Purpose of Request for Qualifications
The Northwest Georgia Regional Commission (NWGRC) is administering and implementing the Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP1) on behalf of Whitfield County. The Whitfield County Neighborhood Stabilization Program will be administered through September 2013.

One of the activities in this program involves the acquisition, rehabilitation and resale of abandoned and foreclosed properties. These properties must be sold to low, moderate and middle income families whose annual household income is at or below 120 percent of the Area Median Income (AMI). Whitfield County has acquired five (5) properties in the first round of acquisitions. Subsequent acquisitions will be made with proceeds from sales. Therefore, the number of additional homes to be acquired will depend on the success of the marketing program.

NWGRC is looking to engage qualified Real Estate Appraisers to provide a current valuation of these properties as required in the law. This solicitation is competitive and is designed to enable NWGRC to select the best offer from the appraiser best suited to evaluate the property. Contractor selection will be primarily based on the qualifications of the appraiser to perform the services outlined below.

QUALIFICATIONS OF APPRAISER
The appraiser must hold one of the following licenses from the Georgia Real Estate Appraisers Board. Responders who do not possess one of these licenses will not be considered.

1. State Licensed Real Property Appraiser.
2. State Certified Residential Real Property Appraiser.

ROLE OF APPRAISER
The appraiser should have considerable experience in appraising residential property. Responsibilities are as follows. The following list should not be considered as all inclusive.

1. Provide a written appraisal stating the current market value of the property.
2. Provide the appraisal in a prompt and timely fashion after notification by NWGRC of the specific property to be appraised. Due to the aggressive timeline of the Neighborhood Stabilization Program, appraised values must be communicated to NWGRC no later than three (3) weeks after NWGRC commissions the appraisal request.
RESPONSE DATE
One original of the proposal must be delivered to Northwest Georgia Regional Commission, Attn: NSP Manager, P.O. Box 1798, Rome, GA 30162-1798. The address for overnight delivery is 1 Jackson Hill Drive, Rome, GA 30161. In addition, an electronic copy of the proposal must be sent to mmiller@nwgrc.org by the deadline.

Any proposal may be withdrawn or modified prior to acceptance.

Administrative Guidance
This RFP is designed to provide interested respondents with basic information to submit a proposal that will meet the minimum requirements. It is not intended to limit a proposal’s content or exclude any relevant or essential data. Respondents are encouraged to expand upon the minimum requirements of the RFP. NWGRC may award a contract based on the proposals received without further discussion of such proposals. NWGRC will not be responsible for any costs associated with the preparation of responses to this RFP. If you should have any questions about this RFP, please contact Michael M. Miller, NSP Manager at 706-295-6485 or mmiller@nwgrc.org.

Required Submittals
A complete proposal shall be submitted containing the following items:
1. Cover Letter – A cover letter summarizing the offer being proposed to NWGRC and the appraiser’s commitment to the program and time schedule.
2. Name and contact information (including contact person and email address) of the organization submitting the proposal.
3. Specific Details of Proposed Services
   a. Evidence of one of the certifications listed under Qualifications of Appraiser.
   b. A detailed description of experience appraising vacant residential property.
   c. A list of at least three references for the appraisal of comparable properties.
   d. A statement spelling out the relations between the appraiser and any parent company or subsidiary that might also be involved in marketing the property.
   e. Names and background of any persons, firms, or organizations proposed by the appraiser to be involved in the marketing of the property.
   f. Proposed rate per appraisal.
4. Disclosure of any business or familial relationship with Whitfield County employees and or members of the Whitfield County / NWGRC staff or Board of Commissioners members.
5. Any additional information the respondent feels will strengthen the proposal.
6. The following statement -
“The undersigned hereby certifies/certify that the information contained in this proposal is true, complete and correct to the best of my/our knowledge.”

Signed ________________________________
Date _______________________
Signed ________________________________
Date _______________________

Evaluation Criteria
Each respondent should follow the above required format. All submittals will be carefully considered by Whitfield County and NWGRC staff for inclusion in the NSP approved contractor’s pool.

HOWEVER, WHITFIELD COUNTY AND NWGRC ACKNOWLEDGES THAT THERE MAY BE SOME SUBJECTIVITY IN EVALUATION OF THE LISTED CRITERIA. EVERY EFFORT WILL BE MADE BY WHITFIELD COUNTY AND NWGRC OR ANY PANEL OF JUDGES TO BE IMPARTIAL AND FAIR IN THE EVALUATION PROCESS. NOTWITHSTANDING THE ABOVE, WHITFIELD COUNTY AND NWGRC RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL RESPONSES.

Timeline
RFQ posted on Website – September 5, 2012
RFQ advertised in each county’s legal organ – September 5, 2012
Bidder’s Conference – September 13, 2012
Responses due – September 27, 2012