

PUBLIC CONTRACTING RULES

2005

Adopted By
Farmers Irrigation District

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(Amended 2008)

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**PUBLIC CONTRACTING RULES 2005
DIVISION 46
GENERAL PROVISIONS RELATED TO PUBLIC CONTRACTING**

137-046-0100

Application; Federal Law Supremacy

- (1) These Public Contracting Rules (Rules) set forth the rules of procedure for Public Contracting of Contracting Agencies subject to these Rules. These Rules consist of the following four divisions:
- (a) This division 46, which is applicable to all Public Contracting;
 - (b) Division 47, which describes procedures for Public Contracting for Goods or Services, as defined in ORS 279B.005; [*Remaining text omitted*];
 - (c) Division 48, which describes procedures for Public Contracting for Architectural, Engineering and Land Surveying Services and Related Services; and
 - (d) Division 49, which describes procedures for Public Contracting for Construction Services.
- (2) In the event of conflict between rules in this division 46 and rules in divisions 47, 48 and 49, the rules in divisions 47, 48 and 49 take precedence over the rules in this division 46.
- (3) Except as otherwise expressly provided in ORS 279C.800 through ORS 279C.870, and notwithstanding ORS chapters 279A, 279B, and ORS 279C.005 through 279C.670, applicable federal statutes and regulations govern when federal funds are involved and the federal statutes or regulations conflict with any provision of ORS chapters 279A, 279B, and ORS 279C.005 through 279C.670 or these rules, or require additional conditions in Public Contracts not authorized by ORS chapters 279A, 279B, and ORS 279C.005 through 279C.670 or these Rules.
- (4) These division 46 rules become effective *either* on March 1, 2005 *or upon adoption, whichever is later*, and apply to Public Contracts first advertised, but if not advertised then entered into, on or after *that date*.
Stat. Auth.: ORS 279A.065
Stats. Implemented: ORS 279A.030 & ORS 279A.065

137-046-0110

Definitions for the Rules

Unless the context of a specifically applicable definition in the Code requires otherwise, capitalized terms used in the Rules will have the meaning set forth in the division of the Rules in which they appear, and if not defined there, the meaning set forth in these division 46 rules, and if not defined there, the meaning set forth in the Code. The following terms, when capitalized in these Rules, shall have the meaning set forth below:

- (1) "**Addendum**" or "**Addenda**" means an addition or deletion to, a material change in, or general interest explanation of a Solicitation Document.
- (2) "**Award**" means, as the context requires, either the act or occurrence of the Contracting Agency's identification of the Person with whom the Contracting Agency will enter into a Contract following the resolution of any protest of the Contracting Agency's selection of that Person, and the completion of all Contract negotiations.
- (3) "**Bid**" means a written response to an Invitation to Bid.
- (4) "**Closing**" means the date and time announced in a Solicitation Document as the deadline for submitting Offers.
- (5) "**Code**" means the Public Contracting Code, as defined in ORS 279A.010.
- (6) "**Competitive Range**" means the Proposers with whom the Contracting Agency will conduct discussions or negotiations if the Contracting Agency intends to conduct discussions or negotiations in accordance with 137-047-0262 or 137-049-0650.
- (7) "**Contract**" means a "Public Contract," as defined in ORS 279A.010.
- (8) "**Contract Price**" means, as the context requires, (i) the maximum payments that a Contracting Agency will make under a Contract, including bonuses, incentives and contingency amounts, if the Contractor fully performs under the Contract, (ii) the maximum not-to-exceed amount of payments specified in the Contract, or (iii) the unit prices for Goods or Services or Personal Services set forth in the Contract.
- (9) "**Contracting Agency**" means a public body authorized by law to conduct a procurement. "Contracting Agency" includes any person authorized by a Contracting Agency to conduct procurements on the Contracting Agency's behalf.
- (10) "**Contract Review Authority**" means * the Local Contracting Agency's Local Contract Review Board determined as set forth in ORS 279A.060. *
- (11) "**Contractor**" means the Person with whom a Contracting Agency enters into a Contract.
- (12) "**DBE Disqualification**" means a disqualification, suspension or debarment pursuant to ORS 200.065, 200.075 or 279A.110.
- (13) "**Descriptive Literature**" means the Offeror's materials submitted to provide information concerning the products or services available in response to a Solicitation Document.
- (14) "**Electronic Advertisement**" means notice of a Contracting Agency's request for Offers, request for

quotes, request for information or other document inviting participation in the Contracting Agency's Procurements available over the Internet via (a) the World Wide Web or some other Internet protocol; or (b) a Contracting Agency's Electronic Procurement System. An Electronic Advertisement may include a Solicitation Document.

(15) **"Electronic Offer"** means a response to a Contracting Agency's request for Offers or request for quotes submitted to a Contracting Agency via email or through the Contracting Agency's Electronic Procurement System.

(16) **"Electronic Procurement System"** means an information system that Persons may access through the Internet, using the World Wide Web or some other Internet protocol, or that Persons may otherwise remotely access using a computer, that enables a Contracting Agency to post Electronic Advertisements, receive Electronic Offers, and conduct other activities related to a Procurement.

(17) **"Goods and Services"** or **"Goods or Services"** has the meaning set forth in ORS 279B.005(1)(a).

(18) **"Invitation to Bid"** or **"ITB"** means all documents used for soliciting Bids in accordance with either ORS 279B.055, or 279C.335.

*(19) **"Offer"** means a written response to a Solicitation Document.

(20) **"Offeror"** means a Person who submits an Offer.

(21) **"Opening"** means the date, time and place announced in the Solicitation Document for the public opening of Written sealed Offers.

(22) **"Person"** means an individual, corporation, business trust, estate, trust, partnership, limited liability company, association, joint venture, governmental agency, public corporation or any other legal or commercial entity that has the legal capacity to enter into a contract.

(23) **"Personal Services"** means the services or type of services performed under a Personal Services Contract.

(24) **"Personal Services Contract"** or **"Contract for Personal Services"** means *a contract primarily for the provision of services that require specialized technical, creative, professional, or communication skills or talents, unique and specialized knowledge, or the exercise of discretionary judgment skills, and for which the quality of the service depends on attributes that are unique to the service provider. Such services include, but are not limited to, the services of architects, engineers, auditors and other licensed professionals, artists, designers, computer programmers, performers, consultants and property managers, unless specifically exempt from the Code.*

(25) **"Product Sample"** means a representative specimen of the item offered by the Offeror in response to the Solicitation Document. Unless otherwise provided in the Solicitation Document, the Product Sample shall be the exact product or a representative portion of that product offered by the Offeror.

(26) **"Proposal"** means a written response to a Request for Proposals.

(27) **"Responsible Offeror"** (also, **"Responsible Bidder"** or **"Responsible Proposer,"** as applicable) means a Person that has submitted an Offer and meets the standards set forth in 137-047-0640 or 137-049-0390(2), and that has not been debarred or disqualified by the Contracting Agency under 137-047-0575 or 137-049-0370. When used alone, **"Responsible"** means meeting the aforementioned standards.

(28) **"Responsive Offer"** (also, **"Responsive Bid"** or **"Responsive Proposal,"** as applicable) means an Offer that substantially complies in all material respects with applicable solicitation requirements. When used alone, **"Responsive"** means having the characteristic of substantially complying in all material respects with applicable solicitation requirements.

(29) **"Request for Proposals"** or **"RFP"** means all documents used for soliciting Proposals in accordance with either ORS.279B.060, 279C.110 or 137-049-0650.

(30) **"Signed"** or **"Signature"** means any mark, word or symbol attached to or logically associated with a document and executed or adopted by a Person with the intent to be bound.

(31) **"Solicitation Document"** means an Invitation to Bid, Request for Proposals or other document issued to invite offers from prospective contractors pursuant to ORS Chapter 279B or ORS Chapter 279C.

(32) **"Specification"** means any description of the physical or functional characteristics, or of the nature of a supply, service or construction item, including any requirement for inspecting, testing or preparing a supply, service or construction item for delivery and the quantities or qualities of materials to be furnished under a Contract. Specifications generally will state the result to be obtained and may, on occasion, describe the method and manner of doing the Work to be performed.

CONTRACT PREFERENCES

137-046-0300

Preference for Oregon Goods and Services; Nonresident Bidders

(1) **Award When Offers Identical.** When a Contracting Agency receives Offers identical in price, fitness, availability and quality, and chooses to award a Contract, the Contracting Agency shall award the Contract based on the following order of precedence:

(a) The Agency shall award the Contract to the Offeror among those submitting identical offers that is offering Goods or Services or Personal Services that have been manufactured or produced in Oregon.

(b) If two or more Offerors submit identical Offers, and both offer Goods or Services or Personal Services manufactured or produced in Oregon, the Contracting Agency shall award the Contract by drawing lots among the identical Offers offering Goods or Services or Personal Services that have been manufactured or produced in Oregon. The Offerors that submitted the identical Offers subject to the drawing of lots shall be given notice and an opportunity to be present when the lots are drawn.

(c) If the Contracting Agency receives identical Offers, and none of the identical Offers offer Goods or Services or Personal Services manufactured or produced in Oregon, then the Contracting Agency shall award the Contract by drawing lots among the identical Offers. The Offerors that submitted the identical Offers subject to the drawing of lots shall be given notice and an opportunity to be present when the lots are drawn.

(2) **Determining if Offers are Identical.** A Contracting Agency shall consider Offers identical in price, fitness, availability and quality as follows:

(a) Bids received in response to an Invitation to Bid are identical in price, fitness, availability and quality if the Bids are Responsive, and offer the Goods or Services or Personal Services described in the Invitation to Bid at the same price.

(b) Proposals received in response to a Request for Proposals are identical in price, fitness, availability and quality if they are Responsive and achieve equal scores when scored in accordance with the evaluation criteria set forth in the Request for Proposals.

(c) Proposals received in response to a Special Procurement conducted pursuant to ORS 279B.085 are identical in price, fitness, availability and quality if, after completing the contracting procedure approved by the Contract Review Authority, the Contracting Agency determines, in writing, that two or more Proposals are equally advantageous to the Contracting Agency.

(d) Offers received in response to an intermediate Procurement conducted pursuant to ORS 279B.070 are identical if the Offers equally best serve the interests of the Contracting Agency in accordance with ORS 279B.070(4).

(3) **Determining if Goods or Services or Personal Services are Manufactured or Produced in Oregon.**

For the purposes of complying with section 1 of this Rule, Contracting Agencies may request, either in a Solicitation Document, following Closing, or at any other time determined appropriate by the Contracting Agency, any information the Contracting Agency determines is appropriate and necessary to allow the Contracting Agency to determine if the Goods or Services or Personal Services are manufactured or produced in Oregon. A Contracting Agency may use any reasonable criteria to determine if Goods or Services or Personal Services are manufactured or produced in Oregon, provided that the criteria reasonably relate to that determination, and provided that the Contracting Agency applies those criteria equally to each Bidder or Proposer.

(4) **Procedure for Drawing Lots.** In any instance when this Section calls for the drawing of lots, the Contracting Agency shall draw lots by a procedure that affords each Offeror subject to the drawing a substantially equal probability of being selected, and that does not allow the person making the selection the opportunity to manipulate the drawing of lots to increase the probability of selecting one Offeror over another.

Stat. Auth.: ORS 279A.065

Stats. Implemented: ORS 279A.065 & ORS 279A.120

137-046-0310

Reciprocal Preferences

(1) When evaluating Bids pursuant to 137-047-0255, 137-047-0257 or 137-049-0390, Contracting Agencies shall add a percentage increase to the Bid of a Nonresident Bidder equal to the percentage, if any, of the preference that would be given to that Bidder in the state in which the Bidder resides. A Contracting Agency may rely on the list prepared and maintained by the Department pursuant to ORS 279A.120(4) to determine both (i) whether the Nonresident Bidder's state gives preference to in-state bidders, and (ii) the amount of such preference.

Stat. Auth.: ORS 279A.065; Stats. Implemented: ORS 279A.065 & ORS 279A.120

(2) Request for Proposal. In addition to the provisions required by ORS 279B.060(2), the Request for Proposal shall include the following:

(a) General Information.

(A) Notice of any pre-Offer conference as follows:

(i) The time, date and location of any pre-Offer conference; and

(ii) Whether attendance at the conference will be mandatory or voluntary; and

(iii) A provision that provides that statements made by the Contracting Agency's representatives at the conference are not binding upon the Contracting Agency unless confirmed by Written Addendum.

(B) The form and instructions for submission of Proposals and any other special information, e.g., whether Proposals may be submitted by electronic means (See 137-047-0330 for required provisions of electronic Proposals);

(C) The time, date and place of Opening;

(D) The office where the Solicitation Document may be reviewed;

(E) Contractor's certification of nondiscrimination in obtaining required subcontractors in accordance with ORS 279A.110(4). (See 137-046-0210(3)); and

(F) How the Contracting Agency will notify Proposers of Addenda and how the Contracting Agency will make Addenda available. (See 137-047-0430).

(b) Contracting Agency Need. The character of the Goods or Services the Contracting Agency is purchasing including, if applicable, a description of the acquisition, Specifications, delivery or performance schedule, inspection and acceptance requirements.

(c) Proposal and Evaluation Process.

(A) The anticipated solicitation schedule, deadlines, protest process, and evaluation process;

(B) The Contracting Agency shall set forth selection criteria in the Solicitation Document in accordance with the requirements of ORS 279B.060(2)(h)(E). Evaluation criteria need not be precise predictors of actual future costs and performance, but to the extent possible, such factors shall be reasonable estimates of actual future costs based on information available to the Contracting Agency; and

(C) If the Contracting Agency intends to Award Contracts to more than one Proposer pursuant to 137-047-0600(4)(d), the Contracting Agency must identify in the Solicitation Document the manner in which it will determine the number of Contracts it will Award.

(d) Applicable Preferences described in ORS 279A.120, 279A.125(2) and 282.210.

(e) For Contracting Agencies subject to ORS 305.385, Contractor's certification of compliance with the Oregon tax laws in accordance with ORS 305.385.

(f) All Contract terms and conditions, including a provision indicating whether the Contractor can assign the Contract, delegate its duties, or subcontract the Goods or Services without prior written approval from the Contracting Agency.

Stat. Auth.: ORS 279A.065
 Stats. Implemented: ORS 279B.060

PUBLIC CONTRACTING RULES 2005
DIVISION 47
137-047-0261

Procedures for Competitive Range, Multi-tiered and Multistep Proposals

(1) Generally. A Contracting Agency may procure Goods or Services employing any combination of the methods of Contractor selection as set forth in ORS 279B.060(6)(b). In addition to the procedures set forth in 137-047-0300 through 137-047-0490 for methods of Contractor selection that call for the establishment of a Competitive Range or include discussions or negotiations, a Contracting Agency shall employ the procedures set forth in this rule for Competitive Range, multi-tiered and multistep Proposals.

(2) Solicitation Protest. Prior to the initial Closing, a Contracting Agency shall provide an opportunity to protest the solicitation under ORS 279B.405 and 137-047-0730.

(3) Addenda Protest. A Contracting Agency may provide an opportunity to protest, pursuant 137-047-0430, any Addenda issued pursuant to ORS 279B.060(6)(d).

(4) Exclusion Protest. A Contracting Agency may provide before the notice of an intent to Award an opportunity for a Proposer to protest exclusion from the Competitive Range or from subsequent phases of multi-tiered or multistep sealed Proposals as set forth in 137-047-0720.

(5) Administrative Remedy. Proposers may submit a protest to any Addenda or to any action by the Contracting Agency that has the effect of excluding the Proposer from subsequent phases of a multiple-tiered or multistep Request for Proposals to the extent such protests are provided for in the Solicitation Document. Failure to so protest shall be considered the Proposer's failure to pursue an administrative remedy made available to the Proposer by the Contracting Agency.

(6) Award Protest. A Contracting Agency shall provide an opportunity to protest its intent to Award a Contract pursuant to ORS 279B.410 and 137-047-0740. An Affected Proposer may protest, for any of the bases set forth in 137-047-0720(2), its exclusion from the Competitive Range or any phase of a multi-tiered

279B.055(4) and 137-047-0300. The public notice shall describe the Goods or Services to be acquired by a sole-source Procurement, identify the prospective Contractor and include the date, time and place that protests are due. The Contracting Agency shall give such public notice at least seven (7) Days before Award of the Contract, *unless otherwise set forth in the notice*.

(3) Protest. An Affected Person may protest the Contract Review Authority's determination that the Goods or Services or class of Goods or Services are available from only one source in accordance with 137-047-0710.

Stat. Auth.: ORS 279A.065 & ORS 279B.075

Stats. Implemented: ORS 279B.075

137-047-0280

Emergency Procurements

A Contracting Agency may Award a Public Contract as an Emergency Procurement pursuant to the requirements of ORS 279B.080. When an Emergency Procurement is authorized, the Procurement shall be made with competition that is practicable under the circumstances.

Stat. Auth.: ORS 279A.065

Stats. Implemented: ORS 279B.080

137-047-0285

Special Procurements

(1) Generally. A Contracting Agency may Award a Public Contract as a Special Procurement pursuant to the requirements of ORS 279B.085.

(2) Public Notice. A Contracting Agency shall give public notice of the Contract Review Authority's approval of a Special Procurement in the same manner as public notice of competitive sealed Bids under ORS 279B.055(4) and 137-047-0300. The public notice shall describe the Goods or Services or class of Goods or Services to be acquired through the Special Procurement. The Contracting Agency shall give public notice of the approval of a Special Procurement at least seven (7) Days before Award of the Contract, *unless a different time period is stated in the request for approval notice. Award may be made at the time of approval, contingent upon expiration of the protest period or issuance of a written disposition of any protest received.*

(3) Protest. An Affected Person may protest the approval of a Special Procurement in accordance with ORS 279B.400 and 137-047-0700.

