

Pre-Submittal Conference

**City of Marion-**  
**Catfish Canal Stormwater**  
**Improvements**  
**D30-N051-PG**

Tuesday, January 28<sup>th</sup> at 1:00pm

# S.C. Office of Resilience (SCOR)



## Key Staff:

Ben Duncan, Chief Resilience Officer

Ran Reinhard, Director of Operations

Phleisha Lewis, Mitigation Director

Pam Kendrick, Infrastructure & Environmental Program Manager

Shauna Webb, Infrastructure Project Manager

Lisa Falta, EIT, Engineering Associate

Phil Gerald, P.E., S.C. Office of State Engineers (OSE)

# SCOR's HUD Funded CDBG-Mitigation Program

- SCOR's HUD Community Development Block Grant – Mitigation (CDBG-MIT) funded program
  - Federal Registers 84 FR 45838 and 86 FR 561
- SC Office of Resilience (SCOR) designated \$100 million of the HUD CDBG-MIT funds for stormwater infrastructure projects.
- Funds must be expended, and projects must be closed out by **December 31, 2032.**

## Eligible Applicants:

- UGLG's

## Eligible Activities:

- ✓ Engineering & Environmental fees
- ✓ Construction costs for infrastructure improvements
- ✓ Cost for acquisition of land for project purposes
- ✓ Infrastructure improvement
- ✓ Road repairs and upgrades that interact directly with stormwater infrastructure projects
- ✓ Implementation of incentive and educational programs

## Ineligible Activities:

- x Maintenance & Operation Activities

# Project Overview | Catfish Canal Storm Water Improvements

## CDBG-MIT Award:

- ✓ City of Marion – Catfish Canal Storm Water Improvements
- ✓ Grant Award Amount: \$2,500,000.00
- ✓ Local Cost Share: \$100,000.00

## State-Run Project:

- ✓ Project run by SCOR
- ✓ City participates throughout
- ✓ SCOR follows state procurement regulations.
- ✓ Utilize S.C. Office of State Engineers (OSE) Contracts
- ✓ Must follow S.C. OSE Bid Process

## Project Location:

- Catfish Canal (formerly Catfish Creek) runs West of the City
- Catfish Swamp is North of Marion
  - The swamp was cleared and drained in the 1950s to form a 728-acre agricultural parcel

## Project Background:

- SCOR previously awarded a HUD CDBG-MIT Plans & Studies Grant to Marion County for a Stormwater Master Plan that was completed by Michael Baker, Inc.
  - The City of Marion's Catfish Creek project was identified as a recommended project in the study.
  - **The completed study can be found here: [Marion County Stormwater Masterplan](#)**



