REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS

FROM:

PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING FIRMS

FOR:

THE TRUCKEE RIVER FLOOD MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY

Engineering Contract for The Sparks North Bank Flood Project Feasibility and Alternatives Study to Provide Flood Mitigation for the Sparks Industrial Area

RELEASE DATE: JANUARY 6, 2026

SUBMITTAL INFORMATION:
Sealed Statements of Qualifications must be received at the offices of the Truckee River Flood Management Authority, located at 9635 Gateway Drive, Suite A, Reno, Nevada 89521 **by 4:00 pm PST, Tuesday February 17, 2026.**

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I. INTENT:

The intent of this Request for Qualifications (RFQ) is to:

Solicit sufficient and verifiable information from prospective providers of professional engineering services from which the successful proposer firm(s) will be selected.

Establish the specifications, terms, and conditions governing the selection of an engineering firm to take an approximate conceptual design and provide professional engineering and design for a feasibility and alternatives study on how to protect the eastern Sparks industrial area from flooding. Potential solutions may include using levees in space created by moving the river channel to the south, or in some limited cases using floodwalls as a last resort only. Additionally, the study will examine if it would be advantageous to phase implementation of levee design and construction due to of the large distance between McCarran Blvd. and Larkin Circle. Project analysis and levee design will; evaluate hydraulic performance; assess various easement strategies; identify information required to understand potential limitations and design constraints in the area; and determine whether to divide up the into multiple phased components, and how that should be done. The study will also include comparative cost analysis between all viable alternatives.

II. INTRODUCTION

The Truckee River Flood Management Authority (TRFMA) invites sealed Statements of Qualifications (SOQs) from professional engineering consultants to perform engineering and economic analysis services for an element of the **Truckee Meadows Flood Project** known as the **Sparks North Bank Flood Project**. (Herin called the SNB Flood Project)

The Truckee Meadows Flood Project is TRFMA's overall plan to mitigate flooding along the Truckee River within the reach from just downstream of the U.S. Highway 395 Bridge to Vista Narrows in east Sparks. It is composed of seven main project elements which work interdependently to provide flood mitigation. In addition to the Truckee Meadows Flood Project, there are several mitigation and stream/ecosystem restoration projects which extend downstream from Vista Narrows to Pyramid Lake. The downtown Reno reach includes projects to improve Riverside Drive and Lake Street breakout areas

The SNB Flood Project element is located along the Truckee River in the reach extending from E. McCarran Blvd. Bridge to the area just east and downstream of Larkin Circle along the north bank of the river. This project lies within the jurisdiction of the City of Sparks, Nevada. The adjacent floodplain on the south side of the river resides mostly in the jurisdictions Washoe County and the City of Sparks along this reach.

Oversight for the SNB Flood Project will be provided by TRFMA, a Joint Powers Authority created by an interlocal cooperative agreement between Washoe County and the cities of Reno and Sparks. TRFMA is governed by a six-member Board of Directors, which is composed of elected officials of the member jurisdictions. TRFMA is funded by a portion of a 1/8-cent sales tax authorized in 1999 and collected by Washoe County.

III. PROJECT SCOPE AND GOALS:

The Truckee Meadows Flood Project is intended to protect industrial areas near the river in Reno and Sparks, as well as the Reno-Tahoe International Airport from flooding due to breakouts within the project reach during events up to and exceeding the 100-year peak flow. The **target flood protection level** for the Truckee Meadows Flood Project is defined herein as **equivalent to the 1997 flood (117-year event) flow plus three feet of freeboard**.

Where feasible, the Truckee Meadows Flood Project also seeks to transform some of the land adjacent to the river channel within its reach from high disconnected terraces into a lower, functional floodplain terraces that reconnect the river to its floodplain and enhance aquatic and wildlife habitat. Reconnecting the river to its floodplain in this manner will allow it to effectively convey larger flows than under existing conditions. This functionality (particularly provided by the Vista Narrows and Rock-McCarran Projects) is necessary given increased flows associated with proposed upstream flood protection projects.

Within the SNB Flood Project reach (north bank of the Truckee River from the McCarran Blvd. Bridge downstream to Larkin Circle), this contract calls for conceptual design of flood protection measures consisting primarily of a levee(s), with potential floodwalls to be incorporated only where necessary based on site constraints and hydraulic performance needs.

General design goals include but are not limited to:

1. Develop and assess alternative levee configurations along the entire north bank from the McCarran Bridge downstream to just east of Larkin Circle in Sparks to provide flood protection for the surrounding industrial area up to the target flood protection level.

2. Establish levee (and, where absolutely necessary, floodwall) elevations based on hydraulic modeling using a modified PMR model that incorporates upstream levees, berms, floodwalls, from the overall Truckee Meadows Flood Project as well terracing features from Vista Narrows.

3. Investigate multiple levee alignment and configuration alternatives to minimize easement and property acquisition needs, optimize earthwork (borrow and waste), minimize construction costs, and improve hydraulic performance and habitat function where possible. Alternatives may include north-side easements, southward river or levee realignments, maintaining the existing alignment, or hybrid approaches based on site-specific conditions. Each alternative shall be comparatively evaluated by a weighted combination of these criteria.

