(SUBSTITUTED FOR - SEE 1ST SUB)

Provides that best and final proposals shall be evaluated and scored based on the factors, weighting, and process identified in the initial request for proposals. proposals may not be considered if the proposal cost is than the maximum allowable construction greater identified in the initial request for proposals. Evaluation factors shall include, but not be limited to: Proposal price; ability of professional personnel; past performance on similar projects; ability to meet time and budget requirements; ability to provide a performance and payment bond for the project; recent, current, and projected work loads of the shipyard; location; and the concept of the proposal.

Directs the department to initiate negotiations with the firm submitting the highest scored best and final proposal. If the department is unable to execute a contract with the shipyard submitting the highest scored best and final proposal, negotiations with that firm may be suspended or terminated, and the public body may proceed to negotiate with the next highest scored shipyard. The department shall continue in accordance with this procedure until a contract agreement is reached or the selection process is terminated.