

Honorable Chair and Members of the
City Council Citizen Development and Enrichment Committee

City Hall
Torrance, California

Members of the Committee and Board:

SUBJECT: Torrance Bridge Maintenance and Beautification Update

RECOMMENDATION

Recommendation of the Public Works Director that the proposed Torrance Bridge Maintenance and Beautification Project be revised and re-advertised.

BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS

Public Works staff met with City Council on June 17, 2012 to approve the final design of the Pacific Electric Bridge Rehabilitation and Beautification project. Subsequently, the project was advertised for a bid opening of August 23, 2012. Seven prospective bidders obtained packages from the City Clerk; however no bids were received at the bid opening.

Staff has inquired with each prospective bidder to better understand the reason for not bidding. The following issues were shared:

1. Contractors were not willing to risk liquidated damages if they were not able to meet the December deadline, knowing that a Notice to Proceed was not guaranteed 60 days prior.
2. Many of the contractors were not able to meet the qualifications demanded in the specifications, i.e. historical restoration experience.
3. Insurance limits were too high to meet under the Union Pacific requirements.

In order to re-advertise the project, staff has revised the following items in the plans and specifications:

1. Remove the December deadline, and leave as a 60 day construction period.
2. Allow contractors to qualify based on subcontractor experience with historical restoration, and lower the amount of experience from 5 years to 3 years, and 3 structures to 2 structures.
3. Union Pacific has graciously offered to remove the vines/vegetation from the bridge in order to have the structure clear for observation prior to bidding. They are also waiving

all permit requirements and will provide a flagman for the project. This will reduce insurance requirements for contractors.

Staff recommends that the Citizen Development and Enrichment Committee concur with the staff recommendation to proceed with advertising the project on September 23rd and 26th, 2012 with a bid opening of October 18, 2012. Construction will begin in early January of 2013 due to the holiday season.

Respectfully submitted,

Rob Beste
PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR

By 
Robert Beste, P. E.
Public Works Director


Lea Reis
Associate Engineer

CONCUR:


Leroy J. Jackson
City Manager