

shall advertise for at least two weeks in one or more newspapers published in each county in which the highway lies, and for three consecutive issues in at least one daily newspaper published in Baltimore City, for sealed proposals for the construction of said highway, accurately describing the same and stating the time and place for opening said proposals, and reserving the right to reject any and all proposals; said proposals shall be publicly opened at the time specified in said advertisement, and the contract for such work or for the supplies and materials required for such construction shall be awarded by the Commission to the lowest responsible bidder, unless in the opinion of said Commission the interests of the State shall be better served by awarding the contract to some other bidder, when this may be done. All *such* work which shall be done by the said Commission, whether on State roads, county roads or municipal streets, the labor and materials of which are estimated to cost over ~~three thousand dollars (\$3,000)~~ ~~ten thousand dollars (\$10,000)~~, SIX THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$6,500.00) shall be advertised as aforesaid, except such labor and materials as may be required from time to time to maintain the various roads to the width and cross section, as previously or originally constructed. The construction and improvement of all State highways or parts thereof shall be under the supervision and subject to the approval of the said Commission, in accordance with the plans and specifications prepared by the chief engineer and approved by said Commission. In all cases where the contract for work and materials shall be given out after competitive bidding the successful bidder shall promptly execute a formal contract to be approved as to its form, terms and conditions by said Commission, and shall also execute and deliver to said Commission a good and sufficient bond to be approved by said Commission to the State of Maryland in not less than the amount of the contract price. In no case shall any such bond be approved or accepted unless the obligors bind themselves therein to the payment of all just debts for labor and materials incurred by the bidder in the construction and improvement of the road contracted for. To all such bids there shall be attached the certified check of the bidder, or a cashier's or treasurer's check drawn upon a bank, and the bidder who has the contract awarded to him and who fails to promptly and properly execute the contract and bond shall forfeit the said contract. The said check shall be taken and considered as liquidated damages, and not a penalty, for failure of said bidder to execute said contract and bond. Upon the execution of said contract and bond by a successful bidder his check shall be returned to him. The amount of the check to be attached to the bid shall be based on the aggregate amount of the bid submitted and covered by the following table:

Aggregate Amount of Bid	Amount of Check
Less than \$ 20,000	\$ 500
\$ 20,000 to 50,000	1,000
50,000 to 75,000	1,500
75,000 to 125,000	2,000
125,000 to 175,000	2,500
175,000 to 225,000	3,000
225,000 to 275,000	4,000
275,000 to 325,000	5,000
325,000 to 375,000	6,000