



# *City of North Charleston Housing Authority*

“Providing Safe and Decent Housing to the Citizens of North Charleston”

## **RFP NUMBER 260511**

HUMAN RESOURCE CONSULTING SERVICES  
NORTH CHARLESTON, SC 29406

DATE ISSUED: JUNE 11, 2026  
QUESTIONS DEADLINE: JUNE 25, 2026, AT 4:00 P.M.  
BID DUE DATE AND TIME: JULY 6, 2026, AT 4:00 P.M.  
SUBMIT SEALED BIDS TO: [gabney@nchashousingauthority.com](mailto:gabney@nchashousingauthority.com)

OBTAIN BID DOCUMENTS FROM:  
[WWW.NORTHCHARLESTONHOUSINGAUTHORITY.ORG](http://WWW.NORTHCHARLESTONHOUSINGAUTHORITY.ORG)

The responsibility for submitting a response to this Request for Qualifications request to the stated North Charleston Housing Authority address on or before the stated time and date will be solely and strictly be the responsibility of the respondent. The respondent shall wholly absorb all the cost incurred in preparing and presenting this proposal.

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# RFP Document

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## INTRODUCTION

The Housing Authority of the City of North Charleston (hereinafter, “HA”) is a public entity to provide federally subsidized housing and housing assistance to low-income families, within the City of North Charleston. The HA is headed by an Executive Director (ED) and is governed by a seven-person board of commissioners and is subject to the requirements of Title 24 of the Code of Federal Regulations (hereinafter, “CFR”) and the HA’s procurement policy. Though brought into existence by a Resolution of the City of North Charleston, it is a separate entity from the City of North Charleston.

Currently, the HA owns and/or manages 600 affordable units: and administrates a total of 2,315 Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers. The HA currently has approximately 24 employees, the staffing encompasses a diverse array of roles, including senior management, property managers, casemanagers, maintenance, and administrative support.

In keeping with its mandate to provide efficient and effective services, the HA is now soliciting proposals from qualified, licensed and insured entities to provide Human Resource Consulting Services to the HA. All proposals submitted in response to this solicitation must conform to all of the requirements and specifications outlined within this document and any designated attachments in its entirety.

### RFP INFORMATION AT A GLANCE

[Table No. 2]

HA CONTACT PERSON	Quiana Abney Telephone Number: (843) 266-5908
HOW TO OBTAIN THE RFP DOCUMENTS	Available on Thursday, June 11, 2026 Email: <a href="mailto:gabney@nchashousingauthority.com">gabney@nchashousingauthority.com</a>
DEADLINE FOR QUESTIONS	Thursday, June 25, 2026, by 4:00 PM
HOW TO FULLY RESPOND TO THIS RFP BY SUBMITTING A PROPOSAL SUBMITTAL	As instructed within Section 3.0 of the RFP document, email a PDF of the completed documents to Quiana Abney at <a href="mailto:gabney@nchashousingauthority.com">gabney@nchashousingauthority.com</a>
PROPOSAL SUBMITAL RETURN & DEADLINE	Email a PDF of the completed documents to Quiana Abney by Monday, July 6, 2026 - 4:00 PM.
ANTICIPATED APPROVAL	Wednesday, July 15, 2026

#### 1.0 HA’S RESERVATION OF RIGHTS:

- 1.1 The HA reserves the right to reject any or all proposals, to waive any informality in the RFP process, or to terminate the RFP process at any time, if deemed by the HA to be in its best interests.
- 1.2 The HA reserves the right not to award a contract pursuant to this RFP.
- 1.3 The HA reserves the right to terminate a contract awarded pursuant to this RFP, at any time for its convenience upon 10 days written notice to the successful proposer(s).
- 1.4 The HA reserves the right to determine the days, hours and locations that the successful proposer(s) shall provide the services called for in this RFP.

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- 1.5 The HA reserves the right to retain all proposals submitted and not permit withdrawal for a period of 60 days subsequent to the deadline for receiving proposals without the written consent of the HA Contracting Officer (CO).
  - 1.6 The HA reserves the right to negotiate the fees proposed by the proposer entity.
  - 1.7 The HA reserves the right to reject and not consider any proposal that does not meet the requirements of this RFP, including but not necessarily limited to incomplete proposals and/or proposals offering alternate or non-requested services.
  - 1.8 The HA shall have no obligation to compensate any proposer for any costs incurred in responding to this RFP.

**2.0 SCOPE OF WORK (SOW)/TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS (T/S):** The HA is seeking proposals from qualified HR firms with demonstrated experience in housing, nonprofit, or public sector consulting.

The selected firm will make recommendations for improvement in policies, procedures, and operations, and provide hands-on ongoing HR consulting support to existing staff to strengthen the Authority's management, compliance, and organizational effectiveness.

The selected firm will provide strategic HR support in the following areas:

- **Policy and Compliance:** Review current HR policies, procedures and documentation; recommend and implement updates to ensure compliance with FMLA, ADA, FLSA, EEO and other laws and regulations as applicable.
- Provide an HR consultant to work directly with assigned staff (in person as needed) to assist with day-to-day HR issues and improve the Authority's management, compliance, and organizational effectiveness.
- Evaluate and improve performance review systems, goal-setting frameworks, and feedback processes; train managers on coaching and evaluation.
- Provide advisory support on sensitive personnel matters, including complaints, investigations, discipline, and conflict resolution, while maintaining strict confidentiality and legal compliance.
- Conduct a salary study within first six (6) months of award of contract.
- Provide written audit report that identifies the materials reviewed, with findings that analyze any flaws and areas of improvement and make corrective recommendations, updated HR policies and templates, improved performance management tools, compliance checklists, and availability.

2.1 **The HA's Responsibilities:** The housing authority will provide all required documentation required in a timely matter as requested by the consultant.

3.0 **PROPOSAL FORMAT:**

3.1 **Proposal Submittal:** The HA intends to retain the successful proposer pursuant to a “Best Value” basis, not a “Low Proposal” basis. The HA will consider factors other than just cost in making the award decision. Therefore, so that the HA can properly evaluate the offers received, all proposals submitted in response to this RFP must be formatted in accordance with the sequence noted following. Each category must be labeled with the corresponding reference section number also noted below. None of the proposed services may conflict with any requirement the HA has published herein or has issued by addendum.

RFP Section	Tab	Description
Cover letter	1	Signed cover letter on company letterhead: Letter must include contact information for company and website.
Experience	2	Proven experience in human resources consulting: List duties performed for other agencies that your firm contracted with: Relevant experience should be with public housing authorities, nonprofits, or similar organizations.
References	3	Provide at least three contact references (Name, email, and phone number) of similar projects for clients comparable to NCHA.
Technical Approach and Work Plan	4	Provide a detailed step-by-step plan to complete each major task identified in the Scope of Work. Please include: Systems, tools and methodologies to ensure quality, efficiency and compliance. Approach to maintaining effective communication and coordination with NCHA staff.
Pricing Proposal	5	Provide fee structure (including hourly rates, fixed fees, and any reimbursable expenses) and overall value to or from the Authority. Explanation of assumptions and cost justification.
Attachments		Profile of Firm Form Form HUD-5370-C - General Conditions Non-Construction Contracts Form HUD-5369-B- Instruction to Offeror for non-construction contract Form HUD-5369-C - Certifications and Representations of Offerors Non-Collusive Affidavit

<b>Additional Documents Required</b>	Contractor's Form W-9 Business License Contractor's Sample Contract Affidavit
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**3.2 Proposal Submission:** All proposals must be submitted electronically as a single PFD file and emailed to Quiana Abney, Executive Director, qabney@nchashousingauthority.com and time-stamped received in the designated HA email inbox by no later than the submittal deadline stated herein (or within any ensuing addendum).

The email subject must clearly denote the above noted RFP number and must have the proposer's name. Proposals received after the published deadline will not be accepted.

**3.3 Proposer's Responsibilities--Contact With the HA:** It is the responsibility of the proposer to address all communication and correspondence pertaining to this RFP process to the CO only. Proposers must not make inquiry or communicate with any other HA staff member or official (including members of the Board of Commissioners) pertaining to this RFP. Failure to abide by this requirement may be cause for the HA to not consider a proposal submittal received from any proposer who may has not abided by this directive.

**3.3.1 Addendums:** All questions and requests for information must be addressed in writing to the CO. The CO will respond to all such inquiries in writing by addendum to all prospective proposers (i.e. firms or individuals that have obtained the RFP Documents). During the RFP solicitation process, the CO will NOT conduct any *ex parte* (a substantive conversation—"substantive" meaning, when decisions pertaining to the RFP are made—between the HA and a prospective proposer when other prospective proposers are not present) conversations that may give one prospective proposer an advantage over other prospective proposers. This does not mean that prospective proposers may not call the CO—it simply means that, other than making replies to direct the prospective proposer where his/her answer has already been issued within the solicitation documents, the CO may not respond to the prospective proposer's inquiries but will direct him/her to submit such inquiry in writing so that the CO may more fairly respond to all prospective proposers in writing by addendum.

#### 4.0 Proposal Evaluation and Award

Criteria	Scores
1. Relevant experience with public housing authorities, nonprofits, or similar organizations.	20
2. HR consulting expertise and demonstrated ability to strengthen organizational compliance and workforce practices, including qualifications and certifications of key personnel.	25
3. Proposed methodology, timeline, and deliverables.	25
4. Fee structure (including hourly rates, fixed fees, and any reimbursable expenses) and overall value to or from the Authority.	30
<b>Total Maximum Score</b>	<b>100</b>

- 4.1 **Confidentiality of Proposals:** There will be no public opening of proposal packages. All proposal packages and information concerning same shall remain confidential until all negotiations are completed and the Notice of Award is issued. Offerors are hereby notified that all proposal packages received by the Authority shall be included as part of the official contract file. Therefore, any part of the proposal package that is not considered confidential, privileged or proprietary under any applicable Federal, State or local law may be available for public inspection upon completion of the procurement process. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the applicable provisions of Federal, State and local laws shall govern the confidentiality of proposal packages despite anything contrary to this provision stated in the Request for Proposals.
- 4.2 **Restrictions:** All persons having familial (including in-laws) and/or employment relationships (past or current) with principals and/or employees of a proposer entity will be excluded from participation on the HA evaluation committee. Similarly, all persons having ownership interest in and/or contract with a proposer entity will be excluded from participation on the HA evaluation committee.

## 5.0 CONTRACT AWARD:

- 5.1 **Contract Conditions:** The following provisions are considered mandatory conditions of any contract award made by the HA pursuant to this RFP:
- 5.1.1 **Contract Form:** The Contractor will provide a sample contract for review by the Authority along with their proposal (please note that the Authority reserves the right to amend this form as the Authority deems necessary).
- 5.1.2 **Assignment of Personnel:** The HA shall retain the right to demand and receive a change in personnel assigned to the work if the HA believes that such change is in the best interest of the HA and the completion of the contracted work.
- 5.2 **Contract Period:** The anticipated contract term for the services is one (1) year, with the possibility of extension.
- 5.3 **Licensing and Insurance Requirements:** Prior to award (but not as a part of the proposal submission) the *successful proposer* will be required to provide:
- 5.3.1 An original certificate evidencing the proposer's current industrial (worker's compensation) insurance carrier and coverage amount;
- 5.3.2 An original certificate evidencing General Liability coverage, naming the HA as an additional insured, together with the appropriate endorsement to said policy reflecting the addition of the HA as an additional insured under said policy (minimum of \$1,000,000 each occurrence, general aggregate minimum limit of \$1,000,000, together with damage to premises and fire damage of \$50,000 and medical expenses any one person of \$5,000), with a deductible of not greater than \$1,000;
- 5.3.3 An original certificate showing the proposer's professional liability and/or "errors and omissions" coverage (minimum of \$1,000,000 each occurrence, general aggregate minimum limit of \$5,000,000), with a deductible of not

greater than \$1,000;

**5.3.4** A copy of the proposer's business license allowing that entity to provide such services within the State of South Carolina;

**5.4 Right To Negotiate Final Fees:** The HA shall retain the right to negotiate the amount of fees that are paid to the successful proposer, meaning the fees proposed by the top-rated proposer may, at the HA's options, be the basis for the beginning of negotiations. Such negotiations shall begin after the HA has chosen a top-rated proposer. If such negotiations are not, in the opinion of the CO successfully concluded within 5 business days, the HA shall retain the right to end such negotiations and begin negotiations with the next-rated proposer. The HA shall also retain the right to negotiate with and make an award to more than one proposer, as long as such negotiation(s) and/or award(s) are addressed in the above manner (i.e. top-rated first, then next-rated following until a successful negotiation is reached).

**5.5 Contract Service Standards:** All work performed pursuant to this RFP must conform and comply with all applicable local, state and federal codes, statutes, laws and regulations.

**6.0 Special Conditions: Standards of Conduct.** The successful Offeror shall be responsible for maintaining satisfactory standards of employee's competency, conduct, courtesy, appearance, honesty, integrity and shall be responsible for taking such disciplinary action with respect to any employee, as may be necessary.

