



## Orange Water and Sewer Authority

OWASA is Carrboro-Chapel Hill's not-for-profit public service agency delivering high quality water, wastewater, and reclaimed water services.

### **REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS**

**Orange Water and Sewer Authority (OWASA)  
Morgan Creek Interceptor Replacement Project  
CIP Project No. 276-59  
Issue Date: October 22, 2021**

**Submittal Deadline: December 7, 2021 at 2:00 pm**

#### **1) INTRODUCTION**

Your firm is hereby invited to submit a written statement of qualifications to provide professional engineering services for preliminary evaluation, design and construction phase services for replacement of a portion of OWASA's Morgan Creek Interceptor. OWASA will conduct a Qualification-Based Selection process to identify the best qualified firm with which to negotiate a contract. The consultant firm shall demonstrate experience with similar projects and appropriate professional and technical expertise as well as adequate resources to fulfill the stated scope of services in a timely and cost-effective manner.

***To be considered by OWASA, responses to this RFO must be received by 2:00 p.m. (local prevailing time) on December 7, 2021. Refer to Section 6 – Proposal Requirements for additional details.***

#### **2) PRIMARY OBJECTIVES**

The project's primary objectives of this project are:

- Increase capacity of approximately 2,000 linear feet of Morgan Creek Interceptor;
- Replace manholes within the project area;
- Minimize environmental disturbances to the Morgan Creek during the sewer project;
- Evaluate stream crossings within the project area; and
- Coordinate cooperative work with various stakeholders and permitting agencies.

#### **3) BACKGROUND AND PROJECT UNDERSTANDING**

OWASA's wastewater collection system conveys flow to the Mason Farm Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) from four sewer basins (Bolin Creek, Booker Creek, Little Creek, and Morgan Creek). Flow from the Morgan Creek Basin represents nearly half of the flow in the OWASA service area and is conveyed through approximately 106 miles of pipe to the Morgan Creek Pump

Station and pumped into the WWTP. The basin's main interceptor, which runs parallel to and occasionally crossing Morgan Creek, varies in size from 12 inches to 60 inches. A section of this interceptor has been shown, through flow monitoring and hydraulic modeling, to have hydraulic deficiencies and risk of sewer overflows at 30 manholes during the modeled design storm conditions. Additionally, the pipe at an aerial creek crossing within this section has been found to have significant deterioration at the pipe invert. Both of these problems carry significant risk of environmental damage due to the interceptor's proximity to Morgan Creek.

The project scope follows the recommendations from the hydraulic modeling and alternatives analysis completed in 2020 that immediate action was required to mitigate the noted hydraulic deficiencies through:

- the upsizing of approximately 2,000 linear feet of this interceptor from 24" to 30" diameter from MH 64410 to MH 7475 (see attached project location map)

It should be noted that the proposed improvements allow for larger diameter (30-inch) replacement pipe upstream of smaller diameter (24-inch) existing pipe. Improvements were modeled using the same vertical alignment (keeping reverse grades and offset pipes). It is assumed that during design, these alignment issues could be corrected.

OWASA has applied for a Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF), if awarded the CWSRF loan would provide funds to plan, design and construct the project. OWASA's intent is to move forward with the project even if the CWSRF loan is not awarded. OWASA is anticipating notification of the CWSRF loan in February 2022. It is expected for the consulting engineer to provide design, bidding and loan administration effort in concurrence with CWSRF requirements as a part of the project scope.

Planned work includes preliminary analysis, design and construction of replacement of multiple pipe segments and manholes, coordination with state and local municipal agencies and various stakeholders to obtain permit approvals prior to construction.

*The final scope of the project will be negotiated with the selected firm.*

#### **4) PROJECT SCOPE OF SERVICES**

The engineering services required for this project are expected to be completed in general accordance with a scope of services as needed to accomplish the major tasks listed below. **However, the final scope of services will be negotiated with the selected engineering firm and may include modified and/or additional tasks.**

1. Preliminary evaluation services shall include surveying and preparation of preliminary engineering report summarizing existing site conditions, environmental and permitting requirements, utility interferences, project design alternatives, construction constraints

- and sequencing, accessibility issues, opinions of probable construction costs and design recommendations;
2. Develop design plans and specifications in accordance with OWASA's standards and specifications and other regulatory requirements;
  3. Obtain permit approvals from regulatory agencies as necessary for construction to commence;
  4. Provide bid documents meeting requirements for formally bid contracts;
  5. Assist with construction contract bidding;
  6. Assist with public communication efforts (if necessary);
  7. Provide construction contract administration;
  8. Provide construction inspection services;
  9. Provide closeout documentation (record drawings, CADD files, Engineer's Certifications, etc.); and;
  10. Provide simplified decision tools for assessing design impacts and costs for work inside the stream buffer.

