



Fulton County, GA

Department of Purchasing & Contract Compliance

Cecil S. Moore, CPPO, CPPB, CPSM, C.P.M., A.P.P
Director

April 20, 2010

Re: #10RFP73063K-JD – Standby Professional Services for Facilities Related Planning, Design, Engineering and Assessments-Energy Management and Integrated Building Commissioning Services

Dear Bidders:

Attached is one (1) copy of Addendum 1, hereby made a part of the above referenced **#10RFP73063K-JD – Standby Professional Services for Facilities Related Planning, Design, Engineering and Assessments-Energy Management and Integrated Building Commissioning Services.**

Except as provided herein, all terms and conditions in the ref **#10RFP73063K-JD – Standby Professional Services for Facilities Related Planning, Design, Engineering and Assessments-Energy Management and Integrated Building Commissioning Services** referenced above remain unchanged and in full force and effect.

Sincerely,

Joyce Daniel

Joyce Daniel, CPPB
Assistant Purchasing Agent

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This Addendum forms a part of the contract documents and **modifies** the original RFP documents as noted below:

REVISIONS:

Section 2, Instructions to Proposers has been revised. See Attachment A for revisions.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF ADDENDUM NO. 1

The undersigned proposer acknowledges receipt of this addendum by returning one (1) copy of this form with the proposal package to the Purchasing Department, Fulton County Public Safety Building, 130 Peachtree Street, Suite 1168, Atlanta, Georgia 30303 by the RFP due date and time **Monday, May 17, 2010, 11:00 A.M.**

This is to acknowledge receipt of Addendum No. 1, _____ day of _____, 2010.

_____ Legal Name of Bidder

_____ Signature of Authorized Representative

_____ Title

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ATTACHMENT A

Revised

Section 2 Instructions to Proposers

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SECTION 2 INSTRUCTIONS TO PROPOSERS

2.1 PROCUREMENT PROCESS

The procurement will be on a formally advertised basis. All technical requirements, unless otherwise specified, must be met, or be capable of being met by the Proposer or their proposal will be disqualified as being non-responsive.

2.2 CONTRACT DEFINITIONS

In addition to any other terms that may be defined in this solicitation, the following terms have the following meaning:

- A. Addendum – Revision to the RFP documents issued by the County prior to the receipt of proposals.
- B. Agreement – refers to the executed contract between the County and Contracting Entity.
- C. Burden – The cost of mandatory and customary contributions and benefits applied to Direct Salary Expense, such as employment taxes and other statutory employment benefits, insurance, sick leave, holidays, vacations, pensions and similar contributions and benefits.
- D. County – Fulton County Government and its authorized representatives.
- E. Contact Person – Purchasing staff designated by the Fulton County Department of Purchasing and Contract Compliance to submit any questions and suggestions to.
- F. Direct Personnel Expense (DPE) – The sum of Direct Salary Expense and Burden.
- G. Direct Salary Expense (DSE) – The direct salary of the assigned staff position without the portion of the cost of mandatory and customary contributions and benefits related thereto, such as employment taxes and other statutory employment benefits, insurance, sick leave, holidays, vacations, pensions and similar contributions and benefits.
- H. LEED – Leadership in Energy and Environment Design.
- I. Offeror – the entity of individual submitting a proposal in response to this RFP.
- J. Owner – Fulton County Government
- K. Proposal – the document submitted by the offeror in response to this RFP.
- L. Proposer – the entity or individual submitting a proposal in response to his RFP.
- M. Scope of Work – All the services specified, indicated, shown, or contemplated by the Contract, and furnishing by the Contractor of all materials, equipment, labor, methods, processes, construction and manufacturing materials and equipment, tools, plants, supplies, power, water, transportation and other things necessary to complete such services in accordance with the Contract.
- N. U.S.G.B.C. – United States Green Building Council.
- O. EM/BC- Energy Management/Building Commission

2.3 NO CONTACT DURING PROCUREMENT PROCESS

It is the policy of Fulton County that the evaluation and award process for County contracts shall be free from both actual and perceived impropriety, and that contacts between potential vendors and County officials, elected officials and staff regarding pending awards of County contracts shall be prohibited.

