



GWTRA

George Washington Toll Road Authority

Draft Request for Proposal General Engineering Consultant Services

June 2011

DRAFT

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

GENERAL ENGINEERING CONSULTANT SERVICES

GENERAL

The George Washington Toll Road Authority (GWTRA) is seeking expressions of interest from consulting engineering firms who wish to be considered to provide professional engineering services to serve as the general engineering consultant (GEC) for the overall program management for the design and construction of a new access point on I-95 between US Route 3 and the Rappahannock River and a new connector road (toll) that provides access to the west to US Route 3. The estimated project cost is \$304,000,000.

The following websites will provide information regarding the GWTRA and a copy of the I-95 Access Study.

<http://www.fampo.gwregion.org/I95restareaaccessstudy.html>

<http://www.fampo.gwregion.org/gwtra.html>

This work is to be accomplished utilizing computerized design and drafting systems compatible with the Virginia Department of Transportation's (Department) automated design and drafting systems. The Department's roadway design system is GEOPAK civil Design Software and the drafting system is MicroStation. This contract will be developed utilizing the Department's policies and procedures and FHWA's guidelines. This Request for Proposal does not commit the GWTRA to award a contract, to pay any costs incurred in the preparation of a proposal for this request, or to procure or contract for services. The GWTRA reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals received as a result of this request, to negotiate with any qualified firm or to modify or cancel in part or in its entirety the Request for Proposal, if it is in the best interest of the GWTRA to do so. Prior to and during the life of the contract the GWTRA reserves the right to make a determination of conflict of interest and take the appropriate action.

Award of this contract will prohibit all GEC team members, including all affiliated and subsidiary firms of the GEC, from providing any design, construction, traffic/operational or financial services on any other contract(s) associated with the new access point and connector road way (toll).

All procurement related questions or information should be directed to Lloyd Robinson, GWTRA Administrator and point of contact for this procurement at (540) 373-2890 or email robinson@gwregion.org.

PREPROPOSAL CONFERENCE

A preproposal conference will be held at the George Washington Regional Commission (GWRC), 406 Princess Anne Street, Fredericksburg, Virginia, 22401 from 10:00am until noon on _____, 2011.

SCOPE

The scope of services is as follows: The GEC will be responsible for the overall program management services for the new access point on I-95 between US Route 3 and the Rappahannock River and a new connector road (toll) that provides access to the west to US Route 3. The GEC will be responsible for the development and administration of programs including, but not limited to: developing Requests for Proposals for professional services to procure engineering and financial analysis services, public affairs/outreach programs, general planning services, administrative support to the GWTRA, Safety Program Review, quality control/quality assurance, construction document review, and the construction management program for Design-Build, P3 as well as Design-Bid-Build projects associated with the overall project. The GEC selected will also be responsible for overseeing the work of professional services firms selected for engineering and financial analysis.

The GEC will provide oversight and review of all plans, schedules, and scheduling and coordination of construction contracts. It will provide oversight and scope control: planned versus actual; ensure quality assurance/quality control. In this capacity the GEC selected will serve as staff to the GWTRA Board of directors (Board), through the GWTRA staff Director, and will provide briefings, progress reports and recommendations as required. The GEC will manage and have responsibility for an extensive agency coordination program and will provide information technology support and services including a “one stop” public information web site/project communication program. The GEC will also provide Disadvantaged Business Enterprise monitoring support. It is essential that the selected GEC show a demonstrated ability to work with accelerated schedules and short project deadlines.

Inspection staff shall have demonstrated knowledge of state and federal safety, environment, and EEO/DBE guidelines and regulations; and of mathematics including algebra, geometry and trigonometry. Inspection staff shall be proficient in SITE Manager. Working skill in operating computer equipment software programs and field inspection equipment; knowledge in interpreting roadway, bridge and structure plans and contract specifications; apply mathematical formulas and engineering principles to determine field adjustments; maintain detailed records; perform required materials testing; and communicate effectively with agency and contractor personnel and the general public. Inspection staff is expected to be currently certified in the following disciplines:

- Soil and Aggregate field Compaction
- Asphalt Field
- Hydraulic Cement Field
- Pavement Marking
- Flagger Certification
- Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) Certifications for Erosion and Sediment control Inspection

All inspector construction, QA/QC, and classifications personnel shall be certified in the Department’s certification schools and DCR for Erosion and Sediment inspection.

The GEC will be managed by the GWTRA staff Director, with assistance from Department staff, the FHWA and the Virginia Center for Transportation Innovation and Research.

If the GEC is located outside of the project area, the proposal must address how local presence will be

established.

The GEC will be required to establish a Civil Rights Program Office that will assist in the design, implementation and coordination of program areas; focus on business outreach and development, and coordinate employment need with available resources. The Civil Rights Program Office should consist of a staff with a Civil Rights Program Manager, DBE Technical/Engineering Consultant, and administration/clerical staff. The Civil Rights Program Office will be augmented by and under the policy supervision of the Department's District Civil Rights office in its coordination and dissemination of program processes with consortiums and contractors involved on the project. Program processes include, but are not limited to program monitoring mechanisms, information collection and reporting, business development, workforce utilization and contractor compliance guidance, supportive services and training program, and outreach. The GEC will be responsible for setting up a Civil Rights Council (CRC) to enhance and maintain cooperative DBE, SWaM, and employment assistance to the community, construction contractors, suppliers and the contractor associations. The GEC will establish a Community Resource Board (CRB) comprised of a network of public and private sector representatives that will assist in identifying, coordinating and providing available resources such as DBE firms and employees.

