REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)

Linwood Park

(2900 Linwood Rd, Gastonia, NC 28052)

Dredging and Pond Restoration

Original Issue Date: September 15, 2026

Re-issue Date: October 19, 2026

Proposal Due by 12:00 PM November 2, 2026

Submit to:

Ryan Resendez

Assistant Director of Parks and Recreation
107 S. Broad Street
P.O. Box 1748
Gastonia, NC 28053

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1. Notice to Proposers

The City of Gastonia is soliciting Proposals (Proposal) from qualified and experienced firms to provide turnkey services for the assessment, design, permitting, dredging, restoration, and completion of nine (9) existing pond areas at Linwood Park. The selected firm will be responsible for providing all labor, supervision, equipment, materials, professional services, permitting, grant assistance, construction, restoration, and project management necessary to successfully complete the project.

The project is being undertaken to address impacts associated with Hurricane Helene, including erosion, sediment accumulation, debris, altered drainage patterns, and other storm-related impacts affecting the park's pond systems. The project is funded, in whole or in part, through an OSBM Helene Recovery Grant awarded to the City of Gastonia. Firms shall demonstrate substantial experience with pond dredging and restoration, sediment management, environmental permitting, erosion control, stormwater management, and similar projects. The City intends to select a selected proposer capable of taking responsibility for the project from initial assessment through final completion and grant closeout.

2. Project Overview and Background

Linwood Park is a major regional park development located in southwest Gastonia. The approximately 150-acre park is being developed to provide a diverse range of outdoor recreational opportunities, including hiking and walking trails, fishing, camping, picnicking, nature-based recreation, and other outdoor activities. The property contains a network of existing ponds and associated waterways that are important components of the park's natural environment and future recreational use.

As part of the park's continued development and restoration, the City of Gastonia intends to address the existing conditions of nine (9) pond areas located throughout the Linwood Park property. Hurricane Helene and the significant rainfall and stormwater flows associated with the storm resulted in increased erosion, sediment transport, and debris accumulation within the park's pond areas and associated waterways. These impacts have reduced the functional capacity of the ponds and contributed to degraded water quality and unstable pond edges and surrounding areas. Restoration of the nine pond areas will address storm-related erosion and sedimentation, restore functional pond capacity, improve water quality and drainage function, and enhance the long-term resiliency, environmental health, and recreational value of Linwood Park.

3. Fund, Grant Requirements, and Compliance

The project is funded, in whole or in part, through funding through the Office of State Budget and Management’s (OSBM) Helene Local Government Capital Grants Program to support recovery, restoration, and resiliency improvements associated with the impacts of Hurricane Helene. The selected proposer shall perform all services in accordance with the requirements of the applicable grant agreement and all applicable laws, regulations, policies, and requirements established by the North Carolina OSBM and other governing agencies.

The selected firm shall be responsible for understanding and complying with all applicable requirements associated with the project and funding source, including environmental review and permitting requirements, labor and employment requirements, nondiscrimination and equal opportunity requirements, accessibility requirements, suspension and debarment requirements, grant reporting requirements, and applicable requirements related to the use and documentation of grant funds.

The selected firm shall maintain complete and accurate records of project activities, costs, labor, materials, invoices, permits, certifications, photographs, and other documentation necessary to demonstrate compliance with applicable grant requirements. The firm shall provide all documentation reasonably requested by the City or applicable funding agencies.

All work shall be performed within the approved project scope and eligible activities identified in the OSBM Helene Recovery Grant award. The selected firm shall promptly notify the City of any condition or proposed change that could affect project eligibility, schedule, budget, environmental compliance, or grant requirements.

4. Project Goals and Objectives

The primary goal of this project is to restore and improve the function, capacity, resiliency, and environmental condition of the nine (9) existing pond areas at Linwood Park impacted by Hurricane Helene and associated stormwater flows.