**7.0 Reservation of Rights:**

NCHA reserves the right to:

**Right to Reject, Waive or Terminate the RFP.** Reject any or all proposals, to waive any informality in the RFP process, or to terminate the RFP process at any time, if deemed by NCHA to be in its best interests.

**Right to Not Award.** Not to award a contract pursuant to this RFP.

**Right to Terminate.** Terminate a contract awarded pursuant to this RFP, at any time for its convenience upon 10 days written notice to the successful proposer(s).

**Right to Determine Time and Location.** Determine the days, hours and locations that the successful proposer(s) shall provide the services called for in this RFP.

**Right to Retain Proposals.** Retain all proposals submitted and not permit withdrawal for a period of 60 days subsequent to the deadline for receiving proposals without the written consent of the Contracting Officer (CO) named herein.

**Right to Negotiate.** Negotiate the fees proposed by the proposer entity.

**Right to Reject any Proposal.** Reject and do not consider any proposal that does not meet the requirements of this RFP, including but not necessarily limited to incomplete proposals and/or proposals offering alternate or non-requested services.

**No Obligation to Compensate.** NCHA has no obligation to compensate any proposer for any costs incurred in responding to this RFP.

**Right to Prohibit - Right to Reject.** At any time during the RFP or contract process to prohibit any further participation by a proposer or reject any proposal submitted that does not conform to any of the requirements detailed herein.

# Instructions To Proposers & Contractors (ITPC) (Attachment F)

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP) NO. 260511, Human Resource Consulting

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HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF NORTH CHARLESTON (HA)

**1.0 GENERAL CONDITIONS:**

**1.1 Applicability:** If referred to within the text of such, these ITPC shall be applicable to all Requests For Proposals (RFP) solicitations that the Housing Authority of the City of North Charleston (HA) conducts and shall be applicable to any contract that the HA awards to or signs with any firm, agency or individual pursuant to that RFP. A copy of these ITPC shall be made available to any actual or prospective proposer, or contractor who does business with or intends to do business with the HA.

**1.1.1** Unless otherwise specified within the RFP or contract documents, in the event that any provision in any document listed herein conflicts with any provision within these ITPC, the provision in the RFP or contract document shall govern. Further, in the case of any attached HUD forms (more specifically: HUD-5369-C (8/93); HUD-5369-B (8/93); and HUD-5370-C (10/2006), Section I and/or Section II), the information within such HUD form(s) shall govern any other information issued, especially that issued within any HA-created forms that are issued as a part of this solicitation.

**1.2 Definitions** (pertaining to all RFP documents issued by the HA pertaining to this RFP, including the attachments and the ensuing contract):

**1.2.1** "**Contracting Officer**" when named within an RFP document shall refer to either the ED or the person he/she has delegated such responsibilities to.

**1.2.2** "**Contract**" refers to the fully executed written agreement that ensues from the RFP. Whereas all RFP documents are included, by reference, as a part of the ensuing contract, when "contract" is referred to within the RFP document, such is referring to both the RFP documents and the ensuing contract document.

**1.2.3** "**Contractor**" and the term "successful proposer" may be used interchangeably.

**1.2.4** "**Days**" unless otherwise directed, shall refer to calendar days.

**1.2.6** "**ED**" is the HA Executive Director.

**1.2.8** "**HA**" is the Housing Authority of the City of North Charleston. Unless otherwise defined herein or within the ensuing contract, whenever the term "the HA" is used without clearly designating a responsible HA staff person, the proposer(s) shall assume that responsibility for that item rests with the CO.

**1.2.9** "**HUD**" is the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development. HUD is the Federal agency that the HA receives some funding from; however, pertaining to this RFP, correspondences, including proposal submittals, received from each proposer must exhaust all provisions contained herein prior to contacting HUD (i.e. in the case of a protest).

## REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP) NO. 260511, Human Resource Consulting Services

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- 1.2.10 **"Herein"** shall refer to all documents issued pursuant to the noted RFP, including the RFP documents and the attachments.
- 1.2.11 **"Offer"** is the proposal submittal referred to within the following Section 1.2.14 that the proposer delivers to the HA in response to the RFP.
- 1.2.12 **"Offeror" or "Offerors"** are the proposer or proposers.
- 1.2.13 **"Parties"** - When "the parties," "both parties" or "either party" is stated within the RFP documents or the contract, such refers to the HA and the successful proposer(s).
- 1.2.14 **"Proposal" and/or "Proposal Submittal"** is the "hard copy" document that the proposer is required to, as detailed within the RFP document, deliver to the HA.
- 1.2.15 **"Protestant"** is a prospective proposer or proposer who feels that he/she has been treated inequitably by the HA and wishes the HA to correct the inequitable condition or situation. To be eligible to file a protest with the HA pertaining to an RFP or contract, the protestant must have been involved in the RFP process in some manner as a prospective proposer (i.e. registered and received the RFP documents).
- 1.2.16 **"Prospective Proposer" or "Proposer"** - A prospective proposer is a firm or individual who has been notified of the RFP solicitation and/or who has requested and/or received the RFP documents and is considering responding with a proposal; a proposer is a firm or individual who has submitted a proposal in response to the RFP. All terms and conditions shall apply equally to all prospective proposers as well as proposers, though prospective proposers may not, after the deadline set for receiving proposals, receive further notices pertaining to that RFP--meaning, certain notices (such as the Notice of Results of Evaluation) are typically only delivered to proposers and not to all prospective proposers.
- 1.2.17 **"Request For Proposals" (RFP)** is the competitive proposal process allowed by HUD, especially as defined within Chapter 7 of HUD Procurement Handbook 7460.8 REV 2.
- 1.2.18 **"RFP Document(s)"** - Whether stated in the singular or the plural, such refers to the body of documents, including attachments and the information posted on the nahro.economicengine.com Internet System (hereinafter, the "noted Internet System" or the "System), that the HA makes available to all prospective proposers wherein is detailed the HA's requirements.
- 1.2.19 **"Solicitation" or "Competitive Solicitation"** is the RFP process detailed herein.

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**2.0 CONDITIONS TO PROPOSE:**

**2.1 Pre-Qualification of Proposers:** Prospective proposers will not be required to pre-qualify in order to submit a proposal. However, all proposers will be required to submit adequate information showing that the proposer is qualified to perform the required work (i.e. Profile of Firm Form and required resumes). Failure by the prospective proposer to provide the requested information may, at the HA's discretion, eliminate that proposer from consideration, provided that all proposers were required to submit the same information (in the case of a successful proposer(s), these requirements shall also apply in the context of the successful proposer or proposers).

**2.2 RFP Forms, Documents, Specifications and Drawings:**

**2.2.1** It shall be each prospective proposer's responsibility to, prior to submitting a proposal in response to the RFP, examine carefully and, as may be required, properly complete and submit all documents issued pursuant to this RFP.

**2.2.2** Unless otherwise instructed, specifications and drawings (if provided) do not purport to show all of the exact details of the work. They are intended to illustrate the character and extent of the performance desired under the proposed contract and may be supplemented or revised from time to time.

**2.2.3** The HA shall reserve the right to, prior to award, revise, change, alter or amend any of the instructions, terms, conditions, and/or specifications identified within the RFP documents issued, within any attachment or drawing, or within any addenda issued; such notice shall be delivered in writing to each prospective and/or actual proposer. Such changes that are issued before the deadline for receipt of proposals shall be binding upon all prospective proposers. Such changes that are issued after the receipt of proposals, but prior to award shall be binding upon all parties that have submitted proposals; however, such parties shall be allowed to reject such changes by, within 5 days of receipt of such written notice, withdrawing his/her proposal. Such withdrawal must be delivered, in writing, to the CO within the 5-day deadline period.

**2.3 Proposal Preparation, Submission and Receipt by the HA:**

**2.3.1 Required Forms:** All required forms furnished by the HA as a part of the RFP document issued shall, as instructed, be fully completed and submitted by the proposer. Such forms may be completed in a legible hand-written fashion, by use of a typewriter, or may be downloaded and completed on a computer. If, during the download, a form becomes changed in any fashion, the proposer must "edit" the form back to its originally form (for example, signature lines must appear on the page the line was originally intended to be on).

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- 2.3.2 Manner of Submission:** The proposal submittal shall be submitted in the manner detailed within the RFP document. Failure to submit the proposal in the manner specified may result in a premature opening of, post- opening of, or failure to open and consider that proposal, and may, at the discretion of the CO, eliminate that proposer from consideration for award.
- 2.3.3 Time for Receiving Proposals:** Proposals received prior to the time set as the deadline for the receipt by the HA of the proposal submittal shall be securely kept, unopened, by the HA. The CO, whose duty it is to open such proposals, will decide when the specified time has arrived. No proposal received after the designated deadline shall be considered, except as detailed within Section 6 of Form HUD-5369-B (8/93), *Late Submissions, Modifications and Withdrawal of Offers*.
- 2.3.3.1** Proposers are cautioned that any proposal submittal that may be time-stamped as being received by the HA after the exact time set as the deadline for the receiving of proposals shall be returned unopened to the proposer. Any such proposals inadvertently opened shall not be considered, but shall be ruled to be invalid. No responsibility will attach to the HA or any official or employee thereof, for the pre-opening of, or the failure to open a proposal not properly addressed and identified.
- 2.3.4 No Public Opening of Proposals:** Pursuant to the competitive proposals or RFP process, proposals are not publicly opened, but are held secure until the submittal deadline has passed. The proposals are then opened in private by the CO (or his/her designee) and are, pursuant to the evaluation plan, examined for minimal responsiveness (i.e. minimum compliance with the requirements of the RFP). Persons other than HA staff involved in this process are not allowed to be present during the opening, nor may they inspect the proposals until after award has been completed.
- 2.3.5 Withdrawal of Proposals:** Proposals may be withdrawn as detailed within Section 6(h) of Form HUD-5369-B (8/93), *Late Submissions, Modifications and Withdrawal of Offers*. Negligence on the part of the proposer in preparing his/her proposal confers no right of withdrawal or modification of his/her proposal after such proposal has been received and opened.
- 2.3.6 Conflicting Conditions:** Any provisions detailed within any of the RFP documents which may be in conflict or inconsistent with any of the paragraphs in any of the other RFP documents, including attachments, shall be void to the extent of any such conflict or inconsistency. Further, as stated within Section 1.1.1 of this ITP, unless otherwise specified within the RFP or contract documents, in the event that any provision in any document listed herein conflicts with any provision within this ITP, the provision in the RFP or contract document shall govern.

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**2.3.7 Interpretations:** No official oral interpretation can be made to any proposer as to the meaning of any instruction, condition, specifications drawing (if any), or any other document issued pertaining to this RFP. Every request for an official interpretation shall be made by the prospective proposer, in writing, pursuant to the schedule set within the RFP document issued and as directed by the HA. Official interpretations will be issued in the form of addenda, which will be delivered to each proposer; but it shall be the prospective proposer's responsibility to make inquiry as to addenda issued. All such addenda shall become a part of the RFP documents and the proposed contract with the successful proposer, and all proposers shall be bound by such addenda, whether or not received by the prospective or successful proposer(s).

#### **2.4 Exceptions to Specifications:**

**2.4.1** A proposer may take exception to any of the proposal documents or any part of the information contained therein, by submitting, in writing to the CO, at least 10 days prior to the proposal deadline, a complete and specific explanation as to what he/she is taking exception to. Proposed alternate documents or information must also be included. A response by the HA will be issued in writing within 5 days of receipt of such exception request. The HA reserves the right to agree with the prospective proposer and issue a revision to the applicable RFP requirements, or may reject the prospective proposer's request.

**2.4.2** When taking exception, prospective proposers must propose services that meet the requirements of the RFP documents. Exceptions to the specification and/or approved "equal" requests may be discussed at the scheduled pre-proposal conference (if scheduled). All verbal instructions issued by the HA officers not already listed within the RFP documents shall only become official when issued as addenda or as a written answer issued pursuant to receipt of a written question.

#### **2.5 Lump Sum Cost Breakdown (LSCB):**

**2.5.1** The HA reserves the right to, at any time, request and receive from any or all proposers a LSCB of any or all of the costs proposed. The proposal documents constitute an outline of the work to be completed by the proposer. These documents are intended to include all major items, and the lump sum cost breakdown computed therefrom will be the maximum compensation for all work and materials whatsoever furnished by the proposer in order to comply with the proposal documents in their present form, whether or not indicated in the approximate quantities or pertaining to the items of work as listed.

**2.5.1.1** The purpose of this LSCB will serve the HA in two distinct areas:

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- 2.5.1.1.1 **Prior to award of proposals:** The HA may request a LSCB for any or all items reflected within the RFP document as “lump sum” for the purpose of determining an unbalanced cost proposal. The CO, using acceptable methods dictated by the industry, shall conduct the analysis.
  - 2.5.1.1.2 **After award:** The HA may request a LSCB for any or all items reflected within the RFP document as “lump sum” for the purpose of making partial payments to the successful proposer.
  - 2.5.1.1.3 Under no circumstances, may any cost item reflected as “lump sum” be increased/decreased as a result of the LSCB analysis.

