

**Columbus Consolidated Government
Council Meeting Agenda Item**

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| TO: | Mayor and Councilors |
| AGENDA SUBJECT: | Consultant for Grant Application and Construction Project Management Services – RFP No. 24-0026 |
| INITIATED BY: | Finance Department |

It is requested that Council authorize the execution of a contract with Skanska (Atlanta, GA) to develop a grant application for the Federal Transit administration/s (FTA) 5339(b) Discretionary – Buses and Bus Facilities Competitive Program (or other available DOT/FTA competitive infrastructure grants for transit projects such as RAISE) on behalf of METRA Transit System (METRA). Skanska will also provide construction project management services for the METRA campus construction. The vendor’s proposed cost is within the amount budgeted for this project.

Skanska shall advise METRA on the best grant program to pursue given the nature of the project. METRA seeks to apply for federal funding in the amount of \$10,000,000 for transit campus construction, renovations, and expansion. In the event that this competitive grant is awarded to METRA, Skanska will then serve in the role of construction management consultant for the proposed project. The intention is for Skanska to guide METRA through the entire construction process.

The consultant will work in conjunction with METRA, the Engineering Department, the Inspections and Code Department, and an architect firm (developing the site schematics) in developing specifications for the subsequent construction bid. Skanska will also ensure that the development process complies with federal regulations.

RFP Advertisement and Receipt of Proposals:

RFP specifications were posted on the web pages of the Purchasing Division, the Georgia Procurement Registry and DemandStar on March 7, 2024. This RFP has been advertised, opened and evaluated. Two proposals were received by the due date of April 19, 2024, from the following vendors:

Skanska (Atlanta, GA)

Think and Ink Grant Consulting (Atlanta, GA)

The following events took place after receipt of proposals:

| RFP MEETINGS/EVENTS | | |
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| Description | Date | Agenda/Action |
| Pre-Evaluation Committee Meeting | 08/06/24 | The Purchasing Manager advised evaluation committee members of the RFP rules and process, and the project manager provided an overview of the contract requirements. Proposal copies were forwarded to the evaluation committee. |

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| 1 st Evaluation Committee Meeting | 08/20/24 | The committee discussed each proposal and determined clarifications were not required and they are ready to proceed with the evaluation of both vendors. |
| Evaluation Forms Sent | 08/20/24 | Evaluation forms were forwarded to voting committee members. |
| Last Evaluation Received from Committee Member | 11/02/24 | Evaluation forms were completed and returned to Purchasing for compilation results. |
| 2 nd Evaluation Committee Meeting | 11/25/24 | The committee met and discussed scores and comments. |
| Recommendation | 11/25/24 | The five voters unanimously recommended award to Skanska, the highest-scoring firm. |

Evaluation Committee:

The proposals were reviewed by the Evaluation Committee, which consisted of three voting members from the METRA/Transportation Department, one voting member from the Engineering Department and one voting member from the Inspections and Code Department.

Serving as alternate voters was one representative from the METRA/Transportation Department and one representative from the Inspection and Code Department.

Serving as non-voting advisors were two representatives from the METRA/Transportation Department and one representative from the Public Works Department.

Award Recommendation:

The five voters unanimously recommended award to Skanska, the highest-scoring firm, for the following reasons:

- Skanska has a combined 98 years of experience and managed over \$5 billion of FTA Funded Projects.
- Skanska has an in-depth understanding of our request and has a clear detailed approach to securing grants and managing the project.
- Skanska has worked on numerous Transit Projects. The firm is able to help METRA meet FTA compliance and aid in a favorable triennial review.
- The cost estimate portion of the construction management scope is furnished as a percentage of the grant amount awarded.
- Each of Skanska subconsultants share high-level experience as the prime consultant.

