

**SECTION I**  
**GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

THESE INSTRUCTIONS ARE STANDARD FOR ALL BID COMMODITIES/SERVICES ISSUED BY THE CITY OF COCONUT CREEK. THE CITY OF COCONUT CREEK MAY DELETE, SUPERSEDE OR MODIFY ANY OF THESE STANDARD INSTRUCTIONS FOR A PARTICULAR CONTRACT BY INDICATING SUCH CHANGE IN SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS TO BIDDERS OR IN THE BID SHEETS. ANY AND ALL SPECIAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS THAT MAY VARY FROM THE GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS SHALL HAVE PRECEDENCE. BIDDER AGREES THAT THE PROVISIONS INCLUDED WITHIN THIS INVITATION FOR BIDS SHALL PREVAIL OVER ANY CONFLICTING PROVISION WITHIN ANY STANDARD FORM CONTRACT OF THE BIDDER REGARDLESS OF ANY LANGUAGE IN BIDDER'S CONTRACT TO THE CONTRARY.

**INSTRUCTIONS TO BIDDERS:**

**1. Defined Terms**

Terms used in this contract document are defined and have the meaning assigned to them. The City will use the following definitions in its general terms and conditions, special terms and conditions, technical specifications, instructions to bidders, addenda and any other document used in the bidding process. The terms may be used interchangeably by the City: IFB or RFP; Bid or Proposal; Bidder, Proposer, or Seller; Contractor or Consultant; Contract, Award, Agreement or Purchase Order.

**Bid:** A price and terms quote received in response to an IFB.

**Bidder:** Person or firm submitting a bid directly to the City as distinct from a sub-contractor, who submits a bid to the Bidder.

**City:** Refers to the City of Coconut Creek, a municipal corporation of the State of Florida.

**Change Order:** A written signed and approved document by the City Manager or designee ordering a change in the contract price or contract time or a material change in work.

**Contractor:** Successful Bidder or Proposer who is awarded a purchase order, award

contract, blanket purchase order agreement, or term contract to provide goods or services to the City. Also referred to as the "Successful Bidder".

**Contract:** A deliberate verbal or written agreement between two (2) or more competent parties to perform or not to perform a certain act or acts, including all types of agreements, regardless of what they may be called, for the procurement or disposal of equipment, materials, supplies, services or construction. Contract shall be inclusive of the term "Agreement" unless stated otherwise.

**Contract Administrator:** The City will designate a Contract Administrator whose principle duties shall be liaison with awarded Proposer, coordinate all work under the contract, assure consistency and quality of awarded Proposer's performance, and schedule and conduct Contractor performance evaluations, and review and route for approval all invoices for work performed or items delivered.

**Consultant:** Successful Bidder or Proposer who is awarded a contract to provide professional services to the City.

**First Ranked Proposer:** That Proposer, responding to a City RFP, whose proposal is deemed by the City, the most advantageous to the City after applying the evaluation criteria contained in the RFP.

**Invitation for Bids (IFB):** When the City is requesting bids from qualified Bidders.

**Proposer:** Person or firm submitting a proposal.

**Proposal:** A proposal received in response to an RFP.

**Request for Proposals (RFP):** A method of procurement permitting discussion with responsible Proposers and revisions to proposals prior to award of a contract. Award will be based on criteria set forth herein.

**Responsible Bidder:** A person who has the capability in all respects to perform in full the contract requirements, as stated in the bid document, and the integrity and reliability that will assure good faith performance.

**Responsive Bidder:** A person whose bid conforms in all material respects to the terms and conditions included in the bid document.

**Seller:** Successful Bidder or Proposer who is awarded a purchase order or contract to provide goods or services to the City.

**Successful Bidder:** Means the best, qualified, responsible and responsive Bidder to whom the City (on the basis of City's evaluation as hereinafter provided) makes an award

## 2. Cone of Silence

2.1 "Cone of Silence" means a prohibition on any communication regarding a particular Request for Proposals (RFP), Request for Qualifications (RFQ), Invitation for Bid (IFB), or other competitive solicitation between:

- (a) Any person who seeks an award therefrom, including a potential vendor or vendor's representative, and
- (b) The City Commission, City Attorney, City Manager, and all City employees, and any non-employees appointed to evaluate or recommend selection in such procurement process.

The Cone of Silence shall not apply to communications with the Procurement Official to obtain clarification or information concerning the subject solicitation. Any such contact with anyone other than the Procurement Official may be considered grounds for disqualification. The City shall not be responsible for oral interpretations given by any City employee or its representative. For purposes of this section, "vendor's representative" means an employee, partner, director, or officer of a potential vendor, or consultant, lobbyist, or actual or potential subcontractor or subconsultant of a vendor, or any other individual acting through or on behalf of any person seeking an award.

2.2 The Cone of Silence shall be applicable to each RFP, RFQ, IFB, or other competitive solicitation during the solicitation and review of responses. At the time of issuance of the solicitation, the Procurement Official shall include in

any advertisement and public solicitation for goods and services a statement disclosing the requirements of this section.

2.3 The Cone of Silence shall terminate at the time the City awards or approves a contract, votes to reject all bids or responses, or otherwise takes action which ends the solicitation and review process.

2.4 Nothing contained herein shall prohibit any potential vendor or vendor's representative from:

- (a) Making public presentations at duly noticed pre-bid conferences or at meetings before a duly noticed Selection Committee;
- (b) Communicating with the City Commission during any duly noticed public meeting;
- (c) Communicating verbally or in writing with any City employee or official for the limited purpose of seeking clarification or additional information, when such employee is specifically designated in the applicable RFP, RFQ, IFB, or other competitive solicitation documents;
- (d) Communicating in writing with the Procurement Official or other staff person specifically designated in the procurement document.

The potential vendor or vendor's representative shall deliver a copy of any such written communication to the Office of the City Clerk, who shall make copies available to the public upon request. The written communication shall include a reference to the RFP, RFQ, IFB, or other competitive bid document number.

2.5 Any violation of this rule shall be investigated by the Procurement Official and the City Attorney's Office and/or the City Manager's Office and may result in any recommendation for award, or any RFP award, or IFB award to said potential vendor or vendor's representative being deemed void or voidable. The potential vendor or vendor's representative determined to have violated this rule, shall be subject to penalties up to and including debarment. In addition, to any other

penalty provided by law, violation of this rule by a City employee shall subject the employee to disciplinary action up to and including termination.

### **3. Bid Forms**

- 3.1 Solicitations downloaded from the eBid System shall not contain any alteration to the document posted other than entering data in spaces provided or including attachments as necessary. By submission of a response, Bidder affirms that no alteration of any kind has been made to this solicitation.
- 3.2 The bid forms must be used by the Bidder. Failure to do so may cause the bid to be rejected. The forms shall be submitted in good order and all blanks must be completed.
- 3.3 The bid forms shall be signed by one duly authorized to do so and in cases where the bid is signed by a deputy or subordinate, the principal's proper written authority to such deputy or subordinate must accompany the bid.
- 3.4 Bids by corporations must be executed in the corporate name by the President or other corporate officers accompanied by evidence of authority to sign.
- 3.5 Bids by partnerships must be executed in the partnership name and signed by a general partner whose title must appear under the signature.

### **4. Sub-Contractors**

- 4.1 Sub-Contractors Terms  
The Contractor agrees to bind specifically every sub-contractor to the applicable terms and conditions of the contract documents for the benefit of the City.
- 4.2 Sub-Contractors Agreement  
All work performed for the Contractor by a sub-contractor shall be pursuant to an appropriate agreement between the Contractor and the sub-contractor.

### **5. Qualifications of Bidders**

- 5.1 Bids will only be considered from firms normally engaged in providing the types of commodities/services specified herein. The City reserves the right to

inspect the Bidder's facilities, equipment, personnel, and organization at any time, or to take any other action necessary to determine Bidder's ability to perform. The Procurement Official reserves the right to reject bids where evidence or evaluation is determined to indicate inability to perform.

- 5.2 No bid will be accepted from, nor will any contract be awarded to any person who is in arrears to the City, upon any debt or contract, or who is a defaulter, as surety or otherwise, upon any obligation to City, or who is deemed responsible or unreliable by the City.
- 5.3 As part of the bid evaluation process, City may conduct a background investigation including a record check by the Coconut Creek Police Department. Bidder's submission of a bid constitutes acknowledgment of the process and consent to such investigation. City shall be the sole judge in determining Bidder's qualifications.

### **6. Specifications**

- 6.1 The apparent silence of the Specifications as to any detail, or the apparent omission from the Specifications of a detailed description concerning any point, shall be regarded as meaning that only material and workmanship of the finest quality are to be used. All interpretations of the Specifications shall be made on the basis of this statement.
- 6.2 For the purpose of evaluation, the Bidder must indicate any variance or exceptions to the stated Specifications no matter how slight. Deviations should be explained in detail. Absence of variations and/or corrections will be interpreted to mean that the Bidder meets all the Specifications in every respect.
- 6.3 Any manufacturers' names, trade names, brand names, information and/or catalog numbers used herein are for the purpose of describing and establishing a general standard of quality, performance and characteristics and are not intended to limit or restrict competition. The Bidder may offer any brand which meets or

exceeds the Specifications for any item(s). If bids are based on equivalent products, indicate on the Bid Form the manufacturer's name and catalog number. Bidder shall submit with his bid complete and descriptive literature and/or specifications. The Bidder should also explain in detail the reason(s) why and submit proof that the proposed equivalent will meet the Specifications and not be considered an exception thereto. The determination of equivalency shall rest solely with the City. If Bidder fails to name a substitute, it will be assumed that Bidder is bidding on and will be required to furnish commodities identical to bid standards.

- 6.4 If the model number for the make specified in the bid document is incorrect, or no longer available and replaced with an updated model with new specifications, the Bidder shall enter the correct model number on the bid form. In the case of an updated model with new specifications, Bidder shall provide adequate information to allow the City to determine if the model bid meets the City's requirements.

## **7. Addendum**

- 7.1 If the Bidder should be in doubt as to the meaning of any of the bid documents, or is of the opinion that the plans and/or specifications contains errors, contradictions or reflect omissions, Bidder shall submit a written request directed to the Procurement Division to be forwarded to the appropriate person or department for interpretations or clarification. Interpretations or clarifications deemed necessary by the Procurement Division in response to such questions will be issued on official addendum.
- 7.2 The issuance of written addendum is the only official method whereby interpretation, clarification, changes or additional information can be given. If any addendum is issued, the City will attempt to notify all known prospective Bidders. Addenda to the solicitation will be posted on the eBid System. It is the Bidder's responsibility to check the eBid System or contact the Procurement Official prior to the bid submittal deadline to ensure that the Bidder has a complete, up-to-date package.