### 3.0 PROPOSAL EVALUATION:

- 3.1 **Proposal Opening Results:** It is understood by all proposers/prospective proposers that the proposals received are not publicly opened and the results will typically not be a matter of public record until the HA has concluded all evaluations, has chosen a final top-rated proposer, has completed the award and is ready to issue such results. When the HA issues such notice, the HA will inform all proposers as to each proposers placement as a result of the evaluation (i.e. 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, etc.), the total points each proposer was awarded as a result of the evaluation and the proposed costs submitted by each proposer.
  - 3.1.1 All proposal documents submitted by the proposers are not necessarily a matter of public record and as a matter of normal course, the proposals submitted by each proposer will not, until after award has been completed, be available to be viewed by any interested parties except as approved by the HA Legal Counsel (i.e. a proposer will not, prior to completion of award, be allowed to challenge an apparent top-rated proposer by inspecting the proposal that the apparent top-rated proposer submitted). The HA shall, however, upon request, verify that the proposal documents submitted are/were acceptable.
- 3.2 **Award of Proposal(s):** The successful proposer shall be determined by the top-rated responsive and responsible proposer as determined by the evaluation process detailed within the RFP document issued, provided his/her proposal is reasonable, he/she is able to deliver the specified items in a timely manner and it is, in the opinion of the HA, to the best interests of the HA to accept the proposal. All proposers will be notified in a timely manner of the results of the evaluation after award has been completed.

**3.3 Rejection of Proposals:**

**3.3.1** The HA reserves the right to, at any time during the proposal process, reject any or all proposals received. In the case of rejection of all proposals, the HA reserves the right to advertise for new proposals or to proceed to do the work otherwise, if in the judgment of the HA, the best interest of the HA will be promoted.

**3.3.2** Prospective proposers acknowledge by downloading and receiving the RFP documents and/or by submitting a proposal that the submission of a proposal to the HA is not a right by which to be awarded that proposal, but merely an offer by the prospective proposer to perform the requirements of the RFP documents in the event the HA decides to consider an award to that proposer.

**3.4 Cancellation of Award:** The HA reserves the right to, without any liability, cancel the award of any proposal(s) at any time before the execution of the contract documents by all parties.

**3.5 Mistake in Proposal Submitted:**

**3.5.1** A request for withdrawal of a proposal due to a purported error need not be considered by the HA unless the same is filed in writing by the proposer within 48 hours after the proposal deadline (proposers may of their own volition withdraw a proposal prior to the submittal deadline). Any such request shall contain a full explanation of any purported error and shall, if requested by the HA, be supported by the original calculations on which the proposal was computed, together with a certification and notarization thereon that such computation is the original and prepared by the proposer or his/her agent, who must be identified on the notarized form. The foregoing shall not be construed that such withdrawal will be permitted, as the HA retains the right to accept or reject any proposal withdrawal for a mistake.

**3.5.2** Unless otherwise prohibited within the RFP documents, a mistake in the cost unit pricing that does not affect the total cost sum submitted may, at the HA's discretion, be corrected by submitting a corrected cost form, together with a complete explanation in writing, of how the mistake occurred, to the CO, for his/her review. This mistake must be corrected before the issuance of contract documents.

**3.6 Irregular Proposal Submittal:** A proposal shall be considered irregular for any one of the following reasons, any one or more of which may, at the HA's discretion, be cause for rejection:

**3.6.1** If the forms furnished by the HA are not used or are altered or if the proposed costs are not submitted as required and where provided (especially within the noted Internet System).

**3.6.2** If all requested completed attachments do not accompany the proposal submitted.

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- 3.6.3** If there are unauthorized additions, conditional or alternate proposals, or irregularities of any kind which may tend to make the proposal incomplete, indefinite or ambiguous as to its meaning or give the proposer submitting the same a competitive advantage over other proposers.
- 3.6.4** If the proposer adds any provisions reserving the right to accept or reject any award or to enter into a contract pursuant to an award.
- 3.6.5** If the individual Pricing Items submitted by a specific proposer are unbalanced in the sense that the listed price of any cost item departs by more than 25% from the HA's cost estimate for that item.
- 3.7 Disqualification of Proposers:** Any one or more of the following shall be considered as sufficient for the disqualification of a proposer and the rejection of his/her proposal:
- 3.7.1** Evidence of collusion among prospective proposers. Participants in such collusion will receive no recognition as bidders or proposers for any future work of the HA until such participant shall have been reinstated as a qualified proposer or proposer. The names of all participants in such collusion shall be reported to HUD and any other inquiring governmental agency.
- 3.7.2** More than one proposal for the same work from an individual, firm, or corporation under the same or different name(s), unless such was specifically allowed by the HA within the proposal documents issued, including by addendum.
- 3.7.3** Lack of competency, lack of experience and/or lack of adequate machinery, plant and/or other resources.
- 3.7.4** Documented unsatisfactory performance record as shown by past work for the HA or with any other local, State or Federal agency, judged from the standpoint of workmanship and progress.
- 3.7.5** Incomplete work, which in the judgment of the HA, might hinder or prevent prompt completion of additional work, if awarded.
- 3.7.6** Failure to pay or satisfactorily settle all bills due on former contracts still outstanding at the time of letting.
- 3.7.7** Failure to comply with any qualification requirement of the HA.
- 3.7.8** Failure to list, if required, all subcontractors (if subcontractors are allowed by the HA) who will be employed by the successful proposer(s) to complete the work of the proposed contract.

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**3.7.9** As required by the RFP documents, failure of the successful proposer to be properly licensed by the State of South Carolina and/or to be insured by a general liability and/or worker's compensation policy.

**3.7.10** Any legal reason to be determined, in good faith, to be in the best interests of the HA.

**3.8 Burden of Proof:** If requested by the HA, it shall be the responsibility of the proposer(s) to furnish the HA with sufficient data or physical samples, within a specified time, so that the HA may determine if the goods or services offered conform to the Specifications.

**4.0 Right to Protest:**

**4.1 Rights:** Any prospective or actual proposer, offeror, or contractor who is allegedly aggrieved in connection with the solicitation of a proposal or award of a contract, shall have the right to protest. An alleged aggrieved protestant claiming this right is hereby informed that these regulations do not provide for administrative appeal as a matter of right for that alleged aggrieved protestant.

**4.1.1** An alleged aggrieved "protestant" is a prospective or actual proposer who feels that he/she has been treated inequitably by the HA and wishes the HA to correct the alleged inequitable condition or situation. To be eligible to file a protest with the HA pertaining to an RFP or contract, the alleged aggrieved protestant must have been involved in the RFP process in some manner as a prospective proposer (i.e. registered and received the RFP documents) when the alleged situation occurred. The HA has no obligation to consider a protest filed by any party that does not meet these criteria.

**4.2 Administrative Powers:** It is totally within the administrative powers of the ED to grant or deny any requests for administrative appeal. If, in the opinion of the ED, the alleged aggrieved protestant merits an administrative review, the ED shall direct that alleged aggrieved protestant to submit additional data.

**4.3 Procedure to Protest:** An alleged aggrieved protestant shall comply with the following protest procedures, and failure to comply in the manner prescribed shall automatically relieve the HA from accepting or considering that protest:

**4.3.1** The alleged aggrieved protestant must file, in writing, to the CO the exact reason for the protest, attaching any supportive data. The protestant must state within the written protest document specifically (not by inference) what action by the HA or condition is being protested as inequitable, making, where appropriate specific reference to the RFP documents issued. The protest document must also state the corrective action requested. Failure by the alleged aggrieved protestant to fully submit such information shall relieve the HA from any responsibility to consider the protest and take any corrective action.

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- 4.3.2 The written instrument containing the reason for the protest must be received by the CO within 10 days after the occurrence of any of the following:
- 4.3.2.1 the deadline for receiving proposals;
  - 4.3.2.2 receipt of notification of the results of the evaluation or the award; or
  - 4.3.2.3 the alleged aggrieved protestant knows or should have known the facts.
- 4.3.3 In any case, protests shall be filed no more than 10 days after any of the above (unless the occurrence being protested occurred in its entirety after the proposal deadline). Protests received after these dates shall not be considered.
- 4.3.4 The CO shall review the written protest and supportive data, if any. He/she shall, within 10 days after receipt of the written protest, issue a written opinion and decision. This document shall state the reasons for the action taken as well as inform the alleged aggrieved protestant of the right of further administrative review. A copy of this written opinion and decision shall be forwarded to the ED.
- 4.3.5 **Administrative Appeal:** If the alleged aggrieved protestant does not agree with the written opinion and decision issued by the CO, the alleged aggrieved protestant may, after receipt of the written opinion and decision issued by the CO request an administrative appeal hearing be granted (such request must be delivered in writing to the CO within 5 days of receipt of the written opinion and decision; failure to do so within such 5 days shall relieve the HA of any responsibility to consider such request). The following procedures must be complied with in the manner prescribed; failure by the alleged aggrieved protestant to comply shall automatically relieve the HA from accepting or acting on that request for administrative hearing:
- 4.3.5.1 The alleged aggrieved protestant must file, in writing, his/her request for an administrative hearing, to the ED, within 5 days of receipt of the written opinion and decision and failure to do so within such 5 days shall relieve the HA of any responsibility to consider such request.
  - 4.3.5.2 The request for an administrative appeal hearing must contain the specific reasons for the appeal and all supporting data for those reasons.
  - 4.3.5.3 It shall be within the administrative powers of the ED to, after review of the request submitted, grant or deny any request for administrative appeal.

**4.3.5.4** If the ED, after complete review of the alleged aggrieved protestant's written request and supporting data, decides that the request does not merit further consideration, he/she shall render his/her decision in writing to the alleged aggrieved protestant. A decision rendered under this paragraph shall be made within 10 days after the receipt of the alleged aggrieved protestant's request for an administrative hearing. This decision shall be final without further administrative recourse.

**4.3.5.5** If the ED, after review of the alleged aggrieved protestant's written request, decides that the request merits further consideration, he/she shall forward the protestant's written request, along with a cover letter explaining why it merits further consideration and with a recap of all proposals submitted and a copy of the original written protest, to the HA Legal Counsel for consideration. The HA Legal Counsel shall issue to the alleged aggrieved protestant a decision, in writing, within 10 days of his/her receipt of such documents.

**4.3.5.5** Such written decision delivered to the alleged aggrieved protestant shall exhaust the HA internal protest and administrative appeal process available to the alleged aggrieved protestant.

## **5.0 Disputed Billings (Charges):**

**5.1 Procedures:** In addition to the procedures detailed within Clause No. 7 of Attachment G-1, Form HUD-5370-C (10/2006), *General Conditions for Non- Construction Contracts, Section I—(With or without Maintenance Work)*, in the event that the HA disputes any portion of its billing(s), the HA shall pay the undisputed portion of such billing and initiate the dispute-resolving procedures, as follows:

**5.1.1** The HA's representative shall, within 10 days after the HA's receipt of such billing, formally notify the contractor's representative of all particulars pertaining to the dispute, and request that he/she investigate and respond to this issue.

**5.1.2** If such dispute cannot be resolved by the contractor's response, within 10 days after such notification is given, the CO and the contractor's representative shall meet to discuss the matter and attempt to arrive at a resolution.

**5.1.3** If the CO and the contractor's representative are unable to resolve the dispute through such discussion within 10 days, the HA shall, within 10 days thereafter, either:

**5.1.3.1** pay the disputed charges and reserve the right to submit the matter to the SC Court Annexed Arbitration program if the

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disputed amount does not exceed \$40,000.00 or to the appropriate District Court in the State of South Carolina;

**5.1.3.2** not pay the disputed charge and submit the matter to the SC Court Annexed Arbitration program if the disputed amount does not exceed \$40,000.00 or to the appropriate District Court in the State of South Carolina;

**5.1.3.3** not pay the disputed charge and allow the Contractor to submit the matter either to the SC Court Annexed Arbitration program if the disputed amount does not exceed \$40,000.00 or to the appropriate District Court in the State of South Carolina.

**5.1.4** The decision from arbitration will be binding upon both parties. If the decision is adverse to the HA, the HA shall pay the HA's receipt of the decision. If the decision is in favor of the HA, the contractor will either:

**5.1.4.1** clear the amount which is ordered from the HA account; or

**5.1.4.2** repay to the HA the amount ordered.

Either option shall be completed within 10 days after the contractor's receipt of the arbitrator's decision.

## 6.0 Additional Considerations:

### 6.1 Right of Joinder Pursuant to NRS 332.195:

**6.1.1** Any political subdivision within the State of South Carolina may be granted the privilege of joining the awarded contract, only at the option of the successful proposer. If the successful proposer so grants such a privilege, the terms and conditions of the RFP documents, including the ensuing contract, may be passed on to the joining political subdivision by the successful proposer.

**6.1.2** The successful proposer shall retain the unilateral right to allow or disallow any political subdivision the privilege of joining the awarded contract. In the event the successful proposer allows another political subdivision to join the HA contract, it is expressly understood that the HA shall in no way be liable for the joining political subdivision obligations to the successful proposer in any manner whatsoever.

**6.2 Non-Escalation:** Unless otherwise specified within the RFP documents, the unit prices reflected on the contract shall remain firm with no provision for price increases during the term of the contract.

