



**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
HOUSATONIC RAILROAD COMPANY, INC.**

BERKSHIRE MAINLINE TIE REPLACEMENT PROJECT

2025 RAIL FREIGHT INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM (RFIP)

CONTRACTED WORK

Proposals Due: Friday, April 24, 2026, no later than 10:00 a.m. Eastern Time.

Proposal Submission.

All submitted proposals must be either be provided electronically, or delivered by mail, by the deadline date and time stated above, to:

Housatonic Railroad Company, Inc.
Attn.: Tim Boncek, Project Engineer
P.O. Box 1146
Canaan, CT 06018
Email: t.boncek@hrrc.com
Cc: p.rodriquez@hrrc.com

General Instructions for Bidder Questions.

It is the responsibility of each Bidder to examine the entire Request for Proposals and to seek clarification by submitting any and all questions concerning this RFP to Tim Boncek at the above address. Any answers to questions will be provided to all bidders. Additional information obtained by other means will not be valid.

Purpose and Background.

Housatonic Railroad Company, Inc. (HRRC) seeks proposals (also referred to as “bids” or “responses” herein) to provide the goods or services as defined above in Bid Form A of this document. This document provides instructions for submitting proposals, the procedure by which the Bidder(s) will be selected, and the contractual terms which will govern the relationship between HRRC and the awarded Bidder(s). Following Bidder selection and upon reaching mutual agreement, HRRC and the selected Bidder will enter into a contract, in the form of an HRRC Purchase Order.

For this competitive Request for Proposals (RFP) process, HRRC is acting pursuant to the rules and regulations of the Connecticut Department of Transportation in the administration of a grant under the

State of Connecticut DOT Rail Freight Infrastructure Program and is subject to the additional reporting requirements of that program. Award of the bid is contingent upon availability of funds.

Issuance of this RFP does not commit HRRC to issue an award or to pay expenses incurred by a Bidder in the preparation of a response to this RFP. This includes attendance at personal interviews or other meetings and software or system demonstrations, where applicable.

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SECTION I PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS.

1. **Description of Goods and / or Services.** The description of the goods and/or services sought by HRRC under this RFP is outlined in Bid Form A.

2. **Bid Contents Requirements.** In addition to the cost, delivery, and other information required, all bids should contain the following information as attachments:

- a. Bid Form A (Appendix A);
- b. Bidder Information (Appendix B).

3. **Submitting a Proposal.**

a. **Bids Due:** Bids must be received no later than 10:00 a.m. Eastern Standard Time (EST) on the date shown on Page 1 of this RFP. Bids received after the 10:00 a.m. deadline will not be accepted.

b. **Request for Information:** Requests for Information (RFI's) must be received by **Friday April 17, 2026**. RFI's may be submitted electronically to Tim Boncek via email to t.boncek@hrrc.com.

c. **Submission Instructions:** Bidders must submit their bids either electronically via email, or delivered by mail, to:

Housatonic Railroad Company, Inc.,
Attn: Tim Boncek, Project Engineer
P.O. Box 1146
Canaan, CT 06018

c. **Withdrawal of a Proposal:** Bidders are permitted to withdraw their own Proposals up until the Due Date and Time for receipt of Proposals.

d. **Attachments:** Any electronic documents submitted must be in MS Word, MS Excel, or Adobe Portable Document (.pdf) format. Vendors are encouraged to submit supporting documentation that aids HRRC in understanding how the bid conforms to the requirements.

e. **Vendor Specifications:** Unless otherwise stated in this RFP, limited specification will be required upon submission of a bid in response to this RFP. However, a Bidder's response should include an affirmative statement that the bid complies with all requirements of this RFP, unless the Bidder specifically addresses how the bid differs from the specifications, and why the differences should be deemed acceptable by HRRC.

4. General Instructions.

a. Bidder must submit a proposal that covers the goods or services and term of the contract, including any option renewal.

b. Proposal shall include the costs necessary for Bidder to fully comply with the contract terms and conditions and RFP requirements.

c. Failure to provide the requested information may result in the exclusion of the proposal from consideration, at the discretion of HRRC.

d. No costs related to the preparation of the proposal for this RFP or related to the negotiation of the contract with HRRC may be included in the proposal.

e. This material is exempt from the payment of federal, state and local taxes on articles not for resale. Please provide proposals that do not include these taxes. An exemption certificate can be furnished at the point of contract finalization.

f. Bidder is not required to bid for all goods or services requested in this RFP. Bidder may submit a proposal for all, some, or any combination of the goods and services requested.

