Bulletin

November 12th, 2019
City of Edmonton – Valley Line West LRT – New Procurement to Launch in January 2020

The City of Edmonton will launch a new design-build-partial finance (DBF) procurement process to deliver the Valley Line West LRT on Jan. 7, 2020.

The City initiated the original design-build-partial finance with vehicle supply (DBFV) procurement process with the launch of a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) in March 2019. The RFQ attracted a number of interested parties and, following an evaluation process, the City shortlisted three Proponent teams to participate in the Request for Proposal (RFP) process in May 2019.

The shortlisted Proponents were:

- Flatiron | AECOM | Dragados Valley Line West Joint Venture (FAD);
- Urban Mobility Partners (UMP) (a team composed of Eurovia, Graham and Parsons); and
- WestLINK Group (a team of subcontractors led by SNC Lavalin).

In July 2019, the City received formal withdrawal notices from UMP and the WestLINK Group. These withdrawals left only one shortlisted proponent prior to release of the RFP.

As a result of the withdrawals, the City paused the procurement process in order to reach out to the industry to better understand current market conditions. It conducted a new market sounding process and value for money analysis in August and September 2019 in order to determine its next steps.

The City is grateful to the remaining proponent FAD, and to all those that participated in its market sounding, for their willingness to engage with the City and to help advance the procurement process with the goal to achieve a successful procurement. The City considered all of its options in view of its goals for the project, its obligations to its funding partners, as well as its various policies and procedures. The City has decided to cancel the original procurement approach and launch a new procurement for a design-build-partial finance (DBF) of the infrastructure for the Valley Line West.

The City will procure light rail vehicles separately and is currently exploring options related to that approach. Proponents of the new infrastructure procurement process will not be exposed to any risk related to the City’s potential decisions with respect to vehicles.

The City is making a presentation at the forthcoming CCPPP national conference in Toronto and will post the presentation on the project website. Further information to assist potential proponents will be shared in the next few weeks. The RFQ for the DBF will be released on January 7th, 2020.
The City expects to run a short procurement process (relative to other Canadian processes initiated to date) over the course of 2020, with financial close before the end of the year, built on the principles of seeking out a strong partner to deliver the infrastructure for the Valley Line West.

Valley Line West is a 14-km light-rail extension from 102 Street Downtown to Lewis Farms in west Edmonton. It is the second stage of the Valley Line, a 27-km urban-style LRT line that will operate between Mill Woods in southeast Edmonton and Lewis Farms in west Edmonton.

The Alberta Purchasing Connection (APC) is the official online source of City of Edmonton procurement opportunities for all suppliers and contractors. The City uses SAP Ariba, a web-based tool used for procurement, contract and invoice management processes.

Industry inquiries may be directed to: Kim Bachand, Senior Buyer: vlwprocurement@edmonton.ca.

LRT inquiries from the public may be directed to: lrtprojects@edmonton.ca or call: (780) 496-4874 (voicemail monitored Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.)

For more information:

www.edmonton.ca/valleylinewest