

SECTION 00100

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

The City of Pharr, Texas (City) will receive sealed bids for its "WATER TREATMENT PLANT EXPANSION TO 19 MGD" project. Bids must be received by the City of Pharr, Texas, at the Pharr City Hall, 118 South Cage Boulevard, Pharr, Texas 78557 on or before 3:00 P.M. on Monday, April 12, 2010. NO BIDS WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER 3:00 P.M. As soon as practical after this closing time, all bids will be publicly opened and read aloud.

The project consists of Construction of an expansion to the City's existing water treatment plant to include: a new control building, new raw water pumps, a new 36" raw water waterline, a new rapid mix basin, a new distribution basin, a new Clarifier, new sludge return pumps, new sludge drying beds, new media filters, new backwash water pumps, construction of a new groundwater well, new chemical storage and handling equipment, modifications to the existing clearwell transfer pump station, the existing ground storage tank, the high service pump building, and the existing clarifiers, and associated piping, electrical, controls and ancillary equipment.

Contract Documents including bidding and contract forms, technical specifications and drawings are on file at NAISMITH ENGINEERING, INC., 789 E. Washington Street, Brownsville, Texas 78520. Hard copies of the Bid/Contract Documents may be obtained by depositing \$200.00, \$50.00 of which will be refundable upon return of the documents in reusable condition for each set of documents obtained, within ten (10) days following the bid opening. Bidders wishing to receive hard copy documents by mail must pay a \$40.00 non-refundable postage and handling fee to cover the cost of mailing. Electronic copies of the Bid/Contract Documents may also be obtained at no charge via the internet at: <http://www.neionline.com/Pharr-WTPExpansion.htm>. **Potential Bidders obtaining electronic copies of the bid/contract documents via the internet must register with the Engineer to ensure receipt of any addenda or other communication that may be issued.**

A **Mandatory** pre-bid conference will be held on Thursday, March 18, 2010 at the Pharr City Hall City Commissioner Room, 2nd floor, 118 South Cage Boulevard, Pharr, Texas 78557 at 2:00 P.M.

Each Bid must be accompanied by a bid security in the amount of five percent (5%) of the total Base Bid, payable to the City of Pharr, Texas, as a guarantee that the Bidder will execute a contract for the work if it is awarded by the Owner. The bid security may be a cashier's check, other certified check or bank draft from a chartered financial institution authorized to operate in Texas; negotiable U.S. Government securities (as par value); or a Bid Bond, duly executed by the Bidder as principal and having as surety thereon a surety company meeting the requirements of the Contract Documents.

Attention is drawn to the fact that the successful Bidder must ensure that employees and applicants for employment are not discriminated against because of their race, color, religion, sex, or national origin.

Bids may be held for a period not exceeding ninety (90) days for the purpose of review and evaluation. The City of Pharr, reserves the right to reject any or all bids or to waive any informalities in the Bidding.

Any contract or contracts awarded under this Advertisement for Bids are expected to be funded in part by a grant from the Texas Water Development Board. Neither the State of Texas nor any of its departments, agencies, or employees is or will be a party in this Advertisement for Bids or any resulting contract

The execution of a contract for this project is contingent upon release of funds from the Texas Water Development Board. Contractors will also be required to provide the City with the required forms and/or other information, as needed, to ensure compliance with the applicable SMWBE requirements.

**SMALL, MINORITY, & WOMEN-OWNED BUSINESS ENTERPRISE (SMWBE)
PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS**

The selection of a service provider and award of a contract are contingent upon the funding and approval through the TWDB. This Advertisement for Bids is issued in accordance with Chapter 252 of the Texas Local Government Code and Title 40 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 31 (Uniform Administrative Requirements for Grants and Cooperative Agreements to State and Local Governments).

Prime contractors will be required to provide the City with the required forms and/or other information, as needed, to ensure compliance with applicable SMWBE requirements. This includes, but is not limited to the following: **(SRF-373) Loan/Grant Participation Summary; (WRD-216) Affirmative Steps Solicitation Report; (WRD-217) Prime Contractor Affirmative Steps Certification & Goals;** and **(WRD-218) SMWBE Self-Certification** (where applicable).

This contract is subject to the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) "fair share policy", which includes EPA-approved "fair share goals" for Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) and Women Business Enterprise (WBE) firms in the Construction, Supplies, Equipment, and Services procurement categories. EPA's policy requires that applicants and prime contractors make a good faith effort to award a fair share of contracts, subcontracts, and procurements to Small Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprises. Although EPA's policy does not mandate that the fair share goals be achieved, it does require applicants and prime contractors to demonstrate use of the six affirmative steps. The current fair share goals for the State of Texas are as follows:

	<u>MBE</u>	<u>WBE</u>
CONSTRUCTION	34.8%	6.7%
SUPPLIES	9.7%	5.2%
EQUIPMENT	7.2%	4.1%
SERVICES	16.1%	21.3%

In order to increase the potential for achieving the fair share goals above, *prime contractors* are required to comply with EPA's good faith effort policy when awarding **sub-agreements** for *construction, supplies, equipment, and services*. Compliance with the policy includes:

- (1) Include qualified SMWBE's on solicitation lists;
- (2) Solicit potential SMWBE's;
- (3) Reduce contract size/quantities, when economically feasible, to permit maximum participation of SMWBE's;
- (4) Establish delivery schedules to encourage participation by SMWBE's; and

(5) Use the services and assistance of the Small Business Administration; Minority Business Development Agency, and the U.S. Department of Commerce

All qualified Applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, age, handicap or national origin. Bidders on this work will be required to comply with the President's Executive Order No. 11246, as amended by Executive Order 11375, and as supplemented in Department of Labor regulations 41 CFR Part 60. Small, minority, and women-owned business enterprises are encouraged to respond.

A complete version of TWDB document, SRF-52v.4 "Small, Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprise Guidance", which explains all requirements of the program is available at: www.twdb.state.tx.us/publications/forms_manuals/SMWBE.xls

The City is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer; Small, Minority, and Women-Owned Firms are Encouraged to Submit Bids

Fred Sandoval (City Manager), City of Pharr

Publication Dates:

- February 24, 2010
- March 3, 2010

*** END OF SECTION ***