



**To:** President Mellon and Member of the Town Council

**From:** Town Manager - Dustin Anderson

**Date:** October 19, 2020

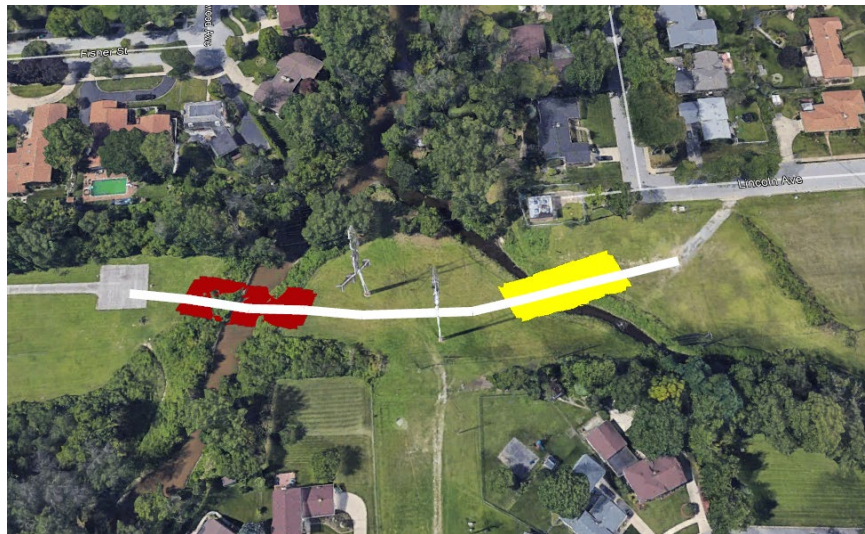
**Re:** Engineering Services for the Design of a New Pedestrian Bridge

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### **Background**

The Town of Munster has construction funds available at NIRPC for the construction of a new pedestrian bridge that will extend the Fisher Street Trail that follows Schoon Ditch over both Hart and Cady Marsh Ditch into Highland. A graphic of the project area can be found below in Figure 1.

Figure 1: Project Area



Last year, the Town submitted an application to the State of Indiana under its “Next Level Trails” program. This program would have been more financially advantageous for the Town to participate in because the cost of the design engineering would have been included with the award.

Our on-call engineering firm SEH of Indiana assisted us in the preparation of that application. Through that process, they completed some initial design work on the potential structures.

In the midst of the financial uncertainty at the State level as a result of our ongoing calamity, the

Governor indefinitely suspended the Next Level Trails program.

NIRPC's letting schedule requires the Town to be ready for construction contracts in December 2021. To accomplish this, we must have all right-of-way cleared and final tracings submitted to INDOT by October of 2021.

### Methodology

While SEH has done a satisfactory job in the preparation of the Next level Trails application as well as serving as our on-call engineer, this job is significant enough to warrant testing the market for other potential consultants.

Bids were solicited for this work last month. Two firms responded with proposals: SEH of Indiana and DLZ.

The Town has positive relationships with both firms, as DLZ has served as the construction engineer and monitor for the construction phase of the 45<sup>th</sup> Grade Separation and Intersection Realignment Project.

An interdepartmental team of four staff reviewed the proposals. Scores can be seen in Table 1.

Table 1: Combined Scores

	Category	Qualifications		Project Organization		Work Plan		Price Proposal		Total	
	Point Available	30		30		30		10			
	Firm Name	SEH	DLZ	SEH	DLZ	SEH	DLZ	SEH	DLZ	SEH	DLZ
Score One		30	30	30	30	28	27	10	4	98	91
Score Two		30	27	30	30	21	24	10	7	91	88
Score Three		24	29	29	28	18	18	10	5	81	80
Score Four		24	24	29	27	21	19	10	5	84	75
								Total Points		354	334

While DLZ could clearly do the job, the work that SEH did in preparation of the grant application clearly differentiated them from the competition in terms of project organization and proposed work plan. This also resulted in a significant difference in proposed prices. A breakdown of proposed costs is available in Table 2.

Table 2: Projected Costs

	Projected	If Required	Total
SEH of Indiana	\$ 140,500.00		<b>\$ 140,500.00</b>
DLZ	\$ 178,800.00	\$ 49,940.00	<b>\$ 228,740.00</b>

Based on the work that SEH has done so far, their projected timeline of completion has this being done mid-year in 2021. DLZ projects a more conservative deadline of December 2021.

Funds to be used for this work could come from a number of sources, including 4199152218-64250.

**Recommendation:** By motion and roll call vote, award this work to SEH of Indiana and authorize the Town Manager to negotiate and execute a final contract not to exceed \$140,500.