



ANTELOPE VALLEY UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS (“RFQ”) GEOTECHNICAL ENGINEERING SERVICES

FOR

MEASURE “AVH” BOND PROGRAM

RFQ #6/25-26

RFQ Date: May 7, 2026

DUE Date: May 26, 2026

**ANTELOPE VALLEY UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
 GEOTECHNICAL ENGINEERING SERVICES
 FOR MEASURE “AVH” BOND PROGRAM
 RFQ #6/25-26**

SCHEDULE

EVENT	DATE
Release of RFQ:	Thursday, May 7, 2026
RFQ Questions / Clarifications Due:	Friday, May 15, 2026; 12:00 p.m.
Answers to RFQ Questions / Clarifications:	Tuesday, May 19, 2026
Proposal Due Date:	Tuesday, May 26, 2026; 2:00 p.m.
Interviews (if necessary):	TBD
Board of Trustees Approval (tentative):	Tuesday, June 9, 2026

I. PURPOSE

The Antelope Valley Union High School District (the “District”) requests that qualified consultants, firms, partnerships, corporations, associations, persons, or professional organizations (“Consultant(s)”) submit a statement of qualifications (“SOQ”) for Geotechnical Engineering Services for District-wide modernization, new construction, and facilities master planning for potential projects supported by the Antelope Valley Union High School District Bond Measure AVH.

The District’s objective is to obtain qualifications from capable Consulting Firms with experience that can assist the District with environmental services and related work for various projects that will be approved by the District for construction. This RFQ defines the services sought from the eventual Consultant and generally outlines the service requirements. Each Consultant responding to this RFQ should be prepared and equipped to provide full service to the District in an expeditious and timely manner to enable the District to comply with regulatory and legislative requirements while meeting critical time deadlines and schedules.

II. INTRODUCTION

The District is a public 9-12 school district located in the cities of Lancaster, Palmdale and their immediate suburbs, Los Angeles County, California. Currently, the District operates eight (8) comprehensive high schools, three (3) alternative high schools, and one (1) early college high school in partnership with Antelope Valley Community College. Future projects shall be funded by Bond Measure AVH, a general obligation fund of \$398M approved in 2024. For additional information concerning the Measure AVH Bond program please see:

<https://www.avdistrict.org/community/2024bond>.

III. DISTRICT GUIDELINES AND EXPECTATIONS

This RFQ is not a formal request for bids or an offer by the District to contract with Firm(s) responding to this RFQ. The District reserves the right to reject any and all Proposals. The District also reserves the right to amend this RFQ as necessary. All materials submitted to the District in response to this RFQ shall remain the property of the District. The District also reserves the right to seek proposals from, or to contract with, any Firm not participating in this process. The District shall not be responsible for the costs of preparing any proposal in response to the RFQ. Responses received from this RFQ will be used by the District to inform any adjustments or changes to the Professional Services Agreement attached hereto as Attachment "A". The agreement is subject to review and negotiations relative to the professional services provided and subject to final review and approval of the District's legal counsel.

Firms must have extensive experience in the construction of public-school facilities in California, and extensive experience as a public school district representative, working with contractors and other school facility related consultants. Firms interested in submitting proposals are directed to make personal contact only with the Bond Program Coordinator, identified herein, and should not contact the District Board of Trustees members, the Superintendent, Assistant Superintendents, any member of the Citizens' Oversight Committee, or any other officials or staff of the District. The District may reject proposals if a Firm or its representatives make direct contact with the District.

In the spirit of total transparency, the District requires the submitting firm to include in their proposal a Financial Interest Certification stating that no member of the team has had any financial interest or business relationship with the District Board members or staff. By submitting this certification, the submitting firm agrees to the posting of this information to the public through the proposal. Refer to Attachment "B" of this RFQ.

Firms must disclose any relationship with the District and execute the Conflict of Interest Statement included with this RFQ. Refer to Attachment "C" of this RFQ.

IV. COMMUNITY WORKFORCE AGREEMENT

Consultant(s) are advised that District projects are subject to a Community Workforce Agreement (CWA) as approved the District's Board of Trustees on or about January 17, 2024. Consultant(s) shall be required to execute and submit a "Letter of Assent" with their project specific proposals. The Consultant and all Subconsultants shall, at all times, comply with the Community Workforce Agreement in effect for each project. By submission of a proposal, Consultant(s) further certify that all costs of compliance with the Community Workforce Agreement are accounted for within their proposal. Consultant(s) shall include, and shall require Subconsultants to include, contractual provisions in all their contracts they enter into for performance of the Work, requiring each Subconsultant, of every Tier, who furnishes any labor for the performance of the Work, to comply with the provisions of the Community Workforce Agreement at no additional cost. For a copy of the CWA, please see:

<https://www.avdistrict.org/about/district-departments/business-services/bids-rfps-rfa>

V. TERM

The District reserves the right to select one or more Consulting firm(s) for geotechnical engineering services which are considered the most qualified to meet or exceed the District's requirements for the best value at the lowest cost and highest quality. The Consulting firm(s) selected to a pool per this RFQ shall be validated for a period of five (5) years.

