

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Sealed proposals will be received at:

<https://www.bidexpress.com/businesses/36473/home>

and at the Fresno County Department of Public Works and Planning (Department), Office of the Design Engineer, Seventh Floor, Fresno County Plaza Building, 2220 Tulare Street, Fresno, CA 93721 until

**2:00 P.M., (1400 hours and 00 seconds)
Thursday, December 21, 2023**

If you have any questions about bid submission, please contact us at DesignServices@fresnocountyca.gov or calling (559) 600-4241 or (559) 600-4543.

Promptly following the closing of the bidding all timely submitted bids will be publicly opened and viewable via a livestream (the link for which will be posted at <http://www.fresnocountyca.gov/planholders>) for construction in accordance with the project specifications therefor, to which special reference is made as follows:

FOWLER AND OLIVE TRAFFIC SIGNAL TREE REMOVAL

FEDERAL PROJECT NUMBER: CML-5942(293)

CONTRACT NUMBER 23-18-C

The work, in general, consists of, but not limited to, removal and proper disposal of 126 orange trees located at the NE corner of the intersection of Fowler Avenue and Olive Avenue. The project work also includes the removal and disposal of fencing and other trees and bushes located at the SW corner of the intersection. All debris generated by the felling and removal of trees must be removed from the site.

The County of Fresno affirms that in any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, disadvantaged business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation. Bidders are advised that, as required by federal law, Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) requirements are included in Section 2, "Bidding," under subsection 2-1.12 "Disadvantaged Business Enterprises".

The DBE Contract Goal is 0 percent.

This project is subject to the "Buy America" provisions of the Surface Transportation Assistance Act Of 1982 as amended by the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act Of 1991.

This project is subject to the Cargo Preference Act and implementing regulations (46 CFR Part 381) to the Federal Highway Program.

Bidders may fill out a Request to be Added to Planholders list:

<https://www.fresnocountyca.gov/Departments/Public-Works-and-Planning/Construction-Bidding-Opportunities/Request-to-Be-Added-to-the-Planholders-List-Form>

Requesters will then be listed as a planholder for the project on the website and receive notifications and addenda issued for the project.

Prospective bidders may also select the project on www.BidExpress.com. Those that demonstrate interest in the project will be added to the planholders list, and receive notifications and addenda issued for the project.

Planholder and exchange/publication names may be obtained from the Fresno County website at <http://www.fresnocountyca.gov/planholders>.

Electronic copies, in “.pdf” file format, of the official project specifications, bid books and proposal sheets and such additional supplemental project information as may be provided, are available to view, download, and print at <http://www.fresnocountyca.gov/planholders>.

Electronic bids shall be submitted via e-mail to DesignServices@fresnocountyca.gov. Hardcopy bids shall be submitted in a sealed envelope addressed to the Department and labeled with the name of the bidder, the name of the project and contract number.

If a bidder is unable to submit a bid via Bid Express, Bid Books, which contain bid proposal sheets necessary to submit a bid, may be obtained within the Specifications documents posted on the Fresno County website.

Electronic bids shall be submitted via the BidExpress website. Hardcopy bids shall be submitted in a sealed envelope addressed to the Department and labeled with the name of the bidder, the name of the project and the statement “Do Not Open Until The Time Of Bid Opening.”

Bid security in the amount of ten (10) percent of the amount of the bid, and in the form of a bid bond issued by an admitted surety insurer licensed by the California Department of Insurance, cash, cashier's check or certified check shall accompany the bid. You must either attach an electronic bid bond or provide an original bid bond (or other form of bid security authorized by Public Contract Code Section 20129(a)), prior to the bid opening. Bid security shall be made in favor of the County of Fresno.

Hardcopy bid bonds shall be submitted in a sealed envelope addressed to the Department and labeled with the name of the bidder, the name of the project and the statement “Do Not Open Until The Time Of Bid Opening – BID BOND”

A Summary of Bids and a list of subcontractors for the apparent low bidder will be posted at the above listed website, generally within 24 hours of the Bid Opening.

All questions regarding this project shall be in writing and shall be received by the Department of Public Works and Planning, Design Division, no later than 2:00 P.M. on the seventh (7th) calendar day before bid opening. Any questions received after this deadline will not receive a response unless the Department of Public Works and Planning elects to issue an addendum to revise the bid opening date. In the event that the bid opening date is revised, the deadline for questions will be extended to no later than 2:00 P.M. on the seventh (7th) calendar day before the revised bid opening date. Questions shall be submitted on the “Request for Clarification Form” provided on our website:

<http://www.fresnocountyca.gov/Departments/Public-Works-and-Planning/Construction-Bidding-Opportunities/23-18-C-Fowler-and-Olive-Traffic-Signal-Tree-Removal/Request-for-Clarification-Form>

Any changes to, or clarification of, the project plans and specifications shall be in the form of a written addendum issued to planholders of record. Questions that prompt a change or clarification shall be included in the addendum with the subsequent answer.