## **8. Prices Bid**

- 8.1 Prices shall be shown in both unit amounts and extensions whenever applicable. In the event of discrepancies existing between unit amounts and extension or totals, unit amounts shall govern.
- 8.2 Discrepancies in the multiplication of units of work and unit prices will be resolved in favor of the unit prices. Discrepancies between the indicated sum of any column of figures and the correct sum thereof will be resolved in favor of the correct sum.
- 8.3 All applicable discounts shall be included in the bid price for materials and services and will be considered as determining factors in recommending an award in case of tie bids. Discounts extended to City shall include but not be limited to those discounts normally extended to governmental agencies as well as the private sector.
- 8.4 Chain discounts are not acceptable and will not be considered in determining an award. Bidders may bid only one (1) discount for each item on the bid form. Firm discounts and prices are to be quoted for the term of the contract.
- 8.5 Bidder warrants by virtue of bidding that prices, terms and conditions in the bid will be firm for acceptance for a period of ninety (90) calendar days from the date of bid opening unless otherwise stated by the City.
- 8.6 The bid price shall include all permit fees, royalties, license fees and other costs arising from the use of such design, device or materials in any way involved in the work as well as all costs of packaging, transporting and delivery to the designated location within the City of Coconut Creek.
- 8.7 All prices quoted shall be F.O.B. destination, freight prepaid (Bidder pays and bears freight charges, Bidder own goods in transit and files any claims), unless otherwise stated in Special Conditions.

## **9. Examination of Bid Documents**

- 9.1 Before submitting a bid, each Bidder must (a) examine the bid documents thoroughly; (b) consider federal, state, county, and local laws, ordinances, rules and regulations that may in any manner affect cost, progress, performance, or provision of the commodities and/or services; (c) study and carefully correlate Bidder's observations with the bid documents, and (d) notify the Procurement Division of all conflicts, errors, and discrepancies in the bid documents. Failure to familiarize himself/herself with applicable laws will in no way relieve him/her from responsibility.
- 9.2 The submission of a bid will constitute an incontrovertible representation by Bidder that Bidder has complied with every requirement of the bid document, that without exception, the bid is premised upon performing the services and/or furnishing the commodities and materials and such means, methods, techniques, sequences or procedures as may be indicated in or required by the bid documents, and that the bid documents are sufficient in scope and detail to indicate and convey understanding of all terms and conditions of performance and furnishing of the goods and/or services.

## 10. Modification and Withdrawal of Bids

- 10.1 Proposals may be modified or withdrawn **prior** to the due date for submitting electronic proposals. Proposals may be retracted from the eBid System. Retracting a response allows the Consultant to change all or part of the response that was previously submitted. Retracting a response **does** not delete the response currently entered; however, by retracting your response, it is no longer submitted. You must click "Submit Response" on the Response Submission Tab for your retracted bid to be submitted again.
- 10.2 Withdrawal of a proposal will not prejudice the rights of a Consultant to submit a new proposal prior to the proposal opening date and time. No proposal may be withdrawn or modified after the date of proposal opening has passed.

- 10.3 If within twenty-four (24) hours after proposals are opened, and Consultant files a duly signed, written notice with the Procurement Office, and within five (5) calendar days thereafter demonstrates to the reasonable satisfaction of City, by clear and convincing evidence, that there was a material and substantial mistake in the preparation of its proposal, or that the mistake is clearly evident on the face of the proposal, but the intended correct proposal is not similarly evident, Consultant may withdraw its proposal and any bid security will be returned, if applicable.

## 11. Submission and Receipt of Bids

To receive consideration, bids must be received prior to the due date and time. Unless otherwise specified, Bidders should use the bid forms provided in the bid document. Any erasures or corrections on the bid must be initialed by Bidder. All information submitted by the Bidder shall be printed, typewritten or filled in with pen and ink before electronic submission. Bids shall be signed in pink. When a particular IFB or RFP requires physical copies of bids or proposals they may be included in a single envelope or package properly sealed and identified. Bids will be electronically unsealed in the presence of Bidders, the public, and City staff. Bidders and the public are invited and encouraged to attend bid openings, but are not required. Bids will be tabulated and made available on the eBid System for review by Bidders and the public in accordance with applicable regulations.

## 12. Acceptance or Rejection of Bids

- 12.1 Bidder warrants, by virtue of bidding, his bid and the prices quoted in his bid will be firm for acceptance by the City for a period of ninety (90) calendar days from the date of bid opening, unless otherwise stated in the bid document. However, any bid may be electronically retracted up until the time set for bid opening. Any bids not so electronically retracted shall upon opening, constitute an irrevocable offer for goods and services until accepted by City Commission Award.
- 12.2 A Bidder may not withdraw his bid before the expiration of ninety (90) calendar days from the date of bid opening. A Bidder may withdraw his bid

after the expiration of ninety (90) calendar days from the date of bid opening by delivering written notice of withdrawal to the Procurement Official prior to award of contract by the City of Coconut Creek.

12.3 The City reserves the right to reject the bid of any Bidder if the City believes that it would not be in the best interest of the City to make an award to that Bidder, whether because the bid is not responsive or the Bidder is unqualified or fails to meet any other pertinent standard or criteria established by the City.

12.4 The City of Coconut Creek reserves the right to waive formalities in any bid and further reserves the right to take any other action that may be necessary in the best interest of the City. The City further reserves the right to reject any or all bids, with or without cause, to waive technical errors and informalities or to accept the bid which in its judgment, best serves the City of Coconut Creek.

**13. Opening of Bids**

Responses will be electronically unsealed and publicly read aloud on the date, time, and location specified in the bid document. A tabulation will be made available on the eBid System in accordance with applicable regulations.

**14. Award of Contract**

14.1 If the contract is to be awarded, it will be awarded to the most responsible and responsive Bidder for the base bid whose evaluation by City indicates to City that the award will be in the best interests of the City and not necessarily to the lowest Bidder.

14.2 Criteria utilized by City for determining the most responsive Bidder includes, but is not limited to the following:

- (a) Ability of Bidder to meet published specifications.
- (b) Bidder's experience and references including, but not limited to, the reputation, integrity, character, efficiency, experience, skill, ability, and business judgment of the Bidder, the quality of performance of Bidder

under previous contracts, any subcontractors and other persons providing labor or materials to Bidder.

- (c) Bidder's qualifications and capabilities, including but not limited to, the size, financial history, strength and stability of the business to perform the work of the contract, the possession of necessary facilities and equipment and the quality, availability and adaptability thereof to the particular use(s) required.
- (d) Whether Bidder can perform the contract promptly or with the time specified without delay or interference.
- (e) Previous and existing compliance by Bidder with laws, ordinances, and regulations relating to the commodities or services.
- (f) Price.

14.3 If applicable, the Bidder to whom award is made shall execute a written contract prior to award by the City Commission. If the Bidder to whom the first award is made fails to enter into a contract as herein provided, the contract may be let to the next ranked Bidder who is responsible and responsive in the opinion of the City.

**15. Contractual Agreement**

The terms, conditions, and provisions in the bid document shall be included and incorporated in the final contract. The order of precedence will be bid document and response, contract, and general law. Any and all legal action necessary to enforce a contract will be interpreted according to the laws of Florida.

**16. Insurance**

16.1 If the Contractor is required to go on to City property to perform work or services as a result of contract award, the Contractor shall assume full responsibility and expense to obtain all necessary insurance as required by City or specified in the Special Terms and Conditions.

16.2 The Contractor shall provide the Procurement Division original certificates of coverage prior to engaging in any activities under this contract. The Contractor's insurance is subject to the approval of the City's Risk Manager. The certificates must list the City as ADDITIONAL INSURED and shall have no less than thirty (30) days written notice of cancellation or material change. Further modification of the insurance requirements may be made at the sole discretion of the City's Risk Manager if circumstances change or adequate protection of the City is not presented. Bidder, by submitting his bid, agrees to abide by such modifications.

**17. Taxes**

The City of Coconut Creek is exempt from all Federal Excise and Florida Sales Taxes on direct purchase of tangible property. An exemption certificate will be provided where applicable upon request. Contractors doing business with the City shall not be exempted from paying sales tax to their suppliers for materials to fulfill contractual obligations with the City, nor shall a Contractor be authorized to use the City's Tax Exemption Number in securing such materials.

**18. Estimated Quantities/Warranties of Usage**

No warranty is given or implied by the City as to any components listed in the bid document and are considered to be estimates for the purpose of information only. The City reserves the right to accept all or any part of the bid and to increase or decrease quantities of Bidder's bid to meet additional or reduced requirements of the City.

**19. Samples and Demonstrations**

Samples or inspection of product may be requested to determine suitability. Unless otherwise specified in the Special Terms and Conditions, samples shall be requested after the date of bid opening, and if requested should be received by the City within seven (7) working days of request. Samples, when requested, must be furnished free of expense to the City and if not used in testing or destroyed, will upon request of the Bidder, be returned within thirty (30) days of bid award at Bidder's expense. When required, the City may request full demonstrations of units prior to award. When such demonstrations are requested, the Bidder shall respond promptly and arrange a demonstration at a convenient location. Failure to provide samples or

demonstrations as specified by the City may result in rejection of a bid.

**20. Delivery**

Time will be of the essence for any orders placed as a result of this bid document. The City reserves the right to cancel any orders, or part thereof, without obligation if delivery is not made in accordance with the schedule specified by the Bidder and accepted by the City.

**21. Verbal Instructions Procedure**

No negotiations, decisions, or actions shall be initiated or executed by the Contractor as a result of any discussions with any member of the City Commission or its Staff, all other City employees, and any non-employee appointed to evaluate or recommend selection in the procurement process. Only those communications which are assigned by a person designated as authorized to bind the Contractor, will be recognized by the City as duly authorized expressions on behalf of Contractors.

**22. References**

As part of the bid evaluation process, the City may conduct an investigation of references, including a record check and/or consumer affairs complaints. Bidder's submission of a bid constitutes acknowledgment of the process and consent to investigate. The City is the sole judge in determining Bidders qualifications.

**23. Costs Incurred by Bidders**

All expenses involved with the preparation/and or presentation and submission of bids to the City, or any work performed in connection therewith, shall be the sole responsibility of the Bidder(s) and shall not be reimbursed by the City.

**24. Permits, Fees and Notices (If Applicable)**

24.1 The Contractor shall at his own expense obtain all necessary permits, pay all licenses, fees and taxes, required to comply with all local ordinances, county, state and federal laws, rules and regulation applicable to business to be carried on under the contract.

24.2 All City of Coconut Creek review fees, application fees, permit fees or inspection fees are waived as per Ordinance No. 139-94. All county, state or federal fees and permits shall be applied for and paid by the Bidder as

necessary. Bidder must provide City with copy(s) of valid licensing by county/city agency for this type of work.

services rendered under this contract shall be those of the Contractor.

24.3 It is the Bidder's responsibility to have and maintain appropriate Certificate(s) of Competency and submit state registration (if required) for the work to be performed and valid for the jurisdiction in which the work is to be performed for all persons (including subcontractors) working on the project for whom a Certificate of Competency is required.

**25. Penalties for Misrepresentation**

Any material misrepresentation in the Contractor's response could result in termination of the Agreement, or any other appropriate administrative sanctions and/or legal actions.

**26. Restriction on Disclosure and Use of Data**

All proposals received by the City will become the sole property of the City. Confidential financial information obtained by the City from a Bidder is exempt from public disclosure to the extent allowed by law.

**27. Exceptions to the Bid**

Bidders must clearly indicate any exceptions they wish to take to any of the terms in this bid, and outline what alternative is being offered. The City, at its sole and absolute discretion, may accept or reject the exceptions. In cases in which exceptions are rejected, the City may require the Bidder to furnish the services or goods originally described, or negotiate an alternative acceptable to the City.

