



Memorandum

Subject: **ACTION:** Michigan Alternative Technical
Concepts on a Design-Bid-Build Project under
Special Experimental Project No. 14 (SEP-14)

Date: March 29, 2022

Digitally Signed by BRIAN JEFFERY FOUCH Date: 2022.03.29 14:02:31 -04'00"

From: Brian J. Fouch
Director, Office of Construction,
Preconstruction, and Pavements

In Reply Refer To:
HICP-20

To: Theodore G. Burch
Division Administrator
Lansing, MI

This memorandum is in response to a March 21 email sent by Chris Youngs of your office which transmitted, endorsed, and recommended for approval a Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) request to use Alternative Technical Concepts (ATCs) on a Design-Bid-Build (D-B-B) Project under Special Experimental Project No. 14 (SEP-14).

Currently, the use of ATCs without advance SEP-14 approval is limited to its use on Design-Build projects.

MDOT is proposing the use of ATCs on a D-B-B project to replace the superstructure of a previously-demolished bridge span carrying Warren Road over northbound U.S. 23 in Ann Arbor Charter Township, Washtenaw County. The purpose in using ATCs on this D-B-B project is to allow contractors the ability to propose, and receive approval for, superstructure replacement plans in order to bring a contractor's innovations, available materials, and construction techniques into the project during the bidding process.

Superstructure replacement will include all costs for the contractor to replace the beams, deck, bearings, and railings, while also accounting for substructure modifications and possible temporary supports. MDOT will develop a plans, specifications, and Estimate (PS&E) package that allows two options for superstructure replacement. The contractor will have the option of choosing which one to bid:

1. The MDOT-furnished option, which will be bid using standard items; or
2. The contractor may propose its own alternative, which must be approved by MDOT at various stages of development. This alternative will be bid as a lump sum pay item.

Through the ATC process, MDOT will provide contractors the opportunity to present alternate superstructure replacement concepts to MDOT. If a concept is approved for further development, the contractor will follow the requirements outlined in the Special Provision for ATC for Superstructure Replacement for additional information and re-submit for final

approval. Final approval from MDOT will be needed if a contractor elects to use their ATC for the basis of their bid. Costs associated with the additional design work will be the contractor's responsibility and will be included in the lump sum cost for superstructure replacement.

MDOT has scheduled the Project to be advertised in April 2022 with bids due in June 2022. Construction is expected to be completed in 2022. MDOT will post preliminary plans in advance of project advertisement to allow Contractors more time to evaluate possible ATCs.

Other details are contained in the SEP-14 workplan.

We are approving MDOT's request to use ATCs on a D-B-B Project – specifically, the Warren Road Bridge over northbound U.S. 23 in Ann Arbor Charter Township, Washtenaw County.

Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment on this SEP-14 request. Should you have any questions, please contact Brian Hogge at (202) 366-1562, or John Huyer at (720) 437-0515.

Attachments