The GEC will be required to build, operate, maintain and manage a project communications network among all project participants to include relevant State, Federal and Consultant personnel (via server, etc.). The network must provide an effective and efficient means for performing electronic communications (i.e. internet access). This includes but is not limited to email communications and the electronic transfer of all types of graphic files such as project reports, correspondence, schedules, spreadsheets, CADD drawing files, audio and visual communications equipment capable of providing reliable and consistent communications between local offices and field operations. The GEC must also consider file security and timeliness of the electronic transfers in the design system. This will include the necessary staff to manage, maintain and troubleshoot this system to ensure continuous operation.

Critical to the success of the project will be the GEC's ability to foster and facilitate team building/partnering concepts among agencies, design teams, the public, contractors, etc. which will encourage an open and honest exchange of information and ideas throughout the entire process.

In 20 pages or less, please emphasize your qualification in the following areas:

- RFP preparation
 - Contract Administration and Project Management
 - Bridge Design
 - Roadway/Interchange Design
 - Traffic Engineering Design
 - Experience with alternative project delivery methods, specifically Design-Build and P3
 - Financial Plan Development and Monitoring
 - Traditional CE&I Inspection
 - QA Program Inspection
 - Client communications and Communications with elected officials and the media
 - Media relations, Public and Community Outreach Involvement
 - DBE Development and Outreach Program Management
-
- Project controls and Constructability including scheduling, cost estimating, biddability review, claims avoidance and document control

- Environmental Monitoring Review
- Project Partnering and Risk Management Analysis
- Safety Program Review and Inspection
- Operations and Traffic Management
- Electronic Networking

In addition, the GEC must demonstrate:

The ability to coordinate Design-Bid-Build and Design-Build projects along with coordination plan development that may be performed by Department staff which will also have to be incorporated in to the final design packages; the ability to coordinate the efforts of numerous design firms and contractors that will be involved in the construction of the project.

Experience working with minority, women and disadvantaged businesses to provide technical, managerial and other assistance.

Geotechnical expertise in the design and construction of geotechnical features (foundations, walls, embankments, etc.) for complex interchanges.

Expertise in designing toll facilities including but not limited to toll booths, toll plaza, administration buildings and electronic toll systems.

Experience in coordinating utility designs (utility field inspections) and utility construction activities with the many utility companies that will be involved.

Knowledge of the Department's existing and planned intelligent transportation systems (ITS) facilities. In addition, the GEC must demonstrate expertise in the design, inspection, operation and implementation of complex ITS computer and communications systems and networks.

Experience in administering contracts of large complex projects and inspection of large, complex projects.

Experience in facilitating team building and partnering concepts among stakeholders including federal and state agencies, design teams, the public and contractors to ensure open communication throughout the process large, complex projects.

Expertise in reviewing shop drawings, catalog cuts and other required submittals to include but not limited to erection plans, form work and support drawings, temporary support and sheeting drawings, cofferdam drawings dewatering drawings instrumentation system, test results for construction materials, etc., required for construction.

Experience in documenting plan errors and omissions and providing assistance in claims recovery.

Experience in schedule review and analysis and claim avoidance analysis and resolution procedures.

Experience in maintaining the established budget for the project.

Experience in the production of effective graphical presentation techniques (video-imaging, computer renderings, 4D computer modeling, web based content, etc.) for explaining complicated design and

construction procedures, techniques or plans.

Demonstrate the ability to handle and analyze field problems and the reaction to these problems/situations.

Experience in developing transportation demand strategies, maximizing operation improvements of local area networks, work zone incident management techniques, public information and construction sequencing.

The ability to manage and track project costs for escalation during design and construction. In addition, demonstrate the ability to apply cost effectiveness strategies and mechanisms for cost containment.

Demonstrate a thorough knowledge of the development, monitoring, and reporting the effectiveness of congestion mitigation and traffic control plans.

Demonstrate a thorough knowledge of value engineering procedures. Demonstrate experience in evaluating and analyzing value engineering proposals during construction.

Have a thorough knowledge of AASHTO Geometric Design Standards and AASHTO Bridge Design Specifications (standard and LRFD specifications) and both the Department's Road and Bridge Standards and Road and Bridge Specifications.

Have a thorough knowledge of GEOPAK Civil Design software and MicroStation drafting systems used by the Department.

Demonstrate a thorough knowledge of the Department's requirements for the development of and authorization of right of way plans (including metes and bounds, plats) and for the development of complete construction plans for structures and roadways.

Have a thorough knowledge of the Department's policies and procedures in contract administration, project documentation, project inspection and materials testing.