5. Additional Provisions.

a. Railroad Standards – Contractor or Supplier agrees that this project will comply with all applicable FRA, American Railway Engineering and Maintenance-of-Way Association (AREMA), American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO), and/or Association of American Railroads (AAR) standards, as applicable.

b. The RFP and the selected Bidder's bid, including all appendices or attachments, may be incorporated in the final contract (Purchase Order).

c. HRRC, at its sole discretion, reserves the right to recognize and waive minor informalities and irregularities found in bids received in response to this RFP.

- d. All applicable laws, whether or not herein contained, shall be included by this reference. It shall be Bidder's responsibility to determine the applicability and requirements of any such laws to abide by them.
- e. Public agencies, private for-profit companies, and non-profit companies and institutions are invited to submit bids in response to this RFP.
- f. For the purchase of goods, HRRC and selected Bidder will decide upon a delivery date in accordance with HRRC's requirements and the terms offered in the Bidder's bid. ***Unless stated otherwise in Section 1 of this RFP, all deliveries are expected with shipping terms of "Freight on Board (FOB) – Destination."*** HRRC intends for this to mean that all goods shall be priced in the bid response to include shipping charges, if any, to HRRC's desired location. The "FOB – Destination" shipping term is also intended to mean that HRRC shall not bear any responsibility for the goods in question until HRRC takes possession of them at the destination point of delivery.
- g. In providing goods or services or performing under the contract, the successful Bidder shall act independently and not as an agent of HRRC.
- h. All responses to this RFP shall be considered to legally bind the Bidder, and if selected for award, shall contain or be considered to contain a statement that the bid and pricing contained therein will remain valid and binding for a period of at least 180 days from the date and time of the bid opening.
- i. **Buy America Requirement:** This project is NOT subject to Buy America requirements.
- j. **Davis-Bacon Act:** In accordance with 49 U.S.C. § 22905(c)(2)(A), this Project uses rights-of-way owned by a railroad, and therefore it is subject to the standards of 49 U.S.C. § 24312. Any services requested in this RFP will have a "Prevailing Wage" requirement. For these purposes, wages in collective bargaining agreements negotiated under the Railway Labor Act are deemed to comply with Davis-Bacon Act requirements. Where there is no collective bargaining agreement in place, Davis-Bacon Act Wage Determinations for Heavy Construction Projects in Litchfield County, CT shall apply. See Exhibit A, Article 26 Section 26.3(f).

SECTION II
TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR AWARD, CONTRACT PAYMENT, AND RETENTION OF RECORDS.

1. Proposal Evaluation and Award.

- a. The bid will be awarded at the sole discretion of HRRC and HRRC reserves the right to reject any or all bids.
- b. At the discretion of HRRC, if a Bidder's proposal is deemed to not conform to the specifications listed in the RFP, or otherwise not conform to the requirements of the RFP, then that Bidder's proposal may not be considered for award.
- c. If the specifications provided in this RFP are of a technical nature, Tim Boncek, at his discretion, may seek to use an evaluation team comprised of subject matter experts, end-users from HRRC, or Connecticut Department of Transportation representatives. In such a case, the evaluation team will judge the merits of the proposals received in accordance with the criteria defined in this RFP.
- d. In evaluating a bid submitted in response to this RFP, HRRC may consider materials provided in the bid, information obtained through interviews/presentations (if any), and internal information of previous contract history between HRRC and the Bidder (if any). HRRC also reserves the right to consider other reliable references and publicly available information in evaluating a Bidder's experience and capabilities, if needed.
- e. Bid evaluation and contractor selection oversight will be provided by Connecticut DOT.

2. Contract Document.

- a. The successful Bidder will be required to execute a contract with HRRC in the form of a Purchase Order.

