

Meyers, Robert (COE)

INQ 07-32

From: Meyers, Robert (COE)
Sent: Wednesday, February 28, 2007 4:23 PM
To: Meyers, Robert (COE)
Subject: Inquiry

On February 27, 2007, I spoke with Fred Simmons from the Procurement Department and he had a Cone of Silence question for me. He mentioned that there was an RFP on the streets for signage and only one bidder submitted a proposal. The Transit Department was asking for an analysis of the proposal. One of the selection committee members is the technical expert who ordinarily would be expected to participate in any technical analyses performed by his department. The question was whether the committee member could also participate in the analysis and speak with those preparing the analysis of this bid. Furthermore, the Transit Department has requested a presentation and will advertise it as a public meeting.

I advised Mr. Simmons that the selection committee member could not meet with those employees in his department who are conducting the analysis concerning this proposal because such a meeting would violate the Cone of Silence. Once the analysis is completed, he could review it and offer written comments back to those who generated it. If he wants to wait until the public meeting before he provides feedback regarding the analysis that would be acceptable as well. However, the best approach would be for the selection committee member, assuming he wishes to remain on the selection committee, to delegate the review of the analysis to another employee. Alternatively, he can resign from the selection committee and he can work on the analysis without fear of violating the Cone of Silence.

Robert Meyers
February 28, 2007

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