

TEXAS TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

DALLAS County

MINUTE ORDER

Page 1 of 2

DALLAS District

Subchapter F, Chapter 223, Transportation Code prescribes the process by which the Texas Department of Transportation (department) may enter into a design-build contract with a private entity that provides for the design, construction, expansion, extension, related capital maintenance, rehabilitation, alteration, or repair of a highway project. Transportation Code, §223.242 authorizes the department to enter into, in each fiscal year, up to three design-build contracts for highway projects with estimated construction costs of \$50 million or more.

Project Pegasus is a \$2.1 billion (construction cost only) project in downtown Dallas on two major interstates, I-35E and I-30. All four legs of this project are on the list of 2011 Top 100 Most Congested Roadways in the State of Texas. Due to the lack of immediate funding for Project Pegasus, the deterioration of the I-35E and I-30 bridges over the Trinity River, the heavy congestion at the I-30/I-35E interchange (approximately 350,000 vehicles/day) and the outdated roadway geometry, the department has developed a breakout project from Project Pegasus known as the Horseshoe Project (project).

The project begins at Sylvan Avenue on I-30, extends to the I-30/I-35E interchange (commonly referred to as the Mixmaster) and heads south on I-35E to cross the Trinity River, ending just south of Colorado Boulevard. The project will replace the bridges at I-30 and I-35E that cross the Trinity River and the connecting roadways, as well as upgrading outdated roadway geometry. The estimated construction cost of the project is \$700 million.

The I-35E and I-30 corridors in Dallas County are two of the most highly congested, demand-critical and mobility constrained transportation corridors in the region. The development and completion of the project can be expedited through the use of a design-build contract, and the employment of innovative methods for the development and construction of projects that are available with a design-build contract. Development of the project is a crucial element to responding to traffic congestion throughout the Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex. Completion of the project will improve mobility on two of the 20 most congested roadways in the state.

Transportation Code, §223.245 prescribes requirements for the procurement of a project to be developed under a design-build contract, and requires the department to publish a notice advertising the issuance of a request for qualifications in the *Texas Register* and on the department's internet website that includes the criteria that will be used to evaluate qualification statements, the relative weight given to the criteria, and the deadline by which qualification statements must be received.

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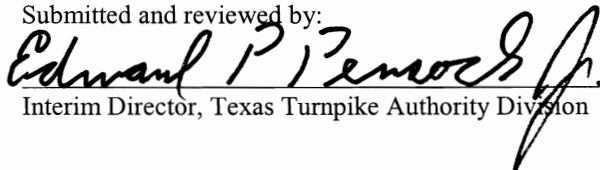
MINUTE ORDER

Page 2 of 2

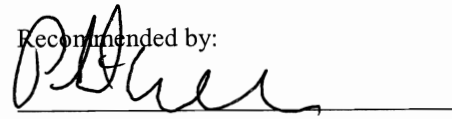
DALLAS District

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Texas Transportation Commission that the department is authorized to publish in the *Texas Register* and in one or more newspapers of general circulation, and to post on the department's internet website, a request for qualifications to develop, design, construct, and potentially maintain the Horseshoe Project in Dallas County, providing for the replacement and addition of bridges and lanes on I-35 and I-30 at the Trinity River.

Submitted and reviewed by:


Interim Director, Texas Turnpike Authority Division

Recommended by:


Executive Director

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Minute Number Date Passed