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July 13, 2026

Mr. Michael Favre
Mayor, City of Bay St. Louis
P. O. Box 2550
Bay St. Louis, MS 39520

RE: STP-0032-00(003) LPA/109128-701000 - Authority to Advertise
Hancock County

Dear Mayor Favre:

This letter confirms that the Federal Highway Administration and the Mississippi Department of Transportation have received and approved the PS&E Package submitted and hereby authorize the advertisement for receipt of bids on the subject project which is for City of Bay St. Louis - Hwy 603 Turn Lane Extension Project. No changes are to be made to the proposal before advertising without submission and approval by MDOT and FHWA, as applicable. Additionally, all Addenda must also be approved. Any unapproved changes will result in non-participating costs in the contract.

In the advertisement, receipt of bids and opening of bids, the following criteria must be met:

1. The date of the first ad must be within 60 days from the date of this letter. Failure to advertise within this time frame will result in the funding authority being de-obligated and authority to advertise is rescinded.
2. The advertisement must be published in a newspaper having statewide distribution, once a minimum of three weeks prior to the scheduled receipt of bids, and the second time a minimum of two weeks prior to the scheduled receipt of bids. One **Sworn Proof** of Publication has furnished us. At the present time, the only newspaper with statewide distribution is the Clarion-Ledger in Jackson. Refer to the first paragraph of the PDM in Chapter 6 and consult your District LPA Coordinator for guidance in setting these dates.
3. Bidding procedures on a nondiscriminatory basis must be afforded to all qualified bidders regardless of State boundaries. You can not require any license or certificate that would restrict competition or prevent submission of a bid or prohibit consideration of a bid submitted by any responsible contractor, whether resident or nonresident of Mississippi. Please see the attached copy of Page 9 Federal-Aid Policy Guide (Transmittal 2) dated April 7, 1992, 23 CFR 635A Section 635.110 – Licensing and qualification of contractors.
4. Proposals must be opened and read publicly at the time and at the place indicated in the proposal and/or advertisement. Do not accept a stripped proposal. The bidders must return the entire proposal that you sold to them, plus any addendums and their bid bond. Proposals received after the time for opening of bids must be returned to the bidder unopened.
5. All proposals opened must be filed prior to the time and at the place specified in the proposal and/or in the advertisement.
6. Before award, the successful bidder must have obtained a Material Purchase Certificate from the State Department of Revenue.

7. Refer to Chapter 6: MDOT Authorization and LPA Selection of a Contractor, in the on-line PDM (www.gomdot.com, Projects, Local Public Agencies), for guidance to request concurrence in the award or to reject bids and re-advertise.
8. The award of the contract or the rejection of all bids submitted is subject to the concurrence of the Mississippi Department of Transportation. Awarded projects shall not be executed prior to concurrence by MDOT.

When the dates for advertisement and receipt of bids in accordance with the foregoing are established, please furnish this information along with a copy of the published advertisement to the District LPA Engineer, Chuck Starita, 16499 #B Highway 49, Saucier, MS 39574, and District Engineer, Mr. Billy Owen, P.O. Box 551, Hattiesburg, Mississippi 39403 so that the published advertisement can be added to the LPA Division website by LPA Division staff. This notification is essential in order that representatives of the Department may be present at this opening of bids.

For your information, Chapter 474, General Laws of Mississippi as amended by Chapter 393, General Laws of Mississippi provides that nothing therein shall apply to highway construction, highway bridges, overpasses, and any other project incidental to the construction of highways which are designated as federal aid projects and federal funds are involved; therefore the Certificate of Responsibility requirements of this law are not applicable to a Local Public Agency (LPA) Project designated as a federal aid project where federal funds are involved.

The LPA's prorated share of the project cost will be based on the low bid, estimated cost of the contingencies and construction engineering, if applicable, and that share amount will be provided by MDOT in the Concurrence in Award Letter.

Sincerely,



Mitchell R. Young, P. E.
State LPA Engineer

MRY:mrr

cc: Commissioner Charles Busby	Central File
Federal Highway Administration	District Engineer
Director of Pre-Construction - Engineering	District LPA Engineer (Starita)
Construction Division	Chiniche Engineering & Surveying
LPA Division	