Figure D1: 1947 USACOE Topographic Map

# Project Description | Catfish Canal Storm Water Improvements

## Project Description

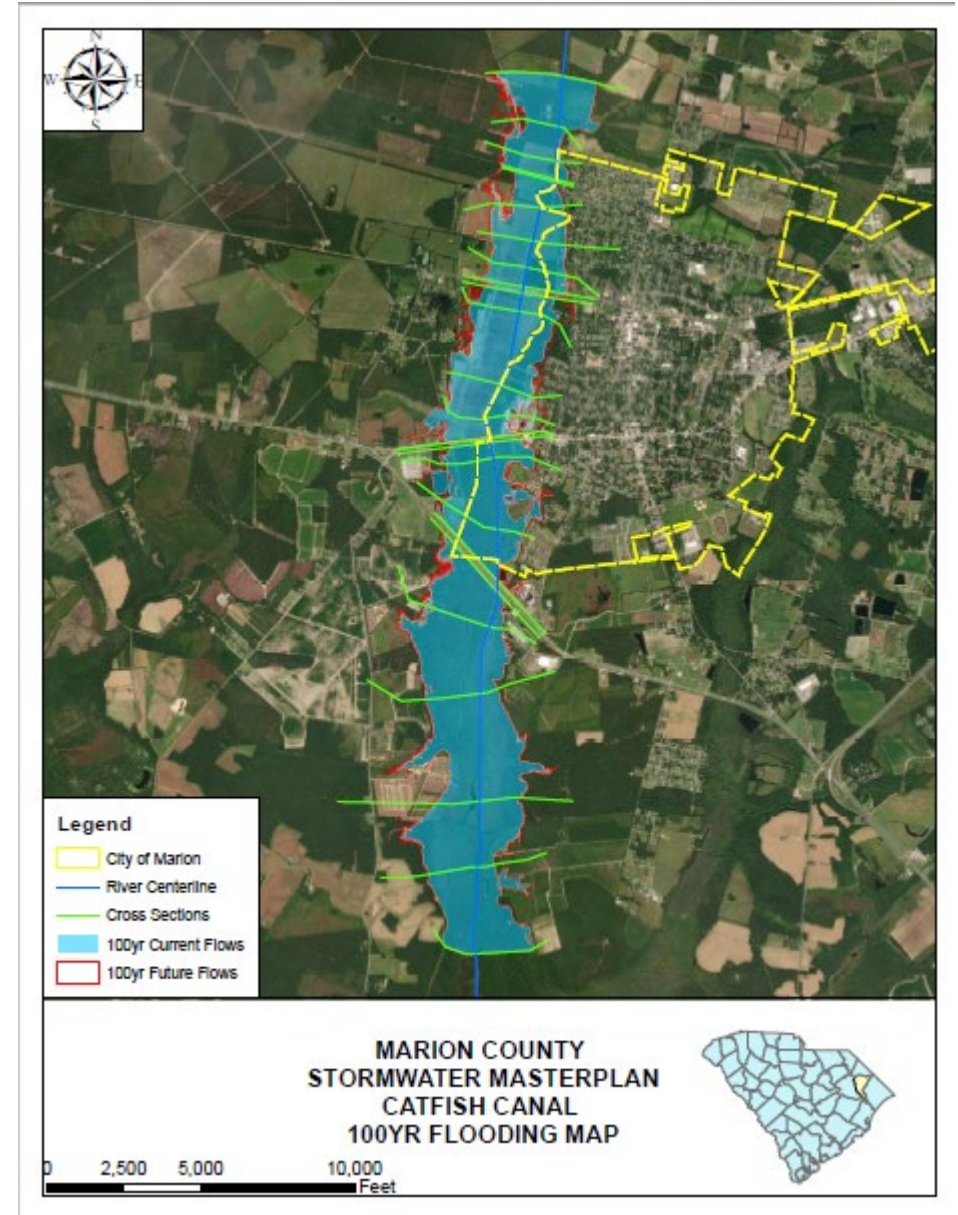
The City of Marion and SCOR seek to design a phased approach to the restoration of Catfish Canal and Catfish Swamp that will reduce flooding in the City of Marion.

Design improvements should include:

- Wetlands restoration to allow ponding and storage
- Restoration of Catfish Canal through the swamp using natural channel design principles
- Native trees and vegetation to reduce siltation and improve water quality
- Educational and recreational enhancements

The CDBG-MIT award should be used to fund engineering and design of the proposed improvements, and construction of first phase.

- Additional phases of construction should be clearly identified and able to implemented if/when additional funds become available.



# Procurement Overview | Engineering for Catfish Canal Storm Water Improvements

## Scope of Work and Deliverables:

1. Field Survey
2. Utility Coordination (All utilities owned by Town)
3. Hydraulic Design
4. HUD Environmental Assessment (EA)
5. Preliminary Design and Conceptual Cost Estimate
  - 30% conceptual cost estimate submitted to SCOR and the Town for review
  - 60% design plans and updated cost estimate submitted to SCOR and the Town
  - 90% design plans and updated cost estimate submitted to SCOR and the Town
6. Public Outreach
7. Benefit Cost Analysis (BCA) for final Design
8. Final Design Plans
  - Design Drawings & Project Manual for all construction phases
  - Final Construction Cost Estimate
  - SWPPP
  - Permits
  - As-Built Drawings and O&M Manual
9. Assist SCOR during the bid process for Phase 1
10. Construction Administration for Phase 1

