



**REQUEST FOR INFORMATION (RFI)**

**HAMILTON LYTTLE TUNNEL AND FORT WASHINGTON WAY PUMP STATION  
MONITORING, OPERATIONS, AND MAINTENANCE**

State of Ohio, Department of Transportation  
Jack Marchbanks, Director

**Submission Deadline:**

**June 19, 2024, at 2:00 p.m. eastern time**

**Submitted by:**

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**Name of Company/Entity Representing:**

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**Federal Tax ID No.:**

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<b>Mailing Address</b>		
Street Address:		
P.O. Box:		
City:		
State:		
Zip:		
<b>Contact Information:</b>		
<b>Contact Person and Phone Number:</b> (authorized to answer questions about your company's RFI)		
<b>E-Mail Address (required):</b> (person who filled out RFI)		
<b>E-Mail Address (required):</b> (for notification of future RFI or bid opportunities)		
<b>Telephone Number</b>	<b>800 Number</b>	<b>Fax Number</b>

<b>This response does include information considered a 'trade secret'</b> (check one)	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
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**SUBMIT ANY QUESTIONS, CLARIFICATIONS, OR INQUIRIES REGARDING THIS RFI  
TO THE FOLLOWING E-MAIL ADDRESS:**

[DOT.D08.Tunnel-PumpStation@dot.ohio.gov](mailto:DOT.D08.Tunnel-PumpStation@dot.ohio.gov)

## **1. Introduction**

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The Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) is issuing this Request for Information (RFI) to gain input and information from interested vendors, contractors, consultants, or design-build teams; hereinafter, vendors, to determine opportunities that exist to monitor, operate, and maintain two critical interstate assets in Hamilton County, Ohio. The following assets and general tasks would be included in the contract:

- Lytle Tunnel passing I-71 below Lytle Park in the City of Cincinnati
  - Upgrade the Lytle Tunnel Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) system.
  - Provide on-going support and necessary upgrades of the SCADA system software.
  - Provide in-person and remote monitoring of the tunnel equipment including SCADA system, respond to site for evaluation, and complete necessary minor/routine maintenance.
  - Provide on-going operation and maintenance of the tunnel elements as outlined in the Operations and Maintenance manual.
- I-71, Fort Washington Way (FWW) Pump Station
  - Provide on-going operation and maintenance of the pump station elements as outlined in the Operations and Maintenance manual. Including monthly FWW pump station and backup generator inspections.
  - Conduct the emergency flood operations when flood conditions require the FWW pump station to go into service per the Operations and Maintenance manual.

These assets are unique to ODOT, District 8 and the goal of the RFI is to inform ODOT in the development of a potential procurement and project implementation. This RFI does not constitute a commitment, implied or otherwise, that ODOT will take further action in this matter.

This RFI is designed to provide vendors with the information necessary for the preparation of an appropriate response. It is not intended to be comprehensive, and each vendor is responsible for determining all factors necessary for submission of a comprehensive response. Responses should be based on the material contained in this RFI or any other relevant information the vendor thinks is appropriate. By submitting a response, each Vendor agrees that it will not bring any claim or have any cause of action against the State of Ohio or any employee of the State, based on any misunderstanding concerning the information provided or concerning ODOT's failure, negligent or otherwise, to provide the vendor with pertinent information as intended by this RFI. Information submitted in response to this RFI will become property of ODOT. The State of Ohio will not pay for any information herein requested nor is it liable for any cost incurred by the vendor.

### **RFI Confidentiality**

All vendors are strongly discouraged from including in a response any information that the vendor considers to be a "trade secret," as that term is defined in Section 1333.61(D) of the Ohio Revised Code. All information submitted in response to this RFI is public information unless a statutory exception exists that exempts it from public release. If any information in the response is to be treated as a trade secret, the response must:

- Identify each and every occurrence of the information within the response with an asterisk before and after each line containing trade secret information and underline the trade secret information itself.
- Check the "This response does include information considered a 'trade secret'" box on the Vendor Information Page.
- Include a page immediately after the Vendor Information Page that lists each page in the response that includes trade secret information and the number of occurrences of trade secret information on that page.

