

**MAINE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
REQUEST FOR LETTER OF INTEREST**

**for  
Bridge replacement of the Portland, Veranda St bridge over U.S. Route 1 (WIN 21745.00)**

**SUBJECT** Letter of Interest for the above project in the town of Portland.

**REQUIREMENT** Maine Department of Transportation is seeking Letters of Interest from contractors to become prequalified to bid and to participate in a project review process.

**ONLY CONTRACTORS THAT BECOME PREQUALIFIED WILL BE ELIGIBLE TO BID ON THE PROJECT(S).**

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**PROJECT DESCRIPTION** MaineDOT intends to evaluate and implement recommendations resulting from a contractor interface process that will solicit input on the advertised plan set. The Department plans to re-advertise the project in August 2020.

This project specific prequalification invites input from the contracting community to help meet the key project goals of minimizing traffic impacts, reducing bidder's risk, and reducing cost. The project location, traffic impacts, and scope of work are significant requiring anticipation and understanding of the design and its impact to construction. The review process will focus on, but not be limited to, the following key areas:

- Substructure design and details
- Lateral slide details and specifications
- Construction phasing and timing
- Maintenance of traffic parameters

**PROJECT REVIEW PROCESS** The MaineDOT is fully responsible to lead the design effort and expects to interact with the prequalified contractors as described below to focus on design in relation to the work outlined above.

- **Initial Review Meeting** MaineDOT will meet with the pre-qualified contractors as a group to explain the design basis of the current plans and specifications and provide an open forum for feedback on the contract package. Prior to the meetings, MaineDOT will distribute an agenda with supplemental information as needed. MaineDOT expects to meet with the prequalified contractors within three weeks of the LOI submission. Meeting attendance is mandatory.
- **One on One Discussions** MaineDOT expects to meet individually with each prequalified contractor to discuss key project issues related to cost, timing, and impacts to traffic. MaineDOT anticipates holding group and/or one-on-one discussions as a follow up to the Initial Review Meeting, and prior to project bid.
- **Pre-bid Meeting** After the final bid package is advertised, MaineDOT will meet with the prequalified contractors to present the final bid package and receive additional comments and questions. Questions presented at this meeting will be answered and distributed as a bid amendment.

Supplemental information will be provided by MaineDOT as needed in advance of the one-on-one discussions. The Department will use information gained at the meetings to make project decisions and revise the plans and specifications as appropriate. The Department does not intend to share information discussed at the one-on-one meetings. However, the final bid documents could reflect contract decisions resulting from such information. Neither the Department, nor the Contractor, will be bound by verbal or written representations made prior to the formal advertising for bids for the project. After advertisement for bids, Standard Specification Section 102.5, Communications Before Bid Opening, will be fully observed.

**CRITERIA** The Department will determine prequalification for this project based on a pass/fail evaluation of the Letter of Interest which must include:

1. A statement that the firm desires to be prequalified to bid for the subject project.
2. A statement that the firm commits to actively participate in the project review process in order to develop appropriate and constructible design plans.
3. Evidence that the firm has a bonding capacity of at least \$20 Million for a single contract.
4. Descriptions of at least 3 active or completed similar and comparable major bridge projects within the past 5 years. Reference projects need not be lateral slide but should be of similar size and technical complexity. Project references with contact information must be included.
5. Acknowledgement that the firm is willing to apply and will acquire a Bridge Prequalification with MaineDOT, if not already prequalified. If not already prequalified, the firm shall acquire the prequalification prior attending the Initial Review Meeting. **Firms not prequalified in advance of Initial Review Meeting shall not be allowed to bid on the subject project.** For information and applications to obtain a MaineDOT prequal, go to <http://www.maine.gov/mdot/contractors/prequal/>

**RFIs (Requests For Information)** RFIs may be emailed directly to RFI-Contracts.MDOT@maine.gov with the subject of “RFI – Veranda St. Bridge Project---21745.00”. Answers will be posted as ‘Amendments’ on the website with this Notice. Bidders shall not contact any other departmental staff. The Department will not be responsible for any answers given or information not posted on the website. RFIs will be received up to 12:00 noon of the Wednesday prior to the submission deadline.

**SUBMISSION**- Submit your original, signed Letter of Interest, on company letterhead; your experience as asked for in #4 above; A MaineDOT prequal application including Safety and Civil Rights Supplementals (if not already Bridge prequalified w/ MaineDOT) to:

MAINE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
Attn: George Macdougall Maine Department  
of Transportation 16 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333-0016

Submittals may be e-mailed (Word or Adobe Format) to george.macdougall@maine.gov as long as a hardcopy of required material is received by the deadline below. Please use the subject of “BID – Portland Veranda St. Bridge Project”.

- **Deadline for Letter of Interest submission: 4:00 PM, Friday, June 5, 2020.** Contractors will be informed of their prequalification status by Friday, June 12, 2020.