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August 21, 2026

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS (RFQ) NOTICE NUMBER 59A1427

ADDENDUM NO. 1

A&E On-call Structure Construction (Office E) and Inspection Services, District 07 and District 12

The purpose of this Addendum is for the Department to provide responses and/or clarification for the following concerns:

1. Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Program changes
2. Consultant Contract Manager experience requirements
3. Vendor clarification for SOQ Instructions (dated 10/07/2020), Section II. Definitions, Item O
4. Executive Order (EO) N-12-23 as it relates to the use of Generative Artificial Intelligence (GenAI) replaces Executive Order N-12-12 and retires GenAI Reporting and Factsheet Form STD1000.

- 1. On September 30, 2025, the U.S. Department of Transportation (U.S. DOT) issued an interim final rule (IFR) which, among other things, implemented changes to the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Program via modifications to 49 Code of Federal Regulations Part 26. (Docket Number DOT-OST-2025-0897.) The IFR was published in the Federal Register on October 3, 2025, and took immediate effect. (90 FR 47969 (Oct. 3, 2025).)**

- Interim Final Rule in Federal Register: [Federal Register: Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Program and Disadvantaged Business Enterprise in Airport Concessions Program Implementation Modifications](#)
- U.S. DOT DBE Interim Final Rule Guidance: [DBE IFR Guidance.9-30-2025.pdf](#)

Consistent with the IFR, as an interim action, below are DBE program changes applicable to this RFQ. In the event of any ambiguity or discrepancy between the existing law, including the IFR, and the contract, existing law controls.

A. In the Statement of Qualifications Submittal Instructions and General Contract Process Information

- 1) Under section III – Requirements for Statements of Qualifications (SOQS), Section 1 – Transmittal Letters/Goal Documentation, subsection F, item 1 – Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Goals has been removed in its entirety.
- 2) Under section IV - Participation Goals, section A – Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Participation Goal has been removed in its entirety.

2. Consultant Contract Manager experience requirements

Question:

It has been noted that firms are being deemed non-responsive due to the Consultant Contract Managers not meeting the minimum five (5) years of Consultant Contract Manager experience for similar services requirement. How is Caltrans determining what meets the five (5) years' experience?

Department Response:

Statement of Qualifications (SOQ) Submittal Instructions and General Contract Process Information, II. DEFINITIONS, Item P has been added to clarify the minimum five (5) years of responsible experience performing the duties as a Consultant Contract Manager.

- P. The Consultant Contract Manager shall have minimum five (5) years of responsible experience performing the duties as a Consultant contract manager leading a team of A&E firms for similar A&E Services as identified in the RFQ for **A&E Structure Construction Inspection Services** contracts, and minimum **ten (10)** years of documented demonstrated experience acceptable to Caltrans in delivering **A&E Structure Construction Inspection Services**. The Consultant Contract Manager shall be an employee of the Prime Consultant firm.

For each cumulative set of competence, the minimum five (5) years of Consultant Contract Manager experience and **(ten) 10** years minimum project delivery experience as per the RFQ, each gained from multiple projects at various times, shall be in serial (not in parallel order), with the total time not accounting for double counting ~~for~~ or any overlapping within each set of the two types of competence.

This specific Consultant contract management experience shall be detailed for each relevant project listed in the resumes section, of the Statement of Qualifications (Section E of the Standard Form 330) with a brief project description however provide significant details of previous role that best demonstrates the person's capability and experience relevant to his/her proposed role in this contract and consistent with the RFQ.

Specifically for the five years of responsible experience performing the duties as a Consultant Contract Manager, the other Project Manager, Design Manager, Lead Designer, and other lead role position experiences will **not** qualify for the Consultant Contract Manager experience as outlined in the RFQ for Personnel Requirements under Consultant Contract Manager.

See RFQ for additional description of the minimum of five (5) years of responsible experience performing the duties as a Consultant Contract Manager.

See RFQ for additional description of the minimum of **ten (10)** years of responsible experience in delivering **A&E Structure Construction Inspection Services** contracts work.

3. Vendor clarification for SOQ Instructions (dated 10/07/2020), Section II. Definitions, Item O
Question:

Page 3, item O of the SOQ Submittal Instructions states that “Vendor services will require a minimum of three bids to be submitted to the Caltrans Contract Manager at the time these services are required at the Task Order level.” This is in conflict with information shared at multiple outreaches throughout the past year and via addenda to similar contracts. Can you please confirm if three bids will indeed be required?

Department Response:

SOQ Instructions (dated 10/07/2020), Section II. Definitions, Item O, first and second paragraph is amended to read as follows: “O. Vendor Services are Trade services incidental to the core A&E services. Firms providing Trade services will be required to submit their rate sheets (in lieu of bids) listing each item with its corresponding unit cost, inclusive of all direct and indirect costs used for all clients. Vendor rate sheets shall not include individual personnel labor rates. The Department will scrutinize the vendor Rate Sheets and Prime’s supporting documentations for fair and reasonableness of vendor rate sheets during cost negotiation phase.

Vendor name and description of services shall be clearly identified in the Prime’s transmittal letter and other sections of the SOQ as noted:-

Note: All Vendors and the associated service descriptions shall be listed in the SOQ and include their respective Transmittal Letter accompanied with the A&E Conflict of Interest forms.

4. Executive Order N-12-23 GenAI Technology Use and Reporting

- A. The State of California seeks to realize the potential benefits of GenAI, through the development and deployment of GenAI tools, while balancing the risks of these new technologies.
- B. Consultants must notify the State in writing if it: (1) intends to provide GenAI as a deliverable to the State; or (2), intends to utilize GenAI, including GenAI from third parties, to complete all or a portion of any deliverable that materially impacts: (i) functionality of a State system, (ii) risk to the State, or (iii) Contract performance. For avoidance of doubt, the term “materially impacts” shall have the meaning set forth in State Administrative Manual (SAM) § 4986.2 Definitions for GenAI.
- C. Failure to report the consultant GenAI to the State may result in disqualification. The State reserves the right to seek any and all relief to which it may be entitled to as a result of such non-disclosure.
- D. Upon notification by the consultant of GenAI as required, the State reserves the right to incorporate GenAI Special Provisions into the final contract or reject SOQ’s that present an unacceptable level of risk to the State.
- E. Government Code 11549.64 defines “Generative Artificial Intelligence (GenAI)” as an artificial intelligence system that can generate derived synthetic content, including text, images, video, and audio that emulates the structure and characteristics of the system’s training data.

Effective February 20, 2025:

Transmittal letters in all Statement of Qualifications (SOQ) from the prime consultant and all its subconsultants, must disclose the use or non-use of GenAI regardless of technology being used or offered as part of the services provided. Failure to disclose detailed description of the development and deployment to the State may result in disqualification of the procuring of a contract.

All other terms and conditions of the original RFQ Notice dated August 21, 2026, are unchanged.

Please contact Alma Cortez at alma.cortez@dot.ca.gov for questions concerning this addendum.