

Suitland - National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration II.....\$9,461,000

GSA requests additional funds for the design and construction of a 208,128 gross square foot facility and a parking garage with 500 spaces for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). Unexpected soil conditions and recent changes in GSA's construction standards require changes in the design and construction of the planned project with an associated increase in cost.

Additional site development and construction costs not included in the original project scope results from soil composition problems and an elevated ground water level not encountered in the development of the Suitland Federal Center over the past 50 years. Consequently, a strengthened foundation system will be provided and excavation operations will be modified, since the soil will not support standard construction equipment. The soil conditions have also made it impractical to implement a fast track phased approach to construction as originally contemplated. The estimated project completion date has been extended by one year to 2005.

Changes in GSA's construction standards have also affected the proposed project. The original prospectus did not include the cost of preventing progressive collapse as related to blast security and seismic safety performance.

The new facility will be constructed at the Government-owned Suitland Federal Center in Suitland. Design (\$3,128 thousand) and construction (\$14,526 thousand) were funded by the Department of Commerce in fiscal years 2000 and 2001, respectively. Funding for additional construction (\$31,132 thousand) and management and inspection (\$2,951 thousand) were provided for in fiscal year 2002 appropriations. This request is for additional design (\$750 thousand), construction (\$8,099 thousand), and management and inspection (\$612 thousand). The estimated total project cost is \$61,198 thousand.