**28. Cancellation for Unappropriated Funds**

The obligation of the City for payment to a Contractor is limited to the availability of funds appropriated in a current fiscal period, and continuation of the contract into a subsequent fiscal period is subject to appropriation of funds, unless otherwise authorized by law.

**29. Independent Contractor**

The Contractor is an independent Contractor under this Agreement. Personal services provided by the Bidder shall be by employees of the Contractor and subject to supervision by the Contractor, and not as officers, employees, or agents of the City. Personnel policies, tax responsibilities, social security, health insurance, employee benefits, procurement policies unless otherwise stated in the bid document, and other similar administrative procedures applicable to

**30. Safety**

**30.1 Job Site**

The Successful Proposer shall be solely and completely responsible for conditions of the job site, including safety of all persons (including employees) and property during performance of the work. This requirement shall apply continuously and not be limited to normal working hours. Safety provisions shall conform to U.S. Department of Labor (OSHA), Florida Department of Labor (DOL), and all other applicable federal, state, county, and local laws, ordinances, codes, and regulations. Where any of these are in conflict, the more stringent requirement shall be followed. The Successful Proposer's failure to thoroughly familiarize himself with the aforementioned safety provisions shall not relieve him from compliance with the obligations and penalties set forth therein.

The City reserves the right, but is not obligated to make safety inspections at any time the Successful Proposer is on City property and to ensure safety rules are not being violated.

**31. Occupational Health and Safety**

In compliance with Title 29 *CFR (Code of Federal Regulations)*, Section 1910.1200, any Hazardous Chemical items which are delivered from a Contract resulting from this Proposal must be accompanied by a Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS). The MSDS sheets must be maintained by the user agency and must include the following information:

- a) The chemical name and the common name of the toxic substance.
- b) The hazards or other risks in the use of the toxic substance, including:
  - 1) The potential for fire, explosion, corrosiveness, and reactivity;
  - 2) The known acute and chronic health effects of risks from exposure, including the medical conditions which are generally recognized as being aggravated by exposure to the toxic substance; and



- 3) The primary routes of entry and symptoms of overexposure.
- c) The proper precautions, handling practices, necessary personal protective equipment, and other safety precautions in the use of or exposure to the toxic substances, including appropriate emergency treatment in case of overexposure.
- d) The emergency procedure for spill, fire, disposal, and first aid.
- e) A description in lay terms of the known specific potential health risks posed by the toxic substances intended to alert any person reading this information.
- f) The year and month, if available, that the information was compiled and the name, address, and the emergency telephone number of the manufacturer responsible for preparing the information.
- g) All substances shall remain in manufacturer's container with manufacturer's labeling.

ALL TOXIC SUBSTANCES MUST BE LABELED FOR IDENTIFICATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH OSHA STANDARDS.

**32. Conflict of Interest**

The award of any contract hereunder is subject to the provisions of Chapter 112, *Florida Statutes*. Bidders must disclose with their bid the name of any officer, director, partner, proprietor, associate or agent who is also an officer or employee of the City or any of its agencies. Further, all Bidders must disclose the name of any officer or employee of the City who owns, directly or indirectly, an interest of five percent (5%) or more in the Bidder's firm or any of its branches or affiliate companies.

**33. Indemnity/Hold Harmless**

The parties agree that one percent (1%) of the total compensation paid to Contractor for the work of the contract shall constitute specific consideration to Contractor for the indemnification to be provided under the Contract. The Contractor shall indemnify and hold harmless the City Commission, the City of Coconut Creek, and its agents and employees from and against all claims, damages, losses and expenses including attorney's fees arising out of or resulting from

the performance of the work provided that any such claim, damage, loss or expense (1) is attributable to bodily injury, sickness, disease or death, or to injury to or destruction of tangible property (other than the work itself) including the loss of use resulting therefrom, and (2) is caused in whole or in part by any negligent act or omission of the Contractor, any subcontractor, anyone directly or indirectly employed by any of them or anyone for whose acts any of them may be liable, regardless of whether or not it is caused in part by a party indemnified hereunder.

In any and all claims against the City, or any of their agents or employees by any employee of the Contractor, any subcontractor, anyone directly or indirectly employed by any of them or anyone for whose acts any of them may be liable, the indemnification obligation under this Paragraph shall not be limited in any way by any limitation on this amount or type of damages compensation or benefits payable by or for the Contractor or any subcontractor under Workers' Compensation Acts, Disability Benefit Acts or other Employee Benefit Acts. Nothing in this section shall affect the immunities of the City pursuant to Chapter 768, Florida Statutes, as amended from time to time, nor shall it constitute an agreement by the City to indemnify Contractor, its officers, employers, subcontractors or agents against any claim or cause of action.

**34. Public Entity Crimes Statement**

Pursuant to Section 287.133(2)(a), *Florida Statutes*, as amended from time to time, Contractor certifies that neither it nor its affiliate(s) have been placed on the convicted vendor list following a conviction for a public entity crime. If placed on that list, Contractor must notify the City immediately and is prohibited from providing any goods or services to a public entity; may not submit a bid on a contract with a public entity for the construction or repair of a public building or public work; may not submit bids on leases of real property to a public entity; may not be awarded or perform work as a contractor, supplier, subcontractor, or consultant under a contract with any public entity; and, may not transact business with any public entity in excess of the threshold amount provided in Section 287.017, Fla. Stat., as amended from time to time, for Category TWO (\$35,000) as may be amended, for a period of thirty-six (36) months from the date of being placed on the convicted vendor list.

### 35. Public Records

Consultant shall keep such records and accounts and require any and all Consultants and subconsultants to keep records and accounts as may be necessary in order to record complete and correct entries as to personnel hours charged to the project and any expenses for which Consultant expects to be reimbursed. Such books and records will be available at all reasonable times for examination and audit by City and shall be kept for a period of three (3) years after the completion of all work to be performed pursuant to this Agreement. Incomplete or incorrect entries in such books and records will be grounds for City's disallowance of any fees or expenses based upon such entries.

City is a public agency subject to Chapter 119, Florida Statutes. To the extent Consultant is a Consultant acting on behalf of the City pursuant to Section 119.0701, Florida Statutes, Consultant shall comply with all public records laws in accordance with Chapter 119, Florida Statute. In accordance with state law, Consultant agrees to:

- a) Keep and maintain all records that ordinarily and necessarily would be required by the City in order to perform the services.
- b) Upon request from the City's custodian of public records, provide the City with a copy of the requested records or allow the records to be inspected or copies within a reasonable time at a cost that does not exceed the costs provided in Chapter 119, Florida Statute, or as otherwise provided by law.
- c) Ensure that public records that are exempt or confidential and exempt from public records disclosure are not disclosed except as authorized by law for the duration of the Agreement term and following completion of the contract if the Consultant does not transfer the records to the City.
- d) Upon completion of the services within this Agreement, at no cost, either transfer to the City all public records in possession of the Consultant or keep and maintain public records required by the City to perform the services. If the Consultant transfers all public records to the City upon completion of the services, the Consultant shall destroy any duplicate public records that are exempt or confidential and exempt from

public records disclosure requirements. If the Consultant keeps and maintains public records upon completion of the services, the Consultant shall meet all applicable requirements for retaining public records. All records stored electronically must be provided to the City, upon request from the City's custodian of public records, in a format that is compatible with the information technology systems of the City.

- e) **IF THE VENDOR HAS QUESTIONS REGARDING THE APPLICATION OF CHAPTER 119, FLA. STAT., TO THE VENDOR'S DUTY TO PROVIDE PUBLIC RECORDS RELATING TO THIS AGREEMENT, CONTACT THE CITY'S CUSTODIAN OF PUBLIC RECORDS AT 954-973-6774, PublicRecords@coconutcreek.net, 4800 West Copans Road, Coconut Creek, FL 33063.**

If Consultant does not comply with this Section, the City shall enforce the Agreement provisions in accordance herewith and may unilaterally cancel this Agreement in accordance with state law.

### 36. Drug-Free Workplace Programs

Preference shall be given to businesses with Drug-Free Workplace Programs. Whenever two (2) or more bids which are equal with respect to price, quality and service are received by the City for the procurement of commodities or contractual services, a bid received from a business that completes the attached Drug-Free Workplace form certifying that it is a Drug-Free Workplace shall be given preference in the award process.

### 37. Collusion

The Bidder certifies that its bid is made without previous understanding, agreement, or connection either with any previous firms or corporations offering a bid for the same items, or with the City. The Bidder also certifies that

its bid is in all respects fair, without outside control, collusion, fraud, or otherwise illegal action.

**38. Audit Rights**

The City reserves the right to audit the records of the Contractor for the commodities and/or services provided under the contract at any time during the performance and term of the contract and for a period of three (3) years after completion and acceptance by the City. If required by the City, the Contractor agrees to submit to an audit by an independent certified public accountant selected by the City. The Contractor shall allow the City to inspect, examine and review the records of the Contractor in relation to this contract at any and all times during normal business hours during the term of the contract.

**39. Patents and Royalties**

The Contractor, without exception, shall indemnify and save harmless the City of Coconut Creek and its employees from liability of any nature and kind, including cost and expenses for or on account of any copyrighted, patented or un-patented invention, process, or article manufactured or used in the performance of the contract, including its use by the City of Coconut Creek. If the Contractor uses any design, device, or materials covered by letters, patent or copyright, it is mutually agreed and understood without exception that the bid prices shall include all royalties or costs arising from the use of such design, device, or materials in any way involved in the work.

**40. Purchase by Other Governmental Agencies**

If the Bidder is awarded a contract as a result of this bid document, he will, if he has sufficient capacity or quantities available, provide to other governmental agencies, so requesting, the products or services awarded in accordance with the terms and conditions of the bid document and resulting contract. Prices shall be F.O.B. delivered to the requesting agency.

**41. Assignment and Sub-Letting**

No assignment of this contract or any right occurring under this contract shall be made, in whole or in part, by the Contractor without the express written consent of the City Commission which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld. In the event of any assignment, the assignee shall assume the rights, duties and responsibilities of the Contractor.

**42. Choice of Law and Venue**

The Agreement shall be governed by the laws of the State of Florida as now and hereafter in force. The venue for actions arising out of the Agreement is situated exclusively in the Seventeenth Judicial Circuit Court in and for Broward County, Florida or the United States District Court for the Southern District of Florida.

**43. Gratuities and Kickbacks**

**43.1 Gratuities:** It is unethical for any person to offer, give, or agree to give any employee or for any employee to solicit, demand, accept or agree to accept from another person, a gratuity or an offer of employment in connection with any decision, approval, disapproval, recommendation, preparation of any part of program requirement or a purchase request, influencing the content of any specification or procurement standard, rendering of advice, investigation, audit, or in any other advisory capacity in any proceeding or application, request for ruling, determination claim or controversy, or other particular matter, pertaining to any program requirement or an Agreement or subcontract, or to any solicitation or proposal therefore.

**43.2 Kickbacks:** It shall be unethical for any payment, gratuity, or offer of employment to be made by or on behalf of a Sub-contractor under a Contract to Contractor or higher tier sub-contractor any person associated therewith, as an inducement of the award of a subcontract or order.

