

Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority



**Request for Qualifications
For
Design Services for
South Salem Commuter Rail Station**

**MBTA Contract No.
J63PS01**

July 10, 2026

I. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority is soliciting consulting services for design and construction phase services (including vicinity master planning around the existing Castle Hill Yard and Salem Station) for two (2) 600ft (TBD) long high-level side platforms (or center platform), railings, and canopies including plumbed-in rainwater drains, elevator(s) with sump pumps and oil/water separators, pedestrian bridge(s), ramp(s), walkways, wayfinding, public address (PA) system, site utilities and relocation, electric power and emergency backup power, lighting, communications equipment, security cameras and call boxes, Variable Message Sign (VMS) units and display TVs, public address (PA) system, fare vending machines (FVM) and automatic fare collection equipment (AFC), 900ft elevated and enclosed community path, environmental and existing structures remediation, landscaping, site retaining and sound walls, track and signals infrastructure, storage shed(s), other station elements/amenities such as display cases, benches and trash cans as required, parking, bus shelter(s), bike shelter(s), passenger drop-off/pick-up areas and traffic calming measures along local roadways, roadway improvements including signage, traffic controls, and off-site improvements, including accessible paths, upgrades to existing bicycle facilities, and temporary facilities. Design may also include snow melting systems, and alternatives to concrete platforms such as FRP for snow melting chemical resistance to meet MBTA durability standards. Design should consider implementing advanced modern construction techniques including offsite prefabricated modular components to speed up construction during the environmental permitting phase.

Design for the possible temporary facilities, and assistance with all temporary and permanent real estate acquisitions will be included in the responsibilities. Additionally, electrification of the railroad will also be considered. Designers will be responsible for assisting with public meetings to discuss the project, meeting all relevant codes, regulations, and standards, meeting with the Authorities Having Jurisdiction to verify the design approach and applying for any waivers or variances (i.e. toilet facilities) and innovative product/building system approvals prior to the completion of the design. Since the environmental permits are associated with the property rather than the project, the closeout of the environmental permits will also be part of this project.

This project is expected to utilize Federal Funds.

II. SCOPE OF SERVICES:

The Authority is seeking to enter into a contract for the South Salem Station with the selected Consultant that includes the services as summarized below. The selected Consultant will provide the necessary services to manage and coordinate the activities required to complete all tasks assigned under the contract for all phases of the Project, as deemed appropriate by the MBTA.

Disciplines required to deliver the scope of services include, but are not limited to:

- Feasibility Surveys/Analyses;
- Urban and Transportation Planning;
- Architecture;

- Parking
- Intermodal
- Transportation Facility and Station design
- Multidiscipline Engineering (i.e. Civil, Structural, Electrical, and Mechanical);
- Track Design;
- Signals Design;
- Bonding/Grounding/Lightning Protection of Steel Structures;
- 3D Laser Scanning;
- Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) Design;
- Environmental Services;
- Landscape Architecture;
- Historical Assessment;
- Code Compliance;
- Robust Stakeholder and Public Participation;
- Contract Management Assistance;
- Quality Control/Quality Assurance;

The delivery method for this project is Construction Manager at Risk (CMAR).

The Scope of Services includes, but is not limited to the following:

- General Project Management Services
- Design Phase Services (Phase I-IV)
- Bid Phase Services
- Construction Phase Services (CPS)

The services will be delivered by Phase. Project Phases for this project are defined to be:

Phase I	Pre-Design (0%-15%)
Phase II	Preliminary Design (15%-30%)
Phase III	Design Development (30%-75%)
Phase IV	Final Design (75%-100%)
Phase V	Bid Phase Services
Phase VI	Construction Phase Services and Closeout

III. DURATION:

The duration of this contract will be six (6) years with the option of two (2) individual one (1)-year extensions.

IV. PROJECT BRIEFING:

The MBTA will hold a virtual project briefing for this Project on **July 17, 2026 at 10:30AM**, via Microsoft Teams.

Link will be posted to Bid Express

V. QUESTIONS AND ADDENDA:

Proposers are advised that all communication shall be limited to written inquiry.

The deadline for receipt of questions is 8 calendar days before the SOQ due date. All questions must be submitted via Bid Express.

Proposers are responsible for ensuring that any questions and requests for clarification clearly indicate that the material relates to the Project. The MBTA reserves the right to respond or not respond to questions and requests submitted. To the extent that a response is merited, any response will be made available to all Proposers.

The MBTA reserves the right to revise this RFQ by issuing addenda at any time before the SOQ due date. All addenda will be considered part of this RFQ and will be posted on the procurement site. It will be the sole responsibility of the Proposer to ascertain the existence of any and all addenda issued by the MBTA. Firms will receive notice from the procurement site that an addenda has been posted.

