



Richland County Council
Transportation Ad Hoc Committee
June 30, 2020 – 1:00 PM
Zoom Video Conference
2020 Hampton Street, Columbia 29204

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Calvin “Chip” Jackson, Chair; Paul Livingston, Bill Malinowski, and Dalhi Myers

OTHERS PRESENT: Allison Terracio, Chakisse Newton, Michelle Onley, Kimberly Toney, Allison Steele, Jennifer Wladischkin, Leonardo Brown, John Thompson, Rasheed Muwwakkil, Mohammed Al-Tofan, Ali Eliadorani, Ashiya Myers, Ashley Powell, Angela Weathersby, Brad Farrar, Dale Welch and Quinton Epps

1. **Call to Order** – Mr. Jackson called the meeting to order at approximately 1:00 PM.
2. **Approval of Minutes: April 28, 2020** – Mr. Livingston moved, seconded by Mr. Malinowski, to approve the minutes as distributed.

Mr. Malinowski inquired if the request for the contractor to provide, in writing, their understanding of the scope of work regarding the material testing on the Greene Street Phase II project.

Ms. Steele responded they are going to address that in the contractor’s master contract. For each individual project, staff will issue them a work authorization, and list out the specific tasks services needed.

Mr. Malinowski inquired if an answer was provided to Ms. McBride’s question if the County can renegotiate the price with the firm selected without giving the other companies the same opportunity.

Ms. Wladischkin responded the ordinance calls for the County to negotiate with the highest ranked offeror. If negotiations are unsuccessful, we move to the 2nd highest ranked. If we get to a place where we have attempted to negotiate with all offerors, then we can go back and collectively ask them all for their best and final offers. We would not negotiate with everyone at once.

In Favor: Malinowski, Livingston, and Jackson

Abstain: Myers

The vote in favor was unanimous with Ms. Myers abstaining from the vote due to her joining the meeting late.

3. **Adoption of the Agenda** – Mr. Malinowski moved, seconded by Mr. Livingston, to adopt the agenda as distributed.

In Favor: Malinowski, Livingston, Jackson and Myers

**Transportation Ad Hoc Committee
June 30, 2020**

The vote in favor was unanimous.

Mr. Jackson noted, for the record, that Mr. Niermeier's not in attendance at today's meeting due to the passing of his father. The committee extended their condolences to him and his family, at this time.

4. **Items for Information:**

- a. **Construction Update** – Ms. Steele stated they currently have nine (9) projects in construction. There are no major issues. The only project we have had a “hiccup” on is the Greene Street Project. There was a delay with the railroad company with regards to a flagger, but that has been remedied. There are eight (8) projects in the closeout process. We will be able to take those off the list in 2 – 3 weeks. On the Three Rivers Greenway, we have finally coordinated with the City of Columbia on what we need to get the portion completed to turn it over to them. We are in the process of getting an As Built survey completed, and then we would have a draft IGA ready to turn maintenance over to the City. We are still in discussions with the railroad company on how to complete the connection to the Boyd Island connector. We have two (2) options. One would be to go into the CSX right-of-way. However, we will need permission from them, and they are requiring us to get an appraisal for entering into their property. This will fall into the As Built survey. There will be wording added to the IGA that the City will take over the project, with the understanding the County will come back and complete that section.

Mr. Malinowski inquired if the IGAs will come to Council.

Ms. Steele responded, once the language is agreed upon with the County and City's legal departments, the IGAs will be presented to Council.

- b. **Design Updates** – Ms. Steele stated, as you know, we have the new fiscal year starting soon. Once Budget sets up the funds for the new fiscal year, we have 4 – 5 projects ready to go. They plan to have those projects advertised by the end of July. The projects they are looking at are: Faraway Drive Sidewalk, Alpine Road Sidewalk, Clemson Road Phase 1 Sidewalk, and Resurfacing Package R (includes 50 roads). They have picked up design services with the OET on several other projects. The ones they will be picking up are: Crane Creek Neighborhood Improvement Project, Crane Creek Greenway, and the Gills Creek Greenway. Two additional projects, which were not descoped, they will be picking up are: the Blythewood Road Widening and the Blythewood Road Area Improvements.

