REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Shasta NextGen Railroad Corridor Crossing Plan

SRTA Solicitation Number: S-00048

Issued:	October 13, 2026
Contract Capacity:	Estimated budget of **$438,680**
Performance Period:	Project to be completed by February 28, 2029.
Payment Method:	Cost-reimbursement
Submissions Due:	3:00 p.m. PDT on November 9, 2026
Contact Person:	Michael Kuker, CNU-A, Senior Transportation Planner Abigail Carlson, Assistant Transportation Planner

Interested applicants must subscribe to SRTA's bid posting webpage to receive notices when information and possible RFP addenda become available.

Shasta Regional Transportation Agency
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Redding, CA 96001
(530) 262-6190

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Procurement Summary

SRTA seeks proposals from qualified consultants to prepare the Shasta NextGen Railroad Corridor Crossing Plan, which will identify safety and mobility challenges posed by regional railroad crossings. The plan will produce a toolbox of prioritized strategies and projects to address those challenges over short-, medium-, and long-term planning horizons. Improvements identified by this effort are expected to enhance safety and connectivity.

This project is funded by a Strategic Partnership grant through the Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant program and regional matching funds. The estimated contract award budget is $438,680. Work on the Shasta NextGen Railroad Corridor Crossing Plan is expected to be complete by February 28, 2029.

About the Shasta Regional Transportation Agency (SRTA)

2026 SRTA Board of Directors

Board Member	Affiliation
Kevin Crye, Chair	Shasta County, District 1
Tenessa Audette, Vice Chair	City of Redding
Mike Gallagher	City of Anderson
Corkey Harmon	Shasta County, District 3
Chris Kelstrom	Shasta County, District 5
Erin Resner	Redding Area Bus Authority
Greg Watkins	City of Shasta Lake

Shasta Regional Transportation Agency (SRTA) is the designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Shasta County region. Member agencies are the cities of Anderson, Redding, and Shasta Lake; the county of Shasta; and the Redding Area Bus Authority (RABA). Information regarding SRTA, regional plans and programs, and this procurement are available online at www.srta.ca.gov.

About the Shasta Region

Shasta County is located at the geographic center and transportation crossroads of California's North State. The nearest large city is Sacramento, 150 miles to the south on the Interstate 5 corridor, while the Oregon state line lies 100 miles due north. The county occupies the northern part of the Sacramento Valley and includes southern portions of the Cascade Mountains. The county has an area of 3,785 square miles. Shasta County has an urbanized area which contains the cities of Anderson, Redding, and Shasta Lake. The county is home to approximately 182,000 residents, about 80% of which live in the south-central urbanized area along I-5. Redding is the county seat and the region's primary socio-economic center.

The region is largely rural in character and geographically separated from other California metropolitan regions. Its population is one of the most dispersed in the state, having just 48 persons per square mile compared to the statewide average of 253.