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To determine what qualifies as trade secret information, refer to the definition of “trade secret” in the Ohio Revised Code, which is reproduced below for reference:

- “Trade Secret” means information, including the whole or any portion or phase of any scientific or technical information, design, process, procedure, formula, pattern, compilation, program, device, method, technique, or improvement, or any business information or plans, financial information, or listing of names, addresses, or telephone numbers, that satisfies both of the following:
- It derives independent economic value, actual or potential, from not being generally known to, and not being readily ascertainable by proper means by, other persons who can obtain economic value from its disclosure or use.
- It is the subject of efforts that are reasonable under the circumstances to maintain its secrecy.

## 2. Background

The safe and efficient movement of motorists and freight on I-71 in Cincinnati Ohio requires monitoring, operating, and maintaining two critical assets. A tunnel with reliable and functioning safety equipment is vital. During and after extreme rain events the continued operation of the FWW pump station is critical in order to keep I-71 open to motorists. Documents may be found on at the following link: [\\ftp.dot.state.oh.us\pub\\$\Districts\D08\HAM-Lytle Tunnel and FWW Pump O&M RFI info](\\ftp.dot.state.oh.us\pub$\Districts\D08\HAM-Lytle Tunnel and FWW Pump O&M RFI info)

To support this requirement, ODOT completed upgrades to the Lytle Tunnel and its associated mechanical systems in 2017 ([\\ftp.dot.state.oh.us\pub\\$\Districts\D08\HAM-Lytle Tunnel and FWW Pump O&M RFI info\Lytle Tunnel 2017](\\ftp.dot.state.oh.us\pub$\Districts\D08\HAM-Lytle Tunnel and FWW Pump O&M RFI info\Lytle Tunnel 2017)) and the major rehabilitation of the FWW Pump Station in 2019 ([\\ftp.dot.state.oh.us\pub\\$\Districts\D08\HAM-Lytle Tunnel and FWW Pump O&M RFI info\FWW Pump station 2019](\\ftp.dot.state.oh.us\pub$\Districts\D08\HAM-Lytle Tunnel and FWW Pump O&M RFI info\FWW Pump station 2019)). Location maps of these two assets are provided in Figure 1.

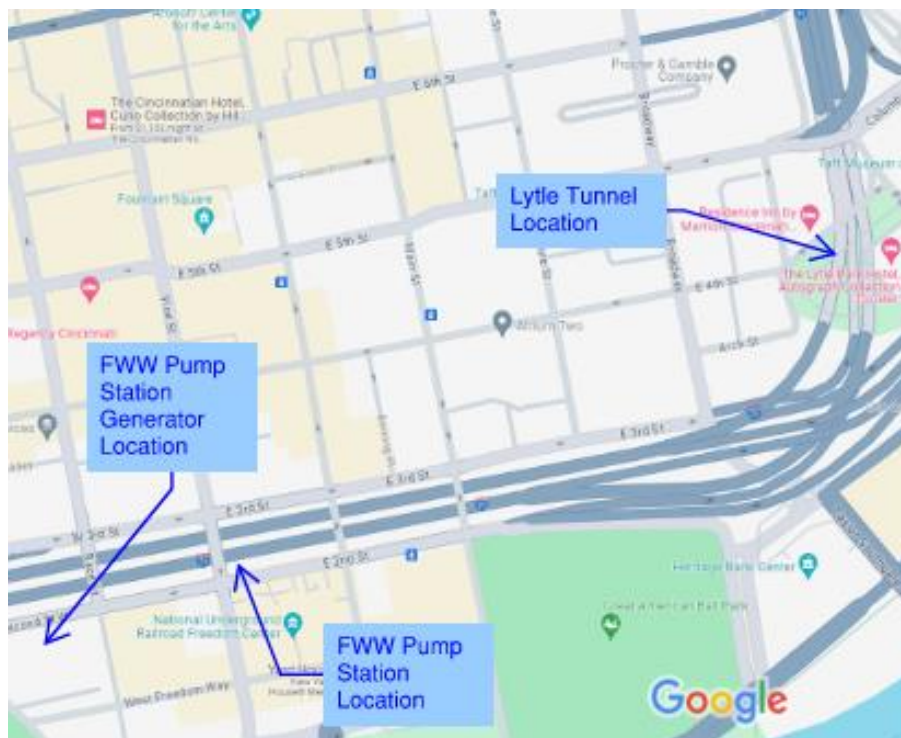


Figure 1: Asset Location Map

## RFI: HAM Lytle Tunnel and FWW Pump Station Monitoring, Operation, & Maintenance

The Lytle Tunnel includes the following systems:

