



T. Smith's Lawn Service, LLC.

3315 S. Danieldale Rd.
Lancaster, Texas 75134

September 12, 2019

City of Dallas Office Of Procurement Services
1500 Marilla St. Room 3Fn
Dallas, Texas 75201

Ref: BQ 19-000 10547 TXDOT Grounds Maintenance

Subject: Official Protest of Decision; Good Earth; BQ 19-000 10547 TXDOT Grounds Maintenance

Dear Marci Chrismon,

I am writing this letter to protest the letter of notification dated 09/04/2019 emailed 09/05/2019 for the above referenced bid submittal response. Accordingly, T. Smith's Lawn Service's was deemed "**Non-responsive; Does not meet Specifications**". Based on the specifications, T Smith Lawn Service was "Responsive and Responsible" based on company's history with providing work with the City of Dallas and other municipalities in the DFW Metroplex and our financial stability. All vendors should be given a reasonable and judicious opportunity during the consideration process and not frivolously turned down because of non-established history with various City Departments or vendor preference based on current relationships.

I am requesting that the specific items listed below are addressed:

- Good Earth's bid was six million dollars (\$6M) higher than T Smiths bid. Our bid was close to the current contract that Good Earth currently provides.
 - Did the scope of work change which would justify an increase of \$6M?
 - What was the estimated budget for this contract?
 - Is TXDOT willing to reimburse the COD for such a large variance in price?
- Adequate references were submitted according to the specifications
 - When asked for additional information on references, T Smith responded.
 - No response was received after additional information was submitted.
- No site visit was conducted to review T Smith's equipment, staffing, vehicles etc.

T. Smith Lawn service has been doing business with various COD departments for years. T Smith's has always provided efficiency, professional and quality service. Based on my previous experience the bid process has always been neutral; I hope that this bid does not contradict this process. Additionally, I would like to request the COD review the "ethical practices" of the procuring department as it seems some ethical practices are being violated within this team.

This letter serves as a formal protest of the decision made to recommend the second bidder Good Earth who currently has the contract.

Respectfully,

Terrence D Smith, President

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Cc: Zarin Gracey, Director, Office of Business Diversity
Chhunny Chhean, Procurement, Interim Director