

publication in newspapers, periodicals, and trade journals, and by any other means calculated to reach potential service providers.]

(2) PUBLIC NOTICE OF THE REQUEST FOR GENERAL EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST AND OF THE SUBSEQUENT AWARD SHALL BE GIVEN IN THE SAME MANNER AS IS REQUIRED FOR COMPETITIVE SEALED BIDDING UNDER § 11-110(B)(2) OF THIS SUBTITLE.

(c) (1) To satisfy all or part of the State's requirements, as they occur and without additional advertising, the procurement officer may conduct discussions with any responsible service provider that has submitted an expression of interest. As far as practicable in the course of administering a program, the procurement agency shall accord all responsible service providers that have submitted expressions of interest fair and equal treatment with respect to discussions.

(2) The procurement agency may make an award if the procurement agency head, on the basis of pending discussions or past program experience, determines that an award will serve the State's best interest. Award of a contract is subject to all approvals required by Law or regulation.

[(d) Notice of any award under this section shall be published in the Maryland Register.]

[Subtitle 3.] PART IV. Cancellation [and Rejection of Invitations for Bids or Requests for Proposals] OF SOLICITATIONS, REJECTION OF BIDS AND OFFERS, AND DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION.

[13-301.] 11-116. CANCELLATION OF SOLICITATIONS; REJECTION OF BIDS AND OFFERS.

If the procurement officer ~~with the approval of the agency head or his~~ THE designee OF THE AGENCY HEAD, WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS, determines that it is fiscally advantageous or is otherwise in the STATE'S best interest [of the State], an invitation for bids, a request for proposals, or other solicitation may be cancelled, or all bids or proposals may be rejected.

11-117. DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION.

(A) BIDS SHALL REMAIN SEALED UNTIL THE PUBLIC BID OPENING.

(B) BEFORE BID OPENING OR THE CLOSING DATE FOR PROPOSALS, THE STATE MAY NOT DISCLOSE TO ANY PERSON THE NAME OF A PERSON WHO HAS SUBMITTED A BID OR PROPOSAL.

(C) ~~EXCEPT AS PROHIBITED BY~~ SUBJECT TO THE PROVISIONS OF TITLE 10, SUBTITLE 6, PART III (ACCESS TO PUBLIC RECORDS) OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, AT THE PUBLIC BID OPENING AND