Control No: MICC 2026-54

Justification Review Document
FAR Part 6 Justification and Approval for Other than Full and Open Competition

Program/Equipment: Full Food Services (FFS) & Dining Facility Attendant (DFA) Support at Fort Lee VA

Authority: 10 U.S.C. 3204(a)(1) as implemented by RFO FAR 6.103-1 -- Only One Responsible Source and No Other Supplies or Services Will Satisfy Agency Requirements.

Amount: $24.1M

[redacted]

Control No: MICC 2026-54

Reviews: I have reviewed this justification and find it adequate to support other than full and open competition.

[redacted]

Control No: MICC 2026-54

FAR Part 6 Justification and Approval
for Other than Full and Open Competition

1. **Requiring Activity:** U.S. Army Sustainment Command (ASC), Rock Island, IL

2. **Contracting Activity:** U.S. Army Mission and Installation Contracting Command (MICC)-Fort Eustis, 705 Washington Boulevard, Fort Eustis, Virginia

3. **Description of Action:** Request approval to award a firm-fixed-price bridge contract to Southern Foodservice Management, Inc., 431 Office Park Dr., Mountain Brook, AL 35233-2411.The Government projects award for June 2026, and fiscal year 2026 Operations and Maintenance, Army (OMA) funds will be used.

4. **Description of Supplies/Services:** The contractor provides all supervision, labor, personnel, equipment, materials and supplies, except for Government Furnished Property (GFP), to perform operational services of Army Dining Facilities (DFACs) at Fort Lee, VA to include receiving, storing, preparing, requisitioning and food serving. This requirement will have a seven (7) month period of performance.

Period	Period of Performance	Estimated Value
Base	28 JUN 2026 — 28 JAN 2027	$ 24,063,264.82

5. **Authority Cited:** 10 U.S.C. 3204(a)(1), as implemented by RFO FAR 6.103-1 -- Only One Responsible Source and No Other Supplies or Services Will Satisfy Agency Requirements.

6. **Reason for Authority Cited:** As described at RFO FAR 6.103-1, no other source can satisfy the agency requirement without causing a catastrophic lapse in service. This action is critical to prevent an unacceptable delay in providing mission-essential Full Food Services (FFS) and to ensure the successful, uninterrupted execution of the Army's strategic Dining Excellence (DINEX) initiative.

a. Background: In December 2024, a time-sensitive need for FFS and Dining Facility Attendant (DFA) services at Fort Lee, VA emerged. This need arose to mitigate a potential disruption in food service operations after the Government decided not to issue a new Task Order under contract W5168W-23-D-0006 when the then-current Task Order ended performance on 26 January 2025. The previous contractor failed to provide acceptable levels of service during contract performance, which drove the decision not to execute a new task order prior to the end of the ordering period. Consequently, the Government issued a one-year letter contract to Southern Foodservice Management, Inc., under 10 U.S.C. 3204(a)(2), as implemented by FAR 6.302-2, Unusual and Compelling Urgency. The MICC Competition Advocate and Senior Contracting Official approved the contract under the J&A.

Although the intent was to compete and have a 5-year follow-on contract awarded by the end of the definitized letter contract, the development of the Army's new Dining Excellence (DINEX) food service initiative to deliver superior outcomes compared to the existing food service model, continues to rapidly change and implementation is now behind previous anticipated execution for Transformation and Training Command (T2COM) Garrisons. The Army launched DINEX with the goal of seeking innovative, flexible solutions that achieve superior outcomes when compared to the existing food service model. To achieve this, DINEX employs a Commercial Solutions Opening (CSO) that allows the Government to solicit and evaluate cutting-edge commercial solutions, while the intent to award an Other Transaction Agreement (OTA) ensures the Government can streamline the negotiation process, attract non-traditional providers, and structure the resulting partnership around measurable, performance-driven superior outcomes. This combined use of a CSO and an OTA is a direct implementation of the DOW's directive to maximize acquisition agility, rebuild and diversify the industrial base, and ultimately deliver better, faster results for the warfighter.

A draft CSO for DINEX operations was issued to industry on 11 December 2025, with the final CSO released on 26 January 2026. The resulting OTA will involve a prototype at Fort Lee for the Army's new DINEX approach and is projected for award in November 2026. This extension will allow sufficient time to transition Lee from an independent contract to a OT prototype agreement scheduled to begin no later than January 2027.

b. Alternatives.

1) Pursuing a full and open, competitive solicitation for a short-term, seven month requirement would necessitate dedicating significant acquisition and legal resources over a 60-90 day period to acquire services that will be redundant once replaced by the DINEX OTA in November 2026. The seven month performance extension aligns the end of the interim requirement with the scheduled award of the DINEX OTA.

2) Awarding a new, short-term contract to a non-incumbent would also require the Government to incur duplication of costs for a 30-day contractor transition twice in less than a year: once for the new, short-term contractor and a second time for the contractor awarded the DINEX OTA. Extending the current incumbent avoids the need for any transition costs for the interim period, reserving those resources for the final transition to the new strategic OTA.

3) With the exception of the current incumbent, other Fort Lee FFS contractors had poor performance records. (For example, a follow-on Task Order was not awarded under W5168W-23-D-0006 due to records of contractor poor performance. Similarly, contractor poor performance led to the decision not to continue performance under W9124J-22-D-0010.

c. Impact if this justification is not approved. If the justification is not approved and the bridge action is not executed, the Government will be unable to support the dining facility operations at Fort Lee. There are no viable alternatives available, and the timeline to procure a new contract competitively exceeds the time remaining before service interruption would occur. A lapse in service would directly result in the inability to feed Soldiers, which would compromise mission readiness and daily operations. The risk to personnel support and operational continuity is unacceptable, and therefore urgent action to execute this contract bridge is required to mitigate the risk while the long-term solution is competed.