The project objectives include:

- Restore functional pond capacity through sediment and debris removal.
- Address erosion, sedimentation, and storm-related damage.
- Improve pond water quality and drainage function.
- Stabilize pond shorelines, embankments, and other disturbed areas.
- Improve the resiliency of the pond systems to future storm events.
- Repair or improve pond inlets, outlets, spillways, and drainage features as necessary.
- Properly handle, dewater, transport, dispose of, or beneficially reuse dredged material.
- Protect wetlands, streams, and other natural resources during project activities.
- Minimize impacts to existing and future park facilities.
- Complete the project in a safe, efficient, environmentally responsible, and cost-effective manner.
- Meet all applicable OSBM Helene Recovery Grant, regulatory, permitting, and City requirements.

5. Scope of Services

The selected firm shall provide all services necessary to complete the project, including professional services, labor, equipment, materials, permitting, construction, restoration, and project closeout. The firm shall be responsible for coordinating all required subcontractors, engineers, environmental professionals, testing services, and other team members necessary to complete the project.

TASK 1: PROJECT MANAGEMENT & SITE COORDINATION

The selected firm shall provide overall project management and coordination, including:

- Development of a project schedule with milestones
- Coordination with City staff
- Coordination of all subcontractors and professional service providers
- Site meetings and progress updates
- Project documentation and reporting
- Coordination with regulatory and funding agencies
- Identification and management of project risks and schedule impacts

The project is expected to be performed sequentially across the nine pond areas. The selected firm shall coordinate dewatering, dredging, material hauling, disposal/stockpiling, and restoration activities to maintain efficient progress and minimize impacts to park operations and surrounding resources.

TASK 2: EXISTING CONDITIONS ASSESSMENT

The firm shall conduct a comprehensive assessment of all nine (9) pond areas and associated drainage features, including:

- Field investigation and documentation
- Evaluation of pond dimensions, depths, and capacity
- Identification of sediment and debris accumulation
- Evaluation of erosion, embankments, shorelines, and drainage features
- Evaluation of site and equipment access
- Identification of environmental constraints
- Photographic documentation
- Recommendations for restoration methods

TASK 3: SURVEYING, ENGINEERING & DESIGN

Provide all surveying, engineering, technical investigation, and design services necessary to complete the project, including:

- Topographic surveying
- Bathymetric surveying, where appropriate
- Pond profiles and cross-sections
- Sediment quantity calculations
- Grading and restoration design
- Drainage and hydraulic evaluation
- Structural or embankment evaluation, as necessary
- Preparation of construction plans and details

TASK 4: ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW AND PERMITTING

The selected firm shall identify, obtain, and comply with all applicable permits and regulatory approvals, including:

- Environmental review

- Erosion and sedimentation control requirements
- Wetland and stream considerations
- Floodplain and floodway considerations, including review of applicable FEMA mapping and determination of whether additional floodplain or hydraulic analysis is required
- Stormwater and water resource requirements
- Applicable federal, state, and local permits
- Regulatory agency coordination
- Permit conditions and compliance throughout construction

TASK 5: DREDGING AND SEDIMENT REMOVAL

The selected firm shall perform all dredging and sediment removal necessary to restore the nine (9) pond areas. The proposed work shall generally include the following:

- Site preparation and mobilization of personnel, heavy equipment, staging areas, and construction access necessary to support sequential work at the nine pond locations.
- Coordination of dredging operations so equipment and material-handling resources can be efficiently relocated from pond to pond as work progresses.
- Mechanical dredging and excavation of accumulated sediment and debris using equipment appropriate for each pond configuration and site conditions. Hydraulic dredging may be proposed where the proposer determines it is more effective or cost-efficient.
- Pond dewatering, as necessary, prior to mechanical dredging to provide access to accumulated sediment. The proposer shall describe its proposed dewatering sequence and methods.
- Where feasible and permitted, transfer and reuse of water from the next pond scheduled for dredging into a previously completed pond to support refilling and efficient project sequencing.
- Loading, hauling, placement, stockpiling, disposal, or beneficial reuse of dredged material in accordance with applicable permits and regulations.
- Use of an on-site dredged material disposal area or areas to be determined and approved by City staff, as necessary to accommodate the anticipated dredged material volume.
- Installation and maintenance of erosion and sediment control measures around dredged material disposal areas and other locations as necessary to minimize sediment migration during dredging and material placement.
- Maintenance of safe, efficient hauling routes and equipment movement while minimizing unnecessary disturbance to areas outside the project limits.
- Final cleanup and restoration of temporary staging and work areas to the extent required by the contract and approved restoration plan.

