REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS
(RFQ)

CONSULTING FIRMS

The Gulf Regional Planning Commission (LPA) requests proposals from qualified consultants to study traffic operations and signalization along specific corridors in Gulfport, Mississippi. The Mississippi Gulf Coast Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) funded the Port of Gulfport Traffic Signal Study Project No. 108814-711000/STP-0200-00(034). The study proposes to produce an area-wide coordinated traffic signal timing plan for a series of intersections along the following corridors: Hwy 49, 30th Avenue, 28th Street, Canal Road, and Cowan-Lorraine Road. The study intends to develop a signal timing plan that will improve the traffic flow in the corridor during peak hours of travel, special events, and when ships are in port loading or unloading cargo and detail ITS applications for the corridor(s).

Notice is hereby given that Gulf Regional Planning Commission is seeking responses from **CONSULTING FIRMS**. Interested and qualified applicants may submit Request for Qualification (RFQ) Packages to the Gulf Regional Planning Commission, 1635 Popps Ferry Road, Suite G, Biloxi, MS 39532. Applicants may also submit their RFQ Packages via email to Jeff Loftus at jol@grpc.com. **All RFQ Packages are due by 5:00 PM on Thursday, June 3, 2021**. Any packets that are not summited by the 5:00 PM deadline will not be considered for the project.

Submittals

The Gulf Regional Planning Commission is requesting qualifications for the project described above. Applicants should prepare a response that is no more than twenty (20) pages (10 double-sided pages) in length addressing the following:

- Experience and capacity of key personnel.
- Provide Consulting Firm experience on similar projects.
- Experience working together for submittals with multiple firms.
- Provide qualifications necessary for the project.
- Project Approach/ Plan of Action.
- Address approaches and solutions to critical issues.

Applicants should also include a one-page cover letter that summarizes their proposal and identifies a point of contact and contact information for the consulting firm. The applicants may also submit up to two (2) additional double-sided pages as an attached appendix.

If the applicant wishes to submit a physical RFQ Package to GRPC, they should submit four (4) original copies of their proposals and cover letters. Printed submissions must be double-sided on standard letter-sized paper (8.5” x 11”). All physical RFQ Packages **MUST** be submitted in a sealed envelope and clearly marked on the exterior of the package with the following: **“REQUEST for QUALIFICATIONS for the PORT of GULFPORT TRAFFIC SIGNAL COORDINATION.”**

Otherwise, applicants may submit their proposals and cover letters by email in PDF form. Electronic proposals **MUST** be submitted in a single PDF leading with the cover letter. The email's subject line **MUST** be labeled as the following: **"REQUEST for QUALIFICATIONS for the PORT of GULFPORT TRAFFIC SIGNAL COORDINATION."** Any electronic submissions that cannot be immediately accessed by GRPC staff will not be considered for the project.

All submissions must be addressed to **JEFF LOFTUS**, GRPC Project Manager, at 1635 Popps Ferry Road, Suite G, Biloxi, MS 39532. This RFQ is an invitation by GRPC for interested consultants to submit qualifications, which may be subject to subsequent negotiations. GRPC reserves the right to reject any and all proposals.

Selection

The Gulf Regional Planning Commission will use a selection committee comprised of GRPC staff and local government officials to evaluate all submissions for the project and determine if oral interviews are necessary.

A Selection Committee will evaluate proposals on the following criteria:

- Qualifications (40 pts) - List of Qualifications of persons to be assigned to the project
- Experience (40 pts) – Information regarding the firm's experience and the projects that were previously undertaken, including the type of project and activities or tasks addressed and the project status;
- and Capacity for Performance (20 pts) - Identify the number and title of staff assigned to provide services.

General Scope of Services

The purpose of this project is to produce an area-wide coordinated traffic signal timing plan for intersections in Gulfport, MS, for field implementation that will reduce traffic delays. The scope of work will be divided into the following four Tasks: 1) Project Scoping, 2) Data Collection, 3) Model Development, and 4) Timing Evaluation.

Task 1 – Project Scoping	1. Review policies, determine objectives, and identify problems within the project area. 2. Confirm standards and procedures. 3. Confirm the study system, corridor, or intersections. The study area limits are proposed to include the Highway 49 corridor from Highway 90 north to Highway 53, 30th Avenue from Highway 90 to 28th Street, and Highway 605 from Highway 90 to Interstate 10. 4. Divide the system into sections. 5. Select performance measures. 6. Evaluate Intelligent Transportation Applications.
Task 2 – Data Collection	1. Intersection geometry – The CONSULTANT will review the study corridors to document the existing intersection geometry and signal timing within the project limits. 2. Existing traffic count data – Turning movement counts will be collected at the signalized intersections along the corridor on a typical weekday. Counts will be taken considering the traffic impacts of COVID-19.

	Major intersections include: • Hwy 49/Hwy 90 • Hwy 49/13th Street • Hwy 49/14th Street • Hwy 49/17th Street • Hwy 49/19th Street • Hwy 49/Pass Road • Hwy 49/28th Street • Hwy 49/34th Street • Hwy 49/John Hill Boulevard • Hwy 49/MLK Boulevard • Hwy 49/Polk Street • Hwy 49/Airport Road • Hwy 49/Middle Drive • Hwy 49/Creosote Road • Hwy 49/Landon Road • Hwy 49/Community Road • Hwy 49/Dedeaux Road • Hwy 49/St. Charles Street • Hwy 49/Oneal Road • Hwy 49/Duckworth Road • Hwy 49/South Swan Road • Hwy 49/Hwy 53 • 30th Avenue/US 90 • 30th Avenue/13th Street • Hwy 605/Hwy 90 • Hwy 605/Pass Road • Hwy 605/Carl Legett Road • Hwy 605/Intraplex Parkway • 30th Avenue/17th Street • 30th Avenue/19th Street • 30th Avenue/Pass Road • 30th Avenue/28th Street • Hwy 605/Magnolia Street • Hwy 605/Reichold Road • Hwy 605/Seaway Road • Canal Road Intersections 3. Identify and inventory controller type and traffic control equipment. 4. Identify the number of timing plans.
Task 3 – Model Development	1. Input data to the traffic model. 2. Perform Analysis. Show current intersection timing and proposed improvements to intersections for each timing plan. 3. Draft timing plans for signals that improve travel time in the corridor and at individual intersections. Signal timing plans should remove and or reduce bottlenecks by location and time of day. 4. Timing plans will be needed for various traffic levels, including peak hour, events, and when vessels are working cargo in the Port of Gulfport. 5. Model results and visually display improved traffic systems using appropriate traffic software such a VISSIM or similar software.
Task 4 – Recommendations and Timing Evaluation	1. Provide analysis of performance measurements for this corridor. 2. Develop recommendations in terms of timing of signals at intersections, signal upgrades, and or intersection improvements. Study recommendations should include ITS considerations for incorporation into the corridor. 3. Identify hardware and software upgrades and needs with budget estimates 4. Produce a final report that provides costs, recommended timings, implementation plan, and path forward for the project.

Please submit any questions in writing via email to JEFF LOFTUS, GRPC Project Manager, at jol@grpc.com no later than June 1, 2021.