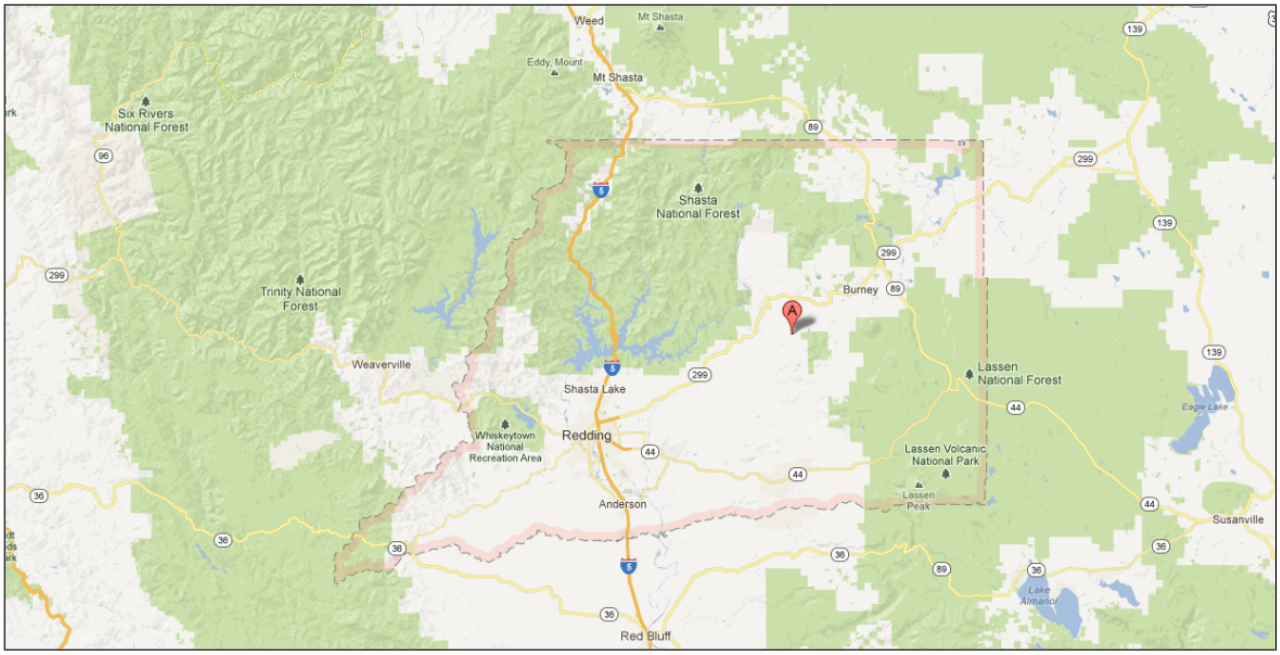
Along with the primary I-5 corridor, state highways in the county include State Routes (SRs) 36, 44, 89, 151, 273 and 299.

Agency Partners

Caltrans, District 2
City of Anderson
City of Redding
City of Shasta Lake
County of Shasta
Redding Area Bus Authority (RABA)
Dignity Health Connected Living (DHCL)
Healthy Shasta
North State Super Region (NSSR)
Pit River Tribe
Redding Rancheria (Yana, Wintu, Pit River)

Geographic elevations range from 425 feet on the valley floor to over 10,000 feet in Lassen Volcanic National Park. The region is surrounded by mountains to the west, north, and east. The Sacramento River flows through the center of the county and down the Sacramento Valley to the south. These attributes have contributed to the region's establishment as a center for recreation and tourism.

Figure 1 – General Map of the Shasta Region



Project Background

The railroad arrived in the Shasta Region in 1872, founding the town of Redding and dramatically enhancing the region's growth and prosperity. Since then, the region has naturally experienced tremendous growth and various challenges have developed.

Sporadic and outdated railroad crossings, population growth, increased development, increased freight rail activity, and changing practices in railroad operations are resulting in extended crossing closures, safety challenges, limited route choice, increased congestion, longer response times for first responders, and potential challenges for evacuations due to climate-related wildfire.

Union Pacific (UP) requests significant planning considerations be explored prior to adding a new crossing or significantly reconfiguring existing crossings, including: new grade-separated overpass crossings; careful consideration of all alternatives, including alternative access using grade separations, parallel, or other roads leading to existing crossings; and identification of three or more crossings for closure for each new crossing opened. Unfortunately, grade separations are very expensive, only suitable to specific locations, disrupt areas around the ramps

leading to and from the overpasses, and are often difficult or unattractive for pedestrians to use. This effort is expected to consider all of UP's requested alternatives as part of the planning process.

This project will support implementation of local, regional, and State efforts such as the regional rail crossing study recommended by the Envision 273 Comprehensive Multimodal Corridor Plan, planning for additional grade-separated crossings as identified in the City of Redding General Plan, implementation of safety and accessibility goals identified in the California Transportation Plan and Freight Mobility Plan and will help inform future regional planning efforts.

About Your Proposal

Project Scope of Work

SRTA is seeking a qualified consultant to prepare the Shasta NextGen Railroad Corridor Crossing Plan.

At a minimum, submitted proposals must include the tasks outlined in Attachment A. SRTA welcomes additional suggestions and innovative approaches to help achieve project goals.

Project Schedule/Timeline

An anticipated/estimated project schedule is provided at the end of this document as Attachment B.

