G.N. 6658

It is hereby notified that tenders are invited for Contract No. 07/HY/2021—Highways Department Term Contract (Management and Maintenance of Roads in Tai Po and North Districts excluding Expressways and High Speed Roads 2022–2027). This is a 5-year maintenance term contract from 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2027. The works mainly comprise the management and maintenance of public roads including associated slopes, highway structures, landscaping and minor improvement works in Tai Po and North Districts excluding Expressways and High Speed Roads.

Tenderers must submit completed tenders in soft copy *via* the e-Procurement System before 12.00 noon on Friday, 10 December 2021. In addition, tenderers may submit completed tenders both in soft copy *via* the e-Procurement System and in hard copy deposited in the Government Secretariat Tender Box situated at the Lobby of the Public Entrance on the Ground Floor, East Wing, Central Government Offices, 2 Tim Mei Avenue, Tamar ('Specified Tender Box') before 12.00 noon on Friday, 10 December 2021.

For tender submission made via the e-Procurement System, tenderers must be 'Registered Suppliers' for works procurement under the e-Procurement System. Details of the procedures for application as 'Registered Suppliers', Terms and Conditions, Frequently Asked Questions and User Manual of the e-Procurement System are available on the website of the e-Procurement System (https://www.gov.hk/eprocurement). When submitting tender via the e-Procurement System, tenderers should ensure that data transmission must be completed before the tender closing time. Late tenders will not be accepted. Tenderers are required to use the organisational digital certificates to sign the tender before submission via the e-Procurement System. Attention is drawn to the time required for the certification authority to issue the organisational digital certificates. Tenderers are advised to apply for organisational digital certificates well in advance of the tender closing date. The total file size of all documents attached to the tender submission is limited to 150MB and size of each file is limited to 50MB. Tenderers should ensure that the master accounts or sub-accounts of the e-Procurement System are valid well in advance of the tender closing date. Tenderers with invalid accounts or accounts without valid passwords will not be able to access the e-Procurement System to download the tender documents, submit tender queries and tenders. Password of sub-accounts can be reset by master account of the Registered Supplier in the e-Procurement System. Password of master account can only be reset by e-Procurement Programme Office by submitting an Application form for reissuing Master Account User ID and password'.

For tender submission made in hard copy form, if applicable, sealed tenders must be clearly marked with the tender reference and the subject of the tender on the outside of the envelope (but should not bear any indication which may relate the tender to the tenderer) addressed to the Chairman, Central Tender Board, and deposited in the Specified Tender Box before the tender closing time. Should tenderers submit the tenders in hard copy late or not deposit the same in the Specified Tender Box, the tender submission made *via* the e-Procurement System before the tender closing time will continue to be considered.

If tropical cyclone warning signal No. 8 or above is hoisted, or a black rainstorm warning signal or 'extreme conditions after super typhoons' announced by the Government is/are in force at any time between 9.00 a.m. and 12.00 noon on Friday, 10 December 2021, the tender closing time will be postponed to 12.00 noon on the first working day after the tropical cyclone warning signal No. 8 is lowered, or the black rainstorm warning signal or the 'extreme conditions after super typhoons' announced by the Government has/have ceased to be in force. In case of blockage of the public access to the location of the Specified Tender Box at any time between 9.00 a.m. and 12.00 noon on Friday, 10 December 2021, the Government will announce extension of the tender closing time until further notice. Following removal of the blockage, the Government will announce the extended tender closing time as soon as practicable. The above announcements will be made *via* press releases on the website of Information Services Department (http://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/today.htm).

Forms of tender and further particulars can be downloaded *via* the e-Procurement System. Further enquiries can be made *via* the e-Procurement System or tenderers can contact the office of the New Territories Region, Highways Department at 2nd Floor, Ho Man Tin Government Offices, 88 Chung Hau Street, Ho Man Tin, Kowloon (Contact Person: Mr. SUN Chung-leung, Telephone No.: (852) 2762 3569; Fax No.: (852) 3586 2142; E-mail address: (smene.nt@hyd.gov. hk)).

Selective tendering is adopted. Contractors on the List of Approved Contractors for Public Works in Group C for Roads and Drainage Category or joint ventures with participation of local and/or overseas contractors with the lead participant or the major shareholder being on the List of Approved Contractors for Public Works in Group C for Roads and Drainage Category who also meet the qualifications and conditions for participation stipulated in the tender documents are invited to tender.

Contractors not yet on the List of Approved Contractors for Public Works in Group C for Roads and Drainage Category may also submit a tender if they submit a request for participation together with a duly completed application for inclusion in the above-mentioned approved list/ category on or before 17 November 2021 to Chief Highway Engineer/New Territories East, New Territories Region, Highways Department at 2nd Floor, Ho Man Tin Government Offices, 88 Chung Hau Street, Ho Man Tin, Kowloon, meet the qualifications and conditions for participation, and the application for inclusion is duly approved on or before the tender closing date. Details for making the application are available at: (http://www.devb.gov.hk/en/construction_ sector_matters/contractors/index.html).

Contractors will be liable to have their names removed from the approved list(s) if they fail or refuse to implement an accepted tender.

This tender is covered by the Agreement on Government Procurement of the World Trade Organization and will not involve electronic auction. This notice also serves as a summary notice required under the Agreement on Government Procurement of the World Trade Organization.

A charge will be levied for delivery of tender documents where the delivery of documents is requested by a tenderer. A written request must be made.

The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region does not bind itself to accept any tender irrespective of whether the tender is the lowest bid or where the assessment of the tenders is based on a marking scheme or formula approach, the tender with the highest overall score.

The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region reserves the right to negotiate with any tenderer about the terms of the offer.

Details of the award of this contract will be published on the Internet at (https://pcms2.gld.gov. hk/).

22 October 2021

Jimmy P. M. CHAN Director of Highways