**6.3 Funding Restrictions and Order Quantities:** The HA reserves the right to reduce or increase estimated or actual quantities in whatever amount necessary without prejudice or liability to the HA, if:

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- 6.3.1 funding is not available;
- 6.3.2 legal restrictions are placed upon the expenditure of monies for this category of service or supplies; or,
- 6.3.3 the HA's requirements in good faith change after award of the contract.
- 6.4 **Required Permits:** Unless otherwise stated in the RFP documents, all local, State or Federal permits which may be required to provide the services ensuing from award of this RFP, whether or not they are known to either the HA or the proposers at the time of the proposal submittal deadline or the award, shall be the sole responsibility of the successful proposer and any costs submitted by the proposer shall reflect all costs required by the successful proposer to procure and provide such necessary permits.
- 6.5 **Government Standards:** It is the responsibility of the prospective proposer to ensure that all items and services proposed conform to all local, State and Federal laws concerning safety (OSHA and NOSHA) and environmental control (EPA and Charleston County Pollution Regulations) and any other enacted ordinance, code, law or regulation. The successful proposer shall be responsible for all costs incurred for compliance with any such possible ordinance, code, law or regulation. No time extensions shall be granted or financial consideration given to the successful proposer for time or monies lost due to violations of any such ordinance, code, law or regulations that may occur.
- 6.6 **Freight on Bill and Delivery:** All costs submitted by the successful proposer shall reflect the cost of delivering the proposed items and/or services to the location(s) specified within the RFP documents or within the contract.
- The successful proposer agrees to deliver to the designated location(s) on or before the date as specified in the finalized contract. Failure to deliver on or before the specified date constitutes an event of default by the successful proposer. Upon default, the successful proposer agrees that the HA may, at its option, rescind the finalized contract under the default clause herein and seek compensatory damages as provided by law.
- 6.7 **Work on HA Property:** If the successful proposer's work under the contract involves operations by the successful proposer on HA premises, the successful proposer shall take all necessary precautions to prevent the occurrence of any injury to persons or property during the progress of such work and, except to the extent that any such injury is caused solely and directly by the HA's negligence, shall indemnify the HA, and their officers, agents, servants and employees against all loss which may result in any way from any act or omission of the successful proposer, its agents, employees, or subcontractors.
- 6.8 **Estimated Quantities:** Unless otherwise stated within the RFP documents, the quantities reflected within the RFP documents, to the best of the HA's knowledge, reflect projected consumption data. These quantities are not meant to infer or imply actual consumption figures or quantities that will be purchased by the HA

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under the finalized contract; but, pursuant to all RFP documents, these quantities will be used as calculation figures to determine the successful proposer.

## 6.9 Warranty:

**6.9.1** The services provided under the contract shall conform to all information contained within the RFP documents as well as applicable Industry Published Technical Specifications, and if one of the above mentioned Specifications contains more stringent requirements than the other, the more stringent requirements shall apply.

**6.9.2** The liability of the successful proposer to the HA (except as to title) arising out of the furnishing of the services or of its use under the terms of the contract shall not exceed the correcting of the defect(s) in the services as provided under the contract, and upon expiration of the warranty period all such liability shall terminate except under the warranty for merchantability and the warranty of fitness for a particular purpose.

**6.10 Official, Agent and Employees of the HA Not Personally Liable:** It is agreed by and between the parties hereto that in no event shall any official, officer, employee, or agent of the HA in any way be personally liable or responsible for any covenant or agreement herein contained whether expressed or implied, nor for any statement, representation or warranty made herein or in any connection with this agreement.

**6.11 Subcontractors:** Unless otherwise stated within the RFP documents, the successful proposer may not use any subcontractors to accomplish any portion of the services described within the RFP documents or the contract without the prior written permission of the CO.

**6.12 Salaries and Expenses Relating to the Successful Proposers Employees:** Unless otherwise stated within the RFP documents, the successful proposer shall pay all salaries and expenses of, and all Federal, Social Security taxes, Federal and State Unemployment taxes, and any similar taxes relating to its employees used in the performance of the contract. The successful proposer further agrees to comply with all Federal, State and local wage and hour laws and all licensing laws applicable to its employees or other personnel furnished under this agreement.

**6.14 Attorney's Fees:** In the event that litigation is commenced by one party hereto against the other in connection with the enforcement of any provision of this agreement, the prevailing party shall be paid by the losing party all court costs and other expenses of such litigation, including attorneys' fees, in a reasonable amount, to be determined by the court. The amount so allowed as attorneys' fees shall be taxed to the losing party as costs of the suit, unless prohibited by law.

**6.15 Independent Contractor:** Unless otherwise stated within the RFP documents or the contract, the successful proposer is an independent contractor. Nothing herein shall

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create any association, agency, partnership or joint venture between the parties hereto and neither shall have any authority to bind the other in any way.

- 6.16 Severability:** If any provision of this agreement or any portion or provision hereof applicable to any particular situation or circumstance is held valid, the remainder of this agreement or the remainder of such provision (as the case may be), and the application thereof to other situations or circumstances shall not be affected thereby.
- 6.17 Waiver of Breach:** A waiver of either party of any terms or condition of this agreement in any instance shall not be deemed or construed as a waiver of such term or condition for the future, or of any subsequent breach thereof. All remedies, rights, undertakings, obligations, and agreements contained in this agreement shall be cumulative and none of them shall be in limitation of any other remedy, right, obligation or agreement of either party.
- 6.18 Time of the Essence:** Time is of the essence under this agreement as to each provision in which time of performance is a factor.
- 6.19 Limitation of Liability:** In no event shall the HA be liable to the successful proposer for any indirect, incidental, consequential or exemplary damages.
- 6.20 Indemnity:**
- 6.20.1** The successful proposer shall protect, indemnify and hold the HA, its officers, employees, agents, consulting engineers and other retained consultants harmless from and against any and all claims, damages, losses, suits, actions, decrees, judgments, attorney's fees, court costs and other expenses of any kind or character which the HA, its officers, employees, agents, consulting engineers or other retained consultants may suffer, or which may be sought against, recovered from or obtainable against the HA, its officers, employees, agents, consulting engineers or other retained consultants such as:
- 6.20.1.1** as a result of, or by reason of, or arising out of, or on account of, or in consequence of any act or failure to act on the part of the successful proposer, its subcontractors or agents, or anyone directly or indirectly employed by any subcontractor or agent, in the fulfillment or performance of the terms, conditions or covenants that are contained in this contract or agreement, regardless of whether or not the occurrence which gave rise to such claim, damage, loss, suit, action, judgment or expense was caused, in part, by any party indemnified hereunder; or
- 6.20.1.2** as a result of, or by reason of, or arising out of, or on account of, or in consequence of, any neglect in safeguarding the work; or

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- 6.20.1.3** through the use of unacceptable materials or products, or both, which may be defective or manufactured, designed or installed so as to give rise to a claim; or
- 6.20.1.4** because of any claim or amount recovered under any other law, ordinance, or decree, which claim or recovery arose out of or is attributable to any act or failure to act on the part of the successful proposer in the fulfillment or performance of the terms, conditions and covenants that are contained in this contract. Any money due by the successful proposer under and by virtue of this contract which is considered necessary by the HA for such purpose, may be retained by the HA for its protection; or in case no money is due, its surety may be held until all such claims, damages, losses, suits, actions, decrees, judgments, attorney's fees and court costs and other expenses of any kind or character as aforesaid shall have been settled and suitable evidence to that effect furnished to the HA provided, however, that money due the successful proposer will not be withheld when the successful proposer produces satisfactory evidence that it is adequately protected by public liability and property damage insurance, if required.
- 6.20.1.5** In this connection, it is expressly agreed that the successful proposer shall, at its own expense, defend the HA, its officers, employees, agents, consulting engineers and other retained consultants, against any and all claims, suits or actions which may be brought against them, or any of them, as a result of, or by reason of, or arising out of, or on account of, or in consequence of any act or failure to act the consequences of which the successful proposer has indemnified the HA, its officers, employees, agents, consulting engineers and other retained consultants against, and if the successful proposer shall fail to do so, the HA shall have the right, but not the obligation, to defend the same and to charge all direct and incidental costs of such defense to the successful proposer including attorney's fees and court costs; provided, however, that if the forum in which such claim suit or action is heard determines that the occurrence that gave rise to the same was caused, in whole or in part, by any party who is indemnified hereunder, the HA shall reimburse the successful proposer for all, or the indemnified party's proportionate share, as the case may be, of the costs of such defense.
- 6.20.1.6** Reimbursement to the successful proposer by the HA, in whole or in part, for the costs of protecting traffic shall not serve to relieve the successful proposer of its responsibility as set forth in the RFP documents.
- 6.20.1.7** The successful proposer guarantees the payment of all just claims for materials, supplies and labor, and all other just claims against it or any subcontractor, in connection with the contract.

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- 6.21 Lobbying Certification:** By proposing to do business with the HA or by doing business with the HA, each proposer certifies the following:
- 6.21.1** No Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of the proposer, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of an agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of an Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any Federal contract, the making of any Federal grant, the making of any Federal loan, the entering into any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment or modification of any Federal contract, grant, loan or cooperative agreement.
  - 6.21.2** If any funds other than Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of an Member of Congress in connection with this Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement, the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form -LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying", in accordance with its instructions.
  - 6.21.3** The successful proposer shall require that the language of this certification be included in the award documents for all subawards at all tiers (including subcontractors, subgrants, and contracts under grants, loans, and cooperative agreements) and that all sub-recipients shall certify and disclose accordingly.
  - 6.21.4** This clause is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when the award was made or entered into. The signing of a contract or acceptance of award certifies compliance with this certification, which is a prerequisite for making or entering into a contract, which is imposed by Section 1352, Title 31, U.S. Code. Any person who fails to file the required certifications shall be subject to civil penalty of not less than \$10,000.00 and not more than \$100,000.00 for each such failure.
- 6.22 24 CFR 85.36(i), Procurement:** Pursuant to this CFR, as issued by the Office of the Secretary, HUD, the HA and the contractor each agree to comply with the following provisions and agree that any contract that ensues as a result of this RFP will include the following clauses, whether actually inserted or by reference:
- 6.22.1 Remedies for Contractor Breach:** Pertaining to contract-related issues, it is the responsibility of both the HA and the contractor to communicate with each other in as clear and complete a manner as possible. If at any time during the term of this contract the HA or the contractor is not satisfied with any issue, it is the responsibility of that party to deliver to the other party communication, in writing, fully detailing the issue and corrective action (please note that the HA has the right to issue unilateral addendums to this contract, but the contractor does not have the same right). The other party shall, within 10 days, respond in writing to the other party (however, the HA shall retain the right to, if conditions warrant, require the contractor to respond in a shorter period of time).

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Further, the HA shall, at a minimum, employ the following steps in dealing with the contractor as to any performance issues:

**6.22.1.1** If the contractor is in material breach of the contract, the HA may promptly invoke the termination clause detailed within Section No. 3 of Attachment G-1, form HUD-5370-C (10/2006), *General Conditions for Non-Construction Contracts, Section I—(With or without Maintenance Work)*, which is attached hereto, and terminate the contract for cause. Such termination must be delivered to the contractor in writing and shall fully detail all pertinent issues pertaining to the cause of and justification for the termination.

**6.22.1.2** Prior to termination, the HA may choose to warn the contractor, verbally or in writing, of any issue of non-compliant or unsatisfactory performance. Such written warning may include placing the contractor on probation, thereby giving the contractor a certain period of time to correct the deficiencies or potentially suffer termination. The HA shall maintain in the contract file a written record of any such warning detailing all pertinent information. If the contractor does not agree with such action, the contractor shall have 10 days to dispute or protest, in writing, such action; if he/she does not do so within the 10-day period, he/she shall have no recourse but to accept and agree with the HA's position on the issue. The written protest must detail all pertinent information pertaining to the dispute, including justification detailing the HA's alleged incorrect action(s).

**6.22.1.3** After termination, if the contractor does not agree with the HA's justification for the termination, the contractor shall have 10 days to dispute, in writing, such action; if he/she does not do so within the 10-day period, he/she shall have no recourse but to accept and agree with the HA's position on the issue. The written protest must detail all pertinent information pertaining to the dispute, including justification detailing the HA's alleged incorrect action(s).

**6.22.1.4** The response to any protest received shall be conducted in accordance with Section No. 4.0 of this document.

**6.23 Termination For Cause and Convenience:** As detailed within Clause No. 3 of Attachment G-1, Form HUD-5370-C (10/2006), *General Conditions for Non-Construction Contracts, Section I—(Within or without Maintenance Work)*, attached hereto.

**6.23.1 Executive Order 11246:** For all construction contracts awarded in excess of \$10,000, both parties hereby agree to comply with Executive Order 11246 of September 24, 1965, entitled "Equal Employment Opportunity,"

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as amended by Executive Order 11375 of October 13, 1967, and as supplemented in Department of Labor Regulations (41 CFR Chapter 60).

