

**Howard N. Dashiell**  
**DIRECTOR OF TRANSPORTATION**

Road Commissioner  
County Engineer, RCE 42001  
County Surveyor, PLS 7148



**FUNCTIONS**

Administration & Business Services  
Airports  
Engineering  
Land Improvement  
Roads and Bridges  
Solid Waste & Landfills  
Water Agency

**COUNTY OF MENDOCINO**  
**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**  
340 LAKE MENDOCINO DRIVE  
UKIAH, CALIFORNIA 95482-9432  
VOICE (707) 463-4363 FAX (707) 463-5474

April 23, 2025

Mendocino County Board of Supervisors  
501 Low Gap Road, Room 1010  
Ukiah, CA 95482

RE: DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING BID PROTEST HEARING FOR THE LITTLE RIVER AIRPORT AIRCRAFT PARKING APRON REHABILITATION, AND RESOLUTION TO ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF BIDS, RESOLVE ANY AND ALL BID PROTESTS, AND AWARD DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION CONTRACT NUMBER 250001 TO THE LOWEST RESPONSIVE, RESPONSIBLE BIDDER (LITTLE RIVER AREA)

Honorable Board Members:

Mendocino County Department of Transportation (DOT) Contract Number (No.) 250001 will provide for the Little River Airport Aircraft Parking Apron Rehabilitation.

Pursuant to Board Resolution No. 25-068 (April 8, 2025), bids for DOT Contract No. 250001, were opened as scheduled on Thursday, April 17, 2025, at 2:00 PM. CSI Services of Santa Rosa, California, was deemed the apparent "low bidder" for this project with a base bid of \$2,079,560.00. On April 22, 2025, DOT posted the Notice of Intent to Award letter, stating DOT's intent to award the contract to CSI Services.

The second lowest bidder, Argonaut Constructors, Inc., of Santa Rosa, California, with a bid of \$2,462,167.00, has protested awarding the contract to CSI Services based on:

1. On page PF-2 of the bid proposal, CSI Services failed to include Evidence of Competency information with their bid package at time of bid opening.
2. On page PF-27 of the bid proposal, CSI Services failed to write in a stated commitment for the % of DBE Utilization.
3. CSI Service's bid unit price for Bid Item 21, Asphalt Surface Course appears to be very low.
4. CSI Services has listed a subcontractor for Demo and Grading (NH Environmental) and a subcontractor for Asphalt Paving (Interstate Paving). This work constitutes the majority of the project scope, therefore it appears that CSI is not self-performing work and is only accounting for the purchase and hauling of materials, thus they are in violation of contractual self-perform obligations.

DOT would like to provide the following information for the Board's consideration in making its determination:

1. Section 20 of the FAA General Provisions also lists reasons for considering a proposal irregular. Omission of proof of competency is not listed as one of the reasons.
2. The list of DBE subcontractors on page PF-27 accounts for 27.8% of the total bid. CSI Service claims a DBE participation of 8.4% on page PF-26.
3. There are many variations in price per unit among the four bids received.
4. The claimed subcontracts for NH Environmental and Interstate Paving account for 22% of CSI Services' bid, which is within the contractual self-perform obligations.

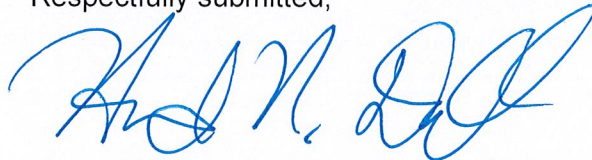
I have attached copies of all correspondence from DOT, Argonaut Constructors, Inc., and CSI Services regarding the bid protest, as well as the Bid Item Sheets and Subcontractor Lists from both contractors, for your use in making your determination.

Per Public Contract Code 20150.9, the County may reject any bids presented, subject to determinations made regarding the responsiveness or responsibility of the bidder. If the Board rejects the bid of CSI Services as non-responsive, non-responsible, the contract could be awarded to Argonaut Constructors, Inc., as the lowest responsive, responsible bidder with a base bid amount of \$2,462,167.00. The Board could also choose to reject all bids and have DOT re-advertise this project, but this is not recommended as it may delay the project until next year and some funding will expire.

DOT staff personnel have prepared draft Resolutions, which provide said authorization for the Board's consideration and adoption.

I will, of course, respond to any question that you may have.

