

April 23, 2020

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

SET # 4

TO : All Prospective Bidders
FROM : Ehab Azab, Contracts Administrator
SUBJECT : Contract C20004 – US 101/Blossom Hill Road Interchange Improvement

Q19. We would like permission to submit a quote an alternative bridge design for the NB 101 On-Ramp POC shown on sheet 293 as we are currently unable to fabricate the bridge as shown due to CJP welds detailed for truss connections. Our bridge design would not differ in style, design criteria, loading, or parameters specified but rather in member sizes selected and connection details. The end product would not look any different to the end user and the bridge would function as intended while providing cost savings for the fabrication of the bridge. We have an alternative design approach that eliminates the need for CJP welds while still providing a bridge that will accommodate the design loads and parameters specified. Upon notice to proceed from the awarded contractor, we would provide shop drawings and calculations prepared by a Professional Engineer registered in the State of California to justify our design approach.

Our company is an AISC Advanced Certified Bridge Fabricator that has been designing and fabricating bridges for more than 40 years.

A19. Please submit your bid based on bridge design as shown in the Bid Documents – Volume 3(s). VTA encourages all contractors to develop, prepare, and submit a Value Engineering Change Proposal (VECP) voluntarily including proposals originated, initiated and developed by Contractor to change the drawings, specifications or other requirements of the Contract as specified in Section 6.23. Value Engineering Change Proposal in the Bid Documents – Volume 1. VTA will consider the VECP if proposed by the Successful Bidder for this Contract.

Q20. I was looking to find if this project will bid QA or QC? Will the special inspections and laboratory materials testing be contracted through the Santa Clara Valley VTA or the selected contractor?

A20. Quality Assurance (QA) and Quality Control (AC) requirements are specified in Bid Documents – Volume 1 under Section 6.25 and Appendix M. VTA may perform its QA independently with VTA's in-house contractors.

Q21. I was reaching out to see if Route 101 Blossom Hill Rd Interchange project had a General Contractor that was awarded. My goal was to see if I may assist them with any onsite storage containers, for any extra material they would like to store securely, and possibly our ground level offices, to possibly help practice social distancing. Any information would be appreciated.

A21. This project is under bidding. Award is expected in Mid-June. Bid Documents, Addenda, Q&A sets, list of pre-qualified prime contractors, and all required information to bid for this contract can be found at VTA's website <https://www.vta.org/solicitations>. Click on the name of the solicitation that you are interested in. To download documents for a solicitation, click "Register or Log In to Download" if you are not already logged in, and once you are registered and logged in, click "Become a Plan Holder" in order to download the documents. There is no charge for downloading these documents.

It is highly recommended that prospective Bidders acquire the Contract Documents directly from VTA's website in order to bid on this project and be assured that their Bids include all addenda. Bids that do not acknowledge receipt of addenda may be considered nonresponsive.

Q22. Blossom Hill Rd OC Abutment Detail No. 1 (sheet 247) shows approach slab joint seal Type B (MR=2.5"). Caltrans Standard plan B6-21 does not show a Type B joint seal with movement rating over 2". Structure Approach Drawing (sheet 262), note 8, states replace existing joint seal (MR=2") Type B within limits of existing approach slab. Please clarify weather bid item 193 is for new joint seal assembly MR=2.5" at both new and existing approach slabs or if joint seal Type B MR=2" is required at new and existing approach slabs. If Joint Seal Type B MR=2 is required please clarify bid item 193 description on bid form.

A22. Bid item 193 is for new Type B joint seal MR=2.5" at both the new and existing approach slabs. The calculated joint movement rating on this bridge is 2.5". Section A-A on Sheet 247 states "Joint Seal Type B (MR=2.5)", For Details Not Noted See B6-21." Sheet 247 also shows a table of dimensions for MR=2.5" that supersedes the table on Caltrans Standard Plan B6-21.

Q23. We would like to propose an alternative for the 34 pole-mounted luminaires for this project. Do you have the photometrics analysis for the proposed luminaire products? What are the calculation values required for this project? We would like to submit our product for pre-approval as an alternative to the proposed area light fixture for project C20004 – US 101/Blossom Hill Road Interchange. I have attached out product comparison and spec sheet for review.

A23. Please submit your bid based on the design as shown in the Bid Documents – Volume 3(s). The lighting for the bike path has been designed to City of San Jose standards and the photometric analysis will not be provided. VTA encourages all contractors to develop, prepare, and submit a Value Engineering Change Proposal (VECP) voluntarily including proposals originated, initiated and developed by Contractor to change the drawings, specifications or other requirements of the Contract as specified in Section 6.23. Value Engineering Change Proposal in the Bid Documents – Volume 1. VTA will consider the VECP if proposed by the Successful Bidder for this Contract.

Q24. If we are going to bid as a Joint Venture for this project, do we have to prequalify as a JV or can both teams submit pre-qualification separately?

A24. Please refer to Appendix I “Request for Pre-qualification of Bidders” Bid Document Volume 1, heading “Notice” section A “Solicitation of Pre-Qualification Statements”, third paragraph that states;

“If two or more contractors submit a SOQ as part of a Joint Venture or expect to submit a SOQ as part of a Joint Venture, each entity within the Joint Venture must be separately pre-qualified”.

Q25. Has a decision been made in regards to the Pre-Bid Meeting?

A25. Due to COVID-19 and Shelter-In-Place Directives, this meeting will be held online. Please click the below hyperlink to access the meeting. Registered vendors do not need to have MS account to access the meeting. VTA may provide access via phone call as well. However, VTA encourages attendees to access the meeting using the hyperlink to see visual contents and text questions. It is recommended to use Google Chrome browser to access the meeting if Vendors do not have Microsoft Teams App, MS PowerPoint presentation will be made available for all registered vendors at VTA website directly after the meeting.

[Join C20004 Pre-Bid Meeting via Microsoft Teams](#)

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at ehab.azab@vta.org.

Sincerely,



Ehab Azab

Construction Contracts Administrator