Engineering Services Procurement Anticipated Schedule	
RFQ Issuance	January 9, 2025
Non-Mandatory Pre-Submittal Conference	January 28, 2025 @ 1:00 PM
RFQ Submittal Deadline	<b>February 11, 2025 @ 4:00 PM</b>
Review Firm Submittals	February 2025
Interview Selected Firms	March 2025
Negotiations and Contract Execution	March/April 2025
Est. Notice to Proceed	March/April 2025

# Project Schedule | Engineering for Catfish Canal Storm Water Improvements

Anticipated Project Schedule City of Marion   Catfish Canal	
Procure Engineering & Environmental Review Services	March 2025
Begin Design & Environmental Review	April 2025
Design, Environmental & Permitting Complete (310 days*)	February 2026
Bid for Construction	March/April 2026
Construction Complete	October 2026
Grant Closeout	January 2027

**Schedule Notes:**

- ✓ RFQ: 310 days for design
- ✓ OSE must review final design and project manual (+/- 45 days)
- ✓ Actual construction schedule will be determined following design
- ✓ Project may require a CLOMR/LOMR\*

# RFQ Questions & Responses | Catfish Canal Storm Water Improvements

**Q1a:** The SE-210 checks the box for accepting submittals via email, but the RFQ requires 4 printed copies. Please confirm the number of copies (if applicable) and format of the submittal.

**Q1b:** The invitation for professional services shows that the agency will accept submittals via email but the RFQ states firms should provide 4 printed copies. Which is the preferred method?

*R: In accordance with the RFQ, 4 printed copies are required as well as an electronic copy submitted via either email or a USB flash drive.*

**Q2:** To confirm, 20 doubled sided pages means 40 pages of content on 20 individual pages that have content on both sides.

*R: In accordance with the South Carolina Green Purchasing Initiative, it is preferred submittals not exceed 20 double-sided pages. The Standard Federal Form 330 is not included in the page count.*

**Q3a:** Are there any firms that are precluded from submitting on this project?

**Q3b:** Would companies involved in past planning studies be precluded from bidding on this project?

*R: No firms are precluded from submitting qualifications for this advertisement, including companies involved in past planning studies. State procurement regulations prevents architects or engineers who perform design work from performing construction work on the same project (see Q6).*



# RFQ Questions & Responses | Catfish Canal Storm Water Improvements

**Q4: Where along Catfish Canal is the City of Marion planning to do stream and wetland restoration?**

*R: Additional information about the proposed project may be found in the Marion County Stormwater Masterplan (link provided in the RFQ). Although the proposed project identifies locations and scope of work, it is a conceptual design. The selected firm will be expected to evaluate the existing conditions and conduct an alternatives analysis to determine the best solution for flooding associated with the Catfish Canal.*

**Q5: Will hydrologic data from the past master plan study be available to the awardee?**

*R: Yes, the hydrologic data from the past master plan study be available to the awardee.*

**Q6: Would winning this project preclude the awardee from bidding on construction?**

*R: Yes, SC Code § 11-35-3245 prohibits architects or engineers who perform design work on a project under a contract awarded pursuant to § 11-35-3220 or § 11-35-3230 from also performing construction work on that project.*

**Q7: Would a transition to design-build be an option for this project?**

*R: No, this project is procured under the Design-Bid-Build methods in accordance with SC State Procurement regulations.*

**Q8: We acknowledge the use of a 12pt font in the submittal, but does this apply to the SF330 forms as well or only to the additional proposal items requested?**

