

City of Birmingham, Alabama
Department of Community Development
Request for Qualifications
Brownfield Site Assessment

INTRODUCTION

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has awarded the City of Birmingham a Brownfield Assessment Grant for environmental investigation and remedial planning activities. As such, The City of Birmingham, Alabama is soliciting documentation of qualifications for experienced environmental assessment or engineering firms to assist the City in the assessment of a targeted Brownfield area through a Brownfield Assessment grant.

The Grant Activities are separated into and will be performed as below:

- 1.) Site selection of project based activities from a larger targeted area proposed in City's application;
- 2.) Community Outreach to educate residents and build consensus;
- 3.) Site assessment and testing noting existing environmental contaminants and possible remediation strategies; and
- 4.) Preparation of written reports regarding environmental characterizations and site based remediation's

The City will review submittals displaying specific qualifications and experience in the area identified in this solicitation for the development and management of this project. For consideration, submissions for this project must contain evidence of the proposer's experience and abilities in the specified area and other disciplines directly related to the proposed service.

PROPOSED SCOPE OF WORK

A. General Statement:

The City of Birmingham requests qualifications for providing services, including environmental site assessment with regard to a Brownfield Assessment Grant including both Hazardous Materials and Petroleum contamination, experience with ACRES platform, and EPA grant reporting. The City of Birmingham's North Birmingham community is comprised of six different neighborhoods: Acipco-Finley, Collegeville, Fairmont, Harriman Park, Hooper City, and North Birmingham, though interagency federal and municipal efforts have been concentrated specifically in the neighborhoods of: North Birmingham, Collegeville, Fairmont, and Harriman Park for assessment of possible environmental contamination in the area as a result of past environmental issues and current problems associated with industry. Additionally, the City of Birmingham's northern downtown core abuts this community, and it is also bordered by on the north by the cities of Fultondale and Gardendale, and bisected by two major highways (Interstate 65 and U.S. Highway 31). The community is bordered by Village Creek to the south and generally bounded by Walker Chapel Road to the north and both State Route 79 and the CSX railroad to the east¹. The community's strategic location, access to major transportation networks, available land, and rich history should prove invaluable as the community moves forward. The goals of the project to be

¹ http://www.imaginebham.com/uploads/1/4/4/7/14479416/draft_feb5_north_birmingham.pdf

funded by this cooperative agreement are to conduct Environmental Site Assessment activities (ESAs) at selected sites: 24 ASTM-AAI compliant Phase I's @ \$3,500 each for a total of \$84,000; 1 Generic Quality Assurance Plan (QAPP) @ \$6,000, 8 SS-QAPPs @ \$3,750 each for a total of \$30,000; 8 Phase II's @ \$20,000 each for a total of \$160,000. Assessment total: \$280,000 (50% petroleum/50% hazardous). Costs are reasonable averages for budgetary purposes based upon City experience and research, with no significant variance between Hazardous Substance and Petroleum sites and costs varying more significantly with a site's size and complexity than the type of contaminant. Asbestos and Lead Based paint screening may be included in either Phase I or Phase II ESA budgets dependent on extent of sampling required for demolition/renovation of existing structures.

- B. The City may require the selected firm to include innovative approaches to involve community residents in this endeavor—(efforts such as environmental workforce development and entry-level job training, job shadowing and workshops to promote enhanced community environmental awareness, as a means of community outreach and involvement are an example). Examples of completed project which included community engagement are strongly encouraged in this response.
- C. Selected firms, where possible, will develop efforts that include leveraging ongoing/existing community initiatives in the area
- D. Selected firms will identify other area organizations and educational programs and/or other grant recipients engaged in complimentary outreach efforts.

Additional information on the projects that are currently planned can be found on the Environmental Protection Agency Brownfield Grant website:

<http://www.epa.gov/brownfields/index.html>

QUALIFICATIONS

The Submitter must display to the complete satisfaction of the City that it has the necessary facilities, ability, and resources to provide the services specified herein in a satisfactory manner. The submission should also disclose a past history and references in order to satisfy the City in regard to the Submitter's qualifications. The City may make reasonable investigations deemed necessary and proper to determine the ability of the proposer to perform the work, and the proposer shall furnish to the City all information for this purpose that may be requested. The City reserves the right to reject any offer if the evidence submitted by, or investigation of, the submitter fails to satisfy the City that the submitter is properly qualified to carry out the obligations of the potential contract and to complete to work therein.

Evaluations of the Submitter's qualifications shall include:

- The ability, capacity, skill, and all other resources necessary to perform the work and provide the service required-35%
- The ability to perform the work or provide the service promptly or within the time specified, without delay or interference-25%
- The quality of the performance of previous like contracts or services-20%
- The character, integrity reputation, judgment, experience, and efficiency if the proposer-10%

- Fixed cost structure at an hourly rate or project rate for the three most recent previous like contracts or services provided-10%

TIMELINE

It is expected that the proposal services will be executed by the end of October, 2015.

- RFQ Issued: Wednesday, June 29th, 2016
- RFQ Responses Due: Wednesday, July 20th, 2016 @ 4:00pm central standard time
- Notification of Consideration: Wednesday, July 27th, 2016

The City Reserves the right to make adjustments as needed to the above schedule. The City also reserves the right to further engage a subset of responders for further details of their qualifications through additional rounds of the RFQ process and potentially during interviews or requests for additional clarifying information in order to determine the best submission for the benefit of the City. The City's funding proposed for this potential contract is projected to be EPA funding. As such, the City will to the best of its ability attain the goals set in EPA's program guidelines.

Any selected firm acknowledges and agrees that the City, as a matter of public policy, encourages participation of minority-and women-owned and other disadvantaged business enterprises to the maximum extent possible. This policy includes historically under-utilized business enterprises such as architectural firms, engineering firms, investment banking firms, other professional service providers, and construction contractors as part of the City's business, economic and community revitalization programs. They further acknowledge and agree that, consistent with federal law and City's public policy, it will encourage women and disadvantaged business enterprise (WBE/DBE) participation to the extent permitted by law.

SUBMITTAL INFORMATION:

Please send three (3) paper copies and one digital copy of the qualifications to:

ATTN: Ms. Amber Courtney
City Hall—10th Floor, Community Development
710 20th Street North
Birmingham, Alabama 35203

Email and/or Fax submissions **will not** be considered.

Submissions received after the due date and time will not be considered.

QUESTIONS:

Please direct all questions to: amber.courtney@birminghamal.gov or (205) 254-2865