

## **IMPORTANT NOTICE**

**THIS IS AN ELECTRONIC PROCUREMENT (eBID)**

**SUBMISSIONS WILL ONLY BE ACCEPTED ELECTRONICALLY VIA  
THE BONFIRE PORTAL (<https://fairfaxcounty.bonfirehub.com>)**

Fairfax County Government uses a procurement portal powered by Bonfire Interactive for accepting and evaluating proposals. To register, visit <https://fairfaxcounty.bonfirehub.com>. Additional assistance is also available at [Support@GoBonfire.com](mailto:Support@GoBonfire.com). **Offerors must register in the Bonfire portal in order to download the RFP documents and submit a response to this RFP.**

Submitting proposals via the Bonfire portal is **mandatory**. Fairfax County will not accept proposals submitted by paper, telephone, facsimile (“FAX”) transmission, or electronic mail (e-mail) in response to this RFP. Reference Special Provisions, Section 13 for additional information.

Fairfax County strongly encourages offerors to submit proposals well in advance of the proposal submission deadline. A proposal submission is not considered successful unless all necessary files have been uploaded and the ‘Submit & Finalize’ step has been completed. Offerors are responsible for the consequences of any failure to plan ahead in the submission of its Proposal.

SPECIAL PROVISIONS**1. SCOPE OF SERVICES:**

- 1.1. The purpose of this Request for Proposal is to solicit sealed proposals to establish a contract or contracts through competitive negotiation for the provision of Security Awareness Day Planning and Execution activities by the County of Fairfax, Virginia.

**2. CONTRACT PERIOD AND RENEWAL:**

- 2.1. This contract will begin on date of award and terminate on November 30, 2024. This contract may be renewed for two (2) one-year periods, as mutually agreed upon.
- 2.2. The obligation of the County to pay compensation due the contractor under the contract or any other payment obligations under any contract awarded pursuant to this Request for Proposal is subject to appropriations by the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors to satisfy payment of such obligations. The County's obligations to make payments during subsequent fiscal years are dependent upon the same action. If such an appropriation is not made for any fiscal year, the contract shall terminate effective at the end of the fiscal year for which funds were appropriated and the County will not be obligated to make any payments under the contract beyond the amount appropriated for payment obligations under the contract. The County will provide the contractor with written notice of non-appropriation of funds within thirty (30) calendar days after action is completed by the Board of Supervisors. However, the County's failure to provide such notice shall not extend the contract into a fiscal year in which sufficient funds have not been appropriated.

**3. BACKGROUND:**

- 3.1. The Fairfax County Department of Information Technology is requesting proposals to assist the Information Security Office with the planning, design, and execution activities in support of an annual Information Security Awareness Day typically held during the month of October, Cyber Security Awareness Month, at the Fairfax County Government Center in Fairfax, Virginia for County employees.
- 3.2. The annual Information Security Awareness Day is a single day event for County employees providing education on a range of current cyber security industry topics that can impact the County, government and industry as a whole, or the personal lives of County employees.
- 3.3. Event Expectations:  
Below are some metrics from previous year's events to assist with providing accurate cost estimates for services related to Security Awareness Day:
  - Overall Event: 200-300 attendees
  - 1 Keynote Speaker
  - 8 Breakout sessions with minimum 8 individuals' speakers or panel
  - AISC Luncheon with speaker – approximately 70 – 80 attendees
  - Approximately 5 – 15 Exhibitors (TD on space available)
  - Multiple sponsors of raffle prizes, individual sessions, and other event related items
- 3.4. The current contract can be viewed on the County's contract register at <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/cregister/> by entering the contract 4400005196 into the Contract Number field and click submit.

**4. FAIRFAX COUNTY'S RESPONSIBILITIES:**

- 4.1. Regarding planning and logistics for the event, the following responsibilities will be completed by Fairfax County staff:
  - A. Fairfax County Information Security Office will select the event date and reserve the venue with a minimum eight-week lead time to ensure availability and timely scheduling of preferred speakers.

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- B. Fairfax County will provide sample agendas and other supportive materials upon award.
- C. Fairfax County ISO will provide required formatting and other graphic information (e.g., ISO official seal) so materials will be consistent with those distributed in previous years for Information Security Awareness Day and to current County standards.
- D. Fairfax County approval will be granted for the timely distribution of printed and electronic notifications, reminders, and related communications subject to Fairfax County guidelines.

**5. STATEMENT OF NEED:**

- 5.1. Statement of Work Requirements - Offerors shall provide a detailed response on how they will meet the following requirements to support the Fairfax County Annual Information Security Awareness Day from the activities planning, design, and execution to include but not limited to a key-note address, breakout sessions on relevant security topics, vendor/exhibitor displays and demonstrations, and an invitation-only box lunch session with a speaker for Agency Information Security Coordinators:

**A. *Task 1 -- Agenda Development and Advanced Planning***

- All coordination and planning for the day of the event
- Submit project plan indicating milestones and intended deadlines related to event planning and logistics for County review
- Develop and disseminate an agenda and event schedule with County staff assistance
- Secure all speakers, vendors/exhibitors, materials as part of the event and coordinate their arrival at the event
- Solicit and obtain vendors/exhibitors for sponsorship of sessions and raffle prizes for conference attendees
- Develop articles and advertisements for the event for publication in County resources such as NewsLink, Team Fairfax Insider, and other mediums
- Develop online registration material for dissemination through Fairfax County's Learning Management System
- Monitor registration activities to determine whether planned attendance across agencies meets or exceeds target figures
- Prepare talking points for Fairfax County Information Security Office (ISO) staff and County directors to introduce speakers
- Acquire electronic copies of session materials, speaker technology requirements, and Channel 16 video release statement, in advance of event
- Other planning, design, and execution activities as required to make this event successful

**B. *Task 2 -- Support, Logistics and Materials***

- Schedule, secure, and coordinate setup of facility conference rooms and exhibitor area. Conference facility breakout rooms are to be provided by the County.
- Design and print posters (approximately 15 min.) to be posted in County facilities prior to event
- Print speaker materials/presentations for distribution in sessions.
- Prepare signage for day of event – min. 2 posters of enlarged agenda, signage for outside breakout rooms announcing the sessions
- Coordinate with catering or facilities contact to secure boxed lunches and the delivery of these lunches for special event for Agency Information Security Coordinators. (approximately 80 lunches)
- Provide support staff to assist with setup and operations on the day of event including the setup and monitor of rooms during presentations. This staff would also distribute and collect surveys and other speaker materials, assist with loading speaker presentations and provide technical support, assist at the registration desk, and act as backups for introducing speakers.
- Disseminate and collect attendee surveys on day of event

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- Acquire and purchase speaker gifts on behalf of the County
- Work with designer and acquire T-shirts (approx. 50 T-Shirts for speaker gifts and door prizes) and formal long sleeve, button collared, business casual dress shirts (approx. 20 dress shirts - \$1000) for VIP attendees and ISO staff
- Obtain supplies and assist County staff with selecting and distributing raffle prizes

**C. Task 3 -- Event Conclusion Tasks**

- Review and write a report on the results of the attendee surveys
- Write thank you letters to speakers, presenters, exhibitors/sponsors, and other involved personnel
- Within one month of event conclusion, submit and present a final event out-briefing of the event with overview and recommendations

**6. TECHNICAL PROPOSAL INSTRUCTIONS:**

The offeror must submit their response to the Technical Proposal as instructed in Bonfire containing the following information. This information will be considered the minimum content of the proposal. Proposal contents shall be arranged in the same order and identified with headings as presented herein. In addition, the offeror will submit in Bonfire an executed County's Cover Sheet (DPMM32), All the Attachment A documents, Attachment B, and all issued Addenda (as applicable).

**6.1. 1. Introductions:**

Name of firm submitting proposal; main office address; when organized; if a corporation, when and where incorporated; appropriate Federal, State, and County registration numbers.

**6.2. 2. Understanding of the Statement of Needs:**

The offeror must present a description of the phases or segments into which the proposed program can logically be divided and performed, together with flow charts. The technical narrative should address separately each of the "Statement of Needs" described in the Request for Proposal Section 5 and responses should be keyed to appropriate paragraph numbers providing the following information below:

- a. Statement and discussion of the requirements as they are analyzed by the offeror.
- b. Offeror's proposed technical approaches and a detailed outline of the proposed program for executing the requirements of the Statement of Needs and achieving program objectives.
- c. Preliminary layouts, samples, diagrams, other graphic representations, calculations, and other data as may be necessary for presentation, substantiation, justification or understanding of the Statement of Needs as applicable.
- d. Offeror should demonstrate an awareness of difficulties in the completion of this undertaking, and a plan for surmounting them. Special attention should be given to methodological issues that will be encountered in the program.
- e. Offeror may also comment if deemed appropriate, on any aspect of the Request for Proposal, including suggestions on possible alternative approaches to the coverage, definition, development, and organization of the issues presented in the "Statement of Needs" Section, and may propose alternative approaches.

**6.3. 3. Preliminary Work Plan:**

This section should include detailed descriptions of activities that are to occur, significant milestones, and anticipated deliverables. Note: Event is held in the month of October.

Below is an example of anticipated project milestones for future contract years:

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- **4 months prior to event:** provide County with resume of the Project Manager
- **3 months prior to event:** Onsite visit with Project Manager and designated County staff from Information Security Office
- **2 months prior to event:** Onsite visit between Project Manager and designated County staff from Information Security Office. Agenda topics established and speakers identified. Event first advertised to employees.
- **1.5 months prior to event:** Agenda complete and speakers secured
- **1 month prior to event:** Event advertised and registration available. All external logistics arranged
- **2 weeks prior to event:** Onsite visit between Project Manager and designated County staff from Information Security Office. Speaker gifts, shirts, other supplies acquired. Speaker material received for review and submission.
- **Day of Event:** Onsite Support
- **2 weeks after event:** Send speaker, sponsor, and exhibitor thank you notes
- **1 month after event:** Event Out-briefing and Final Report submitted

No later than four months before each year's event date, the vendor will provide the County with the resume of the project manager who will be providing the planning services for that year's event. The County will, at its sole discretion, determine whether a proposed individual is acceptable or if the Contractor will have to propose a more qualified individual to perform the services.

6.4. **4. Statement of Qualifications:**

The statement of Qualifications must include a description of organizational and staff experience, and resume of intended designated project management staff.

- a. Organizational and Staff Experience: Offerors must describe their qualifications and experience to perform the work described in this Request for Proposal. Information about experience should include direct experience with the specific subject matter.
- b. References: Provide a minimum of three references. Special notation must be made of similar or related programs performed and must include organization names, addresses, names of contact persons, and telephone numbers for such reference. **It is the offerors responsibility to make sure to verify that the contact person and information provided is accurate and they are still employed. If the County is unable to contact these individuals it may result in a lower score.**
- c. Personnel: Full-time and part-time staff, proposed consultants and subcontractors who may be assigned direct work on this project should be identified, excluding personnel only intended for support on the day of the event. Information is required which will show the composition of the task or work group, its specific qualifications, and recent relevant experience. Special mention shall be made of direct technical supervisors and key technical personnel.

