

SAM Engineering and Surveying



Engineering Firm Reg # 10602 Surveying Firm Reg # 101416-00
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Owner: Hidalgo County Precinct-1
To: Commissioner David L Fuentes
Cc: Jorge Peña, RPIC
Mayor David Suarez
From: Samuel D. Maldonado, P.E., R.P.L.S. *Am*
Date: 2/14/22
Re: Mile 6 W Road Project – SAMES, Inc. Time Extension Request

Project: Mile 6 W Road Project
Contract: C-19-274-04-07
CSJ: 0921-02-420
HWY: Mile 6 W

SAMES, Inc. in conjunction with Texas Cordia Construction (TCC) have worked together during the last 19 months to complete the above-mentioned project. However, the project schedule was substantially impacted due to unprecedented contingencies that directly hindered the project to be completed during the established time frame as stipulated in the contract documents. These events prompted TCC to submit a time extension request of 120 working days to be added to the contract. SAMES Inc. reviewed said request and confirmed through a due diligence process the validity of the extension request.

Additionally, the SAMES, Inc. Work Authorization was based on a project duration of 378 working days. This contract time has already been exceeded due to contingences unrelated to TCC's time extension request. The project has had four change orders that have added 66 working days to the contractor's contract; we are currently negotiating on behalf of Precinct-1 another two change orders which could potentially increase project duration.

SAMES, Inc. has continued to provide field services and administrative support even when the contractor is not on site. During the historical freeze and the two hurricanes that created severe rainfall and flooding throughout Hidalgo County, SAMES, Inc. continued to provide full services. The team ensured that traffic control devices were in place, attended to any constituent complaints, inspected the effectiveness of the SW3P, and reported on all ongoing operations.

To continue providing CEI services and ensure that the project is completed and closed out as per contract documents, SAMES Inc. requests a supplemental to Work Authorization #1 of 120 additional working days. SAMES Inc. has calculated an estimated cost of \$259,393.25 for said extension, or a daily rate of \$2,161.61.

The defining parameters that impeded the project schedule from being completed within the contract time are summarized as follows:

1. Magic Valley Electric Coop (MVEC) – Power pole relocation (due to encroaching into proposed R.O.W.) MVEC contracted Volt Power’s (Volt) services for the removal and relocation of the existing power poles. During the initial phase of the project, Volt power pole relocation was delayed by two crucial factors.
 - a. Hurricane Hanna heavily impacted Hidalgo County and adjacent counties by making landfall in the region. Volt was overwhelmed with emergency work in highly devastated regions in other parts of the County and State. This resulted in Volt being absent from the project site for weeks.
 - b. A global historic pandemic (Covid-19) had a direct impact on Volt personnel with the confirmed infection of several of their crew members. This situation resulted in Volt being absent from the project site for months.
2. Construction Plans – Items not found in the construction plans, and items in the construction plans in conflict with other proposed utilities, as well as 33 other Request for Information (RFI’s) had a profound impact on the construction schedule of Texas Cordia Construction.
 - a. An existing manhole not found in the construction plans prompted an extensive investigation, including coordination efforts with the design engineer, to identify the owner and determine a solution. This process led to a change order, but more importantly it stopped the contractor from paving in the area. Consequently, halting paving operations prevented a scheduled traffic switch that was intended to begin excavation on the opposite side of the road.
 - b. A proposed traffic light was found to be in direct conflict with a proposed irrigation line belonging to Hidalgo and Cameron County Irrigation District No. 9 (HCCID No. 9). This conflict prevented TCC from performing any work on the installation of the traffic lights at the intersection of Mile 6 W and Mile 10 N. SAMES, Inc. coordinated with HCCID No. 9 to obtain their concurrence on the proposed resolution and allow TCC to install the traffic light within their easement. Although SAMES, Inc. made all possible efforts to expedite the process, HCCID No. 9 concurrence was not received until 2 months after coordination began. SAMES, Inc. initiated coordination with HCCID No. 9 on November 3, 2021. HCCID No. 9 concurrence was received on January 18, 2022.

In summary, SAMES, Inc. in conjunction with TCC worked diligently to ensure project completion within the established schedule. However, the above-mentioned situations impeded the execution of the construction phase within the established contract time.