Preliminary Planning Quantities

The following quantities are preliminary planning estimates derived from existing project information and shall be verified by the selected firm during assessment, surveying, and design. Proposers shall identify any assumptions regarding quantities in their proposals.

- Pond 1: 0.81 acres — approximately 4,600 cubic yards
- Pond 2: 0.61 acres — approximately 2,200 cubic yards
- Pond 3: 1.31 acres — approximately 9,000 cubic yards

- Pond 4: 0.16 acres — approximately 950 cubic yards
- Pond 5: 1.95 acres — approximately 11,200 cubic yards
- Pond 6: 1.62 acres — approximately 6,700 cubic yards
- Pond 7: 2.78 acres — approximately 16,000 cubic yards
- Pond 8: 0.16 acres — approximately 750 cubic yards
- Pond 9: 0.18 acres — approximately 1,100 cubic yards
- Total preliminary dredging quantity: approximately 52,500 cubic yards.

TASK 6: POND RESTORATION AND REHABILITATION

The selected firm shall restore the nine (9) pond areas and associated features as necessary, including:

- Pond bottom excavation and regrading
- Shoreline stabilization
- Embankment repairs
- Erosion repairs
- Inlet and outlet improvements
- Spillway improvements
- Drainage improvements
- Repair or replacement of damaged infrastructure
- Stormwater resiliency improvements
- Revegetation and stabilization
- Removal of construction debris and temporary facilities

TASK 7: CONSTRUCTION AND SITE RESTORATION

The selected firm shall furnish all labor, equipment, materials, supervision, and services necessary to complete the project, including:

- Construction mobilization and demobilization
- Construction access
- Site preparation
- Dredging and excavation
- Grading
- Material hauling
- Erosion and sediment control
- Environmental protection measures
- Final grading
- Seeding, planting, and stabilization
- Restoration of disturbed areas
- Cleanup and removal of excess materials

The proposer shall identify the equipment and resources it anticipates using. Examples of equipment that may be appropriate include tracked excavators, wide-track dozers, off-road haul trucks, dewatering equipment, and other specialized dredging or material-handling equipment. Equipment selection shall be based on actual site access, ground conditions, sediment characteristics, pond configuration, and environmental constraints.

Following dredging, the selected firm shall provide limited restoration of areas directly disturbed by its operations, including minor grading and stabilization as necessary. Seeding, planting, straw installation, and other stabilization measures shall be proposed based on site conditions and applicable permit requirements. The proposal shall clearly identify the extent of restoration included in the base price.

TASK 8: QUALITY CONTROL AND PROJECT SAFETY

The selected firm shall be responsible for maintaining appropriate quality control and safe construction practices, including:

- Compliance with applicable OSHA and safety requirements
- Safe operation of equipment
- Protection of City property and existing facilities
- Protection of workers, park users, and the public
- Appropriate environmental protection measures
- Inspection and documentation of completed work
- Correction of deficient or non-conforming work

TASK 9: PROJECT CLOSEOUT AND GRANT COMPLIANCE

The selected firm shall provide all documentation necessary to complete the project and satisfy applicable grant requirements, including:

- Final inspection
- As-built information
- Final project photographs
- Final quantities and costs
- Permit closeout documentation
- Grant-related documentation
- Warranties and certifications, as applicable
- Final cleanup and site restoration
- Electronic project records
- Assistance with OSBM grant closeout

6. Deliverables

The selected firm shall provide the following deliverables, as applicable:

- Existing Conditions Assessment for all nine (9) pond areas
- Topographic and/or bathymetric survey information
- Sediment quantity estimates and dredging methodology
- Pond restoration and resiliency plans
- Environmental review and permitting documentation
- Construction plans and specifications
- Project schedule and progress reports
- Detailed construction cost and quantity information
- Sediment transportation, disposal, or beneficial reuse documentation
- Construction progress documentation and photographs

- Final grading and stabilization documentation
- As-built drawings and final project documentation
- Permit closeout documentation
- Grant compliance and closeout documentation
- Final project completion report

All final documents shall be provided electronically in formats acceptable to the City of Gastonia.