4. Assess potential project phasing plans, including whether project implementation should be split into multiple phases based on physical, hydraulic, or property constraints along the north bank.

5. Evaluate and document the impacts of proposed levee alternatives in conjunction with upstream elements of the overall project to ensure flow-limitation requirements are met regarding the PLPT/TRFMA Mitigation Projects Agreement. Peak flow increases of the overall Truckee Meadows Flood Project must be kept at less than or equal to 2,400 CFS for the 100-year event at the Vista stream gage as determined by the best modeling available to prevent adverse downstream effects.

IV. CONSULTANT SERVICES:

The selected engineering firm will evaluate alternative levee configurations and overall project layout to identify the optimal approach for the **SNB Flood Project** along the north bank of the Truckee River from the McCarran Blvd. Bridge downstream to Larkin Circle. Work under this contract will include developing and assessing conceptual-level (~15%) design alternatives and preparing comparative cost estimates. The firm will also evaluate project phasing options under multiple configuration scenarios to determine the most effective implementation strategy.

The consultant may be required to perform some or all of the following services:

1. GIS-based mapping and CAD-based design, including conceptual-level cost estimating and analysis of easement requirements.

2. Hydrologic and hydraulic analysis to determine levee height requirements and evaluate design implications under alternative configurations, including potential river realignments. This may also require geomorphological expertise and coordination with upstream and downstream design efforts such as Rock McCarran or Vista Narrows.

3. Geotechnical design, including investigation of alternative levee configurations and development of borrow and waste estimates for each alternative configuration.

4. Conceptual-level design of levee and, where necessary, floodwall elements to meet applicable hydraulic, geotechnical, and environmental performance criteria.

5. Preparation of conceptual-level construction quantities and cost estimates to support comparison of alternatives.

6. Limited but effective public outreach primarily through assisting with virtual stakeholder "Working Group" meetings.

The consultant may also be called upon to present (or assist in presenting) results to the TRFMA Technical Advisory Committee and Board of Directors and to present to other advisory boards or groups as necessary.

V. BASIS OF AWARD:

Selection will be based on demonstrated qualifications and the evaluation criteria and guidelines outlined in Qualification Format and Content below. The award will be made after careful evaluation by the selection committee members and will be based on demonstrated competence with local representation as well as what is in the best interests of TRFMA as determined by the selection committee. The evaluation of submittals will include the following factors, among others, weighted (%) as indicated:

Evaluation criteria and weighting are as follows:

1. **Team Qualifications and Experience** (65%)

    a) Proposed team members' qualifications and experience of proposed team members in in the design of conceptual-level levees and floodwalls. (15%)

    b) Proposed team members' qualifications and experience with stream hydraulics, including expertise in stream ecology and geomorphology for proper placement and elevation of levees and potential channel reconfiguration for alternatives at a conceptual level. (25%)

    c) Proposed team members' qualifications and experience in and ability to understand stream ecosystem restoration, landscape design, wetland and riparian habitat ecology, and selection of proper native plants for project elements as appropriate. (10%)

    d) Past success in completing similar projects in the past 10 years on time and within budget, including whether this has been done with a cohesive team (15%)

2. **Approach** (35%)

a) Approach contains a process to execute and achieve the objectives given in the RFQ. Process given must have sufficient detail and plausibility. (35%)

Expected SOQ Content:

TRFMA and the evaluation team expect that the SOQ will address each of evaluation criteria given above. The approach section is a significant evaluation factor. While no specific format is required, respondents should ensure clarity, completeness, and technical credibility.

- An introduction of the firm or team followed by the qualifications and experience of each member of the team addressing how the team member fulfills evaluation criteria "a – c," above, and assurance that key team members will be available for this project.

- A section identifying past similar projects completed by the firm or team to address "d" above.

- A section that outlines proposed design process and approach to be taken. This should include sequencing, the roles of each member of the team and team organization, and task assignment.

The proposed approach should include an early work plan, to be developed shortly after award, that defines tasks, schedules, and key design milestones. The project is expected to have a draft and final feasibility report milestones. However, there are several potential intermediate steps. The SOQ should demonstrate how the professional engineering consultant will address the design goals identified in Section III, including understanding of known information, and a process to acquire new information needed and accomplish goals. The SOQ may also describe whether an alternatives analysis will be conducted for the current proposed approach (as described by TRFMA) vs other potential alternatives (to be developed by the consultant). The proposed approach is a major factor in the evaluation of the SOQ.

These items are not mandatory elements of the SOQ nor do they prescribe a specific format. The formal requirements are provided in Section IX. Rather, these points illustrate what the evaluation team's expectations are for a strong and effective approach section.

VI. CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

The following is a schedule of milestones for this RFQ award process. These dates are approximate. A firm schedule will be developed by the time the professional engineering firm is selected.

