

City of East Providence, RI

Request for Qualifications/Proposals RFQ#EP1415-28 SPECIFICATIONS created June 01, 2015

Professional Engineering Services For Inspection, Assessment, and Rehabilitation of Water Pipelines

I. Introduction and Background

The City of East Providence, RI is requesting qualification statements and proposals from professional engineering firms with expertise in developing and implementing a comprehensive inspection program, performing an assessment, and developing and implementing a rehabilitation program for large water supply transmission pipelines.

The City of East Providence owns, operates, and maintains a water distribution system for approximately 50,000 residents and business customers. The City purchases all of its water from the Providence Water Supply Board (PWSB), as such the City does not own or operate a water supply or treatment facility. The system starts in Cranston, RI on Budlong Road where a 42-inch transmission pipeline is connected to the PWSB system. From this connection, the 42-inch pipeline travels east (gravity system) through Cranston and Providence to the Providence River. On the Providence side of the river, the 42-inch main splits into (2) 30-inch pipelines which continue to flow via gravity to the East Providence side of the river. On the East Providence side, the twin 30-inch pipelines meet at a metering pit on Veterans Memorial Parkway. The flow is then combined and carried through a 42-inch pipeline to the pump and storage facilities at Kent Heights.

The pipelines noted above serve as the sole source of water supply for the City of East Providence. The pipelines were installed in the mid-1960s. Although the City has not experienced any failure with these pipelines the condition of the lines is unknown and therefore the City is requesting a complete condition assessment.

The pipelines included in this project include but are not limited to:

1. Approximately 10,165 feet of 42-inch PCCP (Pre-stressed concrete cylinder pipe) from Budlong Road, Cranston to the Allens Avenue vault.
2. Approximately 4000 feet of twin 30-inch steel pipelines which run under the Providence River from the Allens Avenue vault on the Providence side to the Veterans Memorial Parkway vault in East Providence.
3. Approximately 8000 feet of 42-inch PCCP, from the Veterans Memorial Parkway vault to Brown Street, East Providence.
4. Approximately 3300 feet of 30-inch PCCP, from Brown Street to the pump and storage facilities at Kent Heights.

The condition assessment shall include the pipelines, and pipeline appurtenances (ie. access manholes, valves, etc)

II. Objective

Given the critical nature of this project, the main objective of this request is to proceed with the most qualified professional engineering firm for the described professional services. It is the City's intention to review the submitted Statement of Qualifications, identify the most qualified firms, as well as review the written proposals prepared for this project.

The written proposals may be presented by the firms at an interview with the City's selection committee. The requirements of the written proposal and the details of the selection process will be outlined within this RFQ/RFP document.

It is the City's expectation and requirement that firms submitting their Statement of Qualifications will have the capabilities and experience to perform these services, and can demonstrate successful implementation for communities or utility agencies with water pipelines of similar size, type, and complexity as the City of East Providence.

The City requires professional engineering services to perform a condition assessment inspections and risk analyses for its water transmission pipelines. The objectives of the inspections and assessments is to determine the current condition, estimate the remaining service life, determine rehabilitation needs, and estimated costs of the pipeline by identifying and locating defects and other conditions that may present a risk of water supply service interruption, evaluation and documentation of the structural integrity, and other localized defects which may affect the reliability of the pipeline.

Prior to conducting a complete condition assessment of the water supply lines, the City anticipates a series of work tasks to be completed in advance of the inspection work. Professional engineering services to be provided as part of the professional services contract are anticipated to include, but not necessarily be limited to any or all of the following:

- Review and evaluate existing data, mapping, and field conditions.
- Development of an Emergency Response Plan
- Identify and develop emergency interconnections as part of the inspection program
- Review, evaluate, and recommend pipeline inspection methodologies.
- Develop and implement the pipeline inspection program
- Perform an assessment of the pipeline condition
- Review and recommend cost effective pipeline rehabilitation methods where necessary
- Develop contract documents for approved rehabilitation projects.
- Perform construction management and inspection services.

III. Scope of Services

The Scope of Work outlined within this Proposal calls attention to certain objectives and general work items anticipated. However, the Department recognizes the competence of professional engineering firms and encourages them to utilize their professional judgement and expertise in defining their approach and comprehensive Scope of Work. As such the Consultants are encouraged to review the Scope of Services and to make independent suggestions and recommendations in their proposal if it is felt that it will best meet the objectives of this RFP and best serve the City's needs.

