

**TIMELINE OF TxDOT PROPOSAL
FOR VALUE BASED ENGINEERING AND
ARCHITECTURE PROCUREMENT**

- 8/26/04 Commission meeting, discussion on legislative proposals.
- Chairman (to Mr. Chase): ***“Be brief, but don’t leave anything out. This is important stuff; people need to know what it is we’re going to be talking about.”***
- [The discussion included no mention of engineering/architecture procurement issues.]
- 9/7/04 Notes of meeting between Nichols and staff on “price proposals” for engineering services. Many subsequent emails follow through September, October and November interpreting and defining the issue.
- 9/15/04 Some staff suggests that current process is fine and allows TxDOT to negotiate, “...after selection cost is negotiated. We don’t have to take it if we don’t think it’s fair and reasonable. We have the right to go to number two or number three.”
- 9/27/04 Nichols email to staff referring to the issue of cost based procurement of professional services: ***“We do not want this issue to get outside of the Dept. until later. I want to wait till later in the year and have a chance to get commitments from key Legislative members if possible before unleashing all the engineering lobbyists against it.”***
- 9/30/04 Commission meeting, discussion of legislative proposals.
- Chairman: ***“Members, by way of reminding ourselves and by way of informing the audience, the Legislature in 2003, for the first time in the state’s history, authorized the Department of Transportation Commission to develop and present a legislative program. It is in our best interest to broadly announce and discuss and inform our transportation partners from Dallas to Brownsville, from El Paso to Tyler, and the free press what our intentions are. The purpose of Mr. Chase being here with us each month until December is to remind us that we are taking public positions on policy that will be presented to the***

Legislature, and, most important, so that we can say honestly no one was caught off guard or no one didn't have the opportunity to be prepared for what we think is good transportation policy."

[The discussion included no mention of engineering/architecture procurement issues.]

10/28/04

Commission meeting, discussion of legislative proposals.

Chairman: ***"To remind the audience and the Commission, we're going through this process for two reasons: one, we don't want our stakeholders, partners and those who stand on the other side of us from time to time to be caught off guard with what the Department believes is the legislative package most appropriate for transportation."***

[The discussion included no mention of engineering/architecture procurement issues. Mr. Nichols makes a brief comment about "contracting practices" that he wants to continue to explore.]

11/3/04

TxDOT government affairs staff (included in ongoing email discussion) is asked what the "contracting" comment pertains to and denies knowing.

11/18/04

Commission meeting, discussion of legislative proposals.

Chairman: ***". . . We don't want any secrets. We want our world to know what's coming in and what we believe in and don't believe in so that we can have a proper dialogue and perhaps not be fighting with each other."***

[The discussion included no mention of engineering/architecture procurement issues.]

12/16/04

Commission meeting. Engineering/architecture procurement issues are laid out as new issues and adopted with no discussion.