

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING SERVICES

The City of Sioux Falls, South Dakota, (City) is accepting proposals from qualified firms for the following professional engineering design services.

69TH STREET EXPANSION AND RECONSTRUCTION AND WESTERN AVENUE EXPANSION AND RECONSTRUCTION

PURPOSE

The area of 69th Street and Western Avenue has been growing steadily with residential, office, and commercial development over the past years. Both arterial corridors are a vital link in the city's transportation system. The intersection of 69th Street and Western Avenue is now seeing long congestion delays and needs extra capacity in the area to sufficiently handle the traffic. The City intends to reconstruct and widen 69th Street from Landau Circle to Minnesota Avenue and also Western Avenue from Remington Circle to 1320 feet south of 69th Street.

BACKGROUND

The Sioux Falls Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) 2040 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) is the comprehensive document that strives to preserve the quality of life and economic vitality by providing guidelines for a safe and efficient transportation system. In a Market Research Analysis conducted to support the Long-Range Transportation Plan, public survey results indicated that preserving people's ability to travel across the city of Sioux Falls is a top concern. In addition, the LRTP identified several areas that should be considered for investment. Two major investment initiatives included enhancing operational efficiencies by improving and maintaining routes by adding capacity and also providing a transportation system that fully supports a multi modal transportation system.

69th Street and Western Avenue have existed as three lane facilities since the late 1990's. This typical section has performed well and allowed the area to mature and traffic volumes to grow. A traffic signal was installed at the intersection in 2010 to further enhance traffic operations. The traffic volumes have grown to 10,000 vehicles per day on 69th Street and 11,000 vehicles per day on Western Avenue. This arterial network needs additional capacity to accommodate the traffic and the growth expected in the upcoming years.

SCOPE OF SERVICES

1. Scope of work is as follows, but is not limited to:

- A. **Project boundaries:** The selected consultant will design 69th Street from Landau Circle to Minnesota Avenue and Western

Avenue from Remington Place to LaQuinta Avenue. This project may be let in phases with the first phase of construction tentatively planned for 2017. The entire boundary limits should be surveyed.

- B. **Street Section:** This section of 69th Street has an access category Arterial II, as described in Chapter 8 of the Sioux Falls Engineering Design Standards. This section of Western Avenue has an access category Arterial III, as described in Chapter 8 of the Sioux Falls Engineering Design Standards. The consultant should consider all access locations on this street and determine what closures or relocations are needed. All existing accesses will be required to be permitted if no permit exists.

The intersection of 69th Street and Western Avenue will be concrete, similar to the recently reconstructed intersection of 69th Street and Cliff Avenue. Outside of the intersection both arterials should be designed as a polymer modified asphalt pavement with pavement and base design based on geotechnical recommendations. A minimum of six inches asphalt thickness is required.

The typical section on 69th Street will be at least four lanes with a median and bicycle accommodations. The section on Western Avenue should be a five lane facility with bicycle accommodations however at the intersection a median section should be explored to protect the capacity of the intersection.

The consultant will need to evaluate and recommend improvements relating to capacity improvements, such as access consolidation and reduction, median installation, adding turn lanes, etc. so these arterials can safely accommodate future growth. The consultant should also review the crash history and recommend any improvements needed to reduce crash potential.

- C. **Public Utilities:** Listed below are the impacts to public utilities.
- i. **Water:** There is an existing 20-inch water main in 69th Street and an existing 12-inch water main in Western Avenue. Both were installed in the late 1990's and do not need to be replaced. There are minor water maintenance needs with this project such as replace valve bolts and fire hydrants as needed.
 - ii. **Sanitary Sewer:** There is a 36 inch sanitary main under Western Avenue. There are no major improvements identified at this time except for manhole adjustments.

- iii. **Storm Sewer:** There are no major storm drainage improvements identified however the selected consultant shall review any past drainage studies to determine any needs along both corridors.
- D. **Lights:** Install new LED streetlights, wire, conduit, and footings along both arterial corridors.
- E. **Traffic/Transportation Planning:** The existing temporary traffic signal will be removed and replaced with a new permanent system. All new traffic signal equipment should be designed with this new traffic signal. There are fiber conduits along Western Avenue for the entire length of the project which needs to be replaced with a 1 ½ inch innerduct. Along 69th Street there is no existing conduit and 1 ½ inch innerduct should be designed for installation. Fiber should be installed in all innerducts along the corridors.