Any oral explanation or interpretations given to this project are not binding.

No contract will be awarded to a contractor who has not been licensed in accordance with the provisions of the Contractors State License Law, California Business and Professions Code, Division 3, Chapter 9, as amended, or whose bid is not on the proposal form included in the contract document. A valid California Contractor's License, **Class A (General Engineering), Class C-27 (Landscaping Contractor), or Class C-61 / D-49 (Tree Service)**, is required for this project.

Pursuant to Section 1773 of the Labor Code, the general prevailing wage rates in the county, or counties, in which the work is to be done have been determined by the Director of the California Department of Industrial Relations. These wages are set forth in the General Prevailing Wage Rates for this project, available at County of Fresno, Department of Public Works and Planning, 2220 Tulare Street, Sixth Floor, Fresno CA 93721-2104 and available from the California Department of Industrial Relations' Internet web site at <http://www.dir.ca.gov/DLSR/PWD>. Future effective general prevailing wage rates, which have been predetermined and are on file with the California Department of Industrial Relations are referenced but not printed in the general prevailing wage rates.

This project is subject to compliance monitoring and enforcement by the Department of Industrial Relations.

No contractor or subcontractor may be listed on a bid proposal for a public works project unless registered with the Department of Industrial Relations pursuant to Labor Code section 1725.5 [with limited exceptions from this requirement for bid purposes only under Labor Code section 1771.1(a)].

No contractor or subcontractor may be awarded a contract for public work on a public works project unless registered with the Department of Industrial Relations pursuant to Labor Code section 1725.5.

This contract is subject to state contract nondiscrimination and compliance requirements pursuant to Government Code, Section 12990.

The Federal minimum wage rates for this project as predetermined by the United States Secretary of Labor are set forth in **General Decision Number CA20230018, Dated 12/01/2023**, which is incorporated in these special provisions by this reference as if fully set forth herein and which can be viewed at <https://SAM.gov>, under CA20230018. Said Federal wage rates, as well as project plans, special provisions, and bid forms, may also be examined at the County of Fresno office described in the preceding paragraph. Addenda to modify the reference to Federal minimum wage rates to reflect revisions thereto, if necessary, will be issued to planholders of record.

Attention is directed to the provisions in the "Federal Requirements" section of these specifications. If there is a difference between the minimum wage rates predetermined by the Secretary of Labor and the general prevailing wage rates determined by the Director of the California Department of Industrial Relations for similar classifications of labor, the Contractor and subcontractors shall pay not less than the higher wage rate. The Department will not accept lower State wage rates not specifically included in the Federal minimum wage determinations. This includes "helper" (or other classifications based on hours of experience) or any other classification not appearing in the Federal wage determinations. Where Federal wage determinations do not contain the State wage rate determination otherwise available for use by the Contractor and subcontractors, the Contractor and subcontractors shall pay not less than the Federal minimum wage rate, which most closely approximates the duties of the employees in question.

This project requires 0 trainees.

The U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) provides a toll-free “hotline” service to report bid rigging activities. Bid rigging activities can be reported Mondays through Fridays, between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Eastern Time, Telephone No. 1-800-424-9071. Anyone with knowledge of possible bid rigging, bidder collusion, or other fraudulent activities should use the “hotline” to report these activities. The “hotline” is part of the DOT’s continuing effort to identify and investigate highway construction contract fraud and abuse and is operated under the direction of the DOT Inspector General. All information will be treated confidentially and caller anonymity will be respected.

Bids are required for the entire work described herein. Bids will be compared on the basis of the cumulative sum of the bid amounts listed for the individual line items.

The successful bidder shall furnish a faithful performance bond in the amount of 100 percent of the contract amount and a payment bond in the amount of 100 percent of the contract amount. Each bond specified in this Notice (faithful performance bond and payment bond) shall meet the requirements of all applicable statutes, including but not limited to those specified in Public Contract Code section 20129 and Civil Code section 3248.

Each bond specified in this Notice shall be issued by a surety company designated as an admitted surety insurer in good standing with and authorized to transact business in this state by the California Department of Insurance, and acceptable to the County of Fresno. Bidders are cautioned that representations made by surety companies will be verified with the California Department of Insurance. Additionally, the County of Fresno, in its discretion, when determining the sufficiency of a proposed surety company, may require the surety company to provide additional information supported by documentation. The County generally requires such information and documentation whenever the proposed surety company has either a Best’s Key Rating Guide of less than **A** and a financial size designation of less than **VIII**. Provided, however, that the County expressly reserves its right to require all information and documentation to which the County is legally entitled from any proposed surety company.

Pursuant to Public Contract Code Section 22300, substitution of securities for any moneys withheld by the County of Fresno to ensure performance under the contract shall be permitted.

The Director of Public Works and Planning reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

The Department of Public Works and Planning, County of Fresno

Steven E. White, Director of Public Works and Planning

Issue Date: December 11, 2023