

26.3 Competitive bids for public improvement contracts.

1. If the estimated total cost of a public improvement exceeds the competitive bid threshold of one hundred thousand dollars, or the adjusted competitive bid threshold established in [section 314.1B](#), the governmental entity shall advertise for sealed bids for the proposed public improvement by publishing a notice to bidders. The notice to bidders shall be published at least once, not less than four and not more than forty-five days before the date for filing bids, in a newspaper published at least once weekly and having general circulation in the geographic area served by the governmental entity. Additionally, the governmental entity may publish a notice in a relevant contractor organization publication and a relevant contractor plan room service with statewide circulation, provided that a notice is posted on a website sponsored by either a governmental entity or a statewide association that represents the governmental entity.

2. A governmental entity shall have an engineer licensed under [chapter 542B](#), a landscape architect licensed under [chapter 544B](#), or an architect registered under [chapter 544A](#) prepare plans and specifications, and calculate the estimated total cost of a proposed public improvement. A governmental entity shall ensure that sufficient paper copies of the plans, specifications, and estimated total costs of the proposed public improvement are available for prospective bidders.

3. [Sections 26.4 through 26.13](#) apply to all competitive bidding pursuant to [this section](#).

2006 Acts, ch 1017, §3, 42, 43; 2007 Acts, ch 144, §3; 2009 Acts, ch 179, §107

Referred to in §8A.311, 26.4, 26.5, 26.12, 26.14, 26.14A, 28J.9, 35A.10, 73A.2, 73A.18, 105.11, 161C.2, 218.58, 273.14, 297.8, 314.1, 314.1B, 330A.12, 331.341, 357.14, 904.314, 904.315