

**Vermont Association of Snow Travelers and the Town of Hardwick**

**REQUEST FOR BIDS – Construction Services LVRT Bridge 38 & 40**

Sealed Bids for the construction of recreation bridge re-decking & railing construction for Bridges #38 and #40 of the Lamoille Valley Rail Trail (LVRT) will be received by The Town of Hardwick and the Vermont Association of Snow Travelers (VAST), at the office of the Town Manager, 20 Church Street, Hardwick, VT 05843, until 12:00 PM local time on Friday, October 4, 2019, at which time the bids received will be publicly opened and read.

The Project consists of construction services for the re-decking and addition of railings of two rail bridges (#38 & #40) on the Lamoille Valley Rail Trail to make them safe for recreational use.

Bids will be received for a single prime contract and shall be on a lump sum and unit price basis.

**I. Project Background**

VAST and the Town of Hardwick are seeking construction services for Bridge #38 & #40 on the LVRT to make them safe for recreational use. The work being completed on these bridges is in part supported by a grant from the Northern Border Regional Commission. The construction will involve removing and disposing of the old rail road ties, installation of new support timbers, decking, and railings suitable for a multi-use recreation path. These improvements will allow use for snowmobiles, for non-motorized recreation uses to include walking / biking, and occasional maintenance or emergency vehicles such as an ambulance.

The selected contractor will be required to complete construction in accordance with design plans as prepared by DeWolfe Engineering Associates P.C. The plans are shown as Attachment A. The selected contractor will be responsible to ensure any material such as existing railroad ties that are to be removed are properly contained and any material removed as part of the construction project is disposed of in accordance with industry standards.

Interested firms are encouraged to visit the bridges prior to submitting a proposal. Bridge #38 is 111 ft. long over the Lamoille River and can be accessed from a State-owned pull-off east of the Hardwick Village area and on the north side of Vermont Route 15. This pull-off is approximately one-half mile west of the intersection with Vermont Route 16. Bridge #38 is located just off the northeast corner of the noted pull-off. Bridge #40 is 185 ft. long over the Lamoille River and can be accessed from Bailey Farm Road intersection with the rail trail in Hardwick. Bridge #40 is also east of the Hardwick Village area just off Bailey Farm Road. Bailey Farm Road is on the north side of Vermont Route 15. Bridge #40 is approximately 900 feet west of the Bailey Farm Road intersection. Both bridges can be accessed by walking the existing rail bed of the LVRT corridor.

Those firms providing a bid will be responsible to check the bid posting site for any changes and or updates such as posting of questions and responses from interested bidders.

Any questions on this construction project can be emailed to [questions3840@hardwickvt.org](mailto:questions3840@hardwickvt.org). Please be sure to list, "Questions LVRT Bridge 38 and 40," in the subject line of the email. Questions from interested parties must be submitted by September 20, 2019. Responses to all questions received will be posted on or about September 25, 2019 as addendum to the original bid posting. Interested bidders will be responsible to check the state bid site for the addendum information as well as any other updates that may be executed as part of this bid posting.

## **II. Response Format**

Responses to this Request for Bids are to be provided by *Sealed Bid* and delivered by 12:00 pm local time on October 4, 2019. The bid envelope should include the following reference;

*Sealed Bid - Construction Services LVRT Bridge 38 & 40.*

*Bid opening October 4, 2019 at 12:01 pm.*

Send to:

***Town of Hardwick  
Attention: Shaun Fielder, Town Manager  
PO Box 523  
Hardwick, VT 05843***

Proposals should be double-sided and use recycled paper, if possible. Twin pocket portfolios or other simple, re-usable binding method is recommended. Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBE) and Woman Business Enterprises (WBE) are encouraged to provide a bid.

All proposals must be received by the Town no later 12:00 PM local time on Friday, October 4, 2019. Proposals and/or modifications received after this time will not be accepted or reviewed. No facsimile-machine produced proposals will be accepted.

All proposals upon submission become the property of VAST / Town of Hardwick. The expense of preparing and submitting a proposal is the sole responsibility of the consultant. VAST / Town of Hardwick reserves the right to reject any or all proposals received, to negotiate with any qualified source, or to cancel in part or in its entirety this RFP as in the best interest of VAST / Town of Hardwick. This solicitation in no way obligates VAST / Town of Hardwick to award a contract. VAST / Town of Hardwick may complete a cost analysis to determine the reasonableness of the proposed pricing prior to issuance of a contact award.

Please provide two hard copies of proposal and include the following:

1. A cover letter expressing the firm's interest in working with the VAST and the Town of Hardwick including identification of the principal individuals that will provide the requested services.

2. A proposed schedule that indicates project milestones and overall time for completion. Those providing bids must indicate they are able to complete the specified construction no later than June 30, 2020.
3. Demonstration of success on similar projects, including a brief project description and a contact name, address, and number for any needed reference checks.
4. A cost proposal consisting of a lump sum for all related work for this construction activity. Those providing bids are required to detail costs for Option 1: would be supplying new HP14x73 steel beam as noted on LVRT Bridge #40 – Bridge Deck Plans & Details. Option 2 (deduct alternate) using stock piled salvaged H-piles which exceed the required specifications to be supplied by VAST at no additional cost. All costs associated with load / transport / deliver to construction site / size & prepare for use on the construction project are the sole responsibility of the selected contractor. The H-piles available vary in length from 15 to 60+ ft and are stockpiled in Groton, Vermont at a location approximately 50 miles from the location of bridge 38 and 40. The available beams are piled and only roughly sorted; the winning bidder would be required to select the pieces they want to work with and arrange to have them transported. The storage site has a loader available, and can provide trucking services at an hourly rate, but requires the receiving location to have equipment for unloading. See Attachment B for more information.

### **III. Bid Opening and Consultant Selection**

Sometime following opening of the sealed bids and recording of price information a contractor selection will be made by a committee of representatives to include VAST / Town of Hardwick. It is anticipated the contractor selection will be made on or about Monday October 7, 2019.

The selection committee may elect to interview contractors prior to final award issuance.

### **VI. Contracting**

The Consultant will be required to enter into a Standard Contract for Services with the Vermont Association of Snow Travelers, an example of contract information is included, see STANDARD CONTRACT FOR SERVICES following.

If the award of the contract aggrieves any firms, they may appeal in writing to:

VAST  
Attention Ken Brown  
26 Vast Lane  
Berlin, VT 05641

The appeal must be post-marked within seven (7) calendar days following the date of written notice to award the contract. Any decision of VAST is final.

VAST / Town of Hardwick reserves the right to reject any and all proposals received as a result of this solicitation or to cancel this RFP in part or in its entirety if it is in the best interests of the Town. This Request for Proposals in no way obligates VAST / Town of Hardwick to award a contract.