NORTHERN INDIANA COMMUTER TRANSPORTATION DISTRICT
BOARD MEETING
November 2, 2020
US: +1 312 626 6799
Webinar ID: 988 1934 0687
Held Online Due to COVID-19 Pandemic
Public Session – 10:30 a.m. (CST)

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:
Joe McGuinness
Jeff Good
Andrew Kostielney
Jim Arnold

STAFF PARTICIPANTS:
Michael Noland
Tony Siegmund
Justice Anderson
Connor Nolan
Steve Plesha

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. McGuinness called the meeting to order. Connor Nolan, NICTD’s General Counsel, requested a roll call. Joe McGuinness, Andrew Kostielney, Jeff Good, and Jim Arnold were present. Jerome Prince was absent.

RESOLUTION 20-15 AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF REVENUE BONDS OF THE DISTRICT AND REGARDING CERTAIN RELATED MATTERS

Connor Nolan introduced Resolution 20-15, authorizing the issuance of revenue bonds of the District and regarding certain related materials. On September 28, the Board adopted Resolution 20-14, authorizing the issuance and sale of revenue bonds of the District. Resolution 20-15 updates and amends the Resolution 20-14, and funds the additional budget contingency that the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) placed on Double Track project during the Risk Workshop at the beginning of the year.

Mr. Noland included the importance of the FTA’s Risk Refresh Workshop and what it entails. In order for NICTD to proceed toward a Full Funded Grant Agreement (FFGA), NICTD needs to pledge the additional four million five hundred thousand dollars ($4,500,000).

Mr. Arnold made a motion to approve Resolution 20-15, seconded by Mr. Good and on roll call vote, the motion passed unanimously.

PROCUREMENT RECOMMENDATIONS (Purchasing Packet Attached)

Mr. Siegmund, NICTD’s Purchasing Manager, presented one bid recommendation to the board. The purchasing item was listed in the recommendation that followed and the Board’s vote was requested at the end of the recommendation.

The purchasing item was a bid recommendation for Double Track Demolition. This project contained three packages: Contract One, Contract Two and Contract Three. The bids were evaluated for responsiveness to determine if they could be accepted for further review. A total of seventy-two (72) packets were requested for the Double Track Demolition Project prior to the bid
opening. The request resulted in the receipt of two (2) bids for the Contract One Package, two (2) bids for the Contract Two Package and four (4) bids for the Contract Three Package. It was determined that two of the four firms submitted all the necessary forms and were approved by the appropriate NICTD staff. All forms submitted by these two firms were correct and found to be within the guidelines set forth by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA). The remaining two firms failed to submit all the necessary forms and were not deemed responsive by NICTD staff.

The Staff is recommending that the District reject all bids for Contract One and Contract Two and re-bid Contract One and Contract Two, enabling the District to instruct the bidders on how to complete certificates. The low bid on Contract One and Contract Two was under the engineer’s estimate by $3,350, but was deemed non-responsive due to failure to make a good faith effort to comply with the DBE participation goal. The only responsive bid received for these contracts was significantly over the District’s budget by $850,000.

The Staff recommends that C. Lee Construction Services, Inc., of Gary, Indiana be awarded the Contract for the Double Track Demolition Project – Contract Three in the amount of Eight Hundred Ninety-Eight Thousand, Five Hundred Sixty-One Dollars and 25/100 ($898,561.25).

The Staff requested that the Board grant the President the authority to issue the Notice to Proceed for the Double Track Demolition Project - Contract Three at his discretion.

Mr. Good made a motion to reject the bids for Contract one and Contract two and rebid those projects. Mr. Kostielney seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Good made a motion to award Contract three to C. Lee Construction Services, Inc. Mr. McGuinness amended the motion to grant the President the authority to issue a Notice to Proceed at his discretion. Motion was seconded by Mr. Kostielney and the motion passed unanimously.

PRESIDENT’S REPORT

Double Track NWI Update

Mr. Noland gave a brief update on the Double Track Project. NICTD now has approval to raise the total bond amount allowing NICTD to proceed toward a FFGA.

As previously noted, NICTD recently had a Risk Refresh Workshop with the FTA. One of the items reviewed was scheduling. NICTD’s schedule was accepted without change indicating the strength of this project.

NICTD continues to work on property acquisition. NICTD will be looking hire a construction management firm in January with a construction start date in summer 2021. The Double Track Northwest Indiana Project continues to progress on schedule.

West Lake Corridor Project Update

On October 28, NICTD held a groundbreaking ceremony for the West Lake Corridor Project. The ceremony took place at the Munster/Dyer border where one of four new passenger stations will be built. For those who were not able to join in person or virtually, the West Lake Groundbreaking Ceremony was recorded and placed on the West Lake website. Mr. Noland expressed thanks to all parties involved during this process.

The board granted the President the authority to issue a Notice to Proceed to F.H Paschen / Ragnar Benson once NICTD received a FFGA. Late last week, NICTD signed the agreement
and issued a Notice to Proceed. F.H. Paschen / Ragnar Benson is excited and ready to get started on this project. This will result in the creation of hundreds of construction jobs. NICTD has a high degree of confidence in this firm.

