



Rhode Island Turnpike and Bridge Authority

November 14, 2023

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

**Design and Construction Phase Services and Program Management Services
Claiborne Pell (Newport) Bridge: Suspension Cables and Anchorages
Investigation and Dehumidification, Deck and Joints Rehabilitation, Tower Steel
Repairs and Painting, and Elevator Rehabilitation**

Contract No. 23-14(X)

INTRODUCTION

The Rhode Island Turnpike and Bridge Authority (RITBA) is seeking proposals from qualified consulting firms with capabilities to provide engineering investigation, design, and construction support services for the Claiborne Pell (Newport) Bridge Suspension Cables & Anchorages Investigation & Dehumidification, Deck & Joints Rehabilitation, Tower Steel Repairs & Painting, and Elevator Rehabilitation. The purpose of this project is to extend the useful life of the bridge by at least 50 more years.

RITBA is also seeking proposals from qualified consulting firms with capabilities to provide professional Program Management (PM) services for the implementation of the above bundle of projects (Program).

The Program will be partially funded through the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) INFRA grant program.

BACKGROUND

RITBA is a quasi-public agency created by the Rhode Island General Assembly in 1954 as a corporate and body politic, with powers to construct, acquire, maintain, and operate bridge projects as defined by law. The Authority was responsible for the construction of the Claiborne Pell Bridge (formerly the Newport Bridge) which opened to traffic on June 28, 1969. The Authority has been responsible for the operation and maintenance of the Mount Hope Bridge between Bristol, Rhode Island and Portsmouth, Rhode Island and the Claiborne Pell Bridge between Newport, Rhode Island and Jamestown, Rhode Island since 1964 and 1969, respectively. On April 25, 2013, the State transferred custody, control and supervision of the land and improvements for the Jamestown Verrazzano and the Sakonnet River Bridges from the Rhode Island Department of Transportation (RIDOT) to the Authority. Ownership and title of the bridges remains with the State. In addition to the four (4) bridges noted above, RITBA also operates and maintains Route 138 through Jamestown and ten (10) smaller bridges associated with this highway and the approaches to the four (4) major bridges.

The Claiborne Pell Bridge, commonly known as the Newport Bridge, is a suspension bridge operated by RITBA that spans the East Passage of the Narragansett Bay in Rhode Island (northeastern United States). It was constructed between 1966 and 1969 and was opened to traffic in 1969. The bridge, part of RI 138, connects the city of Newport on Aquidneck Island and the Town of Jamestown on Conanicut Island, and is named for longtime Rhode Island U.S. senator Claiborne Pell who lived in Newport. The Pell Bridge is in turn connected to the mainland by the Jamestown Verrazzano Bridge.

The main span of the Newport Bridge is 1,601 feet long, making it the longest suspension bridge in New England. The overall length of the bridge is 11,247 feet. Its main towers reach 400 feet above the water surface, and the roadway height reaches as high as 217 feet. It is four lanes wide, two in each direction.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS

RITBA requires respondents keep the proposals to a maximum of fifteen (15) double sided 8 ½ x 11 pages (no less than 12 font) for each project component a firm is

requesting to provide services for RITBA, excluding:

- Cover Letter
- Table of Contents
- Dividers
- Resumes

RITBA will not accept videos, simulations, or other electronic presentations for this submittal. However, such electronic information may be presented during an interview process for the shortlisted proposers if so necessary.

Proposing firms shall submit one electronic (thumb/flash drive only) and three (3) printed copies of the proposal to:

Office of Procurement
Rhode Island Turnpike and Bridge Authority
1 East Shore Road
Jamestown, RI 02835

