

## Equal Opportunity Review Commission

### MINUTES

Wednesday December 19,2018

12:00 PM

Civil Building

200 Ross Street 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Conference Room

Pittsburgh, Pa. 15222

**Commissioners in Attendance:** Karen Hall, Justin Laing, James Myers, Barry Nathan  
**Call-ins:** Tracey McCants-Lewis, Demeshia Seals, Jennie Sweet-Cushman, Andrea Vasquez  
**Staff in Attendance:** Chuck Durham, Valerie McDonald-Roberts, Ricardo Williams

### I.Introduction

Motion to approve the November 2018 minutes

### II.New Plans

**1812-01-** Department of Mobility and Infrastructure(DOMI), Grant Street Renovation / Replacement of Brick roadways & Crosswalks (**A. Merante Contracting Inc.**)

Jeff Skalican, Assistant Director, Paul Loy, Project Manager, Department of Mobility and Infrastructure presented the plan. The Plan is for the Renovation / Replacement of Bricks, Roadways and Crosswalk for Grant Street, between Seventh Avenue and Liberty Avenue in Downtown Pittsburgh.

Patty Burk representing the Prime (A. Merante Contracting, Inc.) explained how they were only able to get 1% M/WBE participation. She explain that all the labor would be done internally and that the brick needed for the job was a special order that M/WBE companies couldn't provide. Commissions Hall and Nathan had a problem with A. Merante Contracting, Inc. regarding Good Faith Efforts and outreach. Nether Commissioner believe that A. Merante reach out to enough M/WBE firms. Jeff Skalican (DOMI) stated that the issuing department is disappointed in the Good Faith Effort done by the Prime (A. Merante Contracting Inc.).

The Commission unanimously voted to not approve the plan as presented.

**PLAN IS NOT APPROVED**

**1812-02-** Housing Authority, Emergency Electrical Support (**Right Electric, Inc.**)

Kim Detrick, Director of Procurement, HACP presented the plan with subcontractors Cooper Trading Inc. and J. Sterling Solutions, LLC available via phone. The Prime (Right Electric, Inc.) would be responsible for performing the following activities on a task order basis throughout the Housing Authority City of Pittsburg ("HACP") neighborhoods. Servicing and maintaining

overhead distribution systems (owned by HACP) within communities, the street and building lighting and other similar equipment, components, and appurtenances (attached to a principle property right of way) for replacement of electrical lamps, transformers and other related work requested by HACP.

Both Commissioners Laing and Seals were concerned about the Housing Authority will track the payments to sub-contractors with a Task Order Contract. Kim Detrick assured the Commissioners that the Housing Authority will be tracking payment to the subs on a quarterly basis.

Commissioner Hall makes a motion to approve. Commissioner Nathan second

**PLAN IS APPROVED**

**1812-03- Public Works, Professional Architectural / Engineering Design 412 Boulevard of the Allies (AE7 Pittsburgh, LLC)**

Chris Hornstein, Assistant Director, Calli Baker, Senior Project Manager, Department of Public Works presented the plan. Representatives from both subcontractors were available via phone. Allen & Shariff Engineering LLC (MBE) and Guide Studio (WBE) called into the meeting. The plan is for architectural and engineering design services for the interior office build-out on multiple floors at 412 Blvd. of the Allies. This will be for the floors occupied by the City of Pittsburgh (1st through 4th floors), the Housing Authority of the City of Pittsburgh (5th through 7th floors), the One-Stop-Shop functions on the 1st floor, and all shared spaces from the Lower Level to 7th floor.

The Prime (AE7 Pittsburgh, LLC) exceeded the 25% M/WBE goal by having 41.1% of the plan going to M/WBEs. The Prime (AE7 Pittsburgh, LLC) also added a VOSB on the plan for 7.8%

Commissioner Hall makes a motion to approve. Commissioner Nathan second

**PLAN IS APPROVED**

### **III.Resubmittal**

**1811-04-Human Resources, RFP18000312 (Willis Towers Watson)**

LaVonne Shannon, Benefits Supervisor, City of Pittsburgh, Ramos Matthew, Willis Towers Watson, Louis Tales, Byars and Alexander (MBE) and Norma Romero-Mitchell Benefits plus Consulting Group (WBE) presented the plan.

The plan is to identify a health and wellness consultant to help the Department of Human Resources & Civil Service (City of Pittsburgh) in providing comprehensive, high quality and cost-effective benefit plans and programs that provide optimum value to the city employees and retirees.

The Prime did not meet the goals of 18% MBE or 7% WBE. However they did have 20% of the plan going to M/WBEs. Towers Watson reached out to more M/WBEs and provided their replies with the resubmittal.

Commissioner Hall makes a motion to approve. Commissioner Sweet-Cushman second

**PLAN IS APPROVED**

#### **IV. Chairman's remark's**

Chairman Laing reported on the draft memo/letter to Mayor Peduto and the City Council President Bruce Krauss regarding the alignment of the EORC Commission's legislation specifically Title 1, Section 9 in the city code, Chapter 177A scope, review compliance and sanctions. The Memo was sent to Commissioner McCants-Lewis for review and editing. The Commission plans to present the Memo to City Council and the Mayor.

#### **II. Managers Minutes**

Manager Williams invited the commissioners to a walk-through at 10am on January 4, 2019 at the Connolly Ballroom, University of Pittsburgh 4227 Fifth Avenue, Pittsburgh, Pa. 15260. The City will be holding its first combined M/WBE conference event on March 14, 2019.

The next two EORC meetings in 2019 will be at the Pennsylvania Bar Institute Professional Development Conference Center, 339 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Pittsburgh, Pa. 15222 at noon.

#### **III. Adjournment**