

BOCC April 22nd North Foothills Bikeway Award BOCC Agenda Item

CP&P staff issued RFP-116-24 to the Continuing Services consultant list for the US 36/North Foothills Bikeway design scope of work. Staff received two proposals, one from Ultieg and one from Otak. The evaluation committee recommends awarding RFP-116-24 to Otak. Staff are in the unusual position of recommending an award to the highest cost proposal by a notable margin for several reasons.

The evaluation committee evaluated the proposals based on the scoring criteria outlined in the RFP and conducted interviews with both firms.

The evaluation criteria for this RFP are:

- Approach to the Scope of Work and Project Understanding – 20%
- Company, Project Team, and Personnel Qualifications – 20%
- Past Performance on Similar Projects – 20%
- Cost – 15%
- Schedule – 10%
- Approach to Community Engagement – 10%
- Quality Control – 5%

Otak received the highest score overall on the written proposals. Otak had a higher score on all of the criteria except cost. Both firms scored the same on the schedule criteria.

The committee decided to hold interviews to ensure the evaluation committee was making a recommendation that is in the best interest of the county. The interviews confirmed the outcome of the written proposal review. The evaluation committee determined that an award to Otak will be in the best interest of the county and will provide the best value, despite the higher proposal price.

The committee's reasons for this recommendation are:

- This project will entail significant involvement of OSMP at the City of Boulder, which will require additional time and resources. Otak is familiar with OSMP and has worked with them before.
- Otak's bid made allowances for the extra time and resources required to work with OSMP.
- Otak showed in their proposal and in the interview an understanding of the time and effort needed for the 1041 permit process.

- Otak has significant experience designing and constructing bikeways and multiuse paths with limited right-of-way and other constraints that are similar to this project.
 - Based on industry-standard cost estimates for the entire project, Otak's proposal price is consistent with the cost estimate that was developed as part of the feasibility study. The cost estimate in the North Foothills Bikeway Feasibility Study Report was developed using CDOT's cost planner tool, recent prices from similar projects, and industry best practices. Based on the cost estimates and staff's prior experience with projects of this scope, staff believes that Otak's cost estimate is reasonable for the proposed scope of work. Finally, in the interview, Otak explained and justified its proposal price and suggested opportunities for cost savings.
- The county's Policy and Procedure Manuals are clear that procurement choices should provide the best value to the county. This includes ensuring the greatest vendor expertise and the most certainty in advancing the project. The committee believes that Otak will provide that value and that an award to Otak will be in the county's best interests.