

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND DEVELOPMENT

INTRADEPARTMENTAL CORRESPONDENCE

## MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** January 10, 2020

- TO: Darhlene Major Admin Program Director 4
- FROM: Shawn D. Wilson, Ph.D. Secretary
  - RE: Selection Justification Contract No. 4400017438 MRB South GBR: LA 1 to LA 30 Connector Parish: To Be Determined

In accordance with Louisiana Revised Statute 48:293, the Secretary is presented a short list of the three highest rated firms based on the ratings of the evaluation team. The law further provides that the Secretary shall make the final evaluation and selection from the three firms presented.

As such, I have been presented with a selection for a consultant to provide the advanced planning for the Mississippi River Bridge South La. 1 to La. 30 Connector. The consultant selected should be able to adequately complete specific activities prior to the initiation of a new Environmental Impact Statement.

The short list identified the following as the top three firms: AECOM Technical Services, Michael baker International, Inc. and Atlas Technical Consultants, LLC. In my review of the technical evaluation, I have strongly considered the ratings of the department evaluation team. Secondly, I have consider the makeup of each team and their prior experience on projects of this scope and sensitivity. In addition, it is incumbent upon me to value the viewpoint of surrounding parish leaders and the members of the Capital Area Road and Bridge District (CARB-D) in my evaluation.

While both the #1 and #2 firms and their sub-consultants both are respectable and have done satisfactory work for the department, the #3 firm Atlas has foremost captured the consideration of the executive evaluation. Atlas, as the prime, demonstrates the least amount of backlog on work with the department that likely will yield a greater amount of attention to this specific project. Additionally, all of their sub-consultants scored well in that category. Another point worth noting, is that the consultant selected must work well all the parish leaders and the members of CARB-D and the public urgency for advancing this project is palpable.

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The technical team of Atlas possesses experience working on complex projects in an urban corridor that I believe well serve this project. Finally, Atlas also should be commended for meeting the DBE goal of 10%, which helps us achieve our recently increased published goal, with a firm that has extensive track record with the department. All of these observations have been both been noted and confirmed in my conversations with all stake holders involved.

Given the criticality of what this project will mean for future construction of the MRB South and the totality of the necessary considerations of all stakeholders involved with this contract, I have selected Atlas Technical Consultants, LLC.

SDW: jgh



ROVA

RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL

DATE



DATE DATE