Given the complex nature of this project a series of work items or phases are likely necessary prior to performing a comprehensive inspection and assessment of the City's water supply pipelines. The anticipated Scope of Services and Work Phases is as follows:

Phase 1: Development of an Emergency Response Plan

The City is requesting the development of an Emergency Response Plan in the event of catastrophic failure to its water supply lines. The selected Consultant shall review and evaluate existing data, mapping, and field conditions. Identify key features such as valves, access manhole, etc. Tabulate data on PCCP main. Preparation of an emergency plan to assist the City to respond in an efficient and systematic manner should the City experience failure along any location of the water supply lines.

Phase 2: Development and Design of Emergency Interconnections

The selected Consultant shall identify and develop emergency interconnections as part of the inspection program. Connection points with Providence Water, Bristol County Water Authority, and Pawtucket Water are anticipated to be in good working order in advance of the pipeline inspection program. This task will likely include meetings with water system officials from these agencies, review of hydraulic capacities to determine safe yields to serve East Providence without impacting adjoining water systems. Identify improvements needed to these emergency interconnections, development of plans and specifications for interconnection improvements, preparation of planning level construction estimates for each connection improvement,

Phase 3: Inspection and Condition Assessment

The selected consultant shall review and assess all applicable mapping, pipeline data, manufacturers' information for the purpose of obtaining baseline information needed to conduct a thorough assessment of the City's water supply lines. Perform a field inspection of valves, access manholes to determine their operational condition. Review, evaluate, and recommend pipeline inspection methodologies. Prepare a report of findings, recommendations along with cost estimates to proceed with a complete inspection of water supply pipelines.

Cost estimates and respective staff hours for the phases noted above shall be provided by firms interested in submitting proposals. Based on the results of the work performed on these initial phases, the City may negotiate further work items which may include the following:

1. Develop and implement the pipeline inspection program
2. Perform an assessment of the pipeline condition
3. Review and recommend cost effective pipeline rehabilitation methods where necessary
4. Develop contract documents for approved rehabilitation projects.
5. Perform construction management and inspection services.

III. Response to Request for Qualifications/Proposals

Five (5) copies of the qualification statements and written proposals shall be submitted to the Office of City Manager, City Hall – Room 102, 145 Taunton Avenue, East Providence, RI 02914 by 2pm on Tuesday, June 30, 2015.

Responses to this solicitation should, at a minimum, be accompanied with company information; statement of the firm's project approach, description of the background, experience, and involvement of key personnel who will be assigned to the project; listing of a minimum of projects where the firm provided similar services and worksopes with references; and any other information the firm deems pertinent in assisting the City in adequately reviewing their capabilities and qualifications with respect to the provision of the requested professional services.

IV. Selection Process and Criteria

Responses to this RFQ/RFP will be reviewed by a panel of City Staff from the Department of Public Works. The statements will be evaluated on the basis of the relative merits of the qualifications presented. The following criteria will be used to evaluate the responses:

- 1) Demonstrated technical expertise of projects similar in size and scope, to that outlined in this RFQ/RFP.
- 2) Adequate staffing with knowledge in State of the Art pipeline inspection technologies, experience in all other aspects of this project and relevant experience of staff assigned to this project.
- 3) Demonstrated understanding of the East Providence water supply system, the Providence Water Supply system, as well as neighboring water supply systems, Bristol County Water and Pawtucket Water.
- 3) Proven ability to work with municipal governments or utility agencies, and to complete projects on time and within budget.
- 4) Cost Proposal by Phase.

V. General Conditions

The City reserves the right to reject any or all firms, to waive any informality in the qualification statements, and to select the firm based on what the City considers to be in the best interests of the City. The decision of the City shall be final with regard to these matters.

Any questions regarding this Request for Qualifications should be directed to Stephen H. Coutu, P.E., Director of Public Works, (401) 435-7701, or Jim Marvel, Water Utilities Superintendent, (401) 435-7741

Signature, Name & Title for City

Dated

Advertised: _____

Name of Publication
Legal Notices Section

Date