

REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION

HENDERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MEETING DATE: September 20, 2023

SUBJECT: **Ecusta Trail West: Engineer Selection**

PRESENTER: Marcus Jones, PE
County Engineer

ATTACHMENTS: No

SUMMARY OF REQUEST:

With the approval of the two Federal grants which fund construction of the west portion of the Ecusta Trail, staff released a Request for Letters of Interest (RFLOI) for the subject. Importantly, the construction funds will be available within 12 months which requires an aggressive design and permitting schedule to have engineering complete in time for the release of construction funds. Note, we are more familiar with the term Request For Qualifications; however, NCDOT the grant administer refers to this document as a RFLOI.

In accordance with NC General Statute 143-64.31 (Procurement of Architectural, Engineering, and Surveying Services), staff developed a RFLOI and on July 21, 2023, posted it on the County's website and NCDOT's website. The RFLOI was approved by NCDOT prior to publishing. The responses were received by August 18, 2023. The following firms submitted Letters of Interest: Johnson, Mirmiran and Thompson, Inc., Stewart Engineering, Inc., Traffic Planning and Design, Inc., and TranSystems Corp. The Statements are available for review on the County's RFP website.

The selection committee consisted of Janna Bianculli (Senior Planner), Autumn Radcliff (Planning Director), Andrew Griffin (Facility Services Director), and Marcus Jones, PE (County Engineer). A detailed review of the firms was conducted based on the criteria established within the RFLOI. The selection criteria are as follows: Experience, Project Team, Project Approach and Methodology, Funding and Regulatory Organizations, and Workload and Resources. Based on their LOIs, experience with the County, and further investigations, staff recommends Johnson, Mirmiran and Thompson, Inc. as the most qualified firm.

With Board selection approved, staff will proceed with negotiating an agreement with the selected firm and bring the agreement back to the Board for review and approval. Per the grant agreement, NCDOT will review and approve the selection and proposed agreement prior to bringing the agreement to the Board.

BOARD ACTION REQUESTED:

Authorize the selection of Johnson, Mirmiran and Thompson, Inc. as the most qualified responding firm to perform the engineering for the Ecusta Trail.

Suggested Motion:

I move the Board authorize the selection of Johnson, Mirmiran and Thompson, Inc. as the most qualified responding firm to perform the engineering for the Ecusta Trail.