Milestone	Approximate Date
RFQ Release Date	**January 6, 2026**
SOQ Submittal Deadline	**February 17, 2026 (4:00pm PST)**
Review / Interviews (if needed)	February 17 - March 4, 2026
Firm Selection	March 9, 2026
Contract Negotiations Complete	March 23, 2026
Board Approval & Award	April 10, 2026
Notice to Proceed	April 10, 2026 (as near as possible to this date)

VII. CONTACTS:

All interested firms at the outset must begin the process of submitting their SOQ by requesting access via email to the TRFMA Dropbox.

Send request email to:
Marti Swenson | Office Specialist | Truckee River Flood Management Authority | mswenson@washoecounty.gov

The TRFMA Dropbox contains detailed technical background materials for the RFQ including past engineering studies at or near the area, documentation of the most recent hydraulic modeling along the reach, and related project documentation as well as any relevant updates and clarifications necessary to fulfill the SOQ requirements.

This RFQ will be posted at https://trfma.org and at our offices.
Truckee River Flood Management Authority
9635 Gateway Drive, Suite A
Reno, Nevada 89521

All questions and correspondence regarding the RFQ must be directed to **all** of the following people, in writing, via email:

George Robison | Executive Director | Truckee River Flood Management Authority | **grobison@washoecounty.gov**

Danielle Henderson | Natural Resource Manager | Truckee River Flood Management Authority | **dhenderson@washoecounty.gov**

Marti Swenson | Office Specialist | Truckee River Flood Management Authority | **mswenson@washoecounty.gov**

All written inquiries, their answers, and background information will be posted on the TRFMA Dropbox under the correspondence folder. In addition to the TRFMA Dropbox, all relevant questions and answers will also be recorded and posted at the TRFMA office address as noted above.

VIII. ADDENDA:

Any addenda to this RFQ will be posted on the TRFMA website https://trfma.org in the TRFMA Dropbox provided to interested firms.

IX. STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATION FORMAT AND CONTENT:

In compliance with NRS 625.530 (3), the criteria upon which the award will be made **will not include cost.** Experience in providing services for similar projects in size, scope, complexity, and the approach are major deciding factors.

A statement of qualifications for a qualifying firm **must address all of the following points:**

1. Cover letter signed by a representative of the firm/team who has authority to sign contracts for the firm or lead the design team.

2. A description of the firm/team and a statement of the firm's qualifications for performing the referenced consulting services.

3. A summary of the firm's or team's recent experience with similar projects. Provide references for at least (3) related projects, including contact person, telephone number, name and date of project, a brief description of the project, and a list of project designers, planners and project managers of the design firm who were responsible for the "day-to-day" activities for past projects listed.

4. Description of the firm's procedures for quality assurance in professional services to be provided.

5. Description that details the firm's capacity to complete projects on schedule and to retain firm control of costs.

6. Summary of the qualifications and experience of each team member who will be permanently assigned to the project and their roles in its completion, including in-house and outside consultants. Include length of service. Complete resumes may be included in an appendix. Projects that were completed by employees while working for other firms must also be indicated if relying on those prior projects to establish qualifications. TRFMA reserves the right to approve outside consultants.

7. An organizational chart depicting the proposed project team. Firms using personnel from offices other than an office located in Washoe County should clearly indicate where staff members are located.

8. Provide a narrative on how your firm would approach the requested professional services, how resources and personnel would be allocated, and provide a proposed time schedule through the completion of design.

9. Statement of firm's ability to meet the insurance requirements of Exhibit A.

10. Statement of qualifications excluding appendix, shall be a **maximum of 30 pages, not including the appendix.** The appendix may be as large as needed.

11. The award shall be made after all TRFMA procedural requirements have been met.

12. Firms shall submit six (6) hard copies of their Statement of Qualifications along with one digital copy preferably in PDF format. Statements of Qualifications must be received no later than **4:00pm PST on Tuesday February 17, 2026,** at the office of the Truckee River Flood Management Authority, 9635 Gateway Drive Suite A, Reno, NV 89521. Digital copies will be included with the hard copies using a thumb drive or CD-ROM.

13. TRFMA reserves the right to reject any and all qualifications, to postpone the opening date for its own convenience, to make an award in its own best interest, and to waive any informalities or technicalities.

Proprietary Information Submittal

If a firm must include proprietary information in its SOQ, it shall submit that material in a separate sealed envelope labeled "Proprietary Information." The envelope must contain a letter from the firm's legal counsel describing the documents in the envelope, affirming in good faith that the information in each document meets the narrow definitions of proprietary information set forth in NRS 332.025, 332.061 and NRS Chapter 600A, and briefly stating the reasons that each document meets the said definitions. Upon receipt of a submittal accompanied by such a separate, sealed envelope, TRFMA will open the envelope to determine whether the procedure described above has been followed. Any information submitted pursuant to the above procedure may be used by TRFMA only for the purposes of evaluating submittals and conducting negotiations.

X. INDEMNIFICATION / INSURANCE:

TRFMA has established specific indemnification and insurance requirements for contracts/agreements with contractors/consultants to help assure that reasonable insurance coverage is maintained. Indemnification and hold harmless clauses are intended to ensure that contractors/consultants are aware of and accept the responsibility for losses or liabilities related to their activities. Attachment A is attached and included by reference. All conditions and requirements identified in this Attachment shall be completed prior to the commencement of any work under this Agreement.