7. Project Schedule

The selected firm shall be prepared to begin authorized work promptly following execution of the contract and issuance of the applicable Notice to Proceed. The firm shall provide a detailed project schedule identifying major milestones, including:

- Initial site assessment
- Surveying and technical investigations
- Design and restoration planning
- Environmental review and permitting
- Mobilization
- Dredging and sediment removal
- Pond restoration
- Site stabilization
- Final inspection
- Project closeout

The project is funded in whole or in part through the North Carolina Office of State Budget and Management (OSBM) Helene Local Government Capital Grant Program. The selected proposer shall plan, schedule, and execute the work in a manner that allows the City to meet all applicable grant expenditure, completion, reporting, and closeout requirements.

The project shall be substantially completed no later than February 15, 2027 unless the City provides written authorization for a revised completion date based upon an approved extension or other authorization from OSBM.

Time is of the essence with respect to the completion of the authorized project work and all grant-related deadlines.

8. Minimum Qualifications

Interested proposers responding to this RFP shall demonstrate the following minimum qualifications:

- Minimum of five (5) years of experience in pond dredging, pond restoration, sediment removal, stormwater management, or similar work.
- Demonstrated experience successfully completing pond dredging and restoration projects of similar size and complexity.
- Demonstrated experience with sediment excavation, dewatering, hauling, disposal, and/or beneficial reuse.

- Experience performing erosion control, grading, shoreline stabilization, drainage improvements, and related site restoration.
- Demonstrated knowledge of applicable environmental regulations and permitting requirements.
- Ability to provide or obtain qualified engineering, surveying, environmental, and other professional services necessary to complete the project.
- Demonstrated experience obtaining and complying with applicable environmental permits.
- Demonstrated ability to perform the actual construction and restoration work using qualified personnel and appropriate equipment.
- Experience coordinating and managing subcontractors and specialty consultants, where applicable.
- Demonstrated experience with state- or federally-funded projects and associated documentation and compliance requirements.
- Demonstrated ability to complete projects within established budgets and schedules.
- Firm and key personnel shall possess all licenses, registrations, certifications, and qualifications required to perform the proposed services in North Carolina.
- No record of suspension, debarment, or other disqualification from participation in applicable public projects.

Firms may demonstrate these qualifications through the experience of the firm, its proposed team members, or qualified subcontractors. However, the selected firm shall retain overall responsibility for successful completion of the project, regardless of whether specific services are performed by the firm or its subcontractors.

9. Submission Requirements

Firms responding to this RFP shall submit six (6) hard copies of the Proposal and one (1) electronic PDF copy on a USB flash drive.

Proposals must be received at the address below by **12:00 pm November 2, 2026**. Late proposals will not be accepted.

Attention: Ryan Resendez, Assistant Director of Parks and Recreation
City of Gastonia
107 S. Broad St. (physical)
P.O. Box 1748 (mailing)
Gastonia, NC 28053

Proposals shall be limited to twenty (20) pages, excluding the cover letter and key personnel resumes. All submissions shall be prepared using a minimum 12-point font. Proposals shall remain valid for a period of 90 days from the submission deadline.

Proposals shall be organized using the following sections and shall address each item listed below.

A. Cover Letter / Executive Summary

- Firm/team introduction
- Understanding of the project and proposed solution

- Primary contact information
- Statement confirming the firm's ability to provide turnkey services and perform the proposed work

B. Team Composition

- Prime firm
- Subcontractors and/or subconsultants
- Organizational chart
- Identification of key personnel, including, but not limited to, the Project Manager
- Resumes of key personnel (may be included as an attachment and will not count toward the page limit)
- Roles and responsibilities of team members
- Identification of the firm's construction and dredging personnel/resources

C. Relevant Experience

- Experience with pond dredging and restoration
- Similar pond, stormwater, sediment removal, or restoration projects
- Experience with state, federal, or grant-funded projects
- Client references for similar projects
- Experience with sediment dewatering, transportation, disposal, and/or beneficial reuse