- A. No person, firm, or business entity, however situated or composed, obtaining a copy of or responding to this solicitation, shall initiate or continue any verbal or written communication regarding this solicitation with any County officer, elected official, employee, or designated County representative, between the date of the issuance of this solicitation and the date of the County Manager's recommendation to the Board of Commissioners for award of the subject contract, except as may otherwise be specifically authorized and permitted by the terms and conditions of this solicitation.
- B. All verbal and written communications initiated by such person, firm, or entity regarding this solicitation, if same are authorized and permitted by the terms and conditions of this solicitation, shall be directed to the Purchasing Agent.
- C. Any violation of this prohibition of the initiation or continuation of verbal or written communications with County officers, elected officials, employees, or designated County representatives shall result in a written finding by the Purchasing Agent that the submitted bid or proposal of the person, firm, or entity in violation is "non-responsive", and same shall not be considered for award.

2.4 CLARIFICATION & ADDENDA

Proposers may submit requests for clarifications or interpretations regarding this RFP and the Contract. Proposers must prepare such requests in writing for the County's consideration as set forth in this section of this RFP. While the County has not placed an initial limitation on the number of requests which can be submitted, Proposers are cautioned that if Proposers do not request meaningful clarifications or interpretations in an organized manner (e.g., limited frequency of requests), the County will set restrictions on the frequency and number of requests permitted. The County will not respond to requests, oral or written, received after **Wednesday, May 5, 2010 at 2:00 P.M.**, local prevailing time. Proposers are advised that this section places no obligation on the part of the County to respond to any or all requests for clarification or interpretation, and that the County's failure to respond to any such request will not relieve the Proposer of any obligations or conditions required by this RFP.

Requests for clarification or interpretation regarding this RFP shall only be submitted in writing (letter, fax or email) to:

Fulton County Department of Purchasing and Contract Compliance
Attn: Joyce Daniel
Public Safety Building
130 Peachtree Street S.W. Suite 1168
Atlanta GA 30303
Email: Joyce.Daniel@fultoncountyga.gov
Tel: 404-612-5824 or Fax: 404-335-5806

RE: #10RFP73063K-JD-Standby Professional Services for Facilities Related Planning, Design, Engineering and Assessments - Energy Management and Integrated Building Commissioning Services

All responses to written requests for clarification, interpretation, or additional information will be distributed as addenda to this RFP and posted on the Fulton County website www.fultoncountyga.gov.

No oral interpretation, instruction, or information concerning this RFP given by any employee or agent of the County shall be binding on the County. Proposers who submit a Proposal in reliance on any such oral information risk having their response to this RFP deemed non-responsive by the County. Only written responses issued by addendum to this RFP should be considered by the Proposers.

During the period provided for the preparation of Proposals, the County may issue addenda to this RFP. These addenda will be numbered consecutively and will be posted on the Fulton County website, www.fultoncountyga.gov. These addenda will be issued by, or on behalf of, the County and will constitute a part of this RFP. Each Proposer is required to acknowledge receipt of each addendum by submitting an executed acknowledgment form. This acknowledgment shall include all addenda distributed prior to the Proposal Submission Date. All responses to this RFP shall be prepared with full consideration of the addenda issued prior to the Proposal Submission Date.

2.5 TERM OF CONTRACT

The initial term of the contract shall be for a one (1) year term, with two (2), one (1) year renewal options.

2.6 MULTI-YEAR CONTRACT TERM

The period of this Agreement shall consist of a series of Terms as defined below. The County is obligated only to pay such compensation under this Agreement as may lawfully be made from funds budgeted and appropriated for that purpose during the County's then current fiscal year.

a. Commencement Term

The "Commencement Term" of this Agreement shall begin on the date of execution of the Agreement in the year 2010, the starting date, and shall end absolutely and without further obligation on the part of the County on the 31st day of December, 2010. The Commencement Term shall be subject to events of termination and the County's termination rights that are described elsewhere in this Agreement. Notwithstanding anything contained in this Agreement, the County's obligation to make payments provided under this Agreement shall be subject to the County's annual appropriations of funds for the goods, services, materials, property and/or supplies procured under this Agreement by the County's governing body and such obligation shall not constitute a pledge of the County's full faith and credit within the meaning of any constitutional debt limitation.