Respectfully submitted,



Howard N. Dashiell, Director of Transportation

Attachments: (1) Bid Summary; (2) Notice of Intent to Award dated 4/22/25; (3) Bid Protest Letter from Argonaut dated April 23, 2025; (4) Pages PF 26 & 27 from CSI Services' bid; (5) Pages PF1 & PF 2 from CSI Services' bid; (6) Section 20 of FAA Advisory Circular 150/5370-10D; (7) CSI Services' Response Letter; (8) Second Notice of Intent to Award; (9) Protest Letter from Argonaut dated May 6, 2025

cc: File DOT Project File 3060 Little River Airport Apron Rehab

CONTRACT NO. 250001  
DISTRICT: 5  
COUNTY: MENDOCINO  
ROUTE: N/A

DATE:

[illegible]

**BID SUMMARY**

TITLE: LITTLE RIVER AIRPORT AIRCRAFT PARKING APRON REHABILITATION

CONTRACT NO. 250001  
DISTRICT: 1  
COUNTY: MENDOCINO  
ROUTE: N/A

ADVERTISED DATE: March 20, 2025

BID OPENING DATE: April 17, 2025

PREPARED BY: Jason Wise

DATE: 4/18/2025 CHECKED BY: 0

DATE: 1/0/1900

				Ghilotti Construction NO. 3		ENGINEER'S ESTIMATE		Stimple-Wiebelhaus NO. 4	
NO.	DESCRIPTION	UNIT	QTY.	UNIT PRICE	AMOUNT	UNIT PRICE	AMOUNT	UNIT PRICE	AMOUNT
<b>WILLIAMS CREEK BRIDGE REPLACEMENT ON POWERHOUSE ROAD</b>									
1	Airfield Safety and Traffic Control	LS	1	\$57,003.00	\$57,003.00	\$75,000.00	\$75,000.00	\$45,000.00	\$45,000.00
2	Construction Staking and Survey Layout	LS	1	\$18,270.00	\$18,270.00	\$40,000.00	\$40,000.00	\$35,000.00	\$35,000.00
3	In-Place Drying of Subgrade	SY	2100	\$28.00	\$58,800.00	\$5.00	\$10,500.00	\$25.00	\$52,500.00
4	Excavation and Off-haul of Unsuitable Material	CY	600	\$165.00	\$99,000.00	\$85.00	\$51,000.00	\$190.00	\$114,000.00
5	Multi-axial Geogrid	SY	1700	\$8.00	\$13,600.00	\$10.00	\$17,000.00	\$10.00	\$17,000.00
6	Recycled Base	CY	600	\$185.00	\$111,000.00	\$80.00	\$48,000.00	\$150.00	\$90,000.00
7	Install Tie-Down Anchors and Chains	EA	38	\$900.00	\$34,200.00	\$1,000.00	\$38,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$38,000.00
8	Airport Access and Haul Route Repair	SF	3300	\$13.00	\$42,900.00	\$10.00	\$33,000.00	\$18.00	\$59,400.00
9	Encase Existing Storm Drain Pipe	LF	200	\$160.00	\$32,000.00	\$150.00	\$30,000.00	\$120.00	\$24,000.00
10	Contractor Quality Control Program (CQCP)	LS	1	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$55,000.00	\$55,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
11	Mobilization (Limited to 10% of Total Project Cost)	LS	1	\$188,000.00	\$188,000.00	\$180,000.00	\$180,000.00	\$280,000.00	\$280,000.00
12	Concrete Pavement Removal	SY	90	\$90.00	\$8,100.00	\$65.00	\$5,850.00	\$350.00	\$31,500.00
13	Asphalt Pavement Removal	SY	8070	\$8.00	\$64,560.00	\$10.00	\$80,700.00	\$6.00	\$48,420.00
14	Sawcut and Removal of Asphalt Pavement Join (3-ft-wide)	LF	600	\$5.00	\$3,000.00	\$20.00	\$12,000.00	\$100.00	\$60,000.00
15	Concrete Joint Repair	LF	2300	\$9.47	\$21,781.00	\$18.00	\$41,400.00	\$35.00	\$80,500.00
16	Removal of PCC Tie-Down Anchor and Chains	EA	51	\$300.00	\$15,300.00	\$300.00	\$15,300.00	\$550.00	\$28,050.00
17	Unclassified Excavation and Off-Site Disposal	CY	1840	\$150.00	\$276,000.00	\$85.00	\$156,400.00	\$185.00	\$340,400.00
18	Subgrade Preparation, Zone 1	CY	2810	\$30.00	\$84,300.00	\$12.00	\$33,720.00	\$35.00	\$98,350.00
19	Subgrade Preparation, Zone 2	CY	1790	\$60.00	\$107,400.00	\$30.00	\$53,700.00	\$75.00	\$134,250.00
20	Crushed Aggregate Base Course	CY	1410	\$210.00	\$296,100.00	\$150.00	\$211,500.00	\$150.00	\$211,500.00
21	Asphalt Surface Course	TON	1980	\$410.00	\$811,800.00	\$300.00	\$594,000.00	\$415.00	\$821,700.00
22	Emulsified Asphalt Tack Coat	TON	3	\$2,700.00	\$8,100.00	\$2,500.00	\$7,500.00	\$6,000.00	\$18,000.00
23	Marking Removal	SF	4300	\$5.00	\$21,500.00	\$8.00	\$34,400.00	\$5.00	\$21,500.00
24	Pavement Markings, All Colors without Reflective Media, Initial Application	SF	910	\$4.00	\$3,640.00	\$18.00	\$16,380.00	\$4.00	\$3,640.00
25	Pavement Markings, All Colors with Reflective Media, Final Application	SF	910	\$5.00	\$4,550.00	\$12.00	\$10,920.00	\$5.00	\$4,550.00
26	Pavement Markings, Black, Single Application	SF	1000	\$4.00	\$4,000.00	\$6.00	\$6,000.00	\$4.00	\$4,000.00
27	Structural Concrete, Reinforced	CY	50	\$1,300.00	\$65,000.00	\$1,100.00	\$55,000.00	\$4,000.00	\$200,000.00
28	Prepare Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP)	LS	1	\$1,295.00	\$1,295.00	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00
29	Implement Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP)	LS	1	\$18,800.00	\$18,800.00	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00
☆	Total: DBE Goal: Corrected Amount				\$2,474,999.00 8.71%		\$1,952,270.00 13.0%		\$2,895,260.00 0.0%