Vendor’s Experience/Qualifications:

- **Skanska**
 - Vendor has 40 years in the transit industry. Skanska has managed over \$5 billion of FTA-funded projects.
 - Below are some recent projects for which the contractor has performed similar services, at the time the contractor submitted a proposal:

- Williamsburg Area Transit Authority, O&M and North Transfer Station, Williamsburg, VA
- Town of Blacksburg, Transit Expansion, Blacksburg, VA
- City of Augusta, Transit Bus Operations and Maintenance Facility Augusta, GA
- MARTA, Perry Bus Maintenance and Fueling Facility Atlanta, GA
- Chatham Area Transit, Downtown Intermodal Facility Savannah, GA

Other Federally Funded Projects

Skanska also has in-depth experience with projects funded by the US Army Corps of Engineers, FEMA, FAA, HUD, ARRA, and ARP ESSER, as well as projects delivered under the auspices of the General Services Administration.

The City's Procurement Ordinance Article 3-110 (Competitive Sealed Proposals for the procurement of Equipment, Supplies and Professional Services) governs the RFP Process. During the RFP process, there is no formal opening due to the possibility of negotiated components of the proposal. In the event City Council does not approve the recommended offeror, no proposal responses or any negotiated components are made public until after the award of the contract. Therefore, the evaluation results and cost information have been submitted to the City Manager in a separate memo for informational purposes.

Funds are available in the FY25 Budget: Transportation Fund – Transportation – T-SPLOST Capital – Capital Expend – Over \$5000; 0751-610-2500-MTSP-7761.

**A RESOLUTION
NO. _____**

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A CONTRACT WITH SKANSKA (ATLANTA, GA) TO DEVELOP A GRANT APPLICATION FOR THE FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION’S (FTA) 5339(B) DISCRETIONARY – BUSES AND BUS FACILITIES COMPETITIVE PROGRAM (OR OTHER AVAILABLE DOT/FTA COMPETITIVE INFRASTRUCTURE GRANTS FOR TRANSIT PROJECTS SUCH AS RAISE) ON BEHALF OF METRA TRANSIT SYSTEM (METRA). SKANSKA WILL ALSO PROVIDE CONSTRUCTION PROJECT MANAGEMENT SERVICES FOR THE METRA CAMPUS CONSTRUCTION. THE VENDOR’S PROPOSED COST IS WITHIN THE AMOUNT BUDGETED FOR THIS PROJECT.

WHEREAS, an RFP was administered (RFP No. 24-0026) and 2 proposals were received; and,

WHEREAS, the proposal submitted by Skanska met all proposal requirements and was deemed most responsive to the RFP.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE COUNCIL OF COLUMBUS, GEORGIA, HEREBY RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

That the City Manager and/or his designee is hereby authorized to execute a contract with Skanska (Atlanta, GA) to develop a grant application for the Federal Transit Administration’s (FTA) 5339(b) Discretionary – Buses and Bus Facilities Competitive Program (or other available DOT/FTA competitive infrastructure grants for transit projects such as RAISE) on behalf of METRA Transit System (METRA). Skanska will also provide construction project management services for the METRA campus construction. The vendor’s proposed cost is within the amount budgeted for this project. Funds are available in the FY25 Budget: Transportation Fund – Transportation – T-SPLOST Capital – Capital Expend – Over \$5000; 0751-610-2500-MTSP-7761.

Introduced at a regular meeting of the Council of Columbus, Georgia, held the ___ day of _____, 2024 and adopted at said meeting by the affirmative vote of members of said Council.

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| Councilor Allen | voting _____ |
| Councilor Chambers | voting _____ |
| Councilor Cogle | voting _____ |
| Councilor Crabb | voting _____ |
| Councilor Davis | voting _____ |
| Councilor Garrett | voting _____ |
| Councilor Hickey | voting _____ |
| Councilor Huff | voting _____ |
| Councilor Thomas | voting _____ |
| Councilor Tucker | voting _____ |

Sandra T. Davis, Clerk of Council

B.H. “Skip” Henderson III, Mayor