Resumes of staff and proposed consultants are required indicating education, background, recent relevant experience with the subject matter of the project. Current telephone numbers must be included.

The personnel named in the technical proposal will remain assigned to the project the entire current project period once the individual has been assigned on an annual basis. No diversion or replacement may be made without submission of a resume of the proposed replacement with final approval being granted by the County Purchasing Agent.

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- d. A staffing plan is required which describes the Offeror's proposed staff distribution to accomplish this work. The staffing plan should indicate a chart that partitions the time commitment of each professional staff member across the proposed tasks and a timeline for the project. It is mandatory that this section identify the key personnel who are to work on the project, their relationship to be contracting organization, and amount of time to be devoted to the project. This includes Consultants as well as regular employees of the offeror, if relevant.
- e. Financial Statements: The offeror shall provide an income statement and balance sheet from the most recent reporting period.

6.5. **5. Virtual Conference:**

This section should include detailed descriptions of how the event activities are to occur virtually if it becomes necessary to have the event this way.

6.6. **6. Supplement Agreements:**

Offerors must provide any supplemental agreement proposed by the offeror to be utilized during the performance of the contract as applicable.

6.7. **7. Exceptions to the RFP"**

Offerors may take exceptions to the terms, however, some of the terms may not be negotiable (ref. **Attachment B**).

**7. CONSULTATION SERVICES:**

- 7.1. The contractor's staff must be available for consultation with County staff on an as-needed basis between 8:00 AM and 5:00 PM, Eastern Time, Monday through Friday.

**8. COST PROPOSAL INSTRUCTIONS:**

- 8.1. The offeror must submit a cost proposal in bonfire supported by cost and pricing data adequate to establish the reasonableness of the proposed fee (see Price Summary Sheet as a guide – **Exhibit A**). The following information should be submitted as part of the cost proposal:

The cost of each task or segment of the task shall be itemized.

- a. Offerors must provide a price breakdown for each task separately as well as totals for all tasks provided together if prices differ.
- b. Breakdown of direct labor and labor overhead costs including number of estimated man-hours and applicable actual or average hourly rates, overhead rate and supporting schedule. All labor rates must be fully loaded to include travel and per diem.
- c. Breakdown of other expenses such as clerical support, other overhead costs, supplies, etc.
- d. Hourly rates for all labor categories that would apply if additional requirements arise or for Security Awareness Day activities not related to a specific annual event. The County will only be obligated to pay for such services when they are acquired through a new purchase order or an approved change to an existing PO.
- e. Proposal should account for all costs associated with staffing (including travel expenses), catering, the printing of material such as signs and agendas, any costs related to speakers, table skirts, and any items referenced in the SOW that has not been identified as a County responsibility.

SPECIAL PROVISIONS**9. PRICING:**

- 9.1. The subsequent contract will be a firm-fixed price agreement. The fee(s) will remain firm and will include all charges that may be incurred in fulfilling the requirements of the contract during the first 365 days. Changes in cost for any subsequent contract years may be based on the Consumer Price Index All Items (CPI-U), or other relevant indices.
- 9.2. The request for a change in the unit price shall include as a minimum, (1) the cause for the adjustment; (2) proposed effective date; and, (3) the amount of the change requested with documentation to support the requested adjustment (i.e., appropriate Bureau of Labor Statistics, Consumer Price Index All items (CPI-U), change in manufacturer's price, etc.).
- 9.3. Price decreases shall be made in accordance with paragraph 40 of the General Conditions & Instructions to Offerors. (Appendix A)

**10. TRADE SECRETS/PROPRIETARY INFORMATION:**

- 10.1. Trade secrets or proprietary information submitted by an offeror in connection with a procurement transaction shall not be subject to public disclosure under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; however, offerors must invoke the protections of this section prior to or upon submission of the data or other materials.
- 10.2. **The offeror must identify the data or other materials to be protected and state the reasons why protection is necessary.** Disposition of material after award(s) should be stated by the offeror.
- 10.3. Request for Protection of Trade Secrets or Proprietary Information (**Attachment A3**) is provided as a courtesy to assist offerors desiring to protect trade secrets or proprietary information from disclosure under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act.
- 10.4. The classification of an entire proposal document, line item prices, and/or total proposal prices as proprietary or trade secrets is not acceptable and may result in rejection of the proposal.

**11. CONTACT FOR CONTRACTUAL MATTERS:**

- 11.1. All communications and requests for information and clarifications shall be directed to the following procurement official:

Yong Kim, CPPB, Contract Specialist II  
Department of Procurement and Material Management  
Telephone: (703) 324-3217  
E-mail: [Yong.kim@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:Yong.kim@fairfaxcounty.gov)

- 11.2. No attempt shall be made by any offeror to contact members of the Selection Advisory Committee (SAC) about this procurement (see paragraph 16.3).

**12. REQUIRED SUBMITTALS:**

- 12.1. Each Offeror responding to this Request for Proposal must supply all the documentation required in the RFP. Failure to provide documentation with the Offeror's response to the RFP may result in the disqualification of the Offeror's proposal.
- 12.2. **Failure to sign or takes exception to the terms of "Attachment B" may result in the Offeror's proposal to be rejected.**

SPECIAL PROVISIONS**13. SUBMISSION OF PROPOSAL:**

- 13.1. Proposals must be received electronically through Fairfax County's online Procurement Portal at: <https://fairfaxcounty.bonfirehub.com>, on or before the Submittal Deadline. Submissions will only be accepted through the portal. Fairfax County will not accept proposals submitted by paper, telephone, facsimile ("FAX") transmission, or electronic mail (i.e., e-mail) in response to this RFP. Proposal submissions and registration are free of charge. Offerors can register for a free account at: <https://fairfaxcounty.bonfirehub.com>, which will be required when preparing a submission. Documents may be uploaded at any time during the open period. The official time used for receipt of proposals/modifications is the time stamp within the Bonfire portal. No other clocks, calendars or timepieces are recognized. For technical questions related to a submission contact Bonfire at [Support@GoBonfire.com](mailto:Support@GoBonfire.com) or click on the link "Contact Bonfire Support here" under Need Help?. (Note: it takes an average of 16 minutes to an hour for a response). Therefore, offerors shall take the necessary steps to submit their proposals in advance.
- 13.2. Offerors can view all the user guide which provides step by step instructions regarding use of Bonfire: <https://support.gobonfire.com/hc/en-us/categories/360000773733-User-Guides>.

Listed below is a helpful guide that will assist offerors regarding Submission:

- Creating and uploading a submission  
<https://support.gobonfire.com/hc/en-us/articles/360011034814-Creating-and-Uploading-a-Submission-for-Vendors->
- 13.3. If, at the time of the scheduled proposal closing Fairfax County Government is closed due to inclement weather or another unforeseeable event, the proposal closing will still proceed electronically through the Bonfire system.
- 13.4. Technical Information: Uploading large documents may take time, depending on the size of the file(s) and your Internet connection speed. You will receive an email confirmation receipt with a unique confirmation number once you finalize your submission. Minimum system requirements for the Bonfire portal - Internet Explorer 11, Microsoft Edge, Google Chrome, or Mozilla Firefox. JavaScript must be enabled. Browser cookies must be enabled.
- 13.5. It is the Offeror's responsibility to clearly identify and to describe the services being offered in response to the Request for Proposal. Offerors are cautioned that organization of their response, as well as thoroughness is critical to the County's evaluation process. The RFP forms must be completed legibly and in their entirety; and all required supplemental information must be furnished and presented in an organized, comprehensive and easy to follow manner.
- 13.6. Unnecessarily elaborate brochures of other presentations beyond that sufficient to present a complete and effective proposal is not desired.
- 13.7. By executing the cover sheet (DPMM32), Offeror acknowledges that they have read this Request for Proposal, understand it, and agree to be bound by its terms and conditions.

**14. ADDENDA:**

- 14.1. Offerors are reminded that changes to the proposal, in the form of addenda, are often issued between the issue date and within five (5) days before the due date. All addenda shall be signed and submitted as instructed in the addenda.
- 14.2. The last day to submit question to be addressed in the addendum will be addressed in Bonfire under "Questions Due Date." All questions pertaining to this RFP shall be submitted to [dpmteam1@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:dpmteam1@fairfaxcounty.gov).
- 14.3. Notice of addenda will be posted on eVA and Bonfire. It is the Offeror's responsibility to monitor the web page for the most current.

SPECIAL PROVISIONS**15. PROPOSALS ACCEPTANCE PERIOD:**

- 15.1. Proposals will remain valid for a period of one-hundred and fifty days (150) calendar days after the date specified for receipt of proposals. At the end of the days the proposal may be withdrawn at the written request of the offeror. If the proposal is not withdrawn at that time it remains in effect until an award is made or the solicitation is canceled.

**16. BASIS FOR AWARD:**

- 16.1. This Request for Proposal ("RFP") is being utilized for competitive negotiation. Under the competitive negotiation process, a contract may be awarded to the responsible offeror whose proposal is determined to be the most advantageous to the County, taking into consideration price and the evaluation factors set forth in the RFP. The County reserves the right to make multiple awards as a result of this solicitation.
- 16.2. A Selection Advisory Committee ("the Committee") has been established to review and evaluate all proposals submitted in response to this RFP. The Committee shall conduct a preliminary evaluation of all proposals on the basis of the information provided with the proposal, and the evaluation criteria listed below. Based upon this review, the cost proposals of the highest rated offeror(s) will then be reviewed.
- 16.3. No Offeror, including any of their representatives, subcontractors, affiliates and interested parties, shall contact any member of the Committee or any person involved in the evaluation of the proposals. Selection Advisory Committee members will refer any and all calls related to this procurement to the procurement official named in 11.1 above. Failure to comply with this directive may, at the sole discretion of the County, result in the disqualification of an offeror from the procurement process.
- 16.4. Based on the results of the preliminary evaluation, the highest rated offeror(s) may be invited by the County Purchasing Agent to make oral presentations to the Selection Advisory Committee. This committee will then conduct a final evaluation of the proposals. Selection shall be made of two or more offerors deemed to be fully qualified and best suited among those submitting proposals, on the basis of the factors involved in the Request for Proposal, including price if so stated in the Request for Proposal. Negotiations shall then be conducted with each of the offerors so selected. After negotiations have been conducted with each offeror so selected, the County shall select the offeror which, in its opinion, has made the best proposal, and shall award the contract to that offeror.
- 16.5. Should the County determine in writing and in its sole discretion that only one offeror is fully qualified, or that one offeror is clearly more highly qualified than the others under consideration, a contract may be negotiated and awarded to that offeror. The Committee will make appropriate recommendations to the County Executive and Board of Supervisors, if appropriate, prior to actual award of contract.
- 16.6. Proposal Evaluation Criteria

The following factors will be considered in the award of this contract:

- a. Qualification of firm with appropriately qualified and experienced personnel ref. Section 6.4 **(30 points)**.
- b. Detail response to the Special Provisions, Section 5, **STATEMENT OF NEED (ref. Section 6.2). (40 points)**
- c. Detail response to Special Provisions, Section 6.3, **Preliminary Work Plan. (10 points)**
- d. Reasonableness of cost proposal(s) of Section 8, **COST PROPOSAL. (20 points)**

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- 16.7. Fairfax County reserves the right to make on-site visitations to assess the capabilities of individual offerors and to contact references provided with the proposal.
- 16.8. The County Purchasing Agent may arrange for discussions with firms submitting proposals, if required, for the purpose of obtaining additional information or clarification.
- 16.9. Offerors are advised that, in the event of receipt of an adequate number of proposals, which, in the opinion of the County Purchasing Agent, require no clarifications and/or supplementary information, such proposals may be evaluated without further discussion. Consequently, offerors should provide complete, thorough proposals with the offerors most favorable terms. Should proposals require additional clarification and/or supplementary information, offerors should submit such additional material in a timely manner.
- 16.10. Proposals which, after discussion and submission of additional clarification and/or supplementary information, are determined to meet the specifications of this Request for Proposal will be classified as "acceptable". Proposals found not to be acceptable will be classified as "unacceptable" and no further discussion concerning same will be conducted.
- 16.11. The County may cancel this Request for Proposal or reject proposals at any time prior to an award, and is not required to furnish a statement of the reasons why a particular proposal was not deemed to be the most advantageous.