- **Environmental Monitoring System:** There are 8 total air quality sensors, 6 located in the tunnel roadways, one located in the electrical room, and one located in the fan plenum. Carbon-monoxide monitors will trigger the SCADA system when unacceptable levels are imminent.
- **Lighting System:** The tunnel lighting system is powered from multiple panelboards located within the electrical room. All lights are LED.
- **Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) System:** The SCADA system links every tunnel operating system into a main control system. The current software is iFix by General Electric.
- **Ventilation System:** The Lytle tunnel ventilation system is a single point extraction/supply type system, consisting of three, axial, reversible ventilation fans; associated ductwork and sound attenuators; three sets of dampers that control airflow in and out of the tunnel bores and an air quality monitoring system that in part controls the system operation. The fans, dependent on the operating mode, can exhaust or supply air to all three Lytle tunnel bores via dampers. The tunnel ventilation system emergency modes are controlled by linear heat detectors in the tunnel bores. An automated duty cycle for the fans exercises them once every 10 days.
- **Fire Protection System:** consists of smoke detectors, duct detectors, heat detectors, linear heat detector in tunnel with power supply, pull stations, and Audio/Visual devices. Additionally, the tunnel has two discrete fire protection systems; a fully interconnected manual dry standpipe system with fire hose valves, risers, 3 fire department connections, and 3 low point drains: and a set of 12 fire extinguishers spaced evenly throughout the tunnel bores.
- **Closed-Circuit Television System (CCTV):** Tunnel CCTV cameras will be utilized by control room staff. Cameras are monitored remotely by ODOT's Traffic Management Center in Columbus.
- **Power Supply System:** This system consists of dual redundant utility feeds as allowed by NFPA 70 Section 700.12(D) for the main tunnel system controlled by a switchgear. The lighting system has an independent a battery back-up system.

The Fort Washington Way Pump Station has the following systems:

- **Pump House and Discharge Chamber:** The Pump House, accessed via a flush-mount hatch in the sidewalk along Second Street, contains a storm water channel with overflow wall and a wet well with four (4) submersible pumps designed to handle major flooding events. An additional small sump pump is in the wet well to handle occasional nuisance water. During normal conditions, storm water flow is by gravity from FWW to the Ohio River. During large rain events and/or high river levels, the internal channel will overflow into the wet well and the pumps are manually activated to discharge the water. A sluice gate on the gravity discharge outlet pipe is also manually activated to prevent backwater from the Ohio River to flow into the Pump House.
- **Pumps:** One (1) – KSB Model KRT K80-217/24XG-S IE3 sump pump; One (1) – KSB Model KRT K200-316/156XEG-S pump; three (3) – KSB Model KRT K500-634/1308XNG-K pumps.
- **Control Room:** Houses all electrical controls for the pumps, sluice gate operation and atmospheric monitoring system. It is immediately adjacent to the Pump House and Discharge chamber and accessed via a flush-mount hatch in the sidewalk along Second Street.
- **Back-up Generator:** Emergency back-up power is supplied by a 750kVA CAT Diesel Generator and Automatic Transfer Switch. These items sit on an elevated platform near the western entrance to the Transit Center, just north of Paul Brown stadium.

ODOT contracts directly with a consultant to perform inspections per the National Tunnel Inspection Standards. We also power wash the tunnel twice a year. ODOT will typically close I-71 for 4 consecutive nights for these operations. While we don't intend to make these services a part of the Monitoring, Operations and Maintenance

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contract, it is anticipated that some maintenance and repair activities will coincide to minimize disruption to traffic.

### 3. Scope

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The Ohio Department of Transportation is looking for a vendor to advance a project that would provide on-going monitoring, operation, and maintenance of the Lytle Tunnel and FWW Pump Station for a defined contract period. ODOT anticipates establishing contract criteria that would define Critical Items, Routine Items, and Non-Routine Items. Each definition would include contractual response times to address the issue.

This project would include identification and implementation of an upgraded SCADA system to interface with the tunnel systems. A SCADA system is not required the FWW pump station.

Though not part of the initial project, ODOT District 8 will have two additional pump stations coming online in the next 5 years. These pump stations may be added/included in the anticipated contract. These pumps stations may include SCADA systems.

There are many forms that this project may take, including but not limited to the following examples.