**Howard N. Dashiell**  
**DIRECTOR OF TRANSPORTATION**

Road Commissioner  
County Engineer, RCE 42001  
County Surveyor, PLS 7148



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Landfills

**COUNTY OF MENDOCINO**  
**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

340 LAKE MENDOCINO DRIVE  
UKIAH, CALIFORNIA 95482-9432  
VOICE (707) 463-4363 FAX (707) 463-5474

April 22, 2025

To all interested parties

RE: NOTICE OF INTENT TO AWARD  
LITTLE RIVER AIRPORT  
AIRCRAFT PARKING APRON REHABILITATION  
DOT PROJECT NO. AIR24LR001  
CONTRACT NO. 250001

To whom this may concern:

Bids for the above project were opened on Tuesday, April 17, 2025, at 2:00 P.M., with four bids being received. The apparent low bidder was CSI Services of San Pedro, California with a bid of \$2,079,560.

The Mendocino County Department of Transportation intends to award the subject contract to CSI Services pending review and approval of required contract bid submittals by all involved parties.

All questions may be directed to the Project Manager, Jason Wise, at (707) 234-2846 or by email at [WiseJ@MendocinoCounty.gov](mailto:WiseJ@MendocinoCounty.gov).

Sincerely,

Howard Dashiell  
Director of Transportation

cc: <https://www.mendocinocounty.org/departments/transportation/rfps-rfqs-projects-to-bid>

Project File AIR24LR001



A California Corporation

April 22, 2025

Via Electronic Mail & Hand Delivery

Mendocino County Department of Transportation  
340 Lake Mendocino Drive  
Ukiah, CA 95482  
Attn: Howard Dashiell

E-mail: [dashiellh@mendocinocounty.org](mailto:dashiellh@mendocinocounty.org)

Reference: Little River Airport Aircraft Parking Apron Rehabilitation, Bid Date April 17, 2025, 2 pm

Subject: Protest of CSI Services Apparent Low Bid

Dear Mr. Dashiell,

Argonaut Constructors, Inc. is hereby submitting a formal bid protest of CSI Services' bid for the following reasons, therefore deeming their bid non-responsive:

1. On page PF-2 of the bid proposal, CSI Services failed to include Evidence of Competency information with their bid package at time of bid opening.
2. On page PF-27 of the bid proposal, CSI Services failed to write in a stated commitment for the % of DBE Utilization.
3. CSI Service's bid unit price for Bid Item 21, Asphalt Surface Course appears to be very low. The asphalt purchase price for the specification required Marshal mix alone is \$185/ton plus tax. CSI's bid unit price is only \$172/ton, therefore it appears that CSI has only included pricing for a typical Type A HMA mix rather than what is required by the specifications.
4. CSI Services has listed a subcontractor for Demo and Grading (NH Environmental) and a subcontractor for Asphalt Paving (Interstate Paving). This work constitutes the majority of the project scope, therefore it appears that CSI is not self-performing work and is only accounting for the purchase and hauling of materials, thus they are in violation of contractual self-perform obligations.

We believe that this contract should be Awarded to Argonaut Constructors, Inc. as the responsible and responsive low bidder.