D. Technical Approach and Work Plan

- Understanding of project goals and objectives
- Approach to assessing all nine (9) pond areas
- Proposed dredging and sediment removal approach
- Pond restoration and shoreline stabilization approach
- Approach to drainage, inlet, outlet, and spillway improvements
- Sediment management and disposal approach
- Environmental protection and permitting approach
- Erosion and sedimentation control
- Site access and equipment staging
- Protection of existing park facilities and natural resources
- Site stabilization and restoration
- Quality control and safety

E. Project Schedule

- Detailed proposed project schedule
- Anticipated assessment and design timeframe
- Permitting timeframe
- Dredging and construction timeframe
- Final restoration and closeout
- Identification of potential schedule constraints

F. Equipment and Resources

- Dredging and excavation equipment
- Dewatering equipment
- Hauling and transportation resources
- Grading and site restoration equipment
- Construction personnel and resources

- Availability of equipment and personnel for the project

G. Grant, Regulatory & Permitting Experience

- Experience with OSBM or other state/federal grant programs
- Grant documentation and reporting experience
- Environmental permitting experience
- Regulatory agency coordination
- Erosion and sedimentation control requirements
- Experience with applicable environmental and water resource regulations

H. References & Past Performance

- Minimum of three (3) client references for similar projects
- Client name and contact information
- Project name and location

I. Licensing, Insurance & Certifications

- Applicable North Carolina licenses and registrations
- Required contractor qualifications and certifications
- Ability to meet City insurance and bonding requirements
- Confirmation of ability to comply with applicable grant and contract requirements

J. Additional Information

- Exceptions to the RFP requirements
- Anticipated project challenges, proposed solutions, and value/efficiency measures
- Additional information demonstrating the firm's qualifications and ability to successfully complete the project

Scope Assumptions and Exceptions

Because final quantities, site conditions, access requirements, disposal capacity, and permitting conditions may vary, each proposer shall clearly identify all assumptions, exclusions, unit prices, allowances, and conditions that affect its proposed cost or schedule. Any proposed exclusion from the scope described in this RFP must be expressly identified in the proposal. The City will evaluate proposals based on the completeness and clarity of the proposed scope, cost, schedule, and risk allocation.

10. Evaluation Criteria

The City anticipates evaluating proposals based on the following criteria:

- Relevant Firm Experience – 25%
- Experience with Similar Pond Dredging and Restoration Projects – 15%
- Proposed Technical Approach and Work Plan and Understanding – 20%
- Qualifications and Experience of Project Team – 15%
- Project Schedule, Cost Control, and Ability to Meet Grant Requirements – 10%
- Price / Cost Proposal – 15%

The City reserves the right to request additional information, conduct interviews, negotiate with the highest-ranked firm, reject any or all submissions, and make an award that is in the best interest of the City.

11. Selection Process and Schedule

Anticipated Schedule:

- RFP Issued: September 14, 2026
- **RFP Re-issued: October 19, 2026**
- **Questions Due: October 26, 2026 by 12:00 PM**
- **Responses Issued: No later than 12:00 PM October 28, 2026**
- **Proposal Deadline: November 2, 2026 by 12:00 PM**
- Evaluation, Selection, and Contract Negotiation: **November 2026**
- Anticipated Initial Notice to Proceed: December 2026

12.Contract Terms and Conditions

The selected proposer shall be required to execute a contract with the City of Gastonia covering the complete scope of work. The final contract shall incorporate the RFP, the selected proposal, applicable addenda, negotiated clarifications, approved change orders, and other documents identified by the City.

12.1 Single Point of Responsibility

The selected proposer shall remain responsible for complete project delivery, including project management, engineering and surveying services, permitting support and compliance, mobilization, access, dewatering, dredging, sediment handling, hauling, disposal or beneficial reuse, restoration, erosion and sediment control, site stabilization, documentation, and closeout. Use of subcontractors or specialty providers shall not relieve the selected proposer of responsibility for the work.

12.2 Notice to Proceed and Project Schedule

The selected proposer shall submit a detailed project schedule with its proposal and shall update the schedule as requested by the City. The final project schedule shall be subject to review and approval by the City.