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI)

1. The Expression of Interest shall be organized in the following order:
 - Transmittal letter
 - Table of Contents
 - Understanding of Scope of Work
 - Response to RFP Expression of Interest Items 2-13
 - Team Organization Chart
 - GSA Form 255 – (Section 10 is replaced by the Consultant's qualifications as noted herein)
 - GSA Form 254 – one for each firm
 - A table or matrix containing the requested information in item 15
 - Full size copies of SCC and DPOR supporting registration/licensing documentation for each firm (including that of each pertinent branch office)
 - Full size copies of DPOR registration certificate for the Key Personnel
 - Firm Data Sheet
 - Certification Regarding Debarment form
 - DBE Commitment and Confirmation Letter (if applicable)

2. Furnish three copies of current GSA Forms 254 for each firm involved and three copies of one combined GSA Form 255 for the project team. The GSA Form 255 must specify the number of personnel by discipline for each office where the work is to be performed. In Section 4 of GSA Form 255, list only the full time employees assigned to the office(s) at the time of this submission. Section 8 of GSA Form 255 is limited to one page with not more than 10 projects total (prime and subconsultants combined) on the one page and should primarily list experience of offices where the work will be performed and of the people shown in the organizational chart. If the experience shown is for a branch office other than where the work will be performed, it should be clearly indicated as such. More detailed descriptions for Section 8b may be expanded into Section 10. In Section 9 of GSA Form 255, references to “Federal agencies” are to be replaced by “Virginia Department of Transportation or transportation agencies of other states.”
3. If more than one firm will participate in the contract, state the type of arrangement between the firms, the names and addresses of all firms, description of the work that each firm will perform, and the percentage of work to be performed by each in Section 5 and 6 of GSA Form 255. Indicate office locations at which the work will be performed. A one page organizational chart showing all firms involved and key personnel assignments and responsibilities is required to be included.
4. In Section 7 of GSA Form 255, indicate KEY PERSONNEL ONLY who will be assigned to this project and give the experience record of each. Key personnel are defined as those to whom the project will be assigned and who will be performing the actual design/services. The project manager shall have a minimum of five years experience in managing similar type and size projects. In Section 7c, indicate the location of the office where the person is currently working if different from where work is to be performed. In Section 7c, part time personnel, personnel not employed on the date of the form, or personnel used on an “as needed basis” must have their status clearly indicated. Section 7g may be expanded to provide a total of a one page resume per individual.

Furthermore, all individuals identified as Key Personnel in the EOI shall remain on the Consultant’s Team for the duration of the procurement process and, if the consultant is awarded a contract, the duration of the contract. If extraordinary circumstances require a proposed change, it must be submitted in writing to the GWTRA Administrator, who, at his/her sole discretion, will determine whether to authorize a change. Unauthorized changes to the Consultant’s Team at any time during the procurement process may result in elimination of the Consultant’s Team from further consideration.

5. **Section 10 of GSA Form 255 is replaced by a response of 20 pages or less to demonstrate qualifications previously mentioned under the Scope Section of this RFP.**
6. It is the policy of the GWTRA that Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBE) as defined in 49 CFR Part 26 shall have the maximum opportunity to participate in the performance of federally funded consultant contracts. A list of Virginia Department of Minority Business Enterprise certified DBE firms is maintained on their web site (<http://www.dmbc.state.va.us/>) under the **DBE Directory of Certified Vendors**. Consultants are encouraged to take all necessary and reasonable steps to ensure that DBE firms have the maximum opportunity to compete for and perform services on the contract, including participation in any subsequent supplemental contracts. If the consultant intends to subcontract a portion of the services on the project, the consultant is encouraged to seek out and consider DBE firms as potential subconsultants. The consultant is encouraged to contact DBE firms to solicit their interest, capability and qualifications. Any agreement between a consultant and a

DBE firm whereby the DBE firm promises not to provide services to other consultants is prohibited. The DBE contract goal for this procurement is ____%.

In accordance with the Governor's Executive Order No. 33, the Virginia Department of Transportation also requires a utilization of Small, Women and Minority (SWaM) Businesses to participate in the performance of state funded consultant contracts. A list of Virginia Department of Minority Business Enterprise (DMBE) certified SWaM firms is maintained on the DMBE web site (<http://www.dmb.state.va.us/>) under the **SWaM Vendor Directory** link. Consultants are encouraged to take all necessary and reasonable steps to ensure that SWaM firms have the maximum opportunity to compete for and perform services on the contract, including participation in any subsequent supplemental contracts. If the consultant intends to subcontract a portion of the services on the project, the consultant is encouraged to seek out and consider SWaM firms as potential subconsultants. The consultant is encouraged to contact SWaM firms to solicit their interest, capability and qualifications. Any agreement between a consultant and a SWaM firm whereby the SWaM firm promises not to provide services to other consultants is prohibited.

If portions of the services are to be subcontracted to a DBE or SWaM, the following needs to be submitted with your EOI and both must reference the project number(s) for the services:

- Written documentation of the prime's commitment to the DBE or SWaM firm to subcontract a portion of the services, a description of the services to be performed and the percent of participation.
- Written confirmation from the DBE or SWaM firm that it is participating, including a description of the services to be performed and the percent of participation.

49 CFR Part 26 requires GWTRA to collect certain data about firms attempting to participate in VDOT contracts. This data must be provided on the enclosed Firm Data Sheet.

GWTRA is also required to capture DBE and SWaM payment information on all professional services contracts. The successful prime consultant will be required to complete C- 63 form for both state and federally funded projects on quarterly basis.

