

Water and Sewer Authority of Cabarrus County
Design Services for the Wolf Meadow Branch Parallel Interceptor
Request for Qualifications
RFQ Announced: April 1, 2026
SOQ Due: May 4, 2026 before 2:00 p.m.

The Water and Sewer Authority of Cabarrus County (hereinafter called “WSACC”, or “Owner”) invites engineering consulting firms (hereinafter called “Consultant”) having sufficient experience in providing consulting services for large-diameter sewer interceptors as related to the design development for the Wolf Meadow Branch Parallel Interceptor Project.

The existing Wolf Meadow Branch Interceptor consists of approximately 13,350 feet of gravity sewer with 15-inch and 24-inch diameter that serves an area within the Coddle Creek Basin. Hydraulic modeling conducted during the 2022 Master Plan effort by Black & Veatch showed this interceptor line as having limited capacity to carry peak projected peak flows after large industrial users, such as Eli Lilly and Red Bull, are established. A 2,500 linear feet parallel interceptor to the current 15-inch will be needed in the area (with a current recommended 24-inch diameter) to carry the projected 2050 flows during a 10-year storm event, as seen in Figure 1. This Request for Qualifications (RFQ), and the anticipated associated project, is for the design services related to a new interceptor parallel to the existing Wolf Meadow Branch Interceptor. This project will also include the replacement of a segment of pipe that runs under nearby railroad tracks for better conveyance characteristics overall.

