

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS (RFQ)

Professional Services for

Morgantown Trash Removal Initiative Project

Award Number: DE-EE0011401

Issued June 18, 2026



Department of Engineering and Public Works
389 Spruce Street
Morgantown, WV 26505
304-291-7465

<http://morgantownwv.gov/bids.aspx>

Public Notice

Published: June 18th and June 25th, 2026

City of Morgantown, West Virginia Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for Professional Services

The City of Morgantown is soliciting Statements of Qualifications (SOQs) from qualified engineering firms as well as firms offering non-engineering solutions to provide professional services for the Morgantown Trash Removal Initiative, a federally funded project aimed at designing a system to capture and remove floating debris and trash that accumulates behind the Morgantown Lock and Dam on the Monongahela River. The selected team will develop a solution that addresses both natural and anthropogenic materials with an emphasis on environmental sustainability and operational feasibility.

Responses from prospective firms are due to the City by **July 16, 2026, no later than 3pm**. Detailed information as to the specific services requested and the requisite content of the SOQ are set forth in the related RFQ document, which can be obtained at <http://morgantownwv.gov/bids.aspcx> . Top firms will be invited to interview with a selection committee.

This RFQ is issued in accordance with the requirements of the U.S. Department of Energy under Award Number DE-EE0011401.

Jamie Miller
City Manager

Introduction and Project Background

The City of Morgantown is issuing this RFQ to solicit Statements of Qualifications (SOQs) from qualified engineering firms and firms offering non-engineering solutions to develop an in-river trash collection system for the Morgantown Trash Removal Initiative, a federally funded project. The selected team will develop a solution to intercept and remove floating debris and trash that accumulates behind the Morgantown Lock and Dam on the Monongahela River, addressing both natural drift (trees and leaves) and visible man-made litter (barrels, bottles, and other debris) with an emphasis on environmental sustainability and operational feasibility. The system may include boats or other equipment acceptable to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers within the dam's restricted zone and could incorporate a semi-autonomous approach that combines hydro and solar power to continuously remove litter and debris.

Unlike many dams where water flows over them, the Morgantown Dam releases water through gates located below the upstream pool surface, so floating debris cannot pass over the dam and be flushed downstream until a gate is raised above the pool. That condition occurs only during infrequent, high-water events, which are when additional shoreline material and trash are dislodged and carried to the dam. Because there is no single upstream point source that can be eliminated or controlled, accumulation behind the lock and dam is ongoing.

The Monongahela River is a vital ecological and recreational resource for Morgantown, but debris build-up behind the lock and dam creates environmental and aesthetic problems and can pose operational risks to the facility. The City of Morgantown has secured federal funding to develop a system to mitigate these issues.

Scope of Services

The City invites proposals for the development and implementation planning of an in-river trash collection system that may include, but is not limited to:

- Feasibility study to evaluate technical, operational, and financial viability.
- Conceptual and detailed engineering design for in-river structures, booms, conveyance, and collection points.
- Equipment specification and procurement support for boats, skimmers, conveyors, and collection vessels.
- Systems integration and technology solutions such as semi-autonomous collection platforms, hydro and solar power systems, sensors, and remote monitoring.
- Operations and maintenance planning, including staffing models, routine maintenance schedules, and lifecycle cost estimates.
- Permitting, regulatory coordination, and US Army Corps interface to ensure solutions are acceptable within the dam's restricted zone.
- Environmental and permitting studies, including habitat impact assessments, water quality considerations, and mitigation measures.
- Non-engineering solutions such as debris management strategies, community engagement and education programs, behavioral-change campaigns, vendor-supplied turnkey systems, logistics and waste disposition planning, and data analytics for performance monitoring.
- Detailed breakdown of materials, design, construction, and long-term maintenance costs.
- Pilot testing and performance evaluation plans for phased implementation and adaptive management.

Additional Scope (if needed):

- Public engagement support
- Preparation of bidding documents
- Construction administration

Activities under this RFQ are covered by a Categorical Exclusion under NEPA.

