



Gaston County

Gaston County
Board of Commissioners
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Building and Development Services

Board Action

File #: 24-347

Commissioners Brown & Fraley - Building & Development Services - To Approve the Qualifications Based Selection of RS&H and Authorize the County Manager or Designee to Execute a Professional Services Agreement for the Gaston County Multi-Modal Comprehensive Transportation Plan Study

STAFF CONTACTS

Brian Sciba, Planned Growth and Development Manager - 704-866-3970

Ray Maxwell, Infrastructure and Asset Manager - 704-866-7551

Juan G. Garcia, Senior Transportation Planner / Special Projects Manager - 704-866-3770

BUDGET IMPACT

No additional County funds.

BUDGET ORDINANCE IMPACT

N/A

BACKGROUND

The primary purpose of the Gaston County Multi-modal Comprehensive Transportation Plan Study is to build upon the County and municipal planning efforts to create a future vision and associated recommendations for the current transportation system in incorporated and unincorporated areas in Gaston County. The plan will address the significant growth the County has experienced and related changes in demographics, land use, travel patterns, transportation-related technologies, and funding challenges and opportunities. Gaston County feels it is the appropriate time to establish a longer-term vision for the overall transportation system and to take a more proactive approach to transportation planning in the near-term. The study considers all surface transportation modes and it will be developed in partnership with all municipalities, the Gaston-Cleveland-Lincoln Metropolitan Planning Organization (GCLMPO), the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT), transit providers, and transportation professionals.

North Carolina General Statute (NCGS) §143-64.31 requires the initial solicitation and evaluation of firms to perform architectural, engineering, surveying, construction management-at-risk services, and design-build services (collectively "design services") to be based on qualifications and without regard to fee. NCGS §143-64.32 authorizes units of local government to exempt contracts for design services from the qualifications-based selection requirements of NCGS §143-64.31 if the estimated fee is less than \$50,000. However, the design fees for this project will exceed the \$50,000 cap for exemption, thereby requiring the consulting firm to be selected through the qualifications-based process.

(Continued on Page 2)

DO NOT TYPE BELOW THIS LINE

I, Donna S. Buff, Clerk to the County Commission, do hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of action taken by the Board of Commissioners as follows:

NO.	DATE	M1	M2	CBrown	CCLoninger	AFraley	BHovis	KJohnson	TKelgher	RWorley	Vote
2024-242	07/23/2024	BH	TK	A	AB	A	A	A	A	A	U

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A=AYE, N=NAY, AB=ABSENT, ABS=ABSTAIN, U=UNANIMOUS

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Page 2

Public Works staff developed a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) packet for the Gaston County Multi-modal Comprehensive Transportation Plan Study - Programming project in accordance with the statutory requirements and publicly advertised the RFQ beginning on March 19, 2024. Statements of Qualification (SOQ) submittals were received on April 26, 2024. The four (4) firms submitting SOQ's were:

- WSP
- Kittelson and Associates
- RS&H
- Kimley-Horn

Following the review of SOQ's submitted by the four (4) firms, the three (3) top scoring firms were invited to give in-person presentations to the selection panel. Upon completion of the in-person interviews, RS&H was deemed to be the best qualified for the corresponding project.

Approval of this Board Action by the Gaston County Board of Commissioners officially selects RS&H for Programming for the project listed above. Further, approval of this Board Action authorizes the County Attorney to negotiate and draft the necessary contract documents for the work and authorizes the County Manager, or designee, to execute said contract or documents.

POLICY IMPACT

N/A

ATTACHMENTS

Post Selection Letter - RS&H



GASTON COUNTY

128 West Main Avenue
P.O. Box 1578
Gastonia, North Carolina 28053-1578

County Manager's Office

Juan G. Garcia
Office (704) 866-3770
juan.garcia@gastongov.com

June 26, 2024

Ms. Erin Musiol
1520 South Boulevard, Suite 200
Charlotte, NC 28203

Subject: Gaston County Multi-modal CTP project firm selection.

Dear Ms. Musiol,

Gaston County would like to thank you for your efforts in assembling a qualified team, preparing your submittal, and taking the time to present your qualifications to our Technical Evaluation Committee. Our team has completed the selection process for professional services for the Gaston County Multi-modal Transportation Plan. It has been our objective to select the most qualified firm to perform this service. We reviewed four (4) submittals for this project, conducted three (3) interviews, and solicited feedback from your project references.

Your team scored well on stakeholder management, project understanding, experience with similar projects, and knowledge of alternative public engagement delivery methods. The Committee felt you were well prepared in your presentation and thorough in answering additional questions. We believe your partnership with Centralina Regional Council, given their knowledge of the region, is a benefit to our upcoming project.

The Selection Committee believe your team demonstrated knowledge and experience with similar projects, and your team will be able to guide us through programming for our Multi-modal Comprehensive Transportation Plan. **We are pleased to announce that RS&H has been chosen to begin negotiating scope and fees, pending approval by the Gaston County Board of Commissioners.** We look forward to working with you and it is our hope to begin scoping meetings immediately after the July 23, 2024 Gaston County Board of Commissioners meeting.

Should you have any questions or need additional information at this time, please contact me at 704.866.3770 or juan.garcia@gastongov.com

Sincerely,

Juan G. Garcia
Senior Transportation Planner / Special Project Manager

cc: Technical Evaluation Committee