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THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



Victoria F. Sheehan Commissioner William Cass, P.E. Assistant Commissioner

Bureau of Materials & Research August 22, 2018

His Excellency, Governor Christopher T. Sununu and the Honorable Council State House

Concord, New Hampshire 03301

## **REQUESTED ACTION**

Authorize the Department of Transportation to continue **SOLE SOURCE** participation in the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) re:source (Formerly AMRL) accreditation program, Dept. 615051, Washington, DC (Vendor 170721) in the amount of \$20,000.00 effective upon Governor and Council approval through September 30, 2019. 100% Highway Funds.

Funding is available as follows:

 04-96-96-962015-3034
 FY2019

 Bureau of Materials & Research
 500464 Gen Consultants Non-Benefit
 \$20,000.00

## **EXPLANATION**

This item is **sole source** because the Department is an AASHTO member, and it receives benefits not available through other laboratory accreditation programs.

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) requires that State Transportation Departments have their central laboratory accredited by a laboratory accreditation program per federal regulation 23 CFR 637.209 (a)(2). The central laboratory for the NH Department of Transportation is located in the Materials & Research building at 5 Hazen Drive in Concord.

The laboratory accreditation program, administered by AMRL, operates under the National Bureau of Standards. AMRL is an unbiased, independent agency whose primary responsibility is the inspection of State Transportation Department and private materials laboratories that are involved in the acceptance and independent assurance testing of materials and products used on FHWA funded projects. Laboratory inspections are performed to ensure that the sampling and testing of construction materials are being performed in accordance with accepted methods and procedures. The AMRL program also involves the testing of proficiency samples, sent throughout the year to participating laboratories to check the consistency of their testing results. Laboratory accreditation through this program is an essential part of the process for assuring that quality materials are used in our transportation infrastructure.

As a member state of AASHTO, it is essential that the Department support its functions. The Department derives additional benefit from participating in the AMRL program because it supports the technical and administrative activities of the AASHTO Highway Subcommittee on Materials, which authors the methods and standards followed by NHDOT and referenced throughout the Standard Specification for Road & Bridge Construction. Participation in the program also provides a mechanism to compare our testing performance against other State Transportation Departments.

Your approval of this resolution is respectfully requested.

Sincerely,

John F. Sheetzer

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Victoria F. Sheehan Commissioner

VFS/crd/klm Attachment American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials 444 North Capitol Street, NW, Suite 249

Washington, DC 20001



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Bureau of Materials & Research NH Dopt. of Transportation

New Hampshire Department of Transportation	
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Concord, New Hampshire 03302-0483	
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AASHTO re:source Sponsorship	
AASHTO Accreditation for Central DOT laboratory	
AASHTO re:source laboratory assessments for Central DOT	
laboratory	
AASHTO re:source proficiency testing samples for Central DOT	.:
laboratory:	
CCRL laboratory assessments for Central DOT laboratory	
CCRL proficiency testing samples for Central DOT laboratory	
Discounted laboratory assessment and accreditation services for	
branch and/or regional DOT laboratories. (A 10 % discount is only	
available to sponsor laboratories.)	
Technical and administrative support for AASHTO Accreditation	
Program, AASHTO re:source Laboratory Assessment Program and	
AASHTO re:source Proficiency Sample Programs serving more	
than 3,000 laboratories nationwide.	
Technical and administrative support for development of	
standards by the AASHTO Highway Subcommittee on Materials	
Operation of Falling Weight Deflectometer (FWD) Calibration	
Center Operator Certification Program (this includes annual	
assessments of the calibration centers, annual load cell	
calibration, and technical support.	
AASHTO Advanced Pavement Research Laboratory supports	
states by performing research to develop new AASHTO standards	
and improve existing standards.	
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Remit To: AASHTO 1 P.O. Box 615051 Washington, DC 20061-5051

APPROVED FOR PAYMENT DATE 31 BY/ in the 10892 PRÖJECT\_\_\_