The existing speed limit on Western Avenue is 35 mph and is 40 mph on 69th Street. Both arterials should be designed to the 45 mph design speed. It is not anticipated to change the posted speed limits at this time.

Western Avenue currently carries over 11,000 vehicles per day and the 2040 traffic forecasts range from 18,000-24,000 vehicles per day depending on location. 69th Street currently carries over 10,000 vehicles per day and the 2040 traffic forecasts range from 30,000-36,000 vehicles per day.

The 69th Street typical section will be at least four lanes with median and bicycle accommodations.. The need for six lanes should be analyzed. A five lane section on Western Avenue with bicycle accommodations should be designed. A possible median section at the intersection to protect the intersection capacity should be explored.

Reviewing the turning movement counts at the intersection, there are two predominant movements, southbound left turns and westbound right turns. U turns and right turn lanes should be planned on all legs of the intersection at a minimum.

The connection at Minnesota Avenue should accommodate four lanes with median, U turn capabilities, and possible right turn lane. The consultant should plan to make any adjustments necessary on the east leg of the intersection of 69th Street and Minnesota

Avenue to accommodate the new lane geometry on the west leg of the intersection.

Ultimately, the consultant should still plan for a traffic analysis considering number of lanes needed for 2040, review traffic movements, and lane closure impacts during construction. A thorough detour traffic plan will be required to determine the alternate routes, minimum lanes needed to keep open to traffic, and other traffic related impacts of this construction project. The consultant should have experience in forecasting traffic using the City's traffic model. Turning movement counts, traffic counts, and traffic projections are available from the City Engineering Division. Video data will be available if needed for the analysis.

The median planned for this area will require the consultant to be able to show access to each area. There are areas that have full access now that the future operations will change to left turn restrictions. Full access locations will adhere to the Engineering Design Standards and should be located where possible traffic signals could be installed (1/4 mile locations along the arterials). Partial intersections may be options to be explored also. The City has an access plan for this area available for the selected consultant as the starting point for this project.

- F. **Pedestrian and Bicycle Needs:** The City has adopted a Complete Streets policy. The consultant will explore ways to improve bike and pedestrian movements in this corridor. All sidewalks will meet American with Disabilities (ADA) requirements.
- G. **Other design considerations:** The consultant will explore all possible accelerated construction options for this project to minimize the impacts to the existing drivers.
- H. **Public Involvement:** Three public open houses are expected for this project. The first should occur during the spring of 2016 and the second should occur at 90% plans. The final open house should occur after bid opening and the awarded contractor should attend the open house. The consultant will be expected to reserve a meeting location, prepare exhibits, send out the meeting information, provide meeting minutes, and attend all meetings. The meeting location should be a public facility.

Individual coordination meetings with property owners will also be needed. Access management will be the Consultant should plan for monthly coordination meetings with the City project team.

Individual meetings with emergency services providers, private utility companies, and public transit (if needed) should be planned to discuss the project design and impacts during construction.

- I. **H-Plats/Easements:** The consultant will prepare temporary construction easements and attend right-of-way land owner meetings. Actual right of way acquisition will depend on the final traffic lane needs determined in the traffic analysis.

- J. **Schedule:** The consultant should assume a notice to proceed by early April 2016. The consultant should also assume that a phase of the project will be constructed in 2017. Depending on the other capital priorities, this project may be split into two phases. First phase is the intersection improvements. Completing Western Avenue from Remington Place to south of 69th Street for the transition length and 69th Street from Landau Circle to east of Western Avenue for the transition length. Phase two would be the continued expansion of 69th Street over to Minnesota Avenue.

The consultant will propose a schedule they feel best represents their level of effort available for this project. Milestones to be considered are: Preliminary plan and cost estimate (30%) submittal, 90% plan submittal, and the final plans with estimates.

- K. **Funding:** This project will be funded using 100% City funds.

- L. **Private Utilities:** The private utility companies have been notified and made aware of the project. The City contacted utility companies and received preliminary feedback from a few companies. The consultant is responsible for the identification and coordination with utility companies on this project.

Listed below are preliminary impacts identified:

- i. Northern Natural Gas has an 8 inch high pressure pipeline along Western Avenue and impacts to this pipeline are likely. This is of a concern.
- ii. Midcontinent Cable has a coax and fiber cable on the south side of 69th Street for the entire length of the project. There is also a node in the southwest corner of the intersection at 69th Street and Western Avenue that feeds this entire area and impacts to this would affect many customers.
- iii. Magellan has a crossing Western Avenue 2300 feet south of 69th Street and a crossing at 1100 feet north 69th Street at Remington Place. Therefore Magellan has no facilities impacts for these projects.