The Consultant shall carry out the responsibilities briefly delineated in the scope of services set forth below and on the form of Agreement, Attachment "A".

VI. QUESTIONS/REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION

All questions and requests for explanations or clarifications pertaining to this RFQ must be submitted in writing via email and must be received NO LATER than 12:00 p.m. on Friday, May 15, 2026 to Joy Jacobs, Bond Program Coordinator at joy.jacobs@fonder-salari.com. Questions and Answers will be issued as an addendum to the RFQ on the date and time listed in the above RFQ schedule. All addenda will be posted to the District website.

VII. SUBMISSION DEADLINE

Respondents to this RFQ shall submit one (1) electronic copy in PDF format via e-mail, NO LATER than 2:00 p.m., Tuesday, May 26, 2026 to:

Antelope Valley Union High School District
Measure AVH Bond Program
Attention: Joy Jacobs, Bond Program Coordinator
Email Address: joy.jacobs@fonder-salari.com
Subject: AVUHSD RFQ #6/25-26 Proposal for Geotechnical Consulting Services

VIII. SCOPE OF SERVICES

The selected Consultant(s) shall provide a scope of services that includes but is not limited to the following scope of services:

Phase I: Geotechnical Investigation. Consultant shall provide sampling and testing, preparation of reports in accordance with all applicable code, DSA and CDE guidelines relative to school site selection and approval. In addition, Consultant is expected to perform the following tasks:

- A. Review of existing site reports, and review of each individual project's plans and reports.
- B. Preparation of site and project specific geological hazards/geotechnical report for each individual project.
- C. Boring quantities, locations, and depths shall be proposed per the geotechnical consultant's professional opinion in conjunction with the design team.
- D. Research and evaluate existing site geological and seismic conditions.

- E. Determine whether city or county permits are required for soil borings, and acquire permits on behalf of the District, if necessary.
- F. Recommendations for the design and construction of each individual project, based on results of the geotechnical investigation, including dewatering practices.
- G. All geological hazards/geotechnical reports shall be in compliance with the California Geological Survey Note 48 and with DSA IR A-4 and IR 4.13.
- H. Tests for percolation, soil corrosivity, pH and resistivity shall be included in the geological hazards/geotechnical report.
- I. Include laboratory tests to evaluate the physical and engineering characteristics of the subsurface soils.
- J. Preparation of draft report in PDF format.
- K. Response to CGS comments to geological hazards/geotechnical reports.
- L. Coordination with each individual project's design team, including attendance at various meetings as required.
- M. Follow-up with CGS to obtain approval for each individual project.

Phase II: Review/coordination with the A/E team. Consultant is expected to perform the following tasks:

- A. Review of drawings and specifications, attend coordination meetings, and review of draft soils report. Assume providing three (3) sets of review comments.
- B. Assume up to three (3) conference meetings required during the design phase of each individual project.

Phase III: Construction Observation. Consultant is expected to perform the following tasks:

- A. Observation and monitoring to ensure that construction work will be completed pursuant to relevant code and CDE requirements pertaining to the assessment and remediation of geological soils and seismic conditions that are relevant to determining the suitability for acquisition and/or development of school sites in California.
- B. Inspection and preparation of surfaces to receive compacted fill in accordance with all building department and CDE requirements.
- C. Supervision and certification of the placement and compaction to fill, including all required tests and reports.
- D. Collaboration, coordination and attendance of meetings with District staff, contractors, consultants and agency staff as required.

IX. SELECTION CRITERIA

An evaluation committee, consisting of designated consultants and other District personnel will select the firm(s) to be used by the District. All proposals will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- A. Overall responsiveness of the Response to this RFQ.
- B. Technical expertise and viability of the firm, including experience of principals and staff.

- C. Past performances on relevant similar work previously accomplished for school districts.
- D. Client references and satisfaction on prior projects.
- E. Experience, qualifications, and resources.
- F. Familiarity with the particular needs of the District.
- G. Litigation/Arbitration/Termination History
- H. Cost effectiveness based on the rates set forth in the response.

The District, at its sole discretion, may schedule in-person interviews with select Responders to further discuss their qualifications and the District’s needs.

X. REQUIRED SUBMITTAL FORMAT

Proposals shall be in 8½ x 11-inch format, limited to thirty (30) pages; single sided, not including cover letter, tabs, resumes, and any required documents. Each Consulting firm shall submit one (1) electronic copy in PDF format of the proposal via e-mail **NO LATER than 2:00 p.m., Tuesday, May 26, 2026**. Please edit the subject line of the e-mail as “AVUHSD RFQ #6/25-26 Proposal for Geotechnical Consulting Services”.