Please call me on my cell phone at (707) 909-0547 or e-mail me at [lbushnell@argonautconstructors.com](mailto:lbushnell@argonautconstructors.com) should you have any further comments or questions regarding this matter.

Respectfully,

*Lance A. Bushnell*

Lance A. Bushnell  
Vice President of Estimating

Cc: Bid Files; Matt Howell; Denise Whitfield

360 Sutton Place Santa Rosa, CA 95407 • PO Box 639 Santa Rosa, CA 95402 • F. 707.542.3210 • P. 707.542.4862

**BIDDER'S ASSURANCE OF COMPLIANCE WITH  
TITLE 49 CFR PART 26 RELATING TO  
DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS ENTERPRISE (DBE) PARTICIPATION**

The bidder hereby gives assurance pursuant to the requirements of Title 49 CFR Part 26 that bidder has made a reasonable effort to meet the goals for Disadvantaged Business Enterprise participation specified for the CONTRACT for which this proposal is submitted and that bidder, if the CONTRACT is awarded to bidder, will have a DBE participation of 8.4% percent (CONTRACTOR to fill in actual percent of participation) of the amount of this bid. Bidder further gives assurance that bidder will submit the documentation required by said REGULATIONS and the CONTRACT SPECIFICATIONS, including the Listing of Disadvantaged Business Enterprises with which the bidder will subcontract if the CONTRACT is awarded and if bidder is unable to meet the CONTRACT goals for DBE participation, of the steps bidder has taken to obtain DBE participation.

Bidder's  
Name:

CSI SERVICES

Date

4/16/2025

Signature and Title

[Signature] - President

## DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS ENTERPRISE (DBE) UTILIZATION

The undersigned bidder/offeror has satisfied the requirements of the bid specification in the following manner (please check the appropriate space):

The bidder/offeror is committed to a minimum of \_\_\_\_\_% DBE utilization on this contract.

The bidder/offeror (if unable to meet the DBE goal of 8.0%) is committed to a minimum of \_\_\_\_\_% DBE utilization on this contract and submits or will submit documentation demonstrating good faith efforts (within 5 days of notification of award).

The undersigned hereby further assures that the information included herein is true and correct, and that the DBE firm(s) listed herein have agreed to perform a commercially useful function in the work items noted for each firm. The undersigned further understands that no changes to this statement may be made without prior approval from the Civil Right Staff of the Federal Aviation Administration.

Name of bidder/offeror's firm: CSI SERVICES

State Registration No.: \_\_\_\_\_

By: [Signature]

Title: President

### LIST OF DBE SUBCONTRACTORS

### CONTRACT AMOUNT

- |                          |                       |                   |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|
| 1. <u>Tall tree</u>      | <u>(707) 472-6881</u> | \$ <u>11,000</u>  |
| Name                     | Phone                 |                   |
| 2. <u>ELIS</u>           | <u>(562) 761-7645</u> | \$ <u>108,000</u> |
| Name                     | Phone                 |                   |
| 3. <u>Interstate Asp</u> | <u>(714) 493-4878</u> | \$ <u>300,000</u> |
| Name                     | Phone                 |                   |
| 4. <u>NH Env</u>         | <u>(909) 215-6293</u> | \$ <u>160,000</u> |
| Name                     | Phone                 |                   |
| 5. _____                 | _____                 | \$ _____          |
| Name                     | Phone                 |                   |



**BIDDER'S CHECK LIST**  
**for**  
**LITTLE RIVER AIRPORT AIRCRAFT PARKING APRON REHABILITATION**

For bid to be considered "responsive" the following documents are required to be fully completed, executed, and **submitted with your bid**:

- ☒ Bidder's Check List
- ☒ Proposal Form
- ☒ Bid Schedule (Item Sheet)
- ☒ Acknowledgment of receipt of addendum (at end of bid schedule)
- ☒ Equal Employment Opportunity Certification
- ☒ List of Subcontractors
- ☒ Public Contract Code Sections 10285.1 Statement 10162 Questionnaire 10232 Statement
- ☒ Non-Collusion Affidavit
- ☒ Suspension and Debarment Requirements Certification
- ☒ Prohibition of Segregated Facilities
- ☒ Certification of Bidder Regarding Affirmative Action Program
- ☒ Certification Regarding Foreign Trade Restrictions
- ☒ Certificate of Buy American Compliance for Manufactured Products
- ☒ Certification on Non-lobbying Activities
- ☒ Drug-free Workplace Certification
- ☒ Certification of Offerer/Bidder Regarding Tax Delinquency and Felony Convictions
- ☒ Certification Regarding Domestic Preferences for Procurements
- ☒ DBE Participation
- ☒ DBE Utilization
- ☒ Bid Bond

