



**CITY OF ATLANTA**  
**OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL**  
 SHANNON K. MANIGAULT  
 INSPECTOR GENERAL

INDEPENDENT PROCUREMENT REVIEW DIVISION

## Independent Procurement Review Report

TO: Atlanta City Council

DATE: February 27, 2024

The purpose of this report is to communicate the results of the following solicitation.

### **Background**

The Department of Watershed Management requested a Request for Proposals for the project and scope shown below. Requests for Proposals are typically evaluated based on a variety of evaluation factors including price, understanding of scope and objectives, and expertise. This project was not previously cancelled.

Solicitation#	RFP/ DWM/2301- 1230206
Project Name:	Adamsville Pump Station Upgrades Project
Estimated Dollar Amount:	\$12,280,172
Term:	Substantial Completion 365 Days and Final Completion 395 Days
Recommended Awardee:	Ruby Collins/ Benchmark Management JV
DOP Responsive Bidders:	Heavy Sol, JV Lakeshore Engineering/Lewis Contracting LLC Ruby-Collins/ Benchmark Management JV
All Bidders:	Heavy-Sol JV Lakeshore Engineering/Lewis Contracting LLC Ruby-Collins/ Benchmark Management JV

### **Observations and Responses**

#### *Solicitation*

**Observation 1:** The Department of Procurement (DOP) issued five addenda for this solicitation. The addenda were issued to incorporate site visit information, extend the question and bid deadline period twice, announce previously submitted questions and responses were still under review by the user agency (UA), and note the registration requirement and scheduled date of the second site visit. The original solicitation package was also modified to include a total of 53 questions and responses, which noted an established substantial completion of 730 days and final completion at

821 days from NTP. DOP also revised special conditions to introduce Atlanta Water Partners as a possible construction manager and clarified contractor responsibility for permitting.

IPro does not require a response from DOP for this observation.

### *Responsive Review*

Observation 2: All of the proposed awardee's references on the required reference list are from the COA. One reference submitted a UA evaluation team member as the contact person and noted an alternate JV minority partner from the proposed JV minority awardee.

DOP Response: DOP does not consider providing COA references for active projects a conflict and will vet references based upon project merit and significance to ensure no conflicts of interest with inclusion of COA employees and/or JV team members.

Observation 3: The proposed awardee did not provide letters from the three highest ranking officials as required by the financial responsibility form. A letter was provided by the JV majority partner's CFO and the JV minority partner's president.

DOP Response: The financial responsibility was evaluated by Risk Management and the proposed awardee received a pass score. DOP will ensure that all required documents are included to determine initial responsiveness for this requirement for future solicitations.

The review yielded no additional findings.

### **Methodology**

The Independent Procurement Division reviews the following stages of the procurement process:

- Initiation
- Solicitation
- Responsive Review
- Evaluation
- Award

*In accordance with Atlanta City Charter Article 8, Section 8-107, and Section 2-1604 of the Atlanta Code of Ordinances, the Independent Procurement Review Division of the Office of the Inspector General must review all solicitations with an aggregate value of \$1,000,000 or greater seeking approval by the Atlanta City Council, for file completeness, conflicts of interest, and other areas of perceived deficiency; must review all cooperative purchase agreements and piggyback contracts with an aggregate value greater than \$1,000,000; and may conduct discretionary reviews of any value.*