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March 30, 2019

Mr. Robert P. Jones
Chairman
Pickens County, Georgia
1266 East Church Street
Jasper, GA 30143

Our Ref.: TAL-00249637-05

Subject: Jones Mountain Road Slide Contractor Recommendation

Dear Chairman Jones:

EXP has received and reviewed 3 repair proposals for the Jones Mountain Road slide repair. All proposals have been fully vetted to ensure that the recommended Contractor can provide a viable, complete solution and cost-effective permanent repair for the failed slope on Jones Mountain Road. Of the three original proposals received, two provided follow-up responses to proposal review comments sufficient to warrant further consideration and possible recommendation for the project's Contractor. Proposals were received and evaluated from KAM Contracting Southeast, GSI Geostabilization International, and Shane Godfrey PB&J Contracting.

To ensure that the best overall solution is recommended, proposals were evaluated based on the following criteria:

- Understanding of project and completeness of proposed repair solution.
- Contractors demonstrated experience performing similar work.
- Adequacy, viability, longevity and long-term maintenance requirements.
- Overall cost of project.
- Minimization of environmental impacts and additional disturbances.
- Duration of road closure and minimization of delay impacts to roadway users.
- Available start date and total project duration.

We are recommending that Pickens County utilize the services proposed by GSI Geostabilization International. GSI submitted the most complete and comprehensive proposal. The Company has significant experience performing similar repair projects. GSI is a nationally known Contractor with more than 40 crews working in the US. The Contractor is proposing to stabilize the remaining roadway embankment with soil nails that penetrate deeply into the slope and are then grouted in place. The slope face would then be covered with a steel reinforced shotcrete wall. A GCS Wall system would then be constructed on a micropyle and concrete footing to rebuild the failed slope. The Contractor responded promptly to all inquiries. The solution proposed by GSI is the best overall repair solution that can allow Jones Mountain Road to be re-opened to traffic in a short period of time while minimizing overall disturbances and other environmental impacts to the surrounding area. The overall proposed cost is fair given the nature of project.

Pros: Demonstrated repair solution that has been used effectively in similar situations.
Least amount of impacts to area at bottom of slope. Most work and equipment will be performed from the surface of the existing road.
Minimal amount of excavation and excess or fill material to be hauled away.

Construction can be performed within the existing right of way.
The quantity and costs of soils nails may be reduced if more solid rock is encountered during the drilling operation.
Minimal potential for adverse impacts to the adjacent stream buffer.

- Cons:** The overall cost is higher than other options.
Material and equipment are specialized and expensive.

Overview of other Proposals

KAM Contracting Southeast – NOT RECOMMENDED

KAM Contracting submitted an alternative that was given consideration. KAM proposed a more conventional repair method that is suitable for steep slope construction. KAM has provided references from the City of Canton and does have experience performing roadway repairs resulting from utility line failures. The Contractor also demonstrated experience constructing roadways and walls associated multi-family and commercial developments. The Contractor proposed to utilize the TENSAR Sierra geogrid reinforced slope system. This construction method will require the removal and reconstruction of significant portions of the remaining roadway and embankment. Although the presented cost is cheaper the potential for cost increases and additional adverse environmental impacts are high given the duration and magnitude of the earthwork and the close proximity to the stream buffer. Additional easements may be required outside of the existing right of way for construction.

- Pros:** Demonstrated solution for building steep slopes.
Provides a sloped face that can be vegetated and will closely match surroundings.
Pedestrian safety would be commensurate with pre-existing conditions.
Potential for cost savings if adverse impacts do not occur and rock is not encountered in the required excavation.
- Cons:** More work and disturbance required along the toe of slope and right of way.
Higher risk of sediment loss and adverse environmental impacts during construction.
May take longer to build due to magnitude of required work.
Will require the removal and reinstallation of a significant amount of the remaining embankment and pavement.
Will require an off-site area for stockpiling or disposing of excavated material.
The roadway may need to remain closed for the full duration of the construction.

Shane Godfrey, PB&J Contracting – NOT RECOMMENDED

PB&J Contracting submitted a preliminary repair detail and expressed interest in performing the repair. The submission did not provide sufficient information for a complete evaluation. Comments were provided back to the Contractor on 3/14/2019 and no response has been received to date. No further consideration is recommended for this proposal at this time.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to call me at 706-676-2577.

Sincerely,



DeWayne Comer, PE
EXP US Services Inc.