

City of Whiteville, North Carolina

Request for Qualifications

November 12, 2024

The City of Whiteville is seeking a qualified firm to provide general civil engineering, consultation, construction administration/observation, grant administration and design. The City will use a variety of factors for selection, which will include, but not limited to, specific municipal engineering experience, references and other details about the firm's abilities. The City of Whiteville reserves the right to hire additional firms if the selected firm cannot provide the civil engineering expertise this project. Key points of interest to the City are: 1) quality of work for past similar clients. 2) Ability to be responsive to the City in a timely manner. 3) Track record in assisting clients in obtaining grants and low interest loans to improve the overall utilities. 4) Ability to prepare asset management plans and apply for grants to assist in the preparation of these plans. 5) Review and final inspection of utility layouts for subdivisions or commercial developments as needed to ensure plans meet or exceed City standards and match the City's systems.

The City has recently been notified of a letter-of-intent to fund a sewer rehabilitation project along Lee and Franklin Streets. The Phase 3 Sewer Improvements project will make improvements to the City's collection system. The primary purpose of this project is the replacement/repair/rehabilitation of existing, aging infrastructure in excess of 20-to-40-years old. The project will contain the following components:

1. Collection System Improvements—Replace 11,675 LF of 8" & 12" of vitrified clay gravity sewers, 52 4' dia. manholes, and 134 4" sewer services along Franklin St. and Lee St. All sewer infrastructure along these streets were installed in 1943.
2. Lift Station (LS) Replacement—Complete replacement of LS #3. The proposed project will also provide an additional benefit. LS #3 is currently located within the 100-year floodplain. This project will elevate/fortify the lift station by elevating important, vulnerable components a minimum 2' of freeboard above the base flood elevation (BFE). Further, the existing aboveground lift station will be replaced by a submersible lift station to ensure continuous operation.
3. Lift Stations Standby Power—Install permanent generators at LS #2 & #3 to provide standby power in event of an emergency. None of these lift stations are currently equipped with a generator. Doing so will ensure resiliency and redundancy of critical wastewater pumping and transmission systems, ensuring continuous operation during times of power loss.

City Description:

The City of Whiteville has a population of approximately 5,500 citizens. Whiteville is located approximately 50 miles west of Wilmington, NC and 35 miles east of Lumberton, off U.S. Hwy 74/76. It is located in Columbus County, which is a Tier One County. The city is a full service municipality; the City currently operates a 3.0 MGD Sewer Treatment facility and a Water service that is fed by five (5) active wells. Due to its proximity to U.S. Hwy 74/76, the City feels that future growth will continue on the north side of the City near the interchange with U.S. Hwy 701.

Requested Qualification Information:

The City of Whiteville requests the following information as a minimum to evaluate the qualifications of an engineering firm:

- Brief, general description of the services provided by the Engineering Firm, which should cover all specialty areas of concentration.
- Specific description of the Engineering Firm's demonstrated ability and experience with the study, design and construction management of water and sewer systems in southeastern North Carolina within last 5 years.
- A minimum of three (3) references of projects completed by the firm within the past 2 years with a brief description of the project. Ideally, at least one of these would be with a government agency regarding a recent water or sewer project and all should include contact names and phone numbers.
- A list of staff available to work on the City's Project with their qualifications. Please include their current licenses and certifications. Please state the desired billing rate for each individual that may do work on City projects.
- A list of the five (5) most recently completed municipal engineering projects.

The City will review all submitted qualifications and select a firm to recommend to the City Council. The City will make its selection from the applicants who meet all specified requirements.

Deadline:

Please return 3 copies of the general information requested and 1 copy of the requested example of the firm's work by the close of business on December 18, 2024. Please mail all materials to the City of Whiteville c/o Heather Dowless, City Clerk, at PO Box 607 Whiteville, NC 28472. For overnight deliveries or in person deliveries, the physical address of City Hall is 317 S. Madison Street, Whiteville, NC 28472.

Contact information:

Please Contact Darren L. Currie, City Manager, for question, via e-mail at dcurrie@ci.whiteville.nc.