SUMMARY STATEMENT

ITEM NO. | SUBJECT: Walt Whitman Bridge Suspender Ropes

COMMITTEE: Operations and Maintenance

COMMITTEE MEETING DATE: October 17, 2007

BOARD ACTION DATE: November 14, 2007

PROPOSAL: That the Board authorizes staff to negotiate a professional services agreement with the firm of Weidlinger Associates to investigate the condition of the WWB Suspender Ropes.

Amount: $2,477,203.00

Consultant: Weidlinger Associates, Inc.
375 Hudson Street
New York, New York 10014

Other Bidders: Modjeski & Masters

Engineers Estimate: $2,630,000.00

PURPOSE: To provide consulting engineering services to investigate the condition of a select number of suspender ropes and rope connections in order to determine the condition and remaining life of the suspender ropes. The investigation will include removal of four (4) suspender ropes for laboratory testing, and replacement of four (4) new suspender ropes, field testing of ropes on the bridges, and random inspection of socket connections.

BACKGROUND: The present suspender ropes have been in service over fifty years. Although inspected externally every other year during the Biennial Inspections, no internal inspection or testing for present condition has been performed to date.

As part of the Main Cable Investigation completed in 2005, suspender ropes were removed at one cable band location. The inspection of the rope connections normally hidden from view indicated corrosion and some wire damage. It was therefore recommended based on the age of the suspenders and the observed condition that a more detailed investigation be initiated.

The Authority placed a public advertisement requesting the Statements of Qualifications from firms interested in performing a suspension cable investigation for the subject project. Four (4) consulting firms expressed interest in the project by submitting the Statements of Qualifications by June 21, 2007. Four (4) engineering firms were short-listed from the
Statements of Qualifications. A Request for Proposals for engineering services was prepared and distributed to the short-listed firms on July 13, 2007. Two (2) proposals were received on August 30, 2007 in response to the solicitation.

A committee consisting of five (5) members of the DRPA Engineering staff evaluated the two (2) proposals on the basis of technical merit. Staff’s recommendations were submitted to the Executive Selection Committee who reviewed the technical evaluations and recommendations. Based on the review of the Executive Selection Committee, the firm of Weidlinger Associates, Inc. was deemed to be the most responsive to the needs of the DRPA and the requirements of the suspender ropes investigation for the Walt Whitman Bridge, as outlined in the Request for Proposal.

In accordance with DRPA’s standard consultant selection procedure, the Price Proposal submitted by Modjeski & Masters, Inc. was opened and evaluated against the Engineer’s Estimate. Based on this evaluation, the Price Proposal submitted by Weidlinger Associates, Inc. in the amount of $2,477,203.00 was determined to be fair and reasonable.

It is recommended that a consulting engineering services agreement be negotiated with Weidlinger Associates, Inc. for charges covering the costs and associated fees not to exceed $2,477,203.00. Upon approval of the Board, an Agreement will be negotiated with Weidlinger Associates, Inc. to provide consulting engineering services in accordance with the Request for Proposal.

| SUMMARY:       | Amount:          | $2,477,203.00 |
| Source of Funds: | 1999 Revenue Bonds ($2,000,000.00), General Fund ($477,203.00) |
| Capital Project #: | WB0701 |
| Operating Budget: | N/A |
| Master Plan Status: | N/A |
| Other Fund Sources: | N/A |
| Duration of Contract: | Fifteen Months |
| Other Parties Involved: | N/A |
RESOLUTION

RESOLVED: That the Board of Commissioners of the Delaware River Port Authority accepts the proposal of Weidlinger Associates, Inc. to provide professional services of the WWB suspender ropes investigation, and that the proper officers of the Authority be and hereby are authorized to negotiate an agreement with Weidlinger Associates, Inc. for the required work in an amount not to exceed $2,477,203.00, as per the attached Summary Statement; and be it further

RESOLVED: The Chairman, Vice Chairman and the Chief Executive Officer must approve and are hereby authorized to approve and execute all necessary agreements, contracts, or other documents on behalf of the DRPA. If such agreements, contracts, or other documents have been approved by the Chairman, Vice Chairman and Chief Executive Officer and if thereafter either the Chairman or Vice Chairman is absent or unavailable, the remaining Officer may execute the said document(s) on behalf of DRPA along with the Chief Executive Officer. If both the Chairman and Vice Chairman are absent or unavailable, and if it is necessary to execute the said document(s) while they are absent or unavailable, then the Chief Executive Officer shall execute such documents on behalf of DRPA.

SUMMARY:  
Amount:  $2,477,203.00
Source of Funds:  1999 Revenue Bonds ($2,000,000.00), General Fund ($477,203.00)
Capital Project #:  WB0701
Operating Budget:  N/A
Master Plan Status:  
Other Fund Sources:  N/A
Duration of Contract:  Fifteen (15) months
Other Parties Involved:  N/A