



CITY OF TAMPA

Bob Buckhorn, Mayor

Economic Opportunity

Robert J. McDonough
Administrator

Joe Waggoner, Executive Director
Tampa-Hillsborough Expressway Authority
1104 E. Twiggs Street, Suite 300
Tampa, FL 33602

February 18, 2019

Dear Mr. Waggoner:

Based upon your August 8, 2018 submittal of your conceptual project plans, the City of Tampa concurs with your proposed improvements to Twiggs Street from west of Nebraska Avenue (US 41/SR45) to west of the Selmon Expressway Reversible Lanes (REL) Exit Ramp/Meridian Avenue intersection. The proposed improvements within the project limits implement the recommendations in the "Twiggs Street Traffic Study from Jefferson Street to Meridian Avenue," which was prepared for the City of Tampa's Transportation and Stormwater Services Department under Contract No. 16-D-46913; WO #13 (PO #117211571) by DKS in October 2017. We understand THEA is proposing to utilize Design-Build as the procurement method to design and construct this project and it is THEA's intent that all project construction activities will be conducted within existing Right-of-Way and THEA and city of Tampa property. Prior to the start of the Design-Build project, THEA will issue a separate utility contract to have the affected utilities adjusted or relocated.

The City of Tampa anticipates the proposed safety improvements to Twiggs Street will help alleviate the existing insufficient capacity problem on the segment of Twiggs Street between Nebraska and Meridian Avenues that is a key cause of traffic back-ups on the inbound express lanes of the Selmon Expressway REL during morning peak hours. The project will improve traffic conditions, reduce congestion, and will enhance pedestrian facilities. Review comments from applicable City of Tampa Departments have been provided through the City's Accela permitting system and will be incorporated in the Request for Proposal (RFP) document. The final design of the project is subject to review and permitting by the City of Tampa. However, two of the City's comments, regarding the construction of a sidewalk extending east to termination at Meridian Avenue and tree protection near the train station will not be implemented, as they are not feasible within the existing roadway Right-of-Way. THEA will agree to have some sidewalks built; the location and width will be agreed upon by THEA's design build contractor and COT staff. Removed trees will be mitigated by payment into the City of Tampa's tree trust fund pursuant to sec. 16-86, City of Tampa Code.

The City of Tampa supports this project and will work with THEA to ensure successful completion, including assisting with the coordination of relocating all impacted utilities as required. Please contact us if you have any questions or require further information.

Sincerely,

Bob McDonough
Administrator