Stat. Auth.: ORS 279A.065

Stats. Implemented: ORS 279B.085

137-047-0290

Cooperative Procurements

A Contracting Agency may participate in, sponsor, conduct, or administer Cooperative Procurements as set forth in ORS 279A.200 through 279A.225 and 137-046-0400 through 137-046-0480.

Stat. Auth.: ORS 279A.065

Stats. Implemented: ORS 279A.205

PROCUREMENT PROCESS

137-047-0300

Public Notice of Solicitation Documents

(1) Notice of Solicitation Documents; Fee. A Contracting Agency shall provide public notice of every Solicitation Document in accordance with section (2) of this rule. The Contracting Agency may give additional notice using any method it determines appropriate to foster and promote competition, including:

- (a) Mailing notice of the availability of the Solicitation Document to Persons that have expressed an interest in the Contracting Agency's Procurements; or
- (b) Placing notice on the Contracting Agency's Electronic Procurement System; or
- (c) Placing notice on the Contracting Agency's Internet World Wide Web site.

(2) Advertising. A Contracting Agency shall advertise every notice of a Solicitation Document as follows:

- (a) The Contracting Agency shall publish the advertisement for Offers in accordance with the requirements of ORS 279B.055(4) and 279B.060(4); or

(b) A Contracting Agency may publish the advertisement for Offers on the Contracting Agency's Electronic Procurement System instead of publishing notice in a newspaper of general circulation as required by ORS 279B.055(4)(b). *

(3) Content of Advertisement. All advertisements for Offers shall set forth:

(a) Where, when, how, and for how long the Solicitation Document may be obtained;

(b) A general description of the Goods or Services to be acquired;

(c) The interval between the first date of notice of the Solicitation Document given in accordance with subsection 2(a) or (b) above and Closing, which shall not be less than fourteen (14) Days for an Invitation to Bid and thirty (30) Days for a Request for Proposals, unless the Contracting Agency determines that a shorter interval is in the public's interest, and that a shorter interval will not substantially affect competition. However, in no event shall the interval between the first date of notice of the Solicitation Document given in accordance with subsection 2(a) or (b) above and Closing be less than seven (7) Days as set forth in ORS 279B.055(4)(f). The Contracting Agency shall document the specific reasons for the shorter public notice period in the Procurement file;

(d) The date that Persons must file applications for prequalification if prequalification is a requirement and the class of Goods or Services is one for which Persons must be prequalified;

(e) The office where Contract terms, conditions and Specifications may be reviewed;

(f) The name, title and address of the individual authorized by the Contracting Agency to receive Offers;

(g) The scheduled Opening; and

(h) Any other information the Contracting Agency deems appropriate.

(4) Posting Advertisement for Offers. The Contracting Agency shall post a copy of each advertisement for Offers at the principal business office of the Contracting Agency. A Proposer may obtain a copy of the advertisement for Offers upon request.

(5) Fees. The Contracting Agency may charge a fee or require a deposit for the Solicitation Document.

(6) Notice of Addenda. The Contracting Agency shall provide potential Offerors notice of any Addenda to a Solicitation Document in accordance with 137-047-0430.

Stat. Auth.: ORS 279A.065, ORS 279B.055 & ORS 279B.060

Stats. Implemented: ORS 279B.055 & ORS 279B.060

137-047-0310

Bids or Proposals are Offers

(1) Offer and Acceptance. The Bid or Proposal is the Bidder's or Proposer's Offer to enter into a Contract. The Offer is a "Firm Offer," i.e., the Offer shall be held open by the Offeror for the Contracting Agency's acceptance for the period specified in 137-047-0480. The Contracting Agency's Award of the Contract constitutes acceptance of the Offer and binds the Offeror to the Contract.

(2) Contingent Offers. Except to the extent the Proposer is authorized to propose certain terms and conditions pursuant to 137-047-0262, a Proposer shall not make its Offer contingent upon the Contracting Agency's acceptance of any terms or conditions (including Specifications) other than those contained in the Solicitation Document.

(3) Offeror's Acknowledgment. By Signing and returning the Offer, the Offeror acknowledges it has read and understands the terms and conditions contained in the Solicitation Document and that it accepts and agrees to be bound by the terms and conditions of the Solicitation Document. If the Request for Proposals permits proposal of alternative terms under 137-047-0262, the Offeror's Offer includes the nonnegotiable terms and conditions and any proposed terms and conditions offered for negotiation upon and to the extent accepted by the Contracting Agency in Writing.

Stat. Auth.: ORS 279A.065

Stats. Implemented: ORS 279A.065, ORS 279B.055 & ORS 279B.60

137-047-0320

Facsimile Bids and Proposals

(1) Contracting Agency Authorization. A Contracting Agency may authorize Offerors to submit facsimile Offers. If the Contracting Agency determines that Bid or Proposal security is or will be required, the Contracting Agency should not authorize facsimile Offers unless the Contracting Agency has another method for receipt of such security. Prior to authorizing the submission of facsimile Offers, the Contracting Agency shall determine that the Contracting Agency's equipment and personnel are capable of receiving the size and volume of anticipated Offers within a short period of time. In addition, the Contracting Agency shall establish administrative procedures and controls:

(a) To receive, identify, record, and safeguard facsimile Offers;

(b) To ensure timely delivery of Offers to the location of Opening; and

(c) To preserve the Offers as sealed.

(3) Rejection of All Offers. If the Contracting Agency rejects all Offers, the Contracting Agency shall keep all Proposals and Bids in the Procurement file.
Stat. Auth.: ORS 279A.065
Stats. Implemented: ORS 279B.100

LEGAL REMEDIES

137-047-0700

Protests and Judicial Review of Special Procurements

(1) Purpose. An Affected Person may protest the approval of a Special Procurement. Pursuant to ORS 279B.400(1), before seeking judicial review of the approval of a Special Procurement, an Affected Person must file a Written protest with the Contract Review Authority for the Contracting Agency and exhaust all administrative remedies.

(2) Delivery. Notwithstanding the requirements for filing a writ of review under ORS chapter 34 pursuant to ORS 279B.400(4)(a), an Affected Person must deliver a Written protest to the Contract Review Authority for the Contracting Agency within seven (7) Days after the first date of public notice of the approval of a Special Procurement by the Contract Review Authority for the Contracting Agency, unless a different protest period is provided in the public notice of the approval of a Special Procurement.

(3) Content of Protest. The Written protest must include:

- (a) A detailed statement of the legal and factual grounds for the protest;
- (b) A description of the resulting harm to the Affected Person; and
- (c) The relief requested.

(4) Contract Review Authority Response. The Contract Review Authority shall not consider an Affected Person's protest of the approval of a Special Procurement submitted after the timeline established for submitting such protest under this rule or such different time period as may be provided in the public notice of the approval of a Special Procurement. The Contract Review Authority shall issue a Written disposition of the protest in a timely manner. If the Contract Review Authority upholds the protest, in whole or in part, it may in its sole discretion implement the sustained protest in the approval of the Special Procurement, or revoke the approval of the Special Procurement.

(5) Judicial Review. An Affected Person may seek judicial review of the Contract Review Authority's decision relating to a protest of the approval of a Special Procurement in accordance with ORS 279B.400.

Stat. Auth.: ORS 279A.065 & ORS 279B.400

Stats. Implemented: ORS 279B.400

137-047-0710

Protests and Judicial Review of Sole-Source Procurements

(1) Purpose. For sole-source Procurements requiring public notice under 137-047-0275, an Affected Person may protest the determination of the Contract Review Authority or designee that the Goods or Services or class of Goods or Services are available from only one source. Pursuant to ORS 279B.420(3)(f), before seeking judicial review, an Affected Person must file a Written protest with the Contract Review Authority or designee and exhaust all administrative remedies.

(2) Delivery. Unless otherwise specified in the public notice of the sole-source Procurement, an Affected Person must deliver a Written protest to the Contract Review Authority or designee within seven (7) Days

(2) Delivery. Unless otherwise specified in the Solicitation Document, a prospective Offeror must deliver a Written protest to the Contracting Agency not less than ten (10) Days prior to Closing.

(3) Content of Protest. In addition to the information required by ORS 279B.405(4), a prospective Offeror's Written protest shall include a statement of the desired changes to the Procurement process or the Solicitation Document that the prospective Offeror believes will remedy the conditions upon which the prospective Offeror based its protest.

(4) Contracting Agency Response. The Contracting Agency shall not consider a Prospective Offeror's solicitation protest submitted after the timeline established for submitting such protest under this rule, or such different time period as may be provided in the Solicitation Document. The Contracting Agency shall consider the protest if it is timely filed and meets the conditions set forth in ORS 279B.405(4). The Contracting Agency shall issue a Written disposition of the protest in accordance with the timeline set forth in ORS 279B.405(6). If the Contracting Agency upholds the protest, in whole or in part, the Contracting Agency may in its sole discretion either issue an Addendum reflecting its disposition under 137-047-0430 or cancel the Procurement or solicitation under 137-047-0660.

(5) Extension of Closing. If the Contracting Agency receives a protest from a prospective Offeror in accordance with this rule, the Contracting Agency may extend Closing if the Contracting Agency determines an extension is necessary to consider and respond to the protest.

(6) Clarification. Prior to the deadline for submitting a protest, a prospective Offeror may request that the Contracting Agency clarify any provision of the Solicitation Document. The Contracting Agency's clarification to an Offeror, whether orally or in Writing, does not change the Solicitation Document and is not binding on the Contracting Agency unless the Contracting Agency amends the Solicitation Document by Addendum.

(7) Judicial Review. Judicial review of the Contracting Agency's decision relating to a solicitation protest shall be in accordance with ORS 279B.405.
Stat. Auth.: ORS 279A.065 & ORS 279B.405
Stats. Implemented: ORS 279B.405

137-047-0740

Protests and Judicial Review of Contract Award

(1) Purpose. An Offeror may protest the Award of a Contract, or the intent to Award of a Contract, whichever occurs first, if the conditions set forth in ORS 279B.410(1) are satisfied. An Offeror must file a Written protest with the Contracting Agency and exhaust all administrative remedies before seeking judicial review of the Contracting Agency's Contract Award decision.

(2) Delivery. Unless otherwise specified in the Solicitation Document, an Offeror must deliver a Written protest to the Contracting Agency within seven (7) Days after issuance of the notice of intent to Award the Contract, or Award of a Contract, whichever occurs first.

(3) Content of Protest. An Offeror's Written protest shall specify the grounds for the protest to be considered by the Contracting Agency pursuant to ORS 279B.410(2).

(4) Contracting Agency Response. The Contracting Agency shall not consider an Offeror's Contract Award protest submitted after the timeline established for submitting such protest under this rule, or such different time period as may be provided in the Solicitation Document. The Contracting Agency shall issue a Written disposition of the protest in a timely manner as set forth in ORS 279B.410(4). If the Contracting Agency upholds the protest, in whole or in part, the Contracting Agency may in its sole discretion either Award the Contract to the successful protestor or cancel the Procurement or solicitation.

(5) Judicial Review. Judicial review of the Contracting Agency's decision relating to a Contract Award protest shall be in accordance with ORS 279B.415.

Stat. Auth.: ORS 279A.065 & ORS 279B.410

Stats. Implemented: ORS 279B.410 & ORS 279B.415.

137-047-0745

Protests and Judicial Review of Qualified Products List Decisions

(1) Purpose. A prospective Offeror may protest the Contracting Agency's decision to exclude the prospective Offeror's Goods from the Contracting Agency's qualified products list under ORS 279B.115. A prospective Offeror must file a Written protest and exhaust all administrative remedies before seeking judicial review of the Contracting Agency's qualified products list decision.

(2) Delivery. Unless otherwise stated in the Contracting Agency's notice to prospective Offerors of the opportunity to submit Goods for inclusion on the qualified products list, a prospective Offeror must deliver a Written protest to the Contracting Agency within seven (7) Days after issuance of the Contracting Agency's decision to exclude the prospective Offeror's Goods from the qualified products list.

(3) Content of Protest. The prospective Offeror's protest shall be in Writing and must specify the grounds upon which the protest is based.

(4) Contracting Agency Response. The Contracting Agency shall not consider a prospective Offeror's qualified products list protest submitted after the timeline established for submitting such protest under this

price does not exceed the amount set forth in 137-047-0265 for small Procurements and 137-047-0270 for intermediate Procurements.

(4) Emergency Contract. A Contracting Agency may amend a Contract Awarded as an emergency Procurement if the emergency justification for entering into the Contract still exists, and the amendment is necessary to address the continuing emergency.

(5) Price Agreements. A Contracting Agency may amend or terminate a Price Agreement as follows:

- (a) As permitted by the Price Agreement;
- (b) As permitted by this rule;
- (c) If the circumstances set forth in ORS 279B.140(2) exist; or
- (d) As permitted by applicable law.

Stat. Auth.: ORS 279A.065

Stats. Implemented: ORS 279A.065

137-047-0810

Termination of Price Agreements

(1) A Contracting Agency may terminate a Price Agreement as follows:

- (a) As permitted by the Price Agreement.
- (b) If the circumstances set forth in ORS 279B.140(2) exist; or
- (c) As permitted by applicable law.

Stat. Auth.: ORS 279A.065

Stats. Implemented: ORS 279A.065 & ORS 279B.140

PUBLIC CONTRACTING RULES 2005

DIVISION 48

CONSULTANT SELECTION: ARCHITECTURAL, ENGINEERING, LAND SURVEYING AND RELATED SERVICES CONTRACTS

137-048-0100

Application; Effective Date

(1) [**Text omitted*]. These division 48 rules apply to the screening and selection of Architects, Engineers and Land Surveyors, and providers of Related Services under Contracts, and set forth the following procedures:

- (a) Procedures through which Contracting Agencies select Consultants to perform Architectural, Engineering, or Land Surveying Services, or Related Services; and
- (b) Two-tiered procedures for selection of Architects, Engineers, Land Surveyors and providers of Related Services for certain Public Improvements owned and maintained by a Local Government.

(2) These division 48 rules apply to * Contracting Agency *when* seeking the services of a Consultant to perform Architectural, Engineering, or Land Surveying Services, or Related Services. *

*(3) Effective Date. These division 48 rules become effective *either* on March 1, 2005 *or upon adoption, whichever is later*, and apply to the above-described Contracts first advertised, but if not advertised then entered into, on or after *that date*.

Stat. Auth.: ORS 279A.065

Stats. Implemented: ORS 279A.065

137-048-0110

Definitions

In addition to the definitions set forth in ORS 279A.010, ORS 279C.100, and 137-046-0110, the following definitions apply to these division 48 rules:

(1) **“Consultant”** means an Architect, Engineer, Land Surveyor, or provider of Related Services. A Consultant includes a business entity that employees Architects, Engineers, Land Surveyors or providers of Related Services, or any combination of the foregoing.

(2) **“Estimated Fee”** means Contracting Agency’s reasonably projected fee to be paid for a Consultant’s services under the anticipated Contract, excluding all anticipated reimbursable or other non-professional fee expenses. The Estimated Fee is used solely to determine the applicable Contract solicitation method and is distinct from the total amount payable under the Contract. The Estimated Fee shall not be used as a basis to resolve other Public Contracting issues, including without limitation, direct purchasing authority or Public Contract review and approval under ORS 291.047.

(3) **“Project”** means all components of a Contracting Agency’s planned undertaking that gives rise to the need for a Consultant’s Architectural, Engineering, or Land Surveying Services, or Related Services under a Contract.

(4) **“Proposer”** means a Consultant who submits a proposal to a Contracting Agency in response to a Request for Proposals.

(5) **“Request for Qualifications”** or **“RFQ”** means a written document issued by a Contracting Agency to which Consultants respond with a description of their experience with and qualifications for the Architectural, Engineering, or Land Surveying Services, or Related Services described in the RFQ and from which Contracting Agency creates a list of Consultants who are qualified to perform those services, but which is not intended to result in a Contract between a Consultant and a Contracting Agency.

Stat. Auth.: ORS 279A.065

Stats. Implemented: ORS 279A.065

137-048-0120

List of Interested Consultants; Performance Record

(1) Consultants who are engaged in the lawful practice of their profession and who are interested in providing Architectural, Engineering, or Land Surveying Services or Related Services may annually submit a statement describing their qualifications and related performance information to Contracting Agencies’ office addresses. Contracting Agencies will use this information to create a list of prospective Consultants and will update this list at least once every two years.

(2) Contracting Agencies may compile and maintain a record of each Consultant’s performance under Contracts with the particular Contracting Agency, including information obtained from Consultants during an exit interview. Upon request and in accordance with the Oregon Public Records Law (ORS 192.410 through 192.505) Contracting Agencies may make available copies of the records.*

Stat. Auth.: ORS 279A.065

Stats. Implemented: ORS 279A.065, ORS 279C.110

137-048-0130

Applicable Selection Procedures; Pricing Information

(1) When selecting the most qualified Consultants to perform Architectural, Engineering, or Land Surveying Services, * Local Contracting Agencies that are contracting with Consultants under the conditions listed in ORS 279C.110(2) shall follow the applicable selection procedure under either 137-048-0210 (Informal Selection Procedure), 137-048-0220 (Formal Selection Procedure), or 137-048-0200 (Direct Appointment Procedure). Contracting Agencies subject to this section (1) shall not solicit or use pricing policies and proposals or other pricing information to determine a Consultant's compensation until after the Contracting Agency has selected the most qualified Consultant in accordance with the applicable selection procedure.