**The following DBE information / exhibits shall all be submitted within 5 days after bid opening.**

\_\_\_\_\_ Exhibit 15-G Local Agency Bidder DBE Commitment

\_\_\_\_\_ Exhibit 15-H DBE Information – Good Faith Efforts

\_\_\_\_\_ EXHIBIT 17-O Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBE) Certification Status Change

\_\_\_\_\_ EXHIBIT 17-F Final Report-Utilization of Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBE),  
First-Tier Subcontractors

**BIDDER IS ALSO REQUIRED TO SUBMIT THE FOLLOWING WRITTEN STATEMENTS OF QUALIFICATIONS AT TIME OF BID:**

\_\_\_\_\_ EVIDENCE OF COMPETENCY

Each bidder shall submit “evidence of competency” to the Owner at the time of bid opening (See FAA General Provisions Section 20-02 of the project specifications for details).

\_\_\_\_\_ EVIDENCE OF FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Each bidder shall submit “evidence of financial responsibility” to the Owner at the time of bid opening (See FAA General Provisions Section 20-02 of the project specifications for details).

\*\*\*\*\*

The **successful bidder** will be required to provide the following **after** notice of award:

- Signed Contract
- Faithful Performance Bond (100%)
- Payment Bond (100%)
- Insurance Documents

**\*\*\*\*\*NOTE: BECAUSE SOME COLORED INKS WILL NOT REPRODUCE IN COPY MACHINES, PLEASE USE BLACK INK TO COMPLETE THIS PROPOSAL)\*\*\*\*\***

## SECTION 20 PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS AND CONDITIONS

### 20-01 ADVERTISEMENT (Notice to Bidders).

\*\*\*\*\*

**The Owner, or his/her authorized agent, shall publish the advertisement at such places and at such times as are required by local law or ordinances. The published advertisement shall state the time and place for submitting sealed proposals; a description of the proposed work; instructions to bidders as to obtaining proposal forms, plans, and specifications; proposal guaranty required; and the Owner's right to reject any and all bids.**

\*\*\*\*\*

**20-02 PREQUALIFICATION OF BIDDERS.** Each bidder shall furnish the owner satisfactory evidence of his/her competency to perform the proposed work. Such evidence of competency, unless otherwise specified, shall consist of statements covering the bidder's past experience on similar work, a list of equipment that would be available for the work, and a list of key personnel that would be available. In addition, each bidder shall furnish the owner satisfactory evidence of his/her financial responsibility. Such evidence of financial responsibility, unless otherwise specified, shall consist of a confidential statement or report of the bidder's financial resources and liabilities as of the last calendar year or the Contractor's last fiscal year. Such statements or reports shall be certified by a public accountant. At the time of submitting such financial statements or reports, the bidder shall further certify whether his/her financial responsibility is approximately the same as stated or reported by the public accountant. If the bidder's financial responsibility has changed, the bidder shall qualify the public accountant's statement or report to reflect his/her (bidder's) true financial condition at the time such qualified statement or report is submitted to the Owner.

Unless otherwise specified, a bidder may submit evidence that he is prequalified with the State Highway Division and is on the current "bidder's list" of the state in which the proposed work is located. Such evidence of State Highway Division prequalification may be submitted as evidence of financial responsibility in lieu of the certified statements or reports hereinbefore specified.

Each bidder shall submit "evidence of competency" and "evidence of financial responsibility" to the Owner at the time of bid opening.

**20-03 CONTENTS OF PROPOSAL FORMS.** The Owner shall furnish bidders with proposal forms. All papers bound with or attached to the proposal forms are necessary parts and must not be detached.

The plans specifications, and other documents designated in the proposal form shall be considered a part of the proposal whether attached or not.

\*\*\*\*\*

**The proposal forms that are to be furnished to bidders should state the location and description of the proposed construction, the place, date, and time of opening of the proposals, and should show the estimated quantities of the various items of work to be performed and materials to be furnished for which unit bid prices are asked. The proposal form shall state the time in which the work must be completed, and the amount of the proposal guaranty that must accompany the proposal. Should the Owner require a prebid conference, the time, date, and place shall be stated in the proposal.**

**For AIP contracts, the proposal shall conform to the requirements of local laws and ordinances pertaining to letting of contracts.**

\*\*\*\*\*

**20-04 ISSUANCE OF PROPOSAL FORMS.** The Owner reserves the right to refuse to issue a proposal form to a prospective bidder should such bidder be in default for any of the following reasons:

- a. Failure to comply with any prequalification regulations of the Owner, if such regulations are cited, or otherwise included, in the proposal as a requirement for bidding.
- b. Failure to pay, or satisfactorily settle, all bills due for labor and materials on former contracts in force (with the Owner) at the time the Owner issues the proposal to a prospective bidder.
- c. Contractor default under previous contracts with the Owner.
- d. Unsatisfactory work on previous contracts with the Owner.

