

## **REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS FOR PROFESSIONAL AIRPORT CONSULTING SERVICES**

In accordance with FAA Advisory Circular 150/5100-14E and the policies and procedures of the Grand Rapids / Itasca County Airport (GPZ), notice is hereby given that a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for professional airport consulting services is requested from firms to render services required in connection with projects at the Grand Rapids / Itasca County Airport (GPZ). It is the intent of the GPZ to select and negotiate with one prime airport consultant for a five (5) year term.

Specific categories for airport consulting services include but are not limited to:

1. Architectural Design Services
2. Civil Engineering and Land Surveying Services
3. Environmental Consulting Services
4. Financial Consulting Services
5. Project and Construction Management Services
6. Political Engagement, Community Involvement and Public Relations

Firms are invited to provide a Statement of Qualifications (SOQ) for the categories listed above. An individual SOQ should be provided for each service category of interest.

The GPZ plans to make application to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and/or the State of Minnesota Office of Aeronautics (MNDOT) over the course of the next five years for grants related to airport development. A copy of the Airport Capital Improvement Projects (ACIP) report required for federal funding will be provided upon request. The ACIP projects, timeframes and estimates are subject to change at any time due to constraints outside the GPZ's control. The detailed scope of each project will be determined as each project is approved and funded. Project(s) potentially may be added and funded from other sources. A list of potential projects (not all inclusive) that are tentatively scheduled for the next five years include the following:

- 1) Building Maintenance
- 2) SRE Equipment
- 3) Obstruction removal

In order to be considered responsive to the RFQ, a firm must be experienced in providing the type of consulting services for which the SOQ is applicable and a firm must be familiar with the GPZ, its environs, and plans for the future. Each firm shall judge for itself as to all conditions and circumstances having relationship to future projects at GPZ. Each firm is charged with the responsibility of making an on-site inspection of the airport and its environs if necessary. Failure on the part of any firm to make such examination and on-site inspection shall not constitute a ground for declaration by a firm that it did not understand the conditions with respect to its SOQ. No formal tour of the Grand Rapids / Itasca County Airport will be provided. All firms are responsible for costs associated with the preparation of materials in response to this RFQ, and the GPZ assumes no responsibility for any such costs.

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Upon final decision of the selected firm, contract negotiations for a Professional Services Agreement will be initiated. The length of this Professional Services Agreement will be for five (5) year term from the date of contract execution. If these negotiations are unsuccessful, negotiations will be initiated with the second ranked firm.

The negotiation of individual project contracts and associated fees shall occur at the time those services are needed for an approved and funded project. If a price cannot be agreed upon between the GPZ and the selected firm during negotiations for each individual project contract, then the GPZ reserves the right to terminate negotiations and initiate a new procurement action. Individual project contracts are limited to those projects that can reasonably be expected to be initiated within five (5) years of the date that the initial Professional Services Agreement contract is executed, unless specifically approved by the FAA.

Understanding the wide diversity of professional disciplines required to complete all of the above proposed projects, and to allow for the maximum participation of DBE's, additional sub consultants may be proposed, for approval by airport management, as each individual project contract is negotiated. It is the policy of the GPZ that Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBEs) shall have the maximum opportunity to participate in the performance of contracts financed in whole or part with federal funds. All firms providing professional services for the GPZ shall take all necessary and reasonable steps in accordance with 49 CFR, Part 23, to ensure that DBEs have the maximum opportunity to compete for and perform contracts without discrimination on the basis of race, creed, color, national origin, handicap, or gender.

Qualified firms are requested to indicate their interest in providing services in each of the above listed categories by submitting four (4) hard copies and one (1) electronic copy of their **Statement of Qualifications on or before 4:00 p.m. (Central Standard Time), March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2026. SOQ's received after this date and time will not be considered.** One (1) original (marked Original) and three (3) complete copies of the SOQ must be submitted in a sealed envelope/package clearly marked with Firms name and the words "**GPZ Airport Consulting Services SOQ**".

**All questions concerning this RFQ shall be submitted to Mr. Matt Wegwerth, PE in writing, or email on or before March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2026.** Mr. Wegwerth will respond to all parties in writing no later than March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2026.

Mr. Matt Wegwerth, PE  
Public Works Director / Airport Manager  
420 North Pokegama Avenue  
Grand Rapids, Minnesota 55744  
[mwegwerth@grandrapidsmn.gov](mailto:mwegwerth@grandrapidsmn.gov)

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Generally, the format for the SOQ shall be as follows:

- A) Executive Summary
- B) Firm and team history (including local and total airport experience). Include names, qualifications and resumes of the team members assigned that will perform the engineering services listed in proposed ACIP.
- C) Six (6) tabbed sections that will specifically address each of the 6 categories of airport consulting services listed above. Include resumes of key personnel that will perform services in each service category. A portion of each section (under 5 pages) should indicate the firm's approach to applicable projects and outline any problems that the firm thinks should be considered in a project as well as their approach to solve them. Any additional information the firm wishes the selection committee to review may be included herein, however the total length of the qualifications statement should not exceed the page limitation set forth below. If a firm is not interested in proposing for one of the specific categories, then a single page stating this should be included for excluded section.

All qualifications statements shall be limited to 40 pages single sided pages (or 20 double side pages). Statements submitted by the established deadline will be evaluated based upon the following criteria:

Qualifications and competence of the firm	15 pts	Provide firm biography and history of the firm's aviation services business.
Experience of the firm and its employees in the type of service being sought.	25 pts	List recent experience in similar sized airport projects and ability to meet timelines/schedules. Example projects: Architectural, Civil, Environmental, NAVAID/electrical, land acquisition, approach clearing, ACIP programming, close out reporting, GIS and management of complex multi-phase construction projects on time and on budget.
Capability of the firm to perform the service desired within an acceptable time frame	15 pts	List key project personnel's professional background, experience and workload.
Firm's familiarity with and proximity to the geographic location of the projects	10 pts	Indicate office location(s) where work will be performed and familiarity with GPZ
Knowledge and experience with working with personnel, policies and procedures of the FAA, FAA Minneapolis ADO and MNDOT Office of Aeronautics.	20 pts	Indicate ability to enhance teamwork philosophy in working with local, state and federal agencies such as but not limited MNDOT and FAA.

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Firms ability to provide political support and community involvement to assist with outreach, advocacy, used in support of high value or sensitive construction projects	15 pts	Firm’s history and experience of performance in assisting clients with local, state and federal engagement in high value and/or sensitive projects.
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Total      100 pts

Following submittal, the Statements of Qualifications will be reviewed and evaluated. Based upon the written submissions in response to this RFQ, the GPZ will rank the firms in each criterion that it feels are most qualified to provide the required services. **At its sole discretion, the GPZ may interview up to 3 top ranked proposers, or make its final selection based entirely upon the written response to the RFQ.** In the event that the GPZ elects to invite a firm or firms, to make a personal presentation, a minimum of two weeks will be allowed for preparation of the presentation.

The GPZ reserves the right to reject any and all Statement of Qualifications or to re-advertise for additional Statement of Qualifications.