The City may issue a Notice to Proceed for the project, or for individual phases, tasks, or components of the project, at its discretion. A Notice to Proceed may be issued in phases and may authorize only those activities specifically identified by the City. Issuance of a Notice to Proceed for any portion of the project shall not obligate the City to authorize or proceed with any remaining portion of the project, nor shall it constitute a guarantee of funding for the full project scope.

The City may authorize preliminary activities, including project management, site investigation, surveying, engineering, design, environmental review, permitting, testing, or other activities that are legally permissible and approved by the City, while additional permits or regulatory approvals are pending.

The selected proposer shall not commence dredging, excavation, disposal, discharge, construction, or other physical work requiring regulatory approval until the City has determined that the applicable permits, approvals, environmental clearances, and regulatory requirements necessary for the authorized work have been obtained or otherwise satisfied to the extent required for such work.

The selected proposer shall be prepared to begin authorized work promptly following issuance of the applicable Notice to Proceed. The proposer shall account for weather, water levels, site conditions, park operations, environmental restrictions, regulatory requirements, permitting timelines, and applicable OSBM Helene Recovery Grant deadlines in developing and maintaining the project schedule.

The City reserves the right to withhold, modify, limit, suspend, or delay a Notice to Proceed for any portion of the project based on permitting, funding, site conditions, regulatory requirements, project priorities, grant requirements, or other circumstances determined by the City. The City may also direct the selected proposer to suspend work on any portion of the project when reasonably necessary to address permitting, safety, environmental, funding, or other project considerations.

Delays caused by conditions beyond the proposer's reasonable control may be considered for a reasonable schedule adjustment when documented and approved by the City. Any schedule adjustment shall be subject to the City's approval and shall not automatically entitle the proposer to additional compensation. The City will not be responsible for avoidable delays caused by inadequate planning, staffing, equipment, subcontractor coordination, procurement, or other circumstances within the proposer's reasonable control.

12.3 Permits and Regulatory Compliance

The selected proposer shall identify all permits and regulatory approvals applicable to the authorized work and its proposed means and methods and shall provide the City with all information, plans, applications, certifications, and technical support reasonably necessary to obtain and maintain those approvals. No dredging, discharge, disposal, or other regulated activity may begin until required approvals have been obtained. The selected proposer shall comply with all permit conditions and applicable federal, state, and local requirements. Responsibility for any permit or approval specifically assigned to the City by the applicable agency shall remain with the City; however, the proposer shall provide all reasonable technical assistance necessary for that approval.

12.4 Site Access and Existing Facilities

The City will identify available access routes, staging areas, and designated on-site disposal areas. The selected proposer shall maintain safe and reasonable access to the work areas and shall coordinate access with City staff. Existing cart paths, roads, trails, utilities, drainage features, and other facilities shall be protected to the extent reasonably practicable. The proposer shall inspect access routes before mobilization and promptly notify the City of conditions that could materially affect equipment access, safety, schedule, or cost.

12.5 Protection of Cart Paths, Roads, and Property

Heavy equipment required for the project may cause rutting, settlement, or other damage to existing access routes or park property. The proposer shall use appropriate equipment, mats, stabilization

measures, and operating practices to minimize damage. Damage caused by the proposer's negligent or unreasonable operations shall be repaired by the proposer at no additional cost to the City. Any restoration beyond the proposer’s reasonable responsibility shall be addressed through the contract or an approved change order.

12.6 Estimated Quantities and Site Conditions

The dredging quantities identified in this RFP are preliminary planning quantities and shall be verified by the selected proposer through field investigation, surveying, bathymetric information, and other appropriate means. The City does not warrant the accuracy of estimated sediment quantities, sediment characteristics, groundwater conditions, buried debris, rock, unsuitable material, or other subsurface conditions. Material conditions that materially differ from the information reasonably available to the proposer at the time of proposal and that affect cost, equipment, means and methods, or schedule shall be documented and may be considered for an equitable adjustment through a written change order.