All Proposals shall be delivered to the District contact and addressed as indicated within this RFQ. It is the sole responsibility of each firm to ensure all Proposals are delivered and received by the District in a timely manner. Any Proposals received at the designated location after the scheduled time shall be returned.

A. Letter of Intent

- 1. Provide a letter of introduction signed by an authorized officer of the Consulting firm. If the company is a joint venture, duplicate the signature block and have a principal or officer also sign on behalf of each party to the joint venture.
- 2. Include a brief description of why your firm is well suited to meet the District’s needs.

B. Table of Contents

A table of contents of the material contained in the Response should follow the Letter of Intent.

C. Firm Information

- 1. Include name of firm, address, telephone number, fax number, type of firm (i.e., corporation, partnership, etc.), name and email address of primary contact. Provide a brief history of the organization, including:
 - A brief description and history of the firm, including number of years the firm has been in business and date firm was established under its given name. Whether the organization has gone by a different name while under substantially the same management.

- Type of organization/business structure (ownership, legal form, i.e. corporation, partnership, etc., and senior officials of company). If a joint venture, describe the division of responsibilities between participating companies, offices (location) that would be the primary participants, and percentage interest of each firm.
 - Location of office from where consulting team members will manage the services.
2. Describe staffing capacity and resources to perform the scope of work. Define the role of each person and outline his or her individual experience and responsibilities, including his or her history with geotechnical engineering consultant tasks including, but not limited to, design reviews, specification writing, commissioning, management, troubleshooting, test writing, test execution, and energy management.
 3. Provide resume(s) of key personnel who may be performing services for the District, defining their role and individual experience.
 4. Describe to what extent sub-consultants may be utilized to provide the required services. Identify each sub-consultant in the response. Include all sub-consultant fees and expenses in the Fee Proposal.
 5. Attach a letter of financial stability from a Certified Public Accountant demonstrating firm's financial resources and stability.

D. Firm Qualifications

1. Provide a comprehensive narrative of the geotechnical engineering consultant services offered by the Firm.
2. Prepare a detailed Statement of Services for which the Firm is submitting its response, and briefly demonstrate Firm's understanding of the services and work required for future District projects.
3. Describe Firm's philosophy and how Firm intends to work with the District's administration officials to perform the Services.
4. Describe your firm's experience with the various tasks within the Scope of Work herein for K-12 clients/projects.
5. Up to seven (7) Letters of Reference, Testimonials, or a combination of both may be attached.

E. Relevant K-12 Project Experience and References

1. Provide a list of ALL K-12 projects performed by Firm in the past five (5) years. Provide the information described below for the ten (10) MOST RECENT projects:
 - Name of project and district.
 - Contact person, e-mail address, and telephone number at district.
 - Scope of project and description of services provided.
 - Firm person in charge of each project.

F. Litigation History & Conflict of Interest

1. Provide a comprehensive five (5) year summary of the firm’s litigation, arbitration, and negotiated/settled history with previous clients. State the issues in the litigation, the status of the litigation, names of parties, and outcome. A proposal failing to provide the requested information on lawsuits or litigation, and responses which assert attorney-client privilege and fail to provide the information requested, will be considered non-responsive, disqualified from the selection process, and will not be evaluated.

G. Fees

1. Provide a detailed current fee schedule for the types of services offered.
2. Include information on your billing practices (i.e. lump sum, percentage based, or other), including reimbursable cost categories and hourly billing rates by position for additional services.

H. Attachments & Addenda

1. For information only: Attachment A – “Sample Professional Services Agreement”
2. Provide an executed copy of Attachment B – “Financial Interest Certification”
3. Provide an executed copy of Attachment C – “Statement of Non-Conflict of Interest”
4. Provide an acknowledgement of each addendum issued to the RFQ

XI. ADDENDUM/WITHDRAWAL

A firm who has submitted a proposal may submit an addendum to such proposal at any time up to the official closing date for the receipt of proposals. The last submission shall supersede and invalidate all previous submissions by that firm as it applies to this RFQ. No oral or telephonic proposals or modifications will be considered.

A firm may withdraw its proposal at any time up to the official closing date for the receipt of proposals. The withdrawal shall be in writing, bearing the signature of the person who submitted the proposal.

XII. NON-OBLIGATION

This Request for Qualifications and Proposal shall not be construed to create an obligation on the part of the District to enter into a contract with any firm. This request is an information solicitation of proposals and qualifications only. The District reserves the right to reject any and all proposals or to accept the proposal that, in the judgment of the District, is in its best interest.

