

Approval of the Selection of the Design-Build Firm – PBS North Carolina

ISSUE OVERVIEW

The Board of Governors of the University of North Carolina System authorized State Construction and Infrastructure Fund (SCIF) funding for the Tower Lighting, FAA Markers, and Tower Elevator Repair project for PBS North Carolina at the May 25, 2022 meeting. The total project budget is \$2.2 million.

The design-build project delivery method was chosen given the highly specialized and technical nature of the project. PBS NC advertised a Request for Qualifications on the University of North Carolina System's website which was also posted in the Interactive Purchasing System (IPS). The advertisement was posted on May 31, 2022 and closed on June 24, 2022. PBS NC received six submittals in response to the RFQ and after reviewing all submittals, selected three firms to be interviewed based on their qualifications. The interview committee included (1) Fred Engel, chief technology officer, (2) Casey Jennings, director of field operations, (3) Don Smith, director of new technologies, compliance, and planning, and (4) Gordon Rutherford, architect emeritus at the UNC System Office.

The selection committee ranked the interviewed firms in priority order: (1) FDH Infrastructure Services, LLC; (2) Electronics Research, Inc.; and (3) Radio Frequency Systems. The selection committee recommends award to FDH Infrastructure Services, LLC as the selected firm based on their specialized expertise on this type of project, their past performance on similar projects, the capabilities of their staff, and their proximity to and familiarity with the project locations. The selection committee determined that FDH had the greatest ability to bring the project to completion quickly and efficiently based on the following:

- FDH designed, detailed, and fabricated several towers included in the project scope
- FDH has in-house engineering services and multiple tower crews and is locally headquartered in Raleigh, North Carolina
- FDH has substantial relevant experience, including experience working on other similar tower elevator projects, experience working with the lighting manufacturer, and experience installing tower lighting systems

PBS NC requests approval of the selection committee's recommendation. Approval is required to proceed with negotiation and award of the design-build contract.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board approve the selection of the design-build firm, FDH Infrastructure Services, LLC, for the Tower Lighting, FAA Markers, and Tower Elevator Repair project.