b. Renewal Terms

Unless the terms of this Agreement are fulfilled with no further obligation of the part of either party on or before the final date of the Commencement Term as stated above, or unless an event of termination as defined within this Agreement occurs during the Commencement Term, this Agreement may be renewed at the written option of the County upon the approval of the County Board of Commissioners for two (2) one-year ("Renewal Terms"). However, no Renewal Term of this Agreement shall be authorized nor shall any Renewal Term of this Agreement commence unless and until each Renewal Term has first been approved in writing by the County Board of Commissioners for the calendar year of such Renewal Term. If approved by the County Board of

Commissioners, the First Renewal Term shall begin on the 1st day of January, 2011 and shall end no later than the 31st day of December, 2011. If approved by the County Board of Commissioners, the Second Renewal Term shall begin on the 1st day of January, 2012 and shall end no later than the 31st day of December, 2012. If the County chooses not to exercise any Renewal Term as provided in this Section, then the Term of this Agreement then in effect shall also be deemed the "Ending Term" with no further obligation on the party of either party.

c. Term Subject to Events of Termination

All "Terms" as defined within this Section are subject to the section of this Agreement which pertain to events of termination and the County's rights upon termination.

d. Same Terms

Unless mutually agreed upon in writing by the parties, or otherwise indicated herein, all provisions and conditions of any Renewal Term shall be exactly the same as those contained within in this Agreement.

e. Statutory Compliance Regarding Purchase Contracts.

The parties intend that this Agreement shall, and this Agreement shall operate in conformity with and not in contravention of the requirements of O.C.G.A. § 36-60-13, as applicable, and in the event that this Agreement would conflict therewith, then this Agreement shall be interpreted and implemented in a manner consistent with such statute.

2.7 REQUIRED SUBMITTALS

See **Exhibit 1** for the Required Submittal Checklist. This checklist will assist you to ensure that all required submittals are submitted. Failure to submit all required submittals may deem your proposal non-responsive.

2.8 PROPOSAL EVALUATION

All proposals will be evaluated using the criteria specified in Section 4 of this RFP. Selection will include an analysis of proposals by a selection committee composed of two (2) members from the General Services/Public Works Department, two (2) Purchasing Staff members and one (1) Finance Staff member who will review the proposal submittals in accordance with the submittal requirements and the evaluation criteria set forth in Section 4 of this RFP. The committee may request oral interviews and/or site visits.

2.9 DISQUALIFICATION OF PROPOSERS

The submission of more than one (1) proposal to the County as the primary Proposer or member of a joint venture for the same work by and individual firm, partnership or corporation under the same or different names may be considered as sufficient for disqualification of a Proposer and the rejection of the proposal.

2.10 RESERVED RIGHTS

The County reserves the right to accept or reject any and/or all proposals, to waive irregularities and technicalities, and to request resubmission. Any sole response that is received may or may not be rejected by the County depending on available competition and timely needs of the County. There is no obligation on the part of the County to award the contract to the lowest

proposer and the County reserves the right to award the contract to the responsible proposers submitting responsive proposals with resulting agreements most advantageous and in the best interest of the County. The County shall be the sole judge of the proposals and the resulting agreements that are in its best interest and its decision shall be final. Also, the County reserves the right to make such investigation as it deems necessary to determine the ability of any proposer to perform the work or service requested. Information the County deems necessary to make this determination shall be provided by the proposer. Such information may include, but shall not be limited to, current financial statements by an independent CPA; verification of availability of personnel; and past performance records.

2.11 APPLICABLE LAWS

All applicable laws and regulations of the State of Georgia and ordinances and regulations of Fulton County shall apply. Protestors shall seek resolution of their complaints in the manner provided in the Fulton County Code of Laws §2-324 which is incorporated by reference herein.

2.12 MINIMUM PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS FOR PRIME CONTRACTORS

Pursuant to Fulton County Code 102-357, Prime Bidders on the project must perform no less than 51% of the scope of work required under the project.

2.13 INSURANCE AND RISK MANAGEMENT PROVISIONS

Insurance and Risk Management provisions and Indemnification and Hold Harmless provisions are outlined in Section 7 of this RFP.

2.14 ACCURACY OF RFP AND RELATED DOCUMENTS

The County assumes no responsibility that the specified technical and background information presented in this RFP, or otherwise distributed or made available during this procurement process, is complete or accurate. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the County will not be bound by or be responsible for any explanation or interpretation of the Proposal documents other than those given in writing as an addendum to this RFP.

