is required that the prospective Bidder indicates participation by signing each applicable MBE/WBE Utilization Plan contained with the Contract Document.

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

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.

The Contractor agrees to 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 Mandatory Technical Pre-Bid Conference will be held online via Zoom meeting on Wednesday, July 12, 2023, at 10:00 a.m. Central Daylight Time. The link to the Zoom meeting is attached in a separate Word document under the "Additional Documents" column on the District's Contract 21-863-2C

website at mwrld.org (Doing Business→Procurement & Materials Management→Contract Announcements→(Find correct Project→ Bidding Documents)). The purpose of the Mandatory 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. **The Mandatory Pre-Bid Walk-Through** will be held on Tuesday, July 11, 2023, at 10:00 a.m. Central Daylight Time at the Fullersburg Woods Nature Education Center, 3609 Spring Woods Drive, Oak Brook, IL 60523. Attendees are advised to bring appropriate footwear for walking trails and a current business card. Prospective bidders shall contact Joseph Schuessler (SchuesslerJ@mwrld.org) before July 7, 2023, to identify themselves and inform him of their plans to attend the Mandatory Pre-Bid Site Walk-Through and Technical Conference. Prior to admission to the Mandatory Pre-Bid Site Walk-Through, all potential Bidders will be required to furnish with their attendance notification “Site Visit Release and Indemnity Agreement” and “Mandatory Technical Pre-Bid Conference Certificate”, properly executed, which are included in the bid documents. **Bids received from Bidders who did not attend both the Mandatory Pre-Bid Site Walk-Through and the Mandatory Technical Conference will not be considered.** Bidders are reminded that no questions will be taken during any site inspections. The District’s website (www.mwrld.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.

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. The Project Manager for this contract is Joseph Schuessler. This Project Manager will provide online responses to online inquiries submitted as specified above.

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.)

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 and
Materials Management

Chicago, Illinois
June 21, 2023