




**March 13, 2024**

**To:** Finance and Administration Committee 

**From:** Darrell E. Johnson, Chief Executive Officer

**Subject:** Agreement for Oversight of Orange County Transportation Authority Express Lanes Roadside Services

**Overview**

On December 11, 2023, The Orange County Transportation Authority released a request for proposals for a firm to provide oversight of the Orange County Transportation Authority's 91 Express Lanes and 405 Express Lanes in Orange County. Proposals were received in accordance with the Orange County Transportation Authority's procurement procedures for professional and technical services. Board of Directors' approval is requested to execute an agreement for these services.

**Recommendations**

- A. Approve the selection of California Highway Products as the firm to provide oversight of Orange County Transportation Authority Express Lanes roadside services.
  
- B. Authorize the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate and execute Agreement No. C-3-3010 between the Orange County Transportation Authority and California Highway Products to provide oversight of Orange County Transportation Authority roadside services, in the amount of \$3,381,978, for a five-year term effective April 1, 2024, through March 31, 2029.

**Discussion**

On September 26, 2016, staff presented to the Orange County Transportation Authority's (OCTA) Board of Directors (Board), the toll systems and operations services procurement approach, which described a multiple procurement approach that provides the most favorable options for encouraging state of the art technology and competition, high levels of customer service, and potential to achieve the best value for OCTA. The approach consists of the procurement of three categories of systems/services: toll lane system integration, back-office

system and customer service center operations services, and roadway operations and maintenance support services. The toll lane system integration, and back-office system and customer service center operations services have been procured on contracts executed in June 2018 and January 2020, respectively.

In November 2022, a procurement was released for the 91 Express Lanes roadside operations and maintenance support services and an agreement was subsequently executed in February 2023. This agreement will expire in April 2024. The 405 Express Lanes opened in December 2023; however, final acceptance is not expected to be achieved until June 2024. The design-builder will be responsible for roadway maintenance services until final acceptance has been reached. A new contractor is needed once final acceptance occurs.

As part of this roadway operations and maintenance support services procurement, the contractor will support both toll facilities and will coordinate, oversee, and provide routine maintenance and emergency repair activities that are to be performed on the facilities, such as drainage, landscaping, road lighting inspection and repairs, and the replacement of the channelizers. The selected contractor will also be required to closely coordinate with the toll lane system integration and back-office system and customer service center operations contractors when an issue is identified on the roadside.

Every three weeks, the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) will be performing routine maintenance on the toll facilities. The contractor will be present during the Caltrans maintenance closures and will verify and inspect that pre-specified work is performed completely and correctly. The contractor will also coordinate with Caltrans and its contractors for any construction activities on the general purpose lanes that impact the toll lanes.

### ***Procurement Approach***

The procurement was handled in accordance with OCTA's Board-approved procedures for professional and technical services. Various factors are considered in the award for professional and technical services. Award is recommended to the firm offering the most comprehensive overall proposal considering such factors as prior experience with similar projects, staffing and project organization, work plan, as well as cost and price.

On December 11, 2023, the Board authorized the release of Request for Proposals (RFP) 3-3010, which was issued electronically on CAMM NET. The RFP was advertised in a newspaper of general circulation on December 13 and December 18, 2023. A pre-proposal conference was held on December 19, 2023,

with one attendee representing one firm. One addendum was issued to make available the pre-proposal conference registration sheets and presentation, as well as respond to written questions.

On January 16, 2024, two proposals were received. A responsiveness evaluation was conducted on both proposals. One of the proposals was deemed non-responsive for failure to include the technical information required as clearly specified in the RFP. The other proposal was determined to be responsive and eligible to continue in the evaluation process.

An evaluation committee consisting of OCTA staff from Contracts Administration and Materials Management, Express Lanes Programs, and Planning departments met to review the proposal. The proposal was evaluated based on the following Board-approved evaluation criteria and weightings:

- Qualifications of the Firm 20 percent
- Staffing and Project Organization 30 percent
- Work Plan 20 percent
- Cost and Price 30 percent

Several factors were considered in developing the criteria weightings. Qualifications of the firm was weighted at 20 percent to emphasize the importance of the proposing firms having relevant experience in roadway oversight and maintenance services. Staffing and project organization was weighted at 30 percent to ensure the firms proposed a knowledgeable management team and staff that are experienced in providing all aspects of the requested services, as well as adequate resources to comply with the project requirements as specified in the scope of work. Work plan was weighted at 20 percent for firms to demonstrate their understanding and approach in coordinating with the existing OCTA Express Lanes contractors in overseeing and performing routine maintenance services. Cost and price was weighted at 30 percent for the proposing firms to show their competitiveness in pricing to accomplish the services while successfully fulfilling the requirements set forth in the scope of work.

