



PURCHASING DEPARTMENT  
1772 County Services Parkway  
Marietta, Georgia 30008-4012  
(770) 528-8400/FAX (770) 528-1154

Mark Kohntopp  
INTERIM DIRECTOR

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**ADDENDUM No. 2**

**Sealed Bid # 12-5639  
Request for Proposal  
Consultant Services for Northwest Atlanta Corridor  
Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)  
Cobb County Department of Transportation**

**DATE: March 23, 2012**

Page 1 of 9

The following addendum hereby amends and/or modifies the Proposal Documents and specifications as originally issued for this project. All proposers are subject to the provisions of this Addendum.

**Proposers shall acknowledge receipt of this addendum.**  
Include this original form inside your proposal package.

**This Addendum consists of:**

- **Minutes of the Pre-Bid Meeting on March 7, 2012**
- **Questions Submitted in Writing to Date**
- **Attendees List from the Pre-Bid Meeting on March 7, 2012**

**All bids must be received before 12:00 (noon) by the Bid Opening date. Bids shall be delivered to Cobb County Purchasing Department, 1772 County Services Parkway, Marietta, GA 30008.**

**Electronic / faxed bid response will not be considered.**

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**I acknowledge that I have received Addendum No. 2**

**Sealed Bid # 12-5639  
Request for Proposal  
Consultant Services for Northwest Atlanta Corridor  
Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)  
Cobb County Department of Transportation**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Company Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date Sent to Purchasing

\_\_\_\_\_  
Please Print Name

Please sign, date, and return this form ONLY to:  
Cobb County Purchasing Department  
Fax #: 770-528-1154  
E-Mail: [purchasing@cobbcounty.org](mailto:purchasing@cobbcounty.org)

Please note: The deadline for questions is: **April 27, 2012** by 5:00 pm  
Any questions received after this deadline will not be considered.

**SEALED BID # 12 – 5639**  
**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL**  
**CONSULTANT SERVICES FOR NORTHWEST ATLANTA CORRIDOR**  
**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT (EIS)**

**ADDENDUM #2, March 23, 2012**

On Friday, March 16, Cobb County issued Addendum #1 extending the deadline for proposals. The deadline was extended to allow respondents additional time to develop various scenarios for responding to the RFP and to modify the solicitation schedule. Depending on the Locally Preferred Alternative (LPA) which will result from the Alternatives Analysis (AA), the level of documentation required may be an Environmental Assessment (EA) for an alternative along I-75 or an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for an alternative that includes both I-75 and US 41.

We would expect the successful proposer to become involved before the AA is deemed complete so that there is a smooth and cohesive, rather than a hard and fast, transition from AA into NEPA. That way information from the AA more readily informs the preparation of the EIS.

Please note that FTA has the final say in the class of action determination and this determination hinges on the mode and the alignment and occurs after the LPA is adopted. The LPA may include a modal split but at this point it is too early to conclude.

Please describe your approach and scope to allow for the possibility of the environmental document to encompass such, as well as the potential for the environmental documentation level to be either an EIS or an EA depending on the LPA.

If the recommended alignment in the LPA for the entire corridor ends up along the I-75 corridor, then an EA may be considered for the entire corridor. Consultant responses should describe the approach to the various potential scenarios and cost estimates for either an EA or an EIS.

## ***Pre-Bid Conference Minutes, March 7, 2012***

John Flood opened the Pre-Bid Meeting regarding the Request for Proposal for consultant services for the development of the Northwest Atlanta Corridor Environmental Impact Statement. He introduced Cobb DOT staff Jason Gaines, Faye DiMassimo, Laraine Vance and Christine Watson.

John stated the bids will be received at the Purchasing Department on March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2012 [***changed to May 10<sup>th</sup> per addendum #1***] before 12 o'clock noon; late bids will not be accepted. The bids will be opened in this room at 2:00 pm on that same day. The address for Purchasing is 1772 County Services Parkway, Marietta, GA. No bid bond is required for this solicitation. Please submit an original and six copies of your proposal [along with one electronic copy] and mark your original proposal well.

When sending your packets, please be sure your company name and bid number are on the outside of the package. If you are going to use more than one package to submit your proposal, please include your original proposal in box number one. There is also a label provided in the specifications you can use to put on the outside of the box to identify your proposal. Your cut-off date for questions for this proposal is March 13, 2012 [***changed to April 27<sup>th</sup> per addendum #1***] at 5:00 P.M. local time. You can fax your questions to the Purchasing Department at 770-528-1154 or you may e-mail questions about the proposal to [purchasing@cobbcounty.org](mailto:purchasing@cobbcounty.org). Please include the bid number and project title on any questions that you submit either by fax or e-mail. The minutes and addenda of this meeting including the sign in sheet will be sent out to all plan holders on record and they will also be posted on the Purchasing web page. The web page is located at [purchasing.cobbcountyga.gov](http://purchasing.cobbcountyga.gov).

This March 22<sup>nd</sup> bid opening will be televised and available on local TV Channel 23 Comcast. It will also be simulcast via the internet through the Cobb County website. You can view the broadcast at TV23 by clicking on "Live Stream".

