

1. NDOT is trying to avoid situations where contractors need to rely on other concurrent work. With that in mind, we intend to create bid packages defined more by geographic limits rather than by type of work. For example, you are more likely to see bid package that includes bridges, grading and paving within a particular area instead of a grading project followed by a paving project. Do you agree with this approach?

2. The project as a whole will require borrow. The east end has significant amounts of excess excavation that could be hauled west towards areas needing borrow. We recognize that at some point, it may not be cost effective to haul that material within the project site. In other words, it may be more cost effective to waste some dirt on the east end and borrow even more dirt on the west end. Do you have any thoughts or guidance to help NDOT determine the optimum boundaries for packaging?

3. The area between 25th Street and the BNSF requires significant borrow to construct the embankment and accessing these areas will be challenging with the Salt Creek, the Trail and BNSF. At this point, we intend to acquire temporary easement for access from Saltillo Road between Salt Creek and BNSF.

a. What recommendations to you have to offer in regards to accessing this area?

b. Should NDOT acquire any additional easements to facilitate the construction in this area?

4. Knowing that a significant borrow will be required to build the west interchange, NDOT could design the bridges between 25th and 38th in such a way that they could carry more than the legal load for construction purposes. What would be the value (potential cost savings) of this design change?

5. We are looking at a number of packaging scenarios at this time ranging from 1 to 10 contracts. One large contract would be the easiest to administer, but having multiple contracts would provide more opportunities. What other ideas or criteria should NDOT be considering when defining the number of contracts?

6. NDOT could break this project into 2-4 relatively large contracts with the goal of creating more opportunities for contractors. Putting them in the same letting would allow for contractors to bid multiple projects and realize efficiencies associated with the earthwork balancing. Any suggestions regarding the sequencing of the lettings?

Provide additional pages as necessary or email responses to kwilson@agcne.org

Thank you for your response.

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