Proposal Contents

Written proposals submitted in response to this RFP shall not exceed 35 pages (excluding attachments). At a minimum, the following information should be included and clearly labeled as follows:

Introduction

- A transmittal letter should be included, signed by an officer who may contractually bind the firm or joint venture. The signature of the authorized representative attests that the information contained in the proposal is truthful, accurate, and complete at the time of submittal. The letter should include how the respondent heard of the procurement.
- The introduction should include a description of the firm containing the firm's name, address, legal form of the company (e.g., partnership, corporation, joint venture, etc.), North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) code, Tax Identification Number (TIN), annual gross receipts (may be a range), and the number of years the firm has been in business.

Proposal and Work Plan

- Statement of understanding of the scope of work that illustrates the consultant's familiarity with Union Pacific Railroad crossing design standards and working with the

Union Pacific Railroad, and a discussion of a technical approach and management approach.

- Work plan and schedule to complete the project scope of work identifying milestones and deliverables.

Project Team

- An organizational chart showing the firm's approach towards the staffing and management of the project shall be provided. Titles, roles, and the number of staff required to fill those roles should be shown on the chart. The proposed relationships between staff should be shown as well.
- A staffing plan identifying the approximate number, expertise, and experience level of staff by role and responsibility based on anticipated work.

Resumes

- List of the personnel on the project team, including a summary of their qualifications and work experience (resumes may be included as an attachment). Resumes should include persons' active professional registrations and registration number, including expiration date. This includes any sub-consultants proposed for use.

Team Experience

- This segment should highlight or expand upon project experience. Elaborate on the proposed team's previous work as a team with other key staff and proposers listed.
- Describe staffing capability, workload, and record of meeting schedules on similar projects. Also describe ability to adapt to unexpected work. Finally, describe the feasibility of oversight, ability, and willingness to respond to SRTA requirements for this procurement.

Example Projects

- A representative list of <u>similar</u> projects completed within the last five years including:
  - Contracting firm
  - Contracting firm project manager
  - Contracting firm contact information
  - Contract amount
  - Date of contract
  - Date of completion
  - Consultant project manager and contact information
  - Project description

Additional Information

- Proposer should explain its approach and strategy for successfully completing similar projects, with all the necessary approvals within the shortest possible time frame. The project approach should be sufficient in detail to demonstrate the proposer's understanding of the project, its unique challenges, and the processes and procedures

that must be followed. The proposer should identify the most critical steps in the successful completion of similar projects.

- Proposer should describe its tools, procedures, and techniques used to keep projects within budget and schedule.
- Proposer should provide a summary of experience achieving approval, clearance, and permitting according to local, state, and federal regulatory requirements.
- Proposer should explain why their team should be selected and include any other information they feel is relevant.

Cost Proposal

- The proposal shall be a firm offer for a minimum of 90 days and contain a statement to that effect. The proposal shall contain a statement that all activities performed within the proposed scope of work will be performed at a not-to-exceed price.
- Cost proposal worksheet, including: fee schedule on a time (by personnel) and materials basis; cost by task; and total cost to complete the project. The cost proposal shall be fully inclusive of all services, overhead, and direct expenses.

Pre-Proposal Conference

A pre-proposal conference will be held via Zoom on Monday, October 26, 2026. Please indicate your interest in the pre-proposal conference to the contact person via email. The conference will be recorded and may be posted to the SRTA website afterwards. By attending the conference, you are consenting to being recorded. Questions asked during the conference may be responded to during the conference or via written collective response on the SRTA website by the deadline below.

Addenda and Questions About This RFP

Interested applicants must subscribe to SRTA's bid posting webpage at http://www.srta.ca.gov/bids.aspx so that they are notified of any addenda to the RFP or responses to questions received. All questions regarding this RFP will be responded to collectively and made available for all interested applicants via the bid posting webpage on SRTA's website.

Questions may be submitted via email to srta@srta.ca.gov in advance of the pre-proposal conference to be addressed by SRTA staff during the meeting. After the pre-proposal conference, questions will continue to be taken via email from prospective vendors until 3:00 p.m. on Wednesday, October 28, 2026. All responses to questions will be posted on the SRTA website no later than October 30, 2026.

Procurement Schedule

The anticipated procurement schedule is shown in Table 1 (next page). Firm deadlines are shown in bold text.