**Attn: Design and Construction Phase Services and Program Management
Services
Claiborne Pell (Newport) Bridge: Suspension Cables and Anchorages
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The proposal must be received no later than **2:00pm EDT January 16, 2024, EDT**. Late submissions will **not** be accepted. RITBA accepts deliveries during normal business hours Monday through Friday 8:30am to 4:00pm EDT excluding national and local state holidays. It is the sole responsibility of the responding firm to ensure delivery of its proposal on or before the due date/time, RITBA will not accept any proposals that are received after the due date/time. To control the dissemination of information regarding this RFP, firms interested in submitting proposals shall not make personal contact with any member of RITBA staff and/or Board of Directors. A virtual (Teams) non-mandatory pre-proposal meeting is scheduled for **10:00am December 12, 2023, EDT**. Firms may request the zoom invite by email procurement@ritba.org no later than end of day **EDT December 7, 2023**. Questions concerning this RFP should be directed, via email to procurement@ritba.org no later than **2:00pm December 20, 2023, EDT**. RITBA will respond to all relevant questions no later than end of day **EDT January 4, 2024**. This addendum will be posted to RITBA's website (www.ritba.org) and the State of Rhode Island's Division of Purchasing website (www.purchasing.ri.gov).

RITBA accepts no financial responsibility for any costs incurred by a firm in responding to this RFP, participating in oral presentations, or meeting with RITBA prior to being awarded the contract. The proposals in response to this RFP become the property of RITBA and may be used by RITBA in any way it deems appropriate. All information submitted in response to this RFP is deemed public and subject to disclosure unless a separate redacted public copy is submitted, regardless of whether the information is marked confidential/proprietary. Firms may redact in the public copy any trade secrets or commercial or financial information which is of a privileged or confidential nature pursuant

to the Access to Public Records Act (R.I. Gen. Laws § 38-2 et. seq.). If Firm does not submit a redacted public copy, RITBA assumes that firm is not seeking confidential treatment for any of its information and thus, all information is subject to public disclosure. By submitting a proposal, the firm certifies that it has fully read and understands the RFP, has full knowledge of the scope of work to be provided, and accepts the terms and conditions under which the services are to be performed. RITBA will be the sole judge in determining as equivalent products (if applicable).

RITBA reserves the right to, virtually, interview some, all or none of the firms responding to this RFP based solely on its judgment as to the firm(s) proposals and capabilities. RITBA reserves the right to select firms directly from the proposals received without the use of an interview process. RITBA reserves the right to request and consider additional information from submitters, and to reject any submittals on any basis without disclosing the reason. No firm may withdraw their submittal for at least one-hundred twenty (120) days after the time and date set for submission.

RITBA reserves the right to waive any irregularities and technical defects. RITBA reserves the right to modify, amend or waive any provision of this RFP, prior to the issuance of an award for these services.

SCOPE

1. PROJECTS

RITBA is seeking proposals from qualified architectural, engineering, and environmental consulting firms that have demonstrated experience in providing professional services on the following types of projects:

1. Suspension Cables and Anchorages Dehumidification
2. Concrete Deck and Expansion Joint Rehabilitation
3. Steel Repairs and Painting, and Tower Elevator Rehabilitation

Respondents may choose to submit proposals for one or any combination of the above identified three project types. Please use Exhibit A to identify the project(s) you are submitting proposals to provide services to RITBA. The submitted cover letter must clearly note the specific project(s) the respondent intends to be considered for. RITBA may select a consulting firm for more than one project type.

Suspension Cables and Anchorages Dehumidification

The Scope of Services for this project type includes:

- Inspection of the external and internal conditions of the main suspension cables and their anchorages.
- Designing a main cable and anchorage dehumidification system.
- Prepare contract documents including plans, specifications, estimates, and a construction schedule for the Authority to solicit bids from construction contractors.
- Providing technical support services during construction.
- Providing access and work platforms and contractor services for unwrapping, wedging, internal inspection and rewrapping the main cables.
- Providing maintenance and protection of traffic.

- Phasing of work, as well as coordination with other ongoing projects.

Concrete Deck and Joints Rehabilitation

The Scope of Services for this project type includes:

- Design and technical support services during construction for concrete deck partial and full depth rehabilitation and joint rehabilitation, including large finger joints.
- Prepare contract documents to include plans, specifications, estimates, and a construction schedule for the Authority to solicit bids from construction contractors.
- Phasing of work, as well as coordination with other ongoing projects.

Key considerations include experience on projects with concrete demolition methods, concrete mix types, reinforcing bar repairs and replacements, construction phasing, and maintenance and protection of traffic.

