HOUSE BILL 190

56TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2024

INTRODUCED BY

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AN ACT

RELATING TO PROCUREMENT; ENACTING SECTIONS OF THE PROCUREMENT CODE; ALLOWING PUBLIC PARTNERS TO CONTRACT WITH PRIVATE PARTNERS FOR THE PERFORMANCE OF PUBLIC PROJECTS; REQUIRING THE BOARD OF FINANCE DIVISION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION TO PROMULGATE RULES FOR, REVIEW AND APPROVE PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENTS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

SECTION 1. A new section of the Procurement Code is enacted to read:

"[NEW MATERIAL] PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP--DEFINITIONS.-As used in Sections 1 through 5 of this 2024 act:

A. "concession" means a lease, license, franchise, easement or other binding agreement transferring rights for the use or control, in whole or in part, of a public project by a .226543.2

public partner for a definite term during which a private partner provides services in return for the right to receive all or a portion of the revenue of a public project;

- B. "develop" means to plan, design, create, finance, lease, acquire, install, construct or expand a public project;
- C. "division" means the board of finance division of the department of finance and administration;
- D. "operate" means to finance, maintain, improve, equip, modify, repair or manage a public project;
- E. "private partner" means one or multiple individuals, foreign or domestic corporations, general partnerships, limited liability companies, limited partnerships, joint ventures, business trusts, public benefit corporations, nonprofit entities or other private business entities or combinations thereof;
- F. "proposal" means a plan for a public project submitted by a private partner with detail beyond a conceptual level containing defined terms determined to be necessary by the public partner, including costs, payment schedules, financing, deliverables and project schedules;
- G. "public partner" means a state agency or local
 public body;
- H. "public-private partnership" means an arrangement between one or more public partners and one or more .226543.2

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private partners for the development of a public project;

- "public-private partnership agreement" means a I. contract between one or more public partners and one or more private partners in connection with the development of a public project;
- "public project" means a project for which the J. public partner believes a public-private partnership would best suit the needs and requirements of the project;
- Κ. "revenue" means revenue, income, earnings, user fees, lease payments or other service payments that support the development of a public project, including money received as a grant or otherwise from the federal government or a public partner; and
- L. "user fees" means rates, fees or other charges imposed by the public partner or the private partner for use of all or part of a public project."
- SECTION 2. A new section of the Procurement Code is enacted to read:

"[NEW MATERIAL] PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP--REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS.--

A public partner shall request proposals to enter into a public-private partnership agreement using a competitive procurement process for competitive sealed proposals or for competitive sealed qualifications-based proposals and subsequent negotiation. A request for proposals .226543.2

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- (1) the proposed parameters of the proposed public-private partnership agreement;
- (2) proposed duties and responsibilities to be performed by the private partner;
- (3) proposed duties and responsibilities that are to be performed by the public partner acting as the contracting body and those proposed to be performed by any other partners to the contract;
- (4) proposed plans for financing and operating the public project and the estimated cost for the public project;
- (5) requirements for documentation of the experience, capabilities, capitalization and financial condition and other relevant qualifications of the private partner;
- (6) requirements for the determination of the ability of a private partner to respond to the needs presented in the request for proposals and the economic development opportunities represented by the public project; and
- (7) any other information required by the public partner acting as the contracting body or the division to evaluate the proposals submitted by respondents and the overall proposed public-private partnership.

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B. The public partner shall publish public notice of the request for proposals as provided for competitive sealed proposals and competitive sealed qualifications-based proposals pursuant to the Procurement Code."

SECTION 3. A new section of the Procurement Code is enacted to read:

"[NEW MATERIAL] PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS--UNSOLICITED PROPOSALS.--

A. A prospective private partner may submit an unsolicited proposal to a public partner or to the division. A public partner that receives an unsolicited proposal shall notify the division. Within ninety days of receiving an unsolicited proposal, the public partner may elect to consider further action on the proposal, at which point the public partner shall provide public notice of the proposal.

Discussion of the project shall not be deemed a solicitation of the project or its concepts after public notice is given. The public notice shall:

- (1) provide information regarding the proposed nature, timing and scope of the unsolicited proposal, except that trade secrets, financial records or other records of the prospective private partner making the proposal shall not be posted unless otherwise agreed to by the public partner and the prospective private partner; and
- (2) provide for a notice period on the home .226543.2

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page of the public partner's website clearly identifying the proposal as being unsolicited and requesting comments from the public or other potential offerors for the submission of competing proposals as follows:

- (a) unsolicited proposals valued below five million dollars (\$5,000,000) shall be posted for thirty days;
- (b) unsolicited proposals valued at or between five million dollars (\$5,000,000) and twenty-five million dollars (\$25,000,000) shall be posted for sixty days; and
- (c) unsolicited proposals valued over twenty-five million dollars (\$25,000,000) shall be posted for ninety days.
- Upon the end of the proper notice period В. provided in this section, the public partner may consider the unsolicited proposal and any competing proposals received. the public partner determines it is in the best interest of the public partner to implement some or all of the concepts contained within the unsolicited proposal or competing proposals received by it, the public partner may begin an open, competitive procurement process using a request for competitive sealed proposals or request for competitive sealed qualifications-based proposals. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a prospective private partner that submits an .226543.2

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unsolicited proposal pursuant to this section may submit a
proposal in response to a request for proposals during the
open, competitive procurement process.
C. An unsolicited proposal shall be deemed rejected
if no written response is received from the public partner
within ninety days of submission, during which time the public
partner has not taken any action on the proposal."
SECTION 4. A new section of the Procurement Code is
enacted to read:
"[NEW MATERIAL] PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPDIVISION
RULESThe division shall:
A. promulgate rules for public-private partnership
agreements, including:
(1) when public-private partnership agreements
may be used;
(2) minimum requirements; and
(3) standards to limit liability of the issuer
of the request for proposals;
B. receive and review requests for proposals for
public-private partnerships; and
C. receive, review and approve public-private
partnership agreements prior to performance of the agreement."
SECTION 5. A new section of the Procurement Code is
enacted to read:
"[NEW MATERIAL] PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPDIVISION

RULES--EVALUATION--AGREEMENT--PERFORMANCE.--

A. A public partner and private partner may enter into a public-private partnership agreement, subject to approval by the division. The public partner and the private partner may use any project delivery method or agreement or combination of methods or agreements to develop or operate a public project in devising the public-private partnership agreement, including:

- (1) a design and build agreement;
- (2) a design, build and maintain agreement;
- (3) a design, build, finance and operate agreement;
- (4) a design, build, operate and maintain agreement;
- (5) a design, build, finance, operate and maintain agreement; and
- (6) concessions providing for the private partner to design, build, operate, maintain, manage or lease a public project.
- B. The contracting public partner shall provide continuous oversight, as determined to be necessary by the division, of any function that is performed by a private partner pursuant to the public-private partnership agreement.
- C. The performance of a public project pursuant to a public-private partnership agreement is a public work for the .226543.2

purposes of the Public Works Minimum Wage Act, the Subcontractors Fair Practices Act and the Public Works Apprentice and Training Act."

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