Any DBE or SWaM firm must become certified (with the Virginia Department of Minority Business Enterprise) prior to your response being submitted. If DBE or SWaM firm is the prime consultant, the firm will receive full credit for planned involvement of their own forces, as well as the work that they commit to be performed by DBE or SWaM subconsultants. DBE or SWaM prime consultants are encouraged to make the same outreach efforts as other consultants. DBE or SWaM credit will be awarded only for work actually being performed by them. When a DBE or SWaM prime consultant subcontracts work to another firm, the work counts toward DBE or SWaM goals only if the other firm is itself a DBE or SWaM. A DBE or SWaM prime consultant must perform or exercise responsibility for at least 30% of the total cost of its contract with its own force.

DBE or SWaM certification entitles consultants to participate in VDOT's DBE and SWaM programs. However, this certification does not guarantee that the firm will obtain VDOT work nor does it attest to the firm's abilities to perform any particular work.

Business Opportunity and Workforce Development (BOWD) Center - The BOWD Center is a

VDOT developmental supportive services program and partnering initiative funded by FHWA for selected DBE firms of various skill and competence levels interested in entering, enhancing or expanding highway contracting opportunities with prime consultants. The partnering initiative between prime consultants and BOWD DBE firms provides the opportunity for the further development of DBE firms through performance on contracts and guidance from prime consultants. The intent of this partnering initiative is to increase capacity by perfecting existing skills and knowledge, expanding into new work areas, and prime consultant joint venturing with DBE firms. The prime consultants are encouraged to achieve all or a percentage of the required DBE participation/goals determined for this project by the utilization of BOWD approved firms. To assist consultants in taking advantage of this opportunity for utilization of approved BOWD firms, please contact the BOWD Center for additional information, details, resources and support. For further information on the BOWD Center and to view the DBE profiles, go to www.virginiadot.org/business/BOWD.asp. The BOWD Center can be contacted at (804) 662-9555 or via email to BOWDCenter@vdot.virginia.gov.

7. Give names and detailed addresses of all affiliated and/or subsidiary companies. Indicate which companies are subsidiaries. If a situation arises in responding to this questionnaire where you are unsure whether another firm is or is not an affiliate, doubt should be resolved in favor of affiliation and the firm should be listed accordingly.

Affiliate - Any business entity which is closely associated to another business entity so that one entity controls or has the power to control the other entity either directly or indirectly; or, when a third party has the power to control or controls both; or where one business entity has been so closely allied with another business entity through an established course of dealings, including but not limited to the lending of financial wherewithal, engaging in joint ventures, etc. as to cause a public perception that the two firms are one entity. Firms which are owned by a holding company or a third party, but otherwise meet the above conditions and do not have interlocking directorships or joint officers serving are not considered affiliates.

8. In 3 pages or less, provide information that will indicate your firm's ability to meet the time schedules to respond quickly to task assignments, be able to handle multiple tasks concurrently and be able to complete tasks on accelerated schedules. The schedule will be task specific and will be identified when the work is assigned.
9. A project approach discussion is required for this project and shall be limited to a maximum of five page(s).
10. In addition to the page restrictions listed above, a maximum of ten additional pages may be included in the Expression of Interest. All pages are to be 8 1/2" X 11" and printed on one side with single-spaced type no smaller than 12 pitch.
11. Please indicate, by executing and returning the attached Certification Regarding Debarment forms, if your firm, subconsultant, subcontractors, or any person associated therewith in the capacity of owner, partner, director, officer or any position involving the administration of Federal or State funds:
 - Is currently under suspension, debarment, voluntary exclusion or determination of ineligibility by any federal agency.

- Has been suspended, debarred, voluntarily excluded or determined ineligible by any federal agency within the past 3 years.
- Does have a proposed debarment pending; or has been indicted, convicted, or had a civil judgment rendered against it or them by a court of competent jurisdiction in any matter involving fraud or official misconduct within the past 3 years.

Any of the above conditions will not necessarily result in denial of award, but it will be considered in determining offeror responsibility. For any condition noted, indicate to whom it applies, initiating agency, and dates of action. Providing false information may result in Federal criminal prosecution or administrative sanctions.

12. If the prime consultant or subconsultant does not have the in-house capability to provide non-professional services, each with an estimated cost of \$5,000 or greater, such as diving services, soil drilling, sampling services or laboratory testing, these services must be subcontracted in accordance with State procurement procedures once a contract is executed, with no DBE or SWaM credit in the selection of the most qualified firm or team. Clearly indicate these services in the EOI.
13. Each business entity (prime and subconsultants) on the proposed team who is practicing or offering to practice professional services in Virginia, including, but not limited to, those practicing or offering to practice engineering, surveying, hydrologic and hydraulic analysis, geotechnical analysis and landscape architecture, should provide evidence including full size copies of appropriate commercial professional registrations and licenses for all main and branch offices proposed for this Project, as well as providing full size copies of appropriate individual registrations/licenses for those professional occupations per the requirements listed below. The EOI should convey the requested information for each regulant by the use of a concise table or matrix. (All full size copies of State Corporation Commission (SCC) and Department of Professional and Regulation (DPOR) supporting registration documentations should be included in the EOI and will not be counted towards page restriction):
 1. The SCC registration detailing the name, registration number, type of corporation and status of the business entity.
 2. For this Project/Contract, the DPOR registration information for each office practicing or offering to practice any professional services in Virginia: Provide the business name, address, registration type, registration number, expiration date.
 3. For this Project/Contract, the DPOR license information for each of your Key Personnel practicing or offering to practice professional services in Virginia: Provide the name, the address, type, the registration number, and the expiration date. Provide the office location where each of the Key Personnel is offering to practice professional services.
 4. For this Project/Contract, the DPOR license information for those services not regulated by the Board for Architects, Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, Certified Interior Designers, and Landscape Architects (i.e. real estate appraisal): the business name, the address, the registration type, the registration number, and the expiration date.