**17. INSURANCE:**

- 17.1. The contractor is responsible for its work and for all materials, tools, equipment, appliances, and property of any and all description used in connection with the project, whether owned by the contractor or by the County. The contractor assumes all risks of direct and indirect damage or injury to any person or property wherever located, resulting from any action, omission, commission or operation under the contract, or in connection in any way whatsoever with the contracted work.
- 17.2. The Contractor shall, during the continuance of all work under the Contract provide the following:
  - a. Maintain statutory Worker's Compensation and Employer's Liability insurance in limits of not less than \$100,000 to protect the Contractor from any liability or damages for any injuries (including death and disability) to any and all of its employees, volunteers, or subcontractors, including any and all liability or damage which may arise by virtue of any statute or law in force within the Commonwealth of Virginia, or which may be hereinafter enacted.
  - b. The contractor agrees to maintain Commercial General Liability insurance in the amount of \$1,000,000 per occurrence/aggregate, to protect the contractor, its subcontractors, and the interest of the County, against any and all injuries to third parties, including bodily injury and personal injury, wherever located, resulting from any action or operation under the contract or in connection with contracted work. The General Liability insurance shall also include the Broad Form Property Damage endorsement, in addition to coverage's for explosion, collapse, and underground hazards, where required.
  - c. The contractor agrees to maintain owned, non-owned, and hired Automobile Liability insurance, in the amount of \$1,000,000 per occurrence/aggregate, including property damage, covering all owned, non-owned borrowed, leased, or rented vehicles operated by the Contractor. In addition, all mobile equipment used by the Contractor in connection with the contracted work will be insured under either a standard Automobile Liability policy, or a Comprehensive General Liability policy.
  - d. The contractor agrees to maintain Professional Liability insurance in the amount of \$1,000,000 per occurrence/aggregate to cover each individual professional staff.

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- e. Liability insurance may be arranged by General Liability and Automobile Liability policies for the full limits required, or by a combination of underlying Liability policies for lesser limits with the remaining limits provided by an Excess or Umbrella Liability policy.
  - f. Rating Requirements:
    - 1. The Contractor agrees to provide insurance issued by companies admitted within the Commonwealth of Virginia, with the Best's Key Rating of at least A: VI.
    - 2. European markets including those based in London, and the domestic surplus lines markets that operate on a non-admitted basis are exempt from this requirement provided that the contractor's broker can provide financial data to establish that a market is equal to or exceeds the financial strengths associated with the A.M. Best's rating of A:VI or better.
  - g. Indemnification: Article 58 of the General Conditions and Instructions to Bidders (Appendix A) shall apply.
  - h. The Contractor will provide an original, signed Certificate of Insurance citing the contract number and such endorsements as prescribed herein, and shall have it filed with the County Purchasing Agent and/or Risk Manager before any work is started.
  - i. If the Contractor delivers services from a County-leased facility, the Contractor is required to carry property insurance on all equipment, to include County-owned installed and maintained equipment used by the contractor while in their care, custody and control for use under this contract.
- 17.3. No change, cancellation, or non-renewal shall be made in any insurance coverage without a forty-five-day written notice to the County Purchasing Agent and/or Risk Manager. The Contractor shall furnish a new certificate prior to any change or cancellation date. The failure of the Contractor to deliver a new and valid certificate will result in suspension of all payments until the new certificate is furnished.
- 17.4. Precaution shall be exercised at all times for the protection of persons (including employees) and property.
- 17.5. The County, its officers and employees shall be named as an "additional insured" in the General Liability policies and it shall be stated on the Insurance Certificate that this coverage "is primary to all other coverage the County may possess."

**18. METHOD OF ORDERING:**

- 18.1. The County may use two (2) different methods of placing orders from the final contract: Purchase Orders (PO's) and approved County procurement cards.
- 18.2. A Purchase Order (PO) may be issued to the contractor on behalf of the County agency ordering the items/services covered under this contract. An issued PO will become part of the resulting contract. The purchase order indicates that sufficient funds have been obligated as required by Title 15.2-1238 of the Code of the Commonwealth of Virginia.
- 18.3. Procurement Card orders and payments may also be made by the use of a Fairfax County or Fairfax County Public Schools "Procurement" Card. The Procurement Card is currently a Master Card. Contractors are encouraged to accept this method of receiving orders.
- 18.4. Regardless of the method of ordering used, solely the contract and any modification determine performance time and dates.
- 18.5. Performance under this contract is not to begin until receipt of the purchase order, Procurement Card order, or other notification to proceed by the County Purchasing Agent and/or County agency to proceed. Purchase requisitions shall not be used for placing orders.

SPECIAL PROVISIONS**19. REPORTS AND INVOICING:**

- 19.1. The Contractor must maintain all records in compliance with federal and state regulations. The Contractor(s) must submit to each program administrator, monthly statistical reports and an annual tabulated report.
- 19.2. The Contractor must invoice each County department using the final contract separately. Invoices for all users of the contract must meet County requirements, unless otherwise indicated. The Contractor must send each department an itemized monthly invoice (or as agreed to between the parties), which must include the information listed below:
  - a. Employee name;
  - b. The name of the County department;
  - c. Date of services;
  - d. The type of services;
  - e. Contract Number and Purchase Order Number; and
  - f. The itemized cost for each item/service.
- 19.3. County departments must receive monthly invoices by the 10th of each month following the month the Contractor provided the service. In addition, the Contractor will provide each County department a monthly and year-to-date utilization report which lists all information shown above in paragraph 19.2, a-f. The Contractor will mail the invoices and the utilization reports to the individuals identified in the final contract.

**20. PAYMENTS:**

- 20.1. The County will pay the Contractor based upon completion, acceptance, and approval by the County of each task outlined in the Special Provisions, paragraph 5, **STATEMENT OF NEED**.

**21. CHANGES:**

- 21.1. Fairfax County may, at any time, by written order, require changes in the services to be performed by the Contractor. If such changes cause an increase or decrease in the Contractor's cost of, or time required for, performance of any services under this contract, an equitable adjustment shall be made and the contract shall be modified in writing accordingly. The County Purchasing Agent must approve all work that is beyond the scope of this Request for Proposal.
- 21.2. No services for which an additional cost or fee will be charged by the Contractor shall be furnished without the prior written authorization of the Fairfax County Purchasing Agent.

**22. DELAYS AND SUSPENSIONS:**

- 22.1. The County may direct the Contractor, in writing, to suspend, delay, or interrupt all or any part of the work of this contract for the period of time deemed appropriate for the convenience of the County. The County will extend the Contractor's time of completion by a period of time that in the discretion of the Purchasing Agent is reasonably suited for completion of work. The County may further amend the contract by mutual agreement for any increase in the cost of performance of the contract (excluding profit) resulting solely from the delay or suspension of the contract. No adjustment shall be made under this clause for any delay or interruption resulting from any other cause, including the fault or negligence of the Contractor.
- 22.2. If the County does not direct the Contractor, in writing, to suspend, delay, or interrupt the contract, the Contractor must give the County Purchasing Agent written notice if Fairfax County fails to provide data or services that are required for contract completion by the Contractor. The County may extend the Contractor's time of completion by a period of time that in the discretion of the Purchasing Agent is reasonably suited for completion of work. The County may further amend the contract by mutual agreement for any increase in the cost of performance of the contract (excluding profit) resulting solely from the delay or suspension of the contract. No adjustment shall be made under this clause for any delay or interruption resulting from any other cause, including the fault or negligence of the Contractor.

SPECIAL PROVISIONS

- 22.3. The Contractor shall continue its work on other phases of the project or contract, if in the sole discretion of the Purchasing Agent such work is not impacted by the County's delay, suspension, or interruption. All changes to the work plan or project milestones shall be reflected in writing as a contract amendment.

**23. ACCESS TO AND INSPECTION OF WORK:**

- 23.1. The Fairfax County Purchasing Agent and using agencies will, at all times, have access to the work being performed under this contract wherever it may be in progress or preparation.

**24. DATA SOURCES:**

- 24.1. The County will provide the Contractor all available data possessed by the County that relates to this contract. However, the Contractor is responsible for all costs for acquiring other data or processing, analyzing or evaluating County data.

**25. SAFEGUARDS OF INFORMATION:**

- 25.1. Unless approved in writing by the County Purchasing Agent, the Contractor may not sell or give to any individual or organization any information, reports, or other materials given to, prepared or assembled by the Contractor under the final contract.

**26. ORDER OF PRECEDENCE:**

- 26.1. In the event of conflict, the Acceptance Agreement (provided at contract award) and the Special Provisions of this contract shall take precedence over the General Conditions and Instructions to Bidders, (Appendix A).

**27. SUBCONTRACTING:**

- 27.1. If one or more subcontractors are required, the contractor is encouraged to utilize small, minority-owned, and women-owned business enterprises. For assistance in finding subcontractors, contact the Virginia Department of Small Business and Supplier Diversity <https://www.sbsd.virginia.gov>; local chambers of commerce and other business organizations.