Should a recipient of this RFP find discrepancies in or omissions from this RFP and related documents, the recipient of this RFP shall immediately notify the Purchasing Contact Person identified in Section 1.10 in writing at the following address: Fulton County Department of Purchasing and Contract Compliance, Public Safety Bldg, 130 Peachtree Street S.E., Suite 1168 Atlanta, GA 30303. A written addendum, if necessary, then will be made available to each recipient of this RFP.

2.15 RESPONSIBILITY OF PROPOSER

Each Proposer is encouraged to conduct all necessary investigations and review all available and relevant data and information, which are necessary in its judgment in order to assume this responsibility prior to the submittal of its Proposal. Proposers are reminded of Fulton County's "**No Contact during Procurement**" policy and may only contact the person designated by the RFP.

2.16 CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION

If any Proposal contains technical, financial, or other confidential information that the Proposer believes is exempt from disclosure, the Proposer must clearly label the specific portions sought to be kept confidential and specify on what the exemption is based. The County, at its sole discretion and subject to applicable law, will determine whether such exemption applies. The County has sole discretion to make such determination regarding the disclosure of information, and by responding to this RFP, Proposers waive any challenge to the County's decisions in this

regard. Marking all or substantially all of a Proposal as confidential may result in the Proposer being deemed non-responsive to this RFP.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, Proposers recognize and agree that the County, its staff, and its Consultants will not be responsible or liable in any way for any losses that the Proposer may suffer from the disclosure of information or materials to third parties.

2.17 COUNTY RIGHTS AND OPTIONS

This RFP constitutes an invitation to submit Proposals to the County. Without limitation or penalty, the County reserves and holds at its sole discretion, the following rights and options:

- This RFP does not obligate the County to select, procure or contract for any services whatsoever
- The County reserves the right to change or alter the schedule for any events associated with this procurement and, if required, notify the Proposers. A Proposer, by submitting a Proposal, agrees to be bound by any modifications made by the County
- All costs incurred by a Proposer in connection with responding to this RFP, the evaluation and selection process undertaken in connection with this procurement, and any negotiations with the County will be borne by the Proposer.
- The County reserves the right to reject all Proposals and components thereof to eliminate all Proposers responding to this RFP from further consideration for this procurement, and to notify such Proposers of the County's determination.
- The County may cancel this RFP without the substitution of another RFP and terminate this procurement at any time without any liability whatsoever.
- The County reserves the right to waive any technicalities or irregularities in the Proposals.
- The County reserves the right to eliminate any Proposer who submits incomplete or inadequate responses or is not responsive to the requirements of this RFP.
- The County may request Proposers to send representatives to the County for interviews and presentations.
- To the extent deemed appropriate by the County, the County may select and enter into discussion and negotiations with the Proposer(s) submitting Proposal(s), which are found to be reasonably susceptible for award.
- The County reserves the right to discontinue negotiations with any selected Proposer.
- The County reserves the right, without prior notice, to supplement, amend, or otherwise modify this RFP.
- All Proposals (other than portions thereof subject to patent or copyright protection) become the property of the County and will not be returned, and the County reserves the right to utilize all such information contained in the Proposals without further cost to the County
- The County may add to or delete from the Project Scope of Work set forth in this RFP.

- Any and all Proposals not received by the Proposal Submission Date shall be rejected and returned unopened.
- Neither the County, its staff, its representatives, nor any of its consultants or attorneys will be liable for any claims or damages resulting from the solicitation, collection, review, or evaluation of responses to this RFP.
- The County, including its representatives and consultants, reserves the right to visit and examine any of the facilities referenced in any Proposal and to observe and investigate the operations of such facilities.
- The County reserves the right to conduct investigations of the Proposers and their responses to this RFP and to request additional evidence to support the information included in any such response.

By responding to this RFP, Proposers acknowledge and consent to the rights and conditions set forth in this RFP.