**20-05 INTERPRETATION OF ESTIMATED PROPOSAL QUANTITIES.** An estimate of quantities of work to be done and materials to be furnished under these specifications is given in the proposal. It is the result of careful calculations and is believed to be correct. It is given only as a basis for comparison of proposals and the award of the contract. The Owner does not expressly or by implication agree that the actual quantities involved will correspond exactly therewith; nor shall the bidder plead misunderstanding or deception because of such estimates of quantities, or of the character, location, or other conditions pertaining to the work. Payment to the Contractor will be made only for the actual quantities of work performed or materials furnished in accordance with the plans and specifications. It is understood that the quantities may be increased or decreased as hereinafter provided in the subsection titled ALTERATION OF WORK AND QUANTITIES of Section 40 without in any way invalidating the unit bid prices.

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**Mobilization may be paid for as a separate bid item or included in the unit prices for all other items. Ensure the proposal form and contract documents indicate how mobilization is to be paid for.**

**Implementation of the safety plan is to be included in other bid items.**

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**20-06 EXAMINATION OF PLANS, SPECIFICATIONS, AND SITE.** The bidder is expected to carefully examine the site of the proposed work, the proposal, plans specifications, and contract forms. He shall satisfy himself as to the character, quality, and quantities of work to be performed, materials to be furnished, and as to the requirements of the proposed contract. The submission of a proposal shall be prima facie evidence that the bidder has made such examination and is satisfied as to the conditions to be encountered in performing the work and as to the requirements of the proposed contract, plans, and specifications.

Boring logs and other records of subsurface investigations and tests are available for inspection of bidders. It is understood and agreed that such subsurface information, whether included in the plans, specifications, or otherwise made available to the bidder, was obtained and is intended for the Owner's design and estimating purposes only. Such information has been made available for the convenience of all bidders. It is further understood and agreed that each bidder is solely responsible for all assumptions, deductions, or conclusions which he may make or obtain from his/her examination of the boring logs and other records of subsurface investigations and tests that are furnished by the Owner.

**20-07 PREPARATION OF PROPOSAL.** The bidder shall submit his/her proposal on the forms furnished by the Owner. All blank spaces in the proposal forms must be correctly filled in where indicated for each and every item

for which a quantity is given. The bidder shall state the price (written in ink or typed) both in words and numerals for which he proposes to do each pay item furnished in the proposal. In case of conflict between words and numerals, the words, unless obviously incorrect, shall govern.

The bidder shall sign his/her proposal correctly and in ink. If the proposal is made by an individual, his/her name and post office address must be shown. If made by a partnership, the name and post office address of each member of the partnership must be shown. If made by a corporation, the person signing the proposal shall give the name of the state under the laws of which the corporation was chartered and the name, titles, and business address of the president, secretary, and the treasurer. Anyone signing a proposal as an agent shall file evidence of his/her authority to do so and that the signature is binding upon the firm or corporation.

**20-08 IRREGULAR PROPOSALS.** Proposals shall be considered irregular for the following reasons:

\*\*\*\*\*

**A definition of responsive and responsible bid as defined in federal acquisition regulations should be included in this section.**

\*\*\*\*\*

**a.** If the proposal is on a form other than that furnished by the Owner, or if the Owner's form is altered, or if any part of the proposal form is detached.

**b.** If there are unauthorized additions, conditional or alternate pay items, or irregularities of any kind that make the proposal incomplete, indefinite, or otherwise ambiguous.

**c.** If the proposal does not contain a unit price for each pay item listed in the proposal, except in the case of authorized alternate pay items, for which the bidder is not required to furnish a unit price.

**d.** If the proposal contains unit prices that are obviously unbalanced.

**e.** If the proposal is not accompanied by the proposal guaranty specified by the Owner.

The Owner reserves the right to reject any irregular proposal and the right to waive technicalities if such waiver is in the best interest of the Owner and conforms to local laws and ordinances pertaining to the letting of construction contracts.

**20-09 BID GUARANTEE.** Each separate proposal shall be accompanied by a certified check, or other specified acceptable collateral, in the amount specified in the proposal form. Such check, or collateral, shall be made payable to the Owner.

