



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

**TO:** Board of Contracts and Awards  
**FROM:** Jeffrey A. Jenkins, Director, Public Works  
**COPY:** Charla Kinlow, PMP, Engineering Project Manager, Public Works  
**SUBJECT:** City Council, City Manager, City Clerk, EIC Coordinator, LEAP Coordinator, and  
Carly Fowler, Senior Buyer, Finance/Procurement  
**DATE:** Planning, data collection, and design services for the Portland Avenue Vision  
Zero Improvements project, Request for Qualifications (RFQ) Specification No.  
December 10, 2025  
PW24-0308F, Contract No. CW2273425 – January 6, 2026 City Council

DS *JLJ* Initial *CEN*

**RECOMMENDATION SUMMARY:** The Public Works Department (PW) recommends awarding a contract to Psomas Inc., Tacoma, WA, in the amount of \$2,011,861.72, plus applicable taxes, budgeted from the 1060 Transportation Capital & Engineering Fund, for planning, data collection, and design services of the Portland Avenue Vision Zero project.

**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.
- 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.

The City has secured Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) grant funding from the Federal Highway Administration to support the design of the Portland Avenue Vision Zero Improvements Project. The improvements developed through this project will help address safety concerns, reduce the risk of serious injuries and fatalities along the corridor. In addition, the project will enhance multimodal access and connectivity within the lands of the Puyallup Tribe of Indians and support safe and convenient active transportation options.

**BACKGROUND:** Tacoma’s Vision Zero Action Plan uses a data-driven approach to set Tacoma’s path towards eliminating crashes that cause serious injuries or deaths by 2035. In addition to actions to improve safety citywide, the Plan identifies roadways that are the highest risk for serious injury and fatal collisions. Portland Avenue is one of these high-risk corridors. When completed, this work will compliment planned light rail and transit improvements and the planned regional Tacoma to Puyallup trail. This project directly connects to the Pipeline Trail and significant community destinations. The City of Tacoma will be working closely with the Puyallup Tribe of Indians, as well as community and transit partners to improve safety and multimodal access along Portland Avenue, from East 27th Street to East 56th Street.

**ISSUE:** The Project will develop a comprehensive design to enhance safety and accessibility for people walking, biking, rolling, and accessing transit along and near Portland Avenue. Planned improvements include pedestrian safety and ADA-compliant upgrades, separated bicycle facilities and/or a shared-use path, traffic calming elements to reduce vehicle speeds, enhanced transit access, and new or upgraded pedestrian and bicycle crossings. These enhancements aim to create a safer, more connected corridor for residents, commuters, and visitors.



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**ALTERNATIVES:** In the event the request for additional resource assistance is denied, the City risks developing a project that does not meet the needs of involved stakeholders, and possibly forfeiting the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) grant funding for design of the project.

**COMPETITIVE SOLICITATION:**

Request for Qualifications Specification No. PW24-0308F was opened February 25, 2025. One hundred forty-one companies were invited to bid in addition to normal advertising of the project. Two submittals were received. Per the Architectural & Engineering (A&E) Consultant Evaluation and Selection Process, interviews were held to select the best qualified firm.

Psomas Inc. submitted a proposal that scored the highest in a competitive selection process. The table below reflects the scores used to determine the best qualified firm per the A&E Consultant Evaluation and Selection Process.

| <u>Respondent (RFQ)</u> | <u>Location</u>   | <u>Score</u> |
|-------------------------|-------------------|--------------|
| <b>Psomas Inc.</b>      | <b>Tacoma, WA</b> | <b>268</b>   |
| Transpo Group USA, Inc. | Kirkland, WA      | 243          |

**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 - includes federal funding - reference EIC Regulations Section 5

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

**DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS ENTERPRISE (DBE):** The recommended contract is in compliance with 49 Code of Federal Regulations Part 26 per WSDOT concurrence email, dated November 26, 2025. The DBE and pilot FSBE goal for this project is zero percent.



**FISCAL IMPACT:**

**EXPENDITURES:**

| FUND NUMBER & FUND NAME                        | COST OBJECT<br>(CC/WBS/ORDER) | COST ELEMENT | TOTAL AMOUNT                |
|--|-------------------------------|--------------|-----------------------------|
| 1060 Transportation Capital & Engineering Fund | PWK-G0070                     | 5310100      | \$2,011,861.72              |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                                   |                               |              | <b>Up to \$2,011,861.72</b> |

**REVENUES:**

| FUNDING SOURCE  | COST OBJECT<br>(CC/WBS/ORDER) | COST ELEMENT | TOTAL AMOUNT                  |
|---|-------------------------------|--------------|-------------------------------|
| Transportation Alternatives Program Federal (TAP) Grant | PWK-G0070-FS-04               | 4333240      | (\$1,753,009.00)              |
| 1085 Streets Initiative Revenues                        | PWK-G0070-FS-01               | 6311108      | (\$245,750.00)                |
| General Fund  | PWK-G0070-FS-02               | 6311010      | (\$13,102.72)                 |
| <b>TOTAL</b>  |                               |              | <b>Up to (\$2,011,861.72)</b> |

**FISCAL IMPACT TO CURRENT BIENNIAL BUDGET:** \$2,011,861.72

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

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