3. Payment and Other Provisions.

HRRC anticipates paying the selected Bidder for goods and services received, on the basis of net 60 day payment terms, upon receipt of an accurate and acceptable invoice. An invoice will be accurate and acceptable if it contains:

- Reference to the HRRC purchase order;
- Bidder's DUNS number;
- Correct pricing relative to the contract (purchase order);
- Any supporting documents, as applicable;
- And any other specific and agreed-upon requirements listed within the contract (purchase order) that results from this RFP. HRRC reserves the right to pay for goods purchased through this solicitation by any of several available means, which include but may not be limited to check or electronic funds transfer.

4. Retention of Records.

The Bidder shall retain, for at least three (3) years from the date of proposal or date of final payment,

whichever is later, all electronic and paper data in its possession pertaining to the proposal. Such data shall include, but not be limited to: all accounting records, timesheets, papers, maps, photographs or other documentary materials, made, sent, or received by the Bidder in connection with goods or services in this proposal. The Bidder shall make this data available to HRRC, or Connecticut DOT or its designee, at no cost, promptly following request.

SECTION III - APPENDICES

On following pages.

**APPENDIX A
 BID FORM A
 HOUSATONIC RAILROAD COMPANY, INC.**

**RAIL FREIGHT INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM 2025
 NEW MILFORD, CT**

	Quantity	U.O.M.	Unit Price	Total Price
Mobilization	1	LS		
Tie Replacement	8,000	EA		
Tie Disposal	8,000	EA		
Flash Butt Welds – Out-of-Track	8	EA		
Closure Welds – In-Track	8	EA		
Surfacing	4	DAYS		
Remobilization		EA		

Estimated Number of Days for Flagging Support: _____

**APPENDIX B
 BIDDER INFORMATION
 HOUSATONIC RAILROAD SERVICE RESTORATION AND SAFETY INVESTMENT
 PROJECT**

- RFP Requirements, Terms and Conditions for RFP and Contract are hereby acknowledged.
- This bid and the pricing structure contained herein will remain firm for a period of 180 days from the date and time of the bid opening.
- No personnel currently employed by, nor consultants retained by, Housatonic Railroad Company, Inc., nor any federal agency, participated, either directly or indirectly, in any activities relating to the preparation of the Bidder's proposal.
- No attempt has been made or will be made by the bidder to induce any other person or firm to submit or not to submit a proposal.
- The undersigned is authorized to enter into contractual obligations on behalf of the below-named organization.

Bidder's Organization Name:		
DUNS Number:		
Chief Executive – Name/Title:		
Tel.:	Fax:	E-mail:
Headquarters Street Address:		
Headquarters City/State/Zip:		
<i>(if different from above)</i> Lead Point of Contact for Bid – Name/Title:		
Tel.:	Fax:	E-mail:
Street Address:		
City/State/Zip:		

APPENDIX C
SUBCONTRACTOR SCOPE OF WORK
HOUSATONIC RAILROAD SERVICE RESTORATION AND SAFETY INVESTMENT
PROJECT

BID PACKAGE

Project Location: Project is located in the towns of New Milford and Kent, CT.

Mobilization: Contractor to include one (1) mobilization to the project site. On-site mobilizations between locations within the project limits are assumed to be included in the unit pricing.

Project limits are defined as:

Berkshire Line: MP 13.44 – 20.26

Please refer to the attached aerial map for project limits.

Tie Replacement : Contractor to provide removal of old ties and installation of new ties. Ties shall be replaced at the following quantities and rates:

Berkshire Line:

- MP 13.44 - 20.26: 8,000 ties at an average rate of 1,1173 ties/ mile

HRRC shall identify and mark ties for replacement prior to commencement of work. HRRC to provide distribution of ties and OTM prior to commencement of work.

Tie installation will be measured and billed by the each.

Tie Disposal: Contractor to provide disposal of all ties removed. Tie disposal will be measured and billed by the each.

Flash Butt Welds: Flash butt welds will be performed on 136RE rail. Flash butt welds will be performed out-of-track prior to rail installation. Assume work will be performed at two (2) separate locations.

Contractor shall prepare daily welding reports. Contractor to furnish welding report to HRRC Project Manager or Chief Engineer on a weekly basis.

Closure Welds: Closure welds to be performed on 136RE. Closure welds will be performed in-track after rail installation. Assume two (2) separate work locations with four (4) closure welds per location. Closure welds will be billed by the each.