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**49 CFR Part 18 provides that for contracts exceeding \$100,000, the Owner should use local bonding policy and requirements provided that the FAA has made a determination that the Government's interest is adequately protected. If such a determination has not been made, the bid guarantee shall be equivalent to five percent of the bid price. It shall consist of a firm commitment such as a bid bond, certified check, or other negotiable instrument accompanying a bid as assurance that the bidder will, upon acceptance of the bid, execute such contractual documents as may be required within the time specified.**

\*\*\*\*\*

**20-10 DELIVERY OF PROPOSAL.** Each proposal submitted shall be placed in a sealed envelope plainly marked with the project number, location of airport, and name and business address of the bidder on the outside. When sent by mail, preferably registered, the sealed proposal, marked as indicated above, should be enclosed in an

additional envelope. No proposal will be considered unless received at the place specified in the advertisement before the time specified for opening all bids. Proposals received after the bid opening time shall be returned to the bidder unopened.

**20-11 WITHDRAWAL OR REVISION OF PROPOSALS.** A bidder may withdraw or revise (by withdrawal of one proposal and submission of another) a proposal provided that the bidder's request for withdrawal is received by the Owner in writing or by telegram before the time specified for opening bids. Revised proposals must be received at the place specified in the advertisement before the time specified for opening all bids.

**20-12 PUBLIC OPENING OF PROPOSALS.** Proposals shall be opened, and read, publicly at the time and place specified in the advertisement. Bidders, their authorized agents, and other interested persons are invited to attend. Proposals that have been withdrawn (by written or telegraphic request) or received after the time specified for opening bids shall be returned to the bidder unopened.

**20-13 DISQUALIFICATION OF BIDDERS.** A bidder shall be considered disqualified for any of the following reasons:

a. Submitting more than one proposal from the same partnership, firm, or corporation under the same or different name.

b. Evidence of collusion among bidders. Bidders participating in such collusion shall be disqualified as bidders for any future work of the Owner until any such participating bidder has been reinstated by the Owner as a qualified bidder.

c. If the bidder is considered to be in "default" for any reason specified in the subsection titled ISSUANCE OF PROPOSAL FORMS of this section.

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## END OF SECTION 20

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**C. S. I**  
*Services*

PO Box 271  
San Pedro, CA 90733  
Fax No.: (310) 530-8110  
Ca State Lice #959577, Class A, B, & C10

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Date: April 25, 2025

County of Mendocino  
Department of Transportation  
340 Lake Mendocino Dr  
Ukiah, CA 95482  
Attn.: Mr Jason Wise  
Deputy Director, Land Improvement  
(707) 234-6650

**RESPONSE TO PROTEST BY ARGONAUT CONSTRUCTORS: Little River Airport Aircraft Parking Apron Rehabilitation Project, Bid Date April 17, 2025 (DOT 250001 | FAA AIP 3-06-0121-017-2023)**

This letter is in reply to the protest of Argonaut Constructors protest of our bid related to the Little River Aircraft Parking Apron Rehabilitation project.

Item #1 of protest letter related to experience and financial – we provided per PF1 all required documents to constitute a responsive bid. We have since provided these documents on page PF2 which were not outlined as required per PF1. CSI's experience and financial status far exceeds the minimum requirement of a project of this scale. These documents are to remain confidential and not to be distributed voluntarily to any party without consent of CSI Services.

Item #2 of protest letter related to DBE commitment – CSI has provided documentation related to the outreach and participation of such commitment.

Item #3 of protest letter related to bid item 21 – it is CSI's means and methods as to how we will perform the work outlined in this item.

Item #4 of protest letter related as to CSI self-performance – subcontractors constitute under 500,000 of total bid. CSI is self-performing the balance of the contract, subtracting mobilization this is over 1 million dollars of work and materials. CSI is exceeding its requirement of self-performance.

In closing, CSI Services is well equipped to completing this project with the upmost quality, precision and within critical timeline.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Frank Colaruotolo', is written over the signature line.

Frank Colaruotolo, President  
CSI Services  
PO Box 271, San Pedro, CA 90733  
Tel.: 310.530.8111  
Fax: 310.530.8110

**Howard N. Dashiell**  
**DIRECTOR OF TRANSPORTATION**

Road Commissioner  
County Engineer, RCE 42001  
County Surveyor, PLS 7148



**FUNCTIONS**

Administration & Business Services  
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Landfills

**COUNTY OF MENDOCINO**  
**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**  
340 LAKE MENDOCINO DRIVE  
UKIAH, CALIFORNIA 95482-9432  
VOICE (707) 463-4363 FAX (707) 463-5474

May 5, 2025

To all interested parties

RE: NOTICE OF INTENT TO AWARD – BID PROTEST  
LITTLE RIVER AIRPORT AIRCRAFT PARKING APRON REHABILITATION  
DOT PROJECT NO. AIR24LR001  
CONTRACT NO. 250001

To whom this may concern:

This letter is in response to the letter dated April 22, 2025 from Argonaut Constructors with subject "Protest of CSI Services Apparent Low Bid".

