

TEXAS TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

Tarrant County

MINUTE ORDER

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Fort Worth District

Transportation Code, Chapter 223, Subchapter F prescribes the process by which the Texas Department of Transportation (department) may enter into a design-build contract with a private entity that provides for the design, construction, expansion, extension, related capital maintenance, rehabilitation, alteration, or repair of a highway project. Transportation Code, § 223.242 authorizes the department to enter into, in each state fiscal biennium, up to six design-build contracts for highway projects with estimated construction costs of \$150 million or more.

On October 31, 2019, by Minute Order 115607, the Texas Transportation Commission (commission) authorized the department to issue a request for qualifications (RFQ) to design, construct, and maintain the Southeast Connector Project. The project will include non-tolled improvements to I-20 from Forest Hill Drive to Park Springs Boulevard, to I-820 from I-20 to Brentwood Stair Road, and to US 287 from Bishop Street to Sublett Road, in Tarrant County, Texas.

The department issued the RFQ on January 17, 2020. Three (3) proposer teams responded to the RFQ. Following the department's evaluation of the qualifications statements, the best qualified teams will be short-listed and requested to submit detailed proposals to design, construct, and maintain the project.

Transportation Code § 223.246 and 43 TAC § 9.153(d) provide that, if authorized by the commission, the department will issue a request for proposals (RFP) from all private entities qualified for the short list. The department intends to issue an RFP for the Southeast Connector Project and to request detailed proposals from the short-listed teams to design, construct, and maintain the Southeast Connector Project.

Transportation Code § 223.249(a) and 43 TAC § 9.153(f) require the department to pay an unsuccessful private entity that submits a detailed proposal that is responsive to the requirements of the RFP a stipulated amount in exchange for the work product contained in the proposal. The stipend must be a minimum of twenty-five hundredths of one percent of the contract amount, the stipulated amount must be stated in the RFP, and it may not exceed the value of any work product contained in the proposal that can, as determined by the department, be used by the department in the performance of its functions. Payment for this work product would allow the department to use the work product for the benefit of the Southeast Connector Project or other department projects without further payment to the unsuccessful proposer. Transportation Code § 223.249(b) and 43 TAC § 9.153(f) require the department to pay a partial stipend in the event that a procurement is terminated before the execution of a design-build contract.

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IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the commission that the department is authorized to issue an RFP to design, construct, and maintain the Southeast Connector Project in Tarrant County.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that, after consideration of the criteria in 43 TAC § 9.153(f), the department is authorized to pay each proposer that submits a responsive, but unsuccessful, proposal for the Southeast Connector Project an amount based upon the value of the work product provided in the proposal that can, as determined by the department, be used by the department in the performance of its functions, up to a maximum amount per proposer of 0.25% of the successful proposer's price for all work under the design-build contract.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that in the event the procurement is terminated prior to the execution of the design-build contract, and after consideration of the criteria in 43 TAC § 9.153(f), the department is authorized to pay each proposer a partial stipend based upon the value of the work product that can, as determined by the department, be used by the department in the performance of its functions, up to a maximum amount per proposer of \$3,737,500.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that payment for work product may only be paid to the extent that the work product submitted meets the minimum criteria and the proposer satisfies the conditions for payment identified by the department in the Southeast Connector Project procurement documents.

Submitted and reviewed by:

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Director, Project Finance,
Debt & Strategic Contracts Division

Recommended by:

DocuSigned by: James M. Bass
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Executive Director

115748 May 28 2020

Minute Number Date Passed