

Texas Transportation Commission

Minute Order

HARRIS County, HOUSTON District

Texas Transportation Code, Chapter 223, Subchapter F 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.

Texas Transportation Code §§223.245-223.250 prescribe requirements for a design-build contract procurement. Pursuant to those provisions, the department must issue a request for qualifications that includes, among other things, 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 department is also required to publish a notice advertising the issuance of the request for qualifications in the *Texas Register* and on the department's website.

The North Houston Highway Improvement Project (NHHIP) 3C-2 Project (Project) consists of non-tolled improvements of the Interstate (I) 45, I-10, and United States (US) Highway 59/I-69 interchange in the downtown Houston area. The Project includes widening and realigning mainlanes on I-45, realigning and reconstructing mainlanes and adding non-tolled managed lanes on I-10, and realigning and reconstructing mainlanes on US 59/I-69. The Project includes constructing associated ramps, bridges, utility bridges, rail line crossings, local collector roads, frontage roads, intersections, and bicycle and pedestrian facilities. The Project also includes constructing direct connectors to and from I-69 to the future Hardy Toll Road and realigning and reconstructing the existing ramps with termini at Jackson

Street and Chenevert Street that extend to the Houston Metro reversible High Occupancy Vehicle/High Occupancy Toll lane.

The purpose of the Project is to improve the I-45, I-10, and US 59/I-69 interchange in the downtown Houston area. The Project is a crucial element to enhance connectivity, improve traffic flow, and manage congestion within the downtown Houston freeway system. The I-45, I-10, and US 59/I-69 portions of the Project are included in the list of Top 100 most congested roadways in Texas. The Project improves safety and mobility in the area and meets the requirements for design-build delivery.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the commission that the department is authorized to issue a request for qualifications to design and construct the Project in Harris County, 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:

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Recommended by:

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Executive Director

Minute Order Number and Date Passed

117235 July 30, 2026