On January 24, 2024, the evaluation committee reviewed the proposal from the responsive firm listed below based on the evaluation criteria, and the firm was subsequently invited to the interview.

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Firm and Location

California Highway Products (CaHP)  
Headquarters: Redlands, California  
Project Office: Redlands, California

On January 31, 2024, the evaluation committee conducted interviews with CaHP. During the interview, the firm had the opportunity to present its approach for accomplishing the requested services, project team qualifications, and respond to evaluation committee's questions. The firm was also requested to elaborate on its experience in overseeing third-party contractors, detailing the methods it plans to employ for performing roadside maintenance and repairs on the Express Lanes facilities, and addressing potential challenges related to wildfires, mudslides, and other emergencies.

Based on the evaluation of the written proposal and information obtained during the interview, the evaluation committee is recommending CaHP for consideration of the award. The following is a brief summary of the proposal evaluation results.

**Qualifications of the Firm**

CaHP is headquartered in the City of Redlands and has been providing roadway maintenance, construction, and safety management, as well as oversight of regular and ad hoc inspections of the roadways in Southern California and equipment services since 2010. The firm's prior relevant work includes high-production paving in the City of Temecula. Additionally, the firm has conducted substantial repairs on the bridge decks in both directions of the State Route 73 Toll Road, addressing issues like ground shifting and sinking. CaHP has also conducted emergency repairs at the 91 Express Lanes and Interstate Highway 5 connector. CaHP manages all aspects of repairs, traffic control, and collaboration with Caltrans and the California Highway Patrol. In the interview, CaHP showcased its extensive project experience, demonstrating effective coordination with the existing OCTA 91 Express Lanes contractors for overseeing and conducting routine maintenance. The firm also obtained a favorable rating on the reference checks.

**Staffing and Project Organization**

CaHP proposed a project team with extensive experience in providing oversight of OCTA's 91 Express Lanes roadside services. The firm has proposed co-project managers to serve as the key personnel for this project. The proposed primary project manager demonstrated extensive knowledge and experience in

safety, traffic control, and management, having worked for Caltrans for over 33 years on similar projects. He also holds a certificate as a Health, Safety, and Environmental representative, ensuring adherence to on-site safety specifications. He will be fully dedicated to the OCTA project. The secondary project manager has over 18 years of experience in highway maintenance and emergency response repairs. During the interview, CaHP's team demonstrated a comprehensive understanding of the complexities and critical nature of the work, ensuring that the project will be conducted in a manner consistent with an emphasis on supporting the safety and mobility of the traveling public, while also meeting the scope of work requirements.

#### Work Plan

CaHP's work plan includes a detailed list of activities to be performed in accordance with the specified requirements in the scope of work, aiming to optimize coverage and response time. The proposed plan also outlines the coordination and facilitation of express lanes, including transporting individuals to and from the toll facilities, as well as leading vehicles. CaHP's work plan demonstrated a comprehensive understanding of the project tasks and their approach to performing the requested tasks. In the interview, CaHP showed a dedicated commitment to successfully performing the requested services.

#### Cost and Price

The Contracts Administration and Materials Management department conducted a price review. CaHP submitted firm-fixed hourly rates, along with firm-fixed unit prices for additional items in five categories as presented below:

Item	Description	Proposed Price for the five-year term
1	Required services described in the scope Hourly Rate: \$100.85	\$3,086,010
2	Septic tank maintenance	\$60,350
3	Quarterly maintenance on the air conditioning units inside the toll utility buildings	\$11,780
4	Purchase 60-gallon diesel fueled melter applicator, with pump on demand features	\$207,579
5	Trailer(s) to transport the applicator	\$16,259
	Total cost:	\$3,381,978

CaHP's proposed prices are lower than the OCTA project manager's independent cost estimate; therefore, they are deemed fair and reasonable.

#### Procurement Summary

Based on the evaluation of the written proposal, the firm's qualifications, and the information obtained from the interviews, the evaluation committee recommends the selection of CaHP as the firm to provide oversight of OCTA Express Lanes roadside services.

#### Fiscal Impact

This project is included in OCTA's Fiscal Year 2023-24 Budget, 91 Express Lanes, Account No. 0036-7350-B0001-AVR, 405 Express Lanes Account No. 0037-7350-A9510-AVR and additional funding will be available for each subsequent year. This is funded with toll revenues.

#### **Summary**

Staff recommends the Board of Directors authorize the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate and execute Agreement No. C-3-3031 with California Highway Products to provide oversight of the Orange County Transportation Authority's Express Lanes roadside services, in the amount of \$3,381,978 for a five-year term, effective April 1, 2024, through March 31, 2029.

#### **Attachment**

None.

#### **Prepared by:**



Kirk Avila  
General Manager  
Express Lanes Programs  
(714) 560-5674



Pia Veasapen  
Director, Contracts Administration and  
Materials Management  
(714) 560-5619