**28. USE OF CONTRACT BY OTHER PUBLIC BODIES:**

- 28.1. Reference Paragraph 71, General Conditions and Instructions to Bidders, Cooperative Purchasing. Offerors are advised that the *resultant* contract(s) may be extended, with the authorization of the Offeror, to other public bodies, or public agencies or institutions of the United States to permit their use of the contract at the same prices and/or discounts and terms of the resulting contract. If any other public body decides to use the final contract, the Contractor(s) must deal directly with that public body concerning the placement of orders, issuance of purchase orders, contractual disputes, invoicing and payment. The County of Fairfax acts only as the "Contracting Agent" for these public bodies. Failure to extend a contract to any public body will have no effect on consideration of your offer.
- 28.2. It is the Contractors responsibility to notify the public body(s) of the availability of the contract(s).
- 28.3. Other public bodies desiring to use this contract will need to make their own legal determinations as to whether the use of this contract is consistent with their laws, regulations, and other policies.
- 28.4. Each public body has the option of executing a separate contract with the Contractor(s). Public bodies may add terms and conditions required by statute, ordinances, and regulations, to the extent that they do not conflict with the contracts terms and conditions. If, when preparing such a contract, the general terms and conditions of a public body are unacceptable to the Contractor, the Contractor may withdraw its extension of the award to that public body.

SPECIAL PROVISIONS

- 28.5. Fairfax County **shall not** be held liable for any costs or damages incurred by another public body as a result of any award extended to that public body by the Contractor.

**29. NEWS RELEASE BY VENDORS:**

- 29.1. As a matter of policy, the County does not endorse the products or services of a contractor. News releases concerning any resultant contract from this solicitation will not be made by a contractor without the prior written approval of the County. All proposed news releases will be routed to the Purchasing Agent for review and approval.

**30. AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT REQUIREMENTS:**

- 30.1. Fairfax County Government is fully committed to the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) which guarantees non-discrimination and equal access for persons with disabilities in employment, public accommodations, transportation, and all County programs, activities and services. Fairfax County government contractors, subcontractors, vendors, and/or suppliers are subject to this ADA policy. All individuals having any County contractual agreement must make the same commitment. Your acceptance of this contract acknowledges your commitment and compliance with ADA.
- 30.2. Fairfax County is committed to a policy of nondiscrimination in all County programs, services, and activities and will provide reasonable accommodations upon request. Bidders requesting special accommodations should call the Department ADA representative at (703) 324-3201 or TTY 711. Please allow two (2) working days in advance of the event to make the necessary arrangements.

**31. STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION IDENTIFICATION NUMBER:**

- 31.1. Pursuant to *Code of Virginia*, §2.2-4311.2 subsection B, a bidder or offeror organized or authorized to transact business in the Commonwealth pursuant to Title 13.1 or Title 50 is required to include in its bid or proposal the identification number issued to it by the State Corporation Commission (SCC). Any bidder or offeror that is not required to be authorized to transact business in the Commonwealth as a foreign business entity under Title 13.1 or Title 50 or as otherwise required by law is required to include in its bid or proposal a statement describing why the bidder or offeror is not required to be so authorized. Any bidder or offeror that fails to provide the required information may not receive an award.

# COUNTY OF FAIRFAX COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

## GENERAL CONDITIONS AND INSTRUCTIONS TO BIDDERS

BIDS ON SOLICITATIONS ISSUED BY THE COUNTY WILL BIND BIDDERS TO THE APPLICABLE CONDITIONS AND REQUIREMENTS IN THE GENERAL CONDITIONS AND INSTRUCTIONS TO BIDDERS (GCIB) UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFIED IN THE SOLICITATION AND SUBJECT TO APPLICABLE STATE, LOCAL, AND FEDERAL LAWS.

BIDDERS OR THEIR AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVES SHOULD INFORM THEMSELVES FULLY AS TO THE CONDITIONS, REQUIREMENTS, AND SPECIFICATIONS OF EACH COUNTY PROCUREMENT BEFORE SUBMITTING BIDS. FAILURE TO DO SO WILL BE AT THE BIDDER'S OWN RISK AND RELIEF CANNOT BE SECURED ON THE PLEA OF ERROR.

- 1. AUTHORITY-**The Purchasing Agent has the sole responsibility and authority for purchasing supplies, materials, equipment, and services, except as excluded in the Fairfax County Purchasing Resolution. The Purchasing Agent's responsibility and authority includes, but is not limited to, issuing and modifying solicitations, negotiating and executing contracts, and placing purchase orders. In discharging these responsibilities, the Purchasing Agent may be assisted by contract specialists. Unless specifically delegated by the Purchasing Agent, no other County officer or employee is authorized to order supplies or services, enter into purchase negotiations or contracts, or in any way obligate the government of the County of Fairfax for an indebtedness. Any purchase ordered or contract made that is contrary to these provisions and authorities shall be of no effect, void, and does not bind the County.
- 2. DEFINITIONS-** Unless otherwise defined in the GCIB, capitalized terms shall have the meanings defined by the Fairfax County Purchasing Resolution.

AGENCY: Any Department, Agency, Authority, Commission, Board or other unit in the Administrative Service of the County.

BID: The offer of a bidder to provide specific goods or services at specified prices and/or other conditions specified in the solicitation.

BIDDER/OFFEROR: Any individual, company, firm, corporation, partnership or other organization bidding on solicitations issued by the Purchasing Agent and offering to enter into contracts with the County. The term "bidder" will be used throughout this document and shall be construed to mean "offeror" where appropriate.

CONTRACTOR: Any individual, company, firm, corporation, partnership or other organization to whom an award is made by the County.

INVITATION FOR BID (IFB): A request which is made to prospective suppliers (bidders) for their quotation on goods or services desired by the County. The issuance of an IFB will contain or incorporate by reference the specifications and contractual terms and conditions applicable to the procurement.

PURCHASING AGENT: The Purchasing Agent employed by the Board of Supervisors of Fairfax County, Virginia.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP): A request for an offer from prospective offerors which will indicate the general terms which are sought to be procured from the offeror. The RFP will specify the evaluation factors to be used and will contain or incorporate by reference other contractual terms and conditions applicable to the procurement.

SOLICITATION: The process of notifying prospective bidders that the County wishes to receive bids on a set of requirements to provide goods or services. The notification of County requirements may consist of public advertising (newspaper, County Web Site, or other electronic notification), the mailing of Notices of Solicitation, Invitation for Bid (IFB) or Request for Proposal (RFP), the public posting of notices, issuance of an informal solicitation to include telephone calls to prospective bidders.

### CONDITIONS OF BIDDING

- 3. BID FORMS-**Unless otherwise specified in the solicitation, all bids must be (i) submitted on the forms provided by the County, including the bid Cover Sheet and Pricing Schedule(s); (ii) properly signed in ink in the identified spaces; and (iii) submitted in a sealed envelope or package.

If the bid prices or any other submissions differ on the copy of the submitted bid, the ORIGINAL copy shall prevail.

- 4. LATE BIDS & MODIFICATIONS OF BIDS-**
  - a. Bids or proposals received after the date and time specified for receipt in the solicitation will not be considered.
  - b. **If an emergency, unanticipated event, or closing of County offices interrupts or suspends normal County business operations so that bids cannot be received at the County office designated for receipt of bids by the exact time specified in the solicitation, then bids will be due at the same time of day specified in the solicitation on the first work day that normal County business operations resume.**

**General Conditions and Instructions to Bidders**

- c. The official time used for receipt of bids/modifications is the time and date stamp clock located in the Department of Procurement & Material Management. No other clocks, calendars or timepieces are recognized. All bidders must ensure all bids/modifications are received prior to the scheduled due date/time.
5. **WITHDRAWAL OF BIDS**- Bids shall be withdrawn only as set forth in the Fairfax County Purchasing Resolution.
  6. **ERRORS IN BIDS**-When an error is made in extending total prices, the unit bid price will govern. Erasures in bids must be initialed by the bidder. Bidders are cautioned to recheck their bids for possible error. Errors discovered after public opening cannot be corrected and the bidder will be required to perform if its bid is accepted.
  7. **LABELING OF BIDS** – All bids and proposals submitted in response to a County solicitation must be submitted in a sealed envelope or package identified with the solicitation number, title, and bidder's name and address clearly marked on the outside of the envelope or package.
  8. **ACCEPTANCE OF BIDS/BINDING 90 DAYS**-Unless otherwise specified, all formal bids submitted shall be binding for ninety (90) calendar days following bid opening date, unless extended by mutual consent of all parties.
  9. **CONDITIONAL BIDS**-Conditional bids may be rejected in whole or in part.
  10. **BIDS FOR ALL OR PART**-The Purchasing Agent reserves the right to make award on all items in the aggregate or on any of the items on an individual basis, whichever is in the best interest of the County. A bidder may restrict its bid to consideration in the group aggregate by so stating, but must name a single unit price on each item bid. Any bid in which the bidder names a total price for all the articles without quoting a unit price for each and every separate item may not be considered for award.
  11. **AREA BIDS**-For the purchase and delivery of certain goods and services the County may be divided into Areas (e.g., Areas I, II, III, and IV). When such goods and services are included in the Pricing Schedule, bidders may bid on all areas or an individual area. A map showing the areas of the County will be furnished with the solicitation when required.
  12. **RECEIPT OF BIDS**-Bids received prior to the time of opening will be securely kept, unopened by the County. No responsibility will attach to the Purchasing Agent or her representative for the premature opening of a bid not properly addressed and identified. Unless specifically authorized in the solicitation, telegraphic, electronic, or facsimile bids/modifications will not be considered by the County.
  13. **BID OPENING**-All bids received in response to an Invitation for Bid (IFB) will be opened at the date, time and place specified, read publicly, and made available for inspection as provided in paragraph 64, General Conditions and Instructions to Bidders. The Purchasing Agent's representative assigned to open the bids will decide when the specified time for bid opening has arrived. Tabulations of bids received are posted on the County's website at: <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/procurement/bid-tab>  
  
Proposals received in response to a Request for Proposal (RFP) will be made available as provided in Paragraph 64, General Conditions and Instructions to Bidders.
  14. **OMISSIONS & DISCREPANCIES**-Any items or parts of any equipment listed in this solicitation that clearly necessary for the operation and completion of such equipment, but are: (i) not fully described by the County; or (ii) are omitted by the County from such specification, shall be considered a part of such equipment even if not directly specified or called for in the specifications.  
  
If a bidder finds discrepancies or ambiguities in, or omissions from, the solicitation, including the drawings and/or specifications, it shall notify the Purchasing Agent at least five (5) days prior to the date set for the opening of bids. If necessary, the Purchasing Agent will send a written addendum for clarification to all bidders no later than three (3) days before the date set for opening of bids. Notifications regarding specifications will not be considered if received within five days of the date set for opening of bids.
  15. **BIDDER INTERESTED IN MORE THAN ONE BID**-If more than one bid is offered by a bidder, directly or indirectly, all such bids may be rejected. A bidder who has quoted prices on work, materials, or supplies to a bidder is not disqualified from quoting prices to other bidders or firms submitting a bid directly for the work, materials or supplies.
  16. **TAX EXEMPTION**-The County is exempt from the payment of any federal excise or any Virginia sales tax. Fairfax County's Federal Excise Tax Exemption Number is 54-74-0127K.
  17. **PROHIBITION AGAINST UNIFORM PRICING**-The Purchasing Agent encourages open and competitive bidding by all possible means and endeavors to obtain the maximum degree of open competition on all purchase transactions using the methods of procurement authorized by the Fairfax County Purchasing Resolution. Each bidder, by virtue of submitting a bid, guarantees that it has not been a party with other bidders to an agreement to bid a fixed or uniform price. Violation of this implied guarantee shall render void the bids of participating bidders. Any disclosure to or acquisition by a competitive bidder, in advance of the opening of the bids, of the terms or conditions of the bid submitted by another competitor may render the entire proceedings void and may require re-advertising for bids.
  18. **UNBALANCED BIDS**—A Bid shall be mathematically unbalanced if the Bid contains unit pricing that does not reflect reasonable costs (including actual labor and material cost, overhead and profit) for the performance of the bid item(s) in question. A Bid shall be materially unbalanced if there is a reasonable doubt that award of the mathematically unbalanced Bid will result in the lowest ultimate cost to the County. A Bid that is, in the sole discretion of the County Purchasing Agent, both mathematically and materially unbalanced, may be rejected as non-responsive.

