



INDEPENDENCE

Oregon's Story Begins Here

CITY OF INDEPENDENCE

February 9, 2018

Sent via email: hbl.exhibits@oregonlegislature.gov

Re: HB 4127 – Qualification- Based Selection (QBS) process proposal

Honorable Legislators:

We are pleased that you are taking up the proposed amendments to the current QBS procurement process found in ORS 279C.110. Current law is a significant burden to municipalities operating on restricted budgets and with limited staff. This is particularly hard-felt by smaller communities such as our own.

Smaller cities, as a general rule, do limited professional service selections in support of construction projects. Typically, we manage no more than one to two such contracts in any given year. This is time-sensitive work tied to available resources such as bonding, capital loans or grants. Delays in the onset of the work due to the existing cumbersome QBS process could result in many problems down the road; e.g. increased costs from delayed construction bidding, inability to meet deadlines for various funding partners and financial sources, failure to construct at all as prices exceed resources due to untimely starts, etc.

The process as proposed allowing cities to first select five top firms through a QBS process and then take into consideration compensation matters would go a long way, I believe, to balancing the needs of the professional service community and the real constraints we have in responsibly managing our public budgets.

Thank you for your consideration of the proposal and please treat this as the City of Independence's fervent wish that you support it with the dash 1 amendment.

Respectfully,

David Clyne
City Manager

cc: Mayor John McArdle
Tracy Rutten, League of Oregon Cities