**43.3 Contract Clause:** The prohibition against gratuities and kickbacks prescribed in this section shall be conspicuously set forth in every Contract and subcontract and solicitation therefore.

**44. Protest Process**

Any bidder, proposer, or offeror who is aggrieved in connection with the solicitation or award of a contract must contact the procurement officer listed in the solicitation in writing (email or fax are acceptable) within three (3) working days after the posting of the notice of intent to award on the City's eBid System. A formal written protest shall be filed

within five (5) working days after filing the notice of protest.

The notice of protest must be either, hand-delivered and date and time stamped by the Office of the City Clerk, or sent via Certified U.S. mail, return-receipt requested. Failure to file a protest within the time-frame specified herein shall constitute a full waiver of all rights to protest the City's decision regarding the award of bid.

- (a) Only a bidder whose bid is timely received and fully complies with all terms and conditions of the bid may protest an award.
- (b) The written protest shall state in detail the specific facts and law or ordinance upon which the protest of the proposed award is based and shall include all pertinent documents and evidence.
- (c) Upon receipt of a formal written protest, the City may stop award proceedings until resolution of the protest; however, the award proceedings shall not be stopped if the City Manager decides the award must continue without delay in order to avoid an immediate and serious danger to the public health, safety, or welfare.
- (d) Any and all costs incurred by a protesting party in connection with a protest pursuant to this section shall be the sole responsibility of the protesting party.

A protest shall be reviewed and evaluated administratively and a decision in writing shall be forwarded to the protesting firm within ten (10) working days. If the protesting firm does not agree with the administrative decision, they may appeal the decision in writing to the City Manager or designee within five (5) working days. The notice of appeal must be either, sent Certified U.S. mail return-receipt requested or hand-delivered and date and time stamped by the Office of the City Clerk. The decision of the City Manager or designee will be final.

Any person who files a formal written protest shall post with the Chief Procurement Officer, at the time of filing the formal written protest a cashier's check made payable to the City of Coconut Creek in an amount equal to one percent (1%) of the City's estimate of the total

amount of the contract or \$5,000.00, whichever is less.

If the decision of the City Manager or designee upholds the action taken by the City, then the deposit becomes non-refundable and the City shall retain the deposit as payment for a portion of the cost and expense, including but not limited to, time spent by City staff in responding to the protest and in conducting the evaluation of the protest. If the decision of the City Manager or designee does not uphold the action taken by the City, then the City shall return the amount of the cashier's check to the person or entity filing the protest.

**45. Trade Secrets and Proprietary Confidential Business Information**

Documents submitted by Contractor which constitute trade secrets as defined in Section 812.081, Fla. Stat., as amended from time to time, or proprietary confidential business information as defined in Section 119.0713(4), as amended from time to time, and which are clearly marked or stamped as confidential by the Contractor at the time of submission to the City, will not be subject to public access. However, should a requestor of public records challenge Contractor's interpretation of the term "trade secrets" or "proprietary confidential business information," Contractor must provide a separate written indemnification and release guarantee, as approved by the City Attorney or designee, to the City to support its claim that the alleged trade secrets or proprietary confidential business information actually constitutes same as defined by law. Contractor must demonstrate the need for confidentiality of the documentation by showing a business advantage or an opportunity to obtain an advantage if the documentation was released. Otherwise, Contractor is required to timely seek a protective order in the Circuit Court of the Seventeenth Judicial Circuit in and for Broward County to prevent the City's release of the requested records

**46. Anti-Discrimination**

That Proposer shall for itself, its personal representatives, successors in interest, assigns, subcontractors, and sub-lessees, as a part of the consideration hereof, hereby covenant and agree that:

- a) No person on the ground of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, political affiliation, familial status, disability, sexual orientation, pregnancy, or gender identity or

expression shall be excluded from participation in, denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination in the use of or performance of services described herein; and

- b) No employee or applicant for employment on the ground of race, color, religion sex, national origin, age, marital status, political affiliation, familial status, disability, sexual orientation, pregnancy, gender identity or expression, or veteran or service member status shall be discriminated against during the course of employment or application for employment to be employed in the performance of this solicitation with respect to hiring, tenure, terms, conditions or privileges of employment, or any matter directly or indirectly related to performance of this solicitation.

That in the event of a proven breach of the above non-discrimination covenant, the City shall have the right to terminate the Agreement as if this Agreement had never been made.

## 47. Default

### 47.1 Termination for Cause: Immediate

In the event the Contractor defaults in or violates any of the terms, obligations, restrictions or conditions of this contract, the City may, upon written notice to the Contractor, terminate this contract effective immediately. In the event of such termination the City may hold the Contractor liable for any and all damages sustained by the City arising out of such default, including but not limited to costs of procurement and cover.

#### Procedures:

- a. Written notice shall be provided to Contractor setting forth the reasons for said termination and
- b. Only after the Contractor has been afforded a reasonable opportunity as determined by the City to correct alleged problems; and

- c. Only after a hearing before the City Manager is granted to Contractor, at which time the Contractor shall be given an opportunity to be heard.

### 47.2 Termination for Default

In the event the Contractor shall default in any of the terms, obligations, restrictions or conditions in the contract documents, the City shall give the Contractor written notice by registered, certified mail of the default and that such default shall be corrected or actions taken to correct such default shall be commenced within three (3) calendar days thereof. In the event the Contractor has failed to correct the conditions(s) of the default or the default is not remedied to the satisfaction and approval of the City, the City shall have all legal remedies available to it, including, but not limited to termination of the Contract in which case the Contractor shall be liable for any and all damages permitted by law arising from the default and breach of the contract.

### 47.3 Termination for Convenience of City

Upon thirty (30) calendar days written notice delivered by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the Contractor, the City may without cause and without prejudice to any other right or remedy, terminate the contract for the City's convenience whenever the City determines that such termination is in the best interest of the City. Where the contract is terminated for the convenience of the City the notice of termination to the Contractor must state that the contract is being terminated for the convenience of the City under the termination clause and the extent of termination. The Contractor shall discontinue all work on the appointed last day of service.

## 48. E-Verify

Effective January 1, 2021, public and private employers, contractors and subcontractors must require registration with, and use of the E-verify system in order to verify the work authorization status of all newly hired employees. Contractor acknowledges and agrees to utilize the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's E-Verify System to verify the employment eligibility of:

- a) All persons employed by Contractor to perform employment duties within Florida

during the term of the contract; and  
b) All persons (including subvendors/subconsultants/subcontractors) assigned by Contractor to perform work pursuant to the contract with the City. The Contractor acknowledges and agrees that use of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's E-Verify System during the term of the contract is a condition of the contract with the City of Coconut Creek.

48.1 By submitting the quote or proposal, the Contractor becomes obligated to comply with the provisions of Section 448.095, Florida Statutes, "Employment Eligibility," as amended from time to time. This includes, but is not limited to, utilization of the E-Verify System to verify the work authorization status of all newly hired employees, and requiring all subcontractors to provide an affidavit to Contractor attesting that the subcontractor does not employ, contract with, or subcontract with, an unauthorized alien. Contractor agrees to maintain a copy of such affidavit for the duration of this Agreement. Failure to comply with this paragraph will result in the termination of this Agreement as provided in Section 448.095, Florida Statutes, as amended, and Contractor may not be awarded a public contract for at least one (1) year after the date on which the Agreement was terminated. Contractor will also be liable for any additional costs to City incurred as a result of the termination of this Agreement in accordance with this Section.

**49. Scrutinized Companies pursuant to Section 287.135 and 215.473, Florida Statutes**

Contractor hereby certifies that it: a) has not been placed on the Scrutinized Companies that Boycott Israel List, nor is engaged in a boycott of Israel; b) has not been placed on the Scrutinized Companies with Activities in Sudan List nor the Scrutinized Companies with Activities in the Iran Petroleum Energy Sector List; and c) has not been engaged in business operations in Cuba or Syria. If City determines that Contractor has falsely certified facts under this paragraph or if Contractor is found to have been placed on the Scrutinized Companies Lists or is engaged in a boycott of Israel after the execution of this Agreement, City will have all rights and remedies to terminate this Agreement consistent with Section 287.135, Florida Statutes, as amended. The City reserves all rights to waive the certifications required by this paragraph on a case-by-case exception basis pursuant

to Section 287.135, Florida Statutes, as amended. Beginning January 1, 2024, the City must not enter into a contract that grants access to an individual's personal identifying information to any Foreign Country of Concern such as: People's Republic of China, the Russian Federation, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the Republic of Cuba, the Venezuelan regime of Nicolás Maduro, or the Syrian Republic, unless the Contractor provides the City with an affidavit signed by an authorized representative of the Contractor, under penalty of perjury, attesting that the Contractor does not meet any of the criteria in subparagraphs (2)(a)-(c) of Section 287.138, Florida Statutes, as may be amended. Beginning January 1, 2025, the City must not extend or renew any contract that grants access to an individual's personal identifying information unless the Contractor provides the City with an affidavit signed by an authorized representative of the Contractor, under penalty of perjury, attesting that the Contractor does not meet any of the criteria in subparagraphs (2)(a)-(c) of Section 287.138, Florida Statutes, as may be amended. Violations of this Section will result in termination of this Agreement and may result in administrative sanctions and penalties by the Office of the Attorney General of the State of Florida.

**50. WAIVER OF JURY TRIAL BY SUBMITTING A PROPOSAL WITH THE INTENT TO FORM A CONTRACTUAL RELATIONSHIP WITH THE CITY THEREUPON, THE PROPOSER AND/OR CONTRACTOR EXPRESSLY AGREES AND THE CITY ALSO EXPRESSLY AGREES TO WAIVE ANY RIGHTS TO REQUEST A TRIAL BY JURY OF ANY CIVIL LITIGATION RELATED TO THIS SOLICITATION, QUOTE AND/OR PROPOSAL. IF A PARTY FAILS TO WITHDRAW A REQUEST FOR A JURY TRIAL IN A LAWSUIT ARISING OUT OF THIS SOLICITATION OR QUOTE/PROPOSAL AFTER WRITTEN NOTICE BY THE OTHER PARTY OF VIOLATION OF THIS SECTION, THE PARTY MAKING THE REQUEST FOR JURY TRIAL WILL BE LIABLE FOR THE REASONABLE ATTORNEY'S FEES AND COSTS OF THE OTHER PARTY CONTESTING THE REQUEST FOR JURY TRIAL, AND SUCH AMOUNTS MUST BE AWARDED BY THE COURT IN ADJUDICATING THE MOTION.**

**51. Anti-Trust Violations; Denial or Revocation under Section 287.137, Florida Statutes**  
Pursuant to Section 287.137, Fla. Stat., (enacted under Chapter 2021-32, Laws of Florida) effective July 1, 2021, a person or an affiliate who has been placed on the antitrust violator vendor list (electronically published

and updated quarterly by the State of Florida) following a conviction or being held civilly liable for an antitrust violation may not submit a bid, proposal, or reply for any new contract to provide any goods or services to a public entity; may not submit a bid, proposal, or reply for a new contract with a public entity for the construction or repair of a public building or public work; may not submit a bid, proposal, or reply on new leases of real property to a public entity; may not be awarded or perform work as a contractor, supplier, subcontractor, or consultant under a new contract with a public entity; and may not transact new business with a public entity. By submitting this Bid, Contractor certifies neither it nor its affiliate(s) are on the antitrust violator vendor list at the time of submitting this Bid. False certification under this paragraph or being subsequently added to that list will result in rejection of this Bid and cancellation of any contract award, at the option of the City consistent with Section 287.137, Fla. Stat. as amended.