## General Conditions and Instructions to Bidders

### SPECIFICATIONS

- 19. CLARIFICATION OF TERMS**—If any prospective bidder has questions about the specifications or other solicitation documents, the prospective bidder should contact the contract specialist whose name appears on the face of the solicitation no later than five working days before the due date. Any revisions to the solicitation will be made only by addendum issued by the contract specialist.
- 20. BRAND NAME OR EQUAL ITEMS**—Unless otherwise provided in the Invitation for Bid, the name of a certain brand, make or manufacturer does not restrict bidders to the specific brand, make or manufacturer named; it conveys the general style, type, character, and quality of the article desired. Any article that the County in its sole discretion determines to be the equivalent of that specified, considering quality, workmanship, economy of operation, and suitability for the purpose intended, shall be accepted. The bidder is responsible for clearly and specifically identifying the product being offered and providing sufficient descriptive literature, catalog cuts and technical detail to enable the County to determine if the product offered meets the requirements of the solicitation. This is required even if offering the exact brand, make, or manufacturer specified. Failure to furnish adequate data for evaluation purposes may result in declaring a bid nonresponsive. Unless the bidder clearly indicates in its bid that the product is an equivalent product, such bid will be considered to offer the brand name product referenced in the solicitation.
- 21. SPECIFICATIONS**—When a solicitation contains a specification that states no substitutes, no deviation therefrom will be permitted and the bidder will be required to furnish articles in conformity with that specification.

The bidder must abide by and comply with the true intent of the specifications and not take advantage of any unintentional error or omission, but shall fully complete every part as the true intent and meaning of the specifications and drawings. Whenever the mention is made of any articles, material, or workmanship to be in accordance with laws, ordinances, building codes, underwriter's codes, A.S.T.M. regulations or similar expressions, the requirements of these laws, ordinances, etc., shall be construed as to the minimum requirements of these specifications.

### AWARD

- 22. AWARD OR REJECTION OF BIDS**—The Purchasing Agent shall award the contract to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder complying with all provisions of the IFB, provided the bid price is reasonable and it is in the best interest of the County to accept it. Awards made in response to a RFP will be made to the highest qualified offeror whose proposal is determined, in writing, to be the most advantageous to the County taking into consideration the evaluation factors set forth in the RFP. The Purchasing Agent reserves the right to award a contract by individual items, in the aggregate, or in combination thereof, or to reject any or all bids and to waive any informality in bids received whenever such rejection or waiver is in the best interest of the County. Award may be made to as many bidders as deemed necessary to fulfill the anticipated requirements of Fairfax County. The Purchasing Agent also reserves the right to reject the bid of a bidder deemed to be a non-responsible bidder.

In determining the responsibility of a bidder, the following criteria will be considered:

- a. The ability, capacity and skill of the bidder to perform the contract or provide the service required;
  - b. Whether the bidder can perform the contract or provide the service promptly, or within the time specified, without delay or interference;
  - c. The character, integrity, reputation, judgment, experience and efficiency of the bidder;
  - d. The quality of performance of previous contracts or services;
  - e. The previous and existing compliance by the bidder with laws and ordinances relating to the contract or services;
  - f. The sufficiency of the financial resources and ability of the bidder to perform the contract or provide the service;
  - g. The quality, availability and adaptability of the goods or services to the particular use required;
  - h. The ability of the bidder to provide future maintenance and service for the use of the subject of the contract;
  - i. Whether the bidder is in arrears to the County on debt or contract or is a defaulter on surety to the County or whether the bidder's County taxes or assessments are delinquent; and
  - j. Such other information as may be secured by the Purchasing Agent having a bearing on the decision to award the contract. If an apparent low bidder is not awarded a contract for reasons of non-responsibility, the Purchasing Agent shall so notify that bidder and shall have recorded the reasons in the contract file.
- 23. NOTICE OF ACCEPTANCE/CONTRACT DOCUMENTS**—A written award (or Acceptance Agreement) mailed or otherwise furnished to the successful bidder within the time for acceptance specified in the solicitation shall result in a binding contract. The following documents, which are included in the solicitation, are incorporated by reference in and made part of the resulting contract:
- a. County of Fairfax Solicitation Form (Cover Sheet) and other documents which may be incorporated by reference, if applicable
  - b. Acceptance Agreement
  - c. General Conditions and Instructions to Bidders
  - d. Special Provisions and Specifications
  - e. Pricing Schedule
  - f. Any Addenda/Amendments/Memoranda of Negotiations
- 24. TIE-BIDS** – If all bids are for the same total amount or unit price (including authorized discounts and delivery times), and if the public interest will not permit the delay of re-advertisement for bids, the Purchasing Agent is authorized to award the contract to the tie bidder that has its principal place of business in the County, or if there be none, to the resident Virginia tie bidder, or if there be none, to one of the tie bidders by drawing lots in public; or the Purchasing Agent may purchase the goods or services in the open market except that the price paid shall not exceed the lowest contract bid price submitted for the same goods or services. The decision of the County to make award to one or more such bidders shall be final.

**General Conditions and Instructions to Bidders**

**25. PROMPT PAYMENT DISCOUNT-**

- a. Unless otherwise specified in the solicitation, prompt payment discounts requiring payment in less than fifteen (15) days will not be considered in evaluating a bid for award. However, even though not considered in the evaluation, such discounts will be taken if payment is to be made within the discount period.
- b. If a discount for prompt payment is allowed, the discount period will begin on the date of receipt of a properly completed invoice or acceptance of materials or services, whichever is later.
- c. For determining acceptance of supplies in accordance with the provisions of the prompt payment discount paragraph, inspection and acceptance shall be accomplished only after examination (including testing) of supplies and services to determine whether the supplies and services conform to the contract requirements.

For the purpose of earning the discount, payment is deemed to be made as of the date of mailing of the County check or issuance of an Electronic Funds Transfer, or completion of a credit card transaction.

**26. INSPECTION-ACCEPTANCE-** Acceptance shall occur only after receipt and inspection provided such inspection, as appropriate, is accomplished within a reasonable time. The County reserves the right to conduct any test/inspection it may deem advisable to assure goods and services conform to the specifications.

**27. DEFINITE BID QUANTITIES-**Where definite quantities are specifically stated, acceptance will bind the County to order quantities specified and to pay for, at contract prices, all such supplies or services delivered that meet specifications and conditions of the contract. However, the County will not be required to accept delivery of any balances unordered, as of the contract expiration date, unless the Contractor furnished the Purchasing Agent with a statement of unordered balances not later than ten (10) days after the termination date of the contract.

**28. REQUIREMENT BID QUANTITIES-**On "Requirement" bids, acceptance will bind the County to pay for, at unit bid prices, only quantities ordered and delivered. Where the County specifies estimated quantities, the Contractor shall not be required to deliver more than ten (10) percent in excess of the estimated quantity of each item, unless otherwise agreed upon.

**CONTRACT PROVISIONS**

**29. TERMINATION OF CONTRACTS-**Contracts will remain in force for full periods specified and/or until all articles ordered before date of termination shall have been satisfactorily delivered and accepted and thereafter until all requirements and conditions shall have been met, unless:

- a. Terminated prior to expiration date by satisfactory deliveries of entire contract requirements, or upon termination by the County for Convenience or Cause.
- b. Extended upon written authorization of the Purchasing Agent and accepted by Contractor, to permit ordering of unordered balances or additional quantities at contract prices and in accordance with contract terms.

**30. TERMINATION FOR CONVENIENCE-**A contract may be terminated in whole or in part by the County in accordance with this clause whenever the Purchasing Agent determines that such a termination is in the best interest of the County. Any such termination shall be effected by delivery to the Contractor of a Notice of Termination specifying the extent to which performance shall be terminated and the date upon which termination becomes effective. An equitable adjustment in the contract price shall be made for completed service, but no amount shall be allowed for anticipated profit on unperformed services.

**31. TERMINATION OF CONTRACT FOR CAUSE-**

- a. If, through any cause, the Contractor fails to fulfill in a timely and proper manner its obligations under this contract, or if the Contractor violates any of the covenants, agreements, or stipulations of this contract, the County shall have the right to terminate the contract. Any such termination shall be effected by delivery to the Contractor of a Notice of Termination specifying the extent to which performance shall be terminated and the date upon which termination becomes effective. In such event all finished or unfinished documents, data, studies, surveys, drawings, maps, models, and reports prepared by the Contractor under the contract shall, at the option of the County, become its property and the Contractor shall be entitled to receive just and equitable compensation for any satisfactory work completed on such documents.
- b. Termination of the Contract for Cause does not relieve the Contractor of liability to the County for damages sustained by the County by virtue of any breach of contract by the Contractor for the purpose of set off until such time as the exact amount of damages due to the County from the Contractor is determined.

**32. CONTRACT ALTERATIONS-**No alterations in the terms of a contract shall be valid or binding upon the County unless made in writing and signed by the Purchasing Agent or her authorized agent.

**33. SUBLETTING OR ASSIGNMENT** -It is mutually understood and agreed that the Contractor shall not assign, transfer, convey, sublet or otherwise dispose of his or her contractual duties to any other person, firm or corporation, without the previous written consent of the Purchasing Agent. If the Contractor desires to assign its right to payment of the contract, Contractor shall notify the Purchasing Agent immediately, in writing, of such assignment of right to payment. In no case shall such assignment of contract relieve the Contractor from its obligations or change the terms of the contract.

**34. FUNDING-** The obligation of the County to pay compensation due the Contractor under the contract or any other payment obligations under any contract awarded pursuant to this contract is subject to appropriations by the Fairfax County Board of

**General Conditions and Instructions to Bidders**

Supervisors to satisfy payment of such obligations. The County's obligations to make payments during subsequent fiscal years are dependent upon the same action. If such an appropriation is not made for any fiscal year, the contract shall terminate effective at the end of the fiscal year for which funds were appropriated and the County will not be obligated to make any payments under the contract beyond the amount appropriated for payment obligations under the contract. The County will provide the Contractor with written notice of non-appropriation of funds within thirty (30) calendar days after action is completed by the Board of Supervisors. However, the County's failure to provide such notice will not extend the contract into a fiscal year in which sufficient funds have not been appropriated.