Table 1 – Procurement Schedule

Tasks	Deadline
Release RFP	October 13, 2026 13, 2026
Interested Vendor Questions Due	**3:00 p.m. PDT, October 28, 2026**
Pre-Proposal Conference	**October 26, 2026**
SRTA Response to Vendor Questions	**No later than October 30, 2026**
Vendor Proposals Due	**3:00 p.m. PDT, November 9, 2026 (no postmarks accepted)**
Evaluation and Ranking of Proposals	November 10–13, 2026
Interviews (if necessary)	November 16–20, 2026
Consultant-SRTA contract negotiation, including budget and scope of work	November 20–December 17, 2026
SRTA Board of Directors Approval	December 17, 2026
Anticipated Contract Start	January 4, 2027

Proposal Submittal

Please submit consultant proposals via email, USPS, or delivery to:

Shasta Regional Transportation Agency
Attn: Michael Kuker & Abigail Carlson
1255 East Street, Suite 202
Redding, CA 96001
srta@srta.ca.gov

Proposal submittals must be received at the SRTA office before 3:00 p.m. PDT on November 9, 2026. No proposals will be accepted after this time. **Postmarks are not acceptable**. Proposal receipt will be acknowledged by email.

The cost of preparing and submitting a proposal, pre-contract meetings, and participating in an interview—if held—are at the sole expense of the proposer. SRTA reserves the right to reject any or all proposals, and to waive any informality, technical defect, or clerical error in any proposal at SRTA's discretion. Solicitation of proposals in no way obligates SRTA to contract with any firm or individual. The decision to approve and award a contract is at the discretion of SRTA.

Proposal Evaluation

A panel will be formed to evaluate the proposals via consensus scoring and make a recommendation in consultation with the executive director, which will then go to the SRTA Board of Directors for approval. The proposal evaluation will be based on the scoring criteria presented in Table 2.

Table 2 – Proposal Scoring Criteria

Criteria	Maximum Possible Points
Thoroughness of proposal at addressing the project's scope of work and the project's overarching objectives	20
Qualifications and similar experience of the consulting firm and project team, including sub-consultants.	20
Cost and value of services to be provided	20
Examples of innovative and/or transformational ideas to meet project objectives	10
Ability to develop high-quality renderings and/or design work for outreach efforts and future grant applications	10

Ability of consultant to conduct the necessary effective outreach public outreach component of the project	10
Total	**100**

In circumstances where a recommendation cannot be made based on the proposals alone, the highest ranked consultants may be invited to an interview where they may give a brief presentation of no more than 15 minutes followed by up to 15 minutes of Q&A. SRTA will evaluate the interview using the criteria presented below in Table 3 (next page), and the interview score will then be added to the proposal score above to determine the final ranking. The evaluation panel will then make a recommendation based upon the final cumulative ranking in consultation with the executive director, which will go to the board of directors for approval.

Table 3 – Interview Scoring Criteria (if conducted)

Criteria	Maximum Possible Points
Quality of consultant's presentation (content and visuals)	20
Quality of responses to interview questions	20
Qualifications and experience of the consultant team	10
Total	**50**

Contract Amount and Award

The anticipated start date is January 4, 2027, with a June 30, 2029, contract expiration. Consultant selection will be based on a combination of funding availability and the value of the services to be provided. The total amount budgeted within the Overall Work Plan for this effort, including SRTA staff time, is $562,000.

Barring any delays (e.g., the need for a budget amendment, extension of the RFP response date, etc.), the SRTA Executive Director will schedule the proposed technical services agreement for consideration by the SRTA Board of Directors on December 17, 2026. The agreement is not in force until approved by the SRTA Board of Directors and written authorization to proceed is provided to the selected consultant.

Options

SRTA intends to contract for an initial term as discussed in the prior section but reserves the option to extend the contract annually for up to an additional year beyond the initial period, provided there is no change to the maximum contracted compensation. Such extensions would not be automatic and would be entered into writing by both parties before becoming effective.

Additional Information and Terms

Standard Consulting Agreement

SRTA's standard Technical Services Agreement (TSA) will be used for the agreement between SRTA and the selected consultant. SRTA's TSA template is provided by separate attachment (Attachment C) to the RFP distribution.

Protest Procedure

All protests will follow the SRTA protest procedures for procurements as delineated in the

appendix.

Debriefing

SRTA will provide an informal debriefing to interested consultants not selected for this contract upon request once a final contract has been negotiated and executed.

