

City of Portsmouth
Department of Public Works
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL #48-23

Testing and Subsurface Explorations

Sealed proposals, plainly marked, “RFP #48-23 Testing and Subsurface Explorations” on the outside of the mailing envelope as well as the sealed bid envelope, shall be addressed to the Finance/Purchasing Department, City Hall, 1 Junkins Avenue, Portsmouth, New Hampshire, 03801. **Proposals will be accepted until May 23, 2023 at 2:00 p.m.**

The City of Portsmouth is asking qualified Inspection and Testing Firms to prepare Proposals for the following services:

Inspections and testing of soils, concrete and hot mix asphalt during all aspects of road projects, including the coordination of soil drilling and ledge probing operations when needed. Taking field samples and completing the testing of soils, asphalt and concrete as requested. Determining underlying roadway characteristics through analyzing soil samples and data from probes and drilling operations and determining soil compaction goals.

Proposal specifications and proposal forms may be obtained from the City’s website at www.cityofportsmouth.com/finance/purchasing.

The City of Portsmouth reserves the right to reject any or all proposals, to waive technical or legal deficiencies, and to accept any proposal that it may deem to be in the best interest of the City.

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
FOR
Testing and Subsurface Explorations**

I

Purpose

The City of Portsmouth is asking qualified Inspection and Testing Firms to prepare Proposals for the following services:

Inspections and testing of soils, concrete and hot mix asphalt during all aspects of road projects, including the coordination of soil drilling and ledge probing operations when needed. Taking field samples and completing the testing of soils, asphalt and concrete as requested. Determining underlying roadway characteristics through analyzing soil samples and data from probes and drilling operations and determining soil compaction goals.

II

Scope of Work

The work shall consist of the following items:

1. Detailed subsurface explorations to determine underlying roadway characteristics such as depth of bituminous surface, depth of concrete roadway base, gradation of gravel base, and depth of refusal. Contractor shall use an approved drill rig and will be required to backfill and patch all test holes with an approved bituminous material. Contractor will also be required to call Dig-Safe and submit local permits for locations to be determined by the City of Portsmouth.
2. Periodic field nuclear density testing. Contractor shall provide a technician certified in the operation of nuclear density equipment.
3. Concrete testing to include the services of a technician on site to determine slump, air content and density of fresh concrete, prepare test cylinders, check cleanliness of forms and observe the arrangement of reinforcing steel against standards outlined in ACI 318 and ASTM A 706 if needed.
4. Laboratory analyses of road materials. Contractor shall provide various reports relating to sieve analyses and proctor determinations.
5. All equipment, samples, testing and laboratory methods shall be accordance with methods prescribed by the available pertinent publication of AASHTO, ASTM or FSS.
6. All per diem and test prices to include transportation of personnel, all incidental laboratory charges, field equipment charges, administrative fees and reports unless otherwise indicated.
7. Contractor shall be required to obtain a Dig Safe number and appropriate local permits before digging or drilling operations commence. Contractor will not be charged municipal permit fees.

III

Proposal

The proposal shall include the following:

1. A Statement of Qualifications of the submitting firms and subcontractors including (3) three references for similar recent projects including current contact name and

- phone numbers.
2. The firm submitting the proposal shall employ a Registered Professional Engineer in the State of New Hampshire and such engineer or engineers shall be identified in the Statement of Qualifications.
 3. Proposals shall include a brief resume of roads, bridges and municipal building work, and a breakdown of work such as field work, office work, etc.
 4. Contractor shall price various tasks as outlined in the Scope of Work and Pricing Sheet.

By submitting a proposal, the firm consents to the City undertaking such investigation as it deems in its best interest to investigate the firm's qualifications. The submitting firm assumes all responsibility for any costs it incurs in preparing a response to this Request for Proposal.

IV Selection Criteria and Award of Contract

The firms will be ranked on the following criteria: qualifications, including experience, staffing and reputation, as well as price. The City will enter contract negotiations with the highest ranked firm. If the City cannot reach agreement with the highest-ranked firm, the City will proceed to the next highest ranked firm. It is the City's intention that contract negotiations will be completed by May 30, 2023 for work to commence immediately. It is the City's intention to enter into a Contract for a period of at least one year with a maximum of three years.

Firms may assume for purposes or pricing that the selected Contractor will be required to maintain insurance throughout the period of the contract in sufficient amounts as to protect the Contractor from all claims and liabilities for damages for bodily injury, including accidental death, and for property damage, which may arise from operations under this Contract whether such operation by himself or by anyone directly or indirectly employed by him. The following amounts of insurance are anticipated:

- A. Comprehensive General Liability:
Bodily Injury or Property Damage - \$1,000,000
- B. Automobile and Truck Liability:
Bodily Injury or Property Damage - \$1,000,000
- C. Professional Liability:
Errors and Omissions - \$1,000,000
- D. Workers Comprehensive Insurance coverage for all people employed by the Contractor to perform work on this project.

**V
Pricing**

Provide pricing for the following and any other costs involved that may not be specifically listed:

A. Soils Field Inspection:

Field Half Day _____

Field Full Day _____

Certified field technician to:

Compaction test per each _____

Report and lab time per Hr _____

- Test soils proposed for use or reuse
- Sieve and Proctor analysis
- Determine backfill lift thickness and technique
- Determine that the site has been prepared in accordance with the approved soils report
- During fill placement, determine the material being used and the maximum lift thickness complies with the approved report
- Monitor the placement of fill and determine the in-place moisture and density of fill soils.
- Reporting and testing lab time

B. Concrete with or without Reinforcing Steel

Inspection Half Day _____

Testing Half Day _____

Field Certified field technician to:

Testing Full Day _____

Cylinder Break Each _____

Test report time per hour _____

- Inspect reinforcing steel including placement
- Inspect reinforcing steel welding
- Inspect bolts to be installed in concrete prior to and during placement of concrete
- Verify use of required design mix of concrete
- Perform quality-control testing onsite to include slump test, air content, concrete and air temperature of fresh concrete at the time of making specimens for strength tests
- Inspect concrete (or shotcrete) placement for proper application techniques
- Inspect for maintenance of specified curing temperature and techniques
- Reporting of Concrete testing by the hour

C. Asphalt testing

Inspection at plant Half Day _____
Inspection at plant Full Day _____
Testing Half Day _____
Testing Full Day _____
Sample for lab Each _____
Sample analysis and reporting per Hr _____

Field Certified field technician to:

- Inspect asphalt installation including on site at plant testing of materials if requested.
- Testing of asphalt samples after installation if necessary for determination of quality

D. Field soil samples using drill rig

Drill Rig Half Day _____
Drill Rig Full Day _____
Sample analysis and reporting per Hr _____

Flagging and Traffic Control will be paid for the cost incurred with no mark-up allowed. Submit any flagging expenses as a monthly expense (if any) and it will be paid. No fees for coordination of flagging or police will be paid. Provide copies of invoices from the flaggers or police.

VI

Reservation of Rights

The City of Portsmouth reserves the right to reject any and all proposals, to waive technical or legal deficiencies, and to accept any proposals that are deemed to be in the best interest of the city.