



REQUESTS FOR PROPOSALS

WATER PLANT RESIDUALS DEWATERING AND DISPOSAL

CITY OF GASTONIA

PUBLIC UTILITIES DEPARTMENT

1. Purpose

The City of Gastonia (the "City") is soliciting proposals from qualified vendors to provide professional residuals dewatering services in support of the City's Water Treatment Plant. The work defined in the scope of services is for all materials, labor, personnel and equipment necessary for removal, dewatering, transportation and disposal of water plant residuals. Wastewater Treatment Division personnel will direct operations by coordinating schedules of dewatering between the contractor and City staff.

The objective of this contract is to provide cost effective dewatering and disposal. The practices used must adhere to all local, City, regional, state and federal policies and regulations related to handling, transportation, and application of residuals. The City seeks a three-year contract, with options for two one-year extensions at the discretion of the City. It is the intent of the City that implementation of this contract will take place on July 1, 2024.

2. Submission Requirements

Proposals will be received by the City up until the time stated in this document. At that point the City will close the receipt of proposals and begin the evaluation process. Proposals must be signed with the firm name and by an officer or employee having the authority to bind the company or firm by his/her signature.

Proposers must specifically identify portions, if any, of their proposal deemed confidential, proprietary or trade secrets. Vendors must be prepared to justify which information should not be disclosed upon request.

The City requires a pre-proposal site visit to ensure the contractor be familiar with the dewatering site including available space for equipment, water and electric service. The site visit will be conducted on March 15, 2024 at 1:00 pm. Registration is required for the site visit by March 11, 2024 at 5:00 pm. To register, contact Tim Hall via email at timh@tworiversutilities.com.

Questions will be accepted until the cutoff date of 5:00 pm on March 21, 2024. Submitters are responsible for monitoring the City of Gastonia's website, at <https://gastonianc.gov/doing-business/bids-rfps>. If there are further questions, please contact Tim Hall timh@tworiversutilities.com.

Proposals must be submitted electronically as a single PDF to Tim Hall by email to timh@tworiversutilities.com with a subject line that clearly indicates a response to this RFP. If an addendum is issued, the proposal must clearly acknowledge the addendum. Proposals must be received by 5:00 pm on April 5, 2024. Any proposal missing information required in Section 7 Proposal Format, or received after the deadline will be disqualified.

3. Award of Contract

The City reserves the right to reject any and all proposals. The City reserves the right to request oral interviews or request additional written information from any and all vendors.

The City reserves the right to select the bidder that best demonstrates the capability to meet the needs of the City. Negotiations may be undertaken with the vendor whose proposal demonstrates them to be the most qualified, responsible and capable of providing these services. Proposals will be evaluated in terms of qualifications, experience, capabilities, technical approach, costs and compliance with proposal requirements.

The highest ranked proposal will be recommended to the City Manager for award by the City Council.

If the City is unable to negotiate a satisfactory agreement with the highest ranked proposer, negotiations with that proposer will be terminated and the City will decide whether to open negotiations with the second ranked proposer, to reject all proposals and re-advertise, or terminate further consideration of all proposals.

4. Suspension and Termination

The City reserves the right, in its best interest as determined by the City, to cancel the contract by giving written notice to the Contractor thirty (30) days prior to the effective date of such cancellation. In the event of such termination, any services completed by the Contractor under this contract to the satisfaction of the City shall be entitled to receive equitable compensation.

5. Background

The City owns and operates the Two Rivers Utilities Water Treatment Plant, which treats over five billion gallons of water each year from Mountain Island Lake. That water is distributed to 100,000 residential and business customers in Gastonia, Cramerton, Lowell, McAdenville, Ranlo,

and Clover, South Carolina. The plant also provides emergency water service for Belmont, Dallas and Bessemer City.

In part of the treatment process, the treatment plant captures and removes solids from the raw water by alum flocculation and membrane treatment processes. The resulting residuals are captured, stored and gravity thickened in two holding tanks in preparation to be dewatered and disposed of at scheduled intervals.

The resulting Scope of Service for the proposing contractor includes the removal of the residuals from the storage basins, dewatering, transportation and disposal of the residuals at an approved landfill.

Dewatering events are planned to begin in May and September each fiscal year, which runs July 1 – June 30. Dewatering and disposal volumes have historically been an annual average of 550 wet tons processed each contract year.

A complete Scope of Services is contained in Attachment A.

6. Insurance Requirements

The City will require the contractor to hold professional liability insurance of at least \$1,000,000 for each claim.

