

February 11, 2010

Reference Letter for Louisville Waterfront Park Phase III – Big Four Pedestrian Slope

The Big Four Pedestrian Slope is a 693 foot long twin steel box girder bridge and circular landing platform. It will serve as an access ramp to the existing Big Four railroad bridge which is slated to be the largest pedestrian bridge in the United States; when completed it will connect Louisville to Southern Indiana.

Through a Value Engineering redesign, FINLEY was able reduce the costs relating to materials, fabrication, and construction by approximately \$3 million.

The redesigned slope structure incorporated a constant girder cross section, reduced deck thickness, and new integral pier connections, all of which help to reduce fabrication and erection costs. Erection and fabrication of the girders has been simplified and extreme thermal effects have been mitigated by converting the ramp from a single continuous structure into three two-span continuous units. In addition, a difficult weathering steel cladding solution for the pier columns was replaced with a weathering steel casing to be used as stay-in-place formwork.

An innovative ring shaped steel box girder was engineered for the landing platform which eliminated a much more complex framing system. This redesigned girder offers an efficient system for supporting the circular shaped platform while providing a consistent exterior surface to serve the aesthetic needs of the Owner.

FINLEY has a unique talent for looking at a project as a whole, determining the strengths of the contractor as well as the best materials for the project; to this information, they apply innovative design techniques to provide Value Engineering.

Services provided by FINLEY included conceptual design for the value engineering proposal, value engineering redesign of the project (Engineer of Record), construction engineering, erection scheme and schematics, and technical assistance.

We appreciate the team effort by all those involved at FINLEY.

I welcome any questions about FINLEY and the Louisville Waterfront Park Phase III – Big Four Pedestrian Slope project. I can be reached by phone at (812) 725-7580 or email cdeckard@construct-solutions.com.

Sincerely,



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