



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Highway
Administration**

Memorandum

Subject: **ACTION:** Florida Qualification-Based Modified
Phased Design Build (MPDB) Selection Process under
Special Experimental Project No. 14 (SEP-14)

Date: August 30, 2024

From: Brian Hogge, Director
Office of Preconstruction, Construction, and Pavements


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In Reply Refer To:
HICP-20

To: Jamie Christian
Division Administrator
Tallahassee, FL

This memorandum is in reference to the August 28 email from Mark Clasgens of your staff, which transmitted, endorsed, and recommended approval of a Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) Workplan for the use of a Qualification-Based Modified Phased Design Build (MPDB) Selection Process under Special Experimental Project No. 14 (SEP-14). This project delivery method would be used to design and construct Accelerated Start Segments A and B of the I-4 Beyond the Ultimate Major Project in Polk, Osceola, and Orange Counties.

FDOT will solicit interest through a Request for Qualifications (RFQ), from which they will initially select and award contracts to three (3) MPDB firms based on qualifications, where price is not a component. The contracted MPDB firms will develop competitive proposals to design and construct Segments A and B. FDOT will subsequently make awards for design and construction to the most competitive MPDB firm for each segment.

FDOT is requesting a waiver of [23 CFR 636.302\(a\)\(1\)](#), which requires the evaluation of price in the selection of a design-builder if the NEPA process has been completed. Under this waiver, FDOT would select a MPDB Firm based solely on qualifications where price is not a component.

In addition, rather than use the Request for Proposals and stipend process as described in 23 CFR part 636, FDOT's experimental approach proposes to compensate the awarded MPDB firms to develop their competitive proposals during the Accelerated Innovation and Collaboration phase, prior to FDOT's selection of firm(s) for design and construction task work orders.

Other details are contained within the SEP-14 workplan.

The SEP-14 Workplan is conditionally approved, subject to FHWA receiving a revised SEP-14 workplan within the next two weeks that incorporates FDOT's responses to FHWA's August 28 comments. The conformance of the workplan may take place concurrently with other planned project activities, subject to FHWA Florida Division approval.

Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment on this SEP-14 request. Should you have any questions, please contact Clayton Wellman at (202) 366-4658, or John Huyer at (720) 437-0515.