



GAIL FARBER, Director

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

900 SOUTH FREMONT AVENUE
ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA 91803-1331
Telephone: (626) 458-5100
<http://dpw.lacounty.gov>

ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:
P.O. BOX 1460
ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA 91802-1460

March 10, 2009

IN REPLY PLEASE
REFER TO FILE: **C-1**

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**ADOPT, ADVERTISE, AND AWARD
BRIDGE SEISMIC RETROFIT
SOTO STREET OVER LOS ANGELES RIVER
CITY OF VERNON
(SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT 1)
(3 VOTES)**

SUBJECT

This action is to approve a project to seismically strengthen the Soto Street bridge over Los Angeles River, in the City of Vernon; adopt the plans and specifications; call for bids; and authorize the Director of Public Works or her designee to award, execute, and implement a contract with the lowest responsive and responsible bidder.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

1. Find that this project is statutorily exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act.
2. Approve the project and adopt the plans and specifications for Soto Street over Los Angeles River, bridge seismic retrofit, in the City of Vernon, at an estimated cost between \$2,200,000 and \$3,000,000.
3. Call for bids to be received on April 7, 2009.

4. Instruct the Executive Officer of your Board to advertise the project and seal and return the plans and specifications to the Department of Public Works for filing.
5. Authorize the Director of Public Works or her designee to award and execute a contract with the lowest responsive and responsible bidder within the estimated cost range, approve the Faithful Performance and Labor and Material Bonds submitted by the contractor, and deliver the project.
6. Delegate to the Director of Public Works or her designee the following authority in connection with this contract to (1) approve and execute change orders within the same monetary limits delegated to the Director of Public Works under Section 2.18.050 of the Los Angeles County Code relative to the construction of County buildings, (2) allow substitution of subcontractors and relief of bidders upon demonstration of the grounds set forth in Public Contract Code Sections 4100 et seq. and 5100 et seq., (3) accept the project upon its final completion, and (4) release retention money withheld consistent with the requirements of Public Contract Code Section 9203.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

The purpose of the recommended action is to advertise for bids and authorize award, execution, and implementation of a construction contract for the seismic strengthening of the Soto Street bridge over Los Angeles River in the City of Vernon.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The Countywide Strategic Plan directs the provision of Service Excellence (Goal 1) and Community Services (Goal 6). The recommended action will help meet these goals by providing more reliable bridge infrastructure for the traveling public during and immediately following seismic events.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

There will be no impact to the County General Fund.

The estimated construction cost to complete this project is in the range of \$2,200,000 to \$3,000,000.

This project is entirely within the City of Vernon. County-City Cooperative Agreement 75449 provides for the County to perform the preliminary engineering and administer the construction of the project, with the City to finance the nonfederally reimbursable bridge repair portion of the project cost.

This project will be administered under the Highway Bridge Program as covered by Agreement 76078 with the State of California. Under this program, Federal funds allocated to local agencies are used to finance a portion of the qualifying costs of the bridge seismic retrofit projects. The remaining portion of the costs of the project will be funded with State Proposition 1B funds. Qualifying costs are apportioned 88.53 percent Federal and 11.47 percent Proposition 1B. Funding for this project is included in the First Supervisorial District's Road Construction Program in the Fiscal Year 2008-09 Road Fund Budget.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

This project, to contract for the seismic strengthening of an existing bridge, is part of the Department of Public Works' (Public Works) ongoing program for the retrofitting of city and county bridges to reduce the potential for failure during an earthquake. It will be advertised in accordance with Section 20392 of the Public Contract Code.

Following the October 1989 Loma Prieta Earthquake, Senate Bill 36X was enacted during an extraordinary legislative session and signed by the Governor on November 7, 1989. Under this bill, the County was designated as the lead agency for the inspection and the retrofit of all publicly owned non-State highway bridges, pedestrian bridges, and transit bridges within the County of Los Angeles, including all incorporated cities except the City of Los Angeles.

Jurisdiction for construction for this project has been received from the City of Vernon.

This project is to be completed in 230 working days. It is estimated the work will start in July 2009 and be completed in May 2010.

Delegating to the Director of Public Works or her designee the authority to award, execute, and approve changes or alterations to this contract and specified administrative authority will allow an expedited contracting process to procure a contractor and facilitate construction delivery for the seismic strengthening of this existing bridge. It is critical to retrofit the Soto Street bridge as soon as possible to enhance public safety.

The contract agreement will be in the form previously reviewed and approved by County Counsel.

