

# Request for Information – Contractor Feedback

## I-85 at I-385 Wall Improvement Project

January 25, 2023

### Introduction

The South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) is in the planning and development stages of procurement documentation for the I-85 at I-385 Wall Improvement Project (Project). Due to the unique nature of the Project, SCDOT is actively seeking input to potential solutions and construction techniques on the Project. The intent of this document is to explore these topics with industry to determine improvement methods and construction approaches to better identify a reasonable approach to the Project.

The intent of the questions below is to spur conversation during one-on-one meetings and to gauge the industry's perspective on the best approach to achieve project objectives that SCDOT is considering. Written responses prior to or during the one-on-one meetings are not required; however, any written responses provided to SCDOT will become public record for the Project. Meetings are planned to be held on February 21, 2023 at SCDOT Headquarters. Additional meeting dates may be added depending on the number of responses. Please contact Brad Reynolds at (803)521-7007 or email at [reynoldsbs@scdot.org](mailto:reynoldsbs@scdot.org) to reserve a time to meet with the Office of Alternative Delivery project staff.

### Project Overview

The general scope of this project is to provide consistency in the wall facing/finish appearance of seven (7) existing retaining walls along the project corridor of the I-85/I-385 Interchange Project (recently competed). The subject walls are designated as Walls 10, 12, 16, 21, 26, 27, and 38 on the as-built plans. Exact locations of the existing walls can be found in the project information provided. The existing wall types consist of pile-and-panel and soil-nail walls that are fronted by half Type-6 concrete barrier. The goal of the Project is to match the facing/finish appearance, to the maximum extent practical, of the existing MSE Walls in the corridor, which are comprised of ashlar-stone precast concrete panel finish with concrete coping on top. It is assumed the existing concrete barrier in front will be replaced and improved as part of the wall facing improvements.

Questions to explore and understand the Contractor's perspective related to the proposed project:

1. What solutions/methods would the contractor implement to achieve the goal of wall facing consistency throughout the corridor? Do you have experience on past projects where these products/methods have been utilized to achieve a similar concrete formliner finish appearance? Please provide previous project information and location.
2. Certain walls change type multiple times within a continuous run (i.e. Wall 12 and 16 change between soil-nail, pile-and-panel, and MSE wall underneath Roper Mountain Road Overpass). How would the transitions between different wall types be handled while maintaining the desired ashlar stone concrete formliner finish?

3. Are there anticipated structural modifications to the existing retaining wall components to accomplish the goal of this project (i.e. changes in loading conditions that would necessitate re-design or evaluation of the existing walls)?
4. What traffic control methodology/solutions can be provided while adhering to the current lane closure restrictions? Consider the existing reduced shoulder width underneath the Woodruff Road Overpass (along I-385 collector-distributors).
5. What procurement approach would be most appropriate for the proposed project?

## **Disclosure and Disclaimer**

Materials and information submitted in response to this Request for Information (RFI), and any materials delivered to SCDOT during one-on-one meetings, may be subject to FOIA.

Respondent's written materials—if any—must contain specific and conspicuous designations of "CONFIDENTIAL" on all material and information it believes is exempted from disclosure under FOIA. Respondent shall also separately include a concise written explanation why the information is exempt from disclosure. No oral designations of any material as "CONFIDENTIAL" will be accepted. Blanket written designations that do not identify the specific materials and information are also not acceptable and may be cause for SCDOT to treat the entire response as public information. SCDOT may disclose the contents of all responses to this RFI, except to the extent exempt from FOIA. By delivering a response, as well as by registering and participating in a one-on-one meeting with SCDOT, each Respondent consents to such disclosure and expressly waives any right to contest such disclosure. In determining whether to release documents, the SCDOT will rely on Respondent's marking of each page or portions of pages of documents as being "Confidential".

SCDOT reserves to itself all rights available to it under applicable law, including but not limited to the unqualified right, at any time and in its sole discretion, to change, modify, or cancel this RFI, to reject any and all information, to seek clarification of information, to request additional information, and to undertake communications with one or more Respondents or others who, at any time subsequent to the deadline for submissions to this RFI, may express an interest in the subject matter hereof.

No Respondent or any other person or entity shall have any rights against SCDOT arising from the contents of this RFI, the receipt of information, or the incorporation in or rejection of information contained in any response or in any other document. SCDOT makes no representations, warranties or guarantees that the information contained herein or on the project website, or in any addenda hereto or thereto, is accurate, complete, or timely or that such information accurately represents the conditions that would be encountered during the performance of any subsequent contract issued from a separate procurement. The furnishing of such information by SCDOT shall not create or be deemed to create any obligation or liability upon it for any reason whatsoever; and each Respondent, by submitting its information, expressly agrees that it has not relied upon the foregoing information, and that it shall not hold SCDOT liable or responsible therefore in any manner whatsoever.