

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JUNE 15, 2010

AMENDED IN SENATE MAY 11, 2010

AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 21, 2010

SENATE BILL

No. 1341

Introduced by Senator Price

February 19, 2010

An act to amend Section 130232 of the Public Utilities Code, relating to public contracts.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1341, as amended, Price. Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority: contracting.

The County Transportation Commissions Act creates county transportation commissions or authorities in Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, and Ventura counties, with specified powers and duties. Existing law, with respect to those agencies, generally requires purchase of all supplies, equipment, and materials, and the construction of all facilities and works, when the expenditure exceeds \$25,000, to be by contract let to the lowest responsible bidder, or, in certain cases, to the best value proposer. Existing law contains various alternative provisions applicable solely to the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority.

This bill would enact additional provisions applicable to the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority relative to preferences in contracting for small business enterprises, as defined.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 130232 of the Public Utilities Code is
2 amended to read:

3 130232. (a) Except as provided in subdivision (f), purchase
4 of all supplies, equipment, and materials, and the construction of
5 all facilities and works, when the expenditure required exceeds
6 twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000), shall be by contract let to
7 the lowest responsible bidder. Notice requesting bids shall be
8 published at least once in a newspaper of general circulation. The
9 publication shall be made at least 10 days before the date for the
10 receipt of the bids. The commission, at its discretion, may reject
11 any and all bids and readvertise.

12 (b) Except as provided for in subdivision (f), whenever the
13 expected expenditure required exceeds one thousand dollars
14 (\$1,000), but not twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000), the
15 commission shall obtain a minimum of three quotations, either
16 written or oral, that permit prices and terms to be compared.

17 (c) Where the expenditure required by the bid price is less than
18 fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000), the executive director may act
19 for the commission.

20 (d) All bids for construction work submitted pursuant to this
21 section shall be presented under sealed cover and shall be
22 accompanied by one of the following forms of bidder's security:

- 23 (1) Cash.
24 (2) A cashier's check made payable to the commission.
25 (3) A certified check made payable to the commission.
26 (4) A bidder's bond executed by an admitted surety insurer,
27 made payable to the commission.

28 (e) Upon an award to the lowest bidder, the security of an
29 unsuccessful bidder shall be returned in a reasonable period of
30 time, but in no event shall that security be held by the commission
31 beyond 60 days from the date that the award was made.

32 (f) The following provisions apply only to the Los Angeles
33 County Metropolitan Transportation Authority:

- 34 (1) The contract shall be let to the lowest ~~responsive and~~
35 responsible bidder or, in the authority's discretion, to the person
36 who submitted a proposal that provides the best value to the
37 commission on the basis of the factors identified in the solicitation
38 when the purchase price of all supplies, equipment, and materials

1 exceeds one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000). “Best value”
2 means the overall combination of quality, price, and other elements
3 of a proposal that, when considered together, provide the greatest
4 overall benefit in response to requirements described in the
5 solicitation documents. The contract shall be let to the lowest
6 ~~responsive and~~ responsible bidder when the purchase price of the
7 construction of all facilities exceeds twenty-five thousand dollars
8 (\$25,000).

9 (2) The authority shall obtain a minimum of three quotations,
10 either written or oral, that permit prices and terms to be compared
11 whenever the expected expenditure required exceeds three thousand
12 dollars (\$3,000), but not one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000).

13 (3) The authority may purchase supplies, equipment, and
14 materials from a public auction sale, including public auctions
15 held via the Internet, using the procedures established for all other
16 participants in the public auction.

17 (4) The authority may participate in a procurement agreement
18 involving other public entities that is identified by a procuring
19 public entity or entities as a cooperative procuring agreement from
20 which other public entities may make purchases or enter into
21 contracts, and the authority may procure, and enter into contracts
22 for, items purchased pursuant to that procurement agreement,
23 notwithstanding that the authority may not be the procuring public
24 entity, provided the procurement agreement is awarded or entered
25 into by either of the following:

26 (A) One or more public entities or an organization of public
27 entities, which may include the authority.

28 (B) A federal, state, or local public entity.

