

### REQUEST FOR BID (RFB)

REQUESTOR: City of Georgetown

1134 North Fraser Street Georgetown, SC 29440

Contact: Daniella Howard, Purchasing Agent

Email: dhoward@cogsc.com

Phone: 843.545.4043

PROJECT: Kaminski House Museum (KHM) Wall and Brick Paver Repairs - Rebid

PROJECT #: NA

DATE OF ISSUE: Wednesday, March 4, 2020

DUE: On or before 2:15 PM EST (local time), Thursday, April 2, 2020

Return by mail or hand-deliver only to:

City of Georgetown Attn: Purchasing -

KHM – Wall and Brick Paver Repairs

2377 Anthuan Maybank Drive

Georgetown, SC 29440

Page 1 of 15 Bidder's Intials:\_\_\_\_

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#### **Background**

The City of Georgetown (City) is an incorporated municipality with a population of nearly 10,000 residents. The City is located 60 miles north of Charleston and 36 miles south of Myrtle Beach. It is the endpoint of the area commonly known as "The Grand Strand." The City is bordered by the Winyah Bay to the east and the Sampit River to the south. Tourism is a major economic driver in the area, as well as local industries, such as Liberty Steel, International Paper and Tidelands Hospital. The City is the county seat and operates under the Mayor-Council form of government as outlined in the State of South Carolina Code Chapter II, Article I, Section 2-1. Additional information is available on our website at www.cogsc.com.

#### **Purpose**

The City of Georgetown is seeking bids from qualified and licensed contractors to perform masonry wall and brick paver repairs at the Kaminski House Museum Harbor Observation Deck, located at 1003 Front Street, Georgetown, SC 29440. Contractors are encouraged to visit the site to become acquainted with the conditions and restrictions. Failure to visit the site shall in no way relieve contractor of any obligation with respect to this RFB or to a contract.

#### **Scope of Services**

In an itemized format, provide a lump sum bid, (see Exhibit A, Bid Form), to perform the following repairs:

#### 1. Brick Paver Repair. Approximate area: 188 sq. ft.

- a. Remove and preserve existing brick pavers from harbor observation deck. Deck area: 6'-7" x 28'-6".
- b. Remove existing concrete base material. Depth: 4 inches approximately.
- c. Remove and dispose existing subbase material. Depth: 8 inches.
- d. Compact subgrade as needed.
- e. Place geotextile fabric.
- f. Install new graded aggregate base course (GABC) and compact. Depth: 10 inches.
- g. Install new bedding sand, level and compact. Depth: 2 inches
- h. Reset brick pavers and fill in paver openings with sand.

#### 2. Masonry Wall Repair. Wall Length: 8'-7", Height: 2'-8"

- a. Remove and preserve wrought iron fence
- b. Remove and dispose damaged section of brick wall including footing.
- c. Install new brick wall and concrete footing to match existing. Match brick color to existing. Obtain Owner's approval prior to order new brick.
- d. Reset wrought iron fence.

#### **Process**

This solicitation will be conducted in accordance with City's Purchasing Ordinance which can be found in its entirety on the City's website at: <a href="http://cityofgeorgetownsc.com/find/find-ordinances/">http://cityofgeorgetownsc.com/find/find-ordinances/</a>.

The City will conduct the selection of a qualified contractor in the following manner:

- 1. The RFB and Bid Form documents will be available on our website. To access, go to the City's website at <a href="www.cogsc.com">www.cogsc.com</a>, and click on "Bids" at the bottom of the home page.
- 2. Bids will be received and evaluated as described in this RFB.
- 3. Lowest qualified, responsible and responsive bid will be presented to the Georgetown City Council or City Administrator for approval, as required.
- 4. After Council approval, the City will issue the Notice of Award.
- 5. The Submittal Listing of Bids received will be posted on the City's website, www.cogsc.com, under "Bids" within forty-eight (48) hours of opening.

#### **Evaluation Criteria**

Contract shall be awarded to the best qualified, and lowest responsive and responsible bidder. In determining the best qualified, responsive and responsible bidder, in addition to bid price, the City, shall consider:

- A. The ability, capacity, and skill of the bidder to perform the contract to provide the service required;
- B. Whether the bidder can perform 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 similar to;
- 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 supplies or contractual services to the particular use required;
- H. The ability of the bidder to provide services for the nature of the requirements of an awarded contract as required in the RFB; and
- I. Whether the bidder has met the criteria of the RFB specifications, terms and conditions of the RFB.

