

TEXAS TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

EL PASO County

MINUTE ORDER

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EL PASO District

Subchapter E, Chapter 223, Transportation Code prescribes the process by which the Texas Department of Transportation (department) may enter into a comprehensive development agreement (CDA) with a private entity that provides for the design, development, financing, construction, maintenance, repair, operation, extension, or expansion of an eligible project.

The department has been planning the proposed Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project (Loop 375 BHW Project) from Racetrack Drive near Doniphan Road and New Mexico 273 (west of downtown) to US 54 (east of downtown) in the City of El Paso, a distance of approximately 9 miles.

By Board Resolution adopted on May 8, 2013, the Board of Directors of the Camino Real Regional Mobility Authority (CRRMA) waived and declined to exercise the CRRMA's option to develop, finance, construct and operate the Loop 375 BHW Project pursuant to Transportation Code §373.055. In Minute Order 113594, dated May 30, 2013, the Texas Transportation Commission (commission) approved the department's determination to exercise its option to develop, finance, construct, and operate the Loop 375 BHW Project.

Senate Bill 1730, 83rd Legislature, 2013, authorized the department to enter into a CDA for the Loop 375 BHW Project. The project will add capacity by providing a new four-lane, controlled access facility supported by toll revenues from Racetrack Drive to the terminus of the existing Loop 375, in the vicinity of Santa Fe Street, a distance of approximately 7 miles. A two mile section at the eastern end of this facility will incorporate several improvements to the existing segment of Loop 375 from Santa Fe Street to US 54. This project would improve safety and mobility, enhance system continuity, and accommodate projected growth throughout this southwest section of El Paso.

The development and completion of the Loop 375 BHW Project could be expedited through the use of a public-private partnership agreement, and the employment of innovative methods for the development and financing of projects that are available with a public-private partnership agreement. Development of the Loop 375 BHW Project is a crucial element of responding to traffic congestion throughout the El Paso area. It is anticipated that the developer may be asked to carry construction costs for a period of time, currently projected to be 5 years or more, after substantial completion.

Transportation Code, §223.203 prescribes requirements for a CDA procurement and requires the department to publish a request for qualifications in the *Texas Register* that includes 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.

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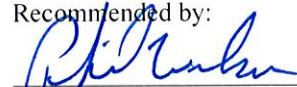
EL PASO District

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the commission that the department is authorized to publish in the Texas Register and in one or more newspapers of general circulation a request for qualifications to develop, design, construct, and maintain the Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension Project in El Paso County from Racetrack Drive near Doniphan Road and New Mexico 273 (west of downtown) to US 54 (east of downtown).

Submitted and reviewed by:


Director, Strategic Projects Division

Recommended by:


Executive Director

113618 JUN 27 13

Minute Number Date Passed

Exhibit A

Loop 375 Border Highway West Extension

