

May 9, 2017

Ms. Talia Baker  
CPARB Administrative Staff  
Architecture and Engineering Services  
Talia.baker@des.wa.gov

RE: Position application for PRC board / representative for Design Industry Engineer position.

Dear Ms. Baker:

Please accept this letter of interest application to PRC for a position as a representative for Design Industry Engineer. As Director of Engineering at Exeltech Consulting, my experience includes alternative project delivery including both design-build and GCCM.

My experience includes more than 35 years in the transportation industry designing, managing, and developing projects. After starting at WSDOT during my first 8 years I've worked with in the private consulting field since. It's important that the engineering industry has a voice in the process of choosing delivery model. It is this spirit that will guide my focus if appointed to this board.

My experience can offer three benefits to the PRC board as follows. Firstly, from serving as design manager for Sound Transit's Angle Lake extension (design build) project I intimately learned the design build delivery method implications to the owner, consultant, and contractor. For the owner (Sound Transit) their major concern focused on prescriptive requirements in the appropriate portions of the project. For the consultant team, a significant effort was placed on preparing project requirements to match the project plans so that the bid request was clear, concise, and accurate. For the contracting community the sharing of accurate project information became important so that alternative design concepts could be prepared without reducing the project function. Also during recent experience related to the Elliott Bay Sewall project I gained GCCM experience through the Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT). This project is one of the largest GCCM projects delivered by the city of Seattle. Several lessons were learned by the owner, contractor, and design consultant team.

Secondly, my experience with alternative delivery can serve the board to make the overall profession better. I can offer several ideas to the board including, optimizing the competitive environment, simplifying project requirements, and improving overall communication. It is possible to improve clarity of roles, risks, responsibilities, and contract procedures to benefit companies based in Washington State. So far most

alternative delivery projects are developed and in many cases constructed by companies based outside of Washington State which serves their company financial statements well but does little to create permanent jobs within Washington State.

Thirdly, my experience brings several ideas that can truly help the engineering industry within Washington State. During the recent economic downturn of 2008, the Washington engineering industry was hit especially hard because of vanishing revenues. The downturn eliminated some competent local firms because of their inability to compete with large national firms for projects combined with their inexperience in alternative delivery. Some agencies require several years of experience in design build for consultants and or contractors to qualify for preparing a qualification statement for alternative delivery projects. Without this experience, only large national or out of state firms can fulfill the requirement. There are several ways that this burden can be lifted to encourage local businesses to compete for alternative delivery projects.

As Director of Engineering at Exeltech (a certified S/DBE, MWBE) I see firsthand the broad implications of alternative delivery. This experience will serve to guide my voice into the selection of projects for specific delivery type. It is vital that local Washington companies are given every opportunity possible to participate in infrastructure projects.

As a member of PRC, I will draw on my experience of contracting in public works to balance the opportunities provided for all engineering companies in the region. Alternative delivery is vital to the delivery of public works projects in the northwest and my mission will be to provide meaningful input to this board's decision processes.

As requested, below are three references, which you can use to verify my experience, qualifications, and interest in delivering public works projects in Washington.

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Sincerely,



David Talcott, PE PMP  
Director of Engineering