- 35. DELIVERY/SERVICE FAILURES-**If a Contractor (i) fails to deliver goods or services within the time specified or within a reasonable time as interpreted by the Purchasing Agent; or (ii) fails to make replacements or corrections of rejected articles or services when so requested, immediately or as directed by the Purchasing Agent, then the Purchasing Agent shall have the authority to purchase in the open market goods or services of comparable grade or quality to replace goods or services not delivered or rejected. On all such purchases, the Contractor shall reimburse the County, within a reasonable time specified by the Purchasing Agent, for any expense incurred in excess of contract prices. Such purchases shall be deducted from the contract quantities if applicable. Should public necessity demand it, the County reserves the right to use or consume articles delivered or services performed which are substandard in quality, subject to an adjustment in price to be determined by the Purchasing Agent.
- 36. NON-LIABILITY-**The Contractor shall not be liable in damages for delay in shipment or failure to deliver when such delay or failure is the result of fire, flood, strike, the transportation carrier, act of God, act of Government, act of an alien enemy or by any other circumstances which, in the Purchasing Agent's opinion, are beyond the reasonable control of the Contractor. Under such circumstances, however, the Purchasing Agent may, at her discretion terminate the contract.
- 37. NON-DISCRIMINATION-**During the performance of this contract, the Contractor agrees as follows:
- a. The Contractor will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, religion, color, sex, national origin, age, disability, or other basis prohibited by state law relating to discrimination in employment, except where there is a bona fide occupational qualification reasonably necessary to the normal operation of the Contractor. The Contractor agrees to post in conspicuous places, available to employees and applicants for employment, notices setting forth the provisions of this non-discrimination clause.
  - b. The Contractor, in all solicitations or advertisements for employees placed by or on behalf of the Contractor, will state that such Contractor is an equal opportunity employer.
  - c. Notices, advertisements and solicitations placed in accordance with federal law, rule or regulation shall be deemed sufficient for the purpose of meeting the requirements of this section.
  - d. The Contractor will include the provisions of the foregoing paragraphs a, b, and c above in every subcontract or purchase order of over \$10,000 so that the provisions will be binding upon each subcontractor or vendor.
  - e. Contractor shall, throughout the term of this contract, comply with the Human Rights Ordinance, Chapter 11 of the Code of the County of Fairfax, Virginia, as reenacted or amended. Contractor shall further require that all of its subcontractors will comply with the Human Rights Ordinance, Chapter 11 of the Code of the County of Fairfax, Virginia, as reenacted or amended
- 38. SMALL, WOMEN-OWNED, AND MINORITY-OWNED BUSINESS USE-**
- a. It is the declared policy of the County of Fairfax, through its Small and Minority Business Enterprise Program, that Fairfax County and its employees undertake every effort to increase opportunity for use of small or minority businesses in all aspects of procurement to the maximum extent feasible.
  - b. Where it is practicable for any portion of the awarded contract to be subcontracted to other suppliers, the contractor is encouraged to offer such subcontracting opportunities to small, women and minority businesses.
  - c. Where Federal grants or monies are involved, it is the policy of Fairfax County, through its agents and employees, to comply with the requirements set forth in the Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards, as they pertain to small and minority business use.
- 39. GUARANTEES & WARRANTIES-**All guarantees and warranties required shall be furnished by the Contractor and shall be delivered to the Purchasing Agent before contract execution. Unless otherwise stated, manufacturer's standard warranty applies.
- 40. PRICE REDUCTION-**If the Contractor makes a general price reduction for any material covered by the solicitation to customers generally, an equivalent price reduction shall apply to this contract for the duration of the contract period (or until the price is further reduced). Such price reduction shall be effective at the same time and in the same manner as the reduction in the price to customers generally. For purpose of this provision, a "general price reduction" shall mean any horizontal reduction in the price of an article or service offered (1) to Contractor's customers generally, or (2) in the Contractor's price schedule for the class of customers (i.e., wholesalers, jobbers, or retailers), which was used as the basis for bidding on this solicitation. An occasional sale at a lower price, or sale of distressed merchandise at a lower price is not a "general price reduction" under this provision. The Contractor shall submit its invoice at such reduced prices indicating on the invoice that the reduction is pursuant to the "Price Reduction" provision of the contract documents. The Contractor will also within ten days of any general price reduction notify the Purchasing Agent of such reduction by letter. FAILURE TO DO SO MAY RESULT IN TERMINATION OF THE CONTRACT.
- 41. CHANGES-**If in the Purchasing Agent's opinion, it becomes proper or necessary in the execution of this contract to make any change in design, or to make any alterations that will increase the expense, the Purchasing Agent shall determine an equitable adjustment to the Contractor's compensation.

No payment shall be made to the Contractor for any extra material or services, or of any greater amount of money than stipulated to be paid in the contract, unless some changes in or additions to the contract requiring additional outlay by the Contractor are first expressly authorized and ordered in writing by contract amendment or otherwise furnished by the Purchasing Agent.

**General Conditions and Instructions to Bidders**

42. **PLACING OF ORDERS**-Orders against contracts will be placed with the Contractor by Purchase Order or Procurement Card (P-Card) executed and released by the Purchasing Agent or their designee. When a Blanket Purchase Order has been released by the Purchasing Agent, telephonic orders may be placed directly with the Contractor by authorized personnel in the ordering Agency.

**DELIVERY PROVISIONS**

43. **SHIPPING INSTRUCTIONS - CONSIGNMENT**-Unless otherwise specified in the solicitation each case, container, package, etc., delivered under the contract must be plainly marked, stating the Contractor's name, purchase order number, and delivery address as indicated in the order. Deliveries must be made within the hours of 8:00 AM - 3:00 PM. Deliveries at any other time will not be accepted unless specific arrangements have been previously made with the receiver at the delivery point. No deliveries will be accepted on Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, unless previous arrangements have been made. It shall be the responsibility of the Contractor to insure compliance with these instructions for items that are drop-shipped.
44. **RESPONSIBILITY FOR MATERIALS OR GOODS TENDERED**-Unless otherwise specified in the solicitation, the Contractor is responsible for the materials or supplies covered by the contract until they are delivered at the delivery point designated by the County. The Contractor bears all risk of loss on rejected materials or supplies after notice of rejection. Rejected materials or supplies must be removed by and at the expense of the Contractor promptly after notification of rejection, unless public health and safety require immediate destruction or other disposal of rejected delivery. If rejected materials are not removed by the Contractor within ten (10) days after date of notification, the County may return the rejected materials or supplies to the Contractor at its risk and expense or dispose of them as the County's own property.
45. **INSPECTIONS**-Inspection and acceptance of materials or supplies will be made after delivery at the designated destinations unless otherwise stated. If inspection is made after delivery at the designated destination, the County will bear the expense of inspection except for the value of samples used in case of rejection. Final inspection is conclusive except in regard to latent defects, fraud or such gross mistakes as to amount to fraud. Final inspection and acceptance or rejection of the materials or supplies will be made as promptly as practicable, but failure to inspect and accept or reject materials or supplies shall not impose liability on the County for such materials or supplies as are not in accordance with the specifications.
46. **COMPLIANCE**-Delivery must be made as ordered and in accordance with the contract or as directed by the Purchasing Agent when not in conflict with the contract. The decision of the Purchasing Agent as to reasonable compliance with delivery terms shall be final. If the Contractor claims the delay in receipt of goods was caused by the County, the Contractor must provide evidence satisfactory to the Purchasing Agent supporting the Contractor's claim. Any request for extension of delivery time from that specified in the contract must be approved by the Purchasing Agent, such extension applying only to the particular item or shipment affected. If the Contractor is delayed by the County, there shall be added to the time of completion a time equal to the period of such delay caused by the County. However, the Contractor shall not be entitled to claim damages or extra compensation for such delay or suspension. These conditions may vary for construction contracts. See contract for the individual instructions.
47. **POINT OF DESTINATION**-All materials shipped to the County must be shipped F.O.B. DESTINATION unless otherwise stated in the contract or purchase order. The materials must be delivered to the "Ship to" address indicated on the purchase order.
48. **ADDITIONAL CHARGES**-Unless bought F.O.B. "shipping point" and Contractor prepays transportation, no delivery charges shall be added to invoices except when express delivery is authorized and substituted on orders for the method specified in the contract. In such cases, difference between freight or mail and express charges may be added to invoice.
49. **METHOD AND CONTAINERS**-Unless otherwise specified, goods shall be delivered in commercial packages in standard commercial containers that are constructed to ensure acceptance by common or other carrier for safe transportation to the point of delivery. Containers become the property of the County unless otherwise specified by bidder.
50. **REPLACEMENT**-Materials or components that have been rejected by the Purchasing Agent, in accordance with the terms of a contract, shall be replaced by the Contractor at no cost to the County.
51. **PACKING SLIPS OR DELIVERY TICKETS**-All shipments must be accompanied by Packing Slips or Delivery Tickets and must contain the following information for each item delivered:
- a. The Purchase Order Number,
  - b. The Name of the Article and Stock Number (Supplier's),
  - c. The Quantity Ordered,
  - d. The Quantity Shipped,
  - e. The Quantity Back Ordered,
  - f. The Name of the Contractor.

Contractors are cautioned that failure to comply with these conditions is sufficient reason for the County's refusal to accept the goods.

**BILLING**

52. **BILLING**-Billing for the Fairfax County Public Schools and for County agencies: Unless otherwise specified on the contract or purchase order (PO), invoices are to be submitted for each purchase order immediately upon completion of the shipment or services. Invoices should be mailed to the "BILL TO" address on the PO or to the appropriate address specified in the contract.

**General Conditions and Instructions to Bidders**

**PAYMENTS**

53. **PAYMENT**-Payment shall be made after satisfactory performance that is in accordance with all provisions of the contract, and upon receipt of a properly completed invoice. The County reserves the right to withhold any or all payments or portions thereof for Contractor's failure to perform in accordance with the provision of the contract or any subsequent modifications.
54. **PARTIAL PAYMENTS**-Unless otherwise specified, partial payments will be made upon acceptance of materials or services so invoiced if in accordance with completion date. However, up to 5 percent (5%) of the value of the entire order may be retained until completion of contract.
55. **PAYMENT FOR EQUIPMENT, INSTALLATION, AND TESTING**-When equipment requires installation (which includes erection, setting up or placing in position, service, or use) and testing, and the installation or testing is delayed, payment may be made on the basis of 50% of the contract price when such equipment is delivered on the site. A further allowance of 25% may be made when the equipment is installed and ready for test. The balance shall be paid after the equipment is tested and found to be satisfactory. If the equipment must be tested, but installation is not required to be made by the Contractor or if the equipment must be installed but testing is not required, payment may be made on the basis of 75% at the time of delivery and the balance shall be paid after satisfactory test or installation is completed.

