



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

**TO:** Board of Contracts and Awards  
**FROM:** Kurtis D. Kingsolver, P.E., Interim Director, Public Works *KDK*  
 Basel Kitmitto, P.E., Project Manager, Public Works *CEN*  
**COPY:** City Council, City Manager, City Clerk, EIC Coordinator, LEAP Coordinator, and  
 Carly Fowler, Senior Buyer, Finance/Procurement  
**SUBJECT:** Tacoma I-5 Crossing Study  
 Request for Qualifications Specification No. PW25-0151F, Contract No.  
 CW2277454 - April 14, 2026 City Council  
**DATE:** March 18, 2026

**RECOMMENDATION SUMMARY:** The Public Works (PW) Department recommends awarding a contract to Fehr & Peers, Tacoma, WA, in the amount of \$1,323,930, plus applicable taxes, budgeted from the 1060 Transportation Capital & Engineering Fund, for professional engineering planning and design services to provide assessment of current Interstate 5 (I-5) crossings, and public engagement services to inform the development of conceptual 10 percent level designs for each crossing across I-5 within the city limits of Tacoma.

**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.
- Foster a vibrant and diverse economy with good jobs for all Tacoma residents.
- Encourage thriving residents with abundant opportunities for life-long learning.
- Cultivate a vibrant cultural sector that fosters a creative, cohesive community.
- 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 Reconnecting Communities Program (RCP) grant funding from the Federal Highway Administration to support the Tacoma I-5 Crossing Study Project. The project will provide direction and prioritized recommendations on how to increase safety, enhance mobility options, work toward environmental justice, and strengthen community connections in historically disadvantaged communities impacted by I-5.

**BACKGROUND:** I-5 is the primary north-south route for the West Coast, connecting major population centers. I-5 bisects Tacoma creating barriers to accessing the waterfront, downtown, hospitals, and everyday destinations. The Tacoma I-5 Crossing Study will serve as a guide and catalyst for the Washington Department of Transportation (WSDOT) and City of Tacoma to design and build projects that make it easier and safer for people to travel within Tacoma, especially for people who walk, roll, and take transit. The Study will shine light on the difficulties I-5 has caused Tacoma residents through quantitative and qualitative data collection and analysis and set a path forward eliminating those difficulties and reconnecting Tacoma with community-supported solutions.

**ISSUE:** The Tacoma I-5 Crossing Study will identify improvements necessary for people of all ages and abilities to safely travel across I-5, along with identifying opportunities for placemaking and increasing the tree canopy. Grant funds will be used to conduct robust planning,



engagement, and conceptual design processes that will provide direction and prioritized recommendations on how to increase safety, enhance mobility options, work toward environmental justice, and strengthen community connections in historically disadvantaged communities impacted by I-5, a major 6.5-mile transportation barrier that divides and bisects Tacoma.

ALTERNATIVES: The City risks developing a project that does not meet the needs of involved stakeholders, and possibly forfeiting \$1,323,930 obtained in RCP grant funding for this planning study.

**COMPETITIVE SOLICITATION:** Request for Qualifications Specification No. PW25-0151F was opened August 5, 2025. Three hundred fifty-six companies were invited to bid in addition to normal advertising of the project. Three submittals were received. Per the Architectural & Engineering (A&E) Consultant Evaluation and Selection Process, interviews were held to select the best qualified firm.

Fehr & Peers 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>Fehr &amp; Peers</b>	<b>Seattle, WA</b>	<b>500</b>
Perkins Eastman Architects, DPC	New York, NY	492
WSP USA Inc	New York, NY	481

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 March 16, 2026. The DBE goal for this project is zero percent, and the DBE participation is zero percent. The designated training hours for this project are zero hours.



**FISCAL IMPACT:**

**EXPENDITURES:**

FUND NUMBER & FUND NAME	COST OBJECT (CC/WBS/ORDER)	COST ELEMENT	TOTAL AMOUNT
1060 Transportation Capital & Engineering Fund	PWK-G0066	5310100	\$1,323,930
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>Up to \$1,323,930</b>

**REVENUES:**

FUNDING SOURCE	COST OBJECT (CC/WBS/ORDER)	COST ELEMENT	TOTAL AMOUNT
Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Grant	PWK-G0066-FS-04	4333240	(\$1,275,000)
REET 2	PWK-G0066-FS-02	6311102	(\$48,930)
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>Up to (\$1,323,930)</b>

**FISCAL IMPACT TO CURRENT BIENNIAL BUDGET: \$1,323,930**

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

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