

## **WHY AND WHEN TO CONSIDER ALTERNATE FLEXIBLE AND RIGID PAVEMENT DESIGNS IN A BIDDING PROCESS?**

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### *ABSTRACT*

Projects with alternate flexible and rigid pavement designs have been implemented by several transportation agencies in the United States to lower construction costs by attracting more contractors in the bidding process. The purpose of including alternate designs in the bidding process is to increase competitiveness and allow flexible and rigid pavement contractors to submit proposals. This paper describes the guidelines developed for the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) to decide when alternate pavement designs should be considered in the bidding process. Results of a case study with a side-by-side comparison of pavement design and life-cycle costs are also presented.