The certificate must also include commercial general liability insurance covering bodily injury and property damage with limits of not less than \$2,000,000 per occurrence, and at least \$2,000,000 aggregate; or the equivalents utilizing excess or umbrella coverage.

In addition, the certificate must include employer's liability insurance (worker's compensation) in accordance with statutory requirements with limits of not less than \$100,000 for each accident.

Further, projects requiring the contractor to drive onto City property or to use the contractor's vehicles on City property will require auto liability insurance, which must cover bodily injury and property damage liability on all owned, non-owned, and hired vehicles for a limit of not less than \$2,000,000 per occurrence, or the equivalent utilizing excess or umbrella coverage.

When the contractor and/or its employees have access to monies or properties of the City, the contractor will provide a fidelity bond at a limit of not less than \$50,000 (depending on where the contractor will be working).

The City must be named as additionally insured on the insurance certificate for all coverage, except professional liability.

In addition, the contractor must indemnify and save harmless the City of Gastonia, its officers, agents, and employees from any claims arising out of any work performed for the City or on City property.

7. Proposal Format

A. Introduction

Vendor shall submit a brief introduction of their firm. This information must address the company's experience in dewatering, interest for this project, availability of resources for this project, the location from which services would be based and key personnel to be assigned to this project. Any pending litigation that may have a material impact to the company's financial standing and/or performance on this project, any judicially determined defaults, bankruptcies, and liens in the last 10 years must also be included.

B. Qualifications

Vendor shall provide a general overview of the company including:

- Brief history of the company including mission and structure
- Date established
- Ownership (public, partnership, subsidiary, etc.)
- An organizational chart by name and job title as it relates to the project that includes years of experience, education, tenure with the company and related certifications.
- Number of personnel, full and part-time, to be assigned to this project by function and job title.
- Vendor shall provide documentation demonstrating their capability and experience in the management of projects of similar size, volumes and scope.
- Vendor shall describe any subcontractors needed to fulfill the Scope of Services in Attachment A.
- Vendor shall describe their additional resources/capabilities that may be committed to the support the project.
- Documentation showing the vendor meets the City's insurance requirements.
- Vendor should describe their experience with ISO 14001 certified Environmental Management System (EMS) or equivalent programs.
- Vendor shall demonstrate their training program and written procedures.
- Vendor shall demonstrate their safety program and safety history.

C. Pumping, Dewatering, Transport and Disposal Approach

Vendor shall provide the equipment and methods to be used for pumping, dewatering, transportation and disposal of residuals to ensure the scope can be appropriately managed.

D. Suggested Equipment:

Equipment such as that listed below may be needed by the vendor to provide turnkey service. It is the responsibility of the vendor to ensure they gain an understanding of the equipment needed during the mandatory pre-proposal visit.

- Dewatering equipment (belt press, centrifuge, etc.). Area available is 50' Length X 14' Width.
- Polymer and dosing system. Polymer paid by contractor. NSF approved.
- Frac tank – sludge storage tank. Area available is 35' Length X 16' Width.
- Front end-loader.
- Cake load out containment bin or conveyor.
- Prime sludge pump.
- Filtrate return pump.
- Filtrate flow meter.
- Operators and service pickup trucks.
- Trucks to transfer residuals to the landfill.
- Approximately 500 feet of fire hose to wash basin and water supply to dewatering equipment.
- Fire hose nozzle.
- Approximately 300 feet suction hose for sludge transfer.
- Approximately 200 feet discharge hose for filtrate pumping to from dewatering equipment to the uphill manhole.

E. References

Vendor shall provide three (3) municipal references to projects similar in scope and size. The references shall list the name of the organization, contact person's name, title, telephone number and email address.

F. Pricing Information

Vendor shall submit their proposed costs in an organized and complete manner that lists the line item and unit rate of each item needed to complete a turnkey dewatering and disposal event. Pricing shall include all potentially expected costs of, and not limited to mobilization, pumping, dewatering, transportation, disposal and/or rental equipment. All costs to be charged for completion of the project shall be presented in the proposal. No additional fees or charges are to be included in invoices that are not presented in the proposal. Monthly invoices are to be generated as defined by the pricing structure submitted.

