QUALIFICATIONS-BASED SELECTION

WWW.QBS-MI.ORG

QBS 2024 YEAR IN REVIEW

QBS

Qualifications-Based Selection

EDUCATE, ADVOCATE, ELEVATE

Qualifications-Based Selection (QBS) is a strategic approach to procuring professional services that prioritizes expertise, experience, and quality over cost alone. Unlike traditional bidding processes that focus on the lowest price, QBS ensures that engineers, architects, and design professionals are selected based on their qualifications and ability to meet the unique demands of a project.

In our year-in-review, we explore how QBS has shaped successful project outcomes, strengthened partnerships, and proven its value as a key pillar of innovation and efficiency in the built environment.

The QBS Michigan Coalition is a collaborative organization dedicated to promoting the use of Qualifications-Based Selection (QBS) as the preferred method for hiring engineers, architects, and design professionals across Michigan.

By championing the principle that quality and expertise should drive project decisions, the QBS Michigan Coalition aims to ensure that public and private investments result in sustainable, innovative, and efficient solutions for Michigan's infrastructure and built environment.

2024 KEY HIGHLIGHTS

QBS WEBINAR

- In April, the coalition hosted a webinar on QBS, featuring data from a University research study on its effectiveness.
- A panel, including representatives from Clare County Road Commission, the cities of Livonia and Columbus (an engineer formerly with the Michigan DOT), shared insights, best practices and the value of QBS.
- The webinar recording was later shared with ~2,000 industry professionals via email.

OUTREACH

- QBS coalition members participated in the annual Michigan Public Purchasing Officers Association's Reverse Trade Fair, where they spoke with dozens of publicly-funded agency organization representatives about the benefits of QBS.

EXPERT INSIGHTS: HOW QBS ELEVATES BRIDGE INSPECTIONS

In November, the QBS coalition recorded an interview with team members from RS&H, a facilities and infrastructure consulting firm, to provide perspectives on the benefits of QBS in selecting partners to perform bridge inspections.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE: HB 5654 QBS FOR STATE AGENCIES

House Bill 5654, which aimed to implement Qualification-Based Selection (QBS) for state agencies, successfully passed the House with a vote of 70-38 on December 10. However, the Senate Government Operations Committee did not have time to hold a hearing on the bill before the end of the session.

Efforts to discharge it to the Senate Floor were unsuccessful. The QBS coalition will continue to advocate for QBS legislation in the next term.

QBS WEBSITE TRAFFIC UP 200%

The number of users who visited the QBS-MI.org website in 2024 increased by 200% over 2023, with a 400% increase in time spent on site to 2 minutes per user.