The “Bench” was developed to create opportunities for small and disadvantaged businesses to participate in SANDAG A&E On-Call contracts. Firms will support several SANDAG capital projects valued at $7.3 billion through 2018, including the expansion of I-5 and I-15, Trolley Renewal, LOSSAN rail corridor, and Mid-Coast projects.

The Bench is intended to assist small firms in fostering new business/partnership opportunities with Prime consultants that will ultimately help grow their emerging businesses.

The A&E Bench is open to small and disadvantaged firms that provide a variety of professional services identified in the A&E contracts. The Bench serves as a pool of firms that Prime consultants can access for work on SANDAG projects.

These are the requirements for A&E Bench firms:

- Must be an architecture or engineering firm that can provide one or more of the 44 On-Call A&E services listed in the procurement(s)
- Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) firm certified by the California Unified Certification Program (CUCP) or
- Small Business (SB) firm certified by the California Department of General Services (DGS)

Any A&E firm that meets the certification requirements can apply to be added to the A&E Bench throughout the potential seven year contract term. A&E Bench firms are not required to initially be on a Prime’s team and can be added to any task order upon review and approval by the Prime and SANDAG.

SANDAG will encourage Prime consultant A&E firms to use Bench firms, however only firms certified as DBE may be used by the Prime consultant to meet a U/DBE goal set by SANDAG on an A&E task order.

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FOR QUESTIONS ABOUT THE A&E BENCH, PLEASE CONTACT:

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