**52. Severability; Waiver of Provisions**

Any provision in this Solicitation that is prohibited or unenforceable in any jurisdiction shall, as to such jurisdiction, be ineffective to the extent of such prohibition or unenforceability without invalidating the remaining provisions hereof or affecting the validity or enforceability of such provisions in any other jurisdiction. The non-enforcement of any provision by the City shall not constitute a waiver of that provision nor shall it affect the enforceability of that provision or of the remainder of this Solicitation.

**53. Environmental and Social Government and Corporate Activism**

Pursuant to Section 287.05701, Florida Statutes, as may be amended, the City cannot give preference to a contractor based on social, political or ideological interests as defined in the statute. Contractor is also prohibited from giving preference to any of its subcontractors based on the above referenced factors. Violations of this Section will result in termination of this Agreement and may result in administrative sanctions and penalties by the Office of the Attorney General of the State of Florida.

**54. Discriminatory Vendor List**

Contractor hereby acknowledges its continuous duty to disclose to the City if the Contractor or any of its affiliates, as defined by Section 287.134(1)(a), Florida Statutes, are

placed on the Discriminatory Vendor List. Pursuant to Section 287.134(2)(a), Florida Statutes: "An entity or affiliate who has been placed on the discriminatory vendor list may not submit a bid, proposal, or reply on a contract to provide any goods or services to a public entity; may not submit a bid, proposal, or reply on a contract with a public entity for the construction or repair of a public building or public work; may not submit bids, proposals, or replies on leases of real property to a public entity; may not be awarded or perform work as a contractor, supplier, subcontractor, or consultant under a contract with any public entity; and may not transact business with any public entity."

**55. Labor Harmony**

Contractor agrees that all labor employed by Contractor, its agents or subcontractors for work on City property must be in harmony with all other labor being used by City or other contractors working on City's property. Contractor agrees to give City immediate notice of any threatened or actual dispute and will provide assistance as determined necessary by City to resolve any such dispute. Contractor, its agents or subcontractors, will remove from City's property any person objected to by City in association with the work.

**56. Third Parties Beneficiaries**

Neither Contractor nor City intends to directly or substantially benefit a third party by this Agreement. Therefore, the Parties acknowledge that there are no third-party beneficiaries to this Agreement and that no third party is or will be entitled to assert a right or claim against either of them based upon this Agreement.

**57. Agreement Subject to Funding**

The award of this solicitation to any specific Proposer is subject to necessary budget appropriations by the City Commission of the City of Coconut Creek in the annual budget for each fiscal year in which the services are provided, and is subject to termination without any penalty due to lack of funding.

**58. Remedies**

**58.1 Damages**

The City reserves the right to recover any ascertainable actual damages incurred as a result of the failure of the Contractor to perform in accordance with the requirements of this

Agreement, or for losses sustained by the City resultant from the Contractor's failure to perform in accordance with the requirements of this Agreement.

**58.2 Correction of Work**

If, in the judgment of the City, work provided by the Contractor does not conform to the requirements of this Agreement, or if the work exhibits poor workmanship, the City reserves the right to require that the Contractor correct all deficiencies in the work to bring the work into conformance without additional cost to the City, and / or replace any personnel who fail to perform in accordance with the requirements of this Agreement. The City is the sole judge of non-conformance and the quality of workmanship.

such terms are used in 48 CFR §§ 52.204-24 through 52.204-26. By submitting a proposal or quote hereunder, Contractor represents and certifies that Contractor and its applicable subcontractors must not provide or use such covered telecommunications equipment, system, or services for any scope of work performed for the City for the entire duration of this Agreement. If Contractor is notified of any use or provisions of such covered telecommunications equipment, system, or services by a subcontractor at any tier or by any other source, Contractor must promptly report the information in 40 CFR § 52.204-25(d)(2) to City.

END OF SECTION

**59. Disentanglement**

Contractor will complete the transition of any terminated work from Contractor and its subcontractors to City and/or any replacement providers City designates (collectively, the "Replacement Provider"), without causing any interruption of or adverse impact on the work, any other services and/or services provided by Third Parties (the "Disentanglement"). Without limiting the aforementioned obligations, Contractor will:

- a) Cooperate by promptly taking all steps required to assist City in completing the Disentanglement related to the work it had previously performed.
- b) Provide all information regarding the work that these parties will need to perform the Disentanglement.
- c) Promptly and orderly conclude all work as directed. This may include the documentation of work in progress and other measures to provide an orderly transition as set forth in Labor Harmony.

**60. Prohibited Telecommunications Equipment**

Contractor represents and certifies that it and its applicable subcontractors do not and will not use any equipment, system, or service that uses covered telecommunications equipment or services as a substantial or essential component of any system, or as critical technology as part of any system, as



## SECTION II

### SPECIAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

#### 1. Point of Contact

To ensure fair consideration for all Proposers, the City prohibits communication to or with any department, elected official or employee during the submission process, other than the Procurement Analyst. For Information concerning procedures for responding to this solicitation, and to register to the City's eBid System contact Randolph Merchant via email at [rmerchant@coconutcreek.net](mailto:rmerchant@coconutcreek.net).

For all other questions and request for information that would or would not materially affect the scope of services to be performed of the specifications, or for clarification please utilize the "Questions Tab" provided by Ion Wave for the eBid System at <https://coconutcreek.ionwave.net>. Questions must be received prior to the cut-off date specified in the RFP Schedule. Material changes, if any, to the scope of services or the solicitations process will only be transmitted by official written addendum issued by the City and uploaded to the eBid System as a separate addendum to the RFP.

The City shall not be responsible for oral interpretations given by any City employee or its representative.

#### 2. Proposal Format

Proposers should prepare their proposals as outlined in Item 3. Required Material. In preparing proposals, Proposers should assume that the City has no previous knowledge of their products, services or capabilities. Emphasis should be placed on clear, complete presentation of factual information. All sections of the proposal should be prepared and submitted in a straight forward, economical manner. Proposers are not to make any reference to information they submitted in previous Bids/RFPs or quotes submitted to the City.

#### 3. Required Material

The following material is required to be submitted with your proposal through the City's eBid System:

##### 3.1 Title Page

Title page showing the Request for Proposals' subject; the firm's name; the name, address and telephone number of a contact person; and the date of the proposal.

##### 3.2 Table of Contents

##### 3.3 Transmittal Letter

A signed letter of transmittal briefly stating the Proposer's understanding of the work to be done, the commitment to perform and work within the time period, a statement of why the firm believes itself to be best qualified to perform the engagement and a statement that the proposal is a firm and irrevocable offer for ninety (90) days from the date of the Proposal opening.

##### 3.4 Detailed Proposal

The detailed proposal should follow the order set forth in this Request for Proposals.

#### **4. Technical Proposal**

##### **4.1 General Requirements**

The purpose of the Technical Proposal is to demonstrate the qualifications, competence and capacity of the firms seeking to undertake an independent audit of the City of Coconut Creek in conformity with the requirements of this RFP. As such, the substance of proposals will carry more weight than their form or manner of presentation. The Technical Proposal should demonstrate the qualifications of the firm and of the particular staff to be assigned to this engagement. It should also specify an audit approach that will meet the RFP requirements.

The Technical Proposal should address all the points outlined in this RFP. The Proposal should be prepared simply, providing a straightforward, concise description of the Proposer's capabilities to satisfy the requirements of this RFP. While additional data may be presented, the following subjects, item numbers 4.2 through 5.4, must be included. They represent the criteria against which the proposal will be evaluated.

##### **4.2 Independence**

The firm should provide an affirmative statement that it is independent of the City of Coconut Creek as defined by generally accepted auditing standards.

The firm should also list and describe the firm's (or proposed subcontractors') professional relationships involving the City of Coconut Creek for the past five (5) years, together with a statement explaining why such relationships do not constitute a conflict of interest relative to performing the proposed audit.

In addition, the firm shall give the City of Coconut Creek written notice of any professional relationships entered into during the period of this agreement.

##### **4.3 License to Practice in Florida**

An affirmative statement should be included indicating that the firm and all assigned key professional staff are properly registered and licensed to practice in the State of Florida.

##### **4.4 Firm Qualifications and Experience**

The proposal should state the size of the firm, the size of the firm's governmental audit staff, the location of the office from which the work on this engagement is to be performed and the number and nature of the professional staff to be employed in this engagement on a full-time basis and the number and nature of the staff to be so employed on a part-time basis.

If the Proposer is a joint venture or consortium, the qualifications of each firm comprising the joint venture or consortium should be separately identified and the firm that is to serve as the principal Auditor should be noted, if applicable.

The firm is also required to submit a copy of the report on its most recent external quality control review, with a statement whether that quality control review included a review of specific government engagements.

The firm shall also provide information on the results of any federal or state desk reviews or field reviews of its audits during the past three (3) years. In addition, the firm shall provide information on the circumstances and status of any disciplinary action taken or pending against the firm during the past three (3) years with state or federal regulatory bodies or professional organizations.

**4.5 Partner, Supervisory and Staff Qualifications and Experience**

The firm should identify the principal supervisory and management staff, including engagement partners, managers, other supervisors, specialists, and staff who would be assigned to the engagement and indicate whether each such person is (registered/licensed) to practice as a certified public accountant in Florida. The firm also should provide information on the government auditing experience of each person, including information on relevant continuing professional education for the past three (3) years, the number of years of local government experience, experience as it relates to the latest GASB pronouncements, and membership in professional organizations relevant to the performance of this audit. The firm also should indicate how the quality of staff over the term of the agreement will be assured.

Engagement partners, manager, other supervisory staff and specialists may be changed if those personnel leave the firm, are promoted or are assigned to another office. Those personnel may also be changed for other reasons with the express prior written permission of the City of Coconut Creek. However, in either case, the City of Coconut Creek retains the right to approve or reject replacements.

Consultants and firm specialists mentioned in response to this RFP can only be changed with the express prior written permission of the City of Coconut Creek, which retains the right to approve or reject replacements.

Other audit personnel may be changed at the discretion of the Proposer provided that replacements have substantially the same or better qualifications or experience.

**5. Prior Engagements with the City of Coconut Creek**

The firm should list separately all engagements within the last five (5) years, ranked on the basis of total staff hours, for the City of Coconut Creek by type of engagement (i.e., audit, management advisory services, other). For each engagement, the firm should indicate the scope of work, date, engagement partners, total hours, the location of the firm's office from which the engagement was performed, and the name and telephone number of the principal client contact.

**5.1 Similar Engagements with other Government Entities**

For the firm's office that will be assigned responsibility for the audit, list the most significant engagements (maximum of five) performed in the last five (5) years that are similar to the engagement described in this Request for Proposals.

These engagements should be ranked on the basis of total staff hours. Indicate the scope of work, date, engagement partners, total hours, and the name and telephone number of the principal client contact.

Identify all current government clients and their fiscal year end date. Identify all government clients for which you will be engaged as auditor for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024. Provide the number of funds maintained by and the total revenues of the client for the most recent fiscal year audited.