The project specifications contain provisions requiring the contractor to comply with terms and conditions supporting your Board's ordinances, policies, and programs, including but not limited to: County's Greater Avenues for Independence and General Relief Opportunities for Work Programs (GAIN and GROW), Board Policy No. 5.050; Contract Language to Assist in Placement of Displaced County Workers, Board Policy No. 5.110; Reporting of Improper Solicitations, Board Policy No. 5.060; Notice to Contract Employees of Newborn Abandonment Law (Safely Surrendered Baby Law), Board Policy No. 5.135; Contractor Employee Jury Service Program, Los Angeles County Code, Chapter 2.203; Notice to Employees Regarding the Federal Earned Income Credit (Federal Income Tax Law, Internal Revenue Service Notice 1015); Contractor Responsibility and Debarment, Los Angeles County Code Chapter 2.202; and the Los Angeles County's Child Support Compliance Program, Los Angeles County Code, Chapter 2.200; and the standard Board-directed clauses that provide for contract termination or renegotiation.

The State Public Contract Code requires the County to award construction contracts to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder, which is defined as the firm that; (1) submits the bid with the lowest cost; (2) is deemed by the County to be responsive to specific criteria under the solicitation, including, but not limited to licensure, bonding, and insurance requirements; and (3) is determined by the County to be a responsible bidder by exhibiting the capability, capacity, experience, trustworthiness, and financial wherewithal to perform the work required under the bid solicitation.

To ensure that the contract is awarded to the lowest responsible contractor with a satisfactory history of performance, bidders are required to report violations of the False Claims Act, criminal convictions, civil litigation, defaulted contracts with the County, complaints filed with the Contractor's State License Board, labor law/payroll violations, and debarment actions. As provided for in Board Policy No. 5.140, the information reported by the contractor will be considered before making a recommendation to award.

The plans and specifications include the contractual provisions, methods, and material requirements necessary for this project and are on file with Public Works.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

This seismic retrofit project is statutorily exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act pursuant to Section 21080.16 of the Public Resources Code. This exemption provides for the urgent need to bring seismically deficient bridges up to

contemporary seismic standards while retaining the same purpose, capacity, and location as the existing bridges.

CONTRACTING PROCESS

This project will be contracted on an open competitive bid basis. The contract will be awarded to the lowest responsible bidder meeting the criteria established by your Board and the California Public Contract Code. The County Local Small Business Enterprise preference will not be applied to the determination of the lowest responsive and responsible bidder. To be eligible for the Federal funds financing the majority of this project, Title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, requires award to the lowest bidder.

To increase contractor awareness of our program to contract work to the private sector, this project will be listed on the County website for upcoming bids.

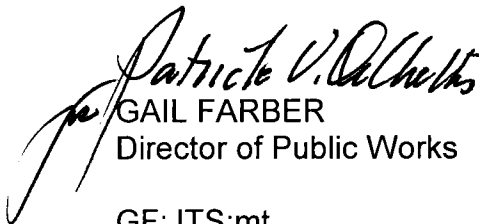
IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

When the project is completed, it will have a positive impact by providing more reliable bridge infrastructure for the traveling public during and immediately following seismic events.

CONCLUSION

Please return one adopted copy of this letter to Public Works, Construction Division.

Respectfully submitted,


GAIL FARBER
Director of Public Works

GF:JTS:mt

- c: Chief Executive Office (Lari Sheehan)
County Counsel
Office of Affirmative Action Compliance

SOTO STREET OVER LOS ANGELES RIVER
INSTRUCTION SHEET FOR PUBLISHING LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT

From: Department of Public Works
Construction Division

PUBLISHING

In accordance with Section 20392 of the Public Contract Code:

Publish: At least ten consecutive times, prior to the date set for opening bids, in a daily newspaper of general circulation printed and published in the County and designated by the Board, or for at least two consecutive times prior to such date in a weekly newspaper printed and published in the County and designated by the Board.

Time Limitation: To open bids in four weeks.

(First advertisement to be published no later than March 14, 2009)

NOTICE INVITING BIDS

Sealed bids will be received by the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works, Construction Division, for the construction of a reinforced concrete footing, pier widening, and infill walls; steel pipe piles; arch rib retrofit; spall repair; and the performance of other appurtenant work under Project ID No. RDC0012245, Soto Street over Los Angeles River, in the City of Vernon.

The bids must be submitted at the Cashier's Office, located on the Mezzanine level, 900 South Fremont Avenue, Alhambra, California 91803-1331, before 11 a.m. on Tuesday, April 7, 2009. The bids will then be publicly opened and read in Conference Room A or at the location posted in the main lobby.

The work shall be done in accordance with the Plans and Specifications on file and open for inspection at the County Board of Supervisors Executive Office and the Department of Public Works. The work is estimated to cost between \$2,200,000 and \$3,000,000 and shall be completed in 230 working days. The work requires a California Class A contractor's license. Prebid questions regarding the Plans and Specifications should be directed to Mr. Harry Cong at (626) 458-3111.

The bids must be submitted on the proposal forms included in the bidder's package of the contract documents, which may be purchased for \$18, if picked up at the aforementioned Cashier's Office, (626) 458-6959, Monday through Thursday between 7 a.m. and 5:30 p.m., or for \$22, if mailed, which includes postage and handling.

Each bid must be accompanied by a certified check, cashier's check, or surety bond payable to County of Los Angeles in an amount equal to at least 10 percent of the bid to guarantee that the bidder will enter into the contract if it is so awarded.

