Division of Transportation



Paula J. Trigg, P.E. Director of Transportation/County Engineer

600 W. Winchester Road Libertyville, Illinois 60048-1381 Phone 847-362-3950 Fax 847-984-5888

Memo

To:	Paula J. T	rigg		File:	Abutment Repairs
From:	Benjamin Russo			Sect:	16-00173-14-BR
Subj:	Justification of Bid – 7/19/16 Letting		Date:	7/19/2016	
☐ For Your Info/Files		Review and Comment	☐ Please Reply for my Signature	☐ Please Report on Current Status	
☐ Per Your Request		☐ Investigate and Report	☐ Please Call/See Me	□ For Your Approval and Signature	
☐ Please Pr	rocess	☐ Note and Return	OK'd by aula tugy	Date	Jy 26,2016

Paula,

All five of the bids received for the Robert McClory Bike Path Abutment Repairs project exceeded the Engineer's Estimate of \$376,349.50. The low bid was over the estimate by \$228,153.50.

This type of improvement is an uncommon County undertaking; therefore, no significant history of bid prices exists for many of the pay items included. Consequently, unit prices for this project were developed by the structural design consultant, and were based on bid prices of similar improvements received for Illinois Tollway projects that the firm has worked on.

Analysis of the bid tabulation shows the bulk of the difference was contained within three particular items which vary significantly compared to the engineer's estimate. The low bidder's unit cost for *Architectural Finish for Concrete Surfaces* came in about 1.3 times higher than estimated. Unit costs for *Structural Repair of Concrete (Depth =< 5")* and *Structural Repair of Concrete (Depth > 5")* came in approximately 1.8 times and 3.7 times higher than estimated, respectively.

The estimated unit cost for the architectural finish was in line with unit prices bid on the lone previous County project in which the technique was used. The higher cost for the structural repair items could be due to an increase in the effort required to prepare the abutment face for the architectural finish, which might not have been adequately reflected in the estimated unit prices.

The proposed architectural finish, consisting of the application of a thin concrete overlay after structural repairs were completed and stamped with a stone pattern, was a late addition to the project scope. Originally, deteriorated concrete was proposed to be removed to varying depths and restored to a generally smooth finish compared with surrounding areas of the abutment face. Adding architectural stamping resulted in additional work necessary to ensure the entire face of each abutment was flat enough to produce an aesthetically pleasing stamp pattern.

As there were five bidders for this project, it is not anticipated that re-letting this project would result in a lower bid prices. Based on the above analysis I recommend that the County award the contract to the low bidder, Acura, Inc., at the bid price of \$604,503.00.

Approved by:

Michael G. Zemaitis P.E.

Engineer of Design

Benjamin A. Russo, P.E. Project Engineer

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