Steel Repairs, Painting, and Tower Elevator Rehabilitation

The Scope of Services for this project type includes:

- design and technical support services during construction for steel repairs, painting, and bridge elevator rehabilitation and upgrades.
- Prepare contract documents to include plans, specifications, estimates, and a construction schedule for the Authority to solicit bids from construction contractors.
- Phasing of work, as well as coordination with other ongoing projects.

Key considerations include experience quantifying and detailing steel repairs, specifying containment and disposal requirements, consideration of staging methods, estimation of production times, effective methods to upgrade and rehabilitate bridge elevators over 50 years old, construction phasing, and maintenance and protection of traffic.

2. PROGRAM MANAGEMENT

RITBA is also seeking proposals from qualified consulting firms with capabilities to provide professional PM services for the implementation of the above projects. The consulting firm selected for PM services will be selected solely for this task and therefore will not be selected for any of the above project services. However, a consulting firm CAN submit proposals for PM services AND any of the above project types for consideration.

The selected PM will provide overall coordination and program administration services for the entire Program of projects listed above in this document. The PM will be expected to work closely with RITBA personnel, the FHWA, and any other consultants/firms who may be retained during all phases of design and construction. The PM will assist RITBA in the procurement of other design consultants/firms and the development of individual project scopes of work and fees for consultant responsibilities. This will include performing Independent Fee Estimates (IFEs) as required by FHWA.

At this time, RITBA anticipates that the PM will provide the following basic services. RITBA is open to suggestions or modifications to this basic scope should a consultant or

consultant team have experience or expertise that supports it. The PM is prohibited from self-performing any construction.

Development of an Overall Program Strategy

The PM will develop an overall strategy for execution and completion of all program elements/projects, while maintaining the highest level of continuing vehicular travel operations as possible. The strategy must include overall coordination of the various phases of design, bid, construction, and closeout that will ensure completion of the Program projects within the Program schedule.

In the development of this strategy, the PM will include input from RITBA and FHWA, as well as include a system for project element prioritization. The strategy must address issues related to preconstruction and construction activities, including developing repair strategies, design standards, coordination between design consultant(s), as required, record keeping, and all items that influence project delivery schedules, costs, and vehicular travel operations. The PM may recommend modifications and adjustments to the Program project elements, if necessary, to gain overall project strategy acceptance. The PM, as required, shall prepare a systematic approach to managing safety.

Develop the Program Schedule

The PM will develop and maintain a Program schedule and establish schedule milestones for all activities necessary to advance each project to completion in accordance with the Program strategy. The Program schedule shall be reviewed and agreed upon by RITBA. RITBA and the PM, and any design consultant(s) on a case-by-case basis shall review any issues affecting an individual project element. The PM will be responsible to continually update and track all schedules, including those for the bidding. The PM will establish procedures to identify and rectify any activities that fall behind schedule.

Program Record-Keeping

The PM will provide a system for tracking all Program elements' design, preconstruction, and construction activities and projections of the outcome, as well as the final archive of all Program documents. The final archive system will be easily understood and accessible by RITBA and any design consultant(s). Project status reports will be provided monthly. This system shall document and record the history of design decisions.

Program Design Oversight

The PM will represent RITBA in assuring that all program elements are designed in accordance with FHWA standards, and any policies outlined in the Program strategy. The PM will develop standard specifications to be used on individual Program elements/projects. The PM will resolve all design issues in compliance with the Program schedule. The PM will review and distribute preliminary plans, including those from any design consultant(s) and schedule all review meetings with RITBA staff, and if applicable, the FHWA. The PM shall be responsible for preparing, distributing, and maintaining proper minutes of these meetings. The PM will review all proposed design exceptions, including changes or additions to standard specifications, and make recommendations to RITBA. The PM will review and maintain supporting documentation. The PM will review and comment on all preliminary and final plans; at a minimum two preliminary plans will be submitted for review for each project. The PM will be responsible to prepare and/or

track and update all cost estimates from the design consultant(s). The PM will present any proposed design modifications and confirm RITBA's and the FHWA's concurrence before proceeding with final design.

The PM will conduct pre-bid conferences as necessary and will be responsible for having appropriate plan revisions made by the applicable design consultant(s).