Submission Requirements

SOQs should include the following elements:

- **Cover Letter and Expression of Interest**, an introduction of the firm, a statement of interest in this specific project, and an acknowledgment of all addenda (if applicable).
- **Firm qualifications and relevant experience**, including project examples and references.
- **Examples of similar technology deployments or community programs**, if applicable.
- **Key personnel**, resumes and roles for the proposed team.
- **Description of proposed services and approach**, clearly indicating engineering and non-engineering components.
- **Evidence of ability to coordinate with federal agencies**, including prior US Army Corps approvals where relevant.
- **Attachment A**, Response Certification (template provided)

The City will evaluate potential conflicts per 2 CFR 200.318(c)(2).

Submission Details

Submissions and other required documents must be enclosed in a sealed opaque envelope that is identified as “Morgantown Trash Removal Initiative” including the Firm’s name and this Request for Qualifications (RFQ) due date.

The envelope shall be addressed to:

Damien Davis, PE
Director of Engineering and Public Works

City of Morgantown
389 Spruce Street
Morgantown, WV 26505

This is an open solicitation, and submissions must be received by July 16, 2026, no later than 3pm. Submissions received after this date and time will be returned unopened. Offerors are responsible for ensuring submissions are received by this day and time.

Firms must provide one (1) PDF version (on a USB drive) and three (3) hard copies of the SOQ that address all sections of the submission requirements.

All questions regarding this RFQ must be submitted electronically. Questions shall be directed via email to:

Damien Davis at ddavis@morgantownwv.gov, and
Vanessa Johnson at vjohnson@morgantownwv.gov, and
Emily Muzzarelli at emuzzarelli@morgantownwv.gov

All questions regarding this RFQ shall be submitted no later than 3 pm on July 9, 2026. Questions will be answered by 3 pm on July 13, 2026.

The submission shall clearly provide all information that is required under this RFQ within forty (40) pages, single sided, 8 ½ x 11 paper, font no smaller than 10 pt., which includes all attachments and exhibits. However, the cover page, tabs, and the Attachment A– Response Certification (from Submission Requirements) will not be included in the page count.

The City will not be responsible for any expenses in the preparation and/or presentation of the written statement of qualifications submission or any subsequent interviews or for the disclosure of any information or material received in connection with this RFQ. The City reserves the right to reject any and all proposals received in response to this RFQ, when determined to be in the City's best interest, and to waive minor noncompliance in a proposal. The City further reserves the right to make such investigations as it deems necessary as to the qualifications of any and all firms submitting proposals in response to this RFQ.

Selection Schedule

- RFQ Published: June 18th and June 25th, 2026
- Questions Due: July 9th, 2026 by 3pm
- Answers Posted: July 13th, 2026 by 3pm

- Submissions Due: July 16th, 2026 by 3pm
- Interviews (by invitation): Week of July 27th, 2026
- Selection Notification: Week of August 3rd, 2026
- Contract Approval: TBD

The dates listed above are estimates as of the date of posting. Any changes to questions due date, answers due date, or submission due date will be posted in an addendum. Dates for interviews, selection and contract approval will be based on staff and firm availability and are expressly included for planning purposes.

Evaluation Criteria

The City will review properly submitted SOQs based on the following criteria, and submissions will be rated and ranked according to the following points for consideration for shortlisting firms to interview.

Criteria	Points
Firm and Team Qualifications	0-40
Relevant Project Experience	0-25
Understanding of Project and Approach	0-30
Small/Minority/Women-Owned Business	0-5
Total	100

ATTACHMENT A – Response Certification

CITY OF MORGANTOWN

The undersigned, as submitter, declares that they have read the Request for Qualifications and the following submission is submitted on the basis that the undersigned, the company and its employees or agents, shall meet, or agree to all specifications contained therein. Furthermore, the firm, its members, employees, or individual Engineer are not debarred from participating in federal contracts or on work paid with federal funds.

Date: _____

Does the Firm qualify as a:

Small Business Firm

☐ Yes ☐ No

Minority Owned Enterprise

☐ Yes ☐ No

Women Owned Enterprise

☐ Yes ☐ No

Name of Submitter

Signature of Submitter

Title

Company Name

Street Address

City, State, Zip

Telephone

Facsimile Number

FEIN Number

E-MAIL