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Date: December 23, 2019
To: Judge Hill and Commissioners
From: Clarence Daugherty, P.E., Director of Engineering
Subject: Determination of Consultant to be Most Qualified and Authorization to Negotiate Contract

One of the projects in the 2018 bond program is the US 78 Freeway. This was the nomenclature we put on this project in the bond program. However, the exact location of the freeway is not yet determined. The first step in the development of this freeway is to do a corridor study and environmental assessment to determine the actual alignment of the freeway. This effort will be very similar to what has been used on US 380 and which is about to be started for the FM 546/CR 400 thoroughfare.

We still have the qualifications of all the firms that submitted Statements of Qualifications (SOQ) for the FM 546/CR 400 project. The consulting firm that was evaluated as the second most qualified for that project was rated very close to the consultant that was selected. Therefore, it is our conclusion that the most efficient and timely manner in which to start the US 78 project is to select the consultant that "placed" second in the prior selection. Although it is the County's practice to solicit SOQs for each project, the unusual timing and similarity of projects lends itself to using the one evaluation process.

Therefore, it is recommended that the Commissioners Court determine that the consulting firm who ranked second (see attached) is the most qualified company for this project and authorize the staff to negotiate a contract to submit to the Commissioners Court for approval.