2.18 COST OF PROPOSAL PREPARATION AND SELECTION PROCESS

Each Proposal, including preparation of all information required to be included in a Proposal pursuant to this RFP, shall be prepared at the sole cost and expense (including, but not limited to, engineering and legal costs) of the Proposer. In addition, the Proposer shall be solely responsible for all costs (including engineering and legal costs) incurred by such Proposer in connection with this selection process, including any costs incurred by the Proposer in any subsequent negotiations entered into in connection with developing the Proposal. There shall be no claims whatsoever against the County, its staff, or its consultants for reimbursement for the costs or expenses (including, but not limited to, engineering and legal costs) incurred during the preparation of the Proposal or other information required by this RFP or procurement process or in connection with the selection process or any negotiations.

2.19 TERMINATION OF NEGOTIATIONS

The County at its sole discretion may, at any time, to the extent permitted by Applicable Law, exclude a Proposer from further participation in any negotiation process if the County determines that such Proposer is failing to progress in the negotiations or if the terms of its Proposal are less advantageous than those of other Proposers and such Proposer is deemed to be no longer susceptible of selection. The County will give written notice of its decision to the Proposer, which shall be sent in writing, signed by the County.

2.20 WAGE CLAUSE

Pursuant to 102-391, Each Contractor shall agree that in the performance of the Contract he will comply with all lawful agreements, if any, which the Contractor had made with any association, union, or other entity, with respect to wages, salaries, and working conditions, so as not to cause inconvenience, picketing, or work stoppage.

2.21 ADDITIONAL OR SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

After receipt of the submittals, the County will evaluate the responses, including the references, financial statements, experience and other data relating to the Respondent's qualifications. If requested by the Fulton County Department of Purchasing and Contract Compliance, Respondent's may be required to submit additional or supplemental information to determine whether the Respondent meets all of the qualification requirements.

2.22 REPORTING RESPONSIBILITIES

The successful Proposer will report directly to the Assistant Director of Building Construction, General Services Department, or designated representative of the department.

2.23 GEORGIA SECURITY AND IMMIGRATION COMPLIANCE ACT

- (1) Effective as of July 1, 2007, and pursuant to O.C.G.A. 13-10-91, every public employer, every contractor of a public employer, and every subcontractor of a public employer's contractor must register and participate in a federal work authorization program as follows:
 - (a) No public employer shall enter into a contract for the physical performance of services within this state unless the contractor registers and participates in a federal work authorization program to verify the work eligibility information all new employees.
 - (b) No contractor or subcontractor who enters into a contract with a public employer shall enter into such a contract or subcontract in connection with the physical performance of services within this state unless such contractor or subcontractor registers and participates in a federal work authorization program to verify the work eligibility information of all new employees.
- (2) In accordance with O.C.G.A. 13-10-91, the requirements of paragraphs (a) and (b) of paragraph (1) shall apply to public employers, their contractors and subcontractors, as follows:
 - (a) On or after July 1, 2007, to public employers, contractors, or subcontractors of 500 or more employees;
 - (b) On or after July 1, 2008, to public employers, contractors or subcontractors of 100 or more employees; and
 - (c) On or after July 1, 2009, to all other public employers, their contractors, or subcontractors.

See Section 5, Proposal Forms for declarations and affidavits.

FULTON COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PURCHASING AND CONTRACT COMPLIANCE

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP) GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

#10RFP73063K-JD-Standby Professional Services for Facilities Related Planning, Design, Engineering and Assessments - Energy Management and Integrated Building Commissioning Services

The following information pertains to the submission of a proposal to Fulton County ("County"), and contains instructions on how proposals must be presented in order to be considered. If specific conditions or instructions in the text of the Request for Proposal ("RFP") conflict with the General Requirements as listed here, those conditions or instructions in the RFP shall prevail.

1. Proposals submitted in response to the attached RFP must be formatted as specified in the RFP. Additional sheets, literature, etc., should be clearly identified.
2. The original and the required number of copies of the proposal must be returned to:

Fulton County Purchasing Agent
Fulton County Department of Purchasing and Contract Compliance
130 Peachtree Street, S.W., Suite 1168
Atlanta, Georgia 30303
3. The envelope in which the proposal is submitted must be sealed and clearly labeled with the RFP project name and number, due date and time, and the name of the company or individual submitting the proposal. Proposals must be received by the opening date and time shown on this RFP in order to be considered. The Purchasing Agent has no obligation to consider proposals which are not in properly marked envelopes. The Technical Proposal, Cost Proposal and Contract Compliance submittals shall be submitted in separate sealed envelopes. The inclusion of any cost information in the Technical Proposal may result in such proposal being rejected by the County.
4. Proposals received after the time and date specified will not be opened or considered.
5. By submitting a signed proposal, Offeror agrees to accept an award made as a result of the submission of the prices and terms contained in that proposal. Prices proposed must be audited by the Offeror to insure correctness before the proposal is submitted. Person signing the proposal is responsible for the accuracy of information in it. The specifications, provisions, and the terms and conditions of the RFP and proposal shall become a valid contract between Fulton County and the Offeror upon notice of award of contract in writing and/or issuance of a purchase order.
6. Any contract awarded as a result of this proposal, shall comply fully with all Local, State, and Federal laws and regulations.
7. Absolutely no fax proposals or reproduction proposals will be accepted, except that if multiple copies of the proposal are required, photocopies of the original may be submitted as the additional copies, provided that they are clearly marked as such.
8. Type or neatly print company name, as well as the full legal name and title of the person signing the proposal, in all appropriate places. The Offeror's signature must be executed by a Principal of the company duly authorized to make contracts and bind the company to all terms being proposed.

9. Proposals may be withdrawn upon receipt of a written request prior to the stated due date and time. If a firm seeks to withdraw a proposal after the due date and time, the firm must present a notarized statement indicating that an error was made, with an explanation of how it occurred. The withdrawal request must be accompanied by documentation supporting the claim. Prior to approving or disapproving the request, an opinion will be obtained from Fulton County's Legal Counsel indicating whether the firm is bound by its proposal.

Proposals for projects that are solicited pursuant to the Georgia Local Government Public Works Construction Law (O.C.G.A. § 36-91-1 et seq.) may be withdrawn as follows:

The County must advise Offerors in the request for proposals of the number of days that Offerors will be required to honor their proposals. If an Offeror is not selected within 60 days of opening the proposals, any Offeror that is determined by the governmental entity to be unlikely of being selected for contract award will be released from the proposal.

10. Show information and prices in the format requested. Prices are to be quoted F.O.B. destination, and must include all costs chargeable to the Offeror in executing the contract, including taxes. Unless otherwise provided in the Contract, Fulton County shall have no liability for any cost not included in the price. The Offeror shall provide Fulton County the benefit through a reduction in price of any decrease in the Offeror's costs by reason of tax exemptions based upon Fulton County's status as a tax-exempt entity.
11. Propose all items specified or indicate under each item what alternative is being proposed and why it should be considered in lieu of the original specification. Failures to indicate any exceptions shall be interpreted as the Offeror's intent to fully comply with the specifications as written. Conditional or qualified proposals (except as specifically allowed in the specifications) are subject to rejection in whole or in part.
12. Fulton County shall be the sole judge of the quality and the applicability of all proposals. Design, features, overall quality, local facilities, terms and other pertinent considerations will be taken into account in determining acceptability.
13. The successful Offeror must assume full responsibility for delivery of all goods and services proposed and agree to relieve Fulton County of all responsibility and costs for prosecuting claims.
14. The successful Offeror must assume full responsibility for replacement of all defective or damaged goods and/or performance of contracted services within thirty (30) days notice by the County of such defect, damage or deficiency.
15. The successful Offeror must assume full responsibility for providing warranty service on all goods, materials, or equipment provided to the County with warranty coverage. Should a vendor be other than the manufacturer, the vendor and not the County is responsible for contacting the manufacturer. The Offeror is solely responsible for arranging for the service to be performed.
16. The successful Offeror shall be responsible for the proper training and certification of personnel used in the performance of the services proposed.
17. The successful Offeror shall not assign, transfer, convey, sublet, or otherwise dispose of any contract resulting from the RFP or of any of all of its rights, title or interest therein without prior written consent of the Fulton County Board of Commissioners.
18. Proposals must contain references which reflect successful completion of contracts for the types of goods, materials, equipment, or services for which the vendor is submitting a

- proposal to the County. In instances where that does not apply, the proposal must contain a statement and supporting documentation demonstrating such expertise, knowledge, or experience to establish the vendor submitting the proposal as capable of meeting the demands of the proposal should an award be made to them.
19. Offerors submitting proposals may be required to furnish evidence that they maintain permanent places of business of a type and nature compatible with their proposal, and are in all respects competent and eligible vendors, able to fulfill the terms of the specifications. Fulton County may make such investigations as it deems necessary to determine the ability of the Offeror to perform such work, and reserves the right to reject any proposal if evidence fails to indicate that the proposed vendor is qualified to carry out the obligation of the contract and to complete the work satisfactorily.
 20. By submitting a signed proposal, Offeror certifies that there has been no collusion with any other Offeror. Reasonable grounds for believing Offeror has an interest in more than one proposal will result in rejection of all proposals in which the Offeror has an interest. Any party to collusion may not be considered in future proposals for the same or similar work.
 21. Upon notice of selection, the Offeror submitting the proposal is obligated to perform. Should a successful Offeror refuse to enter into a contract subsequent to an award, a penalty may be assessed and/or the Offeror may be found to be "non-responsible" in the future.
 22. In case of default by the successful Offeror, Fulton County may procure the articles or services from another source and hold the successful Vendor responsible for any resultant excess cost.
 23. Successful Offerors contract directly with the County and are the party or parties obligated to perform. Contracts may not be assigned and any failure to perform the Contract in accordance with the specifications will constitute a breach of contract and may result in an Offeror being found to be "non-responsible" in the future.
 24. Invoice(s) must list each item separately and must show Fulton County's purchase order number as well as the proper department and address to whom the service or product was provided.
 25. Fulton County reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals, or any part thereof, and to waive any technicalities. Fulton County reserves the right to award a contract based on this RFP and the proposal(s) received (in whole or in part) to one or several Vendors.
 26. Awards will not necessarily be based on cost alone. Other factors, as detailed in the RFP, will be considered in determining what proposal will be deemed to best meet the needs of Fulton County.
 27. All proposals and bids submitted to Fulton County are subject to the Georgia "Open Records Act", Official Code of Georgia, Annotated (O.C.G.A.) § 50-18-70 et seq.
 28. All proposals and bids submitted to Fulton County involving Utility Contracting are subject to the Georgia law governing licensing of Utility Contractors, O.C.G.A. §43-14-8.2(h). The Utility Contractor License number of the person who will perform the utility work shall be written on the face of the bid envelope.
 29. Prior to beginning any work, the successful Offeror shall furnish to Fulton County (for the contracting firm and for any subcontractors) a certificate from an insurance company showing issuance of Workers' compensation coverage for the State of Georgia or a certificate from the Georgia Workers' Compensation Board showing proof of ability to pay compensation directly.

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30. It is the policy of Fulton County that the evaluation and award process for County contracts shall be free from both actual and perceived impropriety, and that contacts between potential vendors and County officials, elected officials and staff regarding pending awards of County contracts shall be prohibited.
- A. No person, firm, or business entity, however situated or composed, obtaining a copy of or responding to this solicitation, shall initiate or continue any verbal or written communication regarding this solicitation with any County officer, elected official, employee, or designated County representative, between the date of the issuance of this solicitation and the date of the County Manager's recommendation to the Board of Commissioners for award of the subject contract, except as may otherwise be specifically authorized and permitted by the terms and conditions of this solicitation.
 - B. All verbal and written communications initiated by such person, firm, or entity regarding this solicitation, if same are authorized and permitted by the terms and conditions of this solicitation, shall be directed to the Purchasing Agent.
 - C. Any violation of this prohibition of the initiation or continuation of verbal or written communications with County officers, elected officials, employees, or designated County representatives shall result in a written finding by the Purchasing Agent that the submitted bid or proposal of the person, firm, or entity in violation is "non-responsive", and same shall not be considered for award.
31. Any Offeror intending to respond to this solicitation as a Joint Venture must submit an executed Joint Venture Agreement with this offer. This agreement must designate those persons or entities authorized to execute documents or otherwise bind the Joint Venture in all transactions with Fulton County, or be accompanied by a document, binding upon the Joint Venture and its constituent members, making such designation. Offers from Joint Ventures that do not include these documents will be rejected as being "non-responsive".
32. Any Offeror intending to respond to this solicitation must complete all of the Procurement Affidavit Forms provided in Section 5. Proposals that do not include these completed documents will be rejected as being "non-responsive".