



NORTHEAST OHIO AREAWIDE COORDINATING AGENCY

MEMORANDUM

TO: NOACA Board of Directors

FROM: Grace Gallucci, Executive Director

DATE: June 2, 2017

RE: **Resolution No. 2017-019: Agency Procurement - NOACA Air Quality Public Outreach and Education Strategy**

ACTION REQUESTED

The Board of Directors is asked to approve the procurement of a consultant to develop an Air Quality Implementation Strategy/Outreach Plan. Specifically, it would award a contract to The Markey Group for NOACA's Air Quality Implementation Strategy/Outreach Project in the not to exceed amount of \$61,500.

The Finance and Audit Committee recommends this action.

BACKGROUND/JUSTIFICATION FOR CURRENT ACTION

NOACA is dedicated to improving air quality and increasing public awareness of both the causes and impact of air pollution. The Agency assesses the air quality needs of the Cleveland-Akron-Lorain metropolitan planning area through data analysis, legislative review, and community outreach. NOACA also promotes transportation choice alternatives to single-occupancy vehicle trips and supports an interactive, user-friendly software platform with other Ohio MPO partners to incentivize such choices. The Agency recognizes the important role that transportation choice plays in mitigating mobile emissions, reducing air pollution, and improving public health within Northeast Ohio.

The implementation strategy for air quality public outreach and education will support the Agency's efforts to educate the general public on the region's pressing air quality challenges; demonstrate the vital linkages between transportation and air quality; provide information on steps that individuals, organizations, and institutions can take to reduce emissions; and increase transportation choice within the region in order to provide alternatives that reduce mobile emissions, improve public health, and enhance quality of life.

A Request for Proposals (RFP) was issued on September 2, 2016 and proposals were due on September 30, 2016. No proposals were received. NOACA reissued the RFP on December 9, 2016 and by the ending date of January 9, 2017, NOACA received only two proposals. NOACA decided to reissue again due to the lack of responses. Minor modifications were made to the RFP to clarify its focus and it was reissued for a third time on February 14, 2017 with the addition of a direct distribution to a targeted set of consulting firms. Responses were due on April 14, 2017. NOACA received twelve responses.

Vendors were scored on four criteria: project approach, experience, qualifications and cost. After evaluating the proposals, NOACA interviewed four teams. The NOACA review team selected the vendor with the highest scores and best interview which was The Markey Group Inc. The Markey Group just recently established DBE status through the State of Ohio.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The proposed contract will be executed at a cost not to exceed \$61,500. This project is funded by CMAQ program dollars.

CONCLUSION/NEXT STEPS

If approved, NOACA will enter into contract with The Markey Group Inc. for a term July 1st, 2017-September 30th, 2018.

GG/sm/2947b

**RESOLUTION 2017-019
(AGENCY PROCUREMENT-
NOACA AIR QUALITY
EDUCATION AND PUBLIC OUTREACH
STRATEGY)**

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE
NORTHEAST OHIO AREAWIDE COORDINATING AGENCY**

WHEREAS, the Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency (NOACA) is the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the counties of Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake, Lorain, and Medina, and the areawide water quality management agency for the same region; and

WHEREAS, NOACA is dedicated to improving air quality and increasing public awareness of both the causes and impact of air pollution. The Agency assesses the air quality needs of the Cleveland-Akron-Lorain metropolitan planning area through data analysis, legislative review, and community outreach; and

WHEREAS, NOACA also promotes transportation choice alternatives to single-occupancy vehicle trips and supports an interactive, user-friendly software platform with other Ohio MPO partners to incentivize such choices; and

WHEREAS, the implementation strategy for air quality public outreach and education will support the Agency's efforts to educate the general public on the region's pressing air quality challenges; demonstrate the vital linkages between transportation and air quality; provide information on steps that individuals, organizations, and institutions can take to reduce emissions; and increase transportation choice within the region in order to provide alternatives that reduce mobile emissions, improve public health, and enhance quality of life; and

WHEREAS, NOACA's procurement policy requires that these consulting services be obtained through a competitive process following all applicable federal, state, and local policies and regulations, which was accomplished through a Request for Proposals issued on February 14th, 2017, with proposals received on April 14th, 2017, of which The Markey Group LLC. was the best proposal, with a cost not to exceed \$61,500 over fiscal years 2018-2019.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of the Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency, consisting of forty-five principal officials serving general purpose local governments throughout and within the counties of Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake, Lorain, and Medina that:

Section 1: The Executive Director is hereby authorized to enter into a contract for services with The Markey Group LLC, in an amount not to exceed \$61,500 over FY2018 and FY2019.

Section 2: The Executive Director is authorized to transmit a certified copy of this resolution to appropriate Federal, State, and local agencies.

Certified to be a true copy of a Resolution of the Board of Directors of the Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency adopted this 9th day of June 2017.

Secretary: _____

Timothy C. Lennon

Date Signed: _____

6/9/17