Mr. Malinowski inquired how it was decided to move forward on these projects versus all of the projects.

Ms. Steele responded they decided to move forward on these because they were the ones closest to having their full design already completed.

Mr. Jackson inquired if full design means 70%.

Ms. Steele responded they tried to stay with the ones that had 70% or greater design completed.

5. **Items for Action:**

- a. **Mitigation Credit Sales – Kershaw County, Beechwood at Camden Project** – Mr. Epps stated they

are requesting the sale of 8.4 wetland mitigation credits, which will bring in approximately \$156,536 to the Transportation Penny Program.

Mr. Malinowski noted the reviews by Legal, Budget and Finance are not included in the briefing document, so he is not sure how we stand if there are any glitches. He believes we need those reviews prior to it going to Council.

Mr. Jackson inquired if Mr. Malinowski could support the item if those reviews are provided.

Mr. Malinowski responded in the affirmative. On p. 16, the Mitigation Credit Sales Agreement Summary, lists the proceeds as “gross”, but he believes they should be “net” since things have already been taken out of them.

Mr. Epps responded that he is in agreement with Mr. Malinowski.

Mr. Jackson requested that be corrected prior to this item going to Council.

Mr. Livingston stated, for clarification, when we sell the credits it goes back into the Transportation Penny Fund.

Mr. Epps responded in the affirmative.

Mr. Livingston stated it appears, to him, we would eventually we would generate more funds from the credits than we paid for with the Penny Funds. Therefore, what happens when we have sold enough credits to pay back the Penny Funds?

Mr. Epps responded that is undecided, at this point. Council would have to determine if the funds would go to the Penny or to the General Fund.

Ms. Myers stated she raised that question long ago, and made the comment that it seemed extremely odd the mitigation bank sits in an area where we have no plans for improvement, and there is desperate need for improvement. Yet, we are making profit off the mitigation bank, with no plans to reinvest any of the money in the area where the bank sits. She would suggest, as a part of a what staff is considering, a plan for excess mitigation credit sales receipt to be used for the area where the mitigation bank sits.

Mr. Livingston moved, seconded by Mr. Jackson, to forward to Council with a recommendation for approval.

In Favor: Malinowski, Livingston and Jackson

Opposed: Myers

The vote was in favor.

- b. **Staff Augmentation Selection Approval** – Ms. Steele stated this matter has been before Council before. We originally advertised this solicitation for specific amount of time. The seven (7) companies that replied were evaluated and brought forward to Council, so we could begin setting up those contracts. We left the advertisement open for a short-time after the evaluation of the solicitations received to see if there were any other firms interested. We have received four (4)

additional solicitations, which have been evaluated. We are requesting to add these additional firms to the staff augmentation list.

Mr. Malinowski inquired as to why we did not make the deadline what we left it open to.

Ms. Wladischkin responded we evaluated the submittals as we received them because the Transportation Department was in need of these staff positions being filled by the staff augmentation companies.

Mr. Malinowski stated this seems like we are rewarding complacency. We had a deadline, and we received responses from several firms that met the deadline. Now, we are saying, "Just in case you did not meet that deadline, you can still submit a response." To him, that is not the way business should be done, so he cannot support these additional firms. He noted the Legal, Budget, Finance, etc. reviews are not included in this briefing document, and he would think we would want to make sure the action we are taking is proper, especially considering his previous comments.

Mr. Jackson inquired if we agreed to accept responses after the deadline, or did we extend the deadline.

Ms. Wladischkin responded we extended the deadline and left it open, while we were evaluating the ones we had received. We extended the deadline for Transportation benefits, so they could possibly have more choices to fill those positions.

Ms. Steele noted they had one firm that applied for everything, and we wanted to have the option to go with multiple firms. There were several recruiting agencies that responded, which was not the intent of the solicitation.

Mr. Livingston moved, seconded by Mr. Jackson, to forward this to Council with a recommendation for approval.

In Favor: Livingston, Jackson and Myers

Opposed: Malinowski

The vote was in favor.

6. **ADJOURN** – The meeting adjourned at approximately 1:30 PM.