



Memorandum

Subject: **ACTION**: Florida Qualification-Based Phased
Design Build (Phased DB) Selection Process under
Special Experimental Project No. 14 (SEP-14)

Date: October 6, 2022

/Digitally Signed by BRIAN JEFFERY FOUCH Date: 2022.10.06 08:17:39-04'00"/

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

In Reply Refer To:
HICP-20

To: Jamie Christian
Division Administrator
Tallahassee, FL

This memorandum is in reference to the September 16 email from by Bren George of your staff, which transmitted, endorsed, and recommended approval of a Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) Workplan (also dated September 16) for the use of a Qualification-Based Phased Design Build (Phased DB) Selection Process under Special Experimental Project No. 14 (SEP-14). This project delivery method would be used for the planning, preconstruction, and construction phase services of the Tampa Westshore Interchange Project (I-275/ SR 60). We appreciate the efforts of Bren George and Marvin Williams of your staff as we have worked through various drafts of the SEP-14 workplan for this project.

We appreciate the efforts of Bren George and Marvin Williams of your staff as we have worked through various drafts of the SEP-14 workplan for this project.

As the NEPA process is complete, FDOT is requesting SEP-14 approval to deviate from the requirements of [23 CFR 636.302\(a\)\(1\)](#) and select a Phased PDB Firm based solely on qualifications where price is not a component.

As described in Section D of the attached workplan, FDOT will select the Phased PDB Firm via a four step process:

1. The FDOT will advertise a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) to solicit Letters of Response (LOR) from Firms to design and build the reconstruction of the I-275/SR 60 system interchange.
2. Proposers will submit LORs expressing their statements of qualifications consistent with the criteria contained in the RFQ.
3. FDOT will host presentations with question-and-answer sessions for each responsive proposer.
4. A Technical Review Committee (TRC) comprised of FDOT staff will evaluate proposers consistent with the criteria indicated in the RFQ and select the highest scoring proposer. The specific evaluation criteria and weighting are found in Section F of this Workplan.

Instead of funding all the work up front, the project will be designed, constructed, and funded in phases. As per the SEP-14 workplan, the RFQ will detail when funding is expected to

become available. Also, the RFQ will clarify that the proposers must base their proposals on the necessary planning, design, and construction to complete the entire project. The selected Phased D-B firm must plan its work to complete the necessary work for each phase. The work phases will be added by what is essentially a contract amendment process. Approval of this process is outside the scope of the SEP-14 program. However, the Florida Division has performed the necessary coordination with the FHWA Office of the Chief Financial Officer. Other details are contained within the SEP-14 workplan.

The SEP-14 Workplan is approved, subject to the following conditions:

- The FHWA's approval of the SEP-14 workplan for the FL Tampa Westshore Interchange Project is limited to the deviations from FHWA's procurement rules at 23 CFR Part 636 as set forth in the Workplan. FHWA's approval is not intended to be and should not be interpreted as an approval, either expressly or implied, of deviations from any other title 23 USC, title 23 CFR, or other Federal requirement (including provisions contained in the recently enacted Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, enacted as the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, Pub. L. 117-58 (Nov. 15, 2021)) applicable to any other aspect of the project advanced under the SEP-14 Workplan.

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.