Failure to comply with the law with regard to those requirements in Virginia (whether federal or state)

regarding your organizational structure, any required registration with governmental agencies and/or entities, and any required governmental licensure, whether business, individual, or professional in nature may render your EOI submittal(s), in the sole and reasonable discretion of the Department, non-responsive and in that event your EOI submittal(s) may be returned without any consideration or evaluation.

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ADMINISTRATIVE

1. All business entities, except for sole proprietorships, are required to register with the Virginia State Corporation Commission (a Business Registration Guide is available on the Internet at <http://www.state.va.us/scc/division/clk/brg.htm>). Foreign Professional corporations and Foreign Professional Limited Liability Companies (i.e., organized or existing under the laws of a state or jurisdiction other than Virginia) must possess a Commonwealth of Virginia Certificate of Authority from the State Corporation Commission to render professional services. Any business entity other than a professional corporation, professional limited liability company or sole proprietorships that do not employ other individuals for which licensing is required must be registered in the Commonwealth of Virginia with the Department of Professional & Occupational Regulation (<http://www.state.va.us/dpor>), Virginia Board for Architects, Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors and Landscape Architects (Board). Board regulations require that all branch offices of professional corporations and business entities located in Virginia, which offer or render any professional services relating to the professions regulated by the Board shall be registered as separate branch office with the Board. All offices, including branches, which offer or render any professional service, must have at least one full-time resident professional in responsible charge who is licensed in the profession offered or rendered at that office. All firms involved that are to provide professional services must meet these criteria prior to submitting an Expression of Interest to the GWTRA. Individual engineers shall meet the requirements of Chapter 4, Title 54.1 of the Code of Virginia.
2. The GWTRA will not consider for award any cost proposals submitted by any consultants and will not consent to subcontracting any portions of the contract to any subconsultants in violation of the provisions of the Federal Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986, which prohibits employment of illegal aliens.
3. The method of payment for this contract will be actual costs with fixed billable rates. This contract shall be performed and audited in compliance with cost principles contained in the Federal Acquisition Regulations (FAR) of Part 31 of Title 48 of the Code of Federal Regulations. The overhead rate shall be established by an audit by a cognizant government agency or independent CPA firm. Subconsultant contracts may be lump sum if they are for \$2 Million or less, have a clearly defined scope of work, and will take less than 2 years to complete.
4. All firms submitting Expressions of Interest (prime consultants, joint ventures and subconsultants) must have internal control systems in place that meet Federal requirements for accounting. These systems must comply with requirements of 48CFR31, "Federal Acquisition Regulations, Contract Cost Principles and Procedures," and 23CFR172, "Administration of Negotiated Contracts." All firms selected for a project (prime consultants, joint ventures and subconsultants) must submit their FAR audit data to the GWTRA within 10 work days of being notified of their selection. Should any firm on the consultant team fail to submit the required audit data within the 10 work days, negotiations will be terminated by the GWTRA and the next most qualified team invited to submit a proposal.
5. Records Exclusion from Public Disclosure: Pursuant to the provisions of §2.2-3705.6 (22) of the Code of Virginia, trade secrets, as defined in the Uniform Trade Secrets Act (§ 59.1-336 et seq.), including, but not limited to, financial records, including balance sheets and financial statements, that are not generally available to the public through regulatory disclosure or otherwise, and revenue

and cost projections supplied by a private or nongovernmental entity to the Inspector General of the Virginia Department of Transportation for the purpose of an audit, special investigation, or any study requested by the Inspector General's Office in accordance with law may, subject to a determination by the Inspector General as described herein, be withheld from public disclosure under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). To enable the Inspector General to identify data or records that may be subject to this exclusion from disclosure under FOIA the private or nongovernmental entity shall, in accord with procedures adopted by the Inspector General, make a written request to the Inspector General of the Virginia Department of Transportation:

- invoking such exclusion upon submission of the data or other materials for which protection is sought;
- identifying with specificity the data or other materials for which protection is sought; and stating the reasons why protection is necessary.

The Inspector General of the Virginia Department of Transportation shall determine whether the requested exclusion from disclosure is necessary to protect the trade secrets or financial records of the private entity. The Virginia Department of Transportation shall make a written determination of the nature and scope of the protection to be afforded by it. Notwithstanding the foregoing, Contractor's failure to comply with the requirements stated herein and procedures established by the Inspector General for seeking an exclusion pursuant to §2.2-3705.6 (22) of the Code of Virginia shall result in a denial of the exclusion. Requests for exclusion that are submitted after data or other materials for which protection is sought have been submitted will be denied.

If litigation directly or indirectly results from or arises out of a granted exemption, the contractor will be responsible for all litigation costs incurred by contractor and/or GWTRA associated with such litigation. In no event shall the GWTRA or its officers, employees or agents be liable to the contractor as a result of any disclosure of records or data collected by the GWTRA, its officers, employees or agents, pursuant to an audit, special investigation, or any study requested by the Inspector General's Office, whether or not the Inspector General has determined that the requested exclusion from disclosure under FOIA is necessary to protect the trade secrets or financial records of the private entity, and in no event shall the GWTRA, or its officers, employees, or agents be liable to the contractor for any damages or other claims arising directly or indirectly from a determination that the exclusion from public disclosure will not be granted.

