

Request for Qualifications

Pursuant to the authority granted under Transportation Code, Chapter 223, Subchapter F (enabling legislation), the Texas Department of Transportation (department) may enter into, in each fiscal year, up to three design-build contracts for the design, construction, expansion, extension, related capital maintenance, rehabilitation, alteration, or repair of a highway project with a construction cost estimate of \$50 million or more. The enabling legislation authorizes private involvement in design-build projects and provides a process for the department to solicit proposals for such projects. Transportation Code, § 223.245 prescribes requirements for issuance of a request for qualifications and requires the department to publish a notice of such issuance in the *Texas Register*. The Texas Transportation Commission (commission) adopted Texas Administrative Code, Title 43, Chapter 9, Subchapter I relating to design-build contracts (the “rules”). The enabling legislation, as well as the rules, govern the submission and processing of qualifications submittals, provide for publication of notice that the department is requesting qualifications submittals, and set forth the basic criteria for qualifications, experience, technical competence, and ability to develop a proposed project and such other information the department considers relevant or necessary in the request for qualifications. The commission has authorized the issuance of a request for qualifications (RFQ) to design, construct, and perform capital maintenance on Loop 1604 from SH 16 (Bandera Road) to south of Wiseman Boulevard in Bexar County, through a design-build contract and capital maintenance agreement. The Loop 1604 project to be constructed and maintained under the agreements includes the expansion of Loop 1604 to a four lane non-toll expressway section from FM 471 (Culebra Rd.) to SH 16 (Bandera Rd.), with overpasses at Shaenfield Road, New Guilbeau Road and Braun Road, and

has estimated design-build costs of approximately \$76 million. The design-build contract may include an option for the construction of improvements to Loop 1604 at SH 151. This notice represents the next step in the procurement process.

Through this notice, the department is seeking qualifications submittals (QS) from teams interested in entering into a design-build contract and capital maintenance agreement. The department intends to evaluate any QS received in response to the RFQ and may request submission of detailed proposals, potentially leading to negotiation, award, and execution of a design-build contract and capital maintenance agreement. The department will accept for consideration any QS received in accordance with the enabling legislation, the rules, and the RFQ on or before the deadline in this notice. The department anticipates issuing the RFQ, receiving and analyzing the QSs, developing a shortlist of proposing entities or consortia, and issuing a request for proposals (RFP) to the shortlisted entities. After review and a best value evaluation of the responses to the RFP, the department may negotiate and enter into a design-build contract and capital maintenance agreement for the project.

RFQ Evaluation Criteria. QSs will be evaluated by the department for shortlisting purposes using the following general criteria: qualifications and experience and statement of technical approach. The specific criteria under the foregoing categories will be identified in the RFQ, as will the relative weighting of the criteria.

Release of RFQ and Due Date. The department currently anticipates that the RFQ will be available on January 18, 2013. Copies of the RFQ will be available at the Texas Department of Transportation, 4615 Northwest Loop 410, Building 1, San Antonio, Texas 78229 or on the following website:

www.txdot.gov/inside-txdot/projects/studies/san-antonio/loop1604.html

Qs will be due by 3:00 pm CST on February 15, 2013 at the address specified in the
RFQ.