

January 20, 2023

RE: Request for Proposals for Consulting Services for Environmental Review and Associated Studies of the Westchester RiverWalk Connection under the Governor Mario M. Cuomo Bridge in Tarrytown, NY

Scenic Hudson is seeking the services of an environmental consulting firm to coordinate and produce all necessary materials for the State (State Environmental Quality Review [SEQR]) and Federal (National Environmental Policy Act [NEPA]) environmental review for the Westchester RiverWalk Connection, a high-profile, multi-million-dollar trail connection project in Tarrytown, NY. This includes but is not limited to all environmental review documents, including, if an environmental impact statement is necessary, scoping documents, Draft and Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) chapters, and any assessments, including but not limited to, historic/archaeological, hazardous materials, transportation, noise/vibration, environmental justice, and natural resources assessments. The scope also includes any necessary meetings and coordination with the review agencies, both under SEQR and NEPA, and community stakeholders.

Background

Westchester RiverWalk is a planned 51-mile multi-use path along Westchester County's Hudson River shoreline. Currently, about 32 miles of the trail are complete. The incomplete section most urgently in need of construction, and the subject of this RFP, is a 0.9-mile gap under the new Governor Mario M. Cuomo Bridge (GMMCB) between Green Street and the existing trail at Van Wart Avenue (the "Project"). Scenic Hudson and its partners have completed a Feasibility Study for the Westchester RiverWalk Connection, and conducting the environmental review is the next step.

In addition to the Feasibility Study, 30% design development documents were prepared for the three alternatives that were assessed during the Study. The firm that completed the Feasibility Study for the project and 30% design will be available as a resource during project kick-off, if needed, should technical questions arise.

Scenic Hudson is the project sponsor for the environmental review of the Westchester RiverWalk Connection and has secured a grant from Westchester County to fund the environmental review work. The selected environmental consulting firm will be retained by Scenic Hudson (hereby known as the “Project Sponsor”) and managed by the Project Sponsor’s Representative, Indigo River Consulting LLC (Indigo River). Scenic Hudson anticipates hiring an environmental consulting firm within the next month to lead the team in all aspects of the SEQR and NEPA processes, including any necessary related studies, field investigations, and associated reports, and coordination with the Lead Agency and other involved and interested agencies under SEQR and NEPA.

Contract Scope: Environmental Review Tasks

The SEQR/NEPA package development shall be led by an environmental consulting firm that has a demonstrated history of completing successful SEQR/NEPA processes. As the Project is anticipated to be a Type I action and may require an EIS, the selected Consultant should be capable of preparing and delivering Draft and Final Environmental Impact Statements (DEIS and FEIS) and related scoping documents. The selected Consultant should also be experienced in coordination with state and federal agencies under SEQR and NEPA.

The Consultant shall be responsible for all services required to complete the scope of environmental review and ensure compliance with SEQR and NEPA. It is anticipated that the documents described in Tasks 1-4 will satisfy both SEQR and NEPA requirements; SEQR and NEPA should not be scoped separately for the purposes of this RFP.

Task 1: Project Kick-off and Scoping

The Consultant shall conduct an environmental review in accordance with the SEQR/NEPA regulations and guidance documents and draft the Purpose and Need documentation. Note that the Environmental Assessment Form is being prepared by Indigo River and will not be a part of this scope.

The Consultant shall manage the environmental review process and prepare all necessary assessments, modeling, analyses, and reports—including but not limited to conducting additional studies that may be required during the SEQR/NEPA review (see Task 5).

The Consultant shall confirm and document existing conditions of adjacent properties, identify any currently planned development or changes in use of adjacent or alternative adjacent parcels and

determine future and planned construction impacts on those properties. The Consultant shall work with the Lead Agency, Scenic Hudson and Indigo River to identify all required approvals and involved and interested agencies. The Consultant shall assist Scenic Hudson in the development of the Alternatives Analysis required for the SEQR/NEPA EIS process, and alternative screening methodology. This process will include an equal comprehensive alternatives analysis for all viable alternatives, and an impact analysis and identification of potential mitigation.

In the event that an EIS is required, the Consultant will prepare the draft and final scoping documents and will assist the Lead Agency in conducting a formal public scoping meeting.

Task 2: Public Involvement Coordination

In coordination with Scenic Hudson, the Consultant shall develop and implement an early action public involvement and engagement plan fulfilling SEQR/NEPA requirements to fully engage and coordinate work with both internal and external stakeholders, including but not limited to local, state and federal agencies as well the general public, key stakeholders, and adjacent property owners. Outreach will be directed to all members of the community, including Spanish-speaking residents.