#### **Questions**

No answers will be given over the phone.

Questions regarding this RFB should be submitted in writing to <u>oarteaga@cogsc.com</u>, no later than 3:00 pm EST (local time), Wednesday, March 25, 2020.

Please note - if you do not receive confirmation from the City that your email was received before the deadline, it is the sole responsibility of the bidder to contact the purchasing agent at 843.545.4043.

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|                            |                   |

No questions will be accepted after the aforementioned deadline. All submittals shall include the following in the subject line: **KHM Wall and Brick Paver Repairs** 

Answers to questions will be posted on the City's website at <a href="www.cogsc.com">www.cogsc.com</a> under "Bids" as an Addendum no later than 5:00 pm EST (local time), Friday, March 27, 2020.

#### **Schedule of Events**

The following is the schedule of events listed in the order of occurrence:

| MILESTONE EVENT  | DATE  | TIME EST<br>(LOCAL<br>TIME) |
|--|---|-----------------------------|
| 1. RFB issued  | Wednesday, March 4, 2020                      |                             |
| 2. Deadline for questions - email to oarteaga@cogsc.com                    | Wednesday, March 25, 2020                     | 3:00 pm                     |
| 3. Deadline for answer(s) to be posted to the City's website www.cogsc.com | Friday, March 27, 2020                        | 5:00 pm                     |
| 4. Bid due date  | Thursday, April 2, 2020                       | on or before 2:15 pm        |
| 5. City Council Approval (tentative)                                       | Thursday, April 16, 2020                      |                             |
| 6. Notice to Proceed (NTP) issued (tentative)                              | Monday, May 4, 2020                           |                             |
| 7. Completion Date   | Thirty (30) calendar days after NTP is issued |                             |

The City reserves the right to change the project schedule as it deems necessary. In the event of a major date change, the City will post to the City's website and notify known participants. The City reserves the right to issue addenda to this RFB up to three (3) days before the RFB due date as needed to clarify the City's desires, or to make corrections or changes to the RFB document or submittal process.

The City reserves the right to request additional information at any time from any and all prospective contractors or individuals as deemed necessary by the City to evaluate the bids. This process may not be used, however, as an opportunity to submit missing documentation or to make substantive revisions to the original bid.

When the Purchasing Department is closed due to force majeure, bid and bid openings will be postponed to the same time on the next official business day.

The City reserves the right to cancel or reissue the RFB and/or revise the schedule at any time.

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The City also reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids as deemed to be in its best interest, and to accept all or part of the scope of work herein as its project timeline and/or budget allows.

All information will be updated and posted on the City's website <u>www.cogsc.com</u> under "Bids". It is the bidder's responsibility to obtain the information directly from the City's website regarding this project.

The bidder will acknowledge receipt of all issued addenda in their submittals, if applicable.

| No: | Dated: |  |
|-----|--------|--|
| No: | Dated: |  |
| No: | Dated: |  |

#### **Submittal Instructions**

When the Procurement Division is closed due to force majeure, bid openings will be postponed to the same time on the next official business day. Vendor is responsible to obtain information regarding bid submittals directly from the City's website, <a href="https://www.cogsc.com">www.cogsc.com</a>.

All procurement procedures are subject to the City's procurement policies as outlined in Section 2-187 of the City's municipal code.

The City's Purchasing Ordinance can be found in its entirety on the City's website at: <a href="http://cityofgeorgetownsc.com/find/find-ordinances/">http://cityofgeorgetownsc.com/find/find-ordinances/</a>.

To be considered responsive, interested parties **must** comply with the following:

- 1. Sealed bid proposal must be clearly marked "KHM Wall and Brick Paver Repairs" on the outside of the package and must include these items:
  - 1. Complete Bid Form Exhibit A
  - 2. Complete initialed copy of this RFB document
  - 3. Complete Mandatory Vendor Submittal Form (page 12)
- 2. Sealed bid proposal must be received by the City's Purchasing Department at 2377 Anthuan Maybank Drive, Georgetown, SC 29440, no later than the aforementioned deadline. Bids will be publicly opened and read aloud. No bid will be accepted after such time. It is the sole responsibility of the bidder to have their bids delivered to the City before the closing hour and date. The City assumes no responsibility for delivery of bids that are mailed. Late bids will not be accepted nor considered. The official clock shall be that of the City's Purchasing Agent, or designee. The City reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids and to waive any informalities and technicalities in the bid process. No additional fees, costs, or any other reimbursable expenses will be allowed.
- 3. The City reserves the right to waive any technicalities or informalities and to accept or reject any and/or all submissions as deemed by its sole judgment to be in its best interest.

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The City also reserves the right to terminate the selection process without notice, to waive any irregularities in any submittal, and to request additional information from any of the bidders submitting a bid.

- 4. Bids must be sealed and clearly identify the name and number of the RFB on the outside of the envelope/package, as well as the submitter's business name, address, and license number (if applicable). No other information shall be included or written on the outside of the bid envelope/package. The City shall not be responsible for unidentified bids.
- 5. Any bidder may withdraw their bid either personally or by written request, at any time prior to the scheduled opening of responses. No bidder may withdraw bids for a period of sixty (60) days after the opening date. All bidders shall be subject to the approval of the City Council.
- 6. Bids must be submitted by bidder's own format and shall address all RFB requirements. Partial or incomplete bids may be rejected.
- 7. All costs incurred in preparing the bid, or costs incurred in any other manner by the bidder in responding to this RFB, will be wholly the responsibility of the bidder. All materials and documents submitted by the bidder in response to this RFB become the property of the City and will not be returned.
- 8. Any proprietary information contained in the bid should be so indicated as follows:

#### Vendor Disclosure

#### Notice of SC Freedom of Information Act

"The parties acknowledge that all material submitted may be subject to release under the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and will be released to the public unless exempt from disclosure under the FOIA."

We discourage you from including any information you consider propriety or trade secret, as this material is subject to the FOIA once it's in the City's possession. If you must include any such information in your submission, please identify it by color, labeling, and/or bold font so that it can be readily recognized. In the event the City receives a request for this material, the City will notify those parties who have identified information they believe is proprietary or trade secret of the request. The City has a ten (10) day deadline to respond to the request. This is your window to file an action challenging the release. Please be on notice that if the City is not served with such an action, the information will be released.

- 9. Bids must be made in the official name of the company or individual under which business is conducted (showing official business address) and must be signed in ink by a person duly authorized to legally bind the person, partnership, company or corporation submitting the bid. Bids having any erasures or corrections must be initialed in ink by the vendor.
- 10. Letter of Interest **Not Applicable.** Must be no more than one (1) page (one page is one side of an 8.5" x 11" paper) in length and include contact information and signature of company owner/president/CEO.
- 11. Statement of Qualifications, Experience, and Availability **Not Applicable.** Must be no more than five (5) pages. It should summarize qualifications, relevant experience, and availability to participate in the RFB process to provide requested services to the City. Key staff members participating should be identified. Include photos of recent projects.
- 12. Proposed Process Approach <u>Not applicable</u> Must be no more than two (2) pages summarizing the method and approach to providing preconstruction and construction services to the City.
- 13. List of References Must be no more than one (1) page listing most recent professional references for similar projects and their contact information.

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- 14. Disqualification and Rejection of Bid The City reserves the right to reject any bid from a bidder who has failed to perform satisfactorily, or complete on time, or in a manner consistent with the RFB documents, contract of similar nature, or to reject the bid from a bidder who is not in a position to perform such a contract satisfactorily. The City expressly reserves the right to award the contract to the bidder that best meets the requirements as set forth herein.
- 15. Assignment of Contract Assignment to the selected bidder of any contract to be entered into in accordance with this RFB will not be recognized by the City unless such assignment has prior written approval of the City.
- 16. Insurance Provisions The selected bidder will be required to provide and maintain proof of insurance throughout the contract term in the amount of \$1,000,000.00 and as required at point of contract negotiation by the City's Risk Manager as follows:
  - Comprehensive General Liability (per occurrence);
  - Comprehensive Auto Liability (per occurrence); and
  - Workers' Compensation Liability
  - Automobile Liability

The City is to be named as "Additional Insured" on the above insurance coverage as respect to the City's interest under the contract. Certificates showing proof of insurance shall be submitted to the City prior to commencement of services under the Agreement. