

AB 400 (Rubio) – Local Agency Design-Build Projects: Authorization (As Amended 5/1/23)

Purpose of the Bill

Current law allows most counties, cities and other local agencies to use the Design-Build (DB) procurement process for specified public works projects outlined in Public Contract Codes Sections 22160-22169. The authorizing legislation included a sunset date of January 1, 2025. AB 400 would extend existing statutory authority for local governments to use the design-build procurement process authorized in PCC Sections 22160-22169 until January 1, 2031.

Existing Law

SB 785 (Chapter 931, Statutes of 2014) authorized counties, cities, certain special districts, as well as transit agencies and the California Department of General Services (DGS), California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitations (CDCR), to use the DB process to deliver public works projects in excess of \$1 million using either a low bid or best value process.

Background

The DB method is an approach to delivering public works projects in which both the design and construction of a project are procured from a single entity. In the traditional Design-Bid-Build (DBB) procurement the design and contracting phases are separate processes, with no direct collaboration between the entity that designs the project and the contractor that builds the project. The DB method streamlines project delivery by allowing local governments to enter into a single contract a design and construction team that is responsible for designing and

building the project. The DB method allows counties and local governments to complete and deliver complex public works projects more efficiently and cost effectively versus the more traditional process.

Bill Details

Extending the existing design-build authority will provide more certainty for counties and local governments to plan, fund and complete pending and future projects. Extending the current authority will bring greater certainty for local governments to plan and complete these projects. Finally, extending the current authority will ensure that the continued benefits of the DB procurement method, which include faster project delivery, cost savings and better quality as compared to traditional contracting methods on the same project.

Sponsor

California State Association of Counties (CSAC)

Co-Sponsor: Design-Build Institute of America (DBIA) Western Pacific Chapter

Co-Sponsor: League of California Cities (CalCities)

Opposition

Contact

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