(2) Contracting Agencies selecting Consultants to perform Related Services and Local Contracting Agencies selecting Consultants to perform Architectural, Engineering or Land Surveying Services for Contracts when the conditions under ORS 279C.110(2) do not exist, shall follow one of the following selection procedures:

(a) When selecting a Consultant on the basis of qualifications alone, Contracting Agencies shall follow the applicable selection procedure under either 137-048-0210 (Informal Selection Procedure), 137-048-0220 (Formal Selection Procedure) or 137-048-0200 (Direct Appointment Procedure);

(b) When selecting a Consultant on the basis of price competition alone, Contracting Agencies shall follow either the provisions under Chapter 137, division 47 for obtaining and evaluating Bids, or 137-048-0200 (Direct Appointment Procedure); and

(c) When selecting a Consultant on the basis of price and qualifications, Contracting Agencies shall follow either the provisions under Chapter 137, division 47 for obtaining and evaluating Proposals, or 137-048-0200 (Direct Appointment Procedure).

Contracting Agencies subject to this section (2) may request and consider a Proposer's pricing policies, proposals and other pricing information submitted with a Proposal.

(3) Contracting Agencies may use electronic methods to screen and select a Consultant in accordance with the procedures described in sections (1) and (2) of this rule. If a Contracting Agency uses electronic methods to screen and select a Consultant, Contracting Agency shall first promulgate rules for conducting the screening and selection procedure by electronic means, substantially in conformance with 137-047-0330 (Electronic Procurement).

*

Stat. Auth.: ORS 279A.065

Stats. Implemented: ORS 279A.065, ORS 279C.110

SELECTION PROCEDURES

137-048-0200

Direct Appointment Procedure

(1) Contracting Agencies may enter into a Contract directly with a Consultant without following the selection procedures set forth elsewhere in these rules if:

(a) Contracting Agency finds that an Emergency exists; or

(b) The Estimated Fee to be paid under the Contract does not exceed \$25,000; or

(c) * For Local Contracting Agencies, the Architectural, Engineering, or Land Surveying Services, or Related Services to be performed under the Contract:

(A) Consist of or are related to Architectural, Engineering, or Land Surveying Services, or Related Services that have been substantially described, planned or otherwise previously studied in an earlier Contract with the same Consultant and are rendered for the same Project as the Architectural, Engineering, or Land Surveying Services, or Related Services rendered under the earlier Contract; and

(B) Local Contracting Agency used a formal selection procedure described in rules applicable to Local Contracting Agency under either ORS 279.049 or ORS 279A.065, whichever was in effect at the time Local Contracting Agency selected Consultant for the earlier Contract; or

(C) Consultant will be assisting Contracting Agency by providing analysis, testing services, testimony or similar services for a Project that is, or is reasonably anticipated to be, the subject of a claim, lawsuit or other form of action, whether legal, equitable, administrative or otherwise.

(2) Contracting Agencies may select Consultants for Contracts under this rule from the following sources:

(a) Contracting Agency's list of Consultants that is created under 137-048-0120 (List of Interested Consultants; Performance Record);

(b) Another Contracting Agency's list of Consultants that the Contracting Agency has created under 137-

048-0120 (List of Interested Consultants; Performance Record), with written consent of that Contracting Agency; or

(c) All Consultants offering the required Architectural, Engineering, or Land Surveying Services, or Related Services that Contracting Agency reasonably can identify under the circumstances.

(3) Contracting Agency shall direct negotiations with Consultants selected under this rule toward obtaining written agreement on:

- (a) Consultant's performance obligations and performance schedule;
- (b) Payment methodology and a maximum amount payable to Contractor for the Architectural, Engineering, or Land Surveying Services, or Related Services required under the Contract that is fair and reasonable to the Contracting Agency as determined solely by the Contracting Agency, taking into account the value, scope, complexity and nature of the Architectural, Engineering, or Land Surveying Services, or Related Services; and
- (c) Any other provisions Contracting Agency believes to be in Contracting Agency's best interest to negotiate.

Stat. Auth.: ORS 279A.065

Stats. Implemented: ORS 279C110, ORS 279C.115

137-048-0210

Informal Selection Procedure

(1) Contracting Agencies may use the informal selection procedure described in this rule to obtain a Contract if the Estimated Fee is expected not to exceed \$150,000.

(2) Contracting Agencies using the informal selection procedure shall:

(a) Create a Request for Proposals that includes at a minimum the following:

(A) A description of the Project for which Consultant's Architectural, Engineering, or Land Surveying Services, or Related Services are needed and a description of the Architectural, Engineering, or Land Surveying Services, or Related Services that will be required under the resulting Contract;

(B) Anticipated Contract performance schedule;

(C) Conditions or limitations, if any, that may constrain or prohibit the selected Consultant's ability to provide additional services related to the Project, including construction services;

(D) Date and time Proposals are due and other directions for submitting Proposals;

(E) Criteria upon which most qualified Consultant will be selected. Selection criteria may include, but are not limited to, the following:

(i) Amount and type of resources and number of experienced staff Consultant has available to perform the Architectural, Engineering, or Land Surveying Services, or Related Services described in the Request for Proposals within the applicable time limits, including the current and projected workloads of such staff and the proportion of time such staff would have available for the Architectural, Engineering, or Land Surveying Services, or Related Services;

(ii) Proposed management techniques for the Architectural, Engineering, or Land Surveying Services, or Related Services described in the Request for Proposals;

(iii) Consultant's capability, experience and past performance history and record in providing similar Architectural, Engineering, or Land Surveying Services, or Related Services, including but not limited to quality of work, ability to meet schedules, cost control methods and contract administration practices;

(iv) Approach to Architectural, Engineering, or Land Surveying Services, or Related Services described in the Request for Proposals and design philosophy, if applicable;

(v) Proposer's geographic proximity to and familiarity with the physical location of the Project;

(vi) Volume of work, if any, previously awarded to Proposer, with the objective of effecting equitable distribution of Contracts among qualified Consultants, provided such distribution does not violate the principle of selecting the most qualified Consultant for the type of professional services required;

(vii) Ownership status and employment practices regarding women, minorities and emerging small businesses or historically underutilized businesses;

(viii) Pricing policies, proposals and other pricing information if the Contracting Agency is a Local Contracting Agency selecting a Consultant when the conditions under ORS 279C.110(2) do not exist.

(F) A Statement that Proposers responding to the RFP do so solely at their expense, and Contracting Agency is not responsible for any Proposer expenses associated with the RFP; and

(G) A statement directing Proposers to the protest procedures set forth in these division 48 rules.

(b) Provide a Request for Proposals to a minimum of *three (3)* prospective Consultants drawn from:

(A) Contracting Agency's list of Consultants that is created and maintained under 137-048-0120 (List of Interested Consultants; Performance Record);

(B) Another Contracting Agency's list of Consultants that is created and maintained under 137-048-0120 (List of Interested Consultants; Performance Record); or

(C) All Consultants Contracting Agency reasonably can locate that offer the desired Architectural, Engineering, or Land Surveying Services, or Related Services, or any combination of the foregoing.

(c) Review and rank all Proposals received according to the criteria set forth in the Request for Proposals. *

(3) If Contracting Agency does not cancel the RFP after it reviews and ranks each Proposer, Contracting

Agency will begin negotiating a Contract with the highest ranked Proposer. Contracting Agency shall direct negotiations toward obtaining written agreement on:

- (a) Consultant's performance obligations and performance schedule;
- (b) Payment methodology and a maximum amount payable to Contractor for the Architectural, Engineering, or Land Surveying Services, or Related Services required under the Contract that is fair and reasonable to the Contracting Agency as determined solely by the Contracting Agency, taking into account the value, scope, complexity and nature of the Architectural, Engineering, or Land Surveying Services, or Related Services; and
- (c) Any other provisions Contracting Agency believes to be in Contracting Agency's best interest to negotiate.

(4) Contracting Agency *may*, either orally or in writing, formally terminate negotiations with the highest ranked Proposer if Contracting Agency and Proposer are unable for any reason to reach agreement on a Contract within a reasonable amount of time. Contracting Agency may thereafter negotiate with the second ranked Proposer, and if necessary, with the third ranked Proposer, *and so on*, in accordance with section (3) of this rule, until negotiations result in a Contract. If negotiations with any *Proposer *does* not result in a Contract within a reasonable amount of time, Contracting Agency may end the particular informal solicitation and thereafter may proceed with a new informal solicitation under this rule or proceed with a formal solicitation under 137-048-0220 (Formal Selection Procedure).

(5) Contracting Agency shall terminate the informal selection procedure and proceed with the formal selection procedure under 137-048-220 if the scope of the anticipated Contract is revised during negotiations so that the Estimated Fee will exceed \$150,000. Notwithstanding the foregoing, Contracting Agency may continue Contract negotiations with the Proposer selected under the informal selection procedure if Contracting Agency makes written determinations that contracting with that Proposer will:

- (a) Promote efficient use of Contracting Agency's resources and result in substantial cost savings to Contracting Agency; and
- (b) Protect the integrity of the Public Contracting process and the competitive nature of the procurement by not encouraging favoritism or substantially diminishing competition in the award of the Contract.

Stat. Auth.: ORS 279A.065

Stats. Implemented: ORS 279C.110

137-048-0220

Formal Selection Procedure

(1) Subject to 137-048-0130 (Applicable Selection Procedures; Pricing Information), Contracting Agencies shall use the formal selection procedure described in this rule to select Consultants if the Consultants cannot be selected under either 137-048-0200 (Direct Appointment Procedure) or under 137-048-0210 (Informal Selection Procedure). The formal selection procedure described in this rule may otherwise be used at Contracting Agencies' discretion.

(2) Contracting Agencies using the formal selection procedure shall obtain Contracts through public advertisement of Requests for Proposals, or Requests for Qualifications followed by a Request for Proposals.

(a) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, Contracting Agency shall advertise each RFP and RFQ at least once in at least one newspaper of general circulation in the area where the Project is located and in as many other issues and publications as may be *desirable to achieve adequate competition. Other issues and publications may include, but are not limited to, local newspapers, trade journals, and publications targeted to reach the minority, women and emerging small business enterprise audiences.

(A) Contracting Agency shall publish the advertisement *no less than fourteen (14) days* before the deadline for the Proposal submission or response to the RFQ, *unless otherwise set forth in the advertisement*.

(B) Contracting Agency shall include a brief description of the following items in the advertisement:

- (i) The Project;
- (ii) A description of the Architectural, Engineering, or Land Surveying Services, or Related Services Contracting Agency seeks;
- (iii) How and where Consultants may obtain a copy of the RFP or RFQ; and
- (iv) The deadline for submitting a Proposal or response to the RFQ.

(b) In the alternative to advertising in a newspaper as described in subsection 2(a) of this rule, Contracting Agency shall publish each RFP and RFQ by one or more of the electronic methods identified in 137-046-0110(13). Contracting Agency shall comply with subsections 2(a)(A) and 2(a)(B) of this rule when publishing advertisements by electronic methods.

(c) Contracting Agency may send notice of the RFP or RFQ directly to all Consultants on the Contracting Agency's list of Consultants that is created and maintained under 137-048-0120 (List of Interested Consultants; Performance Record), *or to any consultants Contracting Agency reasonably can locate that offer the desired services*.

(3) Request for Qualifications Procedure. Contracting Agencies may use the RFQ procedure to evaluate

potential Consultants and establish a short list of qualified Consultants to whom Contracting Agency may issue an RFP for some or all of the Architectural, Engineering, or Land Surveying Services, or Related Services described in the RFQ.

(a) Contracting Agency shall include the following, at a minimum, in each RFQ:

- (A) A brief description of the Project for which Contracting Agency is seeking Consultants;
- (B) A description of the Architectural, Engineering, or Land Surveying Services, or Related Services Contracting Agency seeks for the Project;
- (C) Conditions or limitations, if any, that may constrain or prohibit the selected Consultant's ability to provide additional services related to the Project, including construction services;
- (D) The deadline for submitting a response to the RFQ;
- (E) A description of required Consultant qualifications for the Architectural, Engineering, or Land Surveying Services, or Related Services Agency seeks;
- (F) The RFQ evaluation criteria (including weights or points applicable to each criterion);
- (G) A statement whether or not Contracting Agency will hold a pre-qualification meeting for all interested Consultants to discuss the Project and the Architectural, Engineering, or Land Surveying Services, or Related Services described in the RFQ and if a pre-qualification meeting will be held, the location of the meeting and whether or not attendance is mandatory; and
- (H) A Statement that Proposers responding to the RFQ do so solely at their expense, and Contracting Agency is not responsible for any Proposer expenses associated with the RFQ.

(b) Contracting Agency may include a request for any or all of the following in each RFQ:

- (A) A statement describing Consultant's general qualifications and related performance information;
- (B) A description of Consultant's specific qualifications to perform the Architectural, Engineering, or Land Surveying Services, or Related Services described in the RFQ including Consultant's available resources and recent, current and projected workloads;
- (C) A list of similar Architectural, Engineering, or Land Surveying Services, or Related Services and references concerning past performance, and a copy of all records, if any, of Consultant's performance under Contracts with any other Contracting Agency;
- (D) The number of Consultant's experienced staff available to perform the Architectural, Engineering, or Land Surveying Services, or Related Services described in the RFQ, including such personnel's specific qualifications and experience and an estimate of the proportion of time that such personnel would spend on those services;
- (E) Approach to Architectural, Engineering, or Land Surveying Services, or Related Services described in the RFQ and design philosophy, if applicable;
- (F) Proposer's geographic proximity to and familiarity with the physical location of the Project;
- (G) Ownership status and employment practices regarding women, minorities and emerging small businesses or historically underutilized businesses;
- (H) Pricing policies, proposals and other pricing information if the Contracting Agency is a Local Contracting Agency and the conditions under ORS 279C.110(2) do not exist; and
- (I) Any other information Contracting Agency deems reasonable necessary to evaluate Consultants' qualifications.

(c) RFQ Evaluation Committee. Contracting Agency shall establish an RFQ evaluation committee of at least two individuals to review, score and rank the responding Consultants according to the evaluation criteria. Contracting Agency may appoint to the evaluation committee Contracting Agency employees or employees of other public agencies with experience in architecture, engineering, or land surveying, Related Services, construction or Public Contracting. If Contracting Agency procedure permits, the Contracting Agency may include on the evaluation committee private practitioners of architecture, engineering, land surveying or related professions. The Contracting Agency shall designate one member of the evaluation committee as the evaluation committee chairperson.

(d) Contracting Agency may use any reasonable screening or evaluation method to establish a short list of qualified Consultants, including but not limited to:

- (A) Requiring Consultants responding to an RFQ to achieve a threshold score before qualifying for placement on the short list;
- (B) Placing a pre-determined number of the highest scoring Consultants on a short list;
- (C) Placing on a short list only those Consultants with certain essential qualifications or experience, whose practice is limited to a particular subject area, or who practice in a particular geographic locale or region, provided that such factors are material, would not unduly restrict competition, and were announced as dispositive in the RFP.

(e) After the evaluation committee reviews, scores and ranks the responding Consultants, Contracting Agency shall establish a short list of at least three qualified Consultants, provided however, that if four or fewer Consultants responded to the RFQ, then:

- (A) Contracting Agency may establish a short list of fewer than three qualified Consultants; or
- (B) Contracting Agency may cancel the RFQ and issue an RFP.

- (f) No Consultant will be eligible for placement on Contracting Agency's short list established under subsection (3)(d) of this rule if Consultant or any of Consultant's principals, partners or associates are members of Contracting Agency's RFQ evaluation committee.
- (g) Except when the RFQ is cancelled, Contracting Agency shall provide a copy of the subsequent RFP to each Consultant on the short list.
- (4) Formal Selection of Consultants Through Request for Proposals. Contracting Agencies shall use the procedure described in section (4) of this rule when issuing an RFP for a Contract described in section (1) of this rule.
- (a) RFP Required Contents. Contracting Agencies using the formal selection procedure shall include at least the following in each Request for Proposals, whether or not the RFP is preceded by an RFQ:
- (A) General background information, including a description of the Project and the specific Architectural, Engineering, or Land Surveying Services, or Related Services sought for the Project, the estimated Project cost, the estimated time period during which the Project is to be completed, and the estimated time period in which the specific Architectural, Engineering, or Land Surveying Services, or Related Services sought will be performed.
- (B) The RFP evaluation process and criteria which will be used to select the most qualified Proposer, including the number of points applicable to each criterion. If Contracting Agency does not indicate the applicable number of points, then each criterion is worth the same number of points. Evaluation criteria may include, but are not limited to, the following:
- (i) Proposer's availability and capability to perform the Architectural, Engineering, or Land Surveying Services, or Related Services described in the RFP;
- (ii) Experience of Proposer's key staff persons in providing similar Architectural, Engineering, or Land Surveying Services, or Related Services on comparable Projects;
- (iii) The amount and type of resources, and number of experienced staff persons Proposer has available to perform the Architectural, Engineering, or Land Surveying Services, or Related Services described in the RFP;
- (iv) The recent, current and projected workloads of the staff and resources referenced in section (4)(a)(B)(iii), above;
- (v) The proportion of time Proposer estimates that the staff referenced in section (4)(a)(B)(iii), above, would spend on the Architectural, Engineering, or Land Surveying Services, or Related Services described in the RFP;
- (vi) Proposer's demonstrated ability to complete successfully similar Architectural, Engineering, or Land Surveying Services, or Related Services on time and within budget, including whether or not there is a record of satisfactory performance under 137-048-0120 (List of Interested Consultants; Performance Record);
- (vii) References and recommendations from past clients;
- (viii) Proposer's performance history in meeting deadlines, submitting accurate estimates, producing high quality work, and meeting financial obligations;
- (ix) Status and quality of any required license or certification;
- (x) Proposer's knowledge and understanding of the Project and Architectural, Engineering, or Land Surveying Services, or Related Services described in the RFP as shown in Proposer's approach to staffing and scheduling needs for the Architectural, Engineering, or Land Surveying Services, or Related Services and proposed solutions to any perceived design and constructability issues;
- (xi) Results from interviews, if conducted;
- (xii) Design philosophy, if applicable, and approach to the Architectural, Engineering, or Land Surveying Services, or Related Services described in the RFP;
- (xiii) Pricing policies, proposals and other pricing information if the Contracting Agency is a Local Contracting Agency selecting a Consultant when the conditions under ORS 279C.110(2) do not exist; and
- (xiv) Any other criteria that the Contracting Agency seems relevant to the Project and Architectural, Engineering, or Land Surveying Services, or Related Services described in the RFP, including, where the nature and budget of the Project so warrant, a design competition between competing Proposers.
- (C) Conditions or limitations, if any, that may constrain or prohibit the selected Consultant's ability to provide additional services related to the Project, including construction services;
- (D) Whether interviews are possible and if so, the weight or points applicable to the potential interview;
- (E) The date and time Proposals are due, and the delivery location for Proposals;
- (F) Reservation of the right to seek clarifications of each Proposal;
- (G) Reservation of the right to negotiate a final Contract that is in the best interest of the Contracting Agency;
- (H) Reservation of the right to reject any or all Proposals and reservation of the right to cancel the RFP at anytime if doing either would be in the public interest as determined by the Contracting Agency;
- (I) A Statement that Proposers responding to the RFP do so solely at their expense, and Contracting Agency is not responsible for any Proposer expenses associated with the RFP;

