



February 21, 2018

**Clackamas County Board of Commissioners
Policy Position
HB 4127: Regarding Qualification Based Selection**

Clackamas County supports HB 4127: The Board of County Commissioners supports HB 4127, which allows public contracting agencies the ability to request pricing information from already selected qualified firms before engaging into negotiations.

Current QBS practices, found in ORS 279C.110, says that public construction project contractors can only be chosen based on qualifications, and not on other merits such as pricing. HB 4127 would still utilize the QBS process, but include the ability to request pricing information after no more than 3 qualified firms have been identified.

HB 4127 improves the public construction contracting process in the following ways:

- Adds transparency to the selection process by allowing local agencies to see all relevant information pertaining to the contract and better understand budget needs before firms are selected.
- Increases competition and encourages new and local businesses by amending a process that favors well-established and larger firms, thus preventing small and/or local firms from achieving consideration to perform work they may be equally capable of doing, often at reduced costs.
- Increases efficiencies in the public contracting process by providing public agencies with relevant information before the negotiation process, saving weeks of staff time.

HB 4127 is good for local governments, good for businesses, and good for taxpayers.

We urge a “YES” vote for HB 4127.

Please contact Chris Lyons at clyons@clackamas.us for more information.