7. Efforts to Obtain Competition: The effort to obtain enterprise-level competition is actively underway and represented by the Army's massive investment in the DINEX program. The seven month performance extension is the minimum necessary bridge to maintain mission-essential food services without disruption while ensuring the timely, successful launch of the highly competitive and transformative DINEX CSO/OTA acquisition. This action secures the strategic competitive gain by avoiding a tactical, resource-draining, and ultimately redundant short-term competition.

a. Effective Competition: Because this is a sole source action, effective competition is not applicable.

b. Subcontracting Competition: The Government will request a subcontracting plan for this contract action and will coordinate review of the plan with the Small Business Specialist (SBS) and Small Business Administration (SBA) Procurement Center Representative (PCR) as required by 38 CFR 19.206-3. Additionally, the approved plan will be incorporated and made a material part of the contract as required by RFO FAR 19.206-3(e)(5). Finally, a copy of the award document will be provided to the Area Director for the SBA Area Office where the contract will be performed as required by RFO FAR 19.302-3(a) and a copy of the final negotiated subcontracting plan will be provided to the SBA PCR as required by RFO FAR 19.302-3(c)(2).

8. Actions to Increase Competition: The requirement for the seven-month, non-competitive extension of services with the incumbent, Southern Foodservice Management, Inc., is not a retreat from competition but a strategic, temporary measure essential to facilitate the launch of the DINEX prototype.

9. Market Research: The Government conducted market research IAW FAR Part 10 and issued a Sources Sought Notice, posted from 11-16 December 2025, received 7 responses, of which none were deemed capable to complete the requirement due to inability to mobilize and perform the services. As the current incumbent, Southern was identified as the required vendor based on its corporate experience and relevant past performance as documented in CPARS and contract surveillance reports.

10. Interested Sources:

Control No: MICC 2026-54

Vendor Name	[redacted]
Rice Services, Inc.	
Blackstone Consulting, Inc. (BCI)	
Acorn Food Services, Inc.	
Metz Culinary Management and Environmental Services	

Vendor Name	CAGE Code	Business Size	Location	Point of Contact	Capability Assessment
Pentad Corporation	[redacted]				
KCA Corporation					
Apex Site Services					

11. Other Facts:

Procurement History

Contract no.: W5168W-25-C-A001 P00008
Contractor: Southern Foodservice Management, Inc.
Award Date: 04 February 2025
Performance Period: 27 January 2026 – 26 June 2026

Procurement method: Sole Source
Authority: FAR 6.302-1

Contract no.: W5168W-25-C-A001
Contractor: Southern Foodservice Management, Inc.
Award Date: 04 February 2025
Performance Period: 27 January 2025 – 26 January 2026
Procurement method: Sole Source
Authority: FAR 6.302-2

Contract no.: W5168W-23-D-0006
Contractor: Virginia Department of the Blind and Vision Impaired
Award Date: 27 JAN 2023
Ordering Period: 27 January 2023 – 26 January 2025
Procurement method: Direct negotiations under Randolph-Sheppard Act
Authority: FAR 6.302-5

Contract no.: W9124J-22-D-0010
Contractor: Mitchco International, Inc.
Award date: 31 January 2022
Ordering Period: 31 January 2022 – 31 March 2023
Procurement method: Competitive 100% Small Business set aside

Control No: MICC 2026-54

12. Technical Certification: I certify that the supporting data under my cognizance which are included in the justification are accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief.

[redacted]

13. Requirements Certification: I certify that the supporting data under my cognizance which are included in the justification is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief.

[redacted]

14. Fair and Reasonable Cost Determination: I hereby determine that the anticipated cost or price to the Government for this contract action will be fair and reasonable. Due to historical pricing analysis.

WOJTAN.EDWARD.W.III.1097620241 Digitally signed by WOJTAN.EDWARD.W.III.1097620241 Date: 2026.06.24 14:19:53 -04'00'

Edward Wojtan
Contracting Officer

15. Contracting Officer Certification: I certify that this justification is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief.

WOJTAN.EDWARD.W.III.1097620241 Digitally signed by WOJTAN.EDWARD.W.III.1097620241 Date: 2026.06.24 14:20:08 -04'00'

Edward Wojtan
Contracting Officer

Control No: MICC 2026-54

Approval

Based on the foregoing justification, I hereby approve the procurement of FFS & DFA support at Fort Lee, VA on an other than full and open competition basis pursuant to the authority of Title 10 United States Code Section 3204(a)(1) as implemented in RFO Federal Acquisition Regulation 6.103-1 - Only one awardee is capable of providing the supplies or services required at the level of quality required because the supplies or services ordered are unique or highly specialized. The estimated value of the contract is $24.1 million for a seven-month period of performance, from 26 June 2026 through 26 January 2027. The approval is subject to the availability of funds and provided that the services or supplies herein described have otherwise been authorized for acquisition.

KUKES.SCOTT.DEAN.1151934346

Digitally signed by KUKES.SCOTT.DEAN.1151934346
Date: 2026.06.25 15:18:44 -05'00'

SCOTT D. KUKES
Alternate Advocate for Competition
U.S. Army Mission and Installation Contracting Command, JBSA Fort Sam Houston, TX