Attendees were reminded to sign in for this meeting which was then turned over to Faye DiMassimo.

Faye indicated there are a few things DOT wants to make sure to discuss today. First, I want to discuss what the EIS document represents with regards to the Alternatives Analysis and how those two overlap and are coordinated. If anyone has been tracking this particular opportunity, you know this was originally proposed as a Tier 1 Draft Environmental Impact Statement. In Washington, there is new leadership in this particular area of FTA who no longer desires to have Tiered Environmental documents. Therefore, we have re-issued the RFP requesting a full Environmental Impact Statement.

There is still going to be overlap between the Alternatives Analysis which is now currently underway, and this document. What we have agreed to with FTA is that the Alternatives Analysis will be in the process of early scoping by the time the EIS begins. The Alternatives Analysis includes an environmental scan which is basically a fatal flaw analysis for the four alignments that we currently still have in play. The early scoping phase will be particularly focused on the Chattahoochee and the National Park. It would be helpful if you would provide comment on that in your proposals.

Just to reiterate, the first early scoping piece and overlap with the Alternatives Analysis will be a handoff of some of the information that has been developed during the fatal flaw analysis and the various alignments. This first early scoping piece before the EIS starts in earnest will be for the EIS to contemplate and enable that early scoping needed with the Chattahoochee River Keeper and the National Parks Service.

Secondly, just to comment on the Alternatives Analysis overlap again as I just described it - our vision and the concurrence that we have from FTA is that there will be handoffs between the two studies. Currently in the AA study we are narrowing down to a more limited list of alignments which will be available with more detail along with station locations by May. We have accelerated the AA process in anticipation of the Regional Transportation Referendum July 31<sup>st</sup> so that more information about what the project is available than what is currently programmed in the original transportation referendum [list of projects]. So there will be quite a bit of information available over the summer which will be encompassed in this early scoping effort that we have discussed.

Our goal is still to have a locally preferred alternative recommendation by September. So you can see the AA will be moving very quickly and this early scoping piece though with regard to the sensitive Chattahoochee area, any crossing of the Chattahoochee and the Parks Service is going to be particularly critical.

Under section 3.6.4, we are particularly interested in a description of proven, creative approaches to environmental stream lining processes, as well as proposals you may consider to be viable for new approaches for consideration and discussion with FTA. Again, that is under the first bullet on 3.6.4 and we look forward to your responses on that particular matter.

The other thing that we will be looking for is your experiences with the FTA NEPA process and successfully guiding a document through that. In my experience with NEPA, Federal Highway's version of NEPA, or application of NEPA, and Federal Transit Administration's application of NEPA and other agencies are different. NEPA's NEPA but it is not.

And the last thing I would like to call to your attention is that we very focused on achieving DBE participation in our contracts, projects and so forth, in the County. I would encourage you to look at that and respond accordingly. [The current DBE goal is 7%; however, proposers are encouraged to exceed that goal]

#### **Questions:**

*Q: Do you have a budget?*

**A: We do. I think you should respond back to us with the resource commitment that you think will be necessary to accomplish the project. I will tell you that we have sufficient resources to accomplish the project in the manner that it needs to be successfully accomplished. We have both a commitment through, and these are numbers you can find, so I am not trying to be cagey about it, but we had originally budgeted for this in our own County SPLOST and so there was funding available in that and then that we also just found out two weeks ago that we were one of the Environmental Impact Statement projects that was selected by ARC for funding.**

**We will be utilizing that funding plus the resources we have available through our own SPLOST to make sure we have sufficient funding. If you look at those two numbers, obviously, we are not going to need all that but we have additional work under the Alternatives Analysis study which is pretty complex. Anytime you are dealing with two major jurisdictions, the City of Atlanta (Fulton County) and Cobb County, in terms of in a corridor the length and the complexity from every kind of perspective not just environmentally, but socially, economically and so forth, you can anticipate there will be additional needs even under the Alternatives Analysis.**

*Q: In the RFP it states the schedule is 18 to 24 months, and my question would be, at the end of that project, what are you hoping to have in your hands?*

**A: We hope to have an LPA taken through the NEPA process and ready for FTA approval to enter PE. You know in the recent notice of proposed rule-making that FTA has out in the New Starts Process, one of the things that has changed is there used to be windows of opportunity when you could request to enter a PE. That has changed and it is kind of a rolling schedule. I would tell you that we would really like to see an 18<sup>th</sup> month schedule although we recognize that NEPA is a complex process and it usually takes more time rather than less, however, we would want to get to that opportunity as quickly as we can. But at least it is no longer constrained by a prescribed sort of window as it has been in the past.**

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### ***Responses to Questions submitted via email through March 13, 2012***

Q1: On page 6 of the RFP it's stated in Section 3.6 Proposal Format that the Scope and Methodology section is limited to 10 pages and all other supplemental information is considered an Appendix with no page limitations — that being said is the letter of transmittal included in the 10 page limit?

**No, the letter of transmittal is not included in the 10 page limit**

Q2: Are a front cover, back cover, tabs, and table of contents included in the 10 page limit?