- 6.23.2 Copeland “Anti-Kickback” Act:** For all construction or repair contracts awarded, both parties hereby agree to comply with the Copeland “Anti-Kickback” Act (18 U.S.C. 874) as supplemented in Department of Labor Regulations (29 CFR Part 3).
- 6.23.3 Davis-Bacon-Act:** For all construction contracts awarded in excess of \$2,000 when required by Federal Grant Program legislation, both parties hereby agree to comply with the Davis-Bacon Act (40 U.S.C. 276a to 276a-7) as supplemented in Department of Labor Regulations (29 CFR Part 5).
- 6.23.4 Sections 103 and 107 of the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act:** For all construction contracts awarded in excess of \$2,000 and for other contracts, which involve the employment of mechanics or laborers awarded in excess of \$2,500, both parties hereby agree to comply with the Sections 103 and 107 of the Contract Work Hours and Safety Act (40 U.S.C. 327-330) as supplemented in Department of Labor Regulations (29 CFR Part 5).
- 6.23.5 Reporting:** Both parties hereby agree to comply with any reporting requirements that may be detailed herein.
- 6.23.6 Patent Rights:** Both parties hereby agree to comply with HUD Bulletin 90-23, which is the (a) Notice of Assistance Regarding Patent and Copyright Infringement.
- 6.23.7 Copy Rights/Rights in Data:** In addition to the requirements contained within Clause No. 5 of Attachment G-1, *General Conditions for Non-Construction Contracts, Section I—(With or without Maintenance Work)*, the HA has unlimited rights to any data, including computer software, developed by the contractor in the performance of the contract specifically:
- 6.23.7.1** Except as provided elsewhere in this clause, the HA shall have unlimited rights in data first produced in the performance of this contract; form, fit, and function data delivered under this contract; data delivered under this contract (except for restricted computer software) that constitute manuals or instructional and training material for installation, operation, or routine maintenance and repair of items, components, or processes delivered or furnished for use under this contract; and all other data delivered under this contract unless provided otherwise for limited rights data or restricted computer software.
- 6.23.7.2** The contractor shall have the right to: use, release to others, reproduce, distribute, or publish any data first produced or specifically used by the contractor in the performance of this

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contract, unless provided otherwise in this clause; protect from unauthorized disclosure and use those data which are limited rights data or restricted computer software to the extent provided in this clause; substantiate use of, add or correct limited rights, restricted rights, or copyright notices and to take other appropriate action in accordance with this clause; and establish claim to copyright subsisting in data first produced in the performance of this contract to the extent provided below.

- 6.23.7.3** For data first produced in the performance of this contract, the contractor may establish, without prior approval of the CO, claim to copyright subsisting in scientific or technical articles based on or containing data first produced in the performance of this contract. The contractor grants the HA and others acting on its behalf a paid-up, non-exclusive, irrevocable, worldwide license in such copyrighted data to reproduce, prepare derivative works, distribute copies to the public, and perform or display publicly by or on behalf of the HA.
- 6.23.7.4** The contractor shall not, without the prior written permission of the contracting Officer, incorporate in data delivered under this contract any data not first produced in the performance of this contract and which contains copyright notice, unless the contractor identifies such data and grants the HA a license of the same scope as identified in the preceding paragraph.
- 6.23.7.5** The HA agrees not to remove any copyright notices placed on data and to include such notices in all reproductions of the data. If any data delivered under this contract are improperly marked, the HA may either return the data to the contractor, or cancel or ignore the markings.
- 6.23.7.6** The contractor is responsible for obtaining from its subcontractors all data and rights necessary to fulfill the contractor's obligations under this contract.
- 6.23.7.7** Notwithstanding any provisions to the contrary contained in the contractor's standard commercial license or lease contract pertaining to any restricted computer software delivered under this contract, and irrespective of whether any such contract has been proposed prior to the award of this contract or of the fact that such contract may be affixed to or accompany the restricted computer software upon delivery, the contractor agrees the HA shall have the rights set forth below to use, duplicate, or disclose any restricted computer software delivered under this contract. The terms and conditions of this contract, including any commercial lease or licensing contract, shall be subject to the following procedures.

## REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP) NO. 260511, Human Resource Consulting Services

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- 6.23.7.8** The restricted computer software delivered under this contract may not be used, reproduced, or disclosed by the HA except as provided below or as expressly stated otherwise in this contract. The restricted computer software may be: used or copied for use in or with the computer(s) for which it was acquired, including use at any HA location to which such computer(s) may be transferred; used or copied for use in or with backup computer if any computer for which it was acquired is inoperative; reproduced for safekeeping (archives) or backup purposes; modified, adapted, or combined with other computer software, provided that the modified, combined, or adapted portions of the derivative software incorporating any of the delivered, restricted computer software shall be subject to the same restrictions set forth in this contract; and used or copies for use in or transferred to a replacement computer.
- 6.23.8 Clean Air Act:** For all contracts in excess of \$100,000, both parties hereby agree to comply with all applicable standards, orders or requirements issued under section 306 of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 1857(h), Section 508 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1368), Executive Order 11738, and Environmental Protection Agency regulations (40 CFR Part 15).
- 6.23.9 Energy Policy and Conservation Act:** Both parties hereby agree to comply with all mandatory standards and policies relating to energy efficiency, which are contained in the state energy conservation plan issued in compliance with the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (Pub. L. 94-163, 89 Stat. 871).
- 6.24 Additional Federally Required Orders/Directives:** Both parties agree that they will comply with the following laws and directives that the HA has received from HUD and that these same clauses will be a part of any contract that ensues as a result of this RFP:
- 6.24.1** Executive Order 11061, as amended, which directs the Secretary of HUD to take all action which is necessary and appropriate to prevent discrimination by agencies that utilize federal funds.
- 6.24.2** Public Law 88-352, Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which provides that no person in the United States shall, on the basis of race, color, national origin or sex, be excluded from participation in, denied the benefits of, or subjected to discrimination under any program or activity which receives federal financial assistance. The HA hereby extends this requirement to the Contractor and its private contractors. Specific prohibited discriminatory actions and corrective action are described in Chapter 2, Subtitle C, Title V of the Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1988 (42 U.S.C. 19901 et. seq.).
- 6.24.3** Public Law 90-284, Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968., popularly known as the Fair Housing Act, which provides for fair housing throughout

## REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP) NO. 260511, Human Resource Consulting Services

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the United States and prohibits any person from discriminating in the sale or rental of housing, the financing of housing or the provision of brokerage services, including in any way making unavailable or denying a dwelling to any person because of race, color, religion, sex or national origin. Pursuant to this statute, the HA requires that the Contractor administer all programs and activities, which are related to housing and community development in such a manner as affirmatively to further fair housing.

- 6.24.4** The Age Discrimination Act of 1975, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of age.
- 6.24.5** Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1988 (42 U.S.C. 11901 et. seq.).
- 6.24.6** HUD Information Bulletin 909-23 which is the following:
- 6.24.6.1** Notice of Assistance Regarding Patent and Copyright Infringement;
  - 6.24.6.2** Clean Air and Water Certification; and
  - 6.24.6.3** Energy Policy and Conversation Act.
- 6.24.7** The mentioned herein of any statute or Executive Order is not intended as an indication that such statute or Executive Order is necessarily applicable not is the failure to mention any statute or Executive Order intended as an indication that such statute or Executive Order is not applicable. In this connection, therefore each provision of law and each clause, which is required by law to be inserted in this agreement, shall be deemed to have been inserted herein, and this agreement shall be read and enforced as though such provision or clause had been physically inserted herein. If, through mistake or otherwise, any such provision is not inserted or is inserted incorrectly, this agreement shall forthwith be physically amended to make such insertion or correction upon the application of either party.

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP) NO. 260511, Human Resource Consulting Services**

<b>PROFILE OF FIRM FORM</b>
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(1) Prime \_\_\_\_ Sub-contractor \_\_\_\_ (This form must be completed by and for each).

(2) Name of Firm: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

(3) Street Address, City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

(4) Please attached a brief biography/resume of the company, including the following information:  
 (a) Year Firm Established; (b) Year Firm Established in South Carolina; (c) Former Name and Year Established (if applicable); (d) Name of Parent Company and Date Acquired (if applicable).

(5) Identify Principals/Partners in Firm (submit under Tab No. 5 a brief professional resume for each):

NAME	TITLE	% OF OWNERSHIP

(6) Identify the individual(s) that will act as project manager and any other supervisory personnel that will work on project; please submit under Tab No. 5 a brief resume for each. (Do not duplicate any resumes required above):

NAME	TITLE

(7) Proposer Diversity Statement: You must circle all of the following that apply to the ownership of this firm and enter where provided the correct percentage (%) of ownership of each:

- |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Caucasian<br>American (Male)<br>_____% | <input type="checkbox"/> Public-Held<br>Corporation<br>_____% | <input type="checkbox"/> Government<br>Agency<br>_____% | <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Profit<br>Organization<br>_____% |
|---|---|---|---|

Resident- (RBE), Minority- (MBE), or Woman-Owned (WBE) Business Enterprise (Qualifies by virtue of 51% or more ownership and active management by one or more of the following:

- |  |   |  |  |   |  |  |
|--|---|--|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Resident-Owned*<br>_____% | <input type="checkbox"/> African American<br>_____% | <input type="checkbox"/> **Native American<br>_____% | <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic American<br>_____% | <input type="checkbox"/> Asian/Pacific American<br>_____% | <input type="checkbox"/> Hasidic Jew<br>_____% | <input type="checkbox"/> Asian/Indian American<br>_____% |
|--|---|--|--|---|--|--|

- |  |  |   |   |
|--|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Woman-Owned (MBE)<br>_____% | <input type="checkbox"/> Woman-Owned (Caucasian)<br>_____% | <input type="checkbox"/> Disabled Veteran<br>_____% | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify):<br>_____% |
|--|--|---|---|

WMBE Certification Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Certified by (Agency): \_\_\_\_\_

(NOTE: A CERTIFICATION/NUMBER NOT REQUIRED TO PROPOSE - ENTER IF AVAILABLE)

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Printed Name \_\_\_\_\_ Company \_\_\_\_\_

**PROFILE OF FIRM FORM**

- (8) Federal Tax ID No.: \_\_\_\_\_
- (9) South Carolina Business License No.: \_\_\_\_\_
- (10) State of \_\_\_\_\_ License Type and No.: \_\_\_\_\_
- (11) Worker's Compensation Insurance Carrier: \_\_\_\_\_  
Policy No.: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_
- (12) General Liability Insurance Carrier: \_\_\_\_\_  
Policy No. \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_
- (13) Professional Liability Insurance Carrier: \_\_\_\_\_  
Policy No. \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_
- (14) Debarred Statement: Has this firm, or any principal(s) ever been debarred from providing any services by the Federal Government, any state government, the State of \_\_\_\_\_, or any local government agency within or without the State of \_\_\_\_\_? Yes  No   
If "Yes," please attach a full detailed explanation, including dates, circumstances and current status.
- (15) Disclosure Statement: Does this firm or any principals thereof have any current, past personal or professional relationship with any Commissioner or Officer of the HA? Yes  No   
If "Yes," please attach a full detailed explanation, including dates, circumstances and current status.
- (16) Non-Collusive Affidavit: The undersigned party submitting this proposal hereby certifies that such proposal is genuine and not collusive and that said proposer entity has not colluded, conspired, connived or agreed, directly or indirectly, with any proposer or person, to put in a sham proposal or to refrain from proposing, and has not in any manner, directly or indirectly sought by agreement or collusion, or communication or conference, with any person, to fix the proposal price of affiant or of any other proposer, to fix overhead, profit or cost element of said proposal price, or that of any other proposer or to secure any advantage against the HA or any person interested in the proposed contract; and that all statements in said proposal are true.
- (17) Verification Statement: The undersigned proposer hereby states that by completing and submitting this form he/she is verifying that all information provided herein is, to the best of his/her knowledge, true and accurate, and agrees that if the HA discovers that any information entered herein is false, that shall entitle the HA to not consider nor make award or to cancel any award with the undersigned party.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Company

# General Conditions for Non-Construction Contracts

## Section I – (With or without Maintenance Work)

### U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

Office of Public and Indian Housing  
Office of Labor Relations

OMB Approval No. 2577-0157 (exp. 3/31/2010)

Public Reporting Burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 0.08 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to the Reports Management Officer, Office of Information Policies and Systems, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Washington, D.C. 20410-3600; and to the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (2577-0157), Washington, D.C. 20503. Do not send this completed form to either of these addressees.

**Applicability. This form HUD-5370-C has 2 Sections. These Sections must be inserted into non-construction contracts as described below:**

- 1) **Non-construction contracts** (*without* maintenance) **greater than \$100,000 - use Section I;**
- 2) **Maintenance contracts** (including nonroutine maintenance as defined at 24 CFR 968.105) **greater than \$2,000 but not more than \$100,000 - use Section II;** and
- 3) **Maintenance contracts** (including nonroutine maintenance), **greater than \$100,000 – use Sections I and II.**

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**Section I - Clauses for All Non-Construction Contracts greater than \$100,000**  
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### 1. Definitions

The following definitions are applicable to this contract:

- (a) "Authority or Housing Authority (HA)" means the Housing Authority.
- (b) "Contract" means the contract entered into between the Authority and the Contractor. It includes the contract form, the Certifications and Representations, these contract clauses, and the scope of work. It includes all formal changes to any of those documents by addendum, Change Order, or other modification.
- (c) "Contractor" means the person or other entity entering into the contract with the Authority to perform all of the work required under the contract.
- (d) "Day" means calendar days, unless otherwise stated.
- (e) "HUD" means the Secretary of Housing and Urban development, his delegates, successors, and assigns, and the officers and employees of the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development acting for and on behalf of the Secretary.