Any responses to questions, clarifications, or addenda not issued in accordance with this Section will be without legal effect.

VI. COMMUNICATION BETWEEN MBTA AND PROPOSERS

Once the RFQ has been issued, the only authorized communications shall be through the named person of contact for the MBTA. Unauthorized communications or contact between the firms, their employees, agents, or other related entities interested in submitting SOQs and the MBTA, or any other person or entity participating on the Selection Committee with regard to this Project are strictly prohibited after the RFQ is advertised. Interested firms will have access to the MBTA Project team during the Project Briefing if conducted. Any communication outside of this meeting will be addressed to the Designated Project Representative via email.

From the date of issuance of this RFQ through the award of the Contract, any Proposer that contacts directly or indirectly any member or employee of the MBTA or any member of the Selection Committee in connection with the selection process or the contract contemplated herein for this Project is subject to disqualification.

VII. SUBMITTAL REQUIREMENTS:

Firms having capabilities for this work are invited to submit a Statement of Qualifications **no later than 11:00 AM on July 31, 2026 via Bid Express at <https://www.bidexpress.com/businesses/83754/home>**. Joint Venture participation will be considered.

Proposers are solely responsible for ensuring that the MBTA receives their SOQs by the specified delivery date and time at the address listed above. The MBTA shall not be responsible for delays and other occurrences beyond the control of the MBTA.

Responses to the Request for Qualification shall include one (1) digital copy, submitted via BidExpress.com of the current Standard Form (SF) 330 - Architect/Engineer Qualification Questionnaire for all proposed team members, including all proposed sub-consultant firms.

Each Statement of Qualification must include the firm's valid Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) issued through **System for Award Management (SAM)** on Part II of the (SF)330

Please utilize Section H (Additional Information) of the Standard Form (SF) 330 to address the following:

The Statement of Qualifications will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

Evaluation Criteria	Weighting
Proposed Team and Organization	20
Key Personnel Qualifications	25
Relevant Project Experience	25
Relevant Delivery Experience	20
Personnel by Discipline	10
Total	100

- 1. Provide the proposed Team and Organization.**
- 2. Key Personnel** – Provide key personnel qualifications for all project disciplines.

The Project Manager assigned by the selected Consultant shall be a Massachusetts Registered Architect or Civil or Structural Engineer with a minimum of five years of PM experience, and possess experience with MBTA systems, procedures, and inter-departmental coordination.

The Project Manager shall also have a working knowledge of appropriate design codes and MBTA standards, including but not limited to: MBTA Guide to Access, Massachusetts Building Code, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Code of Massachusetts Regulations (CMR): 521 CMR: Massachusetts Architectural Access Board (AAB), 750 CMR Chapter 34: Repair, Alterations, and Change of Use of Existing Buildings, and NFPA 130 – Standard for Fixed Guideway Transit and Passenger Rail Systems.

The Project Manager shall have experience on projects delivered utilizing MGL c149a procurement methods, specifically Construction Manager at Risk (CMAR).

The Consultant shall be knowledgeable of and shall execute the Project in accordance with all current applicable codes and standards, including but not limited to AREMA, the Massachusetts Building Code, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Massachusetts Architectural Access Board (MAAB) compliance, and the MBTA System-wide Accessibility (SWA) Design Guide.

The Consultant must also specifically identify the QA/QC manager assigned to this project.

3. **Relevant Project Experience** – Provide up to 5 comparable projects of team members that best illustrates current qualifications relevant to this project. Comparable projects include projects delivered under MGL c149a and/or projects of similar type or scale.
4. **Relevant Delivery Method Experience** – Provide a list of team members that have delivered projects under MGL c149a.
5. **Personnel by discipline** should be provided in Section 9 of (SF) 330, Part II

In addition, Consultants shall provide:

- Completed Bidder Form for each Prime and Subconsultant on the SOQ Submission

VIII. SELECTION PROCESS

Following an initial evaluation of qualifications and performance data, firms considered to be the most highly qualified to provide the required services will be requested to submit proposals and may be invited to participate in interviews

All firms that are shortlisted must be actively **registered** in the federal **System for Award Management (SAM)** and maintain an **active** status prior to **proposal** submission.

It is the practice of the Authority to encourage the economic growth of professional firms through broad solicitation and award of contracts. All capable firms are invited to submit a Statement of Qualifications in accordance with the instructions presented in this solicitation.

This is not a Request for Proposal. The MBTA reserves the right to cancel this procurement or to reject any or all Statements of Qualifications.

Phillip Eng

Interim MassDOT Secretary and MBTA General Manager & CEO