**No, these items are not included in the 10 page limit**

Q3: Since an organizational chart is considered “supplemental information” to be included in an Appendix can it be displayed as an 11x17 fold-out?

**Yes, that is acceptable**

Q4: Is the Bid Submittal form included in the 10 page limit? If not, can it be included in our Appendix with the rest of the required forms?

**The bid submittal form is not a part of the 10 page limit and should be included in the front of the proposal**

Q5: Do you want three references for the prime and each sub and three separate references for just the project manager directly?

**Yes**

Q6: The only page limited sections seem to be the cover letter and The Scope of Work and Methodology. Is that the case?

**That is correct**

Q7: Where does the Preliminary Engineering (PE) step fit into the Northwest Corridor study?

**Please see response to question 9.**

Q8: What alternatives should the consultant teams assume will be evaluated in the DEIS (what modes and/or alignments)?

**Please note that the RFP is for a full Environmental Impact Statement, not a DEIS. The modes and alignments are being developed in the AA study currently underway and have not been determined at this time. More information will be available beginning in May and throughout the summer months**

*Q9: What can the selected team expect to pick up when the AA is deemed complete? The scope as presented in the RFP is not consistent with the typical FTA process, which is typically AA/DEIS, or PE/EIS. For example, the New Starts process needs PE approval before a ROD is secured. Also, typically, there will be a project to evaluate at the end of the LPA (a set mode and alignment with some options). Also the technical information behind the LPA (ridership model, financial plan, cost estimates) would be vetted with FTA prior to entering PE/EIS.*

**Traditionally the NEPA evaluation begins in earnest once the AA reveals an LPA. FTA has recently changed their stance on the AA/DEIS process and is no longer encouraging that approach. Per 2006 New Starts policy guidance, projects seeking New Starts funding need to be approved by FTA into PE prior to the FEIS and ROD being issued. Therefore, the NEPA process may begin and a DEIS may be published by FTA prior to PE—but FEIS and ROD will wait until PE.**

**Once the AA study has been completed, the LPA has been adopted in the LRTP, and FTA has determined that the project sponsor has the technical capacity to manage any subsequent project development activities, the project sponsor may request FTA approval to advance the Preferred Alternative into PE. The LPA—technology mode and broad alignment—which comes out of the AA study will then be further evaluated and refined in the NEPA process (NEPA alternatives).**

## **Attachment:**

Sign in sheet from Pre-Bid meeting

PRE - BID CONFERENCE  
 SEALED BID # 12-5639  
 CONSULTANT SERVICES FOR NORTHWEST ATLANTA CORRIDOR ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT  
 COBB COMMUNITY TRANSIT  
 MARCH 7, 2012

REPRESENTATIVE NAME	COMPANY NAME & COMPLETE ADDRESS	PHONE (INCLUDE AREA CODE)	FAX # (INCLUDE AREA CODE)	E-MAIL ADDRESS
JOHN FLOOD	COBB COUNTY Purchasing 1772 COUNTY SERVICES DR NW MARIETTA, GA. 30008	7/528-8418	7/528-1154	JOHN.FLOOD@COBB.COUNTY.GA.GOV
Robert Famer	PATRICK BRICKER HART 3340 PIRBEE RD STE 2400 ATLANTA, GA. 30326	404-364-2688	404-237-5015	RFAMER@PBRICKER.COM
Dan Dobry	Croy Engineering 200 N. Cobb Hwy Ste 413 Marietta, GA 30062	7/971-5407	7/971-0620	ddobry@croyengineering.com
Emily Ritzler	CDM Smith 3715 Northside Pkwy Ste 400 Bldg 300 Atl. GA 30327	678-244-0274		ritzler@cdmsmith.com
Brian Bolick	Ford & Company 3500 Parkway Blvd Suite 600 Marietta, GA 30062	(404) 748-4810	(678) 336-7744	bolick@fordco.com
Kevin McGowan	ECT Inc. 1876 The Exchange Atlanta, GA 30339	7/989-7335		kevgowan@ectinc.com
MIKE CLAWFORD	TACOBS 1201 FREEMAN ST NE SUITE 1905 ATLANTA, GA 30361	678-333-0319	678-333-0328	MIKE@CLAWFORD.COM
ED ELLIS	AMLEY-HORN SUITE 60 1201 FREEMAN ST NE ATLANTA, GA 30361	404-219-2119		ed.ellis@amley-horn.com

\*Please note that contact information provided to a government agency may be subject to public release as required by Georgia's open records law.

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Valerie Birch	Parsons Brinckerhoff 3340 Peachtree Rd Suite 2400 Atlanta, GA	404- <del>484</del> -2680	404-837-3015	birchv@pbworld.com
Heavie Vance	Lock ROT			
Elizabeth Sanford	Cambridge Supplementals	404-460 2615	404-443 3201	esanford@camsup.com
Jason ROBINET	<del>Cambridge Supplementals</del> WORKECT, INC.	770-298-9789	770-919-9541	jgffinet@workert.com

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Christine Watts	Cobb DOT	770/528 3658		
Jason Gaines	Cobb DOT			
Bruce Hart	KERA Group	678/904-8591	678/904-8596	bhart@keragroup.com

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