6. Submittals shall be prepared simply and economically, providing a straightforward, concise description of the firm's capabilities to satisfy the requirements of the RFP. Emphasis should be on completeness and clarity of content. Elaborate brochures and other representations beyond that sufficient to present a complete and effective proposal are neither required nor desired. Please do not duplicate information furnished in the GSA Form 254 or 255 elsewhere in the submittal. _____ copies of all information must be submitted and received no later than 4:00 p.m. on _____. Responses received after this time will not be considered.

US Postal Service regular mail, send to:

Ms. Marti Donley
Senior Planner
FAMPO
406 Princess Anne Street
Fredericksburg, Virginia 22401

Hand delivery, US Postal Service express mail, or private delivery service (FEDEX, UPS, etc.), send to the same address listed above.

7. The GWTRA assures compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended. The consultant and all subconsultants selected for this project will be required to submit a Title VI Evaluation Report (EEO-D2) within 10 work days of notification of selection when requested by the GWTRA. This requirement applies to all consulting firms when the contract amount equals or exceeds \$10,000.
8. The GWTRA does not discriminate against an offeror because of race, religion, color, sex, national origin, age, disability, or any other basis prohibited by state law relating to discrimination in employment.
9. Any offeror who desires to protest the award of a contract shall submit such protest in writing to the GWTRA no later than ten days after the announcement of the award. Public announcement of the award shall be posted on the GWTRA Internet site.
10. The required services will involve the handling of Critical Infrastructure Information/Sensitive Security Information (CII/SSI) material. Firm(s) handling CII/SSI material will be required to sign non-disclosure agreements. Individuals with the firm(s) that handle CII/SSI material will be required to sign non-disclosure agreements. Once negotiations have been completed and prior to executing a contract, personnel handling CII/SSI, visiting Critical Infrastructure (CI) facilities or performing bridge/tunnel inspections may be required to pass a fingerprint-based Criminal History Background Check (CHBC). An individual employee's failure to successfully pass the fingerprint-based CHBC will not negate the selection and offerors will be allowed to replace those individuals. However, if key personnel fail the fingerprint-based CHBC, the selection may be cancelled and negotiations begun with the next ranked offeror. GWTRA reserves the right to conduct fingerprint-based CHBC on all employees of the prime consultant, on any employees of subconsultants or on any proposed replacements during the term of the contract who will be involved in this project. All costs associated with the fingerprint-based CHBC are the responsibility of the prime consultant. A GWTRA issued photo-identification badge is required for each employee of the prime consultant or any subconsultant who will need access to Department CI facilities or who will be performing bridge/tunnel inspections. Based upon the results of the fingerprint-based CHBC, the GWTRA reserves the right to deny issuance of a security clearance or photo-identification badge.

FIRM DATA SHEET

Funding: ____ (S=State F=Federal)

Project No.: _____

Division: _____

EOI Due Date: _____

The prime consultant is responsible for submitting the information requested below on all firms on the project team, both prime and all subconsultants. All firms are to be reported on one combined sheet unless the number of firms requires the use of an additional sheet. Failure to submit all of the required data may result in the Expression of Interest not being considered.

Firm's Name, Address and DBE and/or SWAM Certification Number	Firm's DBE or SWaM Status *	Firm's Age	Firm's Annual Gross Receipts

* YD = DBE Firm Certified by DMBE

N = DBE or SWaM Firm Not Certified by DMBE

NA = Firm Not Claiming DBE or SWaM Status

YS = SWaM Firm Certified by DMBE. Indicate whether small, woman-owned, or small business.

DMBE is the Virginia Department of Minority Business Enterprise

**CERTIFICATION REGARDING DEBARMENT
PRIMARY COVERED TRANSACTIONS**

(To be completed by a Prime Consultant)

Project: _____

- 1) The prospective primary participant certifies to the best of its knowledge and belief, that it and its principals:
 - a) Are not presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from covered transactions by any Federal department or agency.
 - b) Have not within a three-year period preceding this proposal been convicted of or had a civil judgment rendered against them for commission of fraud or a criminal offense in connection with obtaining, attempting to obtain, or performing a public (Federal, State or local) transaction or contract under a public transaction; and have not been convicted of any violations of Federal or State antitrust statutes or commission of embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification, or destruction of records, making false statements, or receiving stolen property;
 - c) Are not presently indicted for or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by a governmental entity (Federal, State or local) with commission of any of the offenses enumerated in paragraph 1) b) of this certification; and
 - d) Have not within a three-year period preceding this application/proposal had one or more public transactions (Federal, State or local) terminated for cause or default.
- 2) Where the prospective primary participant is unable to certify to any of the statements in this certification, such prospective participant shall attach an explanation to this proposal.

The undersigned makes the foregoing statements to be filed with the proposal submitted on behalf of the offeror for contracts to be let by the Commonwealth Transportation Board.

Signature

Date

Title

Name of Firm

DRAFT

CERTIFICATION REGARDING DEBARMENT
LOWER TIER COVERED TRANSACTIONS
(To be completed by a Sub-consultant)

Project: _____

- 1) The prospective lower tier participant certifies, by submission of this proposal, that neither it nor its principals is presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction by any Federal department or agency.
- 2) Where the prospective lower tier participant is unable to certify to any of the statements in this certification, such prospective participant shall attach an explanation to this proposal.