29 (5) (A) Notwithstanding any other provision of law requiring
30 the authority to award contracts to the lowest ~~responsive and~~
31 ~~responsible bidder or best value proposer~~, on contracts above one
32 hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000), the authority may, *except*
33 *as to contracts for professional services involving private*
34 *architectural, landscape architectural, engineering, environmental,*
35 *land surveying, or construction management as defined in Sections*
36 *4525 and 4529.10 of the Government Code*, do any of the following
37 in facilitating contract awards to small businesses:

38 (i) Provide for a small business preference in construction, the
39 construction component of a design-build team, the procurement
40 of goods, or the delivery of services. The preference to a small

1 business shall be 5 percent of the lowest ~~responsive and~~ responsible
2 bidder ~~or best value proposer~~ meeting specifications that provide
3 for small business participation.

4 (ii) Establish a subcontracting participation goal for small
5 businesses on contracts financed with nonfederal funds and grant
6 a preference of 5 percent to the lowest ~~responsive and~~ responsible
7 bidders ~~or best value proposers~~ who meet the goal.

8 (iii) Require bidders ~~and proposers~~ to make a good faith effort,
9 in accordance with the criteria established pursuant to subparagraph
10 (B), prior to the time bids ~~or proposals~~ are opened, to comply with
11 the goals and requirements established by the authority relating to
12 participation in the contract by small businesses.

13 (B) The following shall apply to bidders ~~and proposers~~ under
14 this paragraph:

15 (i) The bidder ~~or proposer~~ attended any presolicitation or prebid
16 meetings that were scheduled by the authority to inform all bidders
17 ~~and proposers~~ of the small business enterprise program
18 requirements for the project for which the contract will be awarded.
19 The authority may waive this requirement if it determines that the
20 bidder ~~or proposer~~ is informed as to those program requirements.

21 (ii) The bidder ~~or proposer~~ identified and selected specific items
22 of the project for which the contract will be awarded to be
23 performed by small business enterprises to provide an opportunity
24 for participation by those enterprises.

25 (iii) The bidder ~~or proposer~~ advertised, not less than 10 calendar
26 days before the date the bids ~~or proposals~~ are opened, in one or
27 more daily or weekly newspapers, trade association publications
28 or trade-oriented publications, trade journals, or other media,
29 specified by the authority for small business enterprises that are
30 interested in participating in the project. This clause applies only
31 if the authority gave public notice of the project not less than 15
32 calendar days prior to the date the bids ~~or proposals~~ are opened.

33 (iv) The bidder ~~or proposer~~ provided written notice of his or
34 her interest in bidding ~~or submitting a proposal~~ on the contract to
35 the number of small business enterprises required to be notified
36 by the project specifications not less than 10 calendar days prior
37 to the opening of bids ~~or proposals~~. ~~To the extent possible, the~~
38 ~~bids.~~ The authority shall make available to the bidder ~~or proposer~~
39 not less than 15 calendar days prior to the date the bids ~~or proposals~~

1 are opened a list or a source of lists of enterprises which are
2 certified by the authority as small business enterprises.

3 (v) The ~~bidder or proposer~~ followed up initial solicitations of
4 interest by contacting the enterprises to determine with certainty
5 whether the enterprises were interested in performing specific
6 items of the project.

7 (vi) The ~~bidder or proposer~~ provided interested small business
8 enterprises with information about the plans, specifications, and
9 requirements for the selected subcontracting or material supply
10 work.

11 (vii) The ~~bidder or proposer~~ requested assistance from small
12 business community organizations; small business contractor
13 groups; local, state, or small business assistance offices; or other
14 organizations that provide assistance in the recruitment and
15 placement of small business enterprises, if any are available.

16 (viii) The ~~bidder or proposer~~ negotiated in good faith with the
17 small business enterprises, and did not unjustifiably reject as
18 unsatisfactory bids or proposals prepared by any small business
19 enterprises, as determined by the authority.

20 (ix) Where applicable, the ~~bidder or proposer~~ advised and made
21 efforts to assist interested small business enterprises in obtaining
22 bonds, lines of credit, or insurance required by the authority or
23 contractor.

24 (x) The ~~bidder's or proposer's~~ efforts to obtain small business
25 enterprise participation could reasonably be expected by the
26 authority to produce a level of participation sufficient to meet the
27 goals and requirements of the authority.

28 (C) "Small business enterprise" as used in this paragraph, means
29 a business enterprise that is classified as a small business under
30 United States Small Business Administration rules and meets the
31 current small business enterprise size standards found in 13 CFR
32 Part 121 appropriate to the type of work the enterprise seeks to
33 perform.