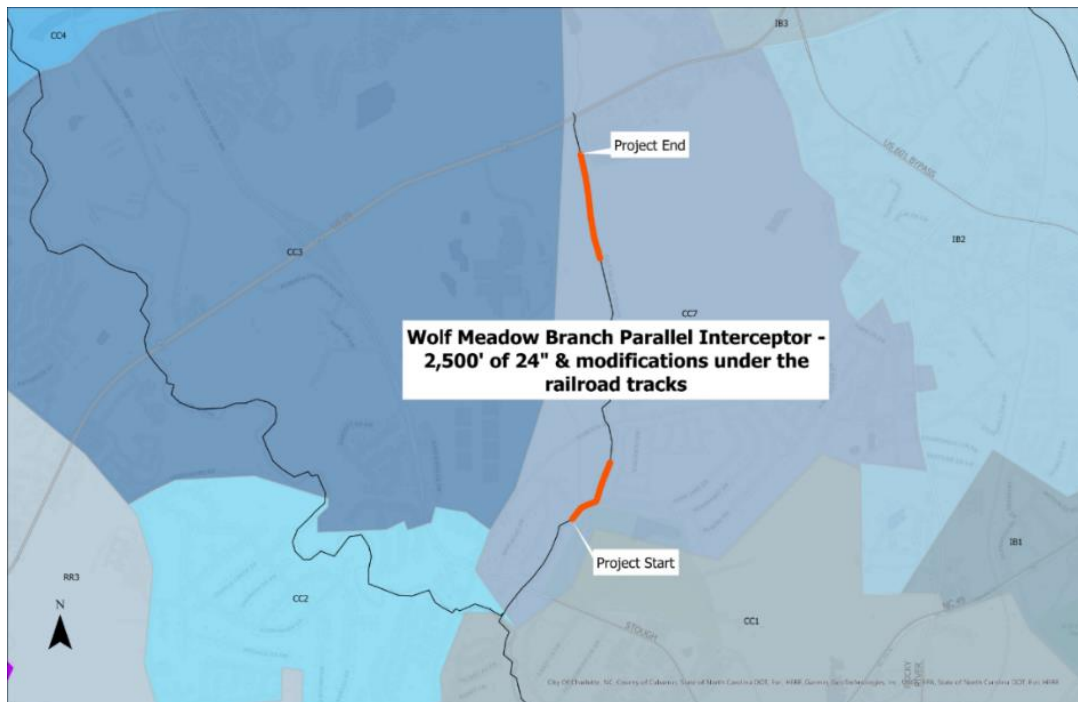


Figure 1- Wolf Meadow Branch Parallel Interceptor Project

Scope of Work

WSACC owns and operates 127 miles of wastewater collection system gravity lines, six pump stations and 21 miles of force main, and two wastewater treatment plants: the Rocky River Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant (RRRWWTP) and the Muddy Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant (MCWWTP). The RRRWWTP is currently permitted for a monthly average flow up to 30.0 million gallons per day (mgd), with expansion in progress to take the RRRWWTP to a permitted monthly average flow up to 34 MGD. The MCWWTP is currently permitted for a monthly average flow up to 300,000 gallons per day (gpd). WSACC provides bulk collection of wastewater from the City of Concord, City of Kannapolis, Town of Harrisburg, Town of Mount Pleasant, and Town of Midland, as well as portions of Charlotte Water's service area in Mecklenburg County. The Wolf Meadow Branch Sewer Interceptor serves an area within the Coddle Creek basin, with diameters ranging from 15 inches to 24 inches. The recent hydraulic modeling done as part of the 2022 Master Plan effort by Black & Veatch, showed that, after the Red Bull and Eli Lilly flows are in place, the existing system is projected to be able to handle a modeled 5-year storm event but could have excessive surcharge during a modeled 10-year event. By 2030, projected wastewater flows cause surcharging in the model to within 18 inches of the manhole rim in some locations during a 5-year event. This project will include design for a new parallel interceptor (currently estimated at 24-inch diameter) approximately 2,500 feet long adjacent to the existing 15-inch diameter sewer in order to carry the projected 2030 flows during a 10-year storm event, after industrial users are established. The project begins south of Concord Parkway (Highway 29) and extends along Wolf Meadow Branch where it terminates near Farmwood Boulevard, as seen in Figure 1. This project will also include the replacement of a segment of pipe that runs under nearby railroad tracks for better conveyance characteristics overall, as seen in Figure 1.

WSACC is requesting statements of qualifications (SOQs) from qualified firms interested in providing design services for the Wolf Meadow Branch Parallel Interceptor Project. This effort will include review of the current collection system, review of the 2022 Master Plan effort by Black & Veatch, any associated additional field investigations as needed, confirmation of sizing and proposed alignment, identification and procurement of any necessary easements / agreements, identification and obtaining any necessary permits, and development of plans and specifications and bid-phase services for the parallel interceptor.

One signed SOQ and six copies, all bound, in addition to one electronic copy in searchable PDF format (provided on flash drive), are to be submitted per the instructions outlined within the RFQ. Please review them carefully.

The project scope includes, but is not limited to, evaluation of the current collection system, analysis of previous evaluations data and conclusions, any additional field testing, and development of plans and specifications for the improvements. This effort is intended to take the project through the bid phase with contractors. WSACC will share the reports and associated data from the Black & Veatch efforts with the selected Consultant for this proposed effort.

WSACC currently anticipates that the scope will generally include the following elements, subject to further discussion and recommendations from the Consultant:

1. Background and Current Collection System Review
 - a. Review of Collection System
 - b. Wolf Meadow Branch Sewer Interceptor Details
2. Evaluation of Prior Analyses
3. Any Additional Field Investigation (as needed)
4. Confirmation of Parallel Interceptor Sizing and Alignment
5. Identification and Procurement of any Necessary Easements / Agreements
6. Identification and Obtaining any Necessary Permits
7. Development of Bid package for contractors (plans and specifications) and Bid-Phase Services

WSACC may also elect to include other related services in the scope of work. A decision on any additional related components will be made after selection, and WSACC will work with the selected firm on the additional scope item(s) at that time.

Key Success Factors

1. Effective, consistent, and thorough communications with employees throughout the WSACC organization, the WSACC Board, State regulators, and others as needed.
2. Well-developed scope and schedule
3. Project completion on-schedule
4. Establishing a cost-effective engineering design
5. Well-documented project milestones and well-documented project changes (as needed).