## **5) DELIVERABLES**

All written work products developed pursuant to this project shall be provided to OWASA in a digital format in a manner acceptable to and usable by OWASA. The actual list of deliverables will be negotiated with the selected engineering firm.

## **6) PROPOSAL PROCESS AND REQUIREMENTS**

**Responses to this RFQ must be received by OWASA no later than 2:00 p.m. EST on December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2021. To be considered, please submit four (4) hard copies and one (1) electronic copy in PDF format of the required qualifications to:**

Deepthi Kalyanam, P.E.  
Orange Water and Sewer Authority  
400 Jones Ferry Road  
Carrboro, North Carolina 27510  
Email: [dkalyanam@owasa.org](mailto:dkalyanam@owasa.org)

Consultant qualifications and technical proposals will be limited to a maximum of 12 double-sided pages (i.e., 24 pages printed double-sided onto 12 sheets). Proposals not printed double-sided shall not be considered. All submittals will become the property of OWASA.

Each submittal must include the following in order to be considered:

- a) ***Statement of Interest [5 points]:*** This shall explain your firm's interest in performing the work on this project, including how the project aligns with your firm's capabilities.
- b) ***Project Team [15 points]:*** The submittal shall include a listing or organization chart of the proposed project team members, including sub-consultants, and clearly identify their

- respective roles on the project. Each proposal shall include resumes of key team members.
- c) **Project Approach [30 points]:** Clearly describe your proposed approach for this project. Provide detailed information that will allow OWASA staff to distinguish your team from other firms that may be competing for this project. Your proposal shall provide a step-by-step description of the phased approach for completion of the project, as you understand it, and the specific goals and deliverables for each phase in the process.
  - d) **Previous Experience and References for Similar Projects [20 points]:** Provide references (including name and contact information for the client) and summaries for three (3) similar projects your firm/team has completed within the past ten (10) years for other clients. Also indicate who served as your project manager for each project, and who had key lead technical roles in those projects. The consultant firm shall demonstrate working relationship with regulatory agencies for obtaining permit approvals for the construction of the project.
  - e) **Project Schedule [25 points]:** The proposal shall include anticipated project schedule clearly describing and demonstrating your understanding of the necessary project activities, reasonable durations and sequencing risks associated in meeting the project's schedule.
  - f) **Project Concerns [5 points]:** Identify any potential concerns or hindrances to successful completion of the project.

## **7) SELECTION PROCESS AND CRITERIA**

OWASA intends to select a consultant and award a contract by December 2021 and issue a Notice to Proceed no later than January 2022. OWASA staff will review and evaluate the submittals based on:

- a) responsiveness to the RFQ,
- b) experience, qualifications and availability of the proposed Project Manager,
- c) makeup of the rest of the project team, including the experience and qualifications of key project staff,
- d) firm's related experience and performance on other projects, especially the quality of work, budget control, project schedule, overall cooperation and responsiveness,
- e) references on past similar projects, and
- f) proposed project approach.

**Note:** OWASA may elect to conduct face-to-face interviews with two or more firms being evaluated prior to making a final selection. If OWASA cannot reach an agreement with the initially selected firm, OWASA will then proceed to negotiate with other firms that submitted proposals or will reissue the RFQ. OWASA reserves the right to make an award in whole or in part, or to reject any and all proposals and not award a contract for the services described in this RFQ.

## **8) OWASA POINT OF CONTACT**

Deepthi Kalyanam, PE will be OWASA's primary point of contact for all consultant selection matters relating to this project. **All questions regarding this Request for Qualifications must**

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**be emailed** to Ms. Kalyanam at [dkalyanam@owasa.org](mailto:dkalyanam@owasa.org).

## **9) ATTACHMENTS**

1. Project Area/Location Map
2. Contract Agreement template