- iv. MidAmerican Energy has a 6 inch (48 psig) plastic main on the south right of way line along 69th Street. Along Western Avenue there is a 4 inch (48 psig) plastic main on the east right of way line. If widening in these areas, there will be impacts.
- v. SDN Communications has no facilities on 69th Street from Landau Circle to Western Avenue. On 69th Street from Western to Heather Ridge Avenue, there is a fiber at the right of way line on the south side. On Western Avenue, there is fiber that runs on the east side at the right of way line for the entire length of the project.
- vi. Century Link has minimal to no impacts, minor adjustments may be needed.
- vii. Excel Energy there is an overhead line on 69th Street from Landau Circle to Heather Ridge Avenue on the south side with multiple underground crossings in the area. Along Western Avenue, there is an overhead line along the east side along the length of the project with multiple underground crossings in the area.
- viii. Verizon has no facilities in the area.

FIRMS INTERESTED IN PROVIDING TECHNICAL ENGINEERING SERVICES ARE REQUESTED TO SUBMIT THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION.

- Name of Project Manager and other design team members to be assigned to this project. Please address contingency plans should one of these employees be unavailable during the design phase. The consultant should also include the Construction Administration Team that would be available for this project.
- The firm's approach to the project and experience in each of the design features required that are listed above. The approach should include, but not be limited to, all items listed above and a task list.
- The firm's estimate of staff hours.
- Limit of 20 pages for the RFP is encouraged.
- A proposed schedule for the project, assuming this is the top priority for 2017 with an early bidding date in January.

Professional liability insurance will be required upon selection.

Format

A. Content (please limit to 20 pages)

Responding individuals and firms must submit a detailed proposal including the following:

1. **Cover Letter** – Include the name of a contact person, address, phone number, and e-mail address.
2. **Technical Approach** – A work plan that addresses all elements of the project, describes the consultant’s proposed approach and understanding to each task, and justifies the methodology employed. The consultant may include in this section any other information deemed important to this project.
3. **Project Schedule and Estimate of Staff Hours** – A detailed spreadsheet of staff hours for the entire project is required to be submitted with the proposal.
4. **Project Organization, Schedule, and Staffing** – A list of project personnel including role in the project, an organizational chart including sub-consultants, and project design schedule.

B. Signature Requirements

Proposals must be signed by a duly authorized official of the consultant firm. Consortiums, joint ventures or teams submitting proposals, although permitted and encouraged, will not be considered responsive unless it is established that all contractual responsibility rests solely with one contractor or one legal entity which shall be a subsidiary or affiliate with limited resources. Each proposal should indicate the entity responsible for execution on behalf of the proposal team. All sub consultants must be listed in the proposal.

C. Rejection Rights

The City retains the right to reject all proposals and re-solicit if deemed to be in their best interests. Selection is also dependent upon the negotiation of a mutually acceptable contract with the successful consultant firm and readiness to enter into a binding agreement by April 2016.

EVALUATION OF PROPOSAL SCHEDULE

A consultant selection team comprised of Sioux Falls Planning and Public Works shall review the proposals and select the firm they feel will supply the City the best and most complete project.

The evaluation of proposal shall proceed on the following schedule:

February 1, 2016	Request for Proposal posted on website
February 19, 2016	Deadline for Questions
<u>February 24, 2016</u>	Proposals received at City Hall

March 2, 2016	Shortlist consultants and interviews, if needed
March 16, 2016	Interviews, if needed
March 18, 2016	Consultant selection and agreement negotiations
April 6, 2016	Notice to Proceed

Please furnish **five** copies of the proposals and **one** electronic copy, in PDF format with book marks to Ms. Shannon Ausen, PE, Office of Public Works-Engineering, 224 West Ninth Street, Sioux Falls, SD 57104-6407 by 2:00 p.m. Central Time, **WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2016**. Submittals received after the stated time will be returned unopened and will not be considered.

All proposals received by the City will be **confidential**.

All Questions regarding this proposal are required to be submitted by email or phone to Ms. Shannon Ausen at sausen@siouxfalls.org or 367-8607. Emails and voicemail will be checked daily for questions and will be answered within 24 hours (working day) and posted to the City's website on the Request for Proposals web page. Deadline for questions is 2:00 pm Central Time, February 19, 2016.