

Jennifer Rivera (Administration)

From: Jennifer Rivera (Administration)
Sent: Tuesday, June 23, 2026 10:17 AM
To: David Gibbs (County Commission)
Cc: Casey Ramsey (Administration); John Gentry (Administration); Taylor Samples (Finance); Jorge Gomez (Engineering); Anael Dominguez (Administration)
Subject: FW: Request to Table RFQ/P #47-004 Pending Review
Attachments: HALL COUNTY TABLE REQUEST.pdf; GDOT CERT2024.pdf

FYI –
See attached. This email ended up in my junk email folder. I will add to the packet for tomorrow's meeting. In the original email, the requestor left off Chairman Gibbs.

Jennifer Rivera, CMC
Board of Commissioners Clerk
Hall County Government
Tel: 770-297-2684
jrivera@hallcounty.org
www.hallcounty.org



Please note: Hall County will be implementing our new NextRequest Open Records Request portal on July 1, 2026. Current ORR specific email addresses (such as orr_bocc@hallcounty.org, orr_financialservices@hallcounty.org, etc.) will be deactivated, and all requests will need to be submitted through the new portal (<https://hallcountyga.nextrequest.com/>).

From: Jeremy Heidl <JHeidl@sunbeltasphalt.com>
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2026 1:23 PM
To: Jennifer Rivera (Administration) <jrivera@hallcounty.org>
Cc: Kathy Cooper (County Commissioner) <kcooper@hallcounty.org>; Jennifer Rivera (Administration) <jrivera@hallcounty.org>; Billy Powell (County Commission) <bpowell@hallcounty.org>; Gregg Poole (County Commissioner) <gpooles@hallcounty.org>; Jeff Stowe (County Commission) <jstowe@hallcounty.org>; Reece Akins <rakins@scruggscompany.com>; Jason Mulkey <JMulkey@sunbeltasphalt.com>; Clay Johnson <cjohnson@sunbeltasphalt.com>; Mark Edgar <medgar@sunbeltasphalt.com>; Jonathan Flanigan <JFlanigan@sunbeltasphalt.com>
Subject: Request to Table RFQ/P #47-004 Pending Review

Some people who received this message don't often get email from jheidl@sunbeltasphalt.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Commissioners,

Attached is a letter regarding RFQ/P #47-004, Demand Services for Resurfacing, Paving & Full Depth Reclamation.

As both a Hall County taxpayer and the Division President of Sunbelt Asphalt, I am concerned by the lack of transparency surrounding the evaluation process and the resulting disqualification of our company. We respectfully request that the Board table this item until the evaluation methodology and supporting records can be reviewed.

Our request is simple: before Hall County excludes a contractor with our qualifications and experience from competing for roadway work that may extend for up to five years, the evaluation process should be fully transparent and subject to meaningful review.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I respectfully request that the Board postpone action on this item until these concerns can be addressed.

Sincerely,

Jeremy Heidl

Division President & Hall County Taxpayer
Sunbelt Asphalt Surfaces - A Division of The Scruggs Company
1410 Sunbelt Way, Auburn, GA 30011
Office 770-867-5312



A DIVISION OF THE SCRUGGS COMPANY





June 22, 2026

Hall County Board of Commissioners
2875 Browns Bridge Road
Gainesville, Georgia 30504

RE: RFQ/P #47-004 – Demand Services for Resurfacing, Paving & Full Depth Reclamation

Commissioners,

I am writing regarding RFQ/P #47-004, Demand Services for Resurfacing, Paving & Full Depth Reclamation, which is scheduled for consideration today and to be voted on by the Board this week.

Sunbelt Asphalt respectfully requests that the Board table this item pending a formal review of the evaluation process and the release of the records necessary to understand how the County arrived at its recommendation.

According to the bid tabulation released by Hall County, The Scruggs Company d/b/a Sunbelt Asphalt received a score of 77 and was therefore deemed unqualified under the County's 80-point threshold, while four firms received scores ranging from 84 to 87. The highest score awarded to any respondent was an 87. The County has not provided a scoring rubric, individual evaluator score sheets, evaluator comments, weighting methodology, or any explanation of how the scores were derived. The only information provided to date is a final numerical score.

This is particularly concerning because the RFQ relied almost entirely upon subjective narrative responses regarding experience, workforce qualifications, quality control procedures, staffing plans, supervision, and safety programs. The solicitation did not publish objective scoring criteria that would allow bidders to understand how responses would be evaluated or how points would be awarded or deducted.

The Scruggs Company has been continuously operating since 1965. Sunbelt Asphalt is a division of The Scruggs Company and part of Construction Partners, Inc., a publicly traded company with operations throughout the Southeast and annual revenues exceeding \$3 billion. We are prequalified by the Georgia Department of Transportation for projects exceeding \$1.5 billion. We have successfully completed roadway resurfacing, paving, milling, full-depth reclamation, and rehabilitation projects for state agencies, counties, municipalities, and private owners throughout Georgia.

Most recently, Sunbelt Asphalt was awarded all six districts of Gwinnett County's residential resurfacing contract, a project valued in excess of \$44 million that attracted ten competing bidders. We are not aware

of any governmental entity that has previously determined that The Scruggs Company or Sunbelt Asphalt lacked the qualifications necessary to perform roadway resurfacing and rehabilitation work.

The issue before the Board is therefore much larger than whether Sunbelt received a score of 77 versus 80. The issue is whether Hall County can demonstrate that this procurement process was objective, transparent, consistently applied, and conducted in a manner that inspires public confidence.

