



Mecklenburg County, North Carolina
Solicitation # 487 – MRF Operations

ISSUED APRIL 15, 2024

**Interim/C&D MRF Operations Proposal (RFP)
& MRF Operations Qualifications (RFQ)**
Charlotte, North Carolina

Sealed responses for the operation of the Mecklenburg County Interim Materials Recycling Facility (MRF) and Qualifications for Operation of the Metrolina Materials Recycling Facility post-retrofit will be received until Friday May 17, 2024, at 3:00 PM EST in the office of:

Solid Waste Division
Land Use and Environmental Services Agency
Mecklenburg County Government
2145 Suttle Avenue
Charlotte, NC 28208
Attn: Jeffrey M. Smithberger, Director

Mecklenburg County is interested in identifying a responsive partner, who takes pride in high-quality and efficient operations, to manage processing and marketing of the County's Single-Stream and Construction and Demolition (C&D) Debris recyclables.

This solicitation covers two (2) distinct areas of operation: (1) pricing and qualifications to operate the planned Interim MRF both as a single-stream MRF and then as a C&D Debris MRF; and (2) qualifications to operate the Metrolina MRF following the completion of upgrades and retrofits. Interested Vendors are requested to provide proposals and qualifications covering the service areas listed herein. The County's preference is to award both the RFP and RFQ to the same Vendor. Brief summaries of the operations are as follows:

1. Operation of the Interim MRF – Single-Stream and C&D (Proposal)

Mecklenburg County is in the process of constructing an Interim MRF at 7833 Pence Road, Charlotte, North Carolina, adjacent to the Hickory Grove Recycling Center (8007 Pence Road, Charlotte, North Carolina). The "Interim" designation refers to the planned use of this facility to process single-stream residential recycling volumes currently processed at Mecklenburg's Metrolina MRF, during the period in which Metrolina is shut down for an equipment retrofit.

The County is requesting firms to submit price proposal packages for operating the Interim MRF as a Single-Stream recycling facility in 2025 during the time when the Metrolina MRF is being retrofitted, then transition to and operate as a C&D recycling facility once Metrolina is operational following

completion of the retrofit in 2026. The County has purchased new sorting equipment that will be utilized at the Interim MRF and Metrolina MRF.

Under a 5-year service agreement, Mecklenburg County would retain ownership of the Interim MRF, and a vendor would operate the Interim MRF for the purposes of accepting and operating it as a Single-Stream MRF during the Metrolina retrofit period, then transitioning it to a C&D facility and operating it as such for the remainder of the agreement. All materials, both Single-Stream and C&D, incoming to the facility will be controlled by Mecklenburg County. The County will also arrange for the transport and disposal of residue materials, process fines, and unbaled cardboard from the facility. The selected vendor for this work would need to perform commissioning and start up assistance working with the County and the equipment supplier prior to commencing operations. The Vendor will be responsible for operation and management of the scale house and tip floor, processing Single-Stream and C&D materials, cleanliness of the facility, and marketing of recovered materials. The County will enter into a revenue sharing agreement with the Vendor for the proceeds from recovered materials at the following percentages: 20% for baled materials and 10% for loose cardboard materials.

2. Operation of the Metrolina MRF Following Retrofits (Qualifications)

The County is requesting firms to submit qualifications packages for operating the Metrolina MRF following the upcoming retrofit period. The Metrolina MRF is planned to undergo upgrades to its layout and equipment to replace the aging equipment and to better serve the needs of a growing population. The Metrolina MRF is anticipated to be out of commission for 2025 with startup and operation of the upgraded facility planned for January 2026.

Firms are requested to provide qualifications for operation of the new MRF under a 5-year service agreement with an option to extend for 1-year periods thereafter for a period of up to two (2) years. Mecklenburg County will retain ownership of the MRF, and a vendor would operate the MRF which will include new equipment installed during the retrofit. The vendor would be responsible for ALL repair costs of equipment at the MRF, and marketing recovered materials. Selected Vendor is also required to perform safety and operational maintenance on the equipment. All materials incoming to the facility will be controlled by Mecklenburg County.

Pre-proposal Meeting

The Mecklenburg County Materials Recycling Facility, also referred to as the Metrolina Recycling Facility, is located in Charlotte, North Carolina. The Interim Materials Recycling Facility is currently being designed and constructed and will be located at 7833 Pence Road, Charlotte, North Carolina.

The pre-proposal meeting (non-mandatory) will be held on April 19, 2024, at 1:30 PM – 3:00 PM EST, at the Land Use and Environmental Services Agency, 2145 Suttle Avenue, Charlotte, NC 28208. A virtual option is available, to get the link please email SolidWasteProjects@MeckNC.gov

All interested parties may obtain the Request for Proposal on and after April 17, 2024, digitally at no cost from the County by emailing the Mecklenburg Solid Waste at SolidWasteProjects@MeckNC.gov.