



Engineering Division  
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**CITY OF WALLA WALLA  
Public Works/Engineering Division**

**NOTICE:  
REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS (RFQ)  
DAM SEDIMENT BYPASS GATE DESIGN**

The City of Walla Walla is requesting qualified engineers to submit proposals for the **Watershed Sediment Bypass Gate Design Project**. A detailed RFQ can be viewed at the City's website [RFPs & Bids | City of Walla Walla \(wallawallawa.gov\)](https://www.wallawallawa.gov/RFPs%20&%20Bids); project information can be obtained by contacting Frank Nicholson via email at [fnicholson@wallawallawa.gov](mailto:fnicholson@wallawallawa.gov).

The consultant shall design and permit a new Taitner (radial) gate opening within the City's drinking water intake dam. This modification would enable the river to flow freely during instances of elevated water levels, allowing gravel to bypass the fish screens and replenish sediment-depleted areas downstream of the dam. This approach would be implemented during periods of high water flow, providing practical advantages by streamlining maintenance procedures, allow gravel to pass downstream of dam and replenish the gravel starved section of creek, and replacing the malfunctioning sluice gates.

Firms desiring consideration shall submit a complete proposal package by **Tuesday, January 9, 2024, at 1:30 pm local time**, at the office of the City Engineer, City Service Center, 55 E. Moore Street, Walla Walla, Washington 99362. Proposals shall include paper copies and a PDF copy on a flash drive and be marked **"Watershed Sediment Bypass Gate Design."**

**Project Description:**

The City of Walla Walla manages a crucial water diversion intake along Mill Creek which is located in the Walla Walla watershed in Oregon. This intake comprises a 10-foot-high concrete dam situated on the creek, equipped with a fish ladder on one side and a fish screen/drinking water system intake on the other. Beneath the fish screen structure are two 36-square-inch sluice gates that are utilized for dam drainage when required. Regrettably, the sluice gates, dating back to 1922, sustained damage during the recent dam cleaning in 2023, resulting in inadequate closure. Additionally, an unprecedented flood in 2020, with a flow of 8,000 cubic feet per second (CFS), caused substantial damage to the intake building atop the dam.

Securing permits for the dam reservoir dredging/cleaning process has proven to be a complex and time-consuming endeavor. During the previous cycle, obtaining approvals from both Oregon authorities and the US Army Corps of Engineers took 18 months. The dam cleaning procedure involves removing all gravel surrounding the fish screen and in the intake reservoir via excavation and subsequent off-site disposal facilitated by a conveyor system. This process presents significant challenges.

In response to these challenges, the City is considering engaging a consultant to aid in designing and permitting a 10' x 10' Taitner (radial) gate opening within the dam. This innovative modification would enable the river to flow freely during instances of elevated water levels, allowing gravel to bypass the fish screens and replenish sediment-depleted areas downstream of the dam. This approach would be implemented solely during periods of exceptionally high water flow, providing practical advantages by streamlining maintenance procedures, allow gravel to pass downstream of the dam and replenish the gravel starved section of creek, and replacing the malfunctioning sluice gates.

The chosen consultant will conduct a comprehensive project evaluation to ensure that the tainter gate stands out as the optimal choice. Additional responsibilities will encompass design, permitting, assistance in identifying and applying for grants, bidding, and construction phase services, and managing project closure, including the submission of as-built drawings.

Billing will be conducted on a monthly basis, with the consultant providing the City with a detailed project status report each month.



#### **PROPOSAL SUBMITTAL:**

To be eligible for consideration as the consultant shall provide the following:

- Proposal shall be limited to 15 pages, 8.5" x 11", single-sided including figures, maps, and resumes.
- Project understanding that includes, but is not limited to approach, scope of work, cost control, use of local resources is encouraged, and schedule to deliver project.

- Organizational chart for the proposed team with availability of staff and resources.
- Approach and timeline to deliver project.
- References including contact name, phone number, and email address from a minimum of three other agencies where your firm/team has completed similar work.
- Any other pertinent information relevant for consideration.
- The submittal shall include three paper copies and one electronic PDF of the proposal (15 MB maximum size)

### **SELECTION OF THE CONSULTANT:**

Proposals will be evaluated by a committee made up of City employees. Proposals will be evaluated on the basis of the cover letter (10%) understanding of the project and project approach (25%), qualifications/experience /references on similar projects (25%), personnel assigned (25%), innovative ideas presented (15%).

Final selection will be based on the evaluation of proposals unless it is deemed necessary by the committee to conduct interviews of closely scored Consultants. The number of firms chosen to interview will be at the City's sole discretion and maybe none.

Upon selection of the consultant, the City will negotiate a contract, detailed scope of work and fee. If unable to reach an agreement, the City reserves the right to terminate negotiations and begin discussions with the next highest finalist. The agreement shall be per the City's standard professional services contract. Upon successful completion of negotiations, a contract will be presented to the City Council for approval. If such approval is not granted, this agreement shall be void and neither party shall have any further obligations or liabilities hereunder.

Work performed under the contract will be on a time and materials basis with a negotiated not to exceed amount. number of state and federal equal opportunity and affirmative action requirements will apply to the selection process and conduct of the project. The City of Walla Walla is an equal opportunity and affirmative action employer. Minority- and women-owned firms are encouraged to submit proposals.

The City of Walla Walla, in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 78 Stat. 252, 42 U.S.C. 2000d to 2000d-4 and Title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, Department of Transportation, Subtitle A, Office of the Secretary, Part 21, Nondiscrimination in Federally assisted programs of the Department of Transportation and Title 23 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 200, Title VI Program and the Related Statutes, issued pursuant to such Acts, hereby notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively ensure that in any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, minority business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of religion, race, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, disability and low income in consideration for an award.

The City of Walla Walla in accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), commits to nondiscrimination on the basis of disability in all of its programs and activities. This material can be made available in an alternate format by emailing [ada-titlevi@wallawallawa.gov](mailto:ada-titlevi@wallawallawa.gov) or calling 509.527.4540.