Qualifiers sought for I-85 bridge projects

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#LAWRENCEVILLE -- The search is on for a contractor to create the new

diverging-diamond interchanges along Interstate 85.

#Officials have issued a request for qualifications for contractors interested in the new designs planned for Pleasant Hill Road and Jimmy Carter Boulevard.

#The process is similar to the first considered for a privatization of the Gwinnett County Airport, locking in the potential bidders to only those who qualify, although the process was later rejected for the airport.

#The pre-qualification application, which is due Feb. 7, states that officials expect to seek bids separately for the bridges in the first half of 2012.