Selection Process

Pursuant to North Carolina General Statute 143-64.31, WSACC is conducting a “qualifications-based” selection process without regard to fee.

WSACC will conduct a fair and impartial evaluation of all SOQs that are received in accordance with the provisions of this RFQ. WSACC will appoint a selection committee to perform the evaluation. WSACC reserves the right to obtain clarification of any point in a firm’s / team’s qualification package or to obtain additional information. All firms / teams who submit qualification packages will be notified of the selection committee’s choice. Final approval of any selected firm / team is subject to the action of the WSACC Board.

SOQ Submittal

SOQs should include the following sections:

- Project Team
 - Proposed Subconsultants (if any)
 - Brief Biographies for Key Team Members
- Experience and Approach

No “new work product” for the project may be part of the SOQs and/or presentation, and no “new work product” will be considered in the interview presentation or selection process.

The last day for questions on the RFQ is April 15, 2026. Questions must be submitted via email to Thomas Hahn at T.Hahn@wsacc.org.

SOQs shall be no more than 40 pages, and shall be submitted in sealed, clearly marked envelopes. The SOQ shall be submitted to the Water and Sewer Authority of Cabarrus County located at 232 Davidson Highway, Concord, N.C., 28027, before 2:00 p.m. on May 4, 2026. Submittal envelope should be marked:

Statement of Qualifications – ‘Design Services for the Wolf Meadow Branch Parallel Interceptor Project’

Attention: Thomas Hahn

Firms may change or withdraw their SOQs at any time prior to the due date by providing clear and concise written notice via email to WSACC. Withdrawal of a SOQ will not preclude a Consultant from submitting a new SOQ, provided that the new SOQ is properly submitted and received prior to the SOQ due date identified above.

Negotiations and Modification of Contract Documents

WSACC reserves the right to conduct negotiations with the Consultant regarding any remaining issues provided that the general work scope remains the same and that the field of competition does not change as a result of material changes to the requirements stated in the RFQ. If, in WSACC’s sole discretion, it determines that the highest qualified Consultant is not responsive to the negotiation process, or that the parties will be unable to reach a mutually-acceptable Contract, WSACC may terminate negotiations with the Consultant. WSACC will then continue the process of negotiation with the next highest qualified Consultant until WSACC either successfully negotiates with a Consultant or cancels the procurement.

Conditions and Reservations

WSACC reserves the right to request substitutions of subconsultants. WSACC reserves the right to contact any Consultant if such is deemed desirable by WSACC to obtain any additional information including but not limited to experience, qualifications, abilities, and financial standing. WSACC reserves the right to conduct investigations with respect to the qualifications and experience of any Consultant. WSACC reserves the right to contact any firm/team to negotiate if such is deemed desirable by WSACC. WSACC reserves the right to reject any or all responses to the RFQ, to advertise for new RFQ responses, or to accept any RFQ response deemed to be in the best interest of WSACC. WSACC reserves the right to waive technicalities and informalities.

A response to this RFQ should not be construed as a contract, nor indicate a commitment of any kind. No binding contract, obligation to negotiate, or any other obligation shall be created on the part of WSACC unless WSACC and a firm jointly execute a contract.

Cost of SOQ Preparation

WSACC accepts no liability for the costs and expenses incurred by Consultants responding to this RFQ, in preparing responses for clarification, in attending interviews, participating in contract development sessions, or in attending meetings and presentations required for the contract approval process. Each Consultant that enters into the procurement process shall prepare the required materials and SOQ at its own expense and with the express understanding that the

Consultant cannot make any claims whatsoever for reimbursement from WSACC for the costs and expenses associated with the procurement process. The RFQ does not commit WSACC to pay for costs incurred in the submission of a response to this RFQ or for any cost incurred prior to the execution of a final contract.