POLICY AND PROCEDURE FOR CONSULTANT SELECTION

Resolution #1-2014

The following procedures have been adopted by the Dauphin County Board of Commissioners as authorized by action of the Board of Commissioners on January 15, 2014. These procedures shall be used for the orderly determination of the need to use consulting engineering firms, qualification and selection of firms, and general administration and monitoring of the engineering agreements.

Dauphin County does not have any technical staff that is capable of performing the work.

A detailed scope of work, describing the project, its location, and services required, will be prepared. Engineering District 8-0 staff will assist Dauphin County in preparing a detailed scope of work as necessary.

A DBE Goal Request will be submitted to PennDOT’s Consultant Agreement Section.

The request for letters of interest from consulting firms interested in performing the required engineering services must appear in at least two newspapers, of wide local circulation, for one advertisement cycle as required by municipal codes, other statutes or home rule charters.

The Municipality will submit their advertisements for approval and publishing in ECMS to either:

Paper copy
Department of Transportation
Bureau of Project Delivery
Highway Delivery Division
Contract Management Section
400 North Street, 7th Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17120

or

Electronically
ECMS_Local_Advertisements@pa.gov

The advertisement will include the following information:

a) Location and brief description of the required engineering services.
b) Indication of the method of procurement as competitive negotiations;
c) A statement that the Dauphin County encourages responses from small firms, minority firms, and firms who have not previously performed work for the Dauphin County.
d) The Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Goal, if any. Or nondiscrimination provisions to encourage the prime to notify DBE subconsultants of contracting opportunities associated with the agreement and solicit their participation, if DBE Goals are not required for the agreement.
e) A statement that indicates whether the modified or standard selection method will be used.
f) A list, in order of importance, of the selection criteria against which the letters of interest will be reviewed.
g) A request for special requirements U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) Form 330.
h) Contact information for project discussions.

Cut-off time for response to the advertisement (minimum of two weeks).

Three consultants will be selected from those consultants who submit letters of interest. A qualification selection committee, consisting of a minimum of three people:

a. Laura Cullison or designee, b. Randy Baratucci or designee, c. Carl Dickson or designee, d.
shall review the qualifications of consultants who submit letters of Interest as well as their responsiveness to the requirements of the advertisement. Documentation of consultants considered and the committee's recommendation shall be maintained in the project file. The committee shall document the reasons for their recommendation.

For selecting a consultant to perform bridge inspection, construction inspection agreements, or non-complex or selected moderately complex projects as defined in DM1, or for selecting a consultant as a Municipal Engineer a modified process may be used, and a ranking will be determined based on a review of the statements of interest.

For all other Agreements the normal selection method will be used. The Dauphin Co. Commissioners shall review the recommendations of the qualification committee and select three firms to be recommended to the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (hereinafter called the Department) as the consultants to prepare a proposal. Upon receipt of the approval of the consultants from the Department, a technical proposal shall be requested from the consultants.

The request for technical proposals shall include a brief written scope of work. The consultants will be invited to a scope of work meeting at which time the project will be explained in detail. Representatives from the Department will be invited to the meeting. The consultants will be advised of the applicable Federal regulations, review procedures, contract format, and administration. A copy of the Department's Publication 442 will be supplied to the consultants with the understanding that the specifications will be made a part of the contract. The Dauphin County's limitations of profit, wages, etc., will be explained. The consultants will be given a name and phone number to contact in case they would have any questions during the preparation of their proposal.

Upon receipt of the technical proposals from the consultants, the qualification committee shall review the technical proposals and make a recommendation for the ranking of the shortlisted consultants for the purpose of negotiating an engineering agreement. The committee shall document the reasons for their recommendation.

The Municipality shall conduct discussions with the firms to consider anticipated concepts and compare alternative methods for furnishing services.

For both modified and standard methods of selection, the Dauphin County Board of Commissioners shall review the recommendation of the qualification committee and rank, in order of preference, the firms. The ranking will be recommended to the Department for approval. Documentation supporting the ranking of the consultants shall be forwarded to the Department when requesting approval of the consultant's ranking. The Department shall approve and/or comment on the municipalities recommended ranking.

The municipality will request a price proposal from the approved first ranked firm and submit the appropriate number of copies to the Department.

The Department will conduct the pre-award evaluation and schedule and hold negotiations, if necessary.

The agreement will be prepared by the Department and circulated for signatures.

It is understood that the consultant cannot begin work until the Federal authorization has been obtained, and both the engineering Agreement and the Reimbursement Agreement have been fully executed, and notification of this fact has been received by the Dauphin County Board of Commissioners.

The Dauphin County Board of Commissioners will designate a person to perform liaison activities between the Dauphin County, the Department, and the consultant.
The Dauphin County will enter into a reimbursement agreement with the Department setting forth the methods for reimbursing the federal funds to the Dauphin County. The reimbursement agreement will be prepared by the Department.

During the life of the engineering agreement, quarterly meetings will be held with the consultant and the designated liaison person. The Department will be invited to attend these meetings. Documentation of these meetings will be included in the project file.

Partial payment invoices for work performed will be processed as provided by Publication 442. After review of the invoices by the Chief Clerk's Office, it will be paid. The invoice will in turn be forwarded to the Department with recommendation for reimbursement of the Federal and/or State share.

Prior to termination of services and payment of the final invoice, a joint review will be made by the Department and the Dauphin County to insure the propriety of claims and that all terms and conditions of the contract have been satisfied. Documentation of these findings will be submitted to the Department with the final invoice.

The designated liaison person will complete copies of the Form D-429, "Past Performance Report for Consultant Engineers", see Appendix 7G or Form D-429 Cl, "Past Performance Report for Consultant Engineers Construction Inspection", see Appendix 7H.

It is understood and made part of these procedures that the employees of the Dauphin County will neither solicit nor accept gratuities, favors, or anything of monetary value from consultants or contractors or potential consultants or contractors. Violators of said standards will be subject to dismissal from their employment with the Dauphin County, by order of the Dauphin County Commissioners.

Now, Therefore Be It Resolved that the Board of Commissioners of the Dauphin County have adopted these policies and procedures for engineering by consultants and will adhere to the rules and regulations of the Department.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chairman this 15 day of January 2014 on behalf of the Dauphin Co. Comm. hereby accept the aforesaid policies and procedures.

UPON MOTION DULY MADE and seconded, the above resolution as adopted the day and year set forth above.

ATTEST:

Chief Clerk
Title

BY

Chairman, Dauphin County Commissioners
Title