The Consultant shall provide public coordination support in accordance with SEQR/NEPA requirements, and any additional public coordination as requested by Scenic Hudson with stakeholders, including but not limited to the following: key elected officials; commuters; Tarrytown and Westchester County residents; local Business Improvement Districts and other civic and business groups; and other projects that are underway in the area of the Project. The Consultant will also provide support and prepare public notice materials and conduct public meetings and hearings as necessary, in accordance with SEQR/NEPA requirements.

Task 3: Draft EIS

In the event that an EIS is required, the Consultant shall review and incorporate all available documentation and reports into the DEIS. In coordination with other contributing consultants, the Consultant shall prepare and submit the DEIS to the Lead Agency in accordance with the SEQR/NEPA guidelines. The Consultant shall respond to comments and revise the DEIS based on feedback provided by reviewing agencies.

Task 4: Final EIS

In the event that an EIS is required, the Consultant shall prepare and submit the FEIS to the appropriate regulatory agencies for review and approval. The Consultant shall address comments received on the DEIS, incorporating these comments and revisions into the FEIS, and continue to coordinate with other consultants contributing to the report. The Consultant shall take all other steps required to secure final approval of the FEIS.

Task 5: Anticipated Associated Studies

The Consultant shall provide the following studies and assessments, as needed, in furtherance of the Project and in consultation with appropriate state and federal agencies:

- Sub-task 5a: Hazardous materials
 - Phase I ESA (A Phase I ESA was prepared during the Feasibility Study, but may require modifications based on the proposed route and other factors)
 - Based on the Phase I ESA, a Phase II (subsurface) Investigation may be required
- Sub-task 5b: Traffic study and parking assessment
- Sub-task 5c: Noise and vibration assessments
- Sub-task 5d: Biological assessments (flora and fauna)
- Sub-task 5e: Coastal zone management assessment, including consideration of sea-level rise, storm surge and flooding
- Sub-task 5f: Aquatic resources assessment, including wetlands
- Sub-task 5g: Compliance with Section 106, historic preservation, and archaeology assessments
 - Phase IA, and if needed, a Phase IB cultural resource investigation
- Sub-task 5h: Environmental justice assessment
- Sub-task 5i: Visual impact analysis
- Other studies, analyses, testing, assessments that Scenic Hudson and/or reviewing agencies may determine are needed.

Task 6: Draft Findings Statement

Should an EIS be necessary, the Consultant shall prepare the Draft Findings Statement for the Lead Agency.

Management Structure and Administrative Contract Scope

In coordination with Scenic Hudson and Indigo River, the Consultant shall:

- Provide weekly updates on the status of the work to keep the project moving on schedule;
- Alert the need for any potential change orders;
- As requested by Scenic Hudson, attend periodic meetings or otherwise communicate with relevant agencies, government entities, regulatory bodies, or other relevant stakeholders;
- Produce presentation materials and attend internal and external meetings, reviews, discussions, conferences, or presentations with the Scenic Hudson as required;
- Conducting relevant/necessary site visits;
- Preparing all deliverables in generally accepted formats for submission; and
- All deliverables will be reviewed by the Scenic Hudson, Indigo River, and potentially other stakeholders. The Consultant shall plan for a two-week review period following key submissions, and the preparation of subsequent draft submissions that may be required following review and feedback.

Selection Criteria

The following will be used to evaluate the proposals:

- Experience with SEQR and NEPA materials production and coordination of SEQR and NEPA reviews
- Related experience with park and waterfront trail projects
- Schedule
- Fee

Proposal Submission Requirements

Please provide your proposal via email, including the sections listed below, by 5 PM on Friday, February 10, 2023 to janzevino@scenichudson.org. Questions for Scenic Hudson on this RFP will be accepted up to

Wednesday, February 1 and can also be directed to Jeff Anzevino at janzevino@scenichudson.org. Additionally, the Feasibility Study attachment for the Project can be sent to interested parties upon request by emailing Jeff Anzevino.

Approach

The Consultant shall provide an approach to the environmental review process and studies. The approach should include a list of expected deliverables and any expected constraints or challenges. In the approach, the Consultant should reference similar experience. The approach shall not exceed ten (10) pages.

Organization Chart and Resumes

Provide an organizational chart identifying the proposed key staff members. Identify the project manager and/or project executive. The project manager is expected to be the main point of contact for Scenic Hudson and Indigo River, and who is responsible for daily communications, project deliverables, and schedule. Provide the resumes of all key personnel.

Project Examples

The Consultant shall provide a maximum of five (5) relevant projects. Including the following information: client, client reference contact, contract dates, contract status, consultant fee, and construction fee.