Potential Construction Administration /Resident Inspection

RITBA may choose to have the PM assist and/or perform duties associated with construction administration and/or resident inspection. These duties may involve, but not be limited to the following:

- Prequalify contractors.
- Review bids and recommend award.
- Conduct construction meetings and coordination meetings as necessary.
- Provide full-time project inspection for all construction projects.
- Provide full construction documentation including daily reports, testing summaries, measurement and documentation of quantities for payment, approval of all payment requests, preparation and submittal of FHWA reports, and environmental monitoring and reporting as may be required.
- Coordinate with RITBA to ensure that all safety and security issues are addressed during construction.
- Coordinate with all affected branches of the FHWA.
- Review and approve shop drawings.
- Review and make recommendations for approval of construction change orders.
- Review and approve contractor's and subcontractor's certified payrolls and Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) compliance reporting.
- Hire and direct a materials testing firm to provide acceptance testing and documentation for all projects.
- Provide project documentation for all projects in accordance with the requirements of the FHWA, including "close-out" paperwork for all INFRA funded projects.
- Provide dispute resolution and claims service.
- Conduct coordination meetings with RITBA management at a minimum of twice per month.
- Prepare a systematic approach to managing safety.

Public Involvement

The PM will work with RITBA to develop a public outreach program that will regularly present the status of the Program. The PM will document all comments and suggestions obtained through this outreach. The PM duties associated with this effort may include, but are not limited to the following:

- Attend and assist RITBA with the public involvement process to provide information on Program/project(s) status.
- Provide multiple means of communication for public involvement, including but not limited to establishment of a website providing schedule, project(s) status and contact information.

- Coordinate with RITBA to ensure appropriate information is available to print other media in a timely manner.
- Be available to provide oral or written briefings to RITBA in order to update them on the program status when requested.

SUBMITTAL AND EVALUATION CRITERIA

Proposals will be evaluated by a Selection Committee, which will be seeking to distinguish which proposer has, through the appropriate combination of several criteria, the ability to best perform the required services to the satisfaction of RITBA. While some criteria may be ranked higher than others in the selection process, the proposal that achieves the highest overall ranking will be considered top-ranked by the Selection Committee. The proposals for each project type will be evaluated using the following criteria:

A. Experience of Proposed Team – 35%

- Provide an organizational chart for the proposed team including any subconsultants.
- Provide resumes for each key team member that will have significant involvement in this project.
- For each team member, indicate the percentage of dedicated availability for this project.
- Articulate experience performing similar projects and the responsible role on each project.
- Provide demonstrated experience working with the Coastal Resources Management Program (CRMC) permitting and with the Rhode Island Historical Preservation & Heritage Commission (RIHPHC)
- Provide contact information (phone number & email address) of the primary contact for this solicitation.

B. Project Understanding and Approach – 35%

- Demonstrate an understanding of and familiarity with the project(s) and describe your approach to completion, including a conceptual schedule from design through completion of construction.
- Demonstrate how you will maintain 24-hour traffic flow on the bridge while constructing the project(s) and how the phasing could be accomplished.
- Explain your approach to the successful accomplishment of this project.
- Articulate your knowledge of the various components and rough order of magnitude of construction cost by including a high-level, itemized construction cost estimate broken down at least by major components.

C. Experience of Firm – 30%

- Include at least two (2) representative projects to be used as relevant experience, and only those for which some or all the project team were involved and include a contact for the respective client.
- Provide three (3) general references other than the 2 identified in “a” above.

RITBA will select a firm or firms based upon recommendations of the Selection Committee, and subsequent approval of the Executive Director and the RITBA Board of Directors.

INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS

Evidence of the following minimum insurance coverage must be provided:

- a. General Liability limits of \$1,000,000 per occurrence.
- b. Motor Vehicle Liability Insurance with limits of \$1,000,000.
- c. Worker's Compensation coverage to Rhode Island statutory limits or documentation evidencing an approved self-insurance program.
- d. Umbrella Liability limits of \$5,000,000 excess of \$1,000,000 primary layer.
- e. Errors and Omissions Coverage with minimum limits of \$1,000,000.
- f. Professional liability coverage in effect in an amount not less than \$1,000,000.