### 2. Changes

- (a) The HA may at any time, by written order, and without notice to the sureties, if any, make changes within the general scope of this contract in the services to be performed or supplies to be delivered.
- (b) If any such change causes an increase or decrease in the hourly rate, the not-to-exceed amount of the contract, or the time required for performance of any part of the work under this contract, whether or not changed by the order, or otherwise affects the conditions of this contract, the HA shall make an equitable adjustment in the not-to-exceed amount, the hourly rate, the delivery schedule, or other affected terms, and shall modify the contract accordingly.
- (c) The Contractor must assert its right to an equitable adjustment under this clause within 30 days from the date of receipt of the written order. However, if the HA decides that the facts justify it, the HA may receive and act upon a

- (d) proposal submitted before final payment of the contract.
- (d) Failure to agree to any adjustment shall be a dispute under clause Disputes, herein. However, nothing in this clause shall excuse the Contractor from proceeding with the contract as changed.
- (e) No services for which an additional cost or fee will be charged by the Contractor shall be furnished without the prior written consent of the HA.

### 3. Termination for Convenience and Default

- (a) The HA may terminate this contract in whole, or from time to time in part, for the HA's convenience or the failure of the Contractor to fulfill the contract obligations (default). The HA shall terminate by delivering to the Contractor a written Notice of Termination specifying the nature, extent, and effective date of the termination. Upon receipt of the notice, the Contractor shall: (i) immediately discontinue all services affected (unless the notice directs otherwise); and (ii) deliver to the HA all information, reports, papers, and other materials accumulated or generated in performing this contract, whether completed or in process.
- (b) If the termination is for the convenience of the HA, the HA shall be liable only for payment for services rendered before the effective date of the termination.
- (c) If the termination is due to the failure of the Contractor to fulfill its obligations under the contract (default), the HA may (i) require the Contractor to deliver to it, in the manner and to the extent directed by the HA, any work as described in subparagraph (a)(ii) above, and compensation be determined in accordance with the Changes clause, paragraph 2, above; (ii) take over the work and prosecute the same to completion by contract or otherwise, and the Contractor shall be liable for any additional cost incurred by the HA; (iii) withhold any payments to the Contractor, for the purpose of off-set or partial payment, as the case may be, of amounts owed to the HA by the Contractor.
- (d) If, after termination for failure to fulfill contract obligations (default), it is determined that the Contractor had not failed, the termination shall be deemed to have been effected for the convenience of the HA, and the Contractor shall be entitled to payment as described in paragraph (b) above.
- (e) Any disputes with regard to this clause are expressly made subject to the terms of clause titled Disputes herein.

### 4. Examination and Retention of Contractor's Records

- (a) The HA, HUD, or Comptroller General of the United States, or any of their duly authorized representatives shall, until 3 years after final payment under this contract, have access to and the right to examine any of the Contractor's directly pertinent books, documents, papers, or other records involving transactions related to this contract for the purpose of making audit, examination, excerpts, and transcriptions.

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- (b) The Contractor agrees to include in first-tier subcontracts under this contract a clause substantially the same as paragraph (a) above. "Subcontract," as used in this clause, excludes purchase orders not exceeding \$10,000.
  - (c) The periods of access and examination in paragraphs (a) and (b) above for records relating to:
    - (i) appeals under the clause titled Disputes;
    - (ii) litigation or settlement of claims arising from the performance of this contract; or,
    - (iii) costs and expenses of this contract to which the HA, HUD, or Comptroller General or any of their duly authorized representatives has taken exception shall continue until disposition of such appeals, litigation, claims, or exceptions.

#### 5. Rights in Data (Ownership and Proprietary Interest)

The HA shall have exclusive ownership of, all proprietary interest in, and the right to full and exclusive possession of all information, materials and documents discovered or produced by Contractor pursuant to the terms of this Contract, including but not limited to reports, memoranda or letters concerning the research and reporting tasks of this Contract.

#### 6. Energy Efficiency

The contractor shall comply with all mandatory standards and policies relating to energy efficiency which are contained in the energy conservation plan issued in compliance with the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (Pub.L. 94-163) for the State in which the work under this contract is performed.

#### 7. Disputes

- (a) All disputes arising under or relating to this contract, except for disputes arising under clauses contained in Section III, Labor Standards Provisions, including any claims for damages for the alleged breach there of which are not disposed of by agreement, shall be resolved under this clause.
- (b) All claims by the Contractor shall be made in writing and submitted to the HA. A claim by the HA against the Contractor shall be subject to a written decision by the HA.
- (c) The HA shall, with reasonable promptness, but in no event in no more than 60 days, render a decision concerning any claim hereunder. Unless the Contractor, within 30 days after receipt of the HA's decision, shall notify the HA in writing that it takes exception to such decision, the decision shall be final and conclusive.
- (d) Provided the Contractor has (i) given the notice within the time stated in paragraph (c) above, and (ii) excepted its claim relating to such decision from the final release, and (iii) brought suit against the HA not later than one year after receipt of final payment, or if final payment has not been made, not later than one year after the Contractor has had a reasonable time to respond to a written request by the HA that it submit a final voucher and release, whichever is earlier, then the HA's decision shall not be final or conclusive, but the dispute shall be determined on the merits by a court of competent jurisdiction.
- (e) The Contractor shall proceed diligently with performance of this contract, pending final resolution of any request for relief, claim, appeal, or action arising under the contract, and comply with any decision of the HA.

#### 8. Contract Termination; Debarment

A breach of these Contract clauses may be grounds for termination of the Contract and for debarment or denial of participation in HUD programs as a Contractor and a subcontractor as provided in 24 CFR Part 24.

#### 9. Assignment of Contract

The Contractor shall not assign or transfer any interest in this contract; except that claims for monies due or to become due from the HA under the contract may be assigned to a bank, trust company, or other financial institution. If the Contractor is a partnership, this contract shall inure to the benefit of the surviving or remaining member(s) of such partnership approved by the HA.

#### 10. Certificate and Release

Prior to final payment under this contract, or prior to settlement upon termination of this contract, and as a condition precedent thereto, the Contractor shall execute and deliver to the HA a certificate and release, in a form acceptable to the HA, of all claims against the HA by the Contractor under and by virtue of this contract, other than such claims, if any, as may be specifically excepted by the Contractor in stated amounts set forth therein.

#### 11. Organizational Conflicts of Interest

- (a) The Contractor warrants that to the best of its knowledge and belief and except as otherwise disclosed, it does not have any organizational conflict of interest which is defined as a situation in which the nature of work under this contract and a contractor's organizational, financial, contractual or other interests are such that:
  - (i) Award of the contract may result in an unfair competitive advantage; or
  - (ii) The Contractor's objectivity in performing the contract work may be impaired.
- (b) The Contractor agrees that if after award it discovers an organizational conflict of interest with respect to this contract or any task/delivery order under the contract, he or she shall make an immediate and full disclosure in writing to the Contracting Officer which shall include a description of the action which the Contractor has taken or intends to take to eliminate or neutralize the conflict. The HA may, however, terminate the contract or task/delivery order for the convenience of the HA if it would be in the best interest of the HA.
- (c) In the event the Contractor was aware of an organizational conflict of interest before the award of this contract and intentionally did not disclose the conflict to the Contracting Officer, the HA may terminate the contract for default.
- (d) The terms of this clause shall be included in all subcontracts and consulting agreements wherein the work to be performed is similar to the service provided by the prime Contractor. The Contractor shall include in such subcontracts and consulting agreements any necessary provisions to eliminate or neutralize conflicts of interest.

#### 12. Inspection and Acceptance

- (a) The HA has the right to review, require correction, if necessary, and accept the work products produced by the Contractor. Such review(s) shall be carried out within 30 days so as to not impede the work of the Contractor. Any

product of work shall be deemed accepted as submitted if the HA does not issue written comments and/or required corrections within 30 days from the date of receipt of such product from the Contractor.

- (b) The Contractor shall make any required corrections promptly at no additional charge and return a revised copy of the product to the HA within 7 days of notification or a later date if extended by the HA.
- (c) Failure by the Contractor to proceed with reasonable promptness to make necessary corrections shall be a default. If the Contractor's submission of corrected work remains unacceptable, the HA may terminate this contract (or the task order involved) or reduce the contract price or cost to reflect the reduced value of services received.

### 13. Interest of Members of Congress

No member of or delegate to the Congress of the United States of America or Resident Commissioner shall be admitted to any share or part of this contract or to any benefit to arise therefrom, but this provision shall not be construed to extend to this contract if made with a corporation for its general benefit.

### 14. Interest of Members, Officers, or Employees and Former Members, Officers, or Employees

No member, officer, or employee of the HA, no member of the governing body of the locality in which the project is situated, no member of the governing body in which the HA was activated, and no other public official of such locality or localities who exercises any functions or responsibilities with respect to the project, shall, during his or her tenure, or for one year thereafter, have any interest, direct or indirect, in this contractor the proceeds thereof.

### 15. Limitation on Payments to Influence Certain Federal Transactions

(a) Definitions. As used in this clause:

"Agency", as defined in 5 U.S.C. 552(f), includes Federal executive departments and agencies as well as independent regulatory commissions and Government corporations, as defined in 31 U.S.C. 9101(1).

"Covered Federal Action" means any of the following Federal actions:

- (i) The awarding of any Federal contract;
- (ii) The making of any Federal grant;
- (iii) The making of any Federal loan;
- (iv) The entering into of any cooperative agreement; and,
- (v) The extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement.

Covered Federal action does not include receiving from an agency a commitment providing for the United States to insure or guarantee a loan.

"Indian tribe" and "tribal organization" have the meaning provided in section 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 450B). Alaskan Natives are included under the definitions of Indian tribes in that Act.

"Influencing or attempting to influence" means making, with the intent to influence, any communication to or appearance before an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with any covered Federal action.

"Local government" means a unit of government in a State and, if chartered, established, or otherwise recognized by a State for the performance of a governmental duty, including a local public authority, a special district, an intrastate district, a council of governments, a sponsor group representative organization, and any other instrumentality of a local government.

"Officer or employee of an agency" includes the following individuals who are employed by an agency:

- (i) An individual who is appointed to a position in the Government under title 5, U.S.C., including a position under a temporary appointment;
- (ii) A member of the uniformed services as defined in section 202, title 18, U.S.C.;
- (iii) A special Government employee as defined in section 202, title 18, U.S.C.; and,
- (iv) An individual who is a member of a Federal advisory committee, as defined by the Federal Advisory Committee Act, title 5, appendix 2.

"Person" means an individual, corporation, company, association, authority, firm, partnership, society, State, and local government, regardless of whether such entity is operated for profit or not for profit. This term excludes an Indian tribe, tribal organization, or other Indian organization with respect to expenditures specifically permitted by other Federal law.

"Recipient" includes all contractors, subcontractors at any tier, and subgrantees at any tier of the recipient of funds received in connection with a Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement. The term excludes an Indian tribe, tribal organization, or any other Indian organization with respect to expenditures specifically permitted by other Federal law.

"Regularly employed means, with respect to an officer or employee of a person requesting or receiving a Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement, an officer or employee who is employed by such person for at least 130 working days within one year immediately preceding the date of the submission that initiates agency consideration of such person for receipt of such contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement. An officer or employee who is employed by such person for less than 130 working days within one year immediately preceding the date of submission that initiates agency consideration of such person shall be considered to be regularly employed as soon as he or she is employed by such person for 130 working days.

"State" means a State of the United States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, a territory or possession of the United States, an agency or instrumentality of a State, and a multi-State, regional, or interstate entity having governmental duties and powers.

(b) Prohibition.

- (i) Section 1352 of title 31, U.S.C. provides in part that no appropriated funds may be expended by the recipient of a Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement to pay any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with any of the following covered Federal actions: the awarding of any Federal contract, the making of any Federal grant, the making of any Federal loan, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement.
- (ii) The prohibition does not apply as follows:

(1) Agency and legislative liaison by Own Employees.

(a) The prohibition on the use of appropriated funds, in paragraph (i) of this section, does not apply in the case of a payment of reasonable compensation made to an officer or employee of a person requesting or receiving a Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement, if the payment is for agency and legislative activities not directly related to a covered Federal action.

(b) For purposes of paragraph (b)(i)(1)(a) of this clause, providing any information specifically requested by an agency or Congress is permitted at any time.

(c) The following agency and legislative liaison activities are permitted at any time only where they are not related to a specific solicitation for any covered Federal action:

(1) Discussing with an agency (including individual demonstrations) the qualities and characteristics of the person's products or services, conditions or terms of sale, and service capabilities; and,

(2) Technical discussions and other activities regarding the application or adaptation of the person's products or services for an agency's use.