As both a contractor and a Hall County taxpayer, I am concerned that this process creates the appearance of arbitrary decision-making. A contractor with decades of experience, substantial financial capacity, GDOT prequalification, extensive local experience, and a demonstrated history of successful public works delivery has effectively been excluded from competing for Hall County road work for a period that may extend to five years, without any explanation as to why.

The public policy implications are significant. Fewer qualified bidders inevitably reduce competition. Reduced competition results in higher prices. Higher prices result in fewer miles of roadway improvements being delivered to Hall County taxpayers.

I am also concerned that the procurement structure may be inconsistent with the competitive bidding requirements applicable to state-funded transportation projects, including work funded through LMIG and LRA programs. These programs are intended to maximize competition and value for taxpayers. A subjective prequalification process that excludes otherwise qualified contractors without a published scoring methodology, without disclosure of evaluator records, and without a meaningful protest period raises legitimate questions regarding whether the process satisfies the spirit and intent of Georgia's public procurement requirements.

The timing of this recommendation further compounds those concerns. The results were released only shortly before Board consideration, leaving insufficient time for affected contractors, County counsel, commissioners, or the public to review the evaluation process before action is taken. Such a compressed timeline does not promote transparency and creates the appearance that approval is being rushed before meaningful review can occur.

Accordingly, Sunbelt Asphalt formally requests that the Board table this matter and direct staff to produce the following records:

1. The names and titles of all evaluators.
2. Individual evaluator score sheets.
3. Question-by-question scoring for each respondent.
4. Written evaluator comments, notes, memoranda, emails, or worksheets relating to the evaluation.
5. The scoring methodology, rubric, guidance, or instructions provided to evaluators.
6. Any conflict-of-interest disclosures completed by evaluators.
7. Any communications between evaluators and respondents concerning the solicitation.

8. Any legal review regarding the procurement method utilized for this contract.

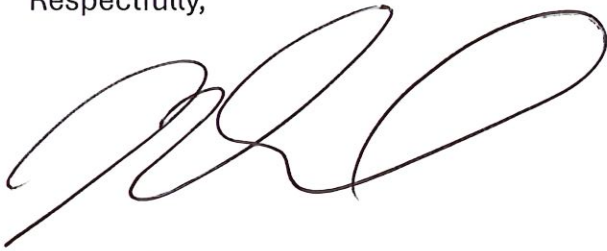
Absent production of these records, neither the affected bidders nor the citizens of Hall County can determine whether the evaluation process was objective, fair, and compliant with applicable procurement requirements.

Sunbelt intends to pursue all available remedies, including a formal protest, if necessary. However, our preference is to resolve these concerns cooperatively and ensure that Hall County taxpayers receive the benefits of a transparent procurement process and the broadest possible competition from qualified contractors.

If Hall County is confident in the integrity of the evaluation process, there should be no objection to temporarily tabling this matter and releasing the evaluation records for public review. Transparency strengthens public confidence. Withholding those records undermines it.

For these reasons, we respectfully request that the Board table this item until the evaluation process can be fully reviewed and understood by all interested parties.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'J. Heidl', with a large, stylized loop at the end.

Jeremy Heidl
Division President
Sunbelt Asphalt Surfaces, Inc.
A Division of The Scruggs Company
Mobile: 720.335.0931



Russell R. McMurry, P.E., Commissioner
One Georgia Center
600 West Peachtree Street, NW
Atlanta, GA 30308
(404) 631-1000 Main Office

January 29, 2025

CERTIFICATE OF QUALIFICATION
Vendor ID: 2SC900

The Scruggs Company
4679 Old Highway 41 North
Hahira, GA 31632

In accordance with The Rules and Regulations governing the Prequalification of Prospective Bidders, the Georgia Department of Transportation has assigned the following Rating. This Certificate of Qualification is effective on the date of issue stated above and cancels and supersedes all Certificates previously issued:

MAXIMUM CAPACITY RATING: \$1, 559,200,000.00

CERTIFICATE EXPIRES: December 31, 2026

PRIMARY WORK CLASS/CODE: 400

SECONDARY WORK CLASS(ES)/CODE(S): 150, 201, 205, 209, 301, 310, 432, 550 and 670

The total amount of incomplete work, regardless of its location and with whom it is contracted, whether in progress or awarded but not yet begun, shall not exceed the Maximum Capacity Rating. If dissatisfied with the Rating, we direct you to the Appeals Procedures in §672-5-.08 (1) & (2) and §672-1-.05, Rules of the State Department of Transportation.

A Prequalified Contractor may request an extension of its current prequalification **prior** to the expiration date of the prequalification by providing the Department with the following information: the amount of time requested for the extension (either 30, 60 or 90 days), the reason for the extension request and the original expiration date of the prequalification. The Department in its discretion will determine whether the extension should be granted and will notify the Contractor of its determination.

Allowing approved prequalification to lapse will leave the Contractors without the ability to bid work until such time as the standing returns to an approved status. If you desire to apply at some intermediate period before the expiration date, your Rating will be reviewed based on the new application.

This Prequalification Certificate is issued for contractors to be eligible for work with the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) only. GDOT does not certify contractors as eligible to do business with entities other than GDOT. *Work class codes are for reference only and do not represent a certification to be provided in support of contractor ability or NAICS code determinations. NAICS Codes are assigned by the office of Equal Employment Opportunity.*

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Patrick Allen', is written over a horizontal line.

Patrick Allen, P.E.
Chairman, Prequalification Committee/Contractors

PA:TKA