STATE OF NEW YORK

6995--A

2021-2022 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

May 21, 2021

Introduced by Sen. COMRIE -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Transportation -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to amend the public authorities law, in relation to contracts awarded by the New York city transit authority and the metropolitan commuter transportation authority

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

Section 1. Paragraph (b) of subdivision 8 of section 1209 of the public authorities law, as added by chapter 929 of the laws of 1986, is amended to read as follows:

(b) The authority may designate any officer or employee to open the bids at the time and place bids are to be opened and may designate an officer to award the contract to the lowest responsible bidder. Such designee shall make a record of all bids in such form and detail as the authority shall prescribe. All bids received shall be publicly opened and read at the time [~~and~~], place **and in the manner** specified in the advertisement or specified at the time of solicitation, or to which the opening and reading **or posting** have been adjourned by the authority**, provided that any sealed bid may be received and secured through an electronic platform as permitted by the authority, and that any sealed bid received electronically is made public at the same time as any competing paper bid**. **The authority shall, at minimum, provide the same opportunity and time for submitting sealed bids physically as for sealed bids submitted electronically, and shall provide the opportunity for bidders to submit sealed bids physically any time that it provides the opportunity to submit sealed electronic bids. In addition, the authority shall establish a process for accommodating force majeure events that prevent the submission of a sealed electronic bid, including but not limited to internet and power outage events, and for automatically**

EXPLANATION--Matter in *italics* (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [-] is old law to be omitted.

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confirming receipt of any sealed electronic bid received. All bidders shall be notified of the time and place of any such adjournment.

§ 2. Paragraph (b) of subdivision 3 of section 1265-a of the public authorities law, as added by chapter 929 of the laws of 1986, is amended to read as follows:

(b) The authority may designate any officer or employee to open the bids at the time and place bids are to be opened and may designate an officer to award the contract to the lowest responsible bidder. Such designee shall make a record of all bids in such form and detail as the authority shall prescribe. All bids received shall be publicly opened and read at the time [~~and~~], place **and in the manner** specified in the advertisement or at the time of solicitation, or to which the opening and reading **or posting** have been adjourned by the authority**, provided that any sealed bid may be received and secured through an electronic platform as permitted by the authority, and that any sealed bid received electronically is made public at the same time as any competing paper bid. The authority shall, at minimum, provide the same opportunity and time for submitting sealed bids physically as for sealed bids submitted electronically, and shall provide the opportunity for bidders to submit sealed bids physically any time that it provides the opportunity to submit sealed electronic bids. In addition, the authority shall establish a process for accommodating force majeure events that prevent the submission of a sealed electronic bid, including but not limited to internet and power outage events, and for automatically confirming receipt of any sealed electronic bid received**. All bidders shall be notified of the time and place of any such adjournment.

§ 3. This act shall take effect immediately.