12.7 Dewatering and Water Transfer

Dewatering and water transfer shall be performed in accordance with the approved work plan and applicable permits. The selected proposer shall describe its proposed dewatering sequence and methods and shall use reasonable measures to control turbidity, erosion, and uncontrolled releases. The proposer shall recognize that water levels and transfer capacity may be affected by rainfall, groundwater, infiltration, evaporation, inflow, and other conditions outside the proposer's reasonable control. Any proposed discharge or off-site water release shall be performed only as permitted and authorized.

12.8 Fish and Aquatic Resources

The proposer shall identify anticipated impacts to fish and aquatic resources and shall comply with applicable environmental requirements and permit conditions. Unless expressly included as a line item in the final contract, fish removal, relocation, or restocking is not included in the base scope. The proposer shall notify the City promptly of conditions that could materially affect aquatic resources or require additional regulatory measures.

12.9 Dredged Material Handling, Disposal, and Beneficial Reuse

Dredged material shall be handled, dewatered, transported, placed, disposed of, or beneficially reused in accordance with the approved project plan and applicable laws and permits. The proposer shall include in its proposal all costs associated with the designated disposal/stockpile areas identified by the City, unless otherwise stated. Any proposed off-site disposal, additional disposal area, special handling, testing, or disposal requirement shall be clearly identified in the proposal and priced separately where appropriate. The proposer shall maintain documentation of quantities, transportation, placement, disposal, and/or beneficial reuse as required by the City and funding agencies.

12.10 Erosion and Sediment Control; Restoration

The selected proposer shall install, maintain, inspect, and remove erosion and sediment control measures required for its work. Temporary staging and access areas shall be restored upon completion. Minor grading, seeding, straw, and stabilization reasonably necessary to restore areas disturbed by the

work shall be included. Permanent landscaping, turf replacement, extensive trail or cart-path reconstruction, or other work outside the defined scope shall be identified as an alternate or potential change-order item unless specifically included in the proposal.

12.11 Equipment and Means and Methods

The selected proposer shall furnish equipment appropriate for the site and proposed work. Equipment type, size, quantity, and means and methods may be adjusted as necessary to safely and efficiently complete the work, provided that such adjustments do not materially reduce the required scope or quality. The proposer shall be responsible for equipment mobilization, demobilization, operation, maintenance, fuel, and qualified operators unless otherwise stated in the contract.

12.12 Changes in Work

No material change to the approved scope, quantity, method, price, or schedule shall be authorized without written approval by the City. Work performed outside the approved scope without written authorization may be performed at the proposer's sole cost and risk. Change orders shall describe the additional or deleted work, associated price adjustment, and schedule adjustment, if any.

12.13 Safety and Environmental Protection

The selected proposer shall provide qualified personnel and perform the work in a professional manner consistent with applicable safety, environmental, and construction requirements. The proposer shall protect workers, park users, City employees, existing facilities, utilities, wetlands, streams, ponds, wildlife, and other natural resources. Known site hazards and utility information made available by the City shall be reviewed before mobilization. The proposer shall immediately notify the City of any unsafe condition, environmental incident, spill, unauthorized discharge, or other event that could affect the project.

12.14 Unforeseen Conditions and Delays

The selected proposer shall promptly document unforeseen conditions that materially affect performance. Severe weather, excessive rainfall, flooding, unsuitable ground conditions, restricted access, utility conflicts, subsurface conditions, regulatory actions, and other circumstances beyond the proposer's reasonable control may warrant a schedule adjustment and, where supported by the contract and documentation, an equitable cost adjustment. The proposer shall take reasonable steps to mitigate impacts and shall not proceed with materially changed work without written direction from the City.

12.15 Workmanship and Warranty

All work shall be performed in a professional and workmanlike manner and in accordance with the contract documents, approved plans, permits, and accepted industry practices applicable to the work. The selected proposer shall correct defective or nonconforming work as required by the contract. The City does not expect the proposer to warrant future natural conditions that are inherently outside the project's control, including future sediment accumulation, erosion caused by subsequent storm events, water clarity, or aquatic vegetation growth, except to the extent directly caused by defective or nonconforming work.

12.16 Payment

Payment shall be made in accordance with the City's standard payment procedures and the payment schedule established in the final contract. The proposer shall submit invoices supported by sufficient documentation of completed work and quantities. The City will not be required to make advance payment unless expressly authorized in the final contract. Retainage, if applicable, shall be administered in accordance with the final contract and applicable law.