(d) The following agency and legislative liaison activities are permitted where they are prior to formal solicitation of any covered Federal action:

(1) Providing any information not specifically requested but necessary for an agency to make an informed decision about initiation of a covered Federal action;

(2) Technical discussions regarding the preparation of an unsolicited proposal prior to its official submission; and

(3) Capability presentations by persons seeking awards from an agency pursuant to the provisions of the Small Business Act, as amended by Public Law 95-507 and other subsequent amendments.

(e) Only those activities expressly authorized by subdivision (b)(ii)(1)(a) of this clause are permitted under this clause.

(2) Professional and technical services.

(a) The prohibition on the use of appropriated funds, in subparagraph (b)(i) of this clause, does not apply in the case of-

(i) A payment of reasonable compensation made to an officer or employee of a person requesting or receiving a covered Federal action or an extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of a covered Federal action, if payment is for professional or technical services rendered directly in the preparation, submission, or negotiation of any bid, proposal, or application for that Federal action or for meeting requirements imposed by or pursuant to law as a condition for receiving that Federal action.

(ii) Any reasonable payment to a person, other than an officer or employee of a

person requesting or receiving a covered Federal action or an extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of a covered Federal action if the payment is for professional or technical services rendered directly in the preparation, submission, or negotiation of any bid, proposal, or application for that Federal action or for meeting requirements imposed by or pursuant to law as a condition for receiving that Federal action. Persons other than officers or employees of a person requesting or receiving a covered Federal action include consultants and trade associations.

(b) For purposes of subdivision (b)(ii)(2)(a) of clause, "professional and technical services" shall be limited to advice and analysis directly applying any professional or technical discipline.

(c) Requirements imposed by or pursuant to law as a condition for receiving a covered Federal award include those required by law or regulation, or reasonably expected to be required by law or regulation, and any other requirements in the actual award documents.

(d) Only those services expressly authorized by subdivisions (b)(ii)(2)(a)(i) and (ii) of this section are permitted under this clause.

(iii) Selling activities by independent sales representatives.

(c) The prohibition on the use of appropriated funds, in subparagraph (b)(i) of this clause, does not apply to the following selling activities before an agency by independent sales representatives, provided such activities are prior to formal solicitation by an agency and are specifically limited to the merits of the matter:

(i) Discussing with an agency (including individual demonstration) the qualities and characteristics of the person's products or services, conditions or terms of sale, and service capabilities; and

(ii) Technical discussions and other activities regarding the application or adaptation of the person's products or services for an agency's use.

(d) Agreement. In accepting any contract, grant, cooperative agreement, or loan resulting from this solicitation, the person submitting the offer agrees not to make any payment prohibited by this clause.

(e) Penalties. Any person who makes an expenditure prohibited under paragraph (b) of this clause shall be subject to civil penalties as provided for by 31 U.S.C. 1352. An imposition of a civil penalty does not prevent the Government from seeking any other remedy that may be applicable.

(f) Cost Allowability. Nothing in this clause is to be interpreted to make allowable or reasonable any costs which would be unallowable or unreasonable in accordance with Part 31 of the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR), or OMB Circulars dealing with cost allowability for recipients of assistance agreements. Conversely, costs made specifically unallowable by the requirements in this clause will not be made allowable under any of the provisions of FAR Part 31 or the relevant OMB Circulars.

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## 16. Equal Employment Opportunity

During the performance of this contract, the Contractor agrees as follows:

- (a) The Contractor shall not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, color, religion, sex, or national origin.
- (b) The Contractor shall take affirmative action to ensure that applicants are employed, and that employees are treated during employment without regard to their race, color, religion, sex, or national origin. Such action shall include, but not be limited to (1) employment; (2) upgrading; (3) demotion; (4) transfer; (5) recruitment or recruitment advertising; (6) layoff or termination; (7) rates of pay or other forms of compensation; and (8) selection for training, including apprenticeship.
- (c) The Contractor shall post in conspicuous places available to employees and applicants for employment the notices to be provided by the Contracting Officer that explain this clause.
- (d) The Contractor shall, in all solicitations or advertisements for employees placed by or on behalf of the Contractor, state that all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, or national origin.
- (e) The Contractor shall send, to each labor union or representative of workers with which it has a collective bargaining agreement or other contract or understanding, the notice to be provided by the Contracting Officer advising the labor union or workers' representative of the Contractor's commitments under this clause, and post copies of the notice in conspicuous places available to employees and applicants for employment.
- (f) The Contractor shall comply with Executive Order 11246, as amended, and the rules, regulations, and orders of the Secretary of Labor.
- (g) The Contractor shall furnish all information and reports required by Executive Order 11246, as amended and by rules, regulations, and orders of the Secretary of Labor, or pursuant thereto. The Contractor shall permit access to its books, records, and accounts by the Secretary of Labor for purposes of investigation to ascertain compliance with such rules, regulations, and orders.
- (h) In the event of a determination that the Contractor is not in compliance with this clause or any rule, regulation, or order of the Secretary of Labor, this contract may be canceled, terminated, or suspended in whole or in part, and the Contractor may be declared ineligible for further Government contracts, or federally assisted construction contracts under the procedures authorized in Executive Order 11246, as amended. In addition, sanctions may be imposed and remedies invoked against the Contractor as provided in Executive Order 11246, as amended, the rules, regulations, and orders of the Secretary of Labor, or as otherwise provided by law.
- (i) The Contractor shall include the terms and conditions of this clause in every subcontract or purchase order unless exempted by the rules, regulations, or orders of the Secretary of Labor issued under Executive Order 11246, as amended, so that these terms and conditions will be binding upon each subcontractor or vendor. The Contractor shall take such action with respect to any subcontractor or purchase order as the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development or the Secretary of Labor may direct as a means of enforcing such provisions, including sanctions for noncompliance; provided that if the

Contractor becomes involved in, or is threatened with, litigation with a subcontractor or vendor as a result of such direction, the Contractor may request the United States to enter into the litigation to protect the interests of the United States.

## 17. Dissemination or Disclosure of Information

No information or material shall be disseminated or disclosed to the general public, the news media, or any person or organization without prior express written approval by the HA.

## 18. Contractor's Status

It is understood that the Contractor is an independent contractor and is not to be considered an employee of the HA, or assume any right, privilege or duties of an employee, and shall save harmless the HA and its employees from claims suits, actions and costs of every description resulting from the Contractor's activities on behalf of the HA in connection with this Agreement.

## 19. Other Contractors

HA may undertake or award other contracts for additional work at or near the site(s) of the work under this contract. The contractor shall fully cooperate with the other contractors and with HA and HUD employees and shall carefully adapt scheduling and performing the work under this contract to accommodate the additional work, heeding any direction that may be provided by the Contracting Officer. The contractor shall not commit or permit any act that will interfere with the performance of work by any other contractor or HA employee.

## 20. Liens

The Contractor is prohibited from placing a lien on HA's property. This prohibition shall apply to all subcontractors.

## 21. Training and Employment Opportunities for Residents in the Project Area (Section 3, HUD Act of 1968; 24 CFR 135)

- (a) The work to be performed under this contract is subject to the requirements of section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968, as amended, 12 U.S.C. 1701u (section 3). The purpose of section 3 is to ensure that employment and other economic opportunities generated by HUD assistance or HUD-assisted projects covered by section 3, shall, to the greatest extent feasible, be directed to low- and very low-income persons, particularly persons who are recipients of HUD assistance for housing.
- (b) The parties to this contract agree to comply with HUD's regulations in 24 CFR Part 135, which implement section 3. As evidenced by their execution of this contract, the parties to this contract certify that they are under no contractual or other impediment that would prevent them from complying with the Part 135 regulations.
- (c) The contractor agrees to send to each labor organization or representative of workers with which the contractor has a collective bargaining agreement or other understanding, if any, a notice advising the labor organization or workers' representative of the contractor's commitments under this section 3 clause, and will post copies of the notice in conspicuous places at the work site where both employees and applicants for training and employment positions can see the notice. The notice shall describe the section 3 preference, shall set forth minimum number and job titles subject to hire, availability of

apprenticeship and training positions, the qualifications for each; and the name and location of the person(s) taking applications for each of the positions; and the anticipated date the work shall begin.

- (d) The contractor agrees to include this section 3 clause in every subcontract subject to compliance with regulations in 24 CFR Part 135, and agrees to take appropriate action, as provided in an applicable provision of the subcontract or in this section 3 clause, upon a finding that the subcontractor is in violation of the regulations in 24 CFR Part 135. The contractor will not subcontract with any subcontractor where the contractor has notice or knowledge that the subcontractor has been found in violation of the regulations in 24 CFR Part 135.
- (e) The contractor will certify that any vacant employment positions, including training positions, that are filled (1) after the contractor is selected but before the contract is executed, and (2) with persons other than those to whom the regulations of 24 CFR Part 135 require employment opportunities to be directed, were not filled to circumvent the contractor's obligations under 24 CFR Part 135.
- (f) Noncompliance with HUD's regulations in 24 CFR Part 135 may result in sanctions, termination of this contract for default, and debarment or suspension from future HUD assisted contracts.

## **22. Procurement of Recovered Materials**

- (a) In accordance with Section 6002 of the Solid Waste Disposal Act, as amended by the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, the Contractor shall procure items designated in guidelines of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) at 40 CFR Part 247 that contain the highest percentage of recovered materials practicable, consistent with maintaining a satisfactory level of competition. The Contractor shall procure items designated in the EPA guidelines that contain the highest percentage of recovered materials practicable unless the Contractor determines that such items: (1) are not reasonably available in a reasonable period of time; (2) fail to meet reasonable performance standards, which shall be determined on the basis of the guidelines of the National Institute of Standards and Technology, if applicable to the item; or (3) are only available at an unreasonable price.
- (b) Paragraph (a) of this clause shall apply to items purchased under this contract where: (1) the Contractor purchases in excess of \$10,000 of the item under this contract; or (2) during the preceding Federal fiscal year, the Contractor: (i) purchased any amount of the items for use under a contract that was funded with Federal appropriations and was with a Federal agency or a State agency or agency of a political subdivision of a State; and (ii) purchased a total of in excess of \$10,000 of the item both under and outside that contract.

# Instructions to Offerors Non-Construction

## 1. Preparation of Offers

(a) Offerors are expected to examine the statement of work, the proposed contract terms and conditions, and all instructions. Failure to do so will be at the offeror's risk.

(b) Each offeror shall furnish the information required by the solicitation. The offeror shall sign the offer and print or type its name on the cover sheet and each continuation sheet on which it makes an entry. Erasures or other changes must be initiated by the person signing the offer. Offers signed by an agent shall be accompanied by evidence of that agent's authority, unless that evidence has been previously furnished to the HA.

(c) Offers for services other than those specified will not be considered.

## 2. Submission of Offers

(a) Offers and modifications thereof shall be submitted in sealed envelopes or packages (1) addressed to the office specified in the solicitation, and (2) showing the time specified for receipt, the solicitation number, and the name and address of the offeror.

(b) Telegraphic offers will not be considered unless authorized by the solicitation; however, offers may be modified by written or telegraphic notice.

(c) Facsimile offers, modifications or withdrawals will not be considered unless authorized by the solicitation.

## 3. Amendments to Solicitations

(a) If this solicitation is amended, then all terms and conditions which are not modified remain unchanged.

(b) Offerors shall acknowledge receipt of any amendments to this solicitation by

- (1) signing and returning the amendment;
- (2) identifying the amendment number and date in the space provided for this purpose on the form for submitting an offer,
- (3) letter or telegram, or
- (4) facsimile, if facsimile offers are authorized in the solicitation. The HA/HUD must receive the acknowledgment by the time specified for receipt of offers.

## 4. Explanation to Prospective Offerors

Any prospective offeror desiring an explanation or interpretation of the solicitation, statement of work, etc., must request it in writing soon enough to allow a reply to reach all prospective offerors before the submission of their offers. Oral explanations or instructions given before the award of the contract will not be binding. Any information given to a prospective offeror concerning a solicitation will be furnished promptly to all other prospective offerors as an amendment of the solicitation, if that information is necessary in submitting offers or if the lack of it would be prejudicial to any other prospective offerors.

## 5. Responsibility of Prospective Contractor

(a) The HA shall award a contract only to a responsible prospective contractor who is able to perform successfully under the terms and conditions of the proposed contract. To be determined responsible, a prospective contractor must -

- (1) Have adequate financial resources to perform the contract, or the ability to obtain them;

- (2) Have a satisfactory performance record;
- (3) Have a satisfactory record of integrity and business ethics;
- (4) Have a satisfactory record of compliance with public policy (e.g., Equal Employment Opportunity); and
- (5) Not have been suspended, debarred, or otherwise determined to be ineligible for award of contracts by the Department of Housing and Urban Development or any other agency of the U.S. Government. Current lists of ineligible contractors are available for inspection at the HA/HUD.

(b) Before an offer is considered for award, the offeror may be requested by the HA to submit a statement or other documentation regarding any of the foregoing requirements. Failure by the offeror to provide such additional information may render the offeror ineligible for award.