## **5.2 Specific Audit Approach**

The proposal should set forth a work plan, including an explanation of the audit methodology to be followed, to perform the services required in Section III of this Request for Proposals. In developing the work plan, reference should be made to such sources of information as the City of Coconut Creek's budget and related materials, organizational charts, manuals and programs, and financial and other management information systems.

Proposers will be required to provide the following information on their audit approach:

- a) Proposed segmentation of the engagement.
- b) Level of staff and number of hours to be assigned to each proposed segment of the engagement.
- c) Sample size and the extent to which statistical sampling is to be used in the engagement.
- d) Extent of use of EDP software in the engagement.
- e) Type and extent of analytical procedures to be used in the engagement.
- f) Approach to be taken to gain and document an understanding of the City of Coconut Creek's internal control structure.
- g) Approach to be taken in determining laws and regulations that will be subject to audit test work.
- h) Approach to be taken in drawing audit samples for purposes of tests of compliance.

## **5.3 Identification of Anticipated Potential Audit Problems**

The proposal should identify and describe any anticipated potential audit problems, the firm's approach to resolving these problems and any special assistance that will be requested from the City of Coconut Creek.

## **5.4 Report Format**

The proposal should include sample formats for required reports.

## **5.5 Noncompliance with Proposal Specifications**

The proposal should identify each specific incident of noncompliance with the Request for Proposals' specifications.

## **6. Schedule of Proposal Prices**

### **6.1 Total All-Inclusive Maximum Price**

The Schedule of Proposal Prices should contain all pricing information relative to performing the audit engagement as described in this RFP. The total all-inclusive maximum price to bid is to contain all direct and indirect costs including all out-of-pocket expenses.

The City of Coconut Creek will not be responsible for expenses incurred in preparing and submitting a response. Such costs should not be included in the proposal.

Part 1 of the Schedule of Proposal Prices should include the following information:

- a) Name of Firm
- b) Certification that the person signing the proposal is entitled to represent the firm, empowered to submit the bid and authorized to sign a contract with the City of Coconut Creek.
- c) A Total All-inclusive Maximum Price for the 2024-2028 engagement, including hours and rates for scope of services described in Section III – Detailed Requirements - Scope of Services.

### **6.2 Proposal Prices for Special Considerations and Services**

Part II of the Schedule of Proposal Prices should include the cost of special services described in Section III – Detailed Requirements - Scope of Services, Item 3.

### **6.3 Out-Of-Pocket Expenses Included In The Total All-Inclusive Maximum Price and Reimbursement Rates**

Out-of-pocket expenses for firm personnel (e.g., travel, lodging and subsistence) will be reimbursed at the rates used by the City of Coconut Creek for its employees. All estimated out-of-pocket expenses to be reimbursed should be presented in Section V – Required Forms, Schedule of Proposal Prices. All expense reimbursements will be charged against the Total All-inclusive Maximum Price submitted by the firm.

### **6.4 Rates for Additional Professional Services**

If it should become necessary for the City of Coconut Creek to request the Auditor to render any additional services to either supplement the services requested in this RFP or to perform additional work as a result of the specific recommendations included in any report issued on this engagement, then such additional work shall be performed only if set forth in an addendum to the contract between the City of Coconut Creek and the firm. Any such additional work agreed to between the City of Coconut Creek and the firm shall be performed at the same rates, set forth in the schedule of fees and expenses included in Section V – Required Forms, Schedule of Proposal Prices – Part II.

**7. Competency of Proposers**

Proposals shall be considered only from firms that have the expertise in providing products and services similar to those specified herein and that are presently or recently engaged in the provision of these services. It may be necessary to produce evidence that they have established a satisfactory record of performance for a reasonable period of time.

**8. Conditions for Emergency/Hurricane or Disaster**

It is hereby made a part of this agreement that before, during and after a public emergency, disaster, hurricane, flood or other substantial loss that the City of Coconut Creek shall require a **“first priority”** basis for goods and services. It is vital and imperative that the majority of citizens are protected from any emergency situation which threatens public safety and health, as determined by the City Manager. Awarded Proposer agrees to rent/sell/lease all goods and services to the City or other governmental entities, as opposed to a private citizen or corporation, on a first priority basis. The City expects to pay a fair and reasonable price for all products/services in the event of a disaster, emergency or hurricane. Awarded Proposer shall furnish a twenty-four (24) hour telephone number in the event of such an emergency.

**9. Performance**

It is the intention of the City to obtain the products and services as specified herein from a source of supply that will give prompt and convenient service. The awarded Proposer must be able to perform as required under the scope of services. Any failure of Contractor to comply with these conditions may be cause for terminating any resulting contract immediately upon notice by the City. The City reserves the right to obtain these products from other sources, when necessary, should Contractor be unable to perform on a timely basis and such delay may cause harm to the using department or City residents.

**10. Schedule of Events**

The City will use the following tentative time schedule in the selection process. The City reserves the right to change and/or delay scheduled dates.

Event	Date
RFP Available	April 7, 2024
Non-Mandatory Pre-Proposal Meeting	N/A
Last Date of Receipt of Questions (5:00 PM EST)	April 22, 2024
Addendum Release (if required)	April 25, 2024
Proposals Due (11:00 AM EST)	May 8, 2024
Compliance Review	Week of May 8-16, 2024
Selection Committee Evaluations/Short List	June 5, 2024
Presentations by Short-listed Proposers	TBD
Final Ranking of Firm	TBD
Commission Award Contract	July 25, 2024

**11. Uncontrollable Circumstances ("Force Majeure")**

The City and Contractor will be excused from the performance of their respective obligations under this agreement when and to the extent that their performance is delayed or prevented by any circumstances beyond their control including, fire, flood, explosion, strikes or other labor disputes, act of God or public emergency, war, riot, civil commotion,

malicious damage, act or omission of any governmental authority, or delay or failure of service from a public utility needed for their performance, provided that:

- 11.1 The non performing party gives the other party prompt written notice describing the particulars of the Force Majeure including, but not limited to, the nature of the occurrence and its expected duration, and continues to furnish timely reports with respect thereto during the period of the Force Majeure;
- 11.2 The excuse of performance is of no greater scope and of no longer duration than is required by the Force Majeure;
- 11.3 No obligations of either party that arose before the Force Majeure causing the excuse of performance are excused as a result of the Force Majeure; and
- 11.4 The non performing party uses its best efforts to remedy its inability to perform. Notwithstanding the above, performance shall not be excused under this Section for a period in excess of two (2) months, provided that in extenuating circumstances, the City may excuse performance for a longer term. Economic hardship of the Contractor will not constitute Force Majeure. The term of the agreement shall be extended by a period equal to that during which either party's performance is suspended under this Section.

## 12. Proposal Submission

- 1.1 All proposals shall be submitted in the English language and pricing expressed in U.S. Dollars.
- 1.2 Proposer shall use the electronic eBid System to submit a response on or before the time indicated herein including all pricing as required. **The proposal shall be signed by a representative who is authorized to contractually bind the Proposer. Proposer shall upload the response as one (1) file to the eBid System.** The maximum file size is 250MB, however, that maximum applies to each file, not the Proposal itself. You are allowed an unlimited number of attachments with the 250MB being the maximum file size. Proposals will be held on the eBid System server as an encrypted document, with no access by the City of Coconut Creek until immediately following the proposal closing date and time, at which time all responses shall be securely released to the City.
- 1.3 Proposer's response shall not contain any alteration to the document posted other than entering data in spaces provided or including attachments as necessary. By submission of a response, Proposer affirms that a complete set of bid documents was obtained from the eBid System or from the Procurement Division only and no alteration of any kind has been made to the solicitation.
- 1.4 All blanks on the proposal form(s) must be completed and notarized if applicable. Names must be typed or printed below the signature. Facsimile proposals will not be accepted.
- 1.5 Each Proposer for services further represents that the Proposer has examined and is familiar with the local conditions under which the work is to be done and has correlated the observations with the requirements of the contract documents.

- 1.6 Only one (1) proposal from any individual, firm, partnership, or corporation, under the same or different names, will be considered. Should it appear to the City that any Proposer is interested in more than one (1) proposal for work contemplated, all proposals in which such a Proposer is interested will be rejected. Proposer by submitting this proposal certifies that the proposal is made without previous understanding, agreement or connection with any person, firm or corporation making a proposal for the same material, supplies, equipment or services and is in all respects, fair and without collusion of fraud.
- 1.7 Each Proposer by signature and by submission of a response, represents that the Proposer has read and understands the contract documents, has completed all required fields and the proposal has been made in accordance therewith.
- 1.8 The submittal of a proposal by a Proposer will be considered by the City as constituting an offer by the Proposer to perform the required services at the stated prices.
- 1.9 All proposals received from Proposers in response to this Request for Proposals will become the property of City and will not be returned to the Proposers. In the event of Contract award, all documentation produced as part of the Contract shall become the exclusive property of the City.
- 1.10 As the best interest of the City may require, the right is reserved to reject any and all proposals or waive any minor irregularity or technicality in proposals received. The City will determine which Proposers are “responsible and responsive”.

**13. Evaluation Method and Criteria**

A Selection Committee has been approved by the Coconut Creek City Commission via Motion 24-007 at its February 8, 2024 City Commission meeting for this Request for Proposals. The Selection Committee will be responsible for selecting the most qualified firm and then negotiating a contract. The Proposer with the highest ranking may be asked to make a detailed presentation of their product/service to the Selection Committee. The selection of a Proposer with whom to contract shall be based on the proposal most advantageous to the City based on the “best value to the City” using the criteria listed below.



**Criteria**

<b>Compliance with Request for Proposals - Mandatory Elements</b>
a) The audit firm is independent and licensed to practice in Florida
b) The audit firm's professional personnel have received adequate continuing professional education within the preceding three (3) years as defined by the U.S. General Accounting (GAO) Government Auditing Standards
c) The firm has no conflict of interest with regard to any other work performed by the City of Coconut Creek
d) The firm submits a copy of its most recent external quality control review report and the firm has a record of quality audit work
e) The firm adheres to the instructions in this Request for Proposals on preparing and submitting the proposal
<b>Technical Qualifications – Expertise and Experience</b>
a) The firm's past experience and performance on comparable government engagements
b) The quality of the firm's professional personnel to be assigned to the engagement and the quality of the firm's management support personnel to be available for technical consultation
c) The quality and experience of the firm's professional auditing personnel to be assigned to perform the Single Audit and Surtax Audit, if applicable
<b>Technical Qualifications - Audit Approach</b>
a) Adequacy of proposed staffing plan for various segments of the engagement
b) Adequacy of the general audit plan for the overall engagement
c) Adequacy of analytical procedures and sampling techniques
d) Adequacy of the audit plan for the Single Audit and Surtax Audit, if applicable
<b>Reference</b>
<b>Price</b>

**13.1** The above criterion is provided to assist the Proposers in the allocation of their time and efforts during the submission process. The criterion also guides the Selection Committee during the short-listing and final ranking of Proposers by establishing a general frame work for those deliberations. Past performance of Proposers services may also be included in determining recommendation for award. During the evaluation process, City reserves the right, where it may serve the City of Coconut Creek's best interest to request additional information or clarification from Proposers.

