

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.

LOUISE AVENUE EXPANSION AND RECONSTRUCTION

PURPOSE

The intersection of 41st Street and Louise Avenue is the busiest intersection in South Dakota. These two arterial corridors are adjacent to a mix of retail businesses with the Empire Mall being the center of attraction. This area attracts visitors from a tri-state region and has significant economic benefits for the state. Louise Avenue is a key arterial in linking retail along Interstate 29 and Interstate 229. The City intends to reconstruct and make capacity improvements on Louise Avenue between 43rd Street and 49th 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 maintaining existing street infrastructure and adding capacity improvements to allow drivers to travel to major destinations, like the Empire Mall area.

Louise Avenue was reconstructed and widened from four lanes to five lanes in 1987. This five lane section, two lanes in each direction and a continuous left turn, is the current existing section. There is a traffic signal at Mall Drive and Louise Avenue. The concrete pavement has had numerous rehabilitation projects over the last twenty eight years and now has deteriorated beyond repair. An asphalt overlay over the concrete was completed over five years ago and is also near the end of its life. Louise Avenue carries over 23,000 vehicles per day and the 2040 traffic forecasts do not predict major growth along this segment with the forecast of 26,000 vehicles per day.

SCOPE OF SERVICES

1. Scope of work is as follows, but is not limited to:
 - A. **Project boundaries:** The selected consultant will design Louise Avenue from 43rd Street through the 49th Street intersection. The

project may be let in phases with construction tentatively planned for 2017.

The pavement from 43rd Street to 41st Street is in need of repair also. However, at this time this project will be only from 43rd to 49th Street. The City may add from 43rd Street to 41st Street rehabilitation at a later date.

- B. **Street Section:** This section of Louise Avenue has an access category Arterial II, 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.

Louise Avenue will be a concrete section with a pavement and base design based on geotechnical recommendations. A minimum of nine inch concrete thickness is required.

In 2012, the City and the South Dakota Department of Transportation completed the I29 Exit 77 Crossroad Corridor Study. The I-29 Exit 77 (41st Street) Crossroad Corridor Study evaluated the needs along Louise Avenue south of 41st Street. The study recommendation was to leave the five lane facility. This is only a recommendation and this project design will need to fully analyze and determine the lane needs with this project. Listed below are the recommendations from the study.

Elements of the proposed improvement include:

- *Maintain existing 5 lane section north of the 49th Street intersection*
- *Provide dual left turn lanes at all approaches at the 49th Street intersection*
- *Provide separated right turn lanes at all approaches at the 49th Street intersection*
- *Add a southbound right turn lane at the signalized Empire Mall entrance road*
- *Modify the Empire East access driveway at the signal to reduce the conflict between entering/exiting vehicles, and the vehicles in the driving aisle parallel to Louise Avenue. A similar improvement at the Western Mall entrance at South Holly Avenue has reduced vehicle conflicts and improved traffic circulation.*
- *Provide 2' to 3' of additional width (14' minimum width) for the outside through traffic lanes to meet the criteria for an on-street bike route in accordance with the most recent MPO bike plan.*
- *Acquisition of approximately 0.14 acres of additional right-of-way.*

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 Louise Avenue 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 12-inch water main in Louise Avenue that was installed in 1966. The design will include a new 16-inch water main.
- ii. **Sanitary Sewer:** There are a 24 inch sanitary main under Louise Avenue. There are two areas that need repairs and an estimated five manhole replacements.
- iii. **Storm Sewer:** A drainage study was completed in 2012 for the Solberg Avenue Drainage Basin. The intersection of 49th Street and Louise Avenue is included in this basin, as well as Louise Avenue up to the Mall Drive intersection. This study determined the storm system was adequately sized north of 49th Street. There is currently flooding in the 49th Street and Louise Avenue intersection resulting from the lack of capacity along 49th Street to the east to the Big Sioux Oxbow outfall.

The consultant will need to update the Solberg Avenue Drainage Basin study to determine if the recommendations are still valid along Louise Avenue.

There is currently no drainage study from Mall Drive to 43rd Street. The consultant will need to study this area during design to determine storm sewer needs.

- D. **Lights:** Install new LED streetlights, wire, conduit, and footings along Louise Avenue.
- E. **Traffic:** Install new traffic detection at Mall Drive. Install traffic counting devices between 43rd Street and Mall Drive and between Mall Drive and 49th Street. Install new fiber optic and conduit for traffic signal communication. An Adaptive Traffic Signal System is planned for implementation in 2016 on 41st Street. Depending on what system is selected, that system may dictate the detection and whether or not the system should extend to 49th Street and Louise Avenue.

Consultant should plan for a traffic analysis considering number of lanes needed for 2040, review traffic movements, lane utilization, 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 for the lane utilization analysis.

- 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 retail businesses.
- H. **41st and I29 Interchange Modification Justification Report and Environmental Assessment:** The next step from the I29 Exit 77 Crossroad Corridor Study is to move forward with preliminary engineering. The South Dakota Department of Transportation and City are jointly studying the 41st Street and I29 interchange and also 41st Street from Louise Avenue to Valley View Road. The selected consultant for Louise Avenue will need to coordinate with the selected consultant for the 41st Street project to adequately plan for the street network in this area.
- I. **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.

Coordination with Empire Mall and Empire East ownership and management staff is critical to the success of this project. Individual coordination meetings with property owners will also be needed. Consultant should plan for monthly coordination meetings with the City project team.

Individual meetings with emergency services providers, private utility companies, and public transit should be planned to discuss the project design and impacts during construction. There may be opportunities to have meetings jointly with the 41st and I-29 project public meetings.

- J. **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. There are approximately nine parcels adjacent to this street.

- K. **Schedule:** The consultant should assume a notice to proceed by early 2016. The consultant should also assume that the project will be constructed in 2017.

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.

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

- M. **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. Midcontinent Cable has a cable on the entire length of the project on the west side. There is a major junction in the northwest corner of 49th Street and Louise Avenue.
- ii. Magellan has no facilities along Louise Avenue.
- iii. MidAmerican Energy has parallel 2 inch and 4 inch steel 65 psig mains on the east right of way line.
- iv. SDN Communications has no lines running along Louise Avenue but does have a fiber crossing on the south side of 49th Street.
- v. Century Link has a conduit with manhole system on the west side of Louise Avenue along with a number of above ground structures that will need adjustment.

RESOURCE INFORMATION POSTED TO THE WEBSITE

I-29 Exit 77 (41st Street) Crossroad Corridor Study, including 41st Street from Sertoma Avenue to Kiwanis Avenue, <http://siouxfalls.org/en/public-works/special-projects>

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 approach to the public involvement and traffic analysis process.
- A proposed schedule for the project, assuming there is available funding for construction in 2017.

Professional liability insurance will be required upon selection.

Format

A. Content

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 detailed 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.
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, and project design schedule.
5. **References** – A list of three similar designs and project descriptions undertaken by the firm (preferably project personnel) with beginning and ending dates, and name, address, phone number, fax number, and e-mail address of a contact person for each reference.

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 February 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:

November 20, 2015	Request for Proposal posted on website
December 7, 2015	Deadline for Questions
December 11, 2015	Proposals received at City Hall
January 8, 2016	Shortlist consultants and interviews, if needed
January 26, 2016	Interviews, if needed
February 1, 2016	Consultant selection and agreement negotiations Proceed
February 19, 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, **Friday, December 11, 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, December 7, 2015.