



March 9, 2017

To: Transit Committee

From: Darrell Johnson, Chief Executive Officer

Subject: Agreement for Pacific Electric Right-of-Way Weed Abatement and Debris Removal Services

Overview

On November 8, 2016, the Orange County Transportation Authority issued an invitation for bids for a five-year contract to a qualified property maintenance contractor to provide weed abatement and debris removal services for the Pacific Electric right-of-way. Board of Directors' approval is requested for the selection of a contractor to perform the required work.

Recommendations

- A. Find RPW Services, Inc., the apparent low bidder, as non-responsive for failure to execute the bid form.
- B. Authorize the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate and execute Agreement No. C-6-1504 between the Orange County Transportation Authority and Pest Options, Inc., the lowest responsive, responsible bidder, in the amount of \$215,830.80, for a five-year term, for the Pacific Electric right-of-way weed abatement and debris removal services.

Discussion

The Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) owns and maintains the former Pacific Electric (PE) right-of-way (ROW) rail corridor made up of two distinct properties known as PEROW NO.1 (PE1) and PEROW NO. 2 (PE2). Both segments contain no active railroad track and do not currently have active transportation uses.

The PE1 segment is 100 feet wide by seven miles long, beginning in the City of Santa Ana at Fifth Street and Raitt Street, and runs northwest to Beach Boulevard in the City of Stanton. The PE1 section from Euclid Street to Nelson Street and a section from Brookhurst Street to Gilbert Street are owned

and maintained by the City of Garden Grove. A total of 18 arterial roads cross the PE1 segment, and landscape areas front some of the arterial roads.

The PE2 segment is 100 feet wide by five miles long, begins at Beach Boulevard in the City of Stanton and runs northwest to the Orange – Los Angeles County Line in the City of Cypress. A total of 13 arterial roads cross the PE2 segment, and landscape areas front some of these arterial roads.

OCTA contracts out necessary weed abatement and debris removal services in order to comply with local standards regarding weed abatement, fire prevention, nuisance liability standards, and overall upkeep of the property. The contractor is responsible for maintaining these properties under the direction and supervision of OCTA's senior rail maintenance ROW administrator.

The maintenance contractor will be responsible for weed abatement, vegetation control, herbicide application, and clean-up and removal of debris and trash on the PEROW. Weed abatement and vegetation control are performed in accordance with Orange County's California Health and Safety Codes and municipal code requirements. The purpose of these services is to prevent fire hazards posed by vegetative growth and accumulation of combustible materials. Except as noted below, vegetation and weeds must be regulated to the code requirements.

The maintenance contractor will collect and remove all debris and trash, and remove and dispose of vegetation and refuse at specified dump sites within Orange County. The debris can range from, but is not limited to, broken concrete, asphalt, construction debris, scrap metal, furniture, appliances, automobile parts, shopping carts, tires, trees, dead vegetation, dead animals, and bagged or loose trash. Individual items will be handled in accordance with the Occupational Safety and Health Administration guidelines.

Procurement Approach

The procurement was handled in accordance with OCTA's Board of Directors-approved procedures for public works projects. These procedures, which conform to both federal and state requirements, require that contracts are awarded to the lowest responsive, responsible bidder after a sealed bidding process.

Invitation for Bids (IFB) 6-1504 was released on November 8, 2016, through OCTA's CAMM NET system. The project was advertised on November 8 and 14, 2016, in a newspaper of general circulation. A pre-bid conference was held on November 15, 2016, and was attended by two firms. Three addenda were issued to provide the pre-bid conference registration sheets and handle administrative issues related to the IFB. On December 5, 2016, three bids were received and publicly opened.

All bids were reviewed by staff from the Contracts Administration and Materials Management, Rail Programs, and Facilities Engineering Departments to ensure compliance with the contract terms and conditions, and technical specifications. The list of bidders and bid amounts is presented below:

<u>Firm and Location</u>	<u>Bid Amount</u>
RPW Services, Inc. Fullerton, California	\$201,151.20
Pest Options, Inc. Anaheim, California	\$215,830.80
PUB Construction, Inc. Diamond Bar, California	\$271,740.00

The apparent low bidder, RPW Services, Inc., was found non-responsive for failure to sign the bid form as required by the bid instructions. As such, award is being recommended to Pest Options, Inc., as the lowest responsive, responsible bidder.

The project manager's estimate for the project was \$249,296. The recommended firm's bid is 13.4 percent below the project manager's estimate and is considered by staff to be fair and reasonable.

State law requires award to the lowest responsive, responsible bidder. As such, staff recommends award to Pest Options, Inc., the lowest responsive, responsible bidder, in the amount of \$215,830.80, for the PEROW weed abatement and debris removal services.

Fiscal Impact

The project was approved in OCTA's Fiscal Year 2017-18 Budget, Capital Programs Division, accounts 1722-7517-D2601-AR7 and 0093-7517-T1000-ASA, and is funded through local transportation and commuter urban rail endowment funds.

Summary

Based on the information provided, staff is seeking Board of Directors' approval for the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate and execute Agreement No. C-6-1504 with Pest Options, Inc., the lowest responsive, responsible bidder, in the amount of \$215,830.80, for a five-year term, for Pacific Electric right-of-way weed abatement and debris removal services.

Attachments

- A. Right-of-Way Locations and Acreage
- B. Pacific Electric Right-of-Way

Prepared by:



Gerald Ray Smith Jr.
Sr. Rail Maintenance Right-of-Way
Administrator
(714) 560-5966

Approved by:



Jim Beil, P.E.
Executive Director, Capital Programs
(714) 560-5646



Virginia Abadessa
Director, Contracts Administration and
Materials Management
(714) 560-5623