**13.2** Each proposal will be evaluated individually and in the context of all other proposals. Proposals must be fully responsive to the requirements described in this RFP and to any subsequent requests for clarification or additional information made by the City through written addenda to this RFP. Proposals failing to comply with the submission requirements, or those unresponsive to any part of this RFP, may be disqualified. There is no obligation on the part of the City to award the proposal to the lowest priced Proposer, and the City reserves the right to award the contract to the Proposer submitting the best overall responsive proposal which is most advantageous and in the best interest of the City in achieving the study or project, and to waive any irregularity or technicality in the proposals received. The City shall be the sole judge of the proposals that offer the best value and the resulting agreement that is in its best interest and its decision shall be final.

**13.3** While the City allows Proposers to take variances to the RFP terms, conditions, and specifications, the number and extent of variances taken will be considered in determining the Proposer who is most advantageous to the City.

**13.4** Price will not be the sole determinant factor in the election of an audit firm.

**14. Review of Proposals for Responsiveness**

Each proposal will be reviewed to determine if the proposal is responsive to the submission requirements outlined in this RFP. A responsive proposal is one which follows the requirements of the RFP, includes all documentation, is submitted in the format outlined in the RFP, is of timely submission, and has the appropriate signatures as required on each document. Failure to comply with these requirements may result in a proposal being deemed non-responsive.

**15. Selection Process**

The Selection Committee will evaluate all responsive proposals pursuant to Section 218.391 Florida Statutes based upon the information and references contained in the proposals as submitted. The Selection Committee will act in what they consider to be the best interest of the City and its residents. The Selection Committee will rank (where one (1) is the highest ranking) all responsive proposals and determine a minimum of three (3), if more than three (3) proposals are responsive, to be finalists for further consideration. If less than three (3) responsive proposals are received, the Selection Committee will give further consideration to all responsive proposals.

**16. Oral Presentations**

The top three (3) short-listed Proposers/finalists may be required to provide an oral presentation in support of their proposals or to exhibit or otherwise demonstrate the information contained therein or by conference telephone call for clarification purposes only, prior to a recommendation being presented to the City Commission. The Proposer's manager assigned to this contract shall be the sole presenter(s). The Selection Committee will then re-rank the finalists based on their proposal submission and presentation in accordance with the criteria listed herein. Should the City require such oral presentation, the Proposer will be notified seven (7) days in advance to appear before the Selection Committee.

The first ranked Proposer resulting from this process will be recommended to the Coconut Creek City Commission for award. The recommended Proposer may be required to appear before the City Commission to answer questions for contract award.

**17. Best and Final Offers**

When in the best interest of the City, the Procurement Officer may request the submission of best and final offers. The request for best and final offers shall be in writing and shall establish a common date and time for the submission. Best and final offers shall be submitted only once; provided, however, the Procurement Officer may make a written determination that it is in the City's best interest to conduct additional discussions or change the City's requirements and require another submission of best and final offers. Otherwise, no discussion of or changes in the best and final offers shall be allowed prior to award. Vendors shall also be informed that if they do not submit a notice of withdrawal or another best and final offer, their immediate previous offer will be construed as their best and final offer.

**18. Negotiations**

Contract(s) may be awarded on the basis of initial offers received, without discussion. Therefore, each initial offer should contain the Proposer's best terms from a monetary and technical standpoint. The City, at its sole discretion, reserves the right to enter into contract negotiations with the number one ranked, responsive, responsible Proposer. If the City and said Proposer cannot negotiate a Successful Contract, the City may terminate said negotiations and begin negotiations with the number two ranked, responsive, responsible Proposer. This process will continue until a contract acceptable to the City has been executed or all proposals are rejected. No Proposer shall have any rights against the City arising from such negotiations or termination thereof.

**19. Award of Contract**

**19.1** Responses will be electronically unsealed in a public forum and read aloud. A Selection Committee will evaluate the proposals based on the criteria stated herein. The City is the sole judge in evaluation considerations. It is the City's intent to award the contract to one (1) Proposer; however, the City reserves the right to award the contract to two (2) or more Proposers if the City deems it is in its best interest.

**19.2** The Contract will be awarded only to responsible and responsive Proposer(s) licensed and qualified by experience to do the work specified. The Proposer shall submit, prior to award of Contract, satisfactory evidence of his experience in like work and that he is fully prepared with the necessary organization, capital, and equipment to complete the scope of work. Proposer shall be insured, licensed, and certified by all applicable local, county, and state agencies.

**19.3** All Proposers will be notified in writing when the City Commission makes an award. The Contract award, if any, shall be made to the Proposer whose proposal shall be deemed by the City Commission to be in the best interest of the City. The City Commission's decision of whether to make the award is in the best interest of the City and shall be final.

**19.4** The Proposer warrants to the City that it is not insolvent, it is not in bankruptcy proceedings or receivership, nor is it engaged in or threatened with any litigation, arbitration or other legal or administrative proceedings or investigations of any kind which would have an adverse effect on its ability to perform its obligations under the Contract.

**19.5** This signed proposal is considered an offer on the part of the Proposer, which offer shall be considered accepted upon approval by the City Commission of Coconut Creek. Within ten (10) days after receiving Notice of Award, the Successful Proposer shall submit a revised Certificate of Insurance naming the City of Coconut Creek as additional insured for all liability policies for approval by the City's Risk Manager.

**20. Contract Term**

**20.1** The total contract term shall not exceed five (5) years. Pursuant to Code of Ordinances City of Coconut Creek, Florida Article III - City Commission, Section

308; no accountant or firm shall perform the annual audit for more than five (5) consecutive years unless the new contract term provides for a new lead auditor who has not worked on the City's audit in the previous five (5) years.

**20.2** In the event services are scheduled to end because of the expiration of this contract, the Contractor shall continue the service upon the request of the Contract Administrator. The extension period shall not extend for more than ninety (90) days beyond the expiration date of the existing contract. The Contractor shall be compensated for the service at the rate(s) in effect when the City invokes this extension clause.

**21. Price**

Proposer shall quote a firm, fixed cost for the items listed in the Detailed Requirements - Scope of Services and shall submit prices electronically through the eBid System "Line Items" tab. Pricing shall include all costs associated with the project including labor, equipment, supplies, management, etc.

**22. Insurance Requirements**

If the Contractor is required to go on to City of Coconut Creek property to perform work or services as a result of contract award, the Contractor shall assume full responsibility and expense to obtain all necessary insurance as required by the City of Coconut Creek. Throughout the term of this Contract, Successful Contractor and/or any and all subcontractors or anyone directly or indirectly employed by either of them shall maintain in force, at all times, insurance as follows:

**22.1 Workers' Compensation**

Statutory Limits of coverage to apply for all employees in compliance with all applicable State of Florida and federal laws. The policy must include Employers Liability with a limit of \$100,000.00 each accident.

**Note:** Contractors who are exempt from Florida's Workers' Compensation law must provide proof of such exemption issued by the Florida Department of Financial Services, Bureau of Workers' Compensation.

**22.2 General Liability**

Commercial General Liability insurance with limits not less than \$1,000,000.00 each occurrence combined single limit for Bodily Injury and Property Damage including coverage for premises/operations, contractual liability, personal injury, explosion, collapse, underground hazard, products/completed operations, broad form property damage, cross liability and severability of interest clause. This policy of insurance shall be written in an "occurrence" based format.

**22.3 Automobile Liability**

Comprehensive or Business Automobile Liability insurance with limits not less than \$500,000.00 each occurrence combined single limit for Bodily Injury and Property Damage including coverage's for owned, hired, and non-owned vehicles and/or equipment as applicable. This policy of insurance shall be written in an "occurrence" based format.

**22.4 Professional Liability / Errors and Omissions Coverage**

If the Contractor is to provide professional services under this Agreement, the Contractor must provide the City with evidence of Professional Liability insurance with, at a minimum of \$1,000,000.00 per occurrence and in the aggregate. "Claims-Made" forms are acceptable for Professional Liability insurance. Coverage shall include all claims arising out of the Contractor's operations or premises, any person directly or indirectly employed by the Contractor, and the Contractor's obligations under indemnification under this contract.

Contractor acknowledges that the City is relying on the competence of the Contractor to design the project to meet its functional intent. If it is determined during construction of the project that changes must be made due to Contractor's negligent errors and omissions, Contractor shall promptly rectify them at no cost to City and shall be responsible for additional costs, if any, of the project to the proportional extent caused by such negligent errors or omissions.

**22.5 General**

Should any of the required insurance be provided under a form of coverage that includes a general annual aggregate limit and provides that claims investigation or legal defense costs be included in such general annual aggregate limit, such general annual aggregate limit shall be double the occurrence limits specified above.

Should any required insurance lapse during the Contract term, requests for payments originating after such lapse shall not be processed until the City receives satisfactory evidence of reinstated coverage as required by this Contract, effective as of the lapse date. If insurance is not reinstated, City may, at its sole option terminate this Agreement effective on the date of such lapse of insurance.

Auto Liability and General Liability policies shall be endorsed to provide the following:

- a) Name as Additional Insured the City of Coconut Creek and its Officers, Agents, Employees and Commission Members.
- b) That such insurance is primary to any other insurance available to the additional insured with respect to claims covered under the policy and that insurance applies separately to each insured against whom claims are made or suit is brought, but the inclusion of more than one insured shall not operate to increase the insurer's limit of liability.

All policies shall be endorsed to provide sixty (60) days prior written notice of cancellation, non-renewal or reduction in coverage or limits to:

City of Coconut Creek – Procurement Division  
Risk Manager  
4800 West Copans Road  
Coconut Creek, Florida 33063

The issuing agency shall include full name, address and telephone number in each insurance certificate issued.

Certificates of Insurance, in form and evidencing all required insurance and endorsements, shall be submitted with the Proposer's Proposal Package. If Proposer is Successful Proposer, then prior to commencement of Contract, Proposer must submit a revised Certificate of Insurance naming the City of Coconut Creek as Additional Insured for all liability policies.

#### **22.6 Insurance Company and Agent**

All insurance policies herein required of the Successful Proposer shall be written by a company with a A.M. Best rating of A-VII or better that is duly authorized and licensed to do business in the State of Florida and shall be executed by agents, thereof that are duly licensed as agents in said state.

