

Minutes

RTA Operational Planning & Infrastructure Committee

9:04 a.m. June 6, 2023

Committee Members: Lucas (Chair), Moss (Vice), Joyce, Sleasman, Welch

Other Board Members: Koomar, Mersmann, Weiss

Not Present: Biasiotta

Staff: Birdsong Terry, Burney, Catalusci, Caver, Dangelo, Davidson, Dimmick, Draper, Feke, Fesler, Fields, Fleig, Freilich, Garofoli, Gautam, Jenkins, Jones, Kirkland, Miller, Mothes, Prebish, Rusnov, Schipper, Shaffer, Talley, Tarka, Walker-Minor, Woodford

Public: Gibbons, Loh, Wright

The meeting was called to order at 9:04 a.m. Five (5) committee members were present.

RFP Procurement for Special Bridge Inspection Engineering Services

Kirk Dimmick, Engineer Project Manager and Ann Marie Prebish, Contract Administrator made the presentation. This is a biennial program where they inspect special bridges under federal mandate. We have over 100 bridges in the system. There are 46 special bridges located on the trunk line, joint territories and Red Line east and west.

Project Overview

The objectives are to have hands-on inspection of Steel Tension Non-redundant (STEN) members within service load paths and to meet Federal requirements by providing a biennial STEN Inspection Program.

These are all steel bridges. They are called non-redundant because there are less than four load paths to carry the load across the structure down to the foundation. A team of specialized inspectors must climb some of the bridges and look at the tension members. Before this can happen, staff must close the line and turn the power off. The bridges are reviewed every year. Every two years they inspect the bridges at arm's length. Nationwide there has been a history of problems for these types of bridges so the federal government wants them looked at carefully.

Risk is managed by discerning if a critical finding exists, following procedures for each bridge, and record findings for subsequent inspection teams. A critical finding is any defect or deficiency they find in the bridge. There were no critical findings during the last round of inspections. They document findings through electronic tablets.

Procurement Overview

The Request for Proposal (RFP) was issued on January 16, 2023. It was accessed on the GCRTA web site by thirty-five (35) interested parties. Two (2) firms provided a proposal. One (1) firm was determined to be responsive and was interviewed. The evaluation panel consisted of several departments using criteria to rate the proposals. The most technically qualified is Burgess & Niple, Inc. A 5% DBE goal was assigned to this project and will be met by utilizing 2LMN, Inc. and Denise's Flagging, Inc. Burgess & Niple, Inc. has successfully completed projects for GCRTA, Oklahoma DOT, Summit County, and ODOT, among others. Burgess & Niple, Inc. has prior experience on special inspection projects and has experienced/qualified staff.

Staff requests that the Operational Planning & Infrastructure Committee recommend award to Burgess & Niple, Inc. for Engineering Services for Special Bridge Inspections. The contract is not to exceed \$348,521.72 for a period of 24 months.

Mr. Joyce asked how long each inspection takes. Mr. Dimmick said 1-2 days. Mayor Koomar asked why the federal government considers these special bridges. Mr. Dimmick explained that the bridge bending over time can result in cracks. Because we don't have redundant load paths, if we lost a load path, the structure couldn't support the loads. Duck truss bridges are in that category. Ms. Moss asked what the plan is to replace these types of bridges. Mr. Dimmick said these defects are repairable if found in time. Mayor Weiss asked who has the current contract and if the pricing is similar. Dimmick said that Burgess and Niple is the current contractor. The cost is under the estimate and 6% higher than the last contract. The Viaduct Bridge was added to this contract.

It was moved by Mr. Joyce, seconded by Ms. Welch and approved to move to the full Board.

RFP Procurement for On-Call Professional Construction Inspection Services

Joe Shaffer, Director, Engineer & Project Development and Lou Catalusci, Contract Administrator made the presentation.

Project Overview:

- Perform construction inspection for projects that exceed capacity or expertise of GCRTA personnel
- Work is by Task Order Assignment
- Total Task Orders not to exceed \$450,000 over a 24-month term
- Both Bus and Rail project assignments
- Anticipated Projects:
 - Warrensville Van Aken Station Reconstruction
 - Light Rail Trunk Line Signal System Replacement
 - West 117th Bridge/Platform
 - Brookpark Yard 515 Turnout
 - Outside Agencies/ODOT Construction Projects

Procurement Overview:

The Request for Proposal (RFP) was issued on March 20, 2023. It was accessed on the GCRTA website by twenty-eight (28) interested parties. Three (3) firms proposed, and three (3) firms were interviewed. The evaluation panel consisted of several departments. The Brooks Act was used for this procurement. This process includes receiving technical proposals. Then the highest-ranking proposer is selected for interviews and price discussions.


The recommended vendor is Hill International, Inc. located in Broadview Heights, Ohio. A 13% DBE Goal will be met by utilizing Somat Engineering, Inc., located in Cleveland. Hill International, Inc. has successfully completed projects for GCRTA, ODOT, the Cuyahoga County Department of Public Works, and the City of Cleveland, among others. They were established in 1976. They have an experienced and qualified staff. They are currently working on the Waterfront Line rehabilitation bridge project.

Staff requests that the Operational Planning and Infrastructure Committee recommend award to Hill International, Inc. for the On-Call Construction Inspection - 2023. The contract is in an amount not to exceed \$450,000 for 24 months. It was moved by Ms. Moss, seconded by Mr. Sleasman and approved to move to the full Board.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:22 a.m.



Rajan D. Gautam
Secretary/Treasurer



Theresa A. Burrage
Executive Assistant