

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS PRESTON TRAILHEAD DESIGN

Introduction

Friends of the Cheat (FOC) is working to restore, preserve, and promote the outstanding natural qualities of the Cheat River watershed.

RECREATING Project

FOC wishes to contract with qualified architecture and engineering firms to design a destination trailhead at the Preston site, formerly a Patriot Coal prep plant. The project site is located off WV Route 72 south of Kingwood, WV. This selection process will adhere to FOC's established procurement procedures. FOC will afford full opportunity for minority business enterprises to submit a show of interest in response to this invitation and will not discriminate against any interested firm or individual on the grounds of race, creed, color, sex, age, handicap or national origin in the contract award. FOC reserves the right to accept or reject any and/or all proposals.

Pre-Bid Meeting

An **optional** onsite meeting will be held at the Preston site on **Friday October 9, 2020 at 10:00am**. The address for the location is 11133 WV-72, Kingwood, WV 26537.

Project Description

Trailhead Functions

FOC owns the 17.5 acre Preston Trailhead site. This former coal preparation plant is uniquely situated at the intersection of the Cheat River rail-trail and the Lick Run Portals spur trail, near the Cheat River Trestle bridge. The land was purchased by FOC in 2009 to develop rail-trail access. This area will be the premier destination for accessing the Cheat River Rail-Trail and provide access to the river for anglers and commercial and recreational boat put-in/take-out. The trailhead must also welcome equestrian users with room for trailers to off-load away from busy roads.

Design Requirements

Site renovations will improve ingress and egress from WV72/River Road, develop a safe pedestrian crosswalk on WV72/River Road to access the Lick Run Portals spur trail, integrate trailhead footpaths and the rail-trail, enhance the existing river access for commercial and recreational use, and install trailhead infrastructure including lighting, signage, and waste receptacles. Earthwork will transform the site's industrial landscape and improve drainage. The greenspace will be expanded by removal of asphalt while retaining parking space for around 40 vehicles. Additional improvements include landscaping the site with native trees and plants. Picnic tables and park benches will be installed throughout the site to provide visitors an opportunity to utilize the site for more than just trail and river access.

Design work will also include preparations for future buildings and infrastructure. The site is large enough to support further development in conjunction with the trailhead. Initial site work will include infrastructure necessary for a future multi-use community building and/or an acid mine drainage treatment facility. Designs will also address creative ideas for public gathering spaces and other economic development opportunities that would complement trailhead uses.

Additional work will investigate the enhancement of two existing on-site ponds. Enhancement work will improve recreation access and ecological value and any plantings done will use native plants.

Deliverables for this project are construction design drawings in accordance with all state, federal and local regulations that pertain to the proposed project and bidding and contracting documents for the construction phase.

SUBMITTAL FORMAT AND CONTENTS

Proposals must contain information for the following sections **IN THIS ORDER and clearly marked with the Section number:**

Section 1— A signed cover letter from a person within the firm who is authorized to make representations on behalf of the firm and to bind the firm that includes the following company information.

- Full legal company name
- Company address
- Contact name, phone number, and email address

Section 2—Brief history and description of the firm submitting the proposal including the following information.

- Identification of a project team manager or point of contact for all management issues
- Identification of the firm's professional staff members who will be assigned to this project if the firm's proposal is selected
- Resumes for each such professional staff member that details qualifications, years and types of experience, education, and accomplishments

Section 3—Brief descriptions of relevant experience designing green spaces which incorporate natural features like extensive use of native plants, pervious paving, bioswales and other green stormwater management practices, and wetland/river corridor restoration. Also describe experience incorporating economic development opportunities into rail-trail projects. At least three references should be included with contact information, including current phone numbers and/or email addresses.

Notice: FOC shall have the right to reject any submittal that does not follow the Submittal Format and Contents requirements stated herein above.

Deadline for Submittals

The deadline for submitting proposals is 5:00 P.M. on Friday October 23, 2020. Submittals received after that time will not be considered. Submit by email to Owen Mulkeen at owen@cheat.org. For more details on the project please visit FOC's website at <https://www.cheat.org/recreation/re-creating-project/request-for-proposals/>.