



STAFF REPORT/RESOLUTION

TO: Southwest Washington Regional Transportation Council Board of Directors
FROM: Dean Lookingbill, Transportation Director
DATE: June 25, 2013
SUBJECT: VAST Program Professional Services, Resolution 07-13-16

AT A GLANCE - ACTION

The RTC Board is requested to authorize the RTC Transportation Director to enter into an agreement with IBI Group to provide technical assistance for the 2013-2014 VAST Program in an amount not to exceed \$60,000 for approximately one year.

INTRODUCTION

In May, the RTC Board of Directors approved entering into a contract with WSDOT Local Programs to obligate federal Surface Transportation Program funds needed to carry out the VAST program. The RTC Board action included approval to release a request for qualifications for consultant technical assistance to the program.

RTC has utilized consultant professional services to the VAST Program and the partner agencies since 2001. These consulting services provide RTC with a critical level of expertise only when needed. Over the years this technical support has been provided for transportation system management and operations policy and planning, intelligent transportation system (ITS) project implementation, communications infrastructure, and ITS project and system integration including:

- Project development and project funding
- Interagency coordination of ITS and communications infrastructure projects
- Development and execution of interagency agreements
- Management of shared regional communications infrastructure
- Integration of ITS and operations data
- Common standards for ITS communications, equipment, and devices
- On-going support for the Interagency Fiber Agreement and associated permits.

The expertise needed to support the VAST Program and its agency partners require a unique multidisciplinary knowledge of transportation operations, communications infrastructure, and intelligent transportation systems. There are a limited number of firms in the Vancouver/Portland region with expertise in all three areas. Technical support for the program has been provided by IBI Group for the past twelve years and the firm has done an excellent job. However, RTC in consultation with WSDOT and the partner agencies, determined that it was beneficial to update the review and evaluation process to ensure finding the most qualified consulting firm to provide technical assistance to the program. Therefore, the VAST agencies agreed to conduct a new consultant selection process.

CONSULTANT SELECTION PROCESS

A Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for VAST Program Technical Assistance was issued on May 16, 2013 with responses due on May 29, 2013. In response to the RFQ, submittals were received from one firm, the IBI Group who joined with DKS and Associates.

A review team made of VAST agency representatives from Clark County, City of Vancouver, WSDOT, C-TRAN and RTC reviewed the proposal to determine the qualifications of the technical team. All review team representatives concurred that IBI Group/DKS Associates were highly qualified and could provide excellent technical support for the program.

The review team agreed that IBI Group should continue technical assistance as provided in previous years and that adding the expertise and knowledge of DKS and Associates complements range of comprehensive services required for the VAST program. In addition to their previous support for the ITS and communication elements of the VAST program, IBI has completed multiple ITS projects for most of the VAST partner agencies. Further, the support of DKS and Associates provides services in traffic operational analysis, transportation design, and traffic signals and systems.

SCOPE OF SERVICES

Professional services to be provided by IBI Group for the VAST Program are similar to past support as described above. The scope of services for the 2013-2014 VAST Program fall under the following three tasks:

VAST Committee Meeting Support: Attend and provide support to the TSMO Steering Committee, the VAST Steering Committee, and the Communications Infrastructure Committee. RTC, in coordination with the VAST agencies, will direct the consultant on action items and technical work activities from the meetings.

TSMO Policy and Planning, Project Implementation and Integration Technical Support: Provide include transportation operations technical assistance and assistance in meeting federal ITS requirements and guidance in establishing project priorities, needs, and planning including: performance measurement, regional data collection and archiving, and project development.

ITS, Communications and Network Technical Support: Support areas include communications infrastructure asset management, communications fiber field auditing, establishing fiber, equipment and infrastructure standards, and rules of use on the regional communications network.

Attached is the scope of work for the technical services work to be performed by the IBI Team.

POLICY IMPLICATION

The adoption of this resolution is consistent with RTC's role and responsibilities in the management and implementation of the VAST program. Adoption of the resolution also provides support for the implementation and integration of the VAST program to meet federal requirements for ITS projects and is consistent with the traffic operational efficiency goals in MTP, TIP, and the UPWP.

BUDGET IMPLICATION

Action on this resolution would allow RTC’s Transportation Director to enter into a contract with IBI Group for VAST Program Technical Assistance not to exceed \$60,000.

ACTION REQUESTED

Adoption of Resolution 07-13-16 “VAST Program Professional Services.”

ADOPTED this _____ day of _____ 2013,
by the Southwest Washington Regional Transportation Council.

SOUTHWEST WASHINGTON
REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL

ATTEST:

William J. Ganley
Chair of the Board

Dean Lookingbill
Transportation Director

Attachment