



**Contract and Award Letter  
Purchase Resolution – Exhibit “A”**

**TO:** Board of Contracts and Awards  
**FROM:** Ramiro A. Chavez, P.E. PgMP, Director/City Engineer, Public Works  
Basel Kitmitto, P.E., Project Manager, Public Works  
**COPY:** City Council, City Manager, City Clerk, EIC Coordinator, LEAP Coordinator, and  
Carly Fowler, Senior Buyer, Finance/Procurement  
**SUBJECT:** Schuster Parkway Trail Design Support Services  
Request for Qualifications Specification No. PW23-0243F, Contract No.  
CW2262753  
February 4, 2025, City Council  
**DATE:** December 16, 2024

**RECOMMENDATION SUMMARY:** The Public Works (PW) Department recommends a contract be awarded to KPG Psomas Inc., Tacoma, WA, in the amount of \$2,849,909.74, plus applicable taxes, budgeted from the 1060 Transportation Capital Fund, for an initial contract term of two years with the option to renew for additional periods as applicable, for professional engineering design services to provide thirty percent level design work for the Schuster Parkway elevated trail from South 4th Street/Dock Street to Old Town Tacoma, including an alternatives analysis for the trail connection between South 4th Street/Dock Street to South 7th Street in Tacoma’s downtown area.

**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.
- Cultivate a vibrant cultural sector that fosters a creative, cohesive community.
- Assure outstanding stewardship of the natural and built environment.

**BACKGROUND:** Access to the waterfront, and the establishment of the Dome to Defiance Trail, has been a City of Tacoma goal since at least the 1970’s. This goal has been re-affirmed through the adoption of the Ruston Way Plan (1981), the Dome to Defiance study (1988), Shoreline Trails Plan (1989), Thea Foss Waterway Plan (1994), Schuster Parkway Promenade Conceptual Design Report (2013), the Shoreline Master Program (2013), and through to the current One Tacoma Comprehensive Plan and Transportation Master Plan. The Dome to Defiance Trail would establish a multimodal connection between the Downtown Regional Growth Center and Point Ruston/Point Defiance Park, supporting both commute trip reduction and recreation. In addition, The Dome to Defiance Trail would leverage the City’s broader trail networks to connect the City’s neighborhoods to waterfront amenities.

The Schuster Parkway segment of this trail system is one of the final gaps in the overall Dome to Defiance Trail, due to the complexities of this corridor which will be addressed in this design effort. The Infrastructure Planning and Sustainability (IPS) Committee previously reviewed the project in March of 2022 and re-affirmed the Elevated Promenade/trail concept and alignment as the preferred baseline concept alternative. In October of 2023 the IPS Committee was notified of the project’s transition from Planning and Development Services to Public Works Engineering to commence project design efforts beyond the planning phase.



**ISSUE:** The Schuster Parkway corridor connects two waterfront areas - Ruston Way shoreline promenade/Point Defiance to the north and Thea Foss waterway esplanade to the south. Both areas have undergone significant transformation from industrial land use to attractive, urban mixed-use waterfronts. The City of Tacoma’s long-term vision has been to connect these two urban waterfronts with a multiuse promenade. The Schuster Parkway Promenade will welcome pedestrians and cyclists to this corridor with waterfront views and potential trail connections to the forested hillside. The professional engineering design services to take the design to a thirty percent level is a steppingstone in understanding the complexities with designing the promenade as well as the funding challenges to get the project fully designed and constructed.

**ALTERNATIVES:** The alternative to executing the contract is to put the project on hold until all funding for design is acquired. Efforts expended to solicit, evaluate, and select consultant design teams for the design efforts may need to be repeated as well.

**COMPETITIVE SOLICITATION:** Request for Qualifications Specification No. PW23-0243F was opened October 24, 2023. Three-hundred and four companies were invited to bid in addition to normal advertising of the project. Two submittals were received. Each submittal was comprised of several firms to make up a team of consultants that could manage the requested, multifaceted project work.

KPG Psomas Inc. submitted a qualifications submittal and interviewed with the City’s Project Selection Advisory Committee (SAC) that resulted in the highest evaluated submittal. The table below reflects the scores tallied from the SAC’s evaluations:

<u>Respondent</u>	<u>Location</u> <i>(city and state)</i>	<u>Score</u>
<b>KPG Psomas Inc.</b>	<b>Seattle, WA</b>	<b>1079</b>
KPFF, Inc.	Seattle, WA	957

**CONTRACT HISTORY:** New contract.

**SUSTAINABILITY:** The project will improve the City’s active transportation infrastructure and safety of residents by replacing an aging and deteriorating sidewalk next to a parkway with an elevated multi-use path. Installation of a multi-use path comfortable for all users will encourage active transportation options of travel reducing the use of vehicles that emit greenhouse emissions. ADA improvements will also be made as part of the design addressing social equity factors, including mobility, as well as ergonomic and human health impacts.

**EQUITY IN CONTRACTING (EIC) COMPLIANCE:** Not applicable - Service contract - EIC Regulations are not yet established

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



**FISCAL IMPACT:**

**EXPENDITURES:**

FUND NUMBER & FUND NAME	COST OBJECT (CC/WBS/ORDER)	COST ELEMENT	TOTAL AMOUNT
1060 Transportation Capital Fund	PWK-G0056-01-01	5330100	\$2,849,909.74
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>Up to \$2,849,909.74</b>

**REVENUES:**

FUNDING SOURCE	COST OBJECT (CC/WBS/ORDER)	COST ELEMENT	TOTAL AMOUNT
State Grant: Connecting Washington – Tier Ped and Bike	PWK-G0056-FS-04	4332270	(\$2,849,909.74)
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>Up to (\$2,849,909.74)</b>

**FISCAL IMPACT TO CURRENT BIENNIAL BUDGET: \$2,849,909.74**

**ARE THE EXPENDITURES AND REVENUES PLANNED AND BUDGETED? Yes**

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