**Example 1 – Progressive Design Build:** The Department would develop a Request for Proposals to select a design build team. The awarding of the contract to the Design Build Team would be based primarily on qualifications with a competitive bidding element for an item of work to be determined. Upon award, a preconstruction phase would be utilized to identify and develop the necessary scope for the tunnel SCADA system upgrade. ODOT and the Design Build Team would mutually develop the Monitoring, Operating, & Maintenance requirements for the tunnel and pump station and establish agreed upon rates, performance criteria, and estimated maintenance quantities. After the preconstruction phase and establishment of the agreed costs, a change order would be issued for the construction phase to upgrade the SCADA system, monitor, operate, and maintain the assets.

- **Length of Contract:** A short 3-month preconstruction phase followed by a construction term of 5 years.

**Example 2 – Design Bid Build:** The Department would select a consultant to develop the SCADA system upgrade then procure the upgrade, monitoring, operations, and maintenance via a low bid construction contract.

- **Length of Contract:** 5 years.

**Example 3 – Two-Step, Value-Based, Design Build Contract:** The Department would develop a Request for Qualifications, post a Request for Proposals to select three design build teams to provide a fixed price and a Technical Proposal describing the approach to upgrade the SCADA system monitor, operate, and maintain the assets.

- **Length of Contract:** 5 years.

While the above are examples, ODOT is not limiting the proposals to types described above. ODOT will consider any potential concept, within the limits of its legal authority, in awarding a contract to meet its asset monitoring, operating, and maintenance needs. ODOT is open to collaborating on solutions proposed by the private sector and is seeking both traditional, novel, and creative approaches to addressing this need.

### Evaluation

ODOT will use the information received to help determine a path forward which may include development of a future Request for Proposal (RFP).

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This RFI will not result in a formal agreement. For this RFI, a Respondent can be an individual, corporation, general partnership, limited liability company, limited partnership, joint venture, business trust, public benefit corporation, nonprofit entity, or other business entity.

### **Timeline**

ODOT will determine any future activity and timelines with information provided to this RFI. Future procedures will depend on the types, quality, and feasibility of the responses.

## **4. RFI Procedures**

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Respondents to this RFI should include the information in the “RFI Content” section in their submittal. There will be an opportunity to provide verbal responses via interviews, in lieu of written submittals. If you are interested in submitting a verbal response, please let us know at the email address below.

All written responses must be emailed as PDF or Word documents to:

[DOT.D08.Tunnel-Pumpstation@dot.ohio.gov](mailto:DOT.D08.Tunnel-Pumpstation@dot.ohio.gov)

Responses are due no later than: **June 19, 2024, at 2:00 p.m. eastern time.**

ODOT will allow access to the Lytle Tunnel and the FWW Pump Station on **May 23, 2024, between 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. eastern time.** Questions may be asked of ODOT staff during this time.

The Department, at the potential respondent’s request, is willing to hold a one-one-one discussion to allow potentially interested parties to gain further understanding of this RFI.

## **5. RFI Content**

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ODOT is interested in collecting potential ideas and supporting information for a future project(s). All respondents should answer the general questions. In addition to these general questions, the respondents may provide other information for consideration by the Department. While allowable, respondents should refrain from supplying promotional materials which do not advance or support the responses to the General Questions.

### **General Questions**

1. Do you have an alternative, creative, approach to addressing the asset monitoring, operation, and maintenance that you would like to propose? Please describe.
2. Is any information in the response considered a “trade secret”? (Yes/No)
  - If yes, each and every occurrence of the information within the response that is a trade secret should be identified with an asterisk before and after each line containing trade secret information and underline the trade secret information itself.
3. Example 1 in the Scope notes an approach where a State DOT contracts with a design build team through a progressive design build delivery. Please provide your perspective and preferences on this approach.
4. Example 2 in the Scope notes an approach where a State DOT contracts separately with a designer and with a contractor via a traditional design-bid-build method. Please provide your perspective and preferences on this approach.

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5. Example 3 in the Scope notes an approach where a State DOT contracts with a design build team through a two-step, value-based design build delivery. Please provide your perspective and preferences on this approach.
6. What is your preferred approach?
7. What is your perspective on the risks of advancing a monitoring, operations, and maintenance contract, and how you would want such risks assigned between the public and private sectors, or otherwise mitigated?
8. Describe a potential concept or opportunity to upgrade the SCADA system and to monitor, operate, and maintain the Lytle Tunnel and the FWW Pump Station
9. What is your perspective on the reasonableness of different contract lengths (2, 5, and 7years) and the ability to comply with same?
10. Please provide any additional relevant information or additional comments that pertain to this RFI.