- (J) A statement directing Proposers to the protest procedures set forth in these rules;
- (K) Special Contract requirements, including but not limited to disadvantaged business enterprise (“DBE”), minority business enterprise (“MBE”), women business enterprise (“WBE”) and emerging small business enterprise (“ESB”) participation goals or good faith efforts with respect to DBE, MBE, WBE and ESB participation, and federal requirements when federal funds are involved;
- (L) A statement whether or not Contracting Agency will hold a pre-Proposal meeting for all interested Consultants to discuss the Project and the Architectural, Engineering, or Land Surveying Services, or Related Services described in the RFP and if a pre-Proposal meeting will be held, the location of the meeting and whether or not attendance is mandatory;
- (M) A request for any information Contracting Agency deems reasonably necessary to permit Contracting Agency to evaluate, rank and select the most qualified Proposer to perform the Architectural, Engineering, or Land Surveying Services, or Related Services described in the RFP; and
- (N) A sample form of the Contract.
- (b) RFP Evaluation Committee. Contracting Agency shall establish a committee of at least three individuals to review, score and rank Proposals according to the evaluation criteria set forth in the RFP. If the RFP has followed an RFQ, the Contracting Agency may include the same members who served on the RFQ evaluation committee. Contracting Agency may appoint to the evaluation committee Contracting Agency employees or employees of other public agencies with experience in architecture, engineering, land surveying, Related Services, construction or Public Contracting. At least one member of the evaluation committee must be a Contracting Agency employee. If Contracting Agency procedure permits, the Contracting Agency may include on the evaluation committee private practitioners of architecture, engineering, land surveying or related professions. The Contracting Agency shall designate one of its employees who also is a member of the evaluation committee as the evaluation committee chairperson.
- (A) No Proposer will be eligible for award of the Contract under the RFP if Proposer or any of Proposer’s principals, partners or associates are members of Contracting Agency’s RFP evaluation committee for the Contract;
- (B) If the RFP provides for the possibility of Proposer interviews, the evaluation committee may elect to interview Proposers if the evaluation committee considers it necessary or desirable. If the evaluation committee conducts interviews, it shall award up to the number of points indicated in the RFP for the anticipated interview; and
- (C) The evaluation committee shall provide to Contracting Agency the results of the scoring and ranking for each Proposer.
- (c) If Contracting Agency does not cancel the RFP after it receives the results of the scoring and ranking for each Proposer, Contracting Agency will begin negotiating a Contract with the highest ranked Proposer. Contracting Agency shall direct negotiations toward obtaining written agreement on:
- (A) Consultant’s performance obligations and performance schedule;
- (B) Payment methodology and a maximum amount payable to Contractor for the Architectural, Engineering, or Land Surveying Services, or Related Services required under the Contract that is fair and reasonable to the Contracting Agency as determined solely by the Contracting Agency, taking into account the value, scope, complexity and nature of the Architectural, Engineering, or Land Surveying Services, or Related Services; and
- (C) Any other provisions Contracting Agency believes to be in Contracting Agency’s best interest to negotiate.
- (d) Contracting Agency *may*, either orally or in writing, formally terminate negotiations with the highest ranked Proposer if Contracting Agency and Proposer are unable for any reason to reach agreement on a Contract within a reasonable amount of time. Contracting Agency may thereafter negotiate with the second ranked Proposer, and if necessary, with the third ranked Proposer, and so on, in accordance with section (4)(c) of this rule, until negotiations result in a Contract. If negotiations with any Proposer do not result in a Contract within a reasonable amount of time, Contracting Agency may end the particular formal solicitation. Nothing in this rule precludes Contracting Agency from proceeding with a new formal solicitation for the same Architectural, Engineering, or Land Surveying Services, or Related Services described in the RFP that failed to result in a Contract.

Stat. Auth.: ORS 279A.065

Stats. Implemented: ORS 279C.110

137-048-0230

Ties Among Proposers

- (1) If Contracting Agency is selecting a Consultant on the basis of qualifications alone and determines after the ranking of Proposers that two or more Proposers are equally qualified, Contracting Agency may select a candidate through any process that Contracting Agency believes will result in the best value for Contracting Agency taking into account the scope, complexity and nature of the Architectural, Engineering, or Land Surveying Services. The process shall instill public confidence through ethical and fair dealing, honesty and

good faith on the part of Contracting Agency and Proposers and shall protect the integrity of the Public Contracting process. Once a tie is broken, Contracting Agency and the selected Proposer shall proceed with negotiations under 137-048-0210(3) or 137-048-0220(4)(c), as applicable.

(2) If a Contracting Agency is selecting a Consultant on the basis of price alone, or on the basis of price and qualifications, and determines after the ranking of Proposers that two or more Proposers are identical in terms of price or are identical in terms of price and qualifications, then the Contracting Agency shall follow the procedure set forth in 137-047-0300, (Preferences for Oregon Goods and Services; Nonresident Bidders, to select the Consultant).

Stat. Auth.: ORS 279A.065

Stats. Implemented: ORS 279C.110

137-048-0240

Protest Procedures

(1) RFP Protest and Request for Change. Consultants may submit a written protest of anything contained in an RFP and may request a change to any provision, specification or contract term contained in an RFP, no later than seven (7) calendar days prior to the date Proposals are due unless a different deadline is indicated in the RFP. Each protest and request for change must include the reasons for the protest or request, and any proposed changes to the RFP provisions, specifications or contract terms. Contracting Agency will not consider any protest or request for change that is submitted after the submission deadline.

(2) Protest of Consultant Selection. Contracting Agency shall provide to all Proposers a copy of the selection notice that Contracting Agency sent to the highest ranked Proposer. A Proposer who claims to have been adversely affected or aggrieved by the selection of the highest ranked Proposer may submit a written protest of the selection to Contracting Agency no later than seven (7) calendar days after the date of the selection notice unless a different deadline is indicated in the RFP. A Proposer submitting a protest must claim that the protesting Proposer is the highest ranked Proposer because the Proposals of all higher ranked Proposers failed to meet the requirements of the RFP or because the higher ranked Proposers otherwise are not qualified to perform the Architectural, Engineering, or Land Surveying Services, or Related Services described in the RFP. Contracting Agency will not consider any protest that is submitted after the submission deadline.

(3) A duly authorized representative of Contracting Agency shall resolve all timely submitted protests within a reasonable time following Contracting Agency's receipt of the protest and once resolved, shall promptly issue a written decision on the protest to the Proposer who submitted the protest. If the protest results in a change to the RFP, Contracting Agency shall revise the RFP accordingly and shall re-advertise the RFP in accordance with these rules.

(4) Proposers may be able to obtain judicial review of Contracting Agency's protest disposition pursuant to ORS 183.484.

Stat. Auth.: ORS 279A.065

Stats. Implemented: ORS 279A.065, ORS 279C.110

137-048-0250

RFP or RFQ Cancellation; Costs

Contracting Agency may cancel a solicitation, whether informal or formal, or reject all Proposals or responses to RFQs, or any combination of the foregoing, without liability to Contracting Agency at anytime after issuing an RFP or RFQ, if Contracting Agency believes it is in the public interest to do so. Consultants responding to either RFPs or RFQs are responsible for all costs they may incur in connection with submitting Proposals and responses to RFQs.

Stat. Auth.: ORS 279A.065

Stats. Implemented: ORS 279A.065

137-048-0260

Two-Tiered Selection Procedure for Local Contracting Agency Public Improvement Projects

(1) If a Local Contracting Agency requires a Consultant to perform Architectural, Engineering, or Land Surveying Services, or Related Services for a Public Improvement owned and maintained by that Local Contracting Agency, and a State Agency will serve as the lead Contracting Agency and will enter into Contracts with Consultants for Architectural, Engineering, or Land Surveying Services, or Related Services, for that Public Improvement, the State Contracting Agency shall utilize the two-tiered selection process described below to obtain these Contracts with Consultants.

(2) Tier One. State Contracting Agency shall, when feasible, identify no fewer than the three (3) most qualified Proposers responding to an RFP that was issued under the applicable selection procedures described in 137-048-0210 (Informal Selection Procedure) and 137-048-0220 (Formal Selection Procedure), or from among Consultants identified under 137-048-0200(Direct Appointment Procedure), and shall notify the Local Contracting Agency of the Consultants selected.

(3) Tier Two. Local Contracting Agency shall either:

(a) Select a Consultant from the list of Proposers provided from the State Contracting Agency to perform the Architectural, Engineering, or Land Surveying Services, or Related Services for Local Contracting Agency's Public Improvement; or

(b) Select a Consultant to perform the Architectural, Engineering, or Land Surveying Services, or Related Services for Local Contracting Agency's Public Improvement through an alternative process adopted by the Local Contracting Agency, consistent with the provisions of the applicable RFP, if any, and these division 48 rules.

(4) State Contracting Agency shall thereafter begin Contract negotiations with the selected Consultant in accordance with the negotiation provisions in 137-048-0220(4)(c).

Stat. Auth.: ORS 279A.065

Stats. Implemented: ORS 279C.125

POST-SELECTION CONSIDERATIONS

137-048-0300

Prohibited Payment Methodology; Purchase Restrictions

(1) Except as otherwise allowed by law, Contracting Agency shall not enter into any Contract which includes compensation provisions that expressly provide for payment of:

(a) Consultant's costs under the Contract plus a percentage of those costs; or

(b) A percentage of the Project construction costs or total Project costs.

(2) Except as otherwise allowed by law, a Contracting Agency shall not enter into any Contract in which:

(a) The compensation paid under the Contract is solely based on or limited to the Consultant's hourly rates for the Consultant's personnel working on the Project and reimbursable expenses incurred during the performance of work on the Project (sometimes referred to as a "time and materials" Contract); and

(b) The Contract does not include a maximum amount payable to Contractor for the Architectural, Engineering, or Land Surveying Services, or Related Services required under the Contract.

(3) Except in cases of Emergency or in the particular instances noted in the subsections below, Contracting Agency shall not purchase any building materials, supplies or equipment for any building, structure or facility constructed by or for Contracting Agency from any Consultant under a Contract with Contracting Agency to perform Architectural, Engineering or Land Surveying Services, or Related Services, for the building, structure or facility. This prohibition does not apply if either of the following circumstances exists:

(a) Consultant is providing Architectural, Engineering or Land Surveying Services, or Related Services under a Contract with Contracting Agency to perform Design-Build services or Energy Savings Performance Contract services (see 137-049-0670 and 137-049-0680).

(b) That portion of the Contract relating to the acquisition of building materials, supplies or equipment was awarded to Consultant pursuant to applicable law governing the award of such contracts.

Stat. Auth.: ORS 279A.065

Stats. Implemented: ORS 279A.065

137-048-0310

Effect of Material Alteration or Delay of Project

(1) If Contracting Agency delays or delays and then materially alters a Project for which Contracting Agency has entered a Contract, and the Contract has expired or been terminated, Contracting Agency may enter a Contract with the same Consultant to perform either the same Architectural, Engineering, or Land Surveying Services, or Related Services described in the Contract or Architectural, Engineering, or Land Surveying Services, or Related Services as amended to reflect Contracting Agency's material alteration of the Project if no more than *two years* have passed since expiration or termination of the Contract and Contracting Agency makes written findings that entering a Contract with Consultant:

(a) Will promote efficient use of public funds and resources and result in substantial cost savings to Contracting Agency;

(b) Will not encourage favoritism in the contracting process; and

(c) Will not substantially diminish competition for future contracts with Consultants.

Stat. Auth.: ORS 279A.065

Stats. Implemented: ORS 279A.065, ORS 279C.110

137-048-0320

Contract Amendments

(1) Contracting Agency may amend any Contract if the Contracting Agency, in its sole discretion, determines that the amendment is within the scope of services contemplated under the RFP and that the amendment would not materially impact the field of competition for the services described in the RFP. In making this determination, the Contracting Agency shall consider potential alternative methods of procuring the services contemplated under the proposed amendment. An amendment would not materially impact the

field of competition for the services described in the RFP if the Contracting Agency reasonably believes that the number of Proposers would not significantly increase if the RFP were re-issued to include the additional services.

(2) The Contracting Agency may amend any Contract if the additional services are required by reason of existing or new laws, rules, regulations or ordinances of federal, state or local agencies, that affect performance of the original Contract.

(3) All amendments to Contracts must be in writing, must be signed by an authorized representative of the Consultant and the Contracting Agency and must receive all required approvals before the amendments will be binding on the Contracting Agency.

Stat. Auth.: ORS 279A.065

Stats. Implemented: ORS 279A.065

**PUBLIC CONTRACTING RULES 2005
DIVISION 49
GENERAL PROVISIONS RELATED TO PUBLIC CONTRACTS FOR CONSTRUCTION SERVICES**

137-049-0100

Application

(1) These division 49 rules apply to Public Improvement Contracts as well as Public Contracts for ordinary construction services that are not Public Improvements. Rules that apply specifically to Public Improvement Contracts are so identified.

(2) These division 49 rules address matters covered in ORS Chapter 279C (with the exception of Architectural, Engineering, Land Surveying and Related Services, all of which are addressed in division 48 of the Rules).

(3) These division 49 Rules become effective *either* on March 1, 2005 *or upon adoption, whichever is later*, and apply to the Contracts described in section (1) above first advertised, but if not advertised then entered into, on or after *that date*.

Stat. Auth.: ORS 279A.065

Stats. Implemented: ORS 279A.065

137-049-0110

Policies

In addition to the general Code policies set forth in ORS 279A.015, the ORS 279C.300 policy on competition and the ORS 279C.305 policy on least-cost for Public Improvements apply to these division 49 rules.

Stat. Auth.: ORS 279A.065

Stats. Implemented: ORS 279C.300 & ORS 279C.305

137-049-0120

Definitions

(1) "**Conduct Disqualification**" means a Disqualification pursuant to ORS 279C.440. (2) "**Disqualification**" means the preclusion of a Person from contracting with a Contracting Agency for a period of time in accordance with 137-049-0370. Disqualification may be a Conduct Disqualification or DBE Disqualification.

(3) "**Foreign Contractor**" means a Contractor that is not domiciled in or registered to do business in the State of Oregon. See 137-049-0480. (4) "**Notice**" means any of the alternative forms of public announcement of Procurements, as described in 137-049-0210.

Stat. Auth.: ORS 279A.065 Stats. Implemented: ORS 279A.065

137-049-0130

Competitive Bidding Requirement

A Contracting Agency shall solicit Bids for Public Improvement Contracts by Invitation to Bid ("ITB"), except as otherwise allowed or required *by these Rules*, or pursuant to ORS 279C.335 on Competitive Bidding exceptions and exemptions, 279A.030 on federal law overrides or 279A.100 on affirmative action. Also see 137-049-0600 to 137-049-0690 regarding the use of Alternative Contracting Methods and the exemption process.

Stat. Auth.: ORS 279A.065 Stats. Implemented: ORS 279C.335

137-049-0140

Contracts for Construction Other Than Public Improvements

(1) **Procurement Under ORS Chapter 279B.** Pursuant to ORS 279C.320, Public Contracts for construction services that are not Public Improvement Contracts, other than Emergency Contracts regulated under ORS 279C.335(6) and 137-049-0150, may be procured and amended as general trade services under the provisions of ORS Chapter 279B *and division 47 Rules*, rather than under the provisions of ORS Chapter 279C and these division 49 rules.

(2) **Application of ORS Chapter 279C.** Non-procurement provisions of ORS Chapter 279C and these division 49 rules may still be applicable to the resulting Contracts. See, for example, particular statutes on Disqualification (ORS 279C.440, 445 and 450); Legal Actions (ORS 279C.460 and 465); Required Contract Conditions (ORS 279C.505, 515, 520 and 530); Hours of Labor (ORS 279C.540 and 545); Retainage (ORS 279C.550, 560 and 565); Subcontracts (ORS 279C.580); Action on Payment Bonds (ORS 279C.600, 605, 610, 615, 620 and 625); Termination (ORS 279C.650, 650, 660 and 670); and all of the Prevailing Wage Rates requirements (ORS 279C.800 through 870) for Public Works Contracts.
Stat. Auth.: ORS 279A.065 Stats. Implemented: ORS 279C.320

137-049-0150

Emergency Contracts; Bidding and Bonding Exemptions

(1) **Emergency Declaration.** Pursuant to ORS 279C.335(6) and this rule, a Contracting Agency may declare that Emergency circumstances exist that require prompt execution of a Public Contract for Emergency construction or repair Work. The declaration shall be made at an administrative level consistent with the Contracting Agency's internal policies, by a written declaration that describes the circumstances creating the Emergency and the anticipated harm from failure to enter into an Emergency Contract. The Emergency declaration shall exempt the Public Contract from the competitive bidding requirements of ORS 279C.335(1) and shall thereafter be kept on file as a public record.

