

## 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. 4400017327, 4400017328, 4400017329 IDIQ Alternative Delivery Support Services Statewide

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 to select three consultants to provide work on three IDIQs for alternative delivery support services.

In 2017, DOTD established the Office of Innovative Procurement to allow for the dedicated structure and human capital to tackle large, mega projects that had long been the priority of the department. Since that time, the newly created office has simultaneously established its presence in the department and has successfully procured five projects, setting departmental records for efficiency and innovation. In order to do this incredible work, the staff has depended on existing engineering retainer contracts to provide the needed technical assistance. As a result of this approach, it has become abundantly clear that there is a need for dedicated retainer contracts with experienced firms in this space to help deliver the volume of projects that are coming up and to keep the same pace.

The top five qualified firms that were submitted to me are as follows: WSP USA, Inc., Michael Baker International, Inc., HDR Engineering, Inc., Volkert, Inc. and HNTB Corporation. In my evaluation of these firms I have found that all the firms possess a unique skill set that can help us achieve the departmental goals for innovative procurement. As I delved deeper, I strongly considered the ratings and comments of the evaluation team. As a part of that process, I also considered not just the recommendation of the Innovative Procurement Manager but the reasoning behind her recommendation. Upon review, I concur with the basis of her reasoning.

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In just a short period of time, the department has lost the Executive Counsel and the chief Innovative Procurement Attorney that played vital roles in the current success we have had. As a result, the Innovative Procurement Manager has been left with a fairly new Innovative Procurement Attorney and the need to replace the departing attorney.

I must consider the necessary stability to keep the process moving and that stability comes from experience, not just with regards to technical ability, but the firms experience in working specifically with innovative procurement. Volkert and HNTB both have worked intricately with our Innovative Procurement Office and understand the internal and external process for the department and have worked with our stakeholders to deliver these projects. They both bring the expertise and knowledge this is needed to successfully deliver these projects within the given time constraints.

Given the aforementioned reasons I have selected the #1 firm WSP USA and hereby provide the necessary justification for selection of Volkert and HNTB Corporation.

SDW: jgh

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