1. Failure to produce Proof of Competency at the time of the bid opening is not considered a proposal irregularity under Section 20-09 of the FAA General Provisions. Omission of these documents at the time of the bid did not give CSI Services an unfair advantage. Proof of Competency was provided after the bid opening.
2. While the DBE goal was omitted on page PF-27, it was included on page PF-26. DBE firms and the amount of their contracts were included on PF-27, clearly showing that CSI Services has committed to meeting the DBE goal for this project.
3. How CSI Services calculates their unit costs is up to them. They stand by their bid. As you well know, there is a lot of variation between bid items from different bidders.
4. Based on subcontract amounts listed on page PF-27, the work done by NH Environmental and Interstate Paving account for a combined 22% of the overall bid by CSI Services, which is within the contractual self-perform obligations.

As stated in the ruling on *Ghilotti Construction Co. v. City of Richmond*, 45 Cal.App.4<sup>th</sup> 897, 904 (1996), "[A] bid which substantially conforms to a call for bids may, though it is not strictly responsive, be accepted if the variance cannot have affected the amount of the bid or given a

bidder an advantage or benefit not allowed other bidders or, in other words, if the variance is inconsequential.”

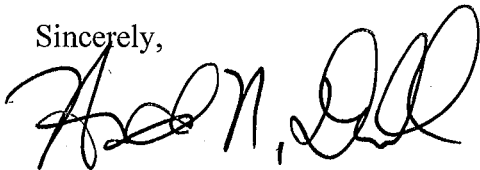
The minor bid inconsistencies by CSI Services did not affect the bids nor give CSI Services an advantage not allowed other bidders that could have affected the low bid.

The Mendocino County Department of Transportation still intends to award the subject contract to CSI Services pending review and approval of required contract bid submittals by all involved parties.

A hearing has been set before the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors on May 20, 2025. If you wish to continue the bid protest procedure, please confirm by May 15, 2025, or the item will be pulled from the Agenda and cannot be added again.

All questions may be directed to the Project Manager, Jason Wise, at (707) 234-2846 or by email at WiseJ@MendocinoCounty.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Howard Dashiell", written in a cursive style.

Howard Dashiell  
Director of Transportation

cc: <https://www.mendocinocounty.org/departments/transportation/rfps-rfqs-projects-to-bid>

CSI Services  
Project File AIR24LR001



A California Corporation

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May 6, 2025

Via Electronic Mail

Mendocino County Department of Transportation  
340 Lake Mendocino Drive  
Ukiah, CA 95482  
Attn: Howard Dashiell

E-mail: [dashielh@mendocinocounty.gov](mailto:dashielh@mendocinocounty.gov)

Reference: Little River Airport Aircraft Parking Apron Rehabilitation, Bid Date April 17, 2025, 2 pm

Subject: Response to Mendocino County Notice of Intent to Award – Bid Protest Letter Dated May 5, 2025

Dear Mr. Dashiell,

In response to your Notice of Intent to Award – Bid Protest Letter, dated May 5, 2025, we disagree with the County's stance regarding Item 1. Failure to produce Proof of Competency at the time of bid...

It is not just an irregularity that gives CSI an advantage that would require throwing out their bid, but if, given that there is an irregularity admitted by Mendocino in the low bid (the County letter admits No 1 is an irregularity), waiving the irregularity just for CSI would constitute favoritism to the non-responsive bidder, which itself requires throwing out the low bid as unresponsive. See, Valley Crest Landscape, Inc. v. City Council, (1996) 41 Cal.App.4<sup>th</sup> 1432; MCM Constr. v. City & County of San Francisco, (1998) 66 Cal.App.4<sup>th</sup> 359; Ghilotti Constr. Co. v. City of Richmond, (1996) 45 Cal.App.4<sup>th</sup> 897; Monterey Mechanical Co. v. Sacramento Reg'l County Sanitation Dist., (1996) 44 Cal.App.4<sup>th</sup>.

We believe that this contract should be Awarded to Argonaut Constructors, Inc. as the responsible and responsive low bidder.

Please call me on my cell phone at (707) 909-0547 or e-mail me at [lbushnell@argonautconstructors.com](mailto:lbushnell@argonautconstructors.com) should you have any further comments or questions regarding this matter.

Respectfully,

*Lance A. Bushnell*

Lance A. Bushnell  
Vice President of Estimating

Cc: Bid Files; Matt Howell; Denise Whitfield