



General Engineering Contractors – Excavating, Paving, Grading, Concrete, Underground

525 JACOBY STREET • SAN RAFAEL, CA 94901 • TELEPHONE (415) 454-7011 • Fax (415) 454-8376
STATE CONTRACTORS LICENSE# 132128

April 24, 2023

Secretary of the District – Amorette M. Ko-Wong
Director of Engineering Contracts – D’Ann Moore
Golden Gate Bridge Highway & Transportation District
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Reference: Contract No. 2022-B-114 Golden Gate Bridge Toll Plaza Pavement Overlay
Bid Date: 3/14/2023

Subject: Bid Protest: Apparent Low Bidder (Argonaut Constructors) Regarding Incomplete Bid Form and Not Listing an Electrical or Concrete Subcontractor

Dear Secretary of the District,

Please accept this letter as our official Bid Protest of the apparent low bid submitted by Argonaut Constructors for the above referenced project. GBI believes that Argonaut’s apparent low bid proposal should be considered non-responsive based on the following issues:

1. Per section S2.07 Submitting Proposal Form – each bidder should properly fill out and execute the bid form. Argonaut did not fill out all the unit price boxes in the Proposal Form as required. Attachment A – Schedule of Prices requires each bidder to fill a unit price which is multiplied by a estimated quantity to derive a bid price for each item of work. Argonaut’s bid is not complete and non-responsive.
2. Attachment E – List of Subcontractors requires each contractor to list subcontractors who perform work in an amount in excess of one-half of one percent (0.5%) for the total amount of the bidder’s proposal. Argonaut submitted a total bid of \$3,024,389 and (0.5%) of this total equal \$15,121.95. Argonaut bid \$62,400 for bid item #33 – Magnetometer Vehicle Sensor Nodes. Argonaut is not properly licensed to perform this work and should be found non-responsive for not listing an electrical subcontractor.
3. On Attachment E – Argonaut listed Bay Line Sawcutting – the DIR and License listed are for Bay Line Cutting & Coring not a company called Bay Line Sawcutting. Also, all the subcontractor’s business address are not filled out properly. These are examples of irregularities found in Argonaut’s bid which should deem them a irresponsible bidder.
4. On Attachment F – Argonaut listed Bay Line Cutting & Coring for a description of work called “sawcutting”. The bid items listed on Attachment E had Bay Line listed for Remove Pylons and Expansion Joints which have nothing to do with saw cutting. Argonaut also listed Farwest Safety under a description of “CAS and traffic control” but on Attachment E Argonaut listed Construction Area Signs and Remove & Replace Portable Delineators. Both sub listing have irregularities that should deem their bid non-responsive.



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5. Argonaut's total DBE claimed dollar amount on Attachment F does not add up from the listed dollar amount from each subcontractor which leaves a question of did they meet the DBE goal. Lastly, Argonaut did not list any rejected subcontractor or supplier which shows disregard for the instructions that require ALL FIRMS (subs, suppliers, & consultants) that provided a quote with connection to this contract WHEATHER BID WAS ACCEPTED OR NOT be provided.
6. Argonaut failed to list a concrete subcontractor for bid items 20, 22, 23. Argonaut does not self-perform concrete work and should have listed a subcontractor. The district should request a list of jobs that Argonaut has successfully self-performed similar concrete work on.

In summary, an incomplete bid form, not listing an electrical subcontractor or concrete subcontractor, and many bid irregularities should leave Argonaut's bid non-responsive and our firm be awarded this project as the lowest responsive bidder.

Thank You,

Thomas G. Barr
Chief Operating Officer

Cc: Mike Ghilotti; Ryan Strong; Sarah Kriletich