INVITATION TO BID

Sealed Bids For The Construction Of:

A NEW EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER & 911 CENTRAL DISPATCH FACILITY FOR FLORENCE COUNTY SOUTH CAROLINA FLORENCE COUNTY SOLICITATION #33-15/16

will be received in the Florence County Complex, Procurement Office, Room B-5, 180 N. Irby Street, Florence, SC 29501 until:

2:45 PM, April 28, 2016 (EST)

at which time the Sealed Bids will opened and read aloud at 3:00 PM in Room 210-C for the following:

Single Prime Contracts

(Single Bids for the General Construction which includes Plumbing, Mechanical, and Electrical Construction.)

In order to be considered, all bids must be hand carried or mailed <u>in a sealed envelope</u> to the Florence County Procurement Office, Florence County Complex, 180 N. Irby Street – MSC-R, Rm. B-5, Florence, SC 29501-3431 no later than **April 28, 2016** @ **2:45 PM (EST)**

Sealed Bids must be clearly marked, "Bid #33-15/16". Contractors mailing bids should allow delivery time to ensure timely receipt of their bid. The responsibility for getting the bid to Florence County on or before the specified time and date is solely and strictly the responsibility of the proposing firm. Any bids received later than the submission deadline will not be accepted/considered. Electronic bids will not be accepted. Directions may be obtained by calling (843) 665-3018. Florence County will in no way be responsible for delays caused by any occurrence.

Any qualified Bidder may submit a bid.

MANDATORY Pre-Bid Conference: Date: April 14, 2016 (EST)

Time: 10:00 AM (EST)

Location: Emergency Management Annex

1290 Justice Way

(corner of Justice Way and Friendfield Road)

Effingham, SC 29541

Attendance at the mandatory pre-bid meeting is required as a condition of submitting a bid. Bids submitted by companies not in attendance at the mandatory pre-bid meeting will not be considered by Florence County.

Instructions for submitting bids and complete plans and specifications may be obtained online through the NextPlans plan room beginning March 28, 2016. To become a registered plan holder you must sign up and order a full set of the bid documents by visiting the following web address: http://scn.nextplans.com. Add the documents to your cart and proceed through the checkout process. You may order digital or hard copy plans at .10/sq. f.t.-plans and .10/page-specs. The only means by which PDF's are to be provided is via download from NextPlans. Credit card only. This is not a deposit and no refunds will be issued after successful delivery of project documents. After download, you may distribute these documents to your potential bidders through your normal channels. This site will be open to sub-prime bidders as well, allowing them to view prime bidder information and order bid documents. Notification of addenda, pre-bid meetings, award information, etc will come via email through this site and be published for all registered users to view. For those not familiar with NextPlans or who need technical assistance, please contact NextPlans support at (866)215.0428 or email nextplans@sharpeimages.com. Note to Plan Holders: NextPlans is the only official holder and issuing office of all plans, specifications, and any addenda published for bidding. The County Of Florence and Stewart Cooper Newell Architects are not responsible for the accuracy of documents anyone may obtain from any source other than NextPlans. To ensure that complete plans, specifications and addenda are received the bidder should contact NextPlans.

The requirements of The Code Of Laws Of South Carolina, "An Act To Regulate The Practice Of General And Mechanical Contracting In South Carolina (1997)", Chapter 11, Title 40, Section 40-11-S through Section 40-11-430 and The Rules And Regulations Of The South Carolina Licensing Board For Contractors, Chapter 29, Articles 1, 2, 3, 4, 29-1 through 29-19, will be strictly enforced.

All Contractors and Subcontractors must be properly licensed in the Group, Classification, and/or Sub Classification as required by the South Carolina Licensing Board For Contractors. Bids will <u>not</u> be accepted from improperly licensed or unlicensed Contractors and/or Subcontractors.

All Non-Resident Contractors will be required to comply with Part Two, Act No. 855, Acts of The General Assembly of South Carolina, 1958, withholding for non-residents.

Each Bidder will be required to certify on the Bid Form that he is properly licensed and classified to perform the work that he is bidding. This certification also guarantees that if subcontractors are used they will also be properly licensed and classified.

Bidders should have no contact with the owners or the owners' representatives. Any such contact will subject the bidder to immediate disqualification.

Bids must be on the standard forms provided by the Architects and must be marked to identify the construction or classification of the work as shown above.

Each bid shall be accompanied by a <u>bid bond</u> as stated in the bid bond (surety) requirements of this bid document in the amount of equal to $\underline{5\%}$ of the total bid. The bid bond will be retained if the successful Bidder fails to execute the contract within ten (10) days after the award or fails to give satisfactory surety as required by the Contract Documents.

A Performance Bond and Payment Bond in the amount of 100% of the Contract Sum will be required for

this project. All Bonds must be executed in accordance with and conditioned as prescribed by the Laws of the State of South Carolina.

No Bidder may withdraw his Bid within One Hundred Twenty (120) days after the opening thereof.

Bidders shall be required to begin work upon receipt of Notice to Proceed as issued by the Owner, and complete work within 365 Consecutive Calendar Days as stated on the Bid forms.

<u>Liquidated Damages</u> in the amount of \$500.00 per calendar day will be assessed for each day beyond the scheduled completion date the work remains incomplete.

Bidding documents, drawings, and specifications may be examined at the following locations:

Office Of: Stewart-Cooper-Newell-Architects, P.A.

719 East Second Avenue Gastonia, NC 28054

Phone: 704/865-6311 FAX: 704/865-0046

For technical questions during the bidding phase please contact Kim Parton, Project Manager, at kparton@scn-architects.com

For questions concerning obtaining plans and specifications please contact

Roseanne Christopher at 800/671-0621 - Extension 100,

or e mail rchristopher@scn-architects.com

Important Note to All Bidders:

Florence County under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and related statutes ensures that no person shall on the grounds of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, and age, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under any program or activity it administers.

Minority Business Owners (minority or woman owned businesses) will be afforded full opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, creed, sex or national origin in consideration for an award. It is the policy of the County that minority business and women owned business enterprises (MBE/WBE) have an opportunity to participate at all levels of contracting in the performance of County projects to the extent practical and consistent with the efficient performance of the contract.

This request for bids does not commit Florence County to award a contract; to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of a bid; or, to procure or contract for the services. Florence County reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids received as a result of this request; to negotiate with any or all qualified proposers; or, to cancel in part or in its entirety this bid invitation, if it is in the best interest of the County to do so.

Patrick D. Fletcher, CPPB Florence County Procurement Director Florence County, SC