**Note:** A copy of **any** current Certificate of Insurance shall be included with your proposal.

### **23. Dispute Resolution**

#### **23.1 Dispute Resolution Process**

- a) All claims, disputes and controversies arising out of or related to the performance, interpretation, application or enforcement of this Agreement, including but not limited to claims for payment and claims for breach of this Agreement, shall be settled internally with the City Manager or designee.
- b) In the event a dispute cannot be settled through the chain of command set forth in this section, all claims, disputes and controversies shall be referred to mediation before initiation of any adjudicative action or proceeding at law or in equity, unless it shall be unreasonable to do so or an emergency situation or necessity dictates otherwise. All applicable statutes of limitations and defenses based on the passage of time shall be tolled while the mediation process is pending. The parties will take all reasonable measures necessary to effectuate such tolling.
- c) Either party may initiate the mediation process by delivering written notice to the other party that sets forth with particularity the nature of the party's claim or demand, the authority for making the claim or demand, a proposed remedy, the nature and extent of any monetary claim, and a request for mediation. The Contractor and City shall then participate fully in the mediation process and conscientiously attempt to resolve their dispute. The mediation shall be conducted in Broward County, Florida, in accordance with the Florida Supreme Court's mediation rules, within sixty (60) days after the joint selection of a certified civil mediator who is mutually acceptable to both parties. If a dispute is not resolved pursuant to mediation within sixty (60) days after the initiation of the mediation conference, either party to the dispute may elect to resolve the dispute by initiating litigation in a court of competent jurisdiction in Broward County, Florida, after providing ten (10) days' advance written notice to the other party.
- d) The parties agree that any claim filed in state or federal court concerning this Agreement shall be heard by a judge, sitting without a jury. THE CITY

AND THE CONTRACTOR HEREBY KNOWINGLY, VOLUNTARILY, AND PERMANENTLY WAIVE ANY RIGHT THEY MAY HAVE TO A JURY TRIAL CONCERNING THE PERFORMANCE, INTERPRETATION, APPLICATION, OR ENFORCEMENT OF THIS AGREEMENT.

**24. Inspection, Direction, and Payment**

- 24.1** The work will be conducted under the general direction of the Finance and Administrative Services Director or designee, and is subject to inspection by his appointed inspectors to ensure compliance with the terms of the Contract.
- 24.2** Contractor shall submit invoice after each event. The City shall pay the Contractor the amount due within thirty (30) days after approval of said invoice by the Finance and Administrative Services Director or designee.
- 25.3** If, at any time during the Contract, the City shall not approve or accept the Contractor's work performance, and an agreement cannot be reached between the City and the Contractor to resolve the problem to the City's satisfaction, the City shall negotiate with the Contractor on a payment for the services provided.

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## **SECTION III DETAILED REQUIREMENTS – SCOPE OF SERVICES**

### **I. Introduction**

#### **1. Work Objective**

The City of Coconut Creek is requesting proposals from qualified firms of licensed certified public accountants pursuant to Florida Statutes and the City's Charter to audit its financial statements for a five (5) year period, beginning with the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024. The audit shall be conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion of the general-purpose financial statements taken as a whole and to determine whether operations were conducted in accordance with legal and regulatory requirements. All audits and services are to be performed in accordance with the provisions contained in this Request for Proposals, and applicable Federal and State of Florida laws, auditing standards, regulations and requirements, including accounting standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP) and the standards for financial audits set forth in the U.S. General Accountability Office's (GAO) Government Auditing Standards, the Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (Uniform Guidance), Audits of State and Local Governments and the provisions of the Florida Single Audit Act, F.S. 215.97, and F.S. 218.39. In the event of any inconsistency between the terms of this RFP and applicable law, the more stringent requirement for the services to be performed shall apply. Pricing includes all cost associated with auditing any new GASB pronouncements.

#### **2. Scope of Work to be Performed**

The City of Coconut Creek requires the Auditor to express an opinion on the fair presentation of its basic financial statements in conformity with accounting standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP) and reporting requirements of the Government Accounting Standards Board (GASB).

The Auditor is not required to audit the combining and individual fund and account group financial statements and supporting schedules. However, the Auditor is to provide an "in relation to" report on the combining and individual fund financial statements and supporting schedules based on the auditing procedures applied during the audit of the basic financial statements. The Auditor is not required to audit the statistical section of the report.

The Auditor shall also be responsible for performing certain limited procedures involving required Management's Discussion and Analysis (MDA) and the required supplementary information required by the GASB as mandated by Generally Accepted Auditing Standards (GAAS).

The Auditor is not required to audit the schedule of federal and state financial assistance. However, the auditor is to provide an "in relation to" report on that supplemental information, based on the auditing procedures applied during the audit of the financial statements.

The City of Coconut Creek may also require the Auditor to express an opinion on the fair presentation of the City's annual report on surtax-funded municipal



transportation projects, if applicable, in conformity with accounting standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP) and in accordance with the Transportation Surtax Interlocal Agreement between the City of Coconut Creek and Broward County.

The City of Coconut Creek will send the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) to the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) for review in the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting Program. The auditor will be required to provide special assistance to the City of Coconut Creek to meet the requirements of that program by providing technical advice to ensure award of certification. The City of Coconut Creek has received the Certificate for the last forty (40) fiscal years.

The Auditor will also assist in the Financial Condition Assessment, including applying any changes to the Auditor General requirements.

- a) The Auditor will assist the City in complying with changes in any reporting requirements to remain in conformity with GAAP.
- b) The auditor may be requested to perform other auditing services at the discretion of the City. Any such additional work agreed to between the City of Coconut Creek and the selected firm shall be performed only upon a written agreement and in accordance with provisions specified in the Request for Proposal.

**a. Auditing Standards to be Followed**

To meet the requirements of this Request for Proposals, the audit shall be performed in accordance with:

- i. Generally accepted auditing standards and audits of State and Local government units as set forth by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA);
- ii. The Standards set forth for financial audits under Government Auditing Standards issued by the Comptroller General of the United States;
- iii. The requirements of Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (Uniform Guidance);
- iv. The provisions of the Florida Single Audit Act (as amended);
- v. Rules of the State of Florida Department of Financial Services Regulations;
- vi. Rules adopted by the State of Florida Auditor General for form and content of governmental unit audits;
- vii. Section 215.97 and 218.39, Florida Statutes, and any other applicable Florida Statutes;

- viii. Other applicable federal, state and local laws or regulations or professional guidance not specifically listed above as well as any additional requirements, which may be adopted by these organizations in the future.

**b. Opinions and Reports to be Issued**

Following the completion of the audit of the fiscal year's financial statements, the auditor shall issue the following:

- i. An opinion on the fair presentation of the basic financial statements as a whole, in conformity with GAAP.
- ii. An "in relation to" opinion on the combining and individual fund financial statements and supporting schedules.
- iii. A report on the internal control over financial reporting and other matters based on an audit of financial statements performed in accordance with government auditing standards.
- iv. A report on compliance with laws and regulations.
- v. A management letter in accordance with the rules of the Auditor General of the State of Florida.
- vi. Reports required by the Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (Uniform Guidance), as may be amended, to include, but not limited to:
  - a) An "in relation to" opinion on the schedules of federal and state financial assistance.
  - b) A report on compliance on each major program and on internal control over compliance in accordance with the Uniform Guidance.
  - c) A schedule of expenditures of federal awards and notes to schedule of federal awards.
  - d) A schedule of findings and questioned costs.
  - e) A schedule of prior audit findings.
  - f) A report on compliance with requirements applicable to State Financial Assistance.
  - g) Reports as may be required to comply with Florida Statutes, Sections 215.97, and 218.39.
- vii. For any irregularities and illegal acts the auditor shall be required to make an immediate, written report of all irregularities and illegal acts of which they become aware to the City Manager, Deputy City Manager, and City Commission, as appropriate.

- viii. Coordinate with City staff in the production of an ACFR in compliance with GFOA guidelines (to the extent desired by City staff).
- ix. Physical production of up to thirty (30) printed copies and PDF format electronic copy of the ACFR.

Use of the audited financial statements, opinions or any of the above named reports will not result in additional compensation unless their use requires additional certification or services on the part of the firm. The auditor shall submit a signed audit report on the fair presentation of the financial statements in conformity with GAAP no later than March 31, for the previous fiscal year ending September 30, along with the required reports on internal control structure and compliance with laws and regulations.

- a) Pricing includes all cost associated with auditing any new GASB pronouncements.

### **3. Special Considerations and Services**

- a) The City of Coconut Creek will annually send its ACFR to GFOA for review in their Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting program. It is anticipated that the auditor will be required to provide special assistance to the City to meet the requirements of that program by providing technical advice to ensure award of certification.
- b) The schedules of federal and state financial assistance and related auditor's report, as well as the reports on the internal control structure and compliance, are to be issued in conjunction with the ACFR.
- c) The auditor will assist the City in complying with changes in reporting requirements to remain in conformity with GAAP.
- d) The auditor will assist the City with the physical production of up to thirty (30) printed and bound color copies and a PDF formatted electronic copy of the ACFR.
- e) The selected firm will make a "good faith effort" that any employee that works on the City of Coconut Creek audit will return each year to the City of Coconut Creek audit if they are employed by the Firm in their Municipal Audit Section of the Firm.
- f) The City of Coconut Creek may, during the period of this contract, prepare one or more official statements in connection with the sale of debt securities, which will contain the basic financial statements and the Auditor's report thereon. The auditor shall be required, if requested by the fiscal advisor and/or the underwriter, to issue a "consent and citation of expertise" as the auditor.

- g) The City will periodically require an Electronic Data Processing (EDP) audit of its Information Systems. A detailed scope of services will be developed and prices will be negotiated when services are requested.

**4. Working Paper Retention and Access to Working Papers**

All working papers and reports must be retained, at the auditor's expense, in accordance with requirements and procedures set forth by the General Records Schedule for State and Local Government Agencies as promulgated by the Division of Library and Information Services (a division of the Florida Department of State). The auditor will be required to make working papers available, upon request, to the following parties or their designees:

1. City of Coconut Creek
2. U.S. General Accountability Office (U.S. GAO)
3. Cognizant Agency
4. Parties designated by the federal or state governments or by the City of Coconut Creek as part of an audit quality review process
5. Auditors of entities of which the City of Coconut Creek is a sub-recipient of grant funds

In addition, the firm shall respond to the reasonable inquiries of successor auditors and allow successor auditors to review working papers relating to matters of continuing accounting significance. As requests for copies of working papers are fulfilled, the auditors will be required to notify the Director of Finance and Administrative Services of the request, as appropriate.

**5. Assistance to be provided to the Auditor and Report Preparation**

▪ **Finance and Administrative Services Department**

The Finance and Administrative Services Department staff and responsible management personnel will be available during the audit to assist the firm by providing information, documentation and explanations. The preparation of confirmations will be the responsibility of the City of Coconut Creek. Finance and Administrative Services Department staff will provide all data as requested, but the audit firm is responsible to format the data to accommodate their required schedules and work papers.

▪ **Information Technology (IT) Assistance**

Certain IT personnel will be available to assist the auditor in performing the engagement. IT personnel will also be available to provide systems documentation and explanations. The Auditor will not be provided with computer time or the use of the City of Coconut Creek's computer hardware and software.

▪ **Work Area, Network, Telephones, Photocopying and Fax Machines**

The City of Coconut Creek will provide the auditor with reasonable workspace, desks and chairs. The auditor will also be provided access to telephone lines, photocopying facilities, facsimile machines and internet for the on-site audit staff. The auditors will provide their own laptop computers and necessary peripheral devices.

Any cost or charge incurred not associated with the engagement will be paid by the Auditor.

▪ **Report Preparation**

Auditor shall prepare all individual, combining and entity wide Financial Statements, and issue the Independent Auditor's Report. The City will provide the front covers, back covers, and tab inserts, as well as the transmittal letter, MDA, statistical tables and update the notes to the financial statements. Preparation and color printing and binding (up to 30 copies) of the ACFR shall be the responsibility of the Auditor. The Auditor shall also provide an electronic copy of the ACFR in PDF format. The cost of the physical production (printing) of the ACFR should be listed separately.

End of Section