

# OHIO TURNPIKE AND INFRASTRUCTURE COMMISSION

## Resolution Expressing Intent to Establish a QBS Policy for Hiring Consultants

WHEREAS, it has been the policy of the Ohio Turnpike and Infrastructure Commission (the “Commission”) to attempt to ensure the fullest possible opportunity for participation by all firms or businesses; and

WHEREAS, the Commission adopted Resolution 18-2014 on March 24, 2014 wherein the Commission expressed an interest in establishing a Program Abiding by the State of Ohio’s Policies Concerning the Administration of a Turnpike EDGE Program for Construction, Personal Service and Professional Service Contracts, and the Award of Turnpike Contracts to MBE’s for Other Goods and Services; and

WHEREAS, the Commission adopted Resolution 43-2016 on June 20, 2016, wherein the Commission authorized a Small, Minority and Disadvantaged Business Inclusion Program to Implement the Recommendations from the Disparity Study; and

WHEREAS, the Commission has established the Office of Equity and Inclusion to work towards ensuring that there are equal opportunities for all businesses, especially including small, minority and otherwise disadvantaged businesses (“SBEs”) to participate in the Commission’s business transactions, preventing its contracting dollars from disparately affecting disadvantaged businesses, and eliminating the effects of discrimination on competition for its contracting opportunities; and

WHEREAS, Sections 153.65 through 153.73 of the Ohio Revised Code require the Commission to follow a qualifications-based selection (“QBS”) process for procuring the services of professional engineers, surveyors, architects and/or landscape architects to perform engineering, architectural and system design services, surveying, environmental services, and construction support services; and

WHEREAS, in an effort to continuously improve its contracting processes and procedures, and to bring the Commission’s policies in alignment with applicable statutory requirements, the Commission desires to establish a QBS contracting policy.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED that the Commission hereby reaffirms its policy to encourage diversity in contracting, and to provide the fullest possible opportunity for participation in Commission contracts by firms or businesses that are owned and controlled by minorities, females, or that are otherwise socially or economically disadvantaged; and

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Commission hereby instructs the Executive Director and General Counsel to adopt a written contracts policy which sets forth the requirements in Chapter 153 of the Ohio Revised Code as applicable to Turnpike operations; and

FURTHER RESOLVED that it is hereby determined that all formal actions of the Commission relating to the adoption of this Resolution were taken in an open meeting, and that all deliberations of the Commission and of its committees, if any, which resulted in formal action were in meetings open to the public, in full compliance with Section 121.22 of the Revised Code; and

FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution shall be effective immediately.

**(Resolution No. 85-2020 adopted December 21, 2020)**