The District reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to modify RFQ requirements, cancel the selection process, or amend the schedule.

Proposers shall not be reimbursed for any costs associated with the preparation of proposals in response to this RFQ.

XIII. INSURANCE

Firms, at the time of contract/agreement, must have the ability to secure the insurance coverage listed below and, on a Certificate acceptable to the District. A Certificate of Insurance must be filed with the District's Assistant Superintendent of Business Services, prior to execution of the contract. Such insurance shall be required throughout the term of the contract.

- A. Commercial General Liability Insurance: Commercial general Liability Insurance shall be at least as broad as Insurance Services office General Liability Coverage (Occurrence Form CG 0001), with coverage limits of not less than One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000) per occurrence for bodily injury, personal injury and property damage/Two Million Dollars (\$2,000,000) aggregate.
- B. Automobile Liability Insurance: Automobile liability insurance shall be at least as broad as Insurance Services Office Form Number CA 0001 covering Automobile Liability, Code 1 (any auto), with coverage limits of at least One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000) for bodily injury and property damage each accident limit and Two Million Dollars (\$2,000,000) in the aggregate.
- C. Workers' Compensation and Employer's Liability Insurance: The selected Consultant shall insure (or be a qualified self-insured) under the applicable laws relating to workers' compensation insurance, all of their employees working on the Project, in accordance with the "Workers Compensation and Insurance Act," Division IV of the California Labor Code. The selected Consultant shall provide employer's liability insurance in the amount of at least One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000) per accident for bodily injury and disease.
- D. Errors and Omissions Insurance: errors and omissions insurance on a claims made basis with a limit of at least One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000) per occurrence and Two Million Dollars (\$2,000,000) aggregate.
- E. A.M. Best financial strength rating (FSR) of A- : VII or better.
- F. All insurance will be in a form and with insurance companies acceptable to the District.
- G. Policy Endorsement that names Antelope Valley Union High School District and its Board of Trustees, officers, employees, agents, and volunteers as an Additional Insured under its Commercial General Liability and Automobile Liability policies. In the event of loss due to any perils, Waiver of Subrogation endorsement in favor of those named as additional insureds or a blanket waiver of subrogation endorsement for the following: Commercial General Liability and Workers' Compensation
- H. Insurance carriers shall be qualified to do business in California and maintain an agent for process within the State.
- I. Consultant shall be expected to, and hereby agree to provide new and accurate certificates of insurance as to any additional scope of work added to the Agreement.

ATTACHMENT A
SAMPLE AGREEMENT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

To be provided via addendum.

**ATTACHMENT B
FINANCIAL INTEREST CERTIFICATION**

I _____, acting as the _____, am an authorized representative of _____ (“Consultant”) and do hereby certify that for the term of the agreement contemplated by this proposal, that other than past or future contracts with the District as an entity, no officer, contractor, subcontractor, or employee of Consultant has, or shall have, any financial interest or business relationship with any individual member(s) of the District’s governing board or staff and that no such District board member(s) or staff shall have any direct or indirect financial benefit or relationship in the agreement contemplated by this proposal, or obtain any present or anticipated material benefit arising therefrom.

By: _____

Name: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____

**ATTACHMENT C
STATEMENT OF NON-CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

The undersigned, on behalf of the Firm set forth below (the "Consultant"), does hereby certify and warrant that if selected, the Consultant, while performing the consulting services required by the Request for Qualifications, shall do so as an independent contractor and not as an officer, agent or employee of the Antelope Valley Union High School District ("the District").

The undersigned further certifies and warrants the following:

- a) No officer or agent of the Consultant has been an employee, officer or agent of the District within the past two (2) years;
- b) The Consultant has not been a source of income to pay any employee or officer of the District within the past twelve (12) months;
- c) No officer, employee or agent of the District has exercised any executive, supervisory or other similar functions in connection with the Consultant Agreement or shall become directly or indirectly interested in the Consultant Agreement;
- d) The Consultant shall receive no compensation and shall repay the District for any compensation received by the Consultant under the Consultant Agreement should the Consultant aid, abet or knowingly participate in violation of this statement; and
- e) In support of Education Code Sections 35230-35240 and Board Policy 4119.21, during the selection process (from the date the RFQ is released to the conclusion of the selection process), if it is determined that any individual(s) who work(s) and/or represent(s) the Consultant for business purposes communicates, contacts and/or solicits Board Members in any fashion, such Consultant shall be disqualified from the RFQ selection process and from participating in any future RFQs and/or RFPs. This may also result in the removal of the Vendor, Firm, Contractor and/or Consultant from any established Pre-qualified list, as well as the removal from the "interested vendors" list.

FAILURE TO SIGN THIS DOCUMENT MAY RESULT IN A STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS DISQUALIFICATION

Signature	Date

Signature	Date