**GENERAL**

56. **GENERAL GUARANTY**-Contractor agrees to:
- a. Save the County, its agents and employees harmless from liability of any nature or kind for the use of any copyrighted or uncopyrighted composition; secret process, patented or unpatented; invention; article or appliance furnished or used in the performance of a contract for which the Contractor is not the patentee, assignee, licensee or owner.
  - b. Warrant that when the contract includes a software license, or use of licensed software, the Contractor is the owner of the Software or otherwise has the right to grant to the County the license to use the Software granted through the Contract without violating or infringing any law, rule, regulation, copyright, patent, trade secret or other proprietary right of any third party.
  - c. Protect the County against latent defective material or workmanship and to repair or replace any damages or marring occasioned in transit or delivery.
  - d. Furnish adequate protection against damage to all work and to repair damages of any kind to the building or equipment, to his or her own work or to the work of other contractors, for which his or her workers are responsible.
  - e. Pay for all permits, licenses and fees and give all notices and comply with all laws, ordinances, rules, regulations, and policies of the County.
  - f. Protect the County from loss or damage to County owned property while it is in the custody of the Contractor.
57. **SERVICE CONTRACT GUARANTY**-Contractor agrees to:
- a. Furnish services described in the solicitation and resultant contract at the times and places and in the manner and subject to conditions of those documents provided that the County may reduce the said services at any time.
  - b. Enter upon the performance of services with all due diligence and dispatch, assiduously press to its complete performance, and exercise therein the highest degree of skill and competence.
  - c. All work and services rendered in strict conformance to all laws, statutes, and ordinances and the applicable government rules, regulations, methods, and procedures.
  - d. Allow services to be inspected or reviewed by an employee of the County at any reasonable time and place selected by the County. The County is under no obligation to compensate Contractor for any services not rendered in strict conformity with the contract.
  - e. Stipulate that the presence of a County Inspector shall not lessen the obligation of the Contractor for performance in accordance with the contract requirements, or be deemed a defense on the part of the Contractor for infraction thereof. The Inspector is not authorized to revoke, alter, enlarge, relax, or release any of the requirements of the contract documents. Any omission or failure on the part of the Inspector to disapprove or reject any work or material shall not be construed to be an acceptance of any such defective work or material. Notification of an omission or failure will be documented by the Purchasing Agent.
58. **INDEMNIFICATION**-
- a. General Indemnification. Contractor must indemnify, keep and save harmless, and defend the County, its agents, officials, employees and volunteers against Claims that may accrue or arise against the County as a result of the granting a contract, if the Claim was caused by the negligence or error, or omission of the Contractor, its employees, its subcontractor, or its subcontractor's employees. As used in this Section, a Claim includes: injuries, death, damage to property, breach of data security, suits, liabilities, judgments, or costs and expenses. Upon request by the County, the Contractor must at its own expense: appear, defend, and pay all attorney's fees and all costs and other expenses related to the Claim. If, related to a Claim, any judgment is rendered against the County or a settlement reached that requires the County to pay money, the Contractor must at its own expense satisfy and discharge the same. Contractor expressly understands and agrees that any performance bond or insurance protection required by this Contract, or otherwise provided by the Contractor, does not limit the Contractor's responsibility to indemnify, keep and save harmless, and defend the County as provided in this Contract.
  - b. Intellectual Property Indemnification. In addition to the General Indemnification, Contractor will indemnify the County for and defend the County against third-party claims for infringement of any valid United States patent, trademark or copyright by the Contractor's products, software, services, or deliverables. Contractor must indemnify the County for any loss,

**General Conditions and Instructions to Bidders**

damage, expense or liability, including costs and reasonable attorney's fees that may result by reason of any such claim.

In the event of a claim covered by this subparagraph, and in addition to all other obligations of Contractor in this Paragraph 58, Contractor must at its expense and within a reasonable time: (a) obtain a right for the County to continue using such products and software, or allow Contractor to continue performing the Services; (b) modify such products, software, services or deliverables to make them non-infringing; or (c) replace such products or software with a non-infringing equivalent. If, in the Contractor's reasonable opinion, none of the foregoing options is feasible Contractor must immediately notify the County and accept the return of the products, software, services, or deliverables, along with any other components rendered unusable as a result of the infringement or claimed infringement, and refund to the County the price paid to Contractor for such components as well as any pre-paid fees for the allegedly infringing services, including license, subscription fees, or both. Nothing in Paragraph 58, however, relieves the Contractor of liability to the County for damages sustained by the County by virtue of any breach of contract related to a third-party infringement claim.

- c. **Right to Participate in Defense.** The County may, at its sole expense, participate in the defense or resolution of a Claim. Contractor will have primary control of the defense and resolution of the Claim, except when such defense or resolution requires the County to (i) admit liability or wrongdoing; or (ii) to pay money. In either of these cases Contractor must obtain the County's prior written consent before entering into such settlement or resolution.
- d. **No Indemnification by the County.** The parties agree that under applicable law the County cannot indemnify or defend the Contractor. To the extent any promise or term contained in this Contract, including any exhibits, attachments, or other documents incorporated by reference therein, includes an indemnification or obligation to defend by the County, that promise or term is stricken from this Contract and of no effect.

**59. OFFICIALS NOT TO BENEFIT-**

- a. Each bidder, offeror, or contractor shall certify, upon signing a bid, proposal, or contract, that to the best of their knowledge no Fairfax County official or employee having official responsibility for the procurement transaction, or member of their immediate family, has received or will receive any financial benefit of more than nominal or minimal value relating to the award of this contract. If such a benefit has been received or will be received, this fact shall be disclosed with the bid or proposal or as soon thereafter as it appears that such a benefit will be received. Failure to disclose the information prescribed above may result in suspension or debarment, or rescission of the contract made, or could affect payment pursuant to the terms of the contract.
- b. Whenever there is reason to believe that a financial benefit of the sort described in paragraph "a" has been or will be received in connection with a bid, proposal or contract, and that the Contractor has failed to disclose such benefit or has inadequately disclosed it, the County Executive, as a prerequisite to payment pursuant to the contract, or at any other time, may require the Contractor to furnish, under oath, answers to any interrogatories related to such possible benefit.
- c. In the event the bidder or offeror has knowledge of benefits as outlined above, this information should be submitted with the bid or proposal. If the above does not apply at time of award of contract and becomes known after inception of a contract, the bidder or offeror shall address the disclosure of such facts to the Fairfax County Purchasing Agent, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Suite 427, Fairfax, Virginia 22035-0013. Relevant Invitation/Request for Proposal Number (see cover sheet) should be referenced in the disclosure.

**60. LICENSE REQUIREMENT-**All firms doing business in Fairfax County, shall obtain a license as required by Chapter 4, Article 7, of The Code of the County of Fairfax, Virginia, as amended, entitled "Business, Professional and Occupational Licensing (BPOL) Tax." Questions concerning the BPOL Tax should be directed to the Department of Tax Administration, telephone (703) 222-8234 or visit: [http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dta/business\\_tax.htm](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dta/business_tax.htm). The BPOL Tax number must be indicated in the space provided on the Cover Sheet, "Fairfax License Tax No." when appropriate.

**61. AUTHORIZATION TO CONDUCT BUSINESS IN THE COMMONWEALTH:** A contractor organized as a stock or nonstock corporation, limited liability company, business trust, or limited partnership or registered as a registered limited liability partnership shall be authorized to transact business in the Commonwealth as a domestic or foreign business entity if so required by Title 13.1 or Title 50 of the *Code of Virginia* or as otherwise required by law. Any business entity described above that enters into a contract with a Fairfax County pursuant to the Fairfax County Purchasing Resolution shall not allow its existence to lapse or its certificate of authority or registration to transact business in the Commonwealth, if so required under Title 13.1 or Title 50, to be revoked or cancelled at any time during the term of the contract. Fairfax County may void any contract with a business entity if the business entity fails to remain in compliance with the provisions of this section.

**62. COVENANT AGAINST CONTINGENT FEES-**The Contractor warrants that no person or selling agency has been employed or retained to solicit or secure this contract upon an agreement or understanding for a commission, percentage, brokerage, or contingent fee, except bona fide employees or bona fide established commercial or selling agencies maintained by the Contractor for the purpose of securing business. For violation of this warranty, the County shall have the right to terminate or suspend this contract without liability to the County or in its discretion to deduct from the contract price or consideration, or otherwise recover, the full amount of such commission, percentage, brokerage, or contingent fee.

**63. VIRGINIA FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT-**All proceedings, records, contracts and other public records relating to procurement transactions shall be open to the inspection of any citizen, or any interested person, firm or corporation, in accordance with the Virginia Freedom of Information Act except as provided below:

- a. Cost estimates relating to a proposed procurement transaction prepared by or for a public body shall not be open to public inspection.

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- b. Any competitive sealed bidding bidder, upon request, shall be afforded the opportunity to inspect bid records within a reasonable time after the opening of all bids but prior to award, except in the event that the County decides not to accept any of the bids and to reopen the contract. Otherwise, bid records shall be open to public inspection only after award of the contract. Any competitive negotiation offeror, upon request, shall be afforded the opportunity to inspect proposal records within a reasonable time after the evaluation and negotiations of proposals are completed but prior to award except in the event that the County decides not to accept any of the proposals and to reopen the contract. Otherwise, proposal records shall be open to the public inspection only after award of the contract except as provided in paragraph "c" below. Any inspection of procurement transaction records under this section shall be subject to reasonable restrictions to ensure the security and integrity of the records.
- c. Trade secrets or proprietary information submitted by a bidder, offeror or Contractor in connection with a procurement transaction or prequalification application submitted pursuant to the prequalification process identified in the Special Provisions, shall not be subject to the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; however, the bidder, offeror or Contractor shall (i) invoke the protections of this section prior to or upon submission of the data or other materials, (ii) identify the data or other materials to be protected, and (iii) state the reasons why protection is necessary.
- d. Nothing contained in this section shall be construed to require the County, when procuring by "competitive negotiation" (Request for Proposal), to furnish a statement of the reasons why a particular proposal was not deemed to be the most advantageous to the County.
- e. The County cannot maintain as confidential any information, data, or records obtainable through the Virginia Freedom of Information or similar law. This includes records or information that have not been properly designated as trade secret or proprietary information pursuant to Va. Code Ann. § 2.2-4342(F).
- f. A bidder or offeror shall not designate as trade secrets or proprietary information (a) an entire bid, proposal, or prequalification application; (b) any portion of a bid, proposal, or prequalification application that does not contain trade secrets or proprietary information; or (c) line item prices or total bid, proposal, or prequalification application prices.