Attachment A

Scope of Services

Water Plant Residuals Dewatering and Disposal

1. Contractor Provided Services

- 1.1. WTP anticipates two dewatering events per year. The City will provide a written notice of 30 days to schedule the activity with the contractor. The Contractor must mobilize within 30 days of notification by the City.
- 1.2. Contractor shall provide equipment and personnel with contact information to complete all activities needed to dewater and dispose of water plant residuals at a landfill that has been pre-approved by the City to receive the residuals. All associated landfill fees will be paid by the contractor.
- 1.3. The contractor shall be responsible for any fuel needed for operation of equipment beyond the City provided electrical and water service.
- 1.4. The Contractor is responsible for preparing the residuals for disposal using a dewatering process that will produce a product that is acceptable for hauling and also acceptable to the landfill receiving the dewatered residuals. The dewatered product shall be greater than 18% solids so that a paint filter test would assure no free liquids are contained in the dewatered material.
- 1.5. The Contractor shall ensure residuals are transported in such a manner to prevent leakage/spills occurring from transport vehicles.
- 1.6. The Contractor will be responsible for adherence to any and all regulations or guidelines involving the processing, transportation and/or disposal of the residuals.
- 1.7. Contractor shall prepare their pumping, dewatering and storage areas with adequate containment needed to ensure spills and/or runoffs are properly contained. Dewatered materials shall be protected from rain to avoid introduction of additional water or potential for runoff.
- 1.8. The Contractor shall assist the City with selection of a disposal site that ensures timely removal schedules at cost effective rates. The Contractor shall also assist as requested by the City in the certification and approval process for disposal of the residuals at the selected site.
- 1.9. The Contractor shall at all times have a competent project manager or other representative on the work site that shall have the full authority to act for the Contractor and who shall see that the work under the contract is executed in accordance with the agreement documents. All communication with the project manager shall be binding as if given to the contractor.
- 1.10. Contractor shall prepare and submit monthly invoices for their work. Invoices shall be submitted in a timely manner, within 20 days of receipt of all applicable documentation to review and approve the invoice. The contractor must include copies of all invoices submitted to them by any subcontractors, rental companies, and the landfill for work on this job.

2. City Facility Information

- 2.1. No residuals management operations shall occur on legal holidays without the approval of the Water Treatment Division Manager or designee. Loading, transportation and application of residuals shall only be allowed in daylight hours as coordinated with the City.
- 2.2. Dewatering will occur 4 to 5 days a week at the City's discretion.

- 2.3. The total percent solids of the residuals produced by the City's facility shall vary from 1.5% to 6% solids. The contractor must provide equipment that can function properly in this range for removal of the residuals from the holding tank.
- 2.4. The City will provide a water supply of at least 75 GPM at 75 PSI.
- 2.5. The City agrees to provide an electrical power source, however, it shall be the Contractor's responsibility to provide the necessary cable etc. from the power source to the equipment. The City will provide 480V 3 Phase 100 Amp electrical and an electrician to connect/disconnect the cable to the City provided service.
- 2.6. Equipment owned by the City shall not be operated by the Contractor without approval and training by the City.
- 2.7. The City maintains an Environmental Management System to assure compliance with all laws and regulations, to promote pollution prevention, and to provide a means for continual improvement. The Contractor shall be aware of this program and follow all relevant procedures utilized within the program. A copy of the City's Environmental Policy will be provided to the Contractor.
- 2.8. Any fines/penalties issued to the City due to the actions of the Contractor shall be the responsibility of the Contractor, and it shall reimburse the City for the same.
- 2.9. Contractor shall remove all unused materials, tools, equipment and machinery, waste materials and /or other debris from the processing area once the event has been completed. Contractor shall see that the site is maintained in a neat and orderly condition during operation and upon leaving.

3. Emergency Response/Spills

- 3.1. Any spills involved with the dewatering, loading or transportation of residuals shall be deemed the responsibility of the Contractor and shall be cleaned up immediately to the satisfaction of the City, State of North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality and/or any other agency or landowner that may be involved. Any occurrences shall be immediately reported to the Water Treatment Division Manager, Wastewater Treatment Division Manager and the Residuals Coordinator or designee.

4. Monitoring/Recordkeeping

- 4.1. The contractor shall keep daily logs indicating the amount loaded, transportation logs, disposal volumes (weight tickets) and Filtrate Flow Meter. The metering device is for the supernate off of the dewatering equipment to the sanitary sewer. These logs shall be totaled and a copy submitted to the Residuals Coordinator at the end of each dewatering event.
- 4.2. A sample from each load transported to the disposal site shall be composited over each day. The contractor shall be responsible for collection of these samples from each truckload and place the sample in a provided container. The City will collect and analyze the sample for percent total solids in their lab.