



## Memorandum

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council  
CC: Members of Administration and Public Works Committee  
From: Christopher Venatta, Senior Project Manager  
CC: David Stoneback, Public Works Agency Director; Lara Biggs, City Engineer  
Subject: Approval of Contract Award with Civiltech Engineering, Inc. for the Church Street Pedestrian and Bicycle Improvements (RFQ 20-21)  
Date: June 8, 2020

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Recommended Action:

Staff recommends the City Council authorize the City Manager to execute an agreement with Civiltech Engineering, Inc. (Two Pierce Place, Suite 1400, Itasca, IL 60143) for the Church Street Pedestrian and Bicycle Improvements (RFQ 20-21) in the amount of \$293,650.41.

Funding Source:

Funding is provided from the GO Bond Fund (Account 415.40.4120.62145 – 420004), which has an approved FY 2020 budget of \$300,000 and a YTD balance of \$300,000.

Council Action:

For Action

Summary:

Church Street west of Dodge Avenue is an active multimodal corridor. As a primary entrance to the City of Evanston, as well as a main route to reach the Evanston Township High School and the Martin Luther King Literary and Fine Arts School, this route sees heavy pedestrian, bicycle and motorized vehicle traffic during key morning and afternoon hours. This section of Church Street is a marked bike route, but only has accommodations for bicycles at the east end of the section adjacent to high school building, creating a significant gap in east-west connections. In this area, there is a similar north-south connection gap from Dempster Street to Church Street along the canal, which is also shown as a bike route. These gaps increase hazards for bicyclists attempting to commute to work or to school. This section of Church Street is under IDOT jurisdiction, so all improvements must be done in accordance with their standards.

The goal of the study is to identify pedestrian and bicycle improvements along the Church Street corridor from Dodge Avenue to the west City Limits and south from Church Street along the North Shore Channel to Dempster Street. Existing multi-use paths, dedicated bike lanes, and other multimodal accommodations lie along Church St. east of Dodge, partially along ETHS property between Dodge and Wildkit Dr., as well as north of the project limits along the North Shore Channel. This location was identified as a planned improvement area in the City’s Bike Plan Update as well as a missing connection for the surrounding regional bike networks.

The detailed scope of the project consists of:

- Topographic survey including underground utilities; data collection
- Environmental review and preparation of IDOT project development report
- Coordination with IDOT, FHWA, MWRD, Skokie, & other agencies
- Preparing application for State/Federal funding
- Coordination with stakeholders, including property owners and school districts
- Obtaining public feedback and coordination
- Review, analyze and recommend improvements to existing traffic patterns, pedestrian crossings, bike usage, and parking utilization/usage.
- Preparing construction cost estimates.

The Phase I Preliminary Engineering Design Report is expected to be completed by fall 2021.

The Northshore Council of Mayors, along with Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning and the State of Illinois, have recently changed project grant award guidelines to give preference to applicants that have started and/or completed the Phase I Design Report. Once the Phase 1 report is complete, this project is considered by staff to be a good candidate for multiple grant opportunities.

Analysis

On February 27, 2020, the City issued a Request for Qualifications (RFQ 20-21) seeking proposals for professional engineering services for the subject corridor improvement study. On April 16, 2020, nine proposals were received from the following consulting firms:

<b>Firm</b>	<b>Address</b>
Civiltech Engineering	Two Pierce Place, Suite 1400, Itasca, IL 60143
DLZ Illinois, Inc.	8430 W. Bryn Mawr Ave., Suite 100, Chicago, IL 60631
Epstein & Sons	600 West Fulton Street, Chicago, IL 60661
ESI Consultants	1979 N. Mill Street, Suite 100, Naperville, IL 60563
Hampton, Lenzini and Renwick, Inc.	380 Shepard Drive, Elgin, IL 60123
Singh & Associates, Inc.	230 W. Monroe, Suite 1400, Chicago, IL 60606
Thomas Engineering Group	238 S. Kenilworth Avenue, Suite 100, Oak Park, IL 60302
TERRA Engineering	225 W. Ohio Street, 4 <sup>th</sup> Floor, Chicago, IL 60654
T.Y. Lin	200 South Wacker Drive, Suite 1400, Chicago, IL 60606

The proposal review and interview team consisted of:

- David Stoneback – Public Works Agency Director
- Chris Venatta P.E. – Senior Project Manager
- Sat Nagar, P.E. – Senior Project Manager
- Rajeev Dahal – Senior Project Manager – Transportation
- Scott Magnum – Planning and Zoning Manager
- Jessica Hyink – Transportation and Mobility Coordinator
- Jillian Ostman – Purchasing Specialist

The proposals were reviewed based on firms/sub-consultants: qualifications & expertise; project staff experience and capabilities; project technical approach; and M/W/EBE participation. The proposals were rated and interviews were conducted with the top three firms. Including information from the interviews, the final scoring of the proposals is as follows:

<b>Firm</b>	<b>Firms / Sub-consultants Experience and Qualifications (30%)</b>	<b>Project Staff Experience and Capabilities (30%)</b>	<b>Project Technical Approach (30%)</b>	<b>M/W/EBE (10%)</b>	<b>Total Score</b>
Civiltech	28	27	29	10	<b>94</b>
DLZ	18	19	19	10	<b>66</b>
Epstein & Sons	27	26	27	10	<b>90</b>
ESI	23	23	20	10	<b>76</b>
HLR	23	22	22	10	<b>77</b>
Singh	21	20	21	10	<b>72</b>
Thomas	23	23	20	10	<b>76</b>
TERRA	24	24	23	10	<b>81</b>
T.Y. Lin	27	26	27	10	<b>90</b>

Civiltech Engineering was selected as the best candidate to provide the engineering services. They have extensive experience with similar corridor projects with Evanston, other municipalities, and IDOT. Their sub-consultants also have previous experience on IDOT and the City of Evanston projects, and their work has been satisfactory. Staff is recommending award of engineering study only at this time. Upon satisfactory completion of the engineering study, the City will consider awarding the Phase II Engineering & Phase III Construction Engineering services also.

Civiltech Engineering is proposing to meet the City’s M/W/EBE program goals. A memo reviewing their compliance is attached.

Attachments:

[Civiltech Scope of Services RFQ 20-21](#)

[MWEBE Memo - Church Street Pedestrian and Bicycle Improvements \(RFQ 20-21\)](#)