*R: Yes, 12pt font applies to the SF330 forms as well.*

# RFQ Questions & Responses | Catfish Canal Storm Water Improvements

## **Q9: Has a budget been identified for the design and construction of this project?**

*R: The estimated cost for the conceptual project identified in the Marion County Stormwater Master Plan was approximately \$11.5M. Due to limited funding availability, SCOR has awarded the City of Marion \$2,500,000 in CDBG-MIT funds to complete a phased engineering and design plan for the entire project, and the construction of Phase 1. SCOR will work with the City to identify and apply for potential funding sources to fund the remaining portions of the project. The plans developed from the CDBG-MIT award will be used to inform future funding applications.*

## **Q10: Are maintenance and monitoring required after construction?**

*R: The City of Marion will be responsible for maintenance upon completion of construction. The selected firm will develop an operations and maintenance manual for the City to utilize to ensure the completed project is properly maintained.*

## **Q11: Has it been determined which entity will be responsible for ownership and maintenance of the projects following construction?**

*R: The City of Marion will be responsible for ownership and maintenance of the project following construction.*

# RFQ Questions & Responses | Catfish Canal Storm Water Improvements

**Q12: Regarding Overview Section 1, can the City of Marion clarify the meaning of “provide capacity for 25-year storm events.”**

*R: The proposed improvements should be designed for storm events with rainfall amounts typically expected once every 25 years, or that have a 4% chance of occurrence per single year. Where this is not feasible, the firm must provide justification to SCOR and the City to design to a 10-year storm event instead of the 25-year storm event.*

**Q13: The RFQ states: “Within 310 days of contract award, the selected firm will provide the South Carolina Office of Resilience (SCOR) and the City of Marion with final deliverables for the City of Marion-Catfish Canal Storm Water Improvements that meet or exceed the specifications outlined.” Can you please provide more detail on exactly what is expected at the 310 day deadline, specifically in terms of permitting and construction administration?**

*R: It is intended that final deliverables, including an Office of State Engineer (OSE) bid-ready plan set and project manual, permits, and a final opinion of probably cost, will be provided to SCOR and the City within 310 days. However, SCOR notes that this project may require permitting through the USACE and a Letter of Map Revision through FEMA, which would cause significant delays to the project schedule. SCOR will work with the selected firm to update the schedule at key project milestones.*

# RFQ Questions & Responses | Catfish Canal Storm Water Improvements

**Q14a:** Regarding 4.d of the SOW and deliverables, does the City of Marion have land control or relationships with the landowners in the project area? If not, is it the awardee's responsibility to secure land control?

**Q14b:** The Michael Baker study appears to identify two privately-owned parcels for stream and wetland restoration. To perform the prescribed stream and wetland restoration work, it seems that an easement or purchase of these parcels would be necessary. Are there any agreements in place with the landowners? If the landowners are not agreeable to selling the properties or easements, are there contingency plans for the project? Do you expect the agreements with landowners to affect the project schedule?

*R: The City has had some preliminary discussions with property owners, but SCOR is not aware of any easements or properties being acquired. The selected firm will assist with easement/acquisition identification and exhibit development.*

**Q15:** We would like to conduct a site visit in order to better understand the project area, will you be making the project area accessible to visit in person?

*R: SCOR is not conducting a site visit for this procurement. Firms interested in visiting the site should coordinate with the City to determine accessible locations of project area.*

# RFQ Pre-Submittal Conference | Catfish Canal Storm Water Improvements

## RFQ Submittal Notes :

RFQ Submittal Deadline: **February 11, 2025 @ 4:00 pm**

- ✓ Submittals must comply with requirements set forth in Section 3 of the RFQ
- ✓ Late submissions will not be accepted

Pre-Submittal Conference Slides will be available on SCOR's website at: <https://scor.sc.gov/CDBGmitigation>

- ✓ Attendees may place email in chat if they would like a copy emailed directly

The image features a dark blue horizontal band across the middle, with a light blue textured background above and below it. The word "Questions?" is written in white, bold, sans-serif font, centered within the dark blue band.

**Questions?**