12.17 Insurance, Bonds, and Licenses

The selected proposer shall provide all insurance, bonds, licenses, registrations, certifications, and other documentation required by the City and applicable law before commencing work. Requirements may include general liability, automobile liability, workers' compensation, professional liability, pollution/environmental liability, performance bonding, and payment bonding, as applicable to the final scope and contract.

12.18 Records and Grant Compliance

The selected proposer shall maintain complete records supporting project costs, quantities, labor, equipment, materials, permits, photographs, invoices, disposal or beneficial reuse, subcontractor activities, and other information necessary for City, OSBM, audit, and grant closeout requirements. Records shall be retained for the period required by the applicable grant agreement, contract, and law.

12.19 Governing Law

The final contract shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of North Carolina.

12.20 Entire Agreement and Order of Precedence

The final executed contract and incorporated documents shall constitute the agreement between the City and the selected proposer. Any modification to the scope, price, schedule, or other contractual requirement shall be in writing and approved by the City. In the event of a conflict among documents, the final contract shall establish the order of precedence.

13.Reservations / Rights of the City

The City reserves the right to reject any or all proposals, request additional information from any respondent, cancel or modify this RFP at any time, negotiate with one or more firms, and issue subsequent solicitations as deemed necessary.

14.Written Questions

Written questions should include the individual's name, address and must reference this RFP. Questions should be sent by e-mail to Ryan Resendez at ryan.resendez@gastonianc.gov with the Email Subject Line: “Linwood Park

Pond Restoration RFP – Written Question." Any question received after 2:00 PM on October 26, 2026 will receive no response. Questions via phone will not be responded to.

Responses will be issued in the form of an addendum available to all interested parties. Interested parties should also send a request, by email only, to the person listed above to be placed on a public correspondence list to ensure future updates regarding the RFP or other project information can be conveyed. **Questions must be submitted to the person listed above no later than 12:00 PM October 26, 2026**. The final addendum will be issued no later than October 28, 2026.

15. General Requirements

The selected firm shall be responsible for providing all labor, supervision, equipment, materials, transportation, professional services, permits, subcontractors, and incidental items necessary to complete the project, whether specifically identified in this RFP or reasonably necessary to accomplish the project goals.

The City intends to contract with one primary firm that will assume overall responsibility for project delivery. The selected firm may utilize qualified subcontractors, engineers, surveyors, environmental professionals, laboratories, disposal facilities, and other specialty providers as necessary. The use of subcontractors shall not relieve the selected firm of responsibility for the quality, schedule, cost, safety, or successful completion of the project.

The selected firm shall coordinate its work with City staff and shall minimize impacts to existing park operations, facilities, natural resources, and future park development.

16. Insurance, Bonding and Contract Requirements

The selected proposer shall provide insurance, bonding, licenses, certifications, and other contractual documentation required by the City of Gastonia and applicable law before commencing work.

The City may require, as applicable:

- Commercial General Liability Insurance
- Automobile Liability Insurance
- Workers' Compensation Insurance
- Professional Liability Insurance
- Pollution/Environmental Liability Insurance
- Performance Bond
- Payment Bond
- Appropriate North Carolina contractor licensing
- Required subcontractor documentation

Specific limits, endorsements, bonding amounts, and other requirements will be stated in the final contract documents and shall be satisfied before the applicable work begins.

17. Contractor Responsibility

The selected firm shall be solely responsible for the successful completion of all authorized project activities. This responsibility shall include coordination of all design, engineering, permitting, dredging, construction, restoration, testing, documentation, subcontractor activities, and project closeout.

The selected firm shall be responsible for identifying potential problems before they affect the project schedule or budget and shall provide practical solutions that maintain the project's objectives and compliance with applicable OSBM Helene Recovery Grant requirements.

The City expects the selected firm to provide a single point of responsibility for the project and to coordinate all professional and construction services necessary to deliver a complete and functional restoration of the nine (9) pond areas.

EXHIBIT A – PROJECT AREA MAP