All persons performing the work shall be paid not less than the General Prevailing Wage Determination made by the Director of Industrial Relations pursuant to the California Labor Code. Copies of these wage rates are available at the Department of Public Works. Furthermore, minimum Davis-Bacon Act Wage Decisions for this project as predetermined by the Secretary of Labor (Federal) are set forth in the Special Provisions.

If there is a difference between the minimum wage rates predetermined by the Secretary of Labor and the applicable prevailing wage rates per the Director of Industrial Relations for similar classifications of labor, the contractor and its subcontractors shall pay not less than the higher wage rate.

The rate of compensation for any classification not listed in the schedule, but which may be required to execute the contract, shall be commensurate and in accordance with the rates specified for similar or comparable classifications or for those performing similar or comparable duties.

Bidders are advised that, as required by Federal law, the State has established a statewide overall DBE goal. The Department of Public Works' Federal-aid contract is considered to be a part of the statewide overall DBE goal. The Department of Public Works is required to report to Caltrans on DBE participation for all Federal-aid contracts each year so that attainment efforts may be evaluated.

The County hereby notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively ensure that minority business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, religion, sex, or national origin in consideration for award of any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement.

**NOTICE OF REQUIREMENT FOR AFFIRMATIVE ACTION TO ENSURE EQUAL
EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY (EXECUTIVE ORDER 11246)**

The goals for minority and female participation, expressed in percentage terms for the contractor's aggregate workforce in each trade on all construction work in the covered area, are as follows:

Goals for Minority
Participation in
Each Trade
28.3%

Goals for Female
Participation in
Each Trade
6.9%

These goals are applicable to all the contractor's construction work (whether or not it is Federal or Federally assisted) performed in the covered area.

The contractor's compliance with the Executive Order and the regulations in 41 CFR, Part 60-4, shall be based on its implementation of the Equal Opportunity Clause, specific affirmative action obligations required by the specifications set forth in 41 CFR, Part 60-4.3(a), and its efforts to meet the goals. The hours of minority and female employment and training must be substantially uniform throughout the length of the contract, and in each trade, and the contractor shall make a good faith effort to employ minorities and females evenly on each of its projects. The transfer of minority or female employees or trainees from contractor to contractor or from project to project for the sole purpose of meeting the contractor's goals shall be a violation of the contract, the Executive Order, and the regulations in 41 CFR, Part 60-4. Compliance with the goals will be measured against the total work hours performed.

The contractor shall provide written notification to the Director of the Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs within ten working days of award of any construction subcontract in excess of \$10,000 at any tier for construction work under the contract resulting from this solicitation. The notification shall list the name, address, and telephone number of the subcontractor; employer identification number of the subcontractor; estimated dollar amount of the subcontract; estimated starting and completion dates of the subcontract; and the geographical area in which the contract is to be performed.

As used in this Notice, and in the contract resulting from this solicitation, the "covered area" is the County of Los Angeles.

The bid must provide full disclosure of False Claims Act violations, labor law/payroll violations, debarments, and civil/criminal legal actions as provided for on the forms included as part of the proposal. Failure to complete these forms may result in a determination that the bidder is nonresponsive and/or not responsible.

The contract, if awarded, will be awarded to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder; however, the Board of Supervisors reserves the right to reject any and all bids. Due to the requirements of the use of Federal and State funds on this project, no Local Small Business Enterprise preference will be applied to this project as defined in County Code 2.204.

A responsible bidder is a bidder who has demonstrated the attribute of trustworthiness, as well as quality, fitness, capacity, and experience to satisfactorily perform the contract. It is the County's policy to conduct business only with responsible contractors.

The successful bidder will be required to fully comply with all applicable State and Federal reporting requirements relating to employment reporting for its employees and comply with all lawfully served Wage and Earnings Assignment Orders and Notice of Assignment and continue to maintain compliance throughout the duration of the contract. Failure to comply may be cause for termination of the contract or initiation of debarment proceedings.

The successful bidder will be required to submit a faithful performance bond, payment bond, worker's compensation insurance, and liability insurance with the contract.

As provided for in Section 22300 of the California Public Contract Code, the contractor may substitute securities for any monies withheld by the Department of Public Works to ensure performance under the contract or enter into an escrow agreement for payment of such monies to an escrow agent.

Each person by submitting a response to this Notice Inviting Bids certifies that such bidder and each County lobbyist and County lobbying firm, as defined by Los Angeles County Code Section 2.160.010, retained by the bidder, is in full compliance with Chapter 2.160 of the Los Angeles County Code.

Para mas informacion con relacion a esta noticia, por favor llame a este numero (626) 458-3118. Nuestras horas de oficina son de 7 a.m. a 5:30 p.m. de Lunes a Jueves.

The County supports and encourages equal opportunity contracting.

By order of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles, State of California.

Dated March 10, 2009.

Sachi A. Hamai
Executive Officer
of the Board of Supervisors

HC:mt

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