

**VAST / Town of Hardwick LVRT Construction of Deck & Railings for Bridge #38 & 40  
Compilation of Questions and Answers for Sealed Bids Due 10/4/19.**

- 1) Question: (*Name of firm withheld*) is interested in obtaining the above referenced projects bidding documents, electronically if possible.  
Answer: All information for the LVRT Constructions Services for Bridge #38 & #40 can be viewed/downloaded at this link. <https://hardwickvt.org/town-of-hardwick-and-vast-seeking-bids-for-bridge-construction-services-to-bridge-38-40-on-the-lvrt/>
- 2) Question: Bridge #38 PT 2x6 decking - is the pressure treated 2x6 decking to be nominal size (1 ½"x5 ½") or rough cut 2"x6"?  
Answer: Nominal sized pressure treated to be used.
- 3) Question: Bridge #38 & #40 PT 6X6 End Posts - is the 6x6 pressure treated end post to be nominal size (5 ½"x5 ½") or rough cut 6"x6"?  
Answer: Nominal sized pressure treated to be used.
- 4) Question: Bridge #38 & #40 PT 2x6 top, bottom & cap lumber - is the pressure treated 2x6 material to be used for top & bottom rail along with top cap to be nominal size (1 ½"x5 ½")? Previous LVRT projects 1A,1B and 1C used nominal size material  
Answer: Nominal sized pressure treated to be used.
- 5) Question: Bridge #38 Existing Bridge Girder Beams - the existing bridge girder beams are built up beams with rivets on the top flange. These rivets are continuous along the girder beams. Some are 3" and 8" distance between rivets. Will it be acceptable to use a 5/8"x3" continuous steel plate to lay on top of the girder beam between the rivets so the laminated decking will rest on top of the 5/8"x3" steel?  
Answer: Yes a 5/8" x 3" continuous steel plate may be used for the laminated decking to bear on.
- 6) Question: Bridge #40 PT 6X6 Deck Beams - is the PT 6x6 deck beams to be nominal size (5 ½"x5 ½") or rough cut 6x6. What is size for 6 x8, Previous LVRT projects for 1A,1B and 1C used rough cut?  
Answer: Nominal sized pressure treated to be used.
- 7) Questions: Bridge #40 PT 3x10 continuous decking - is the PT 3x10 continuous decking to be nominal size or rough cut lumber?  
Answer: Nominal sized pressure treated to be used.
- 8A) Question: Bridge #38 PT 2x6 Laminated deck - can we prefabricate the laminated 2x6 deck in sections before installing them on the existing bridge girder beams?  
Answer: Yes the nail laminated deck can be prefabricated in sections or fabricated in place.
- 8B) Question part 2. If so what would be the minimum section length @ the 12' width.  
Answer: If the nail laminated deck is to be prefabricated, the sections shall be installed in minimum 4'x12' and maximum 8'x12' sections between rail support beams.

- 9) Question: Will the trail be closed this fall and during the winter months if the contract[or] would like to demo the existing railroad ties and start installing the new system weather permitting?  
Related Question: Is this an active trail during the winter months for the VAST?  
Answer: This section of the LVRT is not listed as part of the VAST trail network and is considered closed. Firm to receive the construction award will need to insure adequate control of the bridges to prevent unauthorized access.
- 10) Question: What will be our means for lay down area – Bridge #38 has the state-owned pull off, can a portion of this area be utilized for lay down?  
Answer: A portion of the state-owned pull off can be used for lay down, this is the area adjacent to the LVRT and location where a girder system as dedicated to another project is now stored onsite. This area would be identified with contractor selected prior to work commencing.
- 11) Question: Will we have a location for lay down closer to #40 as well?  
Answer: A lay down area is planned for a small portion of mowed field in the area of Bailey Farm Road and the LVRT. For this lay down space to be used it is anticipated the construction contractor would complete a liability waiver with the property owner for use of the area on limited basis. Any portion of the LVRT near bridge #38 and #40 can also be used as a lay down area. This area would be identified with contractor selected prior to work commencing.
- 12A) Question: In regards to detail 4 on S1.1 & S1.2, is the 2"x4" wire mesh to be full 3'-6" in height?  
Answer: Wire mesh shall span from the bottom rail to the top rail, approximately 3'+/- in height.
- 12B) Question part 2. Specifically at the existing bridge girders on #40. If mesh is to be full height, shall we assume notching the mesh around each girder?  
Answer: The existing bridge girder and bracing should not interfere with the wire mesh between the bottom and top rails.
- 13) Question: In regards to the bridge cross sections, detail 1 on S1.1 & S1.2, is there any reason why we couldn't have holes punched in the top flange of the support beams and thru-bolt. Opposed to 'clamping' the beam with the 3"x3" washer. Thru-bolting to the top flange seems more stable/reliable constructability wise.  
Answer: The existing bridge girders are the property of the railroad and we do not have permission to modify the existing structure, so the new bridge deck will be clamped to the existing bridge beams.
- 14) Question: After a site visit, the existing bridge girders do not appear to run all the way from abutment to abutment on bridge #38. They each stopped roughly 5-6" short of the concrete abutments. Detail 5 on S1.1 shows the existing girders meeting the concrete. Is there a need for an angle iron to support the built-up 2x6 laminate deck on each end of the bridge?  
Answer: The nail-laminated bridge deck can cantilever the short distance at the ends and the bridge decking shall continue over the nail laminated and bear a minimum of 4" on the existing concrete abutment.
- 15) Question: There is a note on the Davis-Bacon Act. Is this in fact a prevailing wage project? If so, can you provide the classifications & wages for this particular project.  
Answer: Davis Bacon does not apply and it is not a prevailing wage project.

16). Question: Please specify on requirements for “pressure treatment” of noted wood components?

*Answer:* All pressure treated wood shall at a minimum be UC4B treatment. See design plans for related details.

17). Question: Can you clarify on specifications for bolts / fasteners?

*Answer:* Connections of steel to steel are specified to use galvanized A-325 bolts. All wood to steel bolts or wood to wood bolts are specified as galvanized – no specific grade requirement. See design plans for related details.

18). Question: If there is a bid bond required?

*Answer:* The firm awarded the contract shall be bonded for the amount of the construction project cost.