RITBA and the State of Rhode Island shall be named as additional insured on all policies of insurance except for the Errors and Omission (Professional Liability) and Worker's Compensation insurance.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT

RITBA's standard Professional Services Agreement (PSA) is attached hereto and incorporated herein by this reference. RITBA expects the successful firm to execute this Agreement with no changes to the Agreement. Task Orders will be issued for any work assigned under this Agreement.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

Minority Business Enterprise Participation

In accordance with RI Gen. Law § 37-14.1-1, it is the policy of the State of Rhode Island to support the fullest possible participation of firms owned and controlled by minorities (MBEs) and women (WBEs). Pursuant to §§ 37-14.1-2 and 37-14.1-6, MBEs and WBEs shall be included in all State purchasing, including, but not limited to, the procurement of goods, services, construction projects, or contracts funded in whole or in part with State funds, or funds which, in accordance with a federal grant or otherwise, the State expends or administers. MBEs and WBEs shall be awarded a minimum of fifteen percent (15%) of the dollar value of the entire procurement or project (MBE's – 7.5%; WBE's 7.5%). Vendors should be aware that each time a task order is issued under this solicitation and subsequent PSA, an MBE Utilization Plan shall be submitted to the Division of Equity, Diversity & Inclusion for review and approval. A copy of the Plan should be provided to RITBA in advance. Please note that MBE participation credit shall only be granted for firms duly certified as MBEs and WBEs by the State of Rhode Island, Department of Administration, Division of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion, MBE Compliance Office (MBECO). The current directory of firms certified as MBEs or WBEs may be accessed at <https://dedi.ri.gov/divisions-units/minority-business-enterprise-compliance-office/minority-business-enterprise-mbe> or by contacting Kate Brody at the MBECO at 401-574-8670 or via email at kate.brody@doa.ri.gov.

Campaign Finance Compliance

Every person or business entity providing goods or services at a cost of \$5,000 cumulated value is required to file an affidavit regarding political campaign contributions with the RI State Board of Elections even if no reportable contributions have been made. R.I.G.L. §

17-27 Forms may be obtained at Board of Elections, Campaign Finance Division, website at <https://elections.ri.gov/finance/index.php>. Please call (401) 222-2345 or e-mail campaign.finance@elections.ri.gov with any questions or concerns. For the purposes of this RFP RITBA asks that firm's commit to properly file all appropriate documentation prior to any contract being signed.

Major State Decision-Maker

Does any Rhode Island "Major State Decision-Maker", as defined below, or the spouse or dependent child of such person, hold (i) a ten percent or greater equity interest, or (ii) a \$5,000 or greater cash interest in this business?

For purposes of this question, "Major State Decision-Maker" means:

- (a) All general officers; and all executive or administrative head or heads of any state executive agency enumerated in R.I.G.L § 42-6-1 as well as the executive or administrative head or heads of state quasi-public corporations, whether appointed or serving as an employee. The phrase "executive or administrative head or heads" shall include anyone serving in the positions of president, senior vice president, general counsel, director, executive director, deputy director, assistant director, executive counsel or chief of staff;
- (ii) All members of the general assembly and the executive or administrative head or heads of a state legislative agency, whether appointed or serving as an employee. The phrase "executive or administrative head or heads" shall include anyone serving in the positions of director, executive director, deputy director, assistant director, executive counsel, or chief of staff; and
- (iii) All members of the state judiciary and all state magistrates and the executive or administrative head or heads of a state judicial agency, whether appointed or serving as an employee. The phrase "executive or administrative head or heads" shall include anyone serving in the positions of director, executive director, deputy director, assistant director, executive counsel, chief of staff or state court administrator.

If your answer is "Yes", please identify the Major State Decision-Maker, specify the nature of their ownership interest, and provide a copy of the annual financial disclosure required to be filed with the Rhode Island Ethics Commission pursuant to R.I.G.L. §36-14-16, 17 and 18.

Title VI Solicitation Notice

RITBA, in accordance with the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (78 Stat. 252, 42 USC §§ 2000d to 2000d-4) and the Regulations, hereby notifies all bidders or offerors that it will affirmatively ensure that any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, disadvantaged business enterprises or airport concession disadvantaged business enterprises will be afforded full and fair opportunity to submit bids in response

to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, or national origin in consideration for an award.

- END OF RFP