The undersigned makes the foregoing statements to be filed with the proposal submitted on behalf of the offeror for contracts to be let by the Commonwealth Transportation Board.

Signature

Date

Title

Name of Firm

DIVISION:
CONSULTANT SHORT LIST SCORE SHEET – FEDERALLY / STATE FUNDED PROJECT
(FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES)

EOI NO.: _____

PROJECT:

FIRM: _____

DESCRIPTION:

SUBS: _____

DATE:

	NUMERICAL VALUE				AVG.	WEIGHT	WEIGHTED EVALUATION
FIRM/TEAM'S EXPERIENCE IN SIMILAR TYPE OF SERVICES (Expertise, experience and qualifications of team in providing services as related to the scope of services) (1=least, 10=most)	1-10					25%	
PERSONNEL'S EXPERIENCE IN SIMILAR TYPE OF SERVICES (Expertise, experience and qualifications of team in providing services as related to the scope of services) (1=least, 10=most)	1-10					40%	
QUALIFICATIONS OF PROJECT MANAGER (Expertise, experience and qualifications in project management as related to the scope of services) (1=least, 10=most)	1-10					15%	
ORGANIZATIONAL CAPABILITY (Ability to complete work in a timely manner, size of firm(s) relative to size of project, proposed project staff resources, proposed use of subconsultants) (1=least, 10=most)	1-10					20%	
						TOTAL	

In determining the final short list, the top ranked firms and their subconsultants will have their VDOT Consultant Performance Reports reviewed and/or references checked.

GOOD FAITH EFFORT

(Federally Funded Project with DBE Goal)

The Department will be accepting what consultants submit in their Expressions of Interest regarding good faith efforts. If a firm that has submitted good faith effort documentation makes the short list, the procuring Division Administrator (cannot be delegated unless he/she will be out of the office for more than 5 work days) along with a representative of the EO Division will determine if the good faith effort is acceptable.

When there is a contract goal, a consultant must make good faith efforts to meet it. The consultant can do so either through obtaining enough DBE participation to meet the goal or documenting the good faith efforts it made to do so. These means of meeting contract goal requirements are fully equivalent. 49 CFR Part 26 (the Rule) explicitly provides that the Department must not disregard showings of good faith efforts, and it gives consultants the right to have the Department reconsider a decision that their good faith efforts were insufficient. The Department is prohibited from denying a contract to a consultant simply because it did not obtain enough DBE participation to meet the goal. The Department must seriously consider consultants' documentation of good faith efforts. To make certain that consultants' showings are taken seriously, the Rule requires the Department to offer administrative reconsideration to consultants whose good faith efforts showings are initially rejected.

The Rule also ensures flexibility for consultants by requiring that any contract goal be waived entirely for a prime consultant that demonstrates that it made good faith efforts but was still unable to meet the goal.

When the Department sets a contract goal, the basic obligation of consultants is to make good faith efforts to meet it. They can demonstrate these efforts in either of two ways, which are equally valid. First, they can meet the goal, by documenting that they have obtained commitments for enough DBE participation to meet the goal. Second, even though they have not met the goal, they can document that they have made good faith efforts to do so. A refusal by the Department to accept valid showings of good faith is not acceptable under the Rule.

The Rule makes clear that the Department is not to use a "conclusive presumption" approach, in which the apparent successful consultant is summarily found to have failed to make good faith efforts simply because another consultant was able to meet the goal. However, the performance of other consultants in meeting the contract can be a relevant factor in a good faith effort determination, in more than one way. For example, when the apparent successful consultant fails to meet the contract goal, but others meet it, you may reasonably raise the question of whether, with additional reasonable efforts, the apparent successful consultant could have met the goal. It does not, by itself, prove that the apparent successful consultant did not make a good faith effort to get DBE participation, however. On the other hand, if the apparent successful consultant fails to meet the goal, but meets or exceeds the average DBE participation obtained by other consultants, the Department may view this, in conjunction with other factors, as evidence of the apparent successful consultant having made good faith efforts.

The fact that some additional costs may be involved in finding and using DBEs is not in itself sufficient reason for a consultant's failure to meet a DBE contract goal, as long as such costs are reasonable.

If the Department determines that the apparent successful consultant has failed to meet the requirements of a good faith effort, the Department must, before awarding the contract, provide the consultant an opportunity for administrative reconsideration. The Department intends that the process be informal and timely. The Department will ensure that the process is completed within a brief period (e.g., 5-10 days) to minimize any potential delay in procurements. The consultant will have an opportunity to meet with the reconsideration official, but a formal hearing is not required. As part of this reconsideration, the consultant must have the opportunity to provide written documentation or argument concerning the issue of whether it met the goal or made adequate good faith efforts to do so. The Department's decision on reconsideration will be made by an official who did not take part in the original determination that the consultant failed to meet the goal or make adequate good faith efforts to do so. The consultant must have the opportunity to meet in person with the reconsideration official to discuss the issues of whether it met the goal or made adequate good faith efforts to do so. The Department will send the consultant a written decision on reconsideration, explaining the basis for finding that the consultant did or did not meet the goal or make adequate good faith efforts to do so. The Department's reconsideration personnel consists of the Commissioner's DBE Review Panel.