(2) **Competition for Contracts.** The Contracting Agency shall ensure competition for an Emergency Contract as reasonable and appropriate under the Emergency circumstances, and may include written requests for Offers, oral requests for Offers or direct appointment without competition in cases of extreme necessity, in whatever Solicitation time periods the Contracting Agency considers reasonable in responding to the Emergency.

(3) **Contract Scope.** Although no dollar limitation applies to Emergency Contracts, the scope of the Contract must be limited to Work that is necessary and appropriate to remedy the conditions creating the Emergency as described in the declaration.

(4) **Contract Modification.** Emergency Contracts may be modified by change order or amendment to address the conditions described in the original declaration or an amended declaration that further describes additional work necessary and appropriate for related Emergency circumstances.

(5) **Excusing Bonds.** Pursuant to ORS 279C.380(4) and this rule, the Emergency declaration may also state that the Contracting Agency waives the requirement of furnishing a performance bond and payment bond for the Emergency Contract. After making such an Emergency declaration the bonding requirements are excused for the procurement, but this Emergency declaration does not affect the separate Public Works bond requirement for the benefit of the Bureau of Labor and Industries (BOLI) in enforcing prevailing wage rate and overtime payment requirements. See 137-049-0815 and BOLI rules at OAR 839-025-0015.
Stat. Auth.: ORS 279A.065 Stats. Implemented: ORS 279C.335(5) and 279C.380(4)

137-049-0160

Intermediate Procurements; Competitive Quotes and Amendments

(1) **General.** Public Improvement Contracts estimated by the Contracting Agency not to exceed \$100,000, or not to exceed \$50,000 in the case of Contracts for highways, bridges and other transportation projects, may be Awarded in accordance with * this rule.

(2) **Selection Criteria.** The selection criteria may be limited to price or some combination of price, experience, specific expertise, availability, project understanding, contractor capacity, responsibility and similar factors.

(3) **Request for Quotes.** Contracting Agencies shall utilize written requests for quotes whenever reasonably practicable. Written request for quotes shall include the selection criteria to be utilized in selecting a Contractor and, if the criteria are not of equal value, their relative value or ranking.

When requesting quotations orally, prior to requesting the price quote the Contracting Agency shall state any additional selection criteria and, if the criteria are not of equal value, their relative value. For Public Works Contracts, oral quotations may be utilized only in the event that Written copies of the prevailing wage rates are not required by the Bureau of Labor and Industries.

(4) **Number of Quotes; Record Required.** Contracting Agencies shall seek at least three competitive quotes, and keep a written record of the sources and amounts of the quotes received. If three quotes are not reasonably available the Contracting Agency shall make a written record of the effort made to obtain those quotes.

(5) **Award.** If Awarded, the Contracting Agency shall Award the Contract to the prospective contractor whose quote will best serve the interests of the Contracting Agency, taking into account the announced

(K) A statement that the Contracting Agency will not receive or consider an Offer for a Public Improvement Contract unless the Offeror is registered with the Construction Contractors Bd, or is licensed by the State Landscape Contractors Bd, as specified in 137-049-0230;

(L) Whether a Contractor or a subcontractor under the Contract must be licensed under ORS 468A.720 regarding asbestos abatement projects;

(M) Contractor's certification of nondiscrimination in obtaining required subcontractors in accordance with ORS 279A.110(4). (See 137-049-0440(3));

(N) How the Contracting Agency will notify Offerors of Addenda and how the Contracting Agency will make Addenda available (See 137-049-0250); and

(O) When applicable, instructions and forms regarding First-Tier Subcontractor Disclosure requirements, as set forth in 137-049-0360.

(b) Evaluation Process:

(A) A statement that the Contracting Agency may reject any Offer not in compliance with all prescribed Public Contracting procedures and requirements, and may reject for good cause all Offers upon the Contracting Agency's finding that it is in the public interest to do so;

(B) The anticipated Solicitation schedule, deadlines, protest process and evaluation process, if any;

(C) Evaluation criteria, including the relative value applicable to each criterion, that the Contracting Agency will use to determine the Responsible Bidder with the lowest Responsive Bid (where Award is based solely on price) or the Responsible Proposer or Proposers with the best Responsive Proposal or Proposals (where use of Competitive Proposals is authorized under ORS 279C.335 and 137-049-0620), along with the process the Contracting Agency will use to determine acceptability of the Work;

(i) If the Solicitation Document is an Invitation to Bid, the Contracting Agency shall set forth any special price evaluation factors in the Solicitation Document. Examples of such factors include, but are not limited to, conversion costs, transportation cost, volume weighing, trade-in allowances, cash discounts, depreciation allowances, cartage penalties, ownership or life-cycle cost formulas. Price evaluation factors need not be precise predictors of actual future costs; but, to the extent possible, such evaluation factors shall be objective, reasonable estimates based upon information the Contracting Agency has available concerning future use;

(ii) If the Solicitation Document is a Request for Proposals, the Contracting Agency shall refer to the additional requirements of 137-049-0650 and 279C.400 to 279C.410; and

(c) **Contract Provisions.** The Contracting Agency shall include all Contract terms and conditions, including warranties, insurance and bonding requirements, that the Contracting Agency considers appropriate for the Public Improvement project. The Contracting Agency must also include all applicable Contract provisions required by Oregon law as follows:

(A) Prompt payment to all Persons supplying labor or material; contributions to Industrial Accident Fund; liens and withholding taxes (ORS 279C.505(1));

(B) Demonstrate that an employee drug testing program is in place (ORS 279C.505(2));

(C) If the Contract calls for demolition Work described in ORS 279C.510(1), a condition requiring the Contractor to salvage or recycle construction and demolition debris, if feasible and cost-effective;

(D) If the Contract calls for lawn or landscape maintenance, a condition requiring the Contractor to compost or mulch yard waste material at an approved site, if feasible and cost effective (ORS 279C.510(2));

(E) Payment of claims by public officers (ORS 279C.515(1));

(F) Contractor and first-tier subcontractor liability for late payment on Public Improvement Contracts pursuant to ORS 279C.515(2), including the rate of interest;

(G) Person's right to file a complaint with the Construction Contractors Bd for all Contracts related to a Public Improvement Contract (ORS 279C.515(3));

(H) Hours of labor in compliance with ORS 279C.520;

(I) Environmental and natural resources regulations (279C.525);

(J) Payment for medical care and attention to employees (ORS 279C.530(1));

(K) A Contract provision substantially as follows: "All employers, including Contractor, that employ subject Workers who Work under this Contract in the State of Oregon shall comply with ORS 656.017 and provide the required Workers' Compensation coverage, unless such employers are exempt under ORS 656.126. Contractor shall ensure that each of its subcontractors complies with these requirements." (ORS 279C.530(2));

(L) Maximum hours, holidays and overtime (ORS 279C.540);

(M) Time limitation on claims for overtime (ORS 279C.545);

(N) Prevailing wage rates (ORS 279C.800 to 279C.870);

(O) Fee paid to BOLI (ORS 279C.830);

(P) BOLI Public Works bond (ORS 279C.830(3));

(Q) Retainage (ORS 279C.550 to 279C.570);

(R) Prompt payment policy, progress payments, rate of interest (ORS 279C.570);

(S) Contractor's relations with subcontractors (ORS 279C.580);

(T) Notice of claim (ORS 279C.605);

(U) Contractor's certification of compliance with the Oregon tax laws in accordance with ORS 305.385; and

(V) Contractor's certification that all subcontractors performing Work described in ORS 701.005(2) (i.e., construction Work) will be registered with the Construction Contractors Bd or licensed by the State Landscape Contractors Bd in accordance with ORS 701.035 to 701.055 before the subcontractors commence Work under the Contract.

(2) **Assignment or Transfer Restricted.** Unless otherwise provided in the Contract, the Contractor shall not assign, sell, dispose of, or transfer rights, nor delegate duties under the Contract, either in whole or in part, without the Contracting Agency's prior Written consent. Unless otherwise agreed by the Contracting Agency in Writing, such consent shall not relieve the Contractor of any obligations under the Contract. Any assignee or transferee shall be considered the agent of the Contractor and be bound to abide by all provisions of the Contract. If the Contracting Agency consents in Writing to an assignment, sale, disposal or transfer of the Contractor's rights or delegation of Contractor's duties, the Contractor and its surety, if any, shall remain liable to the Contracting Agency for complete performance of the Contract as if no such assignment, sale, disposal, transfer or delegation had occurred unless the Contracting Agency otherwise agrees in Writing. Stat. Auth.: ORS 279A.065 Stats. Implemented: ORS 279A.110(4), ORS 279A.120, ORS 279C.365, ORS 279C.370, ORS 279C.390, ORS 279C.505 to 580, ORS 279C.605, ORS 305.385, ORS 468A.720, ORS 701.005 & ORS 701.055

137-049-0210

Notice and Advertising Requirements; Posting

(1) **Notice and Distribution Fee.** A Contracting Agency shall furnish "Notice" as set forth below in subsections (a) through (c), to a number of Persons sufficient for the purpose of fostering and promoting competition. The Notice shall indicate where, when, how and for how long the Solicitation Document may be obtained and generally describe the Public Improvement project or Work. The Notice may contain any other appropriate information. The Contracting Agency may charge a fee or require a deposit for the Solicitation Document. The Contracting Agency may furnish Notice using any method determined to foster and promote competition, including:

(a) Mailing Notice of the availability of Solicitation Documents to Persons that have expressed an interest in the Contracting Agency's Procurements;

(b) Placing Notice on the Contracting Agency's Electronic Procurement System; or

(c) Placing Notice on the Contracting Agency's Internet Web site.

(2) **Advertising.** Pursuant to ORS 279C.360 and this rule, a Contracting Agency shall advertise every Solicitation for competitive Bids or competitive Proposals for a Public Improvement Contract, unless the Contract Review Authority for that Contracting Agency has exempted the Solicitation from the advertisement requirement as part of a competitive Bidding exemption under ORS 279C.335.

(a) Unless the Contracting Agency publishes by Electronic Advertisement as permitted under subsection 2(b), the Contracting Agency shall publish the advertisement for Offers at least once in at least one newspaper of general circulation in the area where the Contract is to be performed and in as many additional issues and publications as the Contracting Agency may determine to be necessary or desirable to foster and promote competition.

(b) A Contracting Agency may publish by Electronic Advertisement if the Contract Review Authority for the Contracting Agency determines Electronic Advertisement is likely to be cost effective and, by rule or order, authorizes Electronic Advertisement.

(c) In addition to the Contracting Agency's publication required under subsection 2(a) or 2(b), the Contracting Agency shall also publish an advertisement for Offers in at least one trade newspaper of general statewide circulation if the Contract is for a Public Improvement with an estimated cost in excess of \$125,000.

(d) All advertisements for Offers shall set forth:

(A) The Public Improvement project;

(B) The office where Contract terms, conditions and Specifications may be reviewed;

(C) The date that Persons must file applications for prequalification under ORS 279C.340, if prequalification is a requirement, and the class or classes of Work for which Persons must be prequalified;

(D) The scheduled Closing, which shall not be less than five Days after the date of the last publication of the advertisement;

(E) The name, title and address of the Contracting Agency Person authorized to receive Offers;

(F) The scheduled Opening; and

(3) **Contingent Offers.** Except to the extent that an Offeror is authorized to propose certain terms and conditions pursuant to 137-049-0650, an Offeror shall not make an Offer contingent upon the Contracting Agency's acceptance of any terms or conditions (including Specifications) other than those contained in the Solicitation Document.

(4) **Offeror's Acknowledgement.** By signing and returning the Offer, the Offeror acknowledges it has read and understands the terms and conditions contained in the Solicitation Document and that it accepts and agrees to be bound by the terms and conditions of the Solicitation Document. If the Request for Proposals permits proposal of alternative terms under 137-049-0650, the Offeror's Offer includes the nonnegotiable terms and conditions and any proposed terms and conditions offered for negotiation upon and to the extent accepted by the Contracting Agency in Writing.

(5) **Instructions.** An Offeror shall submit and Sign its Offer in accordance with the Solicitation Document. An Offeror shall initial and submit any correction or erasure to its Offer prior to the Opening in accordance with the requirements for submitting an Offer under the Solicitation Document.

(6) **Forms.** An Offeror shall submit its Offer on the form(s) provided in the Solicitation Document, unless an Offeror is otherwise instructed in the Solicitation Document.

(7) **Documents.** An Offeror shall provide the Contracting Agency with all documents and descriptive literature required under the Solicitation Document.

(8) **Facsimile or Electronic Submissions.** If the Contracting Agency permits facsimile or electronic Offers in the Solicitation Document, the Offeror may submit facsimile or electronic Offers in accordance with the Solicitation Document. The Contracting Agency shall not consider facsimile or electronic Offers unless authorized by the Solicitation Document.

(9) **Product Samples and Descriptive Literature.** A Contracting Agency may require Product Samples or descriptive literature if it is necessary or desirable to evaluate the quality, features or characteristics of the offered items. The Contracting Agency will dispose of Product Samples, or return or make available for return Product Samples to the Offeror in accordance with the Solicitation Document.

(10) **Identification of Offers**

(a) To ensure proper identification and handling, Offers shall be submitted in a sealed envelope appropriately marked or in the envelope provided by the Contracting Agency, whichever is applicable.

(b) The Contracting Agency is not responsible for Offers submitted in any manner, format or to any delivery point other than as required in the Solicitation Document.

(11) **Receipt of Offers.** The Offeror is responsible for ensuring that the Contracting Agency receives its Offer at the required delivery point prior to the Closing, regardless of the method used to submit or transmit the Offer.

Stat. Auth.: ORS 279A.065 Stats. Implemented: ORS 279C.365 & ORS 279C.375

137-049-0290

Bid or Proposal Security

(1) **Security Amount.** If a Contracting Agency requires Bid or Proposal security, it shall be not more than 10% or less than 5% of the Offeror's Bid or Proposal, consisting of the base Bid or Proposal together with all additive alternates. A Contracting Agency shall not use Bid or Proposal security to discourage competition. The Contracting Agency shall clearly state any Bid or Proposal security requirements in its Solicitation Document. The Offeror shall forfeit Bid or Proposal security after Award if the Offeror fails to execute the Contract and promptly return it with any required Performance Bond and Payment Bond and, in the case of Proposal security, with any required proof of insurance. See ORS 279C.365(4) and ORS 279C.385.

(2) **Requirement for Bid Security (Optional for Proposals).** Unless a Contracting Agency has otherwise exempted a Solicitation or class of Solicitations from Bid security pursuant to ORS 279C.390, the Contracting Agency shall require Bid security for its Solicitation of Bids for Public Improvements. This requirement applies only to Public Improvement Contracts with a value, estimated by the Contracting Agency, of more than \$100,000 or, in the case of Contracts for highways, bridges and other transportation projects, more than \$50,000. See ORS 279C.365(5). The Contracting Agency may require Bid security even if it has exempted a class of Solicitations from Bid security. Contracting Agencies may require Proposal security in RFPs when Award of a Public Improvement Contract may be made without negotiation following receipt of a Firm Offer as described in 137-049-0280(1)(b). See ORS 279C.400(5).

(3) **Form of Bid or Proposal Security.** A Contracting Agency may accept only the following forms of Bid or Proposal security:

(a) A surety bond from a surety company authorized to do business in the State of Oregon;

(b) An irrevocable letter of credit issued by an insured institution as defined in ORS 706.008; or

(c) A cashier's check or Offeror's certified check.

(4) **Return of Security.** A Contracting Agency shall return or release the Bid or Proposal security of all unsuccessful Offerors after a Contract has been fully executed and all required bonds and insurance have

been provided, or after all Offers have been rejected. The Contracting Agency may return the Bid or Proposal security of unsuccessful Offerors prior to Award if the return does not prejudice Contract Award and the security of at least the Bidders with the three lowest Bids, or the Proposers with the three highest scoring Proposals, is retained pending execution of a Contract.

Stat. Auth.: ORS 279A.065 Stats. Implemented: ORS 279C.365, ORS 279C.385 & ORS 279C.390

137-049-0300

Facsimile Bids and Proposals

(1) **Contracting Agency Authorization.** A Contracting Agency may authorize Offerors to submit facsimile Offers. If the Contracting Agency determines that Bid or Proposal security is or will be required, the Contracting Agency shall not authorize facsimile Offers unless the Contracting Agency has established a method for receipt of such security. Prior to authorizing the submission of facsimile Offers, the Contracting Agency shall determine that the Contracting Agency's equipment and personnel are capable of receiving the size and volume of anticipated Offers within a short period of time. In addition, the Contracting Agency shall establish administrative procedures and controls:

- (a) To receive, identify, record and safeguard facsimile Offers;
- (b) To ensure timely delivery of Offers to the location of Opening; and
- (c) To preserve the Offers as sealed.

(2) **Provisions To Be Included in Solicitation Document.** In addition to all other requirements, if the Contracting Agency authorizes a facsimile Offer for Bids or Proposals, the Contracting Agency shall include in the Solicitation Document (other than in a request for quotes) the following:

- (a) A provision substantially in the form of the following: "A 'facsimile Offer', as used in this Solicitation Document, means an Offer, modification of an Offer, or withdrawal of an Offer that is transmitted to and received by the Contracting Agency via a facsimile machine.";
- (b) A provision substantially in the form of the following: "Offerors may submit facsimile Offers in response to this Solicitation Document. The entire response must arrive at the place and by the time specified in this Solicitation Document.";
- (c) A provision that requires Offerors to Sign their facsimile Offers;
- (d) A provision substantially in the form of the following: "The Contracting Agency reserves the right to Award the Contract solely on the basis of the facsimile Offer. However, upon the Contracting Agency's request the apparent successful Offeror shall promptly submit its complete original Signed Offer. ";
- (e) The data and compatibility characteristics of the Contracting Agency's receiving facsimile machine as follows:
 - (A) Telephone number; and
 - (B) Compatibility characteristics, e.g., make and model number, receiving speed, communications protocol; and
 - (f) A provision that the Contracting Agency is not responsible for any failure attributable to the transmission or receipt of the facsimile Offer including, but not limited to the following:
 - (A) Receipt of garbled or incomplete documents;
 - (B) Availability or condition of the receiving facsimile machine;
 - (C) Incompatibility between the sending and receiving facsimile machine;
 - (D) Delay in transmission or receipt of documents;
 - (E) Failure of the Offeror to properly identify the Offer documents;
 - (F) Illegibility of Offer documents; and
 - (G) Security and confidentiality of data.

