

Connecticut Department of Transportation  
Job Order Contracting  
Special Experimental Project 14 (SEP-14)  
10-2-20

**Introduction**

The Connecticut Department of Transportation (CONNDOT) submits this work plan to use the Job Order Contract (JOC) project delivery method under the provisions of Special Experimental Project No. 14 (SEP-14). Under the proposed Job Order Contract (JOC) delivery method, CONNDOT will obtain bids from contractors on an indefinite quantity of work for specific work items. These bids will be advertised and awarded through the Connecticut Department of Administrative Services (DAS) Procurement Division, which currently is used by the CONNDOT for similar work efforts using state funds. The actual work locations and site-specific designs will be determined during the development of individual purchase orders.

**Purpose**

CONNDOT is requesting for a second time SEP-14 approval for the JOC project delivery method with Federal-aid funds that worked well as a pilot program over the last 3 years. The SEP-14/JOC contract will continue to improve the efficiency, cost effectiveness and timeliness in completing the proposed work. By obtaining bids from contractors prior to determining the specific work locations, there were significant savings in cost and time compared to traditional design-bid-build approach. Additionally, the programming of projects was facilitated by having the expected construction costs for each purchase order known at the time the purchase order scope is established.

**Scope**

This work plan details CONNDOT's approach to utilize JOC project delivery to complete an Epoxy Resin Pavement Marking Program. CONNDOT intends to advertise for competitive bids on a 3-year Epoxy Resin Pavement Markings (furnish and apply) contract thru our DAS Procurement Division. Contractors will competitively bid "estimated" quantities of individual work items within the contract without knowing the actual quantities or exact work locations. The bid documents will request separate bid prices for each work item within each of the four (4) CONNDOT Districts. The exact locations and design of proposed work will be determined later as part of the development of specific purchase orders.

All responsive and responsible bidders who have submitted a materially balanced bid, as determined by CONNDOT, will be "awarded" the contract. This award will not include any actual work or funding. These awarded contractors instead will become part of a "pool" of contractors to whom the CONNDOT can assign specific purchase orders in the future based on the unit prices submitted.

Throughout the 3-year period of this program, CONNDOT will develop purchase orders to have pavement markings installed on specific roadways sections. These purchase orders will include

an estimated quantity of each work item required. Using this estimated quantity and the pool of awarded contractor's unit bid prices, CONNDOT will assign each purchase order to the contractor whose bid prices provide the lowest overall cost for that specific purchase order. If the selected contractor is not available to perform the required work at the time the purchase order is issued, then CONNDOT may proceed to the next lowest overall cost contractor from the pool to perform the work.

The proposed contract will use CONNDOT's Standard Specifications for Roads, Bridges, and Facilities and Incidental Construction (Form 818) and the applicable provisions contained in CONNDOT's "Construction Contracts - Required Contract Provisions (FHWA Funded Contracts)" document. These documents include the FHWA Form 1273, required provisions regarding differing site conditions, termination clauses, Davis-Bacon Wage Rates, and other applicable provisions. All work will comply with Federal, State and Local laws and permitting requirements and will be developed based on the appropriate Department Design Manuals and standards.

The CONNDOT engineer from the appropriate District and their staff will be responsible for making purchase order assignments to the general contractor. Their staff will be responsible for monitoring the performance of the work for consistency with the specifications and providing general inspection and oversight of all construction activities using the Bureau of Highway Operations Force Account Construction Recordkeeping Volumes 1-3. All decisions regarding the quantities of work to be performed will be made by CONNDOT engineers through consultation with the contractor.

### **Schedule**

The proposed project schedule is to complete the JOC contract and advertise for bids during the winter 2020-21 period. The initial purchase orders are anticipated to begin being issued in the Spring 2021. This program will be used to install epoxy resin pavement markings over a 3-year period, which would expire at the end of the 2023 construction season.

### **Measures**

To ensure that the use of the JOC delivery method is meeting CONNDOT expectations, the following measures will be analyzed and compared to the previous pilot SEP-14 project:

- Comparison of unit bid prices
- Comparison of number of bids received
- Timeframe from initiation of purchase order development to initiation of construction activities
- Costs expended on inspection and acceptance activities
- Quality of work and responsiveness of contractors to complete work

### **Reporting**

At the conclusion of each construction season that this JOC program is in place, CONNDOT will develop an Annual Report that summarizes the purchase orders issued, the quantities/costs paid to the contractor for each purchase order, and the associated JOC values for each of the “measures” identified above. These reports will include any interim lesson learned and will be submitted to FHWA for their information.

At the conclusion of the JOC program (anticipated to be winter 2023), CONNDOT will develop a Final Report summarizing all the purchase orders completed, addresses each of the “measures” identified, and an overall evaluation of the program, along with any suggestions and recommendations for improving the process. The Final Report will also be submitted to FHWA for their information.

### **Conclusion**

In summary, Job Order Contracting enables CONNDOT to more rapidly engage contractors and complete projects while lowering costs. JOC does not replace any of the existing contracting systems including traditional design-bid-build. JOC is proved to be an efficient and effective alternative contracting tool for CONNDOT to use in delivering its construction program.