

## TEXAS TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

Harris County

### MINUTE ORDER

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Houston District

Subchapter F, Chapter 223, Transportation Code prescribes the process by which the Texas Department of Transportation (department) may enter into a design-build contract with a private entity that provides for the design, construction, expansion, extension, related capital maintenance, rehabilitation, alteration, or repair of a highway project. Transportation Code § 223.242 authorizes the department to enter into, in each fiscal year, up to three design-build contracts for highway projects with estimated construction costs of \$150 million or more.

Transportation Code §§ 223.245-223.250 prescribe requirements for a design-build contract procurement, and require the department to publish a notice advertising a request for qualifications in the *Texas Register* that includes the criteria that will be used to evaluate any qualification submittals, the relative weight given to the criteria, and a deadline by which qualification submittals must be received.

The North Houston Highway Improvement Project (NHHIP) consists of three segments and will provide approximately 24 miles of improvements along I-45, I-10, I-69, and SH 288 from Beltway 8 North to south of downtown Houston. Segment 3 of the NHHIP consists of approximately 12 miles of improvements to the Downtown Loop System comprised of I-45, I-69, I-10, and SH 288. Projected population and economic growth is anticipated to increase congestion, further degrading the level of service through downtown Houston. Where the interchanges of I-45, I-69, I-10, and SH 288 converge in downtown Houston, the existing facilities do not provide adequate capacity resulting in heavy congestion during both peak and off-peak periods, longer travel times, and reduced mobility.

Segment 3 of the NHHIP in downtown Houston will consist of non-tolled improvements including (1) realigning I-45 away from the Pierce Elevated to be parallel with I-10 and I-69 from the existing I-45 interchange with I-10 to the existing I-45 interchange with I-69, (2) the construction of connectors providing access between local downtown streets and I-10, I-45, and I-45 non-tolled managed lanes, (3) depressing and widening I-69 from the SH 288 interchange to I-10, (4) reconstructing the I-69 interchanges with I-45 and I-10, (5) reconstructing I-10 general purpose lanes and adding new non-tolled managed lanes from west of I-45 to east of I-69 through downtown Houston, (6) reconstructing the I-10 interchange with I-45, (7) reconstructing SH 288 from south of I-69 to the I-45 interchange, and (8) reconstructing the SH 288 interchange with I-69.

The proposed improvements would realign I-45 and add capacity to I-45, I-69, and I-10 through the addition of general purpose lanes and non-tolled managed lanes, decreasing congestion and improving mobility and safety through downtown Houston.

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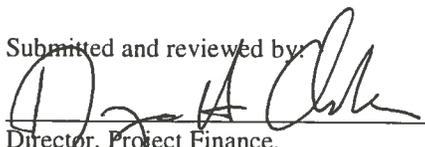
MINUTE ORDER

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Houston District

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the commission that the department is authorized to issue a request for qualifications to design, develop, construct, and potentially maintain Segment 3 of the North Houston Highway Improvement Project in Harris County as a non-tolled project, and to publish in the *Texas Register* and on the department's website a notice advertising the issuance of the request for qualifications.

Submitted and reviewed by:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Director, Project Finance,  
Debt & Strategic Contracts Division

Recommended by:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Executive Director

115260 JUL 26 '18  
Minute Date  
Number Passed