

## **REQUEST FOR STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS FOR CONDUCTING ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENTS**

The City of Decatur, Alabama hereby solicits written Statements of Qualifications (SOQ) from professional consulting firms interested in contracting with the city to perform a Feasibility Study for a Bridge over the Tennessee River in Decatur, Alabama.

The purpose of the *Decatur Bridge Feasibility Study* is to assess the need and/or location for a new Tennessee River crossing, or a southbound U.S. Highway 31 replacement bridge, over the Tennessee River, in the City of Decatur, Alabama. The existing southbound bridge was constructed almost 60 years ago and is nearing the end of its life expectancy. The “Steamboat Bill” Memorial Bridges span one of the widest points along the Tennessee River between Morgan and Limestone Counties in the City of Decatur. Some key specifics on the two bridge spans include:

- The southbound cantilever truss bridge was built in 1963 and rehabilitated in 1997
- The northbound reinforced concrete bridge was built in 1999

Additionally, the Decatur Bridge connects the Decatur MSA to the Huntsville MSA, which is the fastest growing CMSA in the State of Alabama. It combines U.S. Highway 31 (North/South) and Alternate U.S. Highway 72 (East/West) traffic *and is part of Appalachian Development Highway System (ADHS) know as Corridor V*. The bridge has a higher traffic count than the I-65 Bridge, and it handles I-65 traffic when unfortunate events happen on I-65.

The two closest bridges to the west include:

- Wheeler Dam (86 years old) – 30 river miles & 30.3 driving miles away
- Wilson Dam (98 years old) – 45.5 river miles & 46.2 driving miles away

The two closest bridges to the east include:

- I-65 – 4.5 river miles & 11 driving miles away
- Hobbs Island Bridge – 28.5 river miles & 34.4 driving miles away

The construction of a new river crossing, or a southbound U.S. Highway 31 replacement bridge, over the Tennessee River, in the City of Decatur, is considered critically important to ensure that the necessary transportation infrastructure is in place to support the continued growth of the Automotive and Aviation clusters in Alabama. According to the Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT), the average annual daily traffic (AADT) count for the bridge was 53,774 in 2020, which represents an increase of approximately 6,000 vehicles since 2017. By 2030, it is estimated that there will be 65,550 vehicles a day or over 10,000 more vehicles using the existing bridge.

The minimum requirements must be satisfied on or before **November 1ST 2022**, and maintained for the duration of the contract for an applicant to be considered:

- Registered to do business in the State of Alabama and the City of Decatur (not required to bid, but is required of the successful bidder before the contract can be awarded) including all team member firms and sub-contracts

- At least five (5) years of experience working with similar projects
- Personnel with at least five (5) years of experience working with city or local governments, addressing transportation issues.
- At least five (5) years of environmental consulting experience working in the State of Alabama
- Must have at least one professionally registered engineer in the State of Alabama

Applicants that do not comply with these minimum requirements and/or do not satisfactorily document in the SOQ that they meet the minimum requirements will not be considered. Selection of consulting firms, in addition to the minimum requirements, will be based on the following rating criteria:

- Qualifications, Experience and capabilities
- Technical approach and ability to complete the stated RFQ requirements
- Capacity of firms to perform the work
- References and demonstrated capability to accomplish similar scope of services

For a detailed project scope and timeline, please visit our website at <https://www.cityofdecatural.com> or contact:

Mrs. Susanne Henderson  
 City of Decatur – Grants Administrator  
 (256) 341-4967  
[shenderson@decatur-al.gov](mailto:shenderson@decatur-al.gov)  
 PO Box 488 Decatur, AL 35602  
 (City Hall, 5<sup>rd</sup> Floor)

Applicants are responsible for ensuring that the Statement of Qualifications are received by the Purchasing Department of the City of Decatur's @402 Lee St NE Decatur, Alabama **no later than November 1<sup>st</sup> 2022, by 2:00pm CDT:**

Delivery of SOQ by facsimile is not allowed.

By Carrier:

Mr. Charles Booth  
 City of Decatur  
 Purchasing Department  
 402 Lee St. NE  
 Decatur, AL 35601

By Mail:

Mr. Charles Booth  
 City of Decatur  
 Purchasing Department  
 PO Box 488  
 Decatur, AL 35602