Stat. Auth.: ORS 279A.065 Stats. Implemented: ORS 279C.365

137-049-0310

Electronic Procurement

(1) **General.** Contracting Agencies may utilize Electronic Advertisement of Public Improvement Contracts in accordance with ORS 279C.360(1), provided that advertisement of such Contracts with an estimated Contract Price in excess of \$125,000 must also be published in a trade newspaper of general statewide circulation, and may post notices of intent to Award electronically as provided by ORS 279C.410(7).

(2) **Alternative Procedures.** In the event that a Contracting Agency desires to direct or permit the submission and receipt of Offers for a Public Improvement Contract by electronic means, as allowed under ORS 279C.365(1)(d), it shall first promulgate supporting procedures substantially in conformance with 137-047-0330 (Electronic Procurement under ORS Chapter 279B), taking into account ORS Chapter 279C requirements for written bids, opening bids publicly, bid security, first-tier subcontractor disclosure and inclusion of prevailing wage rates.

(g) State that the Person may be represented by legal counsel.

(3) **Hearing.** The Contracting Agency shall schedule a hearing upon the Contracting Agency receipt of the Person's timely request. The Contracting Agency shall notify the Person of the time and place of the hearing and provide information on the procedures, right of representation and other rights related to the conduct of the hearing prior to hearing.

(4) **Notice of Disqualification.** The Contracting Agency will notify the Person in Writing of its Disqualification, personally or by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested. The notice shall contain:

(a) The effective date and period of Disqualification;

(b) The grounds for Disqualification; and

(c) A statement of the Person's appeal rights and applicable appeal deadlines. For a Conduct Disqualification or a DBE Disqualification under ORS 279A.110, the disqualified person must notify the Contracting Agency in Writing within three business Days after receipt of the Contracting Agency's notice of Disqualification if the Person intends to appeal the Contracting Agency's decision.

Stat. Auth.: ORS 279A.065 Stats. Implemented: ORS 200.065, ORS 200.075, ORS 279C.440, ORS 279C.445, ORS 279C.450 & ORS 279A.110

137-049-0380

Bid or Proposal Evaluation Criteria

(1) **General.** A Public Improvement Contract, if Awarded, shall be Awarded to the Responsible Bidder submitting the lowest Responsive Bid, or to the Responsible Proposer submitting the best Responsive Proposal. See 137-049-0390, and Rules for Alternative Contracting Methods at 137-049-0600 to 137-049-0690.

(2) **Bid Evaluation Criteria.** Invitations to Bid may solicit lump-sum Offers, unit-price Offers or a combination of the two.

(a) **Lump Sum.** If the ITB requires a lump-sum Bid, without additive or deductive alternates, or if the Contracting Agency elects not to award additive or deductive alternates, Bids shall be compared on the basis of lump-sum prices, or lump-sum base Bid prices, as applicable. If the ITB calls for a lump-sum base Bid, plus additive or deductive alternates, the total Bid price shall be calculated by adding to or deducting from the base Bid those alternates selected by the Contracting Agency, for the purpose of comparing Bids.

(b) **Unit Price.** If the Bid includes unit pricing for estimated quantities, the total Bid price shall be calculated by multiplying the estimated quantities by the unit prices submitted by the Bidder, and adjusting for any additive or deductive alternates selected by the Contracting Agency, for the purpose of comparing Bids. Contracting Agencies shall specify within the Solicitation Document the estimated quantity of the procurement to be used for determination of the low Bidder. In the event of mathematical discrepancies between unit price and any extended price calculations submitted by the Bidder, the unit price shall govern. See 137-049-0350(2)(b).

(3) **Proposal Evaluation Criteria.** If the Contracting Agency's Contract Review Authority has exempted the Procurement of a Public Improvement from the competitive Bidding requirements of ORS 279C.335(1), and has directed the Contracting Agency to use an Alternative Contracting Method under ORS 279C.335(4), the Contracting Agency shall set forth the evaluation criteria in the Solicitation Documents. See 137-049-0650, 137-049-0650, ORS 279C.335 and 279C.405.

Stat. Auth.: ORS 279A.065 Stats. Implemented: ORS 279C.335

137-049-0390

Offer Evaluation and Award; Determination of Responsibility (1) **General.** If Awarded, the Contracting Agency shall Award the Contract to the Responsible Bidder submitting the lowest, Responsive Bid or the Responsible Proposer or Proposers submitting the best, Responsive Proposal or Proposals, provided that such Person is not listed by the Construction Contractors Bd as disqualified to hold a Public Improvement Contract, see ORS 279C.375(3)(a), or is ineligible for Award as a Nonresident (as defined in ORS 279A.120) education service district (Oregon Laws 2005, Chapter 413). The Contracting Agency may Award by item, groups of items or the entire Offer provided such Award is consistent with the Solicitation Document and in the public interest.

(2) **Determination of Responsibility.** Offerors are required to demonstrate their ability to perform satisfactorily under a Contract. Before Awarding a Contract, the Contracting Agency must have information that indicates that the Offeror meets the standards of responsibility set forth in ORS 279.375(3)(b). To be a Responsible Offeror, the Contracting Agency must determine that the Offeror:

- (a) Has available the appropriate financial, material, equipment, facility and personnel resources and expertise, or ability to obtain the resources and expertise, necessary to demonstrate the capability of the Offeror to meet all contractual responsibilities;
- (b) Has a satisfactory record of contract performance. A Contracting Agency should carefully scrutinize an Offeror's record of contract performance if the Offeror is or recently has been materially deficient in contract performance. In reviewing the Offeror's performance, the Contracting Agency should determine whether the Offeror's deficient performance was expressly excused under the terms of contract, or whether the Offeror took appropriate corrective action. The Contracting Agency may review the Offeror's performance on both private and Public Contracts in determining the Offeror's record of contract performance. The Contracting Agency shall make its basis for determining an Offeror not Responsible under this paragraph part of the Solicitation file;
- (c) Has a satisfactory record of integrity. An Offeror may lack integrity if a Contracting Agency determines the Offeror demonstrates a lack of business ethics such as violation of state environmental laws or false certifications made to a Contracting Agency. A Contracting Agency may find an Offeror not Responsible based on the lack of integrity of any Person having influence or control over the Offeror (such as a key employee of the Offeror that has the authority to significantly influence the Offeror's performance of the Contract or a parent company, predecessor or successor Person). The standards for Conduct Disqualification under 137-049-0370 may be used to determine an Offeror's integrity. The Contracting Agency shall make its basis for determining that an Offeror is not Responsible under this paragraph part of the Solicitation file;
- (d) Is qualified legally to contract with the Contracting Agency; and
- (e) Has supplied all necessary information in connection with the inquiry concerning responsibility. If the Offeror fails to promptly supply information requested by the Contracting Agency concerning responsibility, the Contracting Agency shall base the determination of responsibility upon any available information, or may find the Offeror not Responsible.
- (3) **Documenting Agency Determinations.** Contracting Agencies shall document their compliance with ORS 279C.375(3) and the above sections of this rule on a Responsibility Determination Form substantially as set forth in ORS 279.375(3)(c), and file that form with the Construction Contractors Board within 30 days after Contract Award.
- (4) **Contracting Agency Evaluation.** The Contracting Agency shall evaluate an Offer only as set forth in the Solicitation Document and in accordance with applicable law. The Contracting Agency shall not evaluate an Offer using any other requirement or criterion.
- (5) **Offeror Submissions.**
- (a) The Contracting Agency may require an Offeror to submit Product Samples, descriptive literature, technical data, or other material and may also require any of the following prior to Award:
- (A) Demonstration, inspection or testing of a product prior to Award for characteristics such as compatibility, quality or workmanship;
- (B) Examination of such elements as appearance or finish; or
- (C) Other examinations to determine whether the product conforms to Specifications.
- (b) The Contracting Agency shall evaluate product acceptability only in accordance with the criteria disclosed in the Solicitation Document to determine that a product is acceptable. The Contracting Agency shall reject an Offer providing any product that does not meet the Solicitation Document requirements. A Contracting Agency's rejection of an Offer because it offers nonconforming Work or materials is not Disqualification and is not appealable under ORS 279C.445.
- (6) **Evaluation of Bids.** The Contracting Agency shall use only objective criteria to evaluate Bids as set forth in the ITB. The Contracting Agency shall evaluate Bids to determine which Responsible Offeror offers the lowest Responsive Bid.
- (a) Nonresident Bidders. In determining the lowest Responsive Bid, the Contracting Agency shall, in accordance with 137-046-0310, add a percentage increase to the Bid of a nonresident Bidder equal to the percentage, if any, of the preference given to that Bidder in the state in which the Bidder resides.
- (b) Clarifications. In evaluating Bids, a Contracting Agency may seek information from a Bidder only to clarify the Bidder's Bid. Such clarification shall not vary, contradict or supplement the Bid. A Bidder must submit Written and Signed clarifications and such clarifications shall become part of the Bidder's Bid.
- (c) Negotiation Prohibited. The Contracting Agency shall not negotiate scope of Work or other terms or conditions under an Invitation to Bid process prior to Award.
- (7) **Evaluation of Proposals.** See 137-049-0650 regarding rules applicable to Requests for Proposals. Stat. Auth.: ORS 279A.065 Stats. Implemented: ORS 279C.335, ORS 279C.365, ORS 279C.375 & ORS 279C.395

137-049-0395

Notice of Intent to Award

(1) **Notice.** At least seven days before the Award of a Public Improvement Contract, unless otherwise specified in the Solicitation Documents, the Contracting Agency shall issue to each Bidder (pursuant to ORS 279C.375(2)) and each Proposer (pursuant to ORS 279C.410(7)), or post, electronically or otherwise, a notice of the Contracting Agency's intent to Award the Contract. This requirement does not apply to Award of a small (under \$5,000), intermediate (informal competitive quotes) or emergency Public Improvement Contract awarded under ORS 279C.335(1)(c) or (d) or (6).

(2) **Form and Manner of Posting.** The form and manner of posting notice shall conform to customary practices within the Contracting Agency's procurement system, and may be made electronically.

(3) **Finalizing Award.** The Contracting Agency's Award shall not be final until the later of the following:

(a) Seven Days after the date of the notice, unless the Solicitation Document provided a different period for protest; or

(b) The Contracting Agency provides a Written response to all timely-filed protests that denies the protest and affirms the Award.

(4) **Prior Notice Impractical.** Posting of notice of intent to award shall not be required when the Contracting Agency determines that it is impractical due to unusual time constraints in making prompt Award for its immediate procurement needs, documents the Contract file as to the reason for the determination, and posts notice of that action as soon as reasonably practical.

Stat. Auth.: ORS 279A.065

Stats. Implemented: ORS 279C.375

137-049-0400

Documentation of Award; Availability of Award Decisions

(1) **Basis of Award.** After Award, the Contracting Agency shall make a record showing the basis for determining the successful Offeror part of the Contracting Agency's Solicitation file.

(2) **Contents of Award Record for Bids.** The Contracting Agency's record shall include:

(a) All submitted Bids;

(b) Completed Bid tabulation sheet; and

(c) Written justification for any rejection of lower Bids.

(3) **Contents of Award Record for Proposals.** Where the use of Requests for Proposals is authorized as set forth in 137-049-0650, the Contracting Agency's record shall include:

(a) All submitted Proposals.

(b) The completed evaluation of the Proposals;

(c) Written justification for any rejection of higher scoring Proposals or for failing to meet mandatory requirements of the Request for Proposal; and

(d) If the Contracting Agency permitted negotiations in accordance with 137-049-0650, the Contracting Agency's completed evaluation of the initial Proposals and the Contracting Agency's completed evaluation of final Proposals.

(4) **Contract Document.** The Contracting Agency shall deliver a fully executed copy of the final Contract to the successful Offeror.

(5) **Bid Tabulations and Award Summaries.** Upon request of any Person the Contracting Agency shall provide tabulations of Awarded Bids or evaluation summaries of Proposals for a nominal charge which may be payable in advance. Requests must contain the Solicitation Document number and, if requested, be accompanied by a self-addressed, stamped envelope. Contracting Agencies may also provide tabulations of Bids and Proposals Awarded on designated Web sites or on the Contracting Agency's Electronic Procurement System.

(6) **Availability of Solicitation Files.** The Contracting Agency shall make completed Solicitation files available for public review at the Contracting Agency.

(7) **Copies from Solicitation Files.** Any Person may obtain copies of material from Solicitation files upon payment of a reasonable copying charge.

Stat. Auth.: ORS 279A.065 Stats. Implemented: ORS 279C.365 & ORS 279C.375

137-049-0410

Time for Contracting Agency Acceptance; Extension

(1) **Time for Offer Acceptance.** An Offeror's Bid, or Proposal submitted as a Firm Offer (see 137-049-0280), is irrevocable, valid and binding on the Offeror for not less than 30 Days from Closing unless otherwise specified in the Solicitation Document.

(2) **Extension of Acceptance Time.** A Contracting Agency may request, orally or in Writing, that Offerors extend, in Writing, the time during which the Contracting Agency may consider and accept their Offer(s). If

an Offeror agrees to such extension, the Offer shall continue as a Firm Offer, irrevocable, valid and binding on the Offeror for the agreed-upon extension period.
Stat. Auth.: ORS 279A.065 Stats. Implemented: ORS 279C.375

137-049-0420

Negotiation With Bidders Prohibited

(1) **Bids.** Except as permitted by ORS 279C.340 and 137-049-0430 when all bids exceed the cost estimate, a Contracting Agency shall not negotiate with any Bidder prior to Contract Award. After Award of the Contract, the Contracting Agency and Contractor may modify the Contract only by change order or amendment to the Contract in accordance with 137-049-0910.

(2) **Requests for Proposals.** A Contracting Agency may conduct discussions or negotiations with Proposers only in accordance with the requirements of 137-049-0650.

Stat. Auth.: ORS 279A.065 Stats. Implemented: ORS 279C.340 & ORS 279C.375

137-049-0430

Negotiation When Bids Exceed Cost Estimate

(1) **Generally.** In accordance with ORS 279C.340, if all Responsive Bids from Responsible Bidders on a competitively Bid Project exceed the Contracting Agency's Cost Estimate, prior to Contract Award the Contracting Agency may negotiate Value Engineering and Other Options with the Responsible Bidder submitting the lowest, Responsive Bid in an attempt to bring the Project within the Contracting Agency's Cost Estimate. The subcontractor disclosure and substitution requirements of 137-049-0360 do not apply to negotiations under this rule.

(2) **Definitions.** The following definitions apply to this administrative rule:

(E) Has not met the requirements of ORS 279A.105 if required by the Solicitation Document;

(F) Has not submitted properly executed Bid or Proposal security as required by the Solicitation Document;

(G) Has failed to provide the certification required under section 3 of this rule;

(H) Is not Responsible. See 137-049-0390(2) regarding Contracting Agency determination that the Offeror has met statutory standards of responsibility.

(2) **Form of Business.** For purposes of this rule, the Contracting Agency may investigate any Person submitting an Offer. The investigation may include that Person's officers, Directors, owners, affiliates, or any other Person acquiring ownership of the Person to determine application of this rule or to apply the Disqualification provisions of ORS 279C.440 to 279C.450 and 137-049-0370.

(3) **Certification of Non-Discrimination.** The Offeror shall certify and deliver to the Contracting Agency Written certification, as part of the Offer that the Offeror has not discriminated and will not discriminate against minority, women or emerging small business enterprises in obtaining any required subcontracts. Failure to do so shall be grounds for disqualification.

(4) **Rejection of all Offers.** A Contracting Agency may reject all Offers for good cause upon the Contracting Agency's Written finding it is in the public interest to do so. The Contracting Agency shall notify all Offerors of the rejection of all Offers, along with the good cause justification and finding.

(5) **Criteria for Rejection of All Offers.** The Contracting Agency may reject all Offers upon a Written finding that:

(a) The content of or an error in the Solicitation Document, or the Solicitation process unnecessarily restricted competition for the Contract;

(b) The price, quality or performance presented by the Offerors is too costly or of insufficient quality to justify acceptance of the Offer;

(c) Misconduct, error, or ambiguous or misleading provisions in the Solicitation Document threaten the fairness and integrity of the competitive process;

(d) Causes other than legitimate market forces threaten the integrity of the competitive Procurement process. These causes include, but are not limited to, those that tend to limit competition such as restrictions on competition, collusion, corruption, unlawful anti-competitive conduct and inadvertent or intentional errors in the Solicitation Document;

(e) The Contracting Agency cancels the Solicitation in accordance with 137-049-0270; or

(f) Any other circumstance indicating that Awarding the Contract would not be in the public interest.

Stat. Auth.: ORS 279A.065 Stats. Implemented: ORS 279C.375, ORS 279C.380, ORS 279C.395, ORS 279A.105 & ORS 279A.110

137-049-0450

Protest of Contractor Selection, Contract Award

(1) **Purpose.** An adversely affected or aggrieved Offeror must exhaust all avenues of administrative review and relief before seeking judicial review of the Contracting Agency's Contractor selection or Contract Award decision.

