

## Advertisement for Bids (Formal - N.C.G.S. 143-129)

**Project Name:** Nature Center Gateway

**Project Number:** 298- NatureCtrGateway-24

Pursuant to North Carolina General Statute 143-129, sealed bids will be received by the City of Asheville Purchasing Division until **3:00 pm on March 28, 2024**, and be immediately opened and read aloud for the project described as follows:

### Description of Work:

The project includes (but not limited to) a new gift shop, event plaza and butterfly garden/exhibits. Additionally, the project also includes (but not limited to) the renovation of the barn and domestic animal exhibits.

### Bid Schedule:

Issuance of Advertisement for Bids	Thursday, February 22nd, 2024
Pre-Bid Meeting (not mandatory) WNC Nature Center 75 Gashes Creek Road Asheville, NC 28805	Tuesday, March 5th, 2024, 11:00am
Deadline to Submit Questions	Thursday, March 7th, 2024 5:00pm
<b>Bids Due (Bid Opening)</b>	<b>Thursday, March 28, 2024, 3:00pm</b>
Construction Start	May 2024

Pre-Bid Meeting attendance is highly encouraged but not mandatory. The project, the City's Business Inclusion Plan and the City's Drug-Free Workplace Policy will be explained.

### Bid Documents:

This Advertisement for Bids is posted on the City procurement website at [www.ashevillenc.gov/bids](http://www.ashevillenc.gov/bids). This is *the official source* of this solicitation. Bid documents and instructions may be obtained digitally at no cost from the City procurement website. All updates to this solicitation shall come in the form of published addenda and shall be published to the same location. **Neither the City nor the Engineer will be responsible for full or partial sets of Bid Documents including any addendum obtained from any other source.**

### Information:

All questions concerning this Advertisement for Bids should be submitted via email to:

Rebecca Cipriano, Project Manager rcipriano@ashevillenc.gov
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Questions pertaining to the bid will be answered in the form of a written addenda posted to the City of Asheville's bid page no later than (7) days before the opening of bids.

**Standard of Award:**

The award of the Contract will be made to the lowest responsible, responsive bidder, who, in the opinion of the City, is qualified to perform the work required and is responsible and reliable. When Alternate Bid items are required in the Bid, the Contract will be awarded to that responsible Bidder whose Bid for the Alternate or combination of Alternates, selected by the City, is the lowest.

**Asheville Business Inclusion Policy:** The City of Asheville has adopted the Asheville Business Inclusion Policy to encourage women and minority businesses' participation in the public bidding process. The purpose of this outreach effort is to increase the likelihood of availability and utilization of MWBEs in the award of contracts. Bidders are hereby notified that this bid is subject to that Policy's provisions. Questions regarding the Asheville Business Inclusion Policy may be directed to the Office of Economic Development, City of Asheville, Post Office Box 7148, Asheville, NC 28802-7148 or by phone at (828) 259-8050 or by email [abi@ashevillenc.gov](mailto:abi@ashevillenc.gov). Bidders are invited to show proof of MWBE status, to include NC Office of Historically Underutilized Businesses or other MWBE certifications. If not already certified with the ABI Office at the City of Asheville, bidders are further invited to become certified with the City of Asheville as an MWBE vendor. Please use this link: [ABI Certifications](#)

It is the Policy of the City to (1) provide minorities and women an equal opportunity to participate in all aspects of its contracting and procurement programs and (2) to prohibit any and all discrimination against persons or businesses in pursuit of these opportunities.

**Drug Free Workplace:** The City of Asheville is a drug-free workplace employer. By submitting this bid, the prospective contractor certifies that if awarded the contract, they and their subcontractors shall comply with the following:

The City requires contractors/vendors entering into a contract with the City to provide a drug-free workplace in the performance of said contract. The contractor, upon execution of the contract, certifies that it will provide a drug-free workplace during the performance of the work on this contract. The contractor agrees to do the following:

Notify employees that the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensation, possession or use of a controlled substance is prohibited in the workplace and specify the actions that will be taken for violations of such prohibitions. Responsive actions should be appropriate and sufficient to address and remediate any violations of this requirement.

**Payment of Taxes:**

Bid proposals shall include the cost of required insurance and bonds and payment of any applicable local, State and Federal taxes. The City Council of the City of Asheville has adopted a policy that the City of Asheville will not enter into contracts with bidders who are delinquent in the payment of ad valorem taxes owed to the City of Asheville.

**License Requirements:**

All bidders must have current North Carolina General Contractor licenses with the appropriate classification for all work of the project at the time of the bid.

**Bid Submittals:**

The City has prepared this Advertisement for Bids which identifies the services to be undertaken.

In order to be considered, all bids must be submitted in writing no later than the bid due date, at which time bids will be opened and read aloud. Contractors mailing bid packages should allow delivery time to ensure timely receipt of their bid. The responsibility for getting their bid to the City of Asheville on or before the specified time and date is solely and strictly the responsibility of the proposing contractor. The City will in no way be responsible for delays caused by any occurrence.

Postponement of Bid: The City of Asheville reserves the right to postpone bid openings for its own convenience. If the City offices are closed, the bid opening will be rescheduled for another day. Please check the city's website for details: <http://AshevilleNC.gov/bids>

Sealed Bids (must be glued/taped shut) may be delivered to:

<b>Physical Address (FedEx, UPS, Hand Delivery)</b>
City of Asheville 70 Court Plaza Security Guards Asheville, NC 28801  Attn: <i>Rebecca Cipriano</i> Bid #: <u>298- NatureCtrGateway-24</u> Bid Name/Description: <u>Nature Center Gateway Project</u>

Hours of Operation: 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (EST), Monday through Friday

Phone: 828-424-5596

Email: [rcipriano@ashevillenc.gov](mailto:rcipriano@ashevillenc.gov)

**Miscellaneous Requirements of the Bid:**

- All bids must be submitted on the form of Bid Proposal provided.
- All bidders are required to submit cash, a cashier's check, or certified check in an amount equal to five percent (5%) of the bid proposal. In lieu of said money, the bidder can submit a bid bond executed by a corporate surety licensed in North Carolina to execute said bonds. This deposit shall be retained if the lowest responsible bidder fails to execute the contract within ten (10) days of the award or fails to give satisfactory surety as required in North Carolina General Statutes Section 143-129.
- All bids and bid bonds shall be sealed in two (2) separate envelopes and shall not be opened prior to the time set for the bid opening.
- Until bid opening time, the City may return the bid to the bidder for modification or change-out of bid.
- No bid may be withdrawn after bids have been opened, except as provided in North Carolina General Statutes Section 143-129.1.
- The successful bidder will be required to furnish a performance bond and a payment bond in the amount of one hundred percent (100%) of the contract amount. Those bonds shall meet the requirements of North Carolina General Statutes Section 143-129 and of Article 3 of Chapter 44A of the North Carolina General Statutes.

The City of Asheville reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive informalities.

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