



## Independent Procurement Review Report

### Why We Did This Review

In accordance with Atlanta City Charter Article 8, Section 8-107, the Independent Procurement Review Division of the Office of the Inspector General must review all solicitations with an aggregate value of \$1,000,000 or greater, seeking approval by the Atlanta City Council, for file completeness, conflicts of interest, and other areas of perceived deficiency.

Solicitation#	SP-S-1220227
Estimated Dollar Amount:	\$55,000,000
Type of Procurement:	Special Procurement
Contract Description:	Domestic Main Security Checkpoint Screening Equipment Standardization and Optimization
Requesting Department:	Department of Aviation
All Proponents:	New South Construction/Synergy
DOP Responsive Proponents:	New South Construction/Synergy
Recommended Awardee:	New South Construction/Synergy

### TABLE OF FINDINGS

Review Area	Risk/Criteria	Results	DOP Response
<b>Evaluation Team</b>	DOP procedures require evaluators to possess the necessary and appropriate experience needed to evaluate the proposals or offerors submitted to the city.	N/A	N/A
<b>Solicitation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bids shall only be evaluated on requirements and evaluation criteria outlined in the formal solicitation (DOP SOP 4.3.6.(E)(3)). Having selection criteria established in the solicitation can help prevent bid manipulation.</li> <li>Evaluation criteria that are too vague or subjective can allow for manipulation of the scores.</li> </ul>	N/A	N/A
<b>Advertisement/ Addenda</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Changing the solicitation criteria to favor a particular proponent is a red flag of potential bid rigging (International Anti-Corruption Resource Center).</li> <li>Too many addenda could indicate unclear specifications or unclear scope of work, which could also favor a particular proponent.</li> </ul>	N/A	N/A
<b>Submittal</b>	The city code provides that the city shall select no less than three submittals solicited from an RFP that it deems as the most responsible and responsive; provided, however, that if three or fewer offerors respond, the requirement shall not apply (City Code Sec. 2-1189).	N/A	N/A

Review Area	Risk/Criteria	Results	DOP Response
<b>Responsive Review</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DOP procedures require findings to be recorded on a responsive checklist which identifies specific submittal requirements for the project and identifies a bidder's compliance with those required documents.</li> <li>• Unclear or inconsistent responsiveness determinations could be a red flag of bid manipulation.</li> </ul>	N/A	N/A
<b>Conflict of Interest</b>	The city's standards of conduct prohibit employees from having financial conflicts of interests. Contracts must be awarded and administered free from improper influence or the appearance of impropriety.	No findings identified	No response needed
<b>Evaluation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DOP procedures require procurement staff to compile the evaluation scores, including those from risk management and contract compliance.</li> <li>• Public procurement practice states that any arithmetical errors should be corrected, and scores should be recorded in grids/matrices (NIGP).</li> <li>• According to the International Anti-Corruption Resource Center, bids that are too close together (less than 1%) or too far apart (more than 20%) could be indicators of collusive bidding. Not applicable for RFPs.</li> </ul>	N/A	N/A
<b>Cancellation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Government Accountability Office states that the use of standard language such as "in the best interest of the city" without a specific justification for cancellation could be a fraud indicator.</li> <li>• Transparency International states that effective record-keeping of decisions and reasons for cancellation promotes accountability and transparency.</li> </ul>	N/A	N/A
<b>Award</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A contract file should include all project items, to confirm that each phase of the procurement was facilitated appropriately and audit-ready (DOP SOP Sec. 3.18)</li> <li>• Special Procurements require the following documentation, according to City Code Section 2-1214, DOP SOP Sec 4.8: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Procurement request form from user agency</li> <li>○ Department memo to CPO detailing the unusual and/or unique situation</li> <li>○ CPO's written determination/approval for special procurement</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Notary signed IIREA forms one month before the authorized representative for each joint venture partner	The user agency has been notified of the error and is requesting updated documentation to be received prior to contract execution.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Original IIREA form</li> <li>○ Statement of work and corresponding competitive quotes (at a minimum three (3) quotes shall be reflected or justification otherwise)</li> <li>○ Insurance (if applicable)</li> <li>○ Approved requisition</li> <li>○ Conflict of interest form</li> <li>○ SAM verification</li> <li>○ Authority to Transact Business in Georgia (DOP SOP Sec. 4.8)</li> </ul>		