It is up to the Department to make a fair and reasonable judgement whether a consultant that did not meet the goal made adequate good faith efforts. It is important for the Department to consider the quality, quantity, and intensity of the different kinds of efforts that the consultant has made. The efforts employed by the consultant should be those that one could reasonably expect a consultant to take if the consultant were actively and aggressively trying to obtain DBE

participation sufficient to meet the DBE contract goal. Mere pro forma efforts are not good faith efforts to meet the DBE contract requirements. The Department's determination concerning the sufficiency of the firm's good faith efforts is a judgement call: meeting quantitative formulas is not required.

If DBE is prime, they will be allowed to count toward goals the work they commit to performing with their own forces, as well as the work that they commit to be performed by DBE subcontractors. DBE consultants on prime contracts will be expected to make the same outreach efforts as other consultants.

When a DBE participates in a contract, the Department will count only the value of the work actually performed by the DBE toward DBE goals. When a DBE subcontracts part of the work of its contract to another firm, the value of the subcontracted work may be counted toward DBE goals only if the DBE's subcontractor is itself a DBE. Work that a DBE subcontracts to a non-DBE firm does not count toward DBE goals. Count expenditures to a DBE contractor toward DBE goals only if the DBE is performing a commercially useful function on that contract. If a DBE does not perform or exercise responsibility for at least 30 percent of the total cost of its contract with its own work force, or the DBE subcontracts a greater portion of the work of a contract than would be expected on the basis of normal industry practice for the type of work involved, you must presume that it is not performing a commercially useful function. If a DBE firm loses certification, its work no longer counts toward the DBE goal.

All consultants will be required to submit the following information to the Department with the EOI:

- The names and addresses of DBE firms that will participate in the contract;
- A description of the work that each DBE will perform;
- The percentage amount of the participation of each DBE firm participating;
- Written documentation of the prime consultant's commitment to use a DBE subcontractor whose participation it submits to meet a contract goal;
- Written confirmation from the DBE that it is participating in the contract as provided in the prime contractor's commitment; and
- If the contract goal is not met, evidence of good faith efforts.

The Department has prepared a list based on Federal Regulations of some of the kinds of efforts that consultants may make in obtaining DBE participation. It is not intended to be a mandatory checklist. The Department does not require that a consultant do any one, or particular combination, of the things on the list, nor is the list intended to be exclusive or exhaustive; it merely offers examples. Other factors or types of efforts may be relevant in appropriate cases. In determining whether a consultant has made good faith efforts, it will usually be important for the Department to look not only at the different kinds of efforts that the Consultant has made, but also of the timeliness, quantity, and intensity of these efforts.

The Department offers the following examples of efforts that may be considered:

- A. Soliciting through all reasonable and available means (e.g., attendance at project showings, advertising and/or written notices) the interest of all certified DBEs who have the capability to perform the work of the contract. The consultant must solicit this interest within sufficient time to allow the DBEs to participate effectively. The consultant must determine with certainty if the DBEs are interested by taking appropriate steps to follow up initial solicitations.
- B. Selecting portions of the work to be performed by DBEs in order to increase the likelihood that the DBE goals will be achieved. This includes, where appropriate, breaking out contract work items into economically feasible units to facilitate DBE participation, even when the prime consultant might otherwise prefer to perform these work items with its own forces.
- C. Providing interested DBEs with adequate information about the plans, specifications, and requirements of the contract.
- D. (1) Negotiating in good faith with interested DBEs. It is the consultant's responsibility to make a portion of the work available to DBE subcontractors and suppliers and to select those portions of the work or material needs consistent with the available DBE subcontractors and suppliers, so as to facilitate DBE participation. Evidence of such negotiation includes the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of DBEs that were considered; a description of the information provided regarding the plans and specifications for the work selected for subcontracting; and evidence as to why additional agreements could not be reached for DBEs to perform the work.
- D. (2) A consultant using good business judgment would consider a number of factors in negotiating with

subcontractors, including DBE subcontractors, and would take a firm's costs, qualifications and capabilities as well as contract goals into consideration. However, the fact that there may be some additional costs involved in finding and using DBEs is not in itself sufficient reason for a consultant's failure to meet the contract DBE goal, as long as such costs are reasonable. Also, the ability or desire of a prime consultant to perform the work of a contract with its own organization does not relieve the consultant of the responsibility to make good faith efforts. Prime consultants are not, however, required to accept higher quotes from DBEs if the price difference is excessive or unreasonable.

- E. Not rejecting DBEs as being unqualified without sound reasons based on a thorough investigation of their capabilities. The contractor's standing within its industry, membership in specific groups, organizations, or associations and political or social affiliations (for example union vs. non-union employee status) are not legitimate causes for the rejection or non-solicitation of bids in the contractor's efforts to meet the project goal.
- F. Making efforts to assist interested DBEs in obtaining bonding, lines of credit, or insurance as required by the recipient or contractor.
- G. Making efforts to assist interested DBEs in obtaining necessary equipment, supplies, materials, or related assistance or services.
- H. Effectively using the services of available minority community organizations; minority contractors' groups; local, State, and Federal minority business assistance offices; and other organizations as allowed on a case-by-case basis to provide assistance in the recruitment and placement of DBEs.