Schedule

It is expected that the environmental review will kick off in Quarter 1 of 2023 and that approvals will be obtained by Quarter 3 of 2024. Please provide a schedule that links to the anticipated deliverables and processes.

Fee

Provide a fee for each deliverable, including the expected hours and hourly rates. Complete the below Fee Table and include a detailed breakdown of hours, billing rates, and titles associated with each task. Please also provide a list of key personnel billing rates. Any additional tasks identified can be included as contingency items.

Task No.	Task	Fee
1	Project Kick-off and Scoping (If an EIS is required, preparation of draft and final scope; administering any public scoping meetings)	
2	Public Involvement Coordination	
3	Draft EIS	
4	Final EIS	
5	Associated Anticipated Studies	
5a	Hazardous Materials – Phase I & II	
5b	Traffic Study	
5c	Noise & Vibration Assessment	
5d	Biological Assessment	
5e	Coastal Zone Management Assessment	
5f	Aquatic Resources Assessment	
5g	Section 106 Compliance	
5h	Environmental Justice Assessment	
5i	Visual Impact Analysis	
6	Draft Findings Statement for the Lead Agency (If an EIS is needed)	
	Contingency Tasks	
	Total	

Submission

General Provisions

This Request for Proposals, including all attachments, exhibits, and any amendments or addenda (collectively, the “RFP”), is subject to rights reserved by the Scenic Hudson and their representative, Indigo River – including, but not limited to, Scenic Hudson’s right to:

- Withdraw and/or cancel this RFP at any time before final award of the contract;
- Request clarification and/or additional information from any or all Bidders;
- Amend any term or requirement of this RFP at any time before award of the contract (Bidders may amend their Proposals, as directed by Scenic Hudson, if the Scenic Hudson materially alters or amends the RFP after submission of proposals);
- Alter any key dates or deadlines related to this RFP;

- Award the Work, in whole or in part, to one or more Consultants with or without interviews or negotiations;
- Reject any proposal that does not strictly conform to the requirements of this RFP;
- Conduct an interview with any or all of the Bidders to aid the evaluation process;
- Request a best and final offer from any of the Bidders; and
- Negotiate potential contract terms with any Bidder.

If selected, the Consultant must produce proof of the following coverage.

1. Workers' Compensation and Employer's Liability. Certificate form C-105.2 or State Fund Insurance Company form U-26.3 is required for proof of compliance with the New York State Workers' Compensation Law. State Workers' Compensation Board form DB-120.1 is required for proof of compliance with the New York State Disability Benefits Law. Location of operation shall be "All locations in Westchester County, New York."
2. Commercial General Liability Insurance with a combined single limit of \$1,000,000 (c.s.1) per occurrence and a \$2,000,000 aggregate limit naming the Additional Insureds (described below) on a primary and non-contributory basis. This insurance shall include the following coverages:
 - i. Premises - Operations.
 - ii. Broad Form Contractual.
 - iii. Independent Contractor and Sub-Contractor.
 - iv. Products and Completed Operations
3. Commercial Umbrella/Excess Insurance: \$2,000,000 each Occurrence and Aggregate naming the Additional Insureds, written on a "follow the form" basis.
4. Automobile Liability Insurance with a minimum limit of liability per occurrence of \$1,000,000 for bodily injury and a minimum limit of \$100,000 per occurrence for property damage or a combined single limit of \$1,000,000 unless otherwise indicated in the contract specifications. This insurance shall include for bodily injury and property

damage the following coverages and name the Additional Insureds:

- i. Owned automobiles.
- ii. Hired automobiles.
- iii. Non-owned automobiles.

5. Contractor's Professional Liability. The Contractor shall provide proof of such insurance. (Limits of \$1,000,000 per occurrence/\$3,000,000 aggregate).

Additional Insureds: Insurances should include the following entities (and all their respective members, subsidiaries, representatives, employees, consultants and affiliates) as Additional Insureds: Scenic Hudson, Westchester County, NYS Thruway Authority, MTA, and the Village of Tarrytown.

Additional Information

Anticipated Other Approvals

Anticipated other approvals (to be obtained by others under a separate contract), where coordination with the SEQR/NEPA process may be necessary, include, but are not limited to:

- Joint Permit Application
 - New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC)
 - U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)
 - NY State Department of State (NYS DOS)
 - Local Waterfront Revitalization Program (LWRP)
 - NY State Office of General Services (OGS)
- Federal Highway Administration funding
- NYS Thruway Authority
- Metro-North Railroad
 - Land Lease Agreement