

inadvertently omitted from the first sentence. Subsection (j) should read as follows:

(j) Housing Tax Credit Units leased to an organization through a supportive housing program where the owner receives a rental payment for the unit regardless of physical occupancy will be found out of compliance if the Unit remains vacant for over 60 days. The Unit will be found out of compliance under the Event of Noncompliance "Violation of the Unit Vacancy Rule."

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Texas Department of Transportation

Request for Qualifications

Pursuant to the authority granted under Transportation Code, Chapter 223, Subchapter F (enabling legislation), the Texas Department of Transportation (department), may enter into, in each state fiscal biennium, up to six design-build contracts for the design, construction, expansion, extension, related capital maintenance, rehabilitation, alteration, or repair of a highway project with a construction cost estimate of \$150 million or more. The enabling legislation authorizes private involvement in design-build projects and provides a process for the department to solicit proposals for such projects. Transportation Code §223.245 prescribes requirements for issuance of a request for qualifications (RFQ) and requires the department to publish a notice of such issuance in the *Texas Register*. The Texas Transportation Commission (commission) adopted Texas Administrative Code, Title 43, Chapter 9, Subchapter I relating to design-build contracts (the rules). The enabling legislation, as well as the rules, govern the submission and processing of qualifications statements (QSs), and provide for the issuance of an RFQ that sets forth the basic criteria for qualifications, experience, technical competence, and ability to develop a proposed project and such other information the department considers relevant or necessary.

The commission has authorized the issuance of an RFQ to design, construct, and maintain the I-35E Phase 2 Project (Project) in Dallas County. The I-35E Phase 2 Project consists of the full reconstruction and widening of this segment of the I-35E corridor and includes the addition of one general purpose lane in each direction and full reconstruction and "grandfathering" of the existing two reversible tolled managed lanes, for a total of 10 general purpose and tolled managed lanes, along

with the construction of continuous frontage roads and numerous intersection improvements. The Project has an estimated design-build cost of approximately \$600 Million.

Through this notice, the department is seeking QSs from teams interested in entering into a design-build contract and a capital maintenance contract. The department intends to evaluate any QS received in response to the RFQ and may request submission of detailed proposals, potentially leading to the negotiation, award, and execution of a design-build contract, and a capital maintenance contract. The department will accept for consideration any QS received in accordance with the enabling legislation, the rules, and the RFQ, on or before the deadline in this notice. The department anticipates issuing the RFQ, receiving and evaluating the QSs, developing a shortlist of proposing entities or consortia, and issuing a request for proposals (RFP) to the shortlisted entities. After review and a best value evaluation of the responses to the RFP, the department may negotiate and enter into a design-build contract and a capital maintenance contract for the Project.

RFQ Evaluation Criteria. QSs will be evaluated by the department for shortlisting purposes using the following general criteria: project qualifications and experience, statement of technical approach, and safety qualifications. The specific criteria under the foregoing categories will be identified in the RFQ, as will the relative weighting of the criteria.

Release of RFQ and Due Date. The department currently anticipates that the RFQ will be available on May 15, 2020. Copies of the RFQ will be available at the following website:

<http://www.txdot.gov/inside-txdot/division/debt/strategic-projects/alternative-delivery/i-35ephase2/rfq.html>

QSs will be due by 12:00 p.m. (noon) CST on June 25, 2020, at the address specified in the RFQ.

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Texas Department of Transportation

Filed: May 5, 2020

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