COVID-19 Operations/Status

Mr. Noland gave a brief update on COVID-19. The City of Chicago added Indiana to their quarantine list effective Oct. 16, 2020. Passengers were advised that the City of Chicago has added the State of Indiana to its Emergency Travel Order. However, Chicago's Quarantine List exempts many individuals who are working in the City or traveling to the City for various personal reasons. Therefore, the South Shore Line continued to operate regularly scheduled train service and was not impacted by the order.

NICTD has invested a tremendous amount of time and resources into taking enhanced precautions and implementing new procedures for the health and safety of passengers and train personnel and will continue to review the Sanitized for rider Safety program to make the environment on-board and in offices as safe as possible.

NICTD’s ridership is approximately 20% of normal ridership. Overall transportation lines across the country are experiencing similar ridership.

OTHER ESSENTIAL BUSINESS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

The next board meeting is scheduled for November 30th. Mr. Good made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Mr. Arnold; motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrew Kostielney, Secretary
PROCUREMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

Bids:

- Double Track Demolition Projects (3 packages)
  - Contract 1 – 7 Commercial Buildings, 24 Houses/Buildings, 11 Outbuildings
  - Contract 2 – 28 Houses/Buildings, 23 Outbuildings
  - Contract 3 – 6 Commercial Buildings, 2 Houses/Buildings, 1 Outbuilding
A. **SCOPE**

The Engineering Department has requested bids for the Double Track Demolition Project. This project contained three packages: Contract 1, Contract 2 and Contract 3. Bids were solicited and a public bid opening was held on October 26, 2020.

B. **ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW**

1. **Legal Notifications**

The request for the Double Track Demolition Project was advertised throughout the region and nationally. The legal advertisements were placed in the following publications:

   News Dispatch - Michigan City, Indiana
   The Times - Hammond, Indiana
   Chesterton Tribune - Chesterton, Indiana
   Gary Crusader - Gary, Indiana
   South Bend Tribune - South Bend, Indiana
   NICTD Plan Room - Website

2. **Bid Review**

A total of seventy-two (72) packets were requested for the Double Track Demolition Project prior to the bid opening. The request resulted in the receipt of two (2) bids for the Contract 1 Package, two (2) bids for the Contract 2 Package and four (4) bids for the Contract 3 Package.

3. **DBE & Required Forms**

The bids were evaluated for responsiveness to determine if they could be accepted for further review. It was determined that two of the four firms submitted all the necessary forms and were approved by the appropriate NICTD staff. All forms submitted by these two firms were correct and found to be within the guidelines set forth by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA). The remaining two firms failed to submit all the necessary forms and were not deemed responsive by NICTD staff.

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C. ENGINEERING REVIEW & PRICE ANALYSIS

The bids were evaluated for responsiveness to the technical specifications. Two bidders were deemed responsive and met the technical specifications.

**Contract 1 Package – 7 Commercial Buildings, 24 Houses/Buildings, 11 Outbuildings**

The lowest and most responsive bid for the Double Track Demolition Project – Contract 1 Package is $2,218,077.75. This is 18.3% ($343,115.75) more than the engineer’s estimate of $1,874,962.00. Actin Contracting, LLC’s DBE amount is 20% ($443,515.55).

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<th>BIDDERS – CONTRACT 1</th>
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**Contract 2 Package – 28 Houses/Buildings, 23 Outbuildings**

The lowest and most responsive bid for the Double Track Demolition Project – Contract 2 Package is $1,345,692.02. This is 58.99% ($499,277.02) more than the engineer’s estimate of $846,415.00. Actin Contracting, LLC’s DBE amount is 20% ($269,138.40).

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**Contract 3 Package – 6 Commercial Buildings, 2 Houses/Buildings, 1 Outbuilding**

The lowest and most responsive bid for the Double Track Demolition Project – Contract 3 Package is $898,561.25. This is 38.76% ($568,798.75) less than the engineer’s estimate of $1,467,360.00. C. Lee Construction Services, Inc.’s DBE amount is 80% ($718,849.00).

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<td>Actin Contracting, LLC East Chicago, Indiana</td>
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D. DELIVERY

Both Actin Contracting, LLC and C. Lee Construction Services, Inc. can meet the District’s completion schedule of September 2021.
E. RECOMMENDATION

**Contract 1 & 2 Package**
The Staff is recommending that the District reject all bids for Contract 1 and Contract 2 and re-bid Contract 1 and Contract 2, enabling the District to instruct the bidders on how to complete certificates. The low bid on Contract 1 and Contract 2 was under the engineer's estimate by $3,350, but was deemed non-responsive due to failure to make a good faith effort to comply with the DBE participation goal. The only responsive bid received for these contracts was significantly over the District's budget by $850,000.

**Contract 3 Package**
The Staff recommends that C. Lee Construction Services, Inc., of Gary, Indiana be awarded the Contract for the Double Track Demolition Project – Contract 3 in the amount of Eight Hundred Ninety Eight Thousand, Five Hundred Sixty One Dollars and 25/100 ($898,561.25).

The Staff is requesting that the Board grant the President the authority to issue the Notice to Proceed for the Double Track Demolition Project – Contract 3 at his discretion.