SPOKANE
PUBLIC FACILITIES
DISTRICT

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THREE LOCAL FIRMS TO COMPETE FOR MULTI-MILLION DOLLAR PROJECTS

SPOKANE PUBLIC FACILITIES DISTRICT SAYS TAXPAYERS WELL SERVED

The **Spokane Public Facilities District** Board has selected three Spokane area construction firms to compete for the contract to complete the Spokane Convention Center Exhibit Hall and rehabilitate a portion of downtown's Spokane River shoreline adjacent to the facility.

The District board chose the following Design Build Teams **Garco/ALSC/LMN**, **Lydig/Integrus** and **YLK JV/Bernardo-Wills/tvsdesign** as the three most responsive and responsible finalists to submit formal design, construction ideas and cost proposals to add some 90,000 square feet of exhibit hall, meeting room and support space to the existing Convention Center. The firms' proposals also will include design elements to improve the adjacent Centennial Trail, public open spaces and the riverbank.

"We were very pleased with all of the companies that submitted their qualifications for these projects," says District Board Chair Mick McDowell. "It was difficult to narrow the finalists but we are confident that any one of the teams will be able to develop and implement an outstanding design that will accomplish our goals and ensure the public gets the most from its investment."

The finalist for the Convention Center and shoreline projects will be selected this April with work to begin on those projects by early summer.

The Convention Center Completion and shoreline rehabilitation efforts were overwhelmingly approved by Spokane County voters in April 2012. In order for Spokane to remain competitive in attracting important sporting events like Division 1 NCAA men's basketball, Spokane voters also approved funding for additional Spokane Arena seating to increase capacity from 11,447 to more than 12,000. After consideration of all options to efficiently and cost effectively achieve this goal, the District will replace all arena seating with space saving, ergonomic seats, an approach that realizes a $400,000 savings from the original projected budget.

"This is really a win, win for everyone," says District CEO Kevin Twohig. "Instead of spending more than $3 million and disrupting the Arena for several months to ensure that we'd still have the opportunity to host the NCAA men's tournament, now we'll be able to replace every seat in the house, improve guest comfort, and still meet the seating guidelines while spending almost a-half-a-million dollars less than originally planned."

Seating work at the Arena is expected to begin late summer of this year.

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