

Questions – 2/24/2023:

1. Per RFP I.A. (page 3 of 111), a new retaining wall with a concrete barrier wall/noise wall (8-ft.) is required to accommodate the widening. Please confirm if a new WB retaining wall at very close proximity to the existing wall is required at STA. 101+80.93 to STA. 111+82.06 and STA. 113+96.06 to STA. 123+17.44?

**ANSWER:** A new retaining wall for the stationing stated is not required. The existing retaining wall may be modified to accept the required type of Index 521-512 Concrete Barrier/Noise Wall Junction Slab.

2. If a new retaining wall is required per question #1, can the new retaining wall be placed further away (overbuild) from the existing wall to provide adequate space to design and construct the proposed retaining wall?

**ANSWER:** See response to question 1.

3. Can THEA provide existing pipe condition reports or videos of existing storm pipes?

**ANSWER:** Video inspection on some of the existing storm drain pipes was performed by the Design-Build Contractor on the South Selmon Median Safety Project. The attached video files and inspection reports will be provided as part of Addendum.

4. In the course of the project can the DBF firm utilize the FDOT Pipe Repair Matrix as a basis for proposing pipe repairs to the Authority for approval?

**ANSWER:** The Design-Build Firm may utilize the FDOT Pipe Repair Matrix as a basis for proposing pipe repairs to the Authority for approval. Proposers are reminded of RFP Section X. DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION CRITERIA. F. Roadway Design: 3. Drainage Analysis: Page 79 of 111, 3rd paragraph, which states, “. . . Cured-in-place pipe liners shall be the only repair method considered by the Authority for pipes that are too small to be physically accessed by Design-Build Firm personnel. Pipes that are large enough to be physically accessed by Design-Build Firm personnel may use other repair methods in addition to cured-in-place liner, as approved by the Authority. . .”.

5. We had a preliminary analysis performed by an ISA Certified Arborist to determine the number and type of trees on private property that would be impacted by the project and require permitting and mitigation. Based on a desktop review, approximately 2.5 miles was determined to potentially conflict with private trees. The arborist field reviewed a 0.28-mile portion of the 2.5 mile canopied/treed area on the east side of Selmon Expressway starting at South Himes Road to W Euclid Avenue on February 3rd, 2023. Field data collected included tree species, DBH and canopy spread. In determining if a tree would be impacted, the City has defined protective root zones for protected, specimen, grand trees and palms/small ornamentals. Impacts that encroach into these listed zones require the trees to be removed. The protection zones are defined as follows:

- Protected trees: A minimum of 10 feet from the edge of the trunk.
- Specimen trees: A minimum of 15 feet from the edge of the trunk.
- Grand trees: A minimum of 20 feet from the edge of the trunk.

- Palms/Small Ornamentals: A minimum of three feet of the edge of the trunk.

Per RES' field reconnaissance, a total of 44 trees over 18 private parcels were identified as potentially being impacted in the 0.28-mile sample area. The breakdown of these 44 trees is as follows:

- 10 potential grand trees,
- 2 potential specimen trees,
- 8 potential protected trees; and
- 24 invasive trees.

Based on the above sample size and distribution, we extrapolated the potential number of trees within the 2.5-mile canopied/tree section of the corridor. This extrapolation resulted in a total of 392 trees over 61 private parcels broken down into the following categories:

- 89 grand trees,
- 18 specimen trees,
- 71 protected trees,
- 214 invasive species/trees

A tree removal permit is required for any protected, specimen and grand tree proposed for removal and located within the City's limits except where Section 27-284.1 of the City's code defines a tree as exempt from tree removal permitting. The mitigation guidelines require mitigation for each inch of the tree's DBH that is to be removed and replacement with trees with a caliper of at least 2.5-inches. Additionally, due to the tree locations on private property outside the right-of-way, it is likely that loss of trees would be considered a "take" and require an appraisal to calculate the amount required to compensate the property owner. In such a case, property owner compensation would be calculated based on the most recent Guide for Plant Appraisal. The number of appraisals will be based on the number of impacted trees.

Based on the information above please provide responses to the following questions.

- a. Does THEA have tree removal agreements with all property owners adjacent to the ROW?

**ANSWER:** No, see answer b.

- b. Typically, the property owner would be required to file for the tree removal permit and cover the cost. Does THEA have an agreement with the city to waive this process and the permit cost?

**ANSWER:** Similar to FDOT, City of Tampa tree ordinances are not applicable to THEA. The contractor will trim and/or remove all trees and branches on or over THEA ROW as required to construct the project.

- c. If property owners are not willing to cooperate and remove the impacted trees, will THEA take what ever legal action is required to resolve the issue?

**ANSWER:** See answer b.

6. Would THEA be open to having a 1-hour meeting with each DB firm to allow them to present their preliminary aesthetic concepts and give THEA the opportunity to provide some feedback prior to the Technical Proposal submission date?

**ANSWER:** THEA's Procurement office will schedule an optional 3<sup>rd</sup> ATC meeting to review aesthetic concepts only, for 45-minutes with each DB Firm who requests participation through the Procurement e-mail inbox by 5:00 pm on 3/17/23.

7. Based on the size and complexity of the project, 10 pages is not adequate for DB firms to provide thoroughly address the requirements of Section 1 - Project Approach of the Technical Proposal. Will THEA please consider increasing the page limit of Section 1 of the Technical Proposal to 20 pages?

**ANSWER:** THEA will increase the page limit to 12 pages.