

Bidding Alternate Items or Categories

AASHTOWare Project (Web Preconstruction or PrP) has features that permit the bidding of both Alternate Items and Alternate Categories. They are constructed in the same way that these features were used in the Client Server version of Trnsport (PES – LAS). Over the years the most frequently used feature has been the bidding of Alternate Items on FDOT contracts. We do specifically recall two contracts where Alternate Categories were bid, one in District 2 and one in District 7 but there may have been others.

Another type of alternative bidding has been the Scope Alternate method, where Financial Projects are bid as alternates to each other, such as FPNA, FPNB, FPNC etc. At time of award, the trailing letter was removed from the successful Proposal and Project. This method remains available in AASHTOWare Project.

Alternate Items

When you are crafting Alternate Items, begin on the Project Summary page (General Tab). Choose the “Categories and Items” link at the top of the page. Then chose the “Item Alternate Sets” label at the left margin. The format required here is two upper case Alphabetic characters such as AA, AB, AC, etc. In most cases you will have only one Alternate Group in a Project, but multiple groups are permitted. The Description field is also a required field. For a simple situation where there is only one group on a project, you may enter the group ID of “AA” in the Description field as seen below. If you have multiple groups, a more expanded Description may be helpful to bidders in understanding the differences between and purposes for the groups.

Overview Fund Package Overview Funding: Assign to Items Item Alternate Summary Item Pricing Project Item Worksheet

Project **Category and Item Summary**

Project: 24961555201 - SR 997/KROME AVENUE FROM MP 10.935 TO 14.032/SOUTH OF OKEECHOBEE ROAD - ADD LANES & RECONSTRUCT

General
Categories
Category Alternate Sets
Item Alternate Sets
Items

Q Type search criteria or press Enter **alternate group** of 2

New

Alt Set ID *	Description *	Project Items
AA	AA	6
AB	AB	0

Once the Alternate Set(s) have been established for the Project, assign pay items to the sets in the following manner:

- (1) Select the “Items” tab on the left side of the screen,
- (2) Then select the Pay Items for the set.

For each pay item involved, open the Pay Item Detail window and assign the appropriate Set ID from the dropdown (you have created this dropdown list above). Then assign the Alternate Item Member Number.

In some, and probably most cases, two pay Items are to be bid against each other. When that is the case, one item is to be identified with a “1” and the other with a “2” in the Item Alternate Member field on the pay item detail. A piling pay item is used to illustrate this. The production piles are marked as “1” and “2”, and test piles are also appropriately marked with a “1” or “2”. Different test pile pay items are in use here. The result is that one group of items are marked “1” and the other marked “2.” The bidding will determine which group(s) will be included in the awarded contract.

Category ID * ▼
0101 - Structures

Item ID * ▼
Q 0455 34103
PRESTRESSED CONCRETE PILING,
INCLUDES 100% DYNAMIC TESTING-
INTERNAL GAUGES, 18" SQ

Pay Item List
13 - Item List Year 2013

Unit of Measure
LF

Quantity ▼
1,200.000

Supplemental Description Required
No

Project Item Supp Description ▼

Item Alternate Set ▼
AA - AA

Item Alternate Member ▼
1

select the alternate group

enter the alternate group number

As seen here, the “Item Alternate Set” field is displaying the Set ID followed by the Set Description. Hence the display of AA – AA. If you had created a longer Description for the set, it would be displayed in place of the second AA.

Alternate Categories

Where categories are to be alternates to each other, for example two different types of a new bridge, each category fully describes the structure to be built. Again, begin on the Project Summary Page (General Tab). Then choose the “Categories and Items” link at the top of the page. Then chose the “Category Alternate Sets” tab on the left side of the screen. In the Set ID field, identify the first set by AA, and populate the Description field as well.

Overview Fund Package Overview Funding: Assign to Items Item Alternate Summary Item Pricing Project Item Worksheet

Project: **Category and Item Summary**

Project: 25841515201 - I-4/SELMON EXPRESSWAY INTERCHANGE (NEW)

General

Categories

Category Alternate Sets

Item Alternate Sets

Items

Type search criteria or press Enter

1 of 1

New

Cat Alt Set ID: AA Description: AA Life Cycle Cost Indicator: Categories: 75

alternate group

After all of the groups that will be required on the job have been created, open the Category detail box. Populate the Category Alternate Set from the dropdown list. Then identify the Category Alternate Member by number. In this example category 0101 is in set AA and is member “1”. Category 0102 may be the other member and would be identified with Set AA and Member “2”. At the end of bidding, only the selected category will be included in the awarded Contract.

0101 - STRUCTURES AA1

Category ID * 0101

Up to 4 characters

Proposal Section Group * 01 - Structures

Maintenance Activity Nu

Combine Like Categories

Category Alternate Set AA - AA

Category Alternate Member 1

select alternate group

enter alternate group number

As seen here, the “Category Alternate Set” field is displaying the Set ID followed by the Set Description, hence the display of AA – AA. If you had created a longer Description for the set, it would be displayed in place of the second AA.