Public Records Act

All proposals submitted in response to the RFP will become the exclusive property of SRTA. At such time as a contract is executed, all bids and proposals related to that contract become a matter of public record and will be regarded as public records and subject to the Public Records Act (Gov. Code Section 6254 et. seq.).

If consultant feels that any information in their proposal is "proprietary" in nature, then consultant must provide a second proposal (clearly labeled) with that information removed, which would be shared in the event of any Public Records Act request. Otherwise, their submitted proposal will be provided in the event of a Public Records Act request and consultant, by submitting a proposal to this RFP, waives any claims against and hold SRTA harmless for the release of their proposal.

In the event of litigation concerning the disclosure of any records, SRTA's sole involvement will be as a stakeholder, retaining the records until otherwise ordered by a court. The proposer, at its sole expense and risk, shall be fully responsible for any, and all, fees for prosecuting or defending any action concerning the records and shall indemnify and hold SRTA harmless from all costs and expenses, including attorney's fees, in connection with, any such action.

Modification or Withdrawal of Proposal

Any proposal received prior to the deadline may be withdrawn or modified either personally, through e-mail, or by written request of the consultant. To be considered, the modification must be received in writing (email acceptable) prior to the deadline. Proposals may be withdrawn following the proposal deadline for good cause; please consult with the RFP contact person to discuss this.

RFP Addendum or Addenda

Any changes to the RFP will be made by written addenda issued by SRTA and shall be considered part of the RFP. The RFP deadline may be extended dependent upon the nature of the changes issued. Upon issuance, such addenda shall be incorporated into the agreement documents, and shall prevail over inconsistent provisions of earlier issued documentation. Any addenda will be posted on-line only. It will be the consultant's responsibility to assure that all addenda are incorporated into the proposal as required according to all the terms and conditions for submittal of the proposal. In no event will SRTA modify the RFP with less than five (5) days remaining to the deadline, without extending the RFP deadline.

Verbal Agreement or Conversation

No prior, current, or post-award verbal conversations or agreement(s) with any officer, agent, or employee of SRTA shall affect or modify any terms or obligations of this RFP, or any contract resulting from this procurement.

Special Funding Considerations

Any contract resulting from this RFP will be financed with funds available to SRTA. The contract for this service is contingent upon the provision of these funds to SRTA. In the event these funds are reduced or eliminated, SRTA reserves the right to terminate or revise any contract.

Alternatives

Consultants may not alter objectives and deliverables of the RFP in the response to the RFP. If the consultant brings to SRTA's attention, at least ten (10) days before the RFP deadline, an alternative end product than the RFP delineates, SRTA reserves the right to cancel the RFP and re-bid the project

Equal Employment Opportunity/Affirmative Action

In awarding a contract to a consultant, SRTA includes language within the contract which requires the consultant to certify their compliance with federal regulations.

Appendix

PROTEST PROCEDURES FOR PROCUREMENTS

I. PROTESTS

The following procedures shall be used by Shasta Regional Transportation Agency (SRTA) to fairly and promptly respond to any protests received regarding third-party contracts or the contracting process.

SRTA will consider all protests or objections regarding the contracting process or the award of an Agreement received by SRTA by 4 p.m. on the deadlines discussed below. SRTA will review only protests submitted by an actual or prospective Proposer. Protests by prospective subcontractors will be rejected. A protest by any adversely affected Proposer must be made in writing and must be mailed or hand-delivered to SRTA. A protest which does not strictly comply with the SRTA protest procedures will be rejected.

A. Protests Before Bid/Proposal Opening

Protests relating to the content of the solicitation (i.e., RFP, IFB, RFQ), must be filed within five (5) business days after the date the solicitation or addendum with the revised content is released to the public by SRTA. Failure to file a protest concerning the content of the solicitation or addendum prior to this deadline constitutes a waiver of any protest on these grounds.

B. Protests Related to Determination of Responsiveness

In the event SRTA makes a determination that Proposer has not met the goal or good faith effort requirements set forth in this RFP, SRTA will send the Proposer a Notice of Non-Responsiveness. Protests relating to any Notice of Non-Responsiveness must be filed within five (5) business days after the date of such notice. Failure to file a protest concerning the non-responsiveness determination prior to this deadline constitutes a waiver of any protest on these grounds and SRTA shall not be obligated to send Proposer any further notices.

