



City of Tacoma

Resolution No.:

Meeting Date: May 14, 2024

**Contract and Award Letter  
Purchase Resolution —Exhibit "A"**

**TO:** Board of Contracts and Awards

**FROM:** Ramiro A. Chavez, P.E. PgMP, Public Works Director/City Engineer <sup>DS</sup> *RACPP*  
Charla Kinlow, PMP, Project Manager, Public Works Engineering

**COPY:** City Council, City Manager, City Clerk, EIC Coordinator, LEAP Coordinator, and Carly Fowler, Senior Buyer, Finance/Purchasing

**SUBJECT:** J Street Bicycle Boulevard  
Request for Bids Specification No. PW23-0085F, Contract No. CW2265119 –  
May 14, 2024 City Council

**DATE:** April 10, 2024

**RECOMMENDATION SUMMARY:**

The Public Works (PW) Department recommends a contract be awarded to Axum General Construction, Inc., Maple Valley, WA, in the amount of \$4,530,140.50, plus a 10 percent contingency, for a cumulative total of \$4,983,154.55, plus applicable taxes, budgeted from the 1060 Transportation Capital Fund, for improvements along J Street, from North 3rd Street to South 27th Street.

**STRATEGIC POLICY PRIORITY:**

- Strengthen and support a safe city with healthy residents.
- Ensure all Tacoma residents are valued and have access to resources to meet their needs.
- Encourage thriving residents with abundant opportunities for life-long learning.
- Assure outstanding stewardship of the natural and built environment.
- Encourage and promote an efficient and effective government, which is fiscally sustainable and guided by engaged residents.

City residents are benefited by this project which provides safer active transportation options for all users. By providing these improved active transportation options, through the installation of bulb-outs, pedestrian ramps, and key missing bicycle infrastructure, a reduction of carbon emissions, stormwater pollution, and local air pollution will result. By leveraging funds contributed from the Federal Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) grant, the project promotes an efficient and effective government.

**BACKGROUND:**

The Mobility section of the Hilltop Subarea Plan identifies the J Street Bicycle Boulevard project as one of the highest mobility priorities for Hilltop. This project is supported by City policies such as Vision Zero and the Climate Action Plan, reflects community desires to decrease speeding, improve safety, increase bicycle connectivity through Hilltop, and will fill a critical gap in Tacoma’s bike network. It will also help prevent bicyclists from using Martin Luther King Jr Way, which is currently part of the T-Line light rail route and reduce the likelihood of rail-related bicycle accidents. In addition to improving conditions for bicyclists, the project also provides substantial safety improvements for pedestrians, including curb bulb-outs and signal upgrades, resulting in a safer condition for all users of the road.

The project also fulfills a City commitment regarding off-site improvements for the Aspire 11 project, located on J Street between South 10th Street and South 11th Street. The City of Tacoma



first committed to off-site infrastructure assistance for this project in September of 2015. A total of \$300,000 of funding from the Community and Economic Development Department has been contributed towards the improvements in support of the Aspire 11 project.

**ISSUE:** The project includes construction of traffic calming elements include traffic diverters, a mix of concrete and painted/low-profile curb bulb-outs and center medians, improved pedestrian crossings, ADA-accessible signals, bicycle detection at signals, and ADA-compliant ramps along J Street, from North 3rd Street to South 27th Street, along with east/west connections to key neighborhood destinations on 6th Avenue, South 11th Street, Earnest S Brazil Street, South 17th Street, and South 18th Street.

**ALTERNATIVES:** In the event that the request to award for construction is denied, the City has the option of forfeiting the TAP grant money and terminating the project. This would result in continuance of a substandard safety conditions for pedestrians and active transportation facilities in the area.

**COMPETITIVE SOLICITATION:**

Request for Bids Specification No. PW23-0085F was opened March 19, 2024. One hundred twenty-one companies were invited to bid in addition to normal advertising of the project. Four submittals were received. Axum General Construction, Inc. submitted the lowest responsive bid.

Axum General Construction, Inc. submitted a bid that resulted in the lowest evaluated submittal after consideration of Disadvantage Business Enterprise (DBE) participation goals. The table below reflects the amount of the base award.

<u>Respondent</u>	<u>Location</u> <i>(city and state)</i>	<u>Submittal</u> <u>Amount</u>
<b>Axum General Construction, Inc.</b>	<b>Maple Valley, WA</b>	<b>\$4,530,140.50</b>
Active Construction, Inc.	Tacoma, WA	\$5,304,068.00
Global Contractors, LLC	Eatonville, WA	\$6,508,445.00
Titan Earthwork, LLC	Pacific, WA	\$7,390,953.00

Pre-bid Estimate: \$4,675,000.00

The recommended award is three percent below the pre-bid estimate.

**CONTRACT HISTORY:** New contract.

**SUSTAINABILITY:** Transportation is the largest contributor (44 percent) to emissions in Tacoma. Resolution No. 40776 supports investments that make it easier and safer for people to ride the bus, walk, bike, and roll as a method of reducing carbon emissions, and reducing stormwater pollution and local air pollution.

**EQUITY IN CONTRACTING (EIC) COMPLIANCE:** Not applicable to this contract.

**LOCAL EMPLOYMENT AND APPRENTICESHIP TRAINING PROGRAM (LEAP) COMPLIANCE:** Not applicable to this contract.



DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS ENTERPRISE (DBE): The recommended contract is in compliance with 49 Code of Federal Regulations Part 26, per memorandum dated April 4, 2024. The DBE goal for this project is 16 percent, and the DBE participation is 17.38 percent. The designated training hours for this project are 800 hours.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

**EXPENDITURES:**

FUND NUMBER & FUND NAME	COST OBJECT (CC/WBS/ORDER)	COST ELEMENT	TOTAL AMOUNT
1060 Transportation Capital Fund	PWK-G0057-05-01	5330100	\$4,983,154.55
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>Up to \$4,983,154.55</b>

**REVENUES:**

FUNDING SOURCE	COST OBJECT (CC/WBS/ORDER)	COST ELEMENT	TOTAL AMOUNT
Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) Grant	PWK-G0057-FS-04	4333240	(\$2,500,000.00)
1085 Streets Initiative Fund	PWK-G0057-FS-02	6311108	(\$2,183,154.55)
CED Contribution	PWK-G0057-FS-03	6311000	(\$300,000.00)
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>Up to (\$4,983,154.55)</b>

**FISCAL IMPACT TO CURRENT BIENNIAL BUDGET:** \$4,983,154.55

**ARE THE EXPENDITURES AND REVENUES PLANNED AND BUDGETED?** Yes. Project expenditures are budgeted or accounted for by the above listed funding sources.

**IF EXPENSE IS NOT BUDGETED, PLEASE EXPLAIN HOW THEY ARE TO BE COVERED.** N/A