Contractor shall prepare daily welding reports. Contractor to furnish welding report to HRRC Project Manager or Chief Engineer on a weekly basis.

Surfacing: Surfacing operation will be billed for by the day. Surfacing Contractor to include labor, fuel, and all other consumables in their daily rate. HRRC to provide ballast as needed and ballast regulating.

Approximate surfacing limits are:

Berkshire Line: MP 13.44 – 20.26

Remobilization: In the event that work must be multiple phases or mobilizations, Contractor may bill for each remobilization to the project site. On-site mobilizations are assumed to be included in the tie installation unit pricing.

Quantities are for estimating and bid leveling purposes.

Measurement and Payment: Work shall be measured and billed by the unit price. Contractor will provide completed quantities to HRRC Project Manager for approval on a weekly basis.

Contractor shall bill on a **Monthly** basis.

Wage Rates: Labor is subject to Davis-Bacon prevailing wage rates. Wage rates shall be the latest wage rates published by the Connecticut Department of Labor for Fairfield County.

https://portal.ct.gov/dol/divisions/wage-and-workplace-standards/prevailing-wage?language=en_US

Flaggers: HRRC will provide flagging services as needed at no cost to the Contractor. Please provide estimated number of on-track workdays for flagger support. Flagger services will be scheduled through the HRRC Superintendent or Project Manager.

Project Completion Date: Contractor to assume that project will be completed on or before **December 31, 2026.**

Work Hours: Contractor to assume working 8-hour shifts during normal, day-time hours, Monday-Friday.

The Contractor may request to work overtime or weekend shifts. Overtime or weekend shifts will be scheduled in advance with the HRRC Superintendent or Project Manager for flagger coverage. Due to other projects that will be occurring on the railroad, overtime or weekend work requests may be denied by HRRC if flagger support is unavailable.

No additional payment will be made if the Contractor elects to work overtime or weekends.

Materials: HRRC to purchase all tie, rail, ballast, and OTM materials for this project. HRRC MW crews to distribute materials and OTM ahead of contractor's tie gang.

Training and Safety Requirements: All employees involved with on-track work will have completed the required HRRC safety training programs within the last year prior to being allowed to work on railroad property.

HRRC Roadway Work Protection (RWP) safety course will be completed by all on-track employees. Roadway Maintenance Machine safety course will be completed by all RMM operators. RWP and RMM course fees are \$80.00 each per workers and take approx. 2 hours each to complete online.

Additionally, all workers that will be part of CWR installation must complete the HRRC CWR training course. The CWR course costs \$95 per worker and takes approximately 2 hours to complete online.

Training costs and time will be included in the Contractor's "Mobilization" work item.

Insurance Requirements:

Coverage Requirements: General Comprehensive Liability Insurance including Contractors Public Liability and Property Damage Liability – Minimum \$2 million/\$4 million.

Railroad Protective Liability Insurance - minimum \$2 million/\$6 million combined property damage/bodily injury coverage.

Insurance Requirements Applicable to All Projects:

- i. In Connecticut, “Housatonic Railroad Company, Inc., Maybrook Railroad Company, their affiliates, successors and assigns” must be named as additional insureds on the General Comprehensive Liability Policy.
- ii. The General Comprehensive Liability Policy must include Contractual Liability Insurance, Environmental Liability Insurance, and must insure against loss or damage caused by subcontractors, and **must not contain a limitation of coverage for work performed on or adjacent to railroad property or such limitation may be removed by endorsement.** Proof of Auto, Worker’s Compensation and Subcontractor Coverage is required (when applicable).
- iii. Insurance certificates must indicate that there is no exclusion relating to work on or near railroad property. Insurance certificates must be mailed c/o Insurance Department, Housatonic Railroad Company, Inc. P.O. Box 687, Old Lyme, Connecticut 06371 at least 10 days prior to commencement of work.
- iv. The Railroad shall have the right to require that Owner increase the limits of liability for both public liability and property damage during the term of the agreement. It is understood and agreed that the providing of any conductors, flagman, or other railroad employees shall not relieve the Owner from liability or payment for any damages caused by his operations.

Project Location Map:

