
INVITATION TO BID

Mowing Services for City of Knoxville Lots with Vacant Structures

Sealed bids, invited by the City of Knoxville, will be received by the Purchasing Division of the City of Knoxville, in Room 667-674, City County Building; 400 Main Street; Knoxville, Tennessee, until **11:00:00 a.m.** (Eastern Time) on **Friday, March 4, 2022** at which time they will be opened and publicly read aloud and a contract awarded as soon thereafter as practicable for **mowing services for lots with vacant structures.**

The bid opening may be viewed virtually on Zoom through this link:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85460269126?pwd=cjdrTngrc0Nuek5QQUg5UUtsMIBUUT09>

Meeting ID: 854 6026 9126

Passcode: 640802

One tap mobile

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Scope of Work:

The City of Knoxville Department of Housing & Neighborhood Development is responsible for managing various programs that require the acquisition and maintenance of lots with vacant structures throughout the City. The City of Knoxville is requesting bids from qualified firms for the maintenance and mowing services for these properties. The work performed under this contract will consist of professional lawn maintenance such as mowing, trimming, and litter/debris removal, along with additional extended services such as securing doors and windows on parcels with vacant structures located within the city limits. The contractor will furnish, in a satisfactory manner, all equipment, labor, materials, supplies, services and supervision to provide professional mowing and additional services in strict compliance with the specifications set forth below. The contractor will be responsible for performing all work as specified in this document in a professional and workmanlike manner, using quality equipment, materials, and tools. Contractor must have at least one year of successful operations of lawn maintenance and similar services. Contract will be for one (1) year with two (2) optional one-year renewals.

Specifications:

The contractor shall be responsible for performing all work in this document in a professional and workmanlike manner, using quality equipment and tools. The number of parcels with vacant structures to be serviced under this contract is anticipated to be five (5) at the start of the contract, however, this number is subject to increase or decrease throughout the season and during the term of this contract as parcels with vacant structures are acquired and/or transferred. During the term of this contract, the City will provide updated lists and detailed site maps of the properties to the contractor as information becomes available.

Levels of Service with Fixed Pricing

After a one-time "Initial Mowing," the Contractor shall perform "Routine Services" for each lot in the Department's inventory during the mowing season on a per-cycle basis. One cycle shall equal fourteen (14) calendar days.

Initial Mowing: At the Spring start of each contract year, a greater level of mowing/landscape maintenance services and brush/debris/trash removal may be required to prepare the lots for routine mowing. The Contractor shall, therefore, perform one "Initial Mowing" during the first cycle for each lot. Initial Mowing of all lots with vacant structures in the Department's inventory shall be performed at the same price regardless of lot condition or size. **This shall include any lots requiring such service on a one-time only basis whether or not the lot becomes part of the Department's "Routine Service" inventory.**

Routine Services: It shall be the Contractor's responsibility to ensure that all debris/trash is removed from the site and properly disposed of prior to performance of Routine Services for all lots with vacant structures in the Department's inventory on a per-cycle basis. Routine Services shall be performed every fourteen (14) calendar days during the mowing season. **Routine Services shall be performed at the same price regardless of lot condition or size.**

Detailed specifications for the work to be performed are listed below.

- a) All work defined in this specification shall be performed throughout the mowing season beginning in April and continuing through October. The cycle of each service shall be performed every fourteen (14) calendar days during the mowing season. The work shall not occur on Saturday or Sunday without prior permission from the Housing & Neighborhood Development Representative. Service of all lots in the Department's inventory shall be performed at the **same fixed price regardless of lot condition or size**. **NOTE:** A current list of parcels with vacant structures in the Department's inventory is attached to this document.
- b) Contractor shall inspect and remove litter and debris from all sites prior to mowing and trimming to prevent any damage or injury from the discharge of materials from mowers and trimmers. Contractor shall remove all furniture or additional trash from the exterior of the property as needed.
- c) Mow grass no less than three (3) inches and no more than four (4) inches high; shred all excess clumps of grass. Grass must be cut to a uniform height with no scalping, rutting, or areas missed. Keep all streets, curbs, curb lines, concrete medians that join the grass medians, and sidewalks free of all weeds, growing grass, cut grass, debris, and trimmings. All limbs and trash must be hauled away by contractor. Trim and remove any overgrown brush and/or excessive foliage on the grounds of the property as needed.
- d) Trim around everything on the site. This includes walkways, parking areas, and fence rows. Additionally, trim around all mulch rings and mulch beds. Keep all mulch free of grass and debris without causing damage to the trunk or limbs. Blow or sweep porches of all structures upon completion of lawn maintenance.

- e) Mowers and string trimmers must not make contact with trees. The contractor shall be responsible for any damage caused by their operations to plants, trees, shrubs, fences, signs, vehicles, dwellings, and any other property.
- f) **No type of chemicals shall be applied for weed control or vegetation killers without prior approval from the Housing & Neighborhood Development Representative.**
- g) All equipment to be used must be in good working condition and have all safety features required by law.
- h) All rotary type mowers shall be equipped with skirt guards, which restrict foreign objects from being thrown from the cutting unit enclosures. Contractors are financially liable for all damages caused by their operations.
- i) Contractor will ensure structures are secured at all entry points such as doors, windows, crawl space access, vents at the foundation, and any other points of entry to prohibit access from vagrants, children, vermin, etc. as needed.

Mowing Schedule

The Contractor shall perform and complete all work pursuant to these specifications according to a schedule upon which the parties mutually agree. The Contractor shall provide the Housing & Neighborhood Development Representative a schedule for mowing each site prior to commencing work during the first contract year, and prior to the first Monday of April of each (if any) additional contract years. The Contractor shall provide a detailed report in writing to the Housing & Neighborhood Development Representative, listing each lot mowed and type of service performed, immediately (within 24 hours) following the completion of each cycle. The Contractor shall not mow during extremely wet or dry conditions where turf damage or ruts would occur. The decision to delay a mowing cycle or alter the sequence **must be pre-approved** by the Housing & Neighborhood Development Representative.

PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT/ATTIRE:

Contractor shall provide and ensure the wearing of protective clothing, masks, eye protection, etc., as required by law, regulation, ordinance and/or manufacturer's instructions for material and equipment. At minimum, protective equipment shall consist of an OSHA or DOT approved safety vest. Contractor's employees shall wear appropriate visible material while performing the mowing and maintenance services outlined in the specifications. Contractors must bear in mind that the public often perceives contractor's mowing staff as employees of the City; therefore, contractor's staff must wear, at minimum and in addition to protective equipment, a tee-shirt and shorts when providing services under this contract. No tank tops or undershirts are permitted. Clothing displaying nudity, obscene language, obscene symbols, or pro-drug slogans is strictly prohibited.

INVOICES/PAYMENT SCHEDULE:

The Contractor shall provide the City with an itemized invoice statement on a per each, per cycle basis immediately following the completion of the required work (not per month). The City shall not be invoiced for work that has not yet been completed. Contractor must submit invoices within two (2) business days after completion of service to the Housing & Neighborhood Development Representative. Payment will be made within 30 days of invoicing, following Housing & Neighborhood Development Representative's satisfaction with the quality of work performed.

AWARD DETERMINATION:

Contract award shall be determined based upon the weighted total price; lowest priced bid. Price quoted will be weighted to reflect the typical percentage of each service required per season, with routine services reflecting 95% and initial mowing reflecting 5% of required work.

Bid Submission Requirements:

Bidders must furnish the following information in writing with their submission:

1. [Bid Form](#) showing bidder's name, address, quoted price, business license number, date of expiration of business license. A copy of the bidder's current business license may be submitted in lieu of providing the license expiration date.
2. [Non-Collusion Affidavit](#)
3. [Drug Free Workplace Affidavit](#)
4. [Iran Divestment Act Certification of Non-Inclusion](#)
5. [Diversity Business Enterprise \(DBE\) Program form](#)

Instructions and Conditions:

1. Sealed bids will be received by the Purchasing Division of the City of Knoxville in Room 667-674, City/County Building; 400 Main Street; Knoxville, Tennessee 37902 until **Friday, March 4, 2022, at 11:00:00 a.m.**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud and the contract awarded as soon as practicable. **No bid will be received or accepted after the above-specified time for the opening of bids.** Bids that arrive late due to the fault of U. S. Postal Service, United Parcel Service, DHL, FEDEX, any delivery/courier service, or any other carrier of any sort are still considered late and shall not be accepted by the City. Such bids shall remain unopened and will be returned to the submitting entity upon request.
2. The City of Knoxville reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to accept or reject any items thereon, to waive technicalities or informalities, to split orders if in the best interest of the City, to evaluate bids by various criteria, and to accept any bid which, in its opinion, may be for the best interest of the City.
3. Included in the Invitation to Bid is an affidavit in proof that the undersigned has not entered into any collusion with any person in respect to this bid or any other bid. The Bidder will be required to execute and submit this affidavit with the sealed bid. Also included is the Diversity Business Program contracting packet. Submissions must indicate on the enclosed form whether or not the bidder intends to use subcontractors and/or suppliers from one of the defined groups. Bidders are advised that the City tracks use of such use, but it does not influence or affect evaluation or award.
4. **NO CONTACT POLICY:** After the posting of this solicitation to the Purchasing Division's website, any contact initiated by any proposer with any City of Knoxville representative concerning this proposal is strictly prohibited, unless such contact is made with the Purchasing Division representative listed herein or with said representative's authorization. Any unauthorized contact may cause the disqualification of the proposer from this procurement transaction.
5. **INCLEMENT WEATHER:** During periods of inclement weather, the Purchasing Division will enact the following procedures with regard to solicitations and weather delays:
 - If City offices are closed due to inclement weather on the date that bids/proposals/qualifications/letters of interest are due into the Purchasing Office, all solicitations due that same day will be moved to the next operational business day.
 - The City of Knoxville shall not be liable for any commercial carrier's decision regarding deliveries during inclement weather.
6. Each bid delivered via hardcopy must be submitted in a sealed envelope, addressed to the Purchasing Division; City of Knoxville; City/County Building; 400 Main Street, Room 667-674;

Knoxville, Tennessee, 37902. Each sealed envelope containing a bid must be plainly marked on the outside as: "Mowing Services for City of Knoxville Lots with Vacant Structures."

7. Electronic submissions shall be submitted online through the City's Procurement website. **DO NOT EMAIL YOUR SUBMISSION.** If submitting electronically, a paper bid is not required.
8. All proposers/bidders must register as a vendor in order to submit an electronic file.

Step One: Register as a City of Knoxville vendor (Vendors are encouraged to complete this step now to ensure seamless submission process prior to deadline.) To register as a vendor: Visit the website at www.knoxvilletn.gov/purchasing Click the "Vendor Registration" tab; then "Click here to register as a City of Knoxville Vendor" Follow the prompts to complete online registration. Note: You will be asked for a PIN. This PIN will be emailed to you and may be sent to your spam or junk folder.

DO NOT WAIT UNTIL SUBMISSION DEADLINE TO REGISTER AS A VENDOR. The electronic submission link will be disabled at 11:00:00 a.m. Eastern time. Vendors will not have the ability to submit any electronic files once the deadline has passed and the City will accept no late submissions.

Step Two: Submit all materials electronically as one (1) file to City's Procurement website PRIOR to 11:00:00 a.m. (Eastern Time) on Friday, March 4, 2022. To submit electronic file: Visit the procurement website at www.knoxvilletn.gov/bids Click "ITB - Mowing Services for City of Knoxville Lots with Vacant Structures", Click "Submit Bid" (red button located at top of screen) Follow the prompts to upload and submit electronic file. The City prefers only one (1) bid file per submission. Files MUST use the following naming convention, listing the firm's name followed by the title of the project. Example: "ABC Company-Mowing Lots with Structures.pdf." Should you need to merge multiple documents into one PDF please utilize Google to download a free software intended for merging pdf documents.

9. All bids must be made on the Bid Form supplied with the contract documents, and no interlineations, excisions, or special conditions shall be made or included in the Bid Evaluation Sheet by the Bidder. **Any bid on which there is an alteration of or departure from the Bid Form may be considered irregular and may be rejected.** All bids must be signed in full by the Bidder or Bidders in their business name or style when submitted and must show his or their complete address.
10. All bids must be made on the Bid Form supplied with the contract documents, and no interlineations, excisions, or special conditions shall be made or included in the Bid Evaluation Sheet by the Bidder. **Any bid on which there is an alteration of or departure from the Bid Form may be considered irregular and may be rejected.** All bids must be signed in full by the Bidder or Bidders in their business name or style when submitted and must show his or their complete address.
11. No bidder may withdraw his bid for a period of 60 days after the actual date of the opening thereof.
12. Prior to submitting their bids, bidders are to be registered with the Purchasing Division through the City of Knoxville's online Vendor Registration system. Instructions for registering on-line are available at www.knoxvilletn.gov/purchasing.
13. **Bid submissions from un-registered bidders may be rejected.**
14. Payment for completed services delivered to and accepted by the City shall be at the contract price.

15. All bids must be signed with the firm name and by a responsible officer or employee. Obligations assumed by such signature must be fulfilled.
16. Bidders shall verify bids before submission, as bids cannot be withdrawn or corrected after being opened.
17. If federal excise tax applies, show amount of same and deduct. Bear in mind that the City is exempt from Tennessee sales tax.
18. Within 30 days of delivery of the contract to the Contractor, the City must receive either the executed contract or, if execution of the contract is pending agreement of the parties as to contract language, a written request for extension indicating the cause of the delay and an estimated schedule for execution. The City may accept or reject the request for extension, but will afford reasonable opportunity for review. Failure to obtain a certificate of insurance prior to submission of a bid will not be considered a reasonable basis for extension. If neither the executed contract nor a written request for extension has been received by the City within 30 days of delivery, the City may award to the next most responsive, responsible bidder.
19. By execution and delivery of a bid submission, the bidder agrees that any additional terms and conditions, whether submitted to the City purposely or inadvertently, shall have no force or effect.
20. Bidders must provide a fully executed and notarized Drug-Free Workplace Affidavit with their bid submission.
21. The City's performance and obligation to pay under this contract is subject to funding contingent upon an annual appropriation.
22. Bidders must comply with the President's Executive Orders No.11246 and 11375 which prohibit discrimination in employment regarding race, color, religion, sex or national origin. Bidders must not maintain or provide for their employees any facilities that are segregated on the basis of race, color, religion or national origin. Bidders must also comply with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Copeland Anti-Kick Back Act, the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standard Act, Section 402 of the Vietnam Veterans Adjustment Act of 1974 and Section 503 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, all of which are herein incorporated by reference.
23. ADA Compliance. With regard to the services performed under this Agreement, the Contractor will comply with all applicable requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act, 42 U.S.C. § 12101, *et seq.* ("ADA"). The Contractor agrees that it will defend, indemnify and hold the City harmless against any and all claims, demands, suits or causes of action which arise out of any negligent and/or intentional act or omission by the Contractor, its employees, agents or representatives that violates the ADA. The Contractor agrees that the City will not be responsible for any cost or expenses arising from the Contractor's failure to comply with the ADA.
24. All bidders must comply with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as codified in 42 U.S.C. 2000d. The successful bidder must follow Title VI guidelines in all areas including hiring practices, open facilities, insurance, and wages. The City of Knoxville reserves the right to review all compliance records by a contract compliance officer designated by the City.
25. No interpretation of the meaning of the plans, specifications, or other pre-bid documents will be made to any bidder orally. Each request for such interpretation should be in writing addressed to **Karisa Scott, Procurement Specialist** for the City of Knoxville, 400 Main Street, Room 667, Knoxville, TN 37902, or emailed to kscott@knoxvilletn.gov. To be given consideration, such requests/questions must be received at least five (5) business days prior to the date fixed for the

opening of bids. Any and all such interpretations and any supplemental instructions will be in the form of written addenda to the specifications which, if issued, will be posted to the City's website at www.knoxvilletn.gov/bids. Submitting organizations are strongly encouraged to view this website often to see if addenda are posted. Failure of any bidder to receive such addendum or interpretation shall not relieve such Bidder from any obligation under his bid as submitted. All addenda so issued shall become part of the Contract Documents.

26. Attention of all bidders is directed to the set off provision contained in Article II, Section 24-33, entitled, "Debts owed by persons receiving payments other than salary", and Section 2-1049 entitled "Receipt of benefits from City contracts by council members, employees, and officers of the City" of the Code of the City of Knoxville.
27. The City may terminate this Agreement at any time, with or without cause, by written notice of termination to the Contractor. If the City terminates this Agreement, and such termination is not a result of a default by the Contractor, the Contractor shall be entitled to receive as its sole and exclusive remedy the following amounts from the City, and the City shall have no further or other obligations to the Contractor: (a). The amount due to the Contractor for work executed through the date of termination, not including any future fees, profits, or other compensation or payments which the Contractor would have been entitled to receive if the Project had not been terminated; and (b) the direct out-of-pocket costs incurred by the Contractor for demobilization of the Project following receipt of the notice of termination, not to exceed the amount reasonably and actually required to demobilize the Project.
28. The City may, by written notice of default to the Contractor, terminate the whole or any part of this contract if the Contractor fails to make delivery of the supplies or to perform the services wherein the time specified herein or any extension thereof; or if the Contractor fails to perform any of the other provisions of the contract, or so fails to make progress as to endanger performance of this contract in accordance with its terms, and in either of these two circumstances does not cure such failure within a period of 10 days (or such longer period as the Purchasing Agent may authorize in writing) after receipt of notice from the Purchasing Division specifying such failure.
29. If the contract is terminated in whole or in part for default, the City may procure, upon such terms and in such manner as the Purchasing Agent may deem appropriate, supplies of services similar to those so terminated.
30. If, after notice of termination of this contract under the provisions of this clause, it is determined for any reason that the contractor was not in default under the provisions of this clause, or that the default was excusable under the provisions of this clause, the rights and obligations of the parties shall be the same as if the notice of termination had been issued pursuant to termination for convenience of the City.
31. The rights and remedies of the City provided in this clause shall not be exclusive and are in addition to any other rights and remedies provided by law or under this contract.
32. Before a contract will be signed by the City, the submitting entity, if selected, **must** provide the City Purchasing Division with a copy of its valid business license **or** with an affidavit explaining why it is exempt from the business licensure requirements of the city or county in which it is headquartered. If a contract is signed, the contractor's business license shall be kept current throughout the duration of the contract, and the contractor shall inform the City of changes in its business name or location. Any Contract resulting from this Invitation to Bid shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the substantive laws of the State of Tennessee and its conflict of laws provisions. Venue for any action arising between the City and the Vendor from the Agreement shall lie in Knox County, Tennessee.
33. In compliance with Tennessee state law, bids must be accompanied by a certification attesting that, to the best of the bidder's knowledge, the bidder does not engage in investment activities in

Iran. The Iran Divestment Act of 2014 Certification of Noninclusion form may be found in this solicitation document.

34. When applicable and prior to the commencement of the contract, contractor must, at its sole expense, obtain and maintain in full force and effect for the duration of the Agreement and any extension hereof at least the following types and amounts of insurance for claims which may arise from or in connection with this Agreement. Contractor shall furnish the City of Knoxville with properly executed certificates of insurance which shall clearly evidence all insurance required by the City. All insurance must be underwritten by insurers with an A.M. Best rating of A-VIII or better. Such insurance shall be at a minimum the following:

A. **Commercial General Liability Insurance;** occurrence version commercial general liability insurance, and if necessary umbrella liability insurance, with a limit of not less than two million dollars (\$2,000,000) each occurrence for bodily injury, personal injury, property damage, and products and completed operations. If such insurance contains a general aggregate limit, it shall apply separately to the work/location in this Agreement or be no less than three million dollars (\$3,000,000).

Such insurance shall:

(a.) Contain or be endorsed to contain a provision that includes the City, its officials, officers, employees, and volunteers as additional insureds with respect to liability arising out of work or operations performed by or on behalf of the Contractor including materials, parts, or equipment furnished in connection with such work or operations. The coverage shall contain no special limitations on the scope of its protection afforded to the above-listed insureds. Proof of additional insured status up to and including copies of endorsements and/or policy wording will be required.

(b.) For any claims related to this project, Contractor's insurance coverage shall be primary insurance as respects the City, its officers, officials, officers, employees, and volunteers. Any insurance or self-insurance programs covering the City, its officials, officers, employees, and volunteers shall be excess of Contractor's insurance and shall not contribute with it.

(c.) At the sole discretion of the City, dedicated limits of liability for this specific project may be required.

B. **Automobile Liability Insurance;** including vehicles owned, hired, and non-owned, with a combined single limit of not less than \$1,000,000 each accident. Such insurance shall include coverage for loading and unloading hazards. Insurance shall contain or be endorsed to contain a provision that includes the City, its officials, officers, employees, and volunteers as additional insureds with respect to liability arising out of automobiles owned, leased, hired, or borrowed by or on behalf of Contractor.

C. **Workers' Compensation Insurance.** Contractor shall maintain workers' compensation insurance with statutory limits as required by the State of Tennessee or other applicable laws and employers' liability insurance with limits of not less than \$500,000. Contractor shall require each of its subcontractors to provide Workers' Compensation for all of the latter's employees to be engaged in such work unless such employees are covered by Contractor's workers' compensation insurance coverage. Such insurance shall include a waiver of subrogation in favor of the City. Proof of waiver of subrogation up to and including copies of endorsements and/or policy wording will be required.

D. **Other Insurance Requirements.** Contractor shall:

- Prior to commencement of services, furnish the City with original certificates and amendatory endorsements effecting coverage required by this section and provide that such insurance shall not be cancelled, allowed to expire, or be materially reduced in coverage except on 30 days' prior written notice to the City Attorney of Knoxville; P.O. Box 1631; Knoxville, Tennessee 37901. Proof of policy provisions regarding notice of cancellation will be required.
 - Upon the City's request, provide certified copies of endorsements and policies if requested by the City in lieu of or in addition to certificates of insurance. Copies of policies will only be requested when contracts are deemed to be extremely or uniquely hazardous, include a dollar amount that is significant to the overall budget of the City or a City Department, or the coverage(s) may not follow standard insurance forms. A policy will only be requested after the City's Risk Manager has reviewed the contract and proof of coverage has been provided. Should the certificate of insurance refer to specific coverage wording or endorsements(s), proof of such policy wording or endorsement(s) will be required.
 - Replace certificates, policies, and endorsements for any such insurance expiring prior to completion of services.
 - Maintain such insurance from the time services commence until services are completed. Failure to maintain or renew coverage or to provide evidence of renewal may be treated by the City as a material breach of contract.
 - If Contractor cannot procure insurance through an insurer having an A.M. Best rating of A-VIII, Contractor may, in the alternative, place such insurance with insurer licensed to do business in Tennessee and having A.M. Best Company ratings of no less than A. Modification of this standard may be considered upon appeal to the City Law Director.
 - Require all subcontractors to maintain during the term of the Agreement Commercial General Liability insurance, Business Automobile Liability insurance, and Workers' Compensation/Employer's Liability insurance (unless subcontractor's employees are covered by Contractor's insurance) in the same manner as specified for Contractor. Contractor shall furnish subcontractors' certificates of insurance to the City without expense immediately upon request.
 - Any deductibles and/or self-insured retentions greater than \$50,000 must be disclosed to and approved by the City of Knoxville prior to the commencement of services. Use of large deductibles and/or self-insured retentions may require proof of financial ability as determined by the City.
 - The insurer shall agree to waive all rights of subrogation against the City, its officers, officials, and employees for losses arising from work performed by Contractor for the City. Proof of waiver of subrogation up to and including copies of endorsements and/or policy wording will be required.
 - All general liability policies must be written on an occurrence basis, unless the Risk Manager determines that a claims made basis is reasonable in the specific circumstance. Use of policies written on a claims made basis must be approved by the Risk Manager and retroactive dates and/or continuation dates must be provided to the City prior to commencement of any work performed. Professional Liability and Environmental Liability (Pollution Coverage) are most commonly written on a claims made basis and are generally acceptable in that form.
35. The successful bidder will be required to sign a contract which contains the following indemnification clause. This indemnification clause will not be altered in any way. Failure to agree with this indemnification clause in the contract may result in the City moving to the next

responsible responsive proposer.

Contractor shall defend, indemnify and hold harmless the City, its officers, employees and agents from any and all liabilities which may accrue against the City, its officers, employees and agents or any third party for any and all lawsuits, claims, demands, losses or damages alleged to have arisen from an act or omission of Contractor in performance of this Agreement or from Contractor's failure to perform this Agreement using ordinary care and skill, except where such injury, damage, or loss was caused by the sole negligence of the City, its agents or employees.

Contractor shall save, indemnify and hold the City harmless from the cost of the defense of any claim, demand, suit or cause of action made or brought against the City alleging liability referenced above, including, but not limited to, costs, fees, attorney fees, and other expenses of any kind whatsoever arising in connection with the defense of the City; and Contractor shall assume and take over the defense of the City in any such claim, demand, suit, or cause of action upon written notice and demand for same by the City. Contractor will have the right to defend the City with counsel of its choice that is satisfactory to the City, and the City will provide reasonable cooperation in the defense as Contractor may request. Contractor will not consent to the entry of any judgment or enter into any settlement with respect to an indemnified claim without the prior written consent of the City, such consent not to be unreasonably withheld or delayed. The City shall have the right to participate in the defense against the indemnified claims with counsel of its choice at its own expense.

Contractor shall save, indemnify and hold City harmless and pay judgments that shall be rendered in any such actions, suits, claims or demands against City alleging liability referenced above.

The indemnification and hold harmless provisions of this Agreement shall survive termination of the Agreement.

Submission Forms



CITY OF KNOXVILLE

Bid Form

TO: Purchasing Division
City of Knoxville
Suite 667-674
City/County Building
400 Main Street
Knoxville, TN 37902

Having carefully examined the specifications entitled "Mowing Services for City of Knoxville Lots with Vacant Structures" to open on Friday, March 4, 2022, at 11:00:00 a.m. and the other Contract Documents and addenda, we hereby propose to provide the services as described herein for the following sum:

Initial Mowing:

Cost per lot with vacant structures per initial service: \$ _____

(This rate will be utilized both for the initial mowing service as well as any once-only services required by the Department per the specifications)

Routine Service:

Cost per lot with vacant structures per regular service/cycle: \$ _____

Firm Name: _____

Official Address: _____

DUNS #: _____

Business License Expiration Date: _____

(By)

(Name Typed)

Date _____

(Title)

Email _____

Phone _____

NON-COLLUSION AFFIDAVIT OF PRIME BIDDER

State of _____

County of _____

_____, being first duly sworn, deposes and says that:

1. He/She is the _____ of _____, the firm that has submitted the attached Bid;
2. He/She is fully informed respecting the preparation and contents of the attached Bid and of all pertinent circumstances respecting such Bid;
3. Such Bid is genuine and is not a collusive or sham Bid;
4. Neither the said Bid nor any of its officers, partners, owners, agents, representatives, employees, or parties in interest, including this affiant, has in any way colluded, conspired, connived or agreed, directly or indirectly, with any other Bidder, firm or person to submit a collusive or sham Bid in connection with the Contract for which the attached Bid has been submitted or to refrain from proposing in connection with such Contract, or has in any manner, directly or indirectly, sought by agreement or collusion or communication or conference with any other Bidder, firm, or person to fix the price or prices in the attached Bid or of any other Bidder, firm, or person to fix any overhead, profit, or cost element of the bid price or the bid price of any other Bidder, or to secure through any collusion, conspiracy, connivance or unlawful agreement any advantage against the City of Knoxville or any person interested in the proposed Contract; and
5. The price or prices quoted in that attached Bid are fair and proper and are not tainted by any collusion, conspiracy, connivance or unlawful agreement on the part of the Bidder or any of its agents, representatives, owners, employees, or parties in interest, including this affidavit.

(Signed): _____

Title: _____

Subscribed and sworn to before me this _____ day of _____, 20__.

NOTARY PUBLIC

My Commission expires _____

Drug-Free Workplace Affidavit

State of _____

County of _____

_____, being
duly sworn, deposes, and says that:

- (1) He/She is a principal officer of ____, the firm that has submitted the attached Proposal, his or her title being ____ of the firm; and
- (2) He/She has personal knowledge of the policies of the above-named firm with respect to the maintenance of a drug-free workplace; and
- (3) He/She certifies that all provisions and requirements of the Tennessee Drug-Free Workplace Program, as established by Tenn. Code Ann. §§ 50-9-101 et. seq., have been met and implemented.

(Signed)

(Title)

Subscribed and sworn to before me this day of _____, 20_____.

Title _____

My Commission expires _____

Iran Divestment Act

Certification of Noninclusion

NOTICE: Pursuant to the Iran Divestment Act, Tenn. Code Ann. § 12-12-106 requires the State of Tennessee Chief Procurement Officer to publish, using creditable information freely available to the public, a list of persons it determines engage in investment activities in Iran, as described in § 12-12-105. Inclusion on this list makes a person ineligible to contract with the state of Tennessee; if a person ceases its engagement in investment activities in Iran, it may be removed from the list. A list of entities ineligible to contract in the State of Tennessee Department of General Services or any political subdivision of the State may be found here:

[https://www.tn.gov/content/dam/tn/generalservices/documents/cpo/cpo-library/public-information-library/List of persons pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. 12-12-106 Iran Divestment Act updated 7.7.17.pdf](https://www.tn.gov/content/dam/tn/generalservices/documents/cpo/cpo-library/public-information-library/List_of_persons_pursuant_to_Tenn._Code_Ann._12-12-106_Iran_Divestment_Act_updated_7.7.17.pdf)

By submission of this bid, each bidder and each person signing on behalf of any bidder certifies, and in the case of a joint bid each party thereto certifies as to its own organization, under penalty of perjury, that to the best of its knowledge and belief that each bidder is not on the list created pursuant to T.C.A. § 12-12-106.

Vendor Name (Printed)	Address
By (Authorized Signature)	Date Executed
Printed Name and Title of Person Signing	

NOTARY PUBLIC:

Subscribed and sworn to before me this _____ day of _____, 2_____.

My commission expires: _____

Diversity Business Enterprise Program (DBE) Program

The City of Knoxville strongly encourages prime contractors to employ diverse businesses in the fulfillment of contracts/projects for the City of Knoxville.

The City of Knoxville's Fiscal Year 2021 goal is to conduct 5.35% of its business with minority owned businesses, 9.5% of its business with women-owned businesses, and 38.4% with small businesses.

While the City cannot engage (pursuant to state law) in preferential bidding practices, the City does **strongly encourage** prime contractors to seek out and hire diverse businesses in order to help the City meet its goals as stated above. As such, the City encourages prime contractors to seek out and consider competitive sub-bids and quotations from diverse businesses.

For DBE tracking purposes, the City requests that prime contractors who are bidding, proposing, or submitting statements of qualifications record whether or not they plan to employ DBE's as sub-contractors or consultants. With that in mind, please fill out, sign and submit (with your bid/proposal) the following sub-contractor/ consultant statement.

CITY OF KNOXVILLE DIVERSITY BUSINESS DEFINITIONS

Diversity Business Enterprise (DBE's) are minority-owned (MOB), women-owned (WOB), service-disabled veteran-owned (SDVO), and small businesses (SB), who are impeded from normal entry into the economic mainstream because of past practices of discrimination based on race or ethnic background. These persons must own at least 51% of the entity and operate or control the business on a daily basis.

Minority: A person who is a citizen or lawful admitted permanent resident of the United States and who is a member of one (1) of the following groups:

- a. African American, persons having origins in any of the Black racial groups of Africa;
- b. Hispanic American, persons of Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Central or South American or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race;
- c. Native American, persons who have origin in any of the original peoples of North America
- d. Asian American, person having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, the Indian subcontinent, or the Pacific Islands.

Minority-owned business (MOB) is a continuing, independent, for profit business that performs a commercially useful function, and is at least fifty-one percent (51%) owned and controlled by one (1) or more minority individuals.

Woman-owned business (WOB) is a continuing, independent, for profit business that performs a commercially useful function, and is at least fifty-one percent (51%) owned and controlled by one (1) or more women.

Service Disabled Veteran-owned business (SDOV) is a continuing, independent, for profit business that performs a commercially useful function, owned by any person who served honorably on active duty in the armed forces of the United States with at least a twenty percent (20%) disability that is service connected. Meaning such disability was incurred or aggravated in the line of duty in the active military, naval or air service, and is at least fifty-one percent (51%) owned and controlled by one (1) or more service disabled veteran.

Small Business (SB) is a continuing, independent, for profit business which performs a commercially useful function and has total gross receipts of not more than ten million dollars (\$10,000,000) average over a three-year period or employs no more than ninety-nine (99) persons on a full-time basis.

Subcontractor/Consultant Statement
(TO BE SUBMITTED IN THE BID/PROPOSAL ENVELOPE)

We _____ do certify that on the
(Bidder/Proposer Company Name)

(Project Name)

\$ _____
(Amount of Bid)

Please select one:

Option A: Intent to subcontract using Diverse Businesses

A Diversity business will be employed as subcontractor(s), vendor(s), supplier(s), or professional service(s). The estimated **dollar value** of the amount that we plan to pay is:

\$ _____.
Estimated Amount of Subcontracted Service

Diversity Business Enterprise Utilization			
Description of Work/Project	Amount	Diverse Classification (MOB, WOB, SB, SDOV)	Name of Diverse Business

Option B: Intent to perform work "without" using Diverse Businesses

We hereby certify that it is our intent to perform 100 % of the work required for the contract, work will be completed without subcontracting, or we plan to subcontract with non-Diverse companies.

DATE: _____ COMPANY NAME: _____

SUBMITTED BY: _____ TITLE: _____
(Authorized Representative)

ADDRESS: _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP CODE: _____

TELEPHONE NO: _____