**BIDDER/CONTRACTOR REMEDIES**

**64. INELIGIBILITY-**

- a. Any person or firm suspended or debarred from participation in County procurement shall be notified in writing by the Purchasing Agent.
  - 1. The Notice of Suspension shall state the reasons for the actions taken and such decision shall be final unless the person or firm appeals within ten (10) days of receipt of the Notice by instituting legal action as provided in the Code of Virginia.
  - 2. The Notice of Debarment shall state the reasons for the actions taken and the decision shall be final unless the person or firm appeals within ten (10) days of receipt of the Notice by instituting legal action as provided in the Code of Virginia.
- b. The Purchasing Agent shall have the authority to suspend or debar a person or firm from bidding on any contract for the causes stated below:
  - 1. Conviction for commission of a criminal offense as an incident to obtaining or attempting to obtain a public or private contract or subcontract, or in the performance of such contract or subcontract;
  - 2. Conviction under state or federal statutes of embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, receiving stolen property, or any other offense indicating a lack of business integrity or business honesty which currently, seriously, and directly affects responsibility as a County Contractor;
  - 3. Conviction under the state or federal antitrust statutes arising out of the submission of bids or proposals;
  - 4. Violation of contract provisions, as set forth below, of a character which is regarded by the Purchasing Agent to be so serious as to justify suspension or debarment action:
    - a. failure without good cause to perform in accordance with the specifications or within the time limit provided in the contract; or
    - b. a recent record of failure to perform or of unsatisfactory performance in accordance with the terms of one or more contracts; provided, that failure to perform or unsatisfactory performance caused by acts beyond the control of the Contractor shall not be considered to be a basis for suspension or debarment;
  - 5. Any other cause the Purchasing Agent determines to be so serious and compelling as to affect responsibility as a Contractor, such as debarment by another governmental entity for any cause listed herein, or because of prior reprimands;
  - 6. The contractor has abandoned performance, been terminated for default on a Fairfax County project, or has taken any actions that inure to the detriment of Fairfax County or a Fairfax County project.
  - 7. The Contractor is in default on any surety bond or written guarantee on which Fairfax County is an obligee.
- c. If, upon appeal, it is determined that the action taken by the Purchasing Agent was arbitrary or capricious, or not in accordance with the Constitution of Virginia, statutes or regulations, the sole relief available to the person or firm shall be restoration of eligibility. The person or firm may not institute legal action until all statutory requirements have been met.

**65. APPEAL OF DENIAL OF WITHDRAWAL OF BID-**

- a. A decision denying withdrawal of a bid submitted by a bidder or offeror shall be final and conclusive unless the bidder appeals the decision within ten (10) days after receipt of the decision by instituting legal action as provided in the Code of Virginia. The bidder or offeror may not institute legal action until all statutory requirements have been met.
- b. If no bid bond was posted, a bidder refused withdrawal of bid under the provisions of Article 2, Section 5.A.8, of the Fairfax County Purchasing Resolution, prior to appealing, shall deliver to the County a certified check or cash bond in the amount of

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the difference between the bid sought to be withdrawn and the next low bid. Such security shall be released only upon a final determination that the bidder was entitled to withdraw the bid.

- c. If, upon appeal, it is determined that the decision refusing withdrawal of the bid was not an honest exercise of discretion, but rather was arbitrary or capricious or not in accordance with the Constitution of Virginia, applicable state law or regulation, or the terms or conditions of the Invitation to Bid, the sole relief shall be withdrawal of the bid.

**66. APPEAL OF DETERMINATION OF NONRESPONSIBILITY-**

- a. Any bidder who, despite being the apparent low bidder, is determined not to be a responsible bidder for a particular County contract shall be notified in writing by the Purchasing Agent. Such notice shall state the basis for the determination, which shall be final unless the bidder appeals the decision within ten (10) days of receipt of the notice by instituting legal action as provided in the Code of Virginia. The bidder may not institute legal action until all statutory requirements have been met.
- b. If, upon appeal, it is determined that the decision of the Purchasing Agent was arbitrary or capricious and the award for the particular County contract in question has not been made, the sole relief available to the bidder shall be a finding that the bidder is a responsible bidder for the County contract in question. Where the award has been made and performance has begun, the County may declare the contract void upon a finding that this action is in the best interest of the public. Where a contract is declared void, the performing Contractor shall be compensated for the cost of performance up to the time of such declaration. In no event shall the performing Contractor be entitled to lost profits.

**67. PROTEST OF AWARD OR DECISION TO AWARD-**

- a. Any bidder or offeror may protest the award or decision to award a contract by submitting a protest in writing to the Purchasing Agent, or an official designated by the County of Fairfax, no later than ten (10) days after the award or the announcement of the decision to award, whichever occurs first. Any potential bidder or offeror on a contract negotiated on a sole source or emergency basis who desires to protest the award or decision to award such contract shall submit such protest in the same manner no later than ten days after posting or publication of the notice of such contract as provided in Article 2, Section 2, of the Fairfax County Purchasing Resolution. However, if the protest of any actual or potential bidder or offeror depends in whole or in part upon information contained in public records pertaining to the procurement transaction which are subject to inspection under Article 2, Section 5.D of the Fairfax County Purchasing Resolution, then the time within which the protest must be submitted shall expire ten days after those records are available for inspection by such bidder or offeror under Article 2, Section 5.D, or at such later time as provided herein. No protest shall lie for a claim that the selected bidder or offeror is not a responsible bidder or offeror. The written protest shall include the basis for the protest and the relief sought. The Purchasing Agent shall issue a decision in writing within ten (10) days of the receipt of the protest stating the reasons for the action taken. This decision shall be final unless the bidder or offeror appeals within ten (10) days of receipt of the written decision by instituting legal action as provided in the Code of Virginia. Nothing in this section shall be construed to permit a bidder to challenge the validity of the terms or conditions of the Invitation for Bid or Request for Proposal.
- b. If prior to award it is determined that the decision to award is arbitrary or capricious, then the sole relief shall be a finding to that effect. The Purchasing Agent shall cancel the proposed award or revise it to comply with the law. If, after an award, it is determined that an award of a contract was arbitrary or capricious, then the sole relief shall be as hereinafter provided. Where the award has been made but performance has not begun, the performance of the contract may be declared void by the County. Where the award has been made and performance has begun, the Purchasing Agent may declare the contract void upon a finding that this action is in the best interest of the County. Where a contract is declared void, the performing Contractor shall be compensated for the cost of performance at the rate specified in the contract up to the time of such declaration. In no event shall the performing Contractor be entitled to lost profits.
- c. Pending final determination of a protest or appeal, the validity of a contract awarded and accepted in good faith in accordance with this article shall not be affected by the fact that a protest or appeal has been filed.
- d. An award need not be delayed for the period allowed a bidder or offeror to protest, but in the event of a timely protest, no further action to award the contract will be taken unless there is a written determination that proceeding without delay is necessary to protect the public interest or unless the bid or offer would expire.

**68. CONTRACTUAL DISPUTES-**

- a. Any dispute concerning a question of fact as a result of a contract with the County which is not disposed of by agreement shall be decided by the Purchasing Agent, who shall reduce her decision to writing and mail or otherwise forward a copy to the Contractor within ninety (90) days. The decision of the Purchasing Agent shall be final and conclusive unless the Contractor appeals within six (6) months of the date of the final written decision by instituting legal action as provided in the Code of Virginia. A Contractor may not institute legal action, prior to receipt of the Purchasing Agent's decision on the claim, unless the Purchasing Agent fails to render such decision within the time specified.
- b. Contractual claims, whether for money or other relief, shall be submitted in writing no later than sixty days after final payment; however, written notice of the Contractor's intention to file such claim shall have been given at the time of the occurrence or beginning of the work upon which the claim is based. Nothing herein shall preclude a contract from requiring submission of an invoice for final payment within a certain time after completion and acceptance of the work or acceptance of the goods. Pendency of claims shall not delay payment of amounts agreed due in the final payment.

**69. LEGAL ACTION-**No bidder, offeror, potential bidder or offeror, or Contractor shall institute any legal action until all statutory requirements have been met.

**70. VENUE:** This contract and its terms, including but not limited to, the parties' obligations, the performance due, and the remedies available to each party, are governed, construed, and interpreted in accordance with the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia.

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Any jurisdiction's choice of law, conflicts of laws, rules, or provisions that would cause the application of any laws other than those of the Commonwealth of Virginia do not apply. Any and all disputes, claims, and causes of action arising out of or in any way connected with this contract or its performance must be brought in the applicable court of Fairfax County, or in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia, Alexandria Division.

71. **COOPERATIVE PURCHASING**-The County or any entity identified in the Fairfax County Purchasing Resolution, Article 1, Section 3 may participate in, sponsor, conduct or administer a cooperative procurement agreement as set forth in the Fairfax County Purchasing Resolution.
72. **DRUG FREE WORKPLACE**-During the performance of a contract, the Contractor agrees to (i) provide a drug-free workplace for the Contractor's employees; (ii) post in conspicuous places, available to employees and applicants for employment, a statement notifying employees that the unlawful manufacture, sale, distribution, dispensation, possession, or use of a controlled substance or marijuana is prohibited in the Contractor's workplace and specifying the actions that will be taken against employees for violations of such prohibition; (iii) state in all solicitations or advertisements for employees placed by or on behalf of the Contractor that the Contractor maintains a drug-free workplace; and (iv) include the provisions of the foregoing clauses in every subcontract of over \$10,000, so that the provisions will be binding upon each subcontractor or vendor. For the purposes of this section, "drug-free workplace" means a site for the performance of work done in conjunction with a specific contract awarded to a Contractor in accordance with this section, the employees of whom are prohibited from engaging in the unlawful manufacture, sale, distribution, dispensation, possession or use of any controlled substance or marijuana during the performance of the contract.
73. **IMMIGRATION REFORM AND CONTROL ACT**-Contractor agrees that it does not and shall not during the performance of the contract for goods and services in the Commonwealth, knowingly employ an unauthorized alien as defined in the Federal Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986.
74. **AUDIT OF RECORDS** The parties agree that the County or its agent must have reasonable access to and the right to examine any records of the contractor involving transactions related to the contract or compliance with any clauses thereunder, for a period of three (3) years after final payment. The contractor shall include these same provisions in all related subcontracts. For purposes of this clause, the term "records" includes documents, and papers regardless of whether they are in written form, electronic form, or any other form.
75. **NONVISUAL ACCESS**-All information technology, which is purchased or upgraded by the County under this contract, must comply with the following access standards from the date of purchase or upgrade until the expiration of the Contract:
  - a. Effective, interactive control and use of the technology (including the operating system), applications programs, and format of the data presented, shall be readily achievable by nonvisual means;
  - b. the technology equipped for nonvisual access shall be compatible with information technology used by other individuals with whom the blind or visually impaired individual interacts;
  - c. Nonvisual access technology shall be integrated into networks used to share communications among employees, program participants, and the public; and
  - d. The technology for nonvisual access shall have the capability of providing equivalent access by nonvisual means to telecommunications or other interconnected network services used by persons who are not blind or visually impaired. A covered entity may stipulate additional specifications in any procurement.
  - e. Compliance with the nonvisual access standards set out this Section is not required if the Board of Supervisors determines that (i) the information technology is not available with nonvisual access because the essential elements of the information technology are visual and (ii) nonvisual equivalence is not available.

**APPROVED:**

**/S/ Elizabeth D. Teare**  
**COUNTY ATTORNEY**

**/S/ Cathy A. Muse**  
**COUNTY PURCHASING AGENT**