



Best Practices for Subcontractor Selection and Vendor Management in Highway Construction

Hemraj Parate^{1*}

¹*James Construction Group LLC, Houston, TX, United States of America*

Abstract

Effective subcontractor selection and efficient vendor management are critical elements of the successful execution of highway infrastructure projects. Inadequate subcontractor selection and poor management can adversely impact project outcomes in the form of budgetary excesses, timeline disruptions, and diminished quality standards. This study presents recommended methodologies while assessing subcontractor qualification to avoid any vendor mismanagement for the Department of Highways roadway construction projects, drawing upon scholarly literature, industry analyses, and documented project experiences. The paper identifies three primary evaluation metrics for subcontractor and vendor selections as historical performance, fiscal robustness, and safety compliance. The paper highlights the significance of rigorous subcontractor vetting procedures, subcontractor monitoring throughout the project, communication, and collaboration between the general contractor and the subcontractor. Additionally, paper explores challenges such as improper evaluation methods, lack of communication, and project scope misalignment between the general contractor and the subcontractor. The study will also include integrating technology tools. The aim of this study is to help project managers avoid conflicts with subcontractors, thereby improving project efficiency and avoiding schedule delay, ensuring project success.

Keywords: Highway Construction, Infrastructure Development, Construction Procurement, Risk Mitigation, Project Management