## 6. Late Submissions, Modifications, and Withdrawal of Offers

(a) Any offer received at the place designated in the solicitation after the exact time specified for receipt will not be considered unless it is received before award is made and it -

- (1) Was sent by registered or certified mail not later than the fifth calendar day before the date specified for receipt of offers (e.g., an offer submitted in response to a solicitation requiring receipt of offers by the 20th of the month must have been mailed by the 15th);
- (2) Was sent by mail, or if authorized by the solicitation, was sent by telegram or via facsimile, and it is determined by the HA/ HUD that the late receipt was due solely to mishandling by the HA/ HUD after receipt at the HA;
- (3) Was sent by U.S. Postal Service Express Mail Next Day Service - Post Office to Addressee, not later than 5:00 p.m. at the place of mailing two working days prior to the date specified for receipt of proposals. The term "Working days" excludes weekends and U.S. Federal holidays; or
- (4) Is the only offer received.

(b) Any modification of an offer, except a modification resulting from the HA's request for "best and final" offer (if this solicitation is a request for proposals), is subject to the same conditions as in subparagraphs (a)(1), (2), and (3) of this provision.

(c) A modification resulting from the HA's request for "best and final" offer received after the time and date specified in the request will not be considered unless received before award and the late receipt is due solely to mishandling by the HA after receipt at the HA.

(d) The only acceptable evidence to establish the date of mailing of a late offer, modification, or withdrawal sent either by registered or certified mail is the U.S. or Canadian Postal Service postmark both on the envelope or wrapper and on the original receipt from the U.S. or Canadian Postal Service. Both postmarks must show a legible date or the offer, modification, or withdrawal shall be processed as if mailed late. "Postmark" means a printed, stamped, or otherwise placed impression (exclusive of a postage meter machine impression) that is readily identifiable without further action as having been supplied and affixed by employees of the U.S. or Canadian Postal Service on the date of mailing. Therefore, offerors should request the postal clerk to place a hand cancellation bull's-eye postmark on both the receipt and the envelope or wrapper.

(e) The only acceptable evidence to establish the time of receipt at the HA is the time/date stamp of HA on the offer wrapper or other documentary evidence of receipt maintained by the HA.

(f) The only acceptable evidence to establish the date of mailing of a late offer, modification, or withdrawal sent by Express Mail Next Day Service-Post Office to Addressee is the date entered by the post office receiving clerk on the "Express Mail Next Day Service-Post Office to Addressee" label and the postmark on both the envelope or wrapper and on the original receipt from the U.S. Postal Service. "Postmark" has the same meaning as defined in paragraph (c) of this provision, excluding postmarks of the Canadian Postal Service. Therefore, offerers should request the postal clerk to place a legible hand cancellation bull's eye postmark on both the receipt and the envelope or wrapper.

(g) Notwithstanding paragraph (a) of this provision, a late modification of an otherwise successful offer that makes its terms more favorable to the HA will be considered at any time it is received and may be accepted.

(h) If this solicitation is a request for proposals, proposals may be withdrawn by written notice, or if authorized by this solicitation, by telegram (including mailgram) or facsimile machine transmission received at any time before award. Proposals may be withdrawn in person by a offerer or its authorized representative if the identity of the person requesting withdrawal is established and the person signs a receipt for the offer before award. If this solicitation is an Invitation for bids, bids may be withdrawn at any time prior to bid opening.

## 7. Contract Award

(a) The HA will award a contract resulting from this solicitation to the responsible offerer whose offer conforming to the solicitation will be most advantageous to the HA, cost or price and other factors, specified elsewhere in this solicitation, considered.

(b) The HA may

- (1) reject any or all offers if such action is in the HA's interest,
- (2) accept other than the lowest offer,
- (3) waive informalities and minor irregularities in offers received, and (4) award more than one contract for all or part of the requirements stated.

(c) If this solicitation is a request for proposals, the HA may award a contract on the basis of initial offers received, without discussions. Therefore, each initial offer should contain the offerer's best terms from a cost or price and technical standpoint.

(d) A written award or acceptance of offer mailed or otherwise furnished to the successful offerer within the time for acceptance specified in the offer shall result in a binding contract without further action by either party. If this solicitation is a request for proposals, before the offer's specified expiration time, the HA may accept an offer, whether or not there are negotiations after its receipt, unless a written notice of withdrawal is received before award. Negotiations conducted after receipt of an offer do not constitute a rejection or counteroffer by the HA.

(e) Neither financial data submitted with an offer, nor representations concerning facilities or financing, will form a part of the resulting contract.

## 8. Service of Protest

Any protest against the award of a contract pursuant to this solicitation shall be served on the HA by obtaining written and dated acknowledgment of receipt from the HA at the address shown on the cover of this solicitation. The determination of the HA with regard to such protest or to proceed to award notwithstanding such protest shall be final unless appealed by the protester.

## 9. Offer Submission

Offers shall be submitted as follows and shall be enclosed in a sealed envelope and addressed to the office specified in the solicitation. The proposal shall show **the hour and date specified in the solicitation for receipt, the solicitation number, and the name and address of the offeror, on the face of the envelope.**

It is very important that the offer be properly identified on the face of the envelope as set forth above in order to insure that the date and time of receipt is stamped on the face of the offer envelope. Receiving procedures are: date and time stamp those envelopes identified as proposals and deliver them immediately to the appropriate contracting official, and only date stamp those envelopes which do not contain identification of the contents and deliver them to the appropriate procuring activity only through the routine mail delivery procedure.

[Describe bid or proposal preparation instructions here:]

# Certifications and Representations of Offerors

## Non-Construction Contract

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 5 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information.

This form includes clauses required by OMB's common rule on bidding/offering procedures, implemented by HUD in 24 CFR 85.36, and those requirements set forth in Executive Order 11625 for small, minority, women-owned businesses, and certifications for independent price determination, and conflict of interest. The form is required for nonconstruction contracts awarded by Housing Agencies (HAs). The form is used by bidders/offerors to certify to the HA's Contracting Officer for contract compliance. If the form were not used, HAs would be unable to enforce their contracts. Responses to the collection of information are required to obtain a benefit or to retain a benefit. The information requested does not lend itself to confidentiality.

### 1. Contingent Fee Representation and Agreement

(a) The bidder/offeror represents and certifies as part of its bid/offer that, except for full-time bona fide employees working solely for the bidder/offeror, the bidder/offeror:

- (1)  has,  has not employed or retained any person or company to solicit or obtain this contract; and
- (2)  has,  has not paid or agreed to pay to any person or company employed or retained to solicit or obtain this contract any commission, percentage, brokerage, or other fee contingent upon or resulting from the award of this contract.

(b) If the answer to either (a)(1) or (a) (2) above is affirmative, the bidder/offeror shall make an immediate and full written disclosure to the PHA Contracting Officer.

(c) Any misrepresentation by the bidder/offeror shall give the PHA the right to (1) terminate the resultant contract; (2) at its discretion, to deduct from contract payments the amount of any commission, percentage, brokerage, or other contingent fee; or (3) take other remedy pursuant to the contract.

### 2. Small, Minority, Women-Owned Business Concern Representation

The bidder/offeror represents and certifies as part of its bid/offer that it:

- (a)  is,  is not a small business concern. "Small business concern," as used in this provision, means a concern, including its affiliates, that is independently owned and operated, not dominant in the field of operation in which it is bidding, and qualified as a small business under the criteria and size standards in 13 CFR 121.
- (b)  is,  is not a women-owned small business concern. "Women-owned," as used in this provision, means a small business that is at least 51 percent owned by a woman or women who are U.S. citizens and who also control and operate the business.
- (c)  is,  is not a minority enterprise which, pursuant to Executive Order 11625, is defined as a business which is at least 51 percent owned by one or more minority group members or, in the case of a publicly owned business, at least 51 percent of its voting stock is owned by one or more minority group members, and whose management and daily operations are controlled by one or more such individuals.

For the purpose of this definition, minority group members are:

(Check the block applicable to you)

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Black Americans    | <input type="checkbox"/> Asian Pacific Americans  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic Americans | <input type="checkbox"/> Asian Indian Americans   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Native Americans   | <input type="checkbox"/> Hasidic Jewish Americans |

### 3. Certificate of Independent Price Determination

(a) The bidder/offeror certifies that—

- (1) The prices in this bid/offer have been arrived at independently, without, for the purpose of restricting competition, any consultation, communication, or agreement with any other bidder/offeror or competitor relating to (i) those prices, (ii) the intention to submit a bid/offer, or (iii) the methods or factors used to calculate the prices offered;
- (2) The prices in this bid/offer have not been and will not be knowingly disclosed by the bidder/offeror, directly or indirectly, to any other bidder/offeror or competitor before bid opening (in the case of a sealed bid solicitation) or contract award (in the case of a negotiated solicitation) unless otherwise required by law; and
- (3) No attempt has been made or will be made by the bidder/offeror to induce any other concern to submit or not to submit a bid/offer for the purpose of restricting competition.

(b) Each signature on the bid/offer is considered to be a certification by the signatory that the signatory:

- (1) Is the person in the bidder/offeror's organization responsible for determining the prices being offered in this bid or proposal, and that the signatory has not participated and will not participate in any action contrary to subparagraphs (a)(1) through (a)(3) above; or
- (2) (i) Has been authorized, in writing, to act as agent for the following principals in certifying that those principals have not participated, and will not participate in any action contrary to subparagraphs (a)(1) through (a)(3) above (insert full name of person(s) in the bidder/offeror's organization responsible for determining the prices offered in this bid or proposal, and the title of his or her position in the bidder/offeror's organization);  
(ii) As an authorized agent, does certify that the principals named in subdivision (b)(2)(i) above have not participated, and will not participate, in any action contrary to subparagraphs (a)(1) through (a)(3) above; and

(iii) As an agent, has not personally participated, and will not participate in any action contrary to subparagraphs (a)(1) through (a)(3) above.

(c) If the bidder/offeror deletes or modifies subparagraph (a)2 above, the bidder/offeror must furnish with its bid/offer a signed statement setting forth in detail the circumstances of the disclosure.

#### 4. Organizational Conflicts of Interest Certification

(a) The Contractor warrants that to the best of its knowledge and belief and except as otherwise disclosed, it does not have any organizational conflict of interest which is defined as a situation in which the nature of work under a proposed contract and a prospective contractor's organizational, financial, contractual or other interest are such that:

- (i) Award of the contract may result in an unfair competitive advantage;
- (ii) The Contractor's objectivity in performing the contract work may be impaired; or
- (iii) That the Contractor has disclosed all relevant information and requested the HA to make a determination with respect to this Contract.

(b) The Contractor agrees that if after award he or she discovers an organizational conflict of interest with respect to this

contract, he or she shall make an immediate and full disclosure in writing to the HA which shall include a description of the action which the Contractor has taken or intends to eliminate or neutralize the conflict. The HA may, however, terminate the Contract for the convenience of HA if it would be in the best interest of HA.

(c) In the event the Contractor was aware of an organizational conflict of interest before the award of this Contract and intentionally did not disclose the conflict to the HA, the HA may terminate the Contract for default.

(d) The Contractor shall require a disclosure or representation from subcontractors and consultants who may be in a position to influence the advice or assistance rendered to the HA and shall include any necessary provisions to eliminate or neutralize conflicts of interest in consultant agreements or subcontracts involving performance or work under this Contract.

#### 5. Authorized Negotiators (RFPs only)

The offeror represents that the following persons are authorized to negotiate on its behalf with the PHA in connection with this request for proposals: (list names, titles, and telephone numbers of the authorized negotiators):

#### 6. Conflict of Interest

In the absence of any actual or apparent conflict, the offeror, by submission of a proposal, hereby warrants that to the best of its knowledge and belief, no actual or apparent conflict of interest exists with regard to my possible performance of this procurement, as described in the clause in this solicitation titled "Organizational Conflict of Interest."

#### 7. Offeror's Signature

The offeror hereby certifies that the information contained in these certifications and representations is accurate, complete, and current.

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Signature & Date:

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Typed or Printed Name:

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Title:

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NON-COLLUSIVE AFFIDAVIT

STATE OF \_\_\_\_\_)

COUNTY OF \_\_\_\_\_)

\_\_\_\_\_, being first duly sworn, deposes and says:

THAT HE/SHE IS \_\_\_\_\_ (a partner or officer of the firm of, etc.)  
the party making the foregoing proposal or bid; that such proposal or bid is genuine and not collusive nor sham; that said bidder has not colluded, conspired, connived nor agreed, directly or indirectly, with any bidder or person, to put in a sham bid or to refrain from bidding; and has not in any manner, directly or indirectly, sought by agreement of collusion, or communication or convergence, with any person, to fix the bid price of affiant or of any other bidder; nor to fix any overhead, profit, or cost element of said bid price, nor of that of any other bidder; nor to secure any advantage against

THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF NORTH CHARLESTON, SC - 6327 Rivers Avenue – North Charleston, SC 29406 or any person interested in the proposed contract; and that all statements in said proposal or bid are true.

Signatures of:

BIDDER, if the Bidder is an individual: \_\_\_\_\_

PARTNER, if the Bidder is a partnership: \_\_\_\_\_

OFFICER, if the Bidder is a corporation: \_\_\_\_\_

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO BEFORE ME

This \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

(Notary Public)

My Commission expires: \_\_\_\_\_