

OHIO TURNPIKE AND INFRASTRUCTURE COMMISSION

Resolution Approving the Selection of J.D. Williamson Construction Company, Inc. for Project No. 43-24-09 for the Total Amount of \$16,042,402.88

WHEREAS, the Ohio Turnpike and Infrastructure Commission (“Commission”) published a notice in accordance with law to advertise an invitation to bid on a contract for the Bridge Replacement and Bridge Deck Rehabilitation at State Route 88 over the Ohio Turnpike at Milepost 199.5, the Ohio Turnpike over Bryant Road (TR 236) at Milepost 202.8, and the Ohio Turnpike over North Main Street (CR 229) at Milepost 203.7, in Portage County, Ohio, and designated as Project No. 43-24-09 (the “Project”); and

WHEREAS, all bids were in excess of ten percent (10%) above the Engineer’s estimate of \$14,300,000.00 and, pursuant to Article V of the Instructions to Bidders, the Commission convened the Construction Contracts Award Committee (“CCAC”) to determine if the bid prices are within reasonable conformance with the Engineer’s estimate and a bid price may be accepted by the Commission upon a recommendation by the Committee; and

WHEREAS, the CCAC met on July 8, 2024, and after considering the Commission consultant’s evaluation memorandum and information provided by the Commission’s Engineering staff, the CCAC determined that the apparent low bid submitted by J.D. Williamson Construction Company (“J.D. Williamson”) should be accepted for the reasons set forth in the CCAC memorandum dated July 8, 2024, which is before the Commission and summarized below:

- The Commission received four (4) bids for the Project, and all bidders are fully capable of performing the work and have satisfactorily performed work for the Commission in the past. A review of the Plan Holders List revealed there to be two (2) other potential prime contractors that could have submitted a bid. It does not appear that rebidding the project will attract more bidders on the project. Re-advertising the project will significantly impact the schedule of the project, in particular it would likely extend the project work into the following year’s construction season;
- The Commission reviewed the distribution and range of the bids received. As noted in the bid evaluation letters, the bids appear to be reasonable with no unbalanced items in the bids from the four (4) contractors. The amounts of the bids submitted ranged from \$16,042,402.88 to \$18,223,217.30. This represents an 13.6% difference between the low bid and the highest bidder. Of the submitted bids, 3 of the bids for the project were within 5.37% of each other and of those 3 bids the lowest 2 bids were within less than 1% of each other, which represents competitive pricing and consistent pricing. The largest disparities between the J.D. Williamson Construction Company bid items and the Engineer’s Estimate were “General” Items and “Maintenance of Traffic” Items. J.D. Williamson Construction Company’s bid for these items was approximately \$1,791,422 more than the Engineer’s Estimate. GPD Group indicated in their recommendation memo that these items were primarily lump sum and could vary greatly between contractors due to their specific means and methods of performing the work. GPD Group also noted that other combined Roadway, Drainage, Pavement, Erosion Control and Traffic Control categories exceeded the Engineer’s Estimate by approximately \$124,767 and the combined Bridge and MSE retaining wall estimated costs exceeded the low bid cost by approximately \$166,550;
- The Commission reviewed the Project timeline, and the Commission noted that a delay in award of this Project would likely negatively impact the completion time frame of the project. Specifically, rebidding the project would result in the project not being awarded until late Fall 2024, which would make the contract execution in the Winter 2024 timeframe. With available Contractor Schedules filling up, losing several months on award would result in the delay of the completion of this job. This would seriously affect the ability to complete the project during the remaining 2024 and 2025 construction seasons. Therefore, OTIC would incur accelerated construction costs in 2025 and/or increased costs for any work that would go into the 2026 construction season. This project not

being completed in 2024/2025 seasons will also conflict with an anticipated Pavement Replacement Project taking place in 2026 in this area;

- Evaluations of the apparent low bid by the J.D. Williamson Construction Company did not reveal any unbalanced bid items;
- The pricing and availability of construction labor and materials is not expected to decrease in the foreseeable future;
- The Commission reviewed the Scope items of the project to determine if scope could be removed to reduce the cost of the Project. It was determined that no items can be removed from the scope of the Project and still accomplish the intents and the requirements of the Project;
- The range of the bids submitted was \$16,042,402.88 (J.D. Williamson Construction Company) to \$18,223,217.30. This represents a 13.6% difference between the four bidders submitted pricing, which represents competitive pricing and consistent pricing. The bids were:

J.D. Williamson Construction Company	\$16,042,402.88
The Great Lakes Construction Company	\$16,167,994.06
The Ruhlin Company	\$16,904,419.24
Beaver Excavating Company	\$18,223,217.30

- The 2024 Capital Improvement Budget has over \$16.4M of uncommitted funds available for unidentified projects and unforeseen conditions, which provides additional assurance that awarding this Project will not adversely affect the Commission’s Capital Program or financial condition;
- J.D. Williamson Construction Company has provided an SBE participation certification and utilization plan that exceeds the 10% requirement of the contract. The Director of Contracts Administration’s office noted that the bid demonstrates a commitment to achieving the goal set for the project; and
- The bid does not appear to be unbalanced. J.D. Williamson Construction Company has successfully performed similar work for the Commission in the past. Furthermore, based on previous years’ work volume and work presently under contract, as stated in the submitted Financial Statement and Experience Questionnaire, it appears that the J.D. Williamson Construction Company has sufficient capacity to perform this Project.

WHEREAS, the Director of Contracts Administration determined that bids for the Project were solicited on the basis of the same terms and conditions and the same specifications, that selecting the bid of J.D. Williamson conforms to the requirements of Ohio Revised Code Sections 153.54, 5537.07 and 9.312, and J.D. Williamson submitted a performance bond with good and sufficient surety; and

WHEREAS, the Office of Equity and Inclusion found that J.D. Williamson made a good faith effort to attain the participation of small or otherwise disadvantaged businesses on the Project and has made a commitment to meet the SBE participation goal of 10% for the Project; and

WHEREAS, Commission action is necessary to approve the Contract in accordance with Article V, Section 1.00 of the Commission’s Bylaws because the amount of the bids received will require expenditures under the Project that will exceed \$150,000.00; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Engineer/Deputy Executive Director recommends the Commission select J.D. Williamson as the lowest responsive and responsible bidder for the Project; and

WHEREAS, the Commission Executive Director concurs with the Chief Engineer/Deputy Executive Director’s recommendation that the Commission approve the award of the Project to J.D. Williamson as the lowest responsive and responsible bidder; and

WHEREAS, the Commission has duly considered such recommendations.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, by the Ohio Turnpike and Infrastructure Commission that the selection of the bid of J.D. Williamson Construction Company, Inc. for Project No. 43-24-09 in the amount of \$16,042,402.88 is approved as the lowest responsive and responsible bid received and the Executive Director is authorized to execute a contract based on said bid.

(Resolution No. 82-2024 adopted August 19, 2024)