C. Protests After Bid/Proposal Due Date

After Proposers are shortlisted and/or selected for negotiations, notices will be sent to all relevant Proposers. Protests relating to failure to make the shortlist must be filed within five (5) business days following protester's receipt of a notice regarding the shortlisting. Protests relating to the intent to make an award must be filed within five (5) business days following protester's receipt of the notice regarding the intent to negotiate. The date of filing shall be the date SRTA receives the protest. Untimely protests will be rejected. If deemed necessary, SRTA shall notify all Proposers of record that a protest has been filed and the award has been postponed until further notice. If necessary, Proposers will be asked to extend the time for acceptance of their proposal in order to avoid the need for readvertisement of the solicitation.

D. Protest Contents

A letter of protest must set forth detailed grounds for the protest and be fully supported with

technical data, documentary evidence, names of witnesses, and other pertinent information related to the subject being protested. The protest also must state the law, rule, regulation, or policy upon which the protest is based. Protests concerning the relative weight of the evaluation criteria or the formula used in assigning points to make an award determination will be rejected. The protester must allege or establish a clear violation of a specific law, rule, regulation, or policy. If the protester considers that the protest contains proprietary material that should be withheld, a statement advising of this fact must be affixed to the front page of the protest document, and alleged proprietary information shall be so identified wherever it appears. Protests shall be mailed to The Protest Administrator and reference the SRTA Contract Solicitation No.

E. Role Of The Protest Administrator

If a protest raises solely a question of law, the Executive Director shall retain the services of SRTA Legal Counsel to serve as the Protest Committee. SRTA Legal Counsel will prepare a recommendation regarding the protest, in writing, to the SRTA Executive Director within ten (10) business days.

The Protest Administrator shall review each protest to determine if it is in compliance with the deadline, format, content, and notice requirements set forth in this Section. If a protest does not meet such requirements if may be rejected without further consideration. A written notice of such rejection shall be sent to the protester.

If the protest requires resolution of questions of fact, the Protest Administrator, his/her designee will appoint individuals to participate on a Protest Committee. The Protest Administrator will endeavor to appoint at least one of the Protest Committee members from an outside agency, and no one may sit on the Protest Committee that has a known and direct connection to the procurement that is the subject of the protest. The Protest Administrator also will appoint a chairperson for the Protest Committee. The Protest Administrator will gather the documents that the Protest Committee will need for its investigation and prepare a memo to the Protest Committee containing background information regarding the protest. Any communication regarding the protest between the protester and SRTA shall be through the Protest Administrator during the protest proceedings. Protesters may not contact anyone at SRTA other than the Protest Administrator. Protest Committee

The Protest Committee shall ensure the protest was received within the timeline specified and review the protest to determine if it itemizes in appropriate detail each matter contested as well as any factual reason(s) for the requested protest. The Committee chairperson shall schedule the date of the Protest Committee meeting, contact the Committee panel members, and distribute all protest documentation.

F. Reply To Protest

The Protest Committee will review all qualifying protests in a timely manner and may hold an informal hearing if deemed necessary in order to complete its investigation. The Protest Committee will prepare a recommendation regarding the protest, in writing, to SRTA's Executive Director within ten (10) business days of the date of receipt of the protest. All materials included

with the original protest at time of submittal will be considered. Supplemental materials filed by a protester after the protest deadline will not be considered unless there are extenuating circumstances in the opinion of the Protest Committee. Protest documents will not be withheld from any interested party outside of SRTA, with the exception that information will be withheld when required by law or regulation. The Executive Director or his/her designee will either sustain or reject the protest in writing based upon the recommendation of the Protest Committee and the best interests of SRTA.

This decision will be communicated in writing to the protestor and/or the party whose proposal is the subject of the protest and delivered by email or overnight delivery.

G. Results Of The Protest

If the protest relating to a contract award is sustained, the original Notice of Intent to Award may be withdrawn after the deadline for protest reconsideration has passed. SRTA then may issue a new Notice of Intent to Award to a different bidder/Proposer and a new protest period will commence using the same timelines discussed above. If the protest is rejected, the original Notice of Intent to Award will stand and SRTA will continue with contract negotiations with the awardee.