

January 15, 2024

Via: E-Mail

Mr. Arturo Garcia, Jr., PE
Utilities Director
Utilities Department
City of Laredo
5816 Daugherty Ave.
Laredo, Texas 78041

**Re: Construction Contract Recommendation
36" Water Main from Jefferson WTP to East of Zacate Creek**

Dear Mr. Garcia:

Bids were publicly opened and read for the referenced project on December 21, 2023, at 2:00 PM. The following is a summary of the two (2) bids received:

Contractor	Base Bid Total	Alternate #1 Total	Alternate #2 Total	Base + Alt. 1	Base + Alt. 2	Base + Alts. 1 & 2
Southern Trenchless Solutions LLC	\$22,743,875.00	\$4,597,500.00	\$736,665.00	\$27,341,375.00	\$23,480,540.00	\$28,078,040.00
Spiess Construction Company, Inc.	\$25,864,260.00	\$3,692,710.00	\$1,165,895.00	\$29,556,970.00	\$27,030,155.00	\$30,722,865.00

We examined the bids for completeness and accuracy, then we contacted Southern Trenchless Solutions LLC (Southern Trenchless) for clarification on their submittal because it included two separate bid forms. We understood this contact to be fair to all bidders since the reading of the bids provided only some of the bid information for each bidder, so neither bidder had complete data for the other bidder. Southern Trenchless indicated that the higher of the two submitted bids was correct and requested the consideration of this bid.

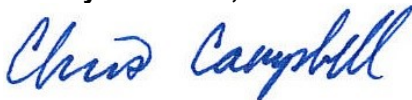
After contacting Southern Trenchless Solutions LLC, we informed the City of Laredo (City) about the bid discrepancy and which bid Southern Trenchless intended to submit. The City indicated via e-mail dated January 11, 2024, that they wanted to disregard the unintentional bid from Southern Trenchless and accept the intended bid as the apparent low bidder. This is allowed per the Contract Documents, SECTION C-4 Award and Execution of Contract, C-4.01 Consideration of Proposals, which states, *"Until the award of the Contract is made, the Owner reserves the right to reject any or all proposals, to waiver technicalities, to advertise for new proposals, or to proceed to do the work otherwise when the best interests of the Owner will be thereby promoted"*. The bid amount presented above for Southern Trenchless is the intended bid.

All documents submitted by Southern Trenchless Solutions LLC appear to be in order. The verified bid bond submitted is from an A+ company. Therefore, Binkley & Barfield | DCCM recommends that the City award the project to Southern Trenchless Solutions LLC.

Please contact me if further information is required.

Regards,

Binkley & Barfield, Inc.



Chris Campbell, PE
Managing Director - Infrastructure
clc@binkleybarfield.com

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