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**NEWSLETTER**  
**From Girard R. Visconti, Esq.**

**RE: Pre-Bid Conferences**

Most Public Works projects require a Pre-Bid Conference in their Request for Proposals.

Many Pre-Bid Conferences are mandatory and some are voluntary. It is suggested by the author that Pre-Bid Conferences be attended whether mandatory or voluntarily, since Pre-Bid Conferences are important in relation to various questions, i.e. RFI's that come up during the conference.

For example, if a contractor fails to attend a Pre-Bid Conference, mandatory or voluntarily, and an issue is noted at the conference, the contractor may be deemed to have that knowledge, notwithstanding that his or her firm did not attend the conference.

Pre-Bid Conferences give a bidder the opportunity to ask various questions concerning any gaps or vague areas in the plans and specifications, the request for proposals, the attached exhibits, addenda, contracts, etc.

Pre-Bid Conferences also give opportunities for the contractor to review any project requirements that are noted in the Pre-Bid Conference by the owner, consultants or architects or engineers.

Pre-Bid Conferences may also discuss the many regulations that are noted in the Request for Proposals, such as Davis-Bacon requirements, environmental requirements, etc.

Many Pre-Bid conferences also give the bidders an opportunity to review or tour of the building site and better understand the work so they could bid properly. Obviously, the bidders may have questions concerning various construction procedures in relation to parking, staging, transportation costs, background checks, other security requirements, etc. Therefore, it is crucial for a bidder to

attend a Pre-Bid Conference, whether the conference is mandated by the Request for Proposals or on a voluntary basis.

Sincerely,

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GRV/ch



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