

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

DIVISION OF ENGINEERING SERVICES

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Making Conservation  
a California Way of Life.

June 26, 2024

Email: zade@snzconinc.com

Zade Muhtaseb, President  
SNZ Contractors, Inc.  
8583 Irvine Center Drive #224  
Irvine, CA 92618

08-1N5704  
08-Riv-91-10.8/11.2  
B.O. 5/22/2024

Dear Mr. Muhtaseb:

The Department of Transportation (Caltrans) received a bid submitted by SNZ Contractors, Inc. (SNZ) for the above contract on May 22, 2024. By this letter Caltrans notifies SNZ that its bid is nonresponsive.

Caltrans established a Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise (DVBE) goal of 5 percent for this Non-Federal Aid Contract with an estimated cost of \$5 million or less. As such, Caltrans refers SNZ to the 2023 Standard Specifications section 2-1.15B, Projects \$5 Million or Less, which states in part, "Meet the goal shown on the *Notice to Bidders*." SNZ claimed 5.4 percent DVBE participation. The Caltrans Office of Civil Rights, Contract Evaluation Branch (CEB), reviewed SNZ's bid documents and DVBE submittal and finds that for its DVBE participation, SNZ listed First Vanguard Rental & Sales, Inc. (First Vanguard) to provide bid item number 6 (P) Portable Changeable Message Sign-Rental in the amount of \$14,400.00. However, SNZ's Contract Proposal listed Bid item 6 at \$10,000. Since a bidder cannot receive more DVBE credit than its total bid amount on a given bid item, CEB counted the lesser amount.

After applying the above revision, SNZ's total DVBE participation is revised to \$39,400.00 or 4.94%. SNZ did not meet the 5% DVBE goal.

Based on the above, Caltrans will proceed to award the contract to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder.

If you have any questions, please contact Juan Loera, Contract Awards Branch Chief at (916) 227-5964.

Sincerely,

*April Perez-Hollins*

April Perez-Hollins  
Office Chief  
Construction Contract Awards  
Program/Project Management, Office Engineer  
Division of Engineering Services