(2) **Notice of Competitive Range.** Unless otherwise provided in the RFP, * under 137-049-0650, the Contracting Agency shall provide Written notice to all Proposers of the Contracting Agency's determination of the Proposers included in the Competitive Range. The Contracting Agency's notice of the Proposers included in the Competitive Range shall not be final until the later of the following:

(a) Seven (7) Days after the date of the notice, unless otherwise provided therein; or
(b) Until the Contracting Agency provides a Written response to all timely-filed protests that denies the protest and affirms the notice of the Proposers included in the Competitive Range.

(3) **Notice of Intent to Award.** The Contracting Agency shall provide Written notice to all Offerors of the Contracting Agency's intent to Award the Contract, as provided in 137-049-0395.

(4) **Right to Protest Award.**

(a) An adversely affected or aggrieved Offeror may submit to the Contracting Agency a Written protest of the Contracting Agency's intent to Award within seven Days after issuance of the notice of intent to Award the Contract, unless a different protest period is provided under the Solicitation Document.

(b) The Offeror's protest must be in Writing and must specify the grounds upon which the protest is based.

(c) An Offeror is adversely affected or aggrieved only if the Offeror is eligible for Award of the Contract as the Responsible Bidder submitting the lowest Responsive Bid or the Responsible Proposer submitting the best Responsive Proposal and is next in line for Award, i.e., the protesting Offeror must claim that all lower Bidders or higher-scored Proposers are ineligible for Award:) Because their Offers were nonresponsive; or (B) The Contracting Agency committed a substantial violation of a provision in the Solicitation Document or of an applicable Procurement statute or administrative rule, and the protesting Offeror was unfairly evaluated and would have, but for such substantial violation, been the Responsible Bidder offering the lowest Bid or the Responsible Proposer offering the highest-ranked Proposal.

(d) The Contracting Agency shall not consider a protest submitted after the time period established in this rule or such different period as may be provided in the Solicitation Document. A Proposer may not protest a Contracting Agency's decision not to increase the size of the Competitive Range above the size of the Competitive Range set forth in the RFP.

(5) **Right to Protest Competitive Range.**

(a) An adversely affected or aggrieved Proposer may submit to the Contracting Agency a Written protest of the Contracting Agency's decision to exclude the Proposer from the Competitive Range within seven Days after issuance of the notice of the Competitive Range, unless a different protest period is provided under the Solicitation Document. (See procedural requirements for the use of RFPs at 137-049-0650.)

(b) The Proposer's protest shall be in Writing and must specify the grounds upon which the protest is based.

(c) A Proposer is adversely affected only if the Proposer is responsible and submitted a Responsive Proposal and is eligible for inclusion in the Competitive Range, i.e., the protesting Proposer must claim it is eligible for inclusion in the Competitive Range if all ineligible higher-scoring Proposers are removed from consideration, and that those ineligible Proposers are ineligible for inclusion in the Competitive Range because:

(A) Their Proposals were not responsive; or

(B) The Contracting Agency committed a substantial violation of a provision in the RFP or of an applicable Procurement statute or administrative rule, and the protesting Proposer was unfairly evaluated and would have, but for such substantial violation, been included in the Competitive Range.

(d) The Contracting Agency shall not consider a protest submitted after the time period established in this rule or such different period as may be provided in the Solicitation Document. A Proposer may not protest a Contracting Agency's decision not to increase the size of the Competitive Range above the size of the Competitive Range set forth in the RFP.

(6) **Authority to Resolve Protests.** The head of the Contracting Agency, or such Person's designee, may settle or resolve a Written protest submitted in accordance with the requirements of this rule.

(7) **Decision.** If a protest is not settled, the head of the Contracting Agency, or such Person's designee, shall promptly issue a Written decision on the protest. Judicial review of this decision will be available if provided by statute.

(8) **Award.** The successful Offeror shall promptly execute the Contract after the Award is final. The Contracting Agency shall execute the Contract only after it has obtained all applicable required documents and approvals.

Stat. Auth.: ORS 279A.065 Stats. Implemented: ORS 279C.375, ORS 279C.380, ORS 279C.385 & ORS 279C.460

137-049-0460

Performance and Payment Security; Waiver

(1) **Public Improvement Contracts.** Unless the required performance bond is waived under ORS 279C.380(1)(a), excused in cases of emergency under ORS 279C.380(4), or unless the Contracting Agency's Contract Review Authority exempts a Contract or classes of contracts from the required performance bond and payment bond pursuant to ORS 279C.390, the Contractor shall execute and deliver

to the Contracting Agency a performance bond and a payment bond each in a sum equal to the Contract Price for all Public Improvement Contracts. This requirement applies only to Public Improvement Contracts with a value, estimated by the Contracting Agency, of more than \$100,000 or, in the case of Contracts for highways, bridges and other transportation projects, more than \$50,000. See ORS 279C.380(5). Under ORS 279C.390(3)(b) the Director of the Oregon Department of Transportation may reduce the performance bond amount for contracts financed from the proceeds of bonds issued under ORS 367.620(3)(a). Also see 137-049-0815 and BOLI rules at OAR 839-025-0015 regarding the separate requirement for a Public Works bond.

(2) **Other Construction Contracts.** A Contracting Agency may require performance security for other construction Contracts that are not Public Improvement Contracts. Such requirements shall be expressly set forth in the Solicitation Document.

(3) **Requirement for Surety Bond.** The Contracting Agency shall accept only a performance bond furnished by a surety company authorized to do business in Oregon unless otherwise specified in the Solicitation Document (i.e., the Contracting Agency may accept a cashier's check or certified check in lieu or all or a portion of the required performance bond if specified in the Solicitation Document). The payment bond must be furnished by a surety company authorized to do business in Oregon, and in an amount equal to the full contract price.

(4) **Time for Submission.** The apparent successful Offeror must promptly furnish the required performance security upon the Contracting Agency's request. If the Offeror fails to furnish the performance security as requested, the Contracting Agency may reject the Offer and Award the Contract to the Responsible Bidder drawbacks of particular Alternative Contracting Methods. To the extent practicable, such Findings shall relate back to the specific characteristics of the project or projects at issue in the exemption request.

(2) *

(3) *

(4) **Favoritism and Competition.** The criteria at ORS 279C.335(2)(a) that it is "unlikely" that the exemption will "encourage favoritism" or "substantially diminish competition" may be addressed *for* Alternative Contracting Methods by specifying: (a) the manner in which an RFP process will be utilized; (b) that the Procurement will be formally advertised with public notice and disclosure of the planned Alternative Contracting Method; (c) that competition will be encouraged; and (d) that Award will be made based upon identified selection criteria and an opportunity to protest that Award provided.

(5) **Class Exemptions.** In making the findings supporting a class exemption *for Alternative Contracting Methods, in addition to statutory findings*, the Contracting Agency shall clearly identify the class with respect to its defining characteristics. Those characteristics shall include some combination of Project descriptions or locations, time periods, contract values, method of procurement, or other factors that distinguish the limited and related class of Projects from a Contracting Agency's overall construction program. The Contracting Agency may not identify a class solely by funding source, such as a particular bond fund, or by the method of procurement, but shall identify the class using characteristics that reasonably relate to the exemption criteria of ORS 279C.335(2).

(6) **Public Hearing.** Before final adoption of Findings exempting a Public Improvement Contract from the requirement of competitive bidding, a Contracting Agency shall give notice and hold a public hearing as required by ORS 279C.335(4). The hearing shall be for the purpose of receiving public comment on the Contracting Agency's draft Findings.

Stat. Auth.: ORS 279A.065 Stats. Implemented: ORS 279C.335 & ORS 279A.065

137-049-0640

General Alternative Bidding Procedures

(1) **Proposal Evaluation.** Factors in addition to price may be considered in the selection process, but only as set forth in the RFP. * Proposal evaluation shall be as objective as possible. Evaluation factors need not be precise predictors of future costs and performance, but to the extent possible such evaluation factors shall:

(a) Be reasonable estimates based on information available to the Contracting Agency;

(b) Treat all Proposals equitably; and

(c) Recognize that public policy requires that Public Improvements be constructed at the least overall cost to the Contracting Agency. See ORS 279C.305.

(2) **Evaluation Factors.**

(a) In basic negotiated construction contracting, where the only reason for an RFP is to consider factors other than price, those factors may consist of firm and personnel experience on similar projects, adequacy of equipment and physical plant, sources of supply, availability of key personnel, financial capacity, past performance, safety records, project understanding, proposed methods of construction, proposed milestone dates, references, service, and related matters that affect cost or quality.

(b) In CM/GC contracting, in addition to (a) above, those factors may also include the ability to respond to the technical complexity or unique character of the project, analyze and propose solutions or approaches to

complex project problems, coordination of multiple disciplines, the time required to commence and complete the improvement, and related matters that affect cost or quality.

(c) In Design-Build contracting, in addition to (a) and (b) above, those factors may also include design professional qualifications, specialized experience, preliminary design submittals, technical merit, design-builder team experience and related matters that affect cost or quality. *

(3) **Contract Negotiations.** Contract terms may be negotiated to the extent allowed by the RFP and 137-049-0600 to 137-049-0690, provided that the general Work scope remains the same and that the field of competition does not change as a result of material changes to the requirements stated in the Solicitation Document. See 137-049-0650. Terms that may be negotiated consist of details of Contract performance, methods of construction, timing, assignment of risk in specified areas, fee, and other matters that affect cost or quality. *

Stat. Auth.: ORS 279C.335 & ORS 279A.065 Stats. Implemented: ORS 279C.335, ORS 279A.065 & ORS 351.086

**

137-049-0650

Requests for Proposals (RFP)

(1) **Generally.** (a) *Contracting Agency may utilize the following RFP process for public improvement contracts to allow flexibility in both proposal evaluation and contract negotiation, subject to ORS 279C.400 to 279C.410, 137-049-0200 to 137-049-0480, and 137-049-0640 to 137-049-0660, unless other applicable*

(C) Other advance Work related to critical components of the Contract.

(j) Subcontractor Selection. The Contract shall clearly describe the methods by which the CM/GC shall publicly receive, open and record Bids or price quotations, and competitively select subcontractors to perform the Contract Work based upon price, as well as the mechanisms by which the Contracting Agency may waive those requirements. The documents shall also describe completely the methods by which the CM/GC and its affiliated or subsidiary entities may compete to perform the Work, including, at a minimum, advance notice to the public of the CM/GC's intent to compete and a public Opening of Bids or quotations by an independent party.

(k) Subcontractor Approvals and Protests. The Contract shall clearly establish whether the Contracting Agency must approve subcontract awards, and to what extent, if any, the Contracting Agency will resolve Procurement protests of subcontractors and suppliers. The related procedures and reporting mechanisms shall be established with certainty, including whether the CM/GC acts as the Contracting Agency's representative in this process and whether the CM/GC's subcontracting records are considered to be public records. In any event, the Contracting Agency shall retain the right to monitor the subcontracting process in order to protect Contracting Agency's interests.

(l) CM/GC Self-Performance. Whenever feasible, the Contract shall establish the elements of Work the CM/GC may self-perform without competition, including, for example, the Work of the job-site general conditions. In the alternative, the Contract shall include a process for Contracting Agency approval of CM/GC self-performance.

(m) Socio-Economic Programs. The Contract shall clearly identify conditions relating to any required socio-economic programs (such as Affirmative Action or Prison Inmate Labor Programs), including the manner in which such programs affect the CM/GC's subcontracting requirements, the enforcement mechanisms available, and the respective responsibilities of the CM/GC and Contracting Agency.

Stat. Auth.: ORS 279A.065 Stats. Implemented: ORS 297C.335 & ORS 279C.380(2)

CONTRACT PROVISIONS

137-049-0800

Required Contract Clauses

Contracting Agencies shall include in all formal Solicitations for Public Improvement Contracts all of the ORS Chapter 279C required Contract clauses, as set forth in the checklist contained in 137-049-0200(1)(c) regarding Solicitation Documents. The following series of rules provide further guidance regarding particular Public Contract provisions.

Stat. Auth.: ORS 279A.065 Stats. Implemented: ORS 297C.505 to ORS 279C.545 & ORS 279C.800 to 279C.870

137-049-0810

Waiver of Delay Damages Against Public Policy

Contracting Agencies shall not place any provision in a Public Improvement Contract purporting to waive, release, or extinguish the rights of a Contractor to damages resulting from a Contracting Agency's unreasonable delay in performing the Contract. However, Contract provisions requiring notice of delay, providing for alternative dispute resolution such as arbitration (where allowable) or mediation, providing

other procedures for settling contract disputes, or providing for reasonable liquidated damages, are permissible.

Stat. Auth.: ORS 279A.065

Stats. Implemented: ORS 279C.315

137-049-0815

BOLI Public Works Bond

Pursuant to ORS 279C.830(3), the specifications for every Public Works Contract shall contain a provision stating that the Contractor and every subcontractor must have a Public Works bond filed with the Construction Contractors Board before starting Work on the project, unless otherwise exempt. This bond is in addition to performance bond and payment bond requirements. See BOLI rule at OAR 839-025-0015.

Stat. Auth. ORS 279A.065

Stats. Implemented: ORS 279C.830

137-049-0820

Retainage

(1) **Withholding of Retainage.** Except to the extent a Contracting Agency's enabling laws require otherwise, a Contracting Agency shall not retain an amount in excess of five percent of the Contract Price for Work completed. If the Contractor has performed at least 50 percent of the Contract Work and is progressing satisfactorily, upon the Contractor's submission of Written application containing the surety's Written approval, the Contracting Agency may, in its discretion, reduce or eliminate retainage on any remaining progress payments. The Contracting Agency shall respond in Writing to all such applications within a reasonable time. When the Contract Work is 97-1/2 percent completed, the Contracting Agency may, at its discretion and without application by the Contractor, reduce the retained amount to 100 percent of the value of the remaining unperformed Contract Work. A Contracting Agency may at any time reinstate retainage. Retainage shall be included in the final payment of the Contract Price.

(2) **Deposit in interest-bearing accounts.** Upon request of the Contractor, a Contracting Agency shall deposit cash retainage in an interest-bearing account in a bank, savings bank, trust company, or savings association, for the benefit of the Contracting Agency. Earnings on such account shall accrue to the Contractor. State Contracting Agencies shall establish the account through the State Treasurer.

(3) **Alternatives to cash retainage.** In lieu of cash retainage to be held by a Contracting Agency, the Contractor may substitute one of the following:

(a) Deposit of securities:

(A) The Contractor may deposit bonds or securities with the Contracting Agency or in any bank or trust company to be held for the benefit of the Contracting Agency. In such event, the Contracting Agency shall reduce the retainage by an amount equal to the value of the bonds and securities, and reimburse the excess to the Contractor.

(B) Bonds and securities deposited or acquired in lieu of retainage shall be of a character approved by the Oregon Department of Administrative Services, which may include, without limitation:

(i) Bills, certificates, notes or bonds of the United States.

(ii) Other obligations of the United States or its Contracting Agencies.

(iii) Obligations of any corporation wholly owned by the Federal Government.

(iv) Indebtedness of the Federal National Mortgage Association.

(C) Upon the Contracting Agency's determination that all requirements for the protection of the Contracting Agency's interests have been fulfilled, it shall release to the Contractor all bonds and securities deposited in lieu of retainage.

(b) Deposit of surety bond. A Contracting Agency, at its discretion, may allow the Contractor to deposit a surety bond in a form acceptable to the Contracting Agency in lieu of all or a portion of funds retained or to be retained. A Contractor depositing such a bond shall accept surety bonds from its subcontractors and suppliers in lieu of retainage. In such cases, retainage shall be reduced by an amount equal to the value of the bond, and the excess shall be reimbursed.

(4) **Recovery of costs.** A Contracting Agency may recover from the Contractor all costs incurred in the proper handling of cash retainage and securities, by reduction of the final payment.

(5) **Additional Retainage When Certified Payroll Statements Not Filed.** Pursuant to ORS 279C.845(7), if a Contractor is required to file certified payroll statements and fails to do so, the Contracting Agency shall retain 25 percent of any amount earned by the Contractor on a Public Works Contract until the Contractor has filed such statements with the Contracting Agency. The Contracting Agency shall pay the Contractor the amount retained under this provision within 14 days after the Contractor files the certified statements, regardless of whether a subcontractor has filed such statements (but see ORS 279C.845(1) regarding the requirement for both contractors and subcontractors to file certified statements with the Contracting Agency). See BOLI rule at OAR 839-025-0010.

Stat. Auth.: ORS 279A.065 & ORS 279C.845 Stats. Implemented: ORS 279C.560, ORS 279C.570 & ORS 701.420

137-049-0830

Contractor Progress Payments

(1) **Request for progress payments.** Each month the Contractor shall submit to the Contracting Agency its Written request for a progress payment based upon an estimated percentage of Contract completion. At the Contracting Agency's discretion, this request may also include the value of material to be incorporated in the completed Work that has been delivered to the premises and appropriately stored. The sum of these estimates is referred to as the "value of completed Work." With these estimates as a base, the Contracting Agency will make a progress payment to the Contractor, which shall be equal to: (i) the value of completed Work; (ii) less those amounts that have been previously paid; (iii) less other amounts that may be deductible or owing and due to the Contracting Agency for any cause; and (iv) less the appropriate amount of retainage.

(2) **Progress payments do not mean acceptance of Work.** Progress payments shall not be construed as an acceptance or approval of any part of the Work, and shall not relieve the Contractor of responsibility for defective workmanship or material.

Stat. Auth.: ORS 279A.065 Stats. Implemented: ORS 279C.570

137-049-0840

Interest (1) Prompt payment policy. A Contracting Agency shall pay promptly all payments due and owing to the Contractor on Contracts for Public Improvements.

(2) **Interest on progress payments.** Late payment interest shall begin to accrue on payments due and owing on the earlier of 30 Days after receipt of invoice or 15 Days after Contracting Agency approval of payment (the "Progress Payment Due Date"). The interest rate shall equal three times the discount rate on 90-day commercial paper in effect on the Progress Payment Due Date at the Federal Reserve Bank in the Federal Reserve district that includes Oregon, up to a maximum rate of 30 percent.

(3) **Interest on final payment.** Final payment on the Contract Price, including retainage, shall be due and owing no later than 30 Days after Contract completion and acceptance of the Work. Late-payment interest on such final payment shall thereafter accrue at the rate of one and one-half percent per month until paid.

(4) **Settlement or judgment interest.** In the event of a dispute as to compensation due a Contractor for Work performed, upon settlement or judgment in favor of the Contractor, interest on the amount of the settlement or judgment shall be added to, and not made part of, the settlement or judgment. Such interest, at the discount rate on 90-day commercial paper in effect at the Federal Reserve Bank in the Federal Reserve District that includes Oregon, shall accrue from the later of the Progress Payment Due Date, or thirty Days after the Contractor submitted a claim for payment to the Contracting Agency in Writing or otherwise in accordance with the Contract requirements.

Stat. Auth.: ORS 279A.065 Stats. Implemented: ORS 279C.570

137-049-0850

Final Inspection

(1) **Notification of Completion; inspection.** The Contractor shall notify the Contracting Agency in Writing when the Contractor considers the Contract Work completed. Within 15 Days of receiving Contractor's notice, the Contracting Agency will inspect the project and project records, and will either accept the Work or notify the Contractor of remaining Work to be performed.

(2) **Acknowledgment of acceptance.** When the Contracting Agency finds that all Work required under the Contract has been completed satisfactorily, the Contracting Agency shall acknowledge acceptance of the Work in Writing.

Stat. Auth.: ORS 279A.065 Stats. Implemented: ORS 279C.570(8)

137-049-0860

Public Works Contracts

(1) **Generally.** ORS 279C.800 to 279C.870 regulates Public Works Contracts, as defined in ORS 279C.800(5), and requirements for payment of prevailing wage rates. Also see administrative rules of the Bureau of Labor and Industries (BOLI) at Chapter 839.

(2) **Required Contract Conditions.** As detailed in the above statutes and rules, every Public Works Contract must contain the following provisions:

(a) Contracting Agency authority to pay certain unpaid claims and charge such amounts to Contractors, as set forth in ORS 279C.515(1).

(b) Maximum hours of labor and overtime, as set forth in ORS 279C.520(1).

(c) Employer notice to employees of hours and days that employees may be required to work, as set forth in ORS 279C.520(2).

(d) Contractor required payments for certain services related to sickness or injury, as set forth in ORS 279C.530.

(e) Requirement for payment of *not less than the prevailing hourly* rate of wage, as set forth in ORS 279C.830(1).

(f) Requirement for payment of fee to BOLI, as set forth in ORS 279C.830(2) and administrative rule of the BOLI commissioner.

(3) **Requirements for Specifications.** The Specifications for every Public Works Contract, consisting of the procurement package (such as the Project Manual, Bid or Proposal Booklets, Request for Quotes or similar procurement Specifications), must contain the following provisions:

(a) The *existing* state prevailing rate of wage *for all workers contemplated for the project*, as required by ORS 279C.830(1)(a). *Wages must be* physically contained within *the procurement specifications either by* attachment to hard copies of procurement Specifications, and by a downloadable direct link to the specific wage rates that apply to the project (either on the Contracting Agency web site or the BOLI web site) when procurement Specifications are also made available in electronic format.

(b) If applicable, the federal prevailing rate of wage and information concerning whether the state or federal rate is higher in each trade or occupation in each locality, as determined by BOLI in a separate publication. See BOLI rules at OAR 839-025-0020 and 0035.

(c) Reference to payment of fee to BOLI, as required by ORS 279C.830(2).

Stat. Auth.: ORS 279A.065 Stats. Implemented: ORS 279C.800 to ORS 279C.870

137-049-0870

Specifications; Brand Name Products

(1) **Generally.** The Contracting Agency's Solicitation Document shall not expressly or implicitly require any product by brand name or mark, nor shall it require the product of any particular manufacturer or seller, except pursuant to an exemption granted under ORS 279C.345(2).

(2) **Equivalents.** A Contracting Agency may identify products by brand names so long as the following language: "approved equal"; "or equal"; "approved equivalent" or "equivalent," or similar language is

PUBLIC CONTRACTING RULES - 2005 CLASS EXEMPTIONS

E-1 Purpose and Statutory Authority

These rules establish classes of public contracts which are exempt from the formal competitive solicitation requirements of the Public Contracting Code. These exemptions may be used by Contracting Agency with out additional findings of fact except as otherwise set forth herein. These exemptions are in addition to all contracting exemptions as set forth in the Code and Contracting Agency's Public Contracting Rules, Divisions 46, 47, 48, and 49. Additional contracts or classes of contracts may be expressly exempted from competitive solicitation requirements by ordinance or resolution of Contracting Agency pursuant to Contracting Agency Rules and ORS 279B.085 or 279C.335.

E-2 Advertising Contracts

Contracting Agency may purchase advertising without a competitive process, regardless of dollar value and including that intended for the purpose of giving public or legal notice.

E-3 Equipment Repair and Overhaul

Contracting Agency may enter into a public contract for the purchase of services, equipment or supplies for maintenance, repair or conversion of existing equipment, if required for efficient utilization of such equipment.

E-4 Contracts for Price Regulated Items

Contracting Agency may, regardless of dollar value and without competitive bidding, contract for the direct purchase of goods or services where the rate or price for the goods or services being purchased is established by federal, state, or local regulatory authority.

E-5 Copyrighted Materials

Contracting Agency may, without competitive bidding and regardless of dollar amount, purchase copyrighted materials if there is only one supplier available within a reasonable purchase area for such goods. Examples of copyrighted materials covered by this exemption may include, but are not necessarily limited to, new books, periodicals, workbooks, curriculum materials, reference materials, audio and visual media, and non-mass-marketed software.

E-6 Investment Contracts

Contracting Agency may, without competitive bidding, and regardless of dollar amount, contract for the purpose of the investment of public funds or the borrowing of funds by Contracting Agency when such investment or borrowing is contracted pursuant to duly enacted statute, ordinance, charter, or Constitution.

E-7 Requirements Contracts

- (1) Contracting Agency may enter into requirements contracts whereby it is agreed to purchase goods or services for an anticipated need at particular prices, provided the original contract is let by a competitive procurement process.
- (2) Purchase may also be made at prices established by a requirement contract or other agreement between another public body and a contractor, if the requirement contract was established by a competitive procurement process.
- (3) The term of any requirement contract, including renewals, shall not exceed five years.

E-8 Office Copier Purchases

- (1) Contracting Agency may enter into multiple requirements contracts for either the purchase, rental or lease of office copying equipment. Except for this multiple award exemption, such contracts shall otherwise conform to the requirements of Public Contracting Rule E-7.
- (2) In exercising this exemption, Contracting Agency shall fully consider the operating capabilities, limitations and cost of each brand or model and select the brand which will produce the best combination of performance and cost per copy for each application.

E-9 Manufacturer Direct Supplies

Contracting Agency may purchase goods directly from a manufacturer without a competitive solicitation process if a large volume purchase is required and the cost from the manufacturer is the same or less than the cost the manufacturer charges to its distributor(s). Procurements of this type are made on a contract-by-contract basis, and are not requirements contracts.

E-10 Gasoline, Diesel Fuel, Heating Oil, Lubricants and Asphalt

Contracting Agency is exempt from competitive bidding requirements for the purchase of gasoline, diesel fuel, heating oil, lubricants and asphalts if Contracting Agency seeks competitive quotes from at least three vendors in the area, and accepts quotes from all vendors in the area who offer quotes, and Contracting Agency makes its purchase from the least expensive source, and retains written justification for the purchase made.

E-11 Hazardous Material Removal; Oil Cleanup

Contracting Agency may enter into public contracts without competitive bidding, regardless of dollar amount, when ordered to clean up oil or hazardous waste pursuant to the authority granted the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) under ORS Chapter 466, and such DEQ order necessitates the prompt establishment and performance of the contract in order to comply with the statutes regarding spill or release of oil or hazardous material that have created an emergency condition. Comprehensive cleanup rules are set forth at OAR 340-122-205 to 340-122-360. In exercising its authority under this exemption Contracting Agency shall:

- (a) To the extent reasonable under the circumstances, encourage competition by attempting to make informal solicitations or to obtain informal quotes from potential suppliers of goods or services;
- (b) Make written findings describing the circumstances requiring cleanup or a copy of the DEQ order ordering such cleanup;
- (c) Record the measures taken under subsection (a) of this section to encourage competition, the amount of the quotes or proposals obtained, if any, and the reason for selecting the contractor selected.

E-12 Insurance, Employee Benefit

Contracting Agency may purchase employee benefit insurance without a competitive solicitation process, regardless of dollar amount.

E-13 Medical and Laboratory Supplies

Contracting Agency is not required to purchase the following specified laboratory and medical supplies on the basis of a single award to the lowest responsible bidder, but instead may purchase different brands of the same item by awarding contracts, after competitive bidding, to the lowest responsible bidder for each brand. The laboratory and medical supplies affected by this rule include, but are not limited to:

- (1) Drugs, biologicals, blood fractions, and blood components;
- (2) Intravenous solutions and associated supplies for administration;
- (3) Microbiologicals, biochemicals, and diagnostic reagents;
- (4) Surgical dressings;
- (5) Heart valves;
- (6) E.E.G., E.K.G., electrodes, charts, and associated supplies;
- (7) Sterilizing wraps;
- (8) Catheters, medical tubes, and associated supplies;
- (9) Surgical and orthopedic instruments;
- (10) Hearing aids;
- (11) Pacemakers;
- (12) Dental supplies;
- (13) Laboratory small package chemicals;
- (14) Biology supplies; and
- (15) Therapeutic or cosmetic implants.

E-14 Concession Agreements

(1) A concession agreement is a contract that authorizes and requires a private entity or individual to promote or sell, for its own business purposes, specified types of goods or services from a site within a building or upon land owned or controlled by Contracting Agency, and under which the concessionaire makes payments to Contracting Agency based, in whole or in part, on the concessionaire's sales revenues. The term "concession agreement" does not include an agreement which is merely a flat-fee or per-foot rental, lease, license, permit, or other arrangement for the use of public property.

(2) Concession agreements are not required to be competitively bid. However, when it is in Contracting Agency's best interests to do so and in Contracting Agency's sole discretion, Contracting Agency may obtain competitive proposals for concession agreements using the procedures described in ORS 279B.060.

USED PERSONAL PROPERTY

E-15 Used Personal Property, Purchase of

(1) Subject to the provisions of this rule, Contracting Agency may purchase used property or equipment without competitive bidding and without obtaining competitive quotes, if it has determined that the purchase will be unlikely to encourage favoritism or substantially diminish competition, and will either result in cost savings to Contracting Agency or the public, or otherwise promote the public interest in a manner that could not be realized by a formal competitive solicitation process.

(2) "Used personal property or equipment" is property or equipment which has been placed in its intended use by a previous owner or user for a period of time recognized in the relevant trade or industry as qualifying the personal property or equipment as "used," at the time of Contracting Agency purchase. "Used personal property or equipment" generally does not include property or equipment if Contracting Agency was the previous user, whether under a lease, as part of a demonstration, trial or pilot project, or similar arrangement.

(3) For purchases of used personal property or equipment, Contracting Agency shall, where feasible, obtain three competitive quotes, unless Contracting Agency has determined and documented that a purchase without obtaining competitive quotes will be unlikely to encourage favoritism or substantially diminish competition and will either result in substantial cost savings to Contracting Agency or the public, or otherwise promote public interest in a manner that could not be realized by a formal competitive solicitation process.

E-16 Surplus Personal Property, Disposition of

(1) Contracting Agency may dispose of surplus personal property by any means determined to be in the best interest of Contracting Agency, including but not limited to: transfer to other departments; donation to other government agencies, or non-profit organizations; negotiated or advertised sale; trade; auction; liquidation through commercially recognized third party liquidator; or destruction.

(2) Prior to surplus property, Contracting Agency must find that the chosen disposition will substantially promote the public interest in a manner that could not practicably be realized by a competitive solicitation process and either that the disposition will result in a cost savings to Agency or will probably result in a higher net return than if the property were sold by a competitive solicitation process.

(3) All items of personal property having a residual value of more than \$10,000 are subject to prior authorization of the local contract review board.

PERSONAL SERVICES

E-17 Personal Services for Other than Architect, Engineer, and/or Surveying Services

(1) Either the following procedures or those set forth in Contracting Agency's Public Contracting Rules, Division 47, will be used to retain the services of independent contractors, other than architects, engineers, land surveyors, or other professionals otherwise exempt from these Rules or the Code.

(2) Nothing in this section shall apply to the employment of regular Contracting Agency employees unless otherwise approved by the local contract review board or its designee, or personal service contract.

(3) Unless otherwise approved by Contracting Agency, personal service contracts shall require the contractor to defend, indemnify, and hold harmless Contracting Agency, its officers, agents and employees from and against any and all claims or demands for damages of any kind arising out of or connected in any way with the contractor's performance there under and shall include a waiver of contractor's right to indemnification and defense under the Oregon Tort Claims Act.

(4) Unless otherwise approved by Contracting Agency, all personal service contracts shall contain a provision requiring the person or entity providing the service to obtain and maintain liability insurance coverage in at least Contracting Agency's tort liability limits, naming Contracting Agency as an additional named insured during the life of the contract.

(5) All personal service contracts shall contain all contract provisions mandated by State law. These provisions may be incorporated in the personal service contract by reference to State law, unless State law provides otherwise. Contracting Agency's Attorney's Office will prepare model contract provisions for use in Contracting Agency personal service contracts.

(6) The following procedure shall be observed in the selection of personal service contractors:

(a) For personal service contracts involving an anticipated fee of \$10,000 or less per annum, Contracting Agency may negotiate a contract for such services with any qualified contractor it selects.

(b) For personal service contracts involving an anticipated fee of more than \$10,000 per annum, Contracting Agency shall solicit at least three (3) prospective contractors who shall appear to have at least minimum qualifications for the proposed assignment, notify each prospective contractor in reasonable detail of the proposed assignment, and determine the prospective contractor's interest and ability to perform the proposed assignment.

(c) Contracting Agency may arrange for any or all interested prospective contractors to be interviewed

- for the assignment by an appropriate Contracting Agency employee or by an interview committee.
- (d) Following a review of the qualifications and interview, where conducted, of the interested prospective contractors, Contracting Agency may select the prospective contractor, and shall prepare a personal service contract.
- (7) The above provisions regarding selection procedures do not apply to extensions, amendments, modifications or supplements to executed personal service contracts.
- (8) Criteria to be considered in the evaluation and selection of a personal service contractor may include, but is not limited to:
- (a) Total cost of services to Contracting Agency.
 - (b) Specialized experience in the type of work to be performed.
 - (c) Capacity and capability to perform the work, including any specialized services within the time limitations for the work.
 - (d) Educational and professional record, including past record of performance on contracts with governmental agencies and private parties with respect to cost control, quality of work, ability to meet schedules, and contract administration, where applicable.
 - (e) Availability to perform the assignment and familiarity with the area in which the specific work is located, including knowledge of design or techniques peculiar to it, where applicable.
 - (f) Any other factors relevant to the particular contract.
- (9) The selection procedures described in this section may be waived by Contracting Agency, in its discretion, where an emergency exists that could not have been reasonably foreseen which requires such prompt execution of a contract to remedy the situation that there is not sufficient time to permit utilization of these selection procedures.
- (10) Contracting Agency or its designee is authorized to sign all personal service contracts, unless otherwise established by Contracting Agency policy.
- (11) Nothing contained in this section shall preclude Contracting Agency from complying with provisions of Federal or State law that require Contracting Agency to utilize a different selection or contracting procedure.

E-18 Insurance Contracts

Contracts for insurance where either the annual or aggregate premium exceeds \$10,000 must be let using one of the following procedures:

- (1) Agent of Record: Contracting Agency may appoint a licensed insurance agent ("agent of record") to perform insurance services in connection with more than one insurance contract. Among the services to be provided is the securing of competitive proposals from insurance carriers for all coverages for which the agent of record is given responsibility.
- (a) Prior to the selection of an agent of record, Contracting Agency shall make reasonable efforts to inform known insurance agents in the competitive market area that it is considering such selection. These efforts shall include a public advertisement in at least one newspaper of general circulation in the area where the contract is to be performed. The advertisement shall generally describe the nature of the insurance that the public contracting agency will require. If the amount of the annual premium for insurance, other than employee benefits insurance, is likely to exceed \$20,000 per year, such notice shall also include a public advertisement in at least one insurance trade publication of general circulation in the state.
 - (b) Any appointment period shall not exceed five years. Agents may serve more than one appointment period. Agents must qualify for appointment prior to each period as if each appointment period were the first.
 - (c) In selecting an agent of record, Contracting Agency shall select the agent(s) most likely to perform the most cost-effective services.
- (2) Specific Proposals for Insurance Contracts: Contracting Agency may solicit proposals from licensed insurance agents for the purpose of acquiring specific insurance contracts subject to the following conditions:
- (a) Contracting Agency shall make reasonable efforts to inform known insurance agents in the competitive market area of the subject matter of the contract, and to solicit proposals for providing the services required in connection with the contract. Such efforts shall include public advertisements in at least one newspaper of general circulation in the area where Contracting Agency is located. If the amount of annual premium for insurance, other than employee benefits insurance, is likely to exceed \$20,000 per year, such notice shall also include a public advertisement in at least one insurance trade publication of general circulation in the state.
 - (b) Contracting Agency shall select an agent on the basis of the most competitive offer considering coverage, premium cost, and service to be provided.