

LEGISLATIVE DIGEST

(Amended 6/17/2024)

[Administrative Code - Streamlined Contracting for Vision Zero Projects]

Ordinance amending the Administrative Code to streamline contracting for Vision Zero transportation projects by authorizing, but not requiring, the Municipal Transportation Agency and the Department of Public Works to expedite contracts by waiving application of the Environment Code and select provisions in other Codes relating to competitive bidding, equal benefits, and other requirements, for construction work and professional and other services relating to Vision Zero projects, for a period of three years.

Existing Law

In 2014, San Francisco adopted Vision Zero, a plan committed to eliminating all traffic deaths in San Francisco.

Currently, transportation-related public works projects implemented to advance the City's Vision Zero goals are subject to the same laws and procedures governing procurements as standard construction projects. Projects are awarded and procured under Administrative Code Chapter 6 provisions, with competitive bidding required. Competitive bidding requirements vary depending on the value of the project. In addition to Chapter 6, numerous other local laws may impact the selection of potential contractors and impose obligations upon the awarded contractors.

Amendments to Current Law

The proposed ordinance would authorize the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA) and the Department of Public Works (DPW) to enter into or amend contracts for public works and improvements that advance the City's Vision Zero goals without adhering to the existing Chapter 6 competitive bidding process. Instead, the departments would be authorized to establish a prequalified pool of potential contractors, that would last for up to three years, from which the departments may select bidders without further competition. The Environment Code and select provisions of the Municipal Code are waived.

The proposed ordinance would require Departments to submit reports to the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors, the Controller, and the Board of Supervisors detailing the use of the procurement authority. The special authority to enter into and amend contracts would expire three years from the effective date of the ordinance.

Background Information

FILE NO. 240501

This ordinance was introduced on May 14, 2024. It was amended in the Rules Committee on June 3, 2024 to make clarifying changes to the long title. It was further amended in the Rules Committee on June 10, 2024, to add the reporting requirement. It was further amended in the Rules Committee on June 17, 2024 to eliminate waiver of Administrative Code Chapter 14B, and to require the SFMTA and DPW, when they expedite contracts pursuant to this ordinance, to issue a Request for Qualifications (RFQ), and to select bidders who respond to that RFQ.

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