The City of Ames is inviting firms to submit a proposal for the Squaw Creek Flood Mitigation project – Land Acquisition Services. Below is background information, anticipated professional services for this phase of the project, and evaluation criteria considered for award. Staff will respond to those firms who submit proposals within one month of the specified submittal date.

**Project Background:** Following the floods of 2010, the City Council established a goal of mitigating the impact of future flooding in Ames. A comprehensive Flood Mitigation Study was completed in late 2013 that considered many possible mitigation alternatives across a wide range of factors, including: degree of reduction of flood water elevation, estimated annual damage reduction, construction costs, ongoing operations and maintenance costs, environmental impacts, and likelihood of obtaining federal grant funding.

On December 10, 2013, the City Council approved a series of flood mitigation measures. These included discrete elements targeted at: A.) Undertaking a ‘stream restoration’ of Squaw Creek; B.) Working with IDOT to improve the conveyance capacity of the US Highway 30 bridge; C.) Working through the Squaw Creek Watershed Management Authority to pursue flood mitigation alternatives in the upper reaches of the watershed; and D.) Conducting a workshop to review and discuss the range of possible floodplain regulatory approaches.

In 2015, the City hired an engineering consultant to improve conveyance of Squaw Creek from approximately 2,000 feet either side of South Duff Avenue. Preliminary design was completed, and a FEMA grant was awarded for the project earlier this year. The engineering consultant has established ROW needs and is currently working on final plans for a winter 2020/21 bid letting.

**Project Location:** along Squaw Creek starting approximately 2,000 feet upstream of South Duff Avenue to 2,000 feet downstream of South Duff Avenue

**Professional Services:** Perform land acquisition services for permanent ROW, permanent easements, and/or temporary easements for construction for 11 parcels in the project area. A map of these acquisitions are attached. ROW acquisition may be partial or total property acquisition to be discussed at the project kick-off meeting. Land acquisition shall follow state and federal guidelines for government purchase of property. Services to be completed by consultant, by either completing directly or by managing other consultants, shall include:

- Conducting appraisal services for all land being acquired as part of the project, considering possible use of eminent domain
- Preparation of all documents for the actual acquisition process
- Assist the City in negotiation of purchase of land
- Provide draft copies of all public notices and related documents
- Work with the City Attorney to ensure all legal issues are followed in the process of purchasing
land and utility easements

- Provide condemnation support, if necessary

Acquisition plats and legal descriptions shall be provided by others.

The proposal should outline the costs by parcel acquired, as shown on the attached map, so that if the number of parcels needed during the project changes the costs for acquisition can be adjusted.

**BASIS OF EVALUATION AND CONTRACT AWARD:**

The proposals will be evaluated on the following criterion:

- Project Understanding.
- Project Team.
- Previous Experience.
- Project Approach.
- Ability to perform work.
- Proposed Schedule of Work.
- Estimated Contract Cost for engineering services –submitted in separate SEALED envelope.

The statements will be evaluated, scored, and ranked by a project evaluation team. The award of professional services contract will be based on this evaluation, pending negotiations with the top ranked firm.

Please keep each submittal to a limit of 10 single sided (or 5 double sided) pages, not including the cover page.

**SUBMITTAL OF STATEMENTS:**

Please provide **four (4) copies** of the Statement of Professional Qualifications to the contact below:

Tracy L. Peterson, P.E.
Municipal Engineer
City of Ames Public Works Department
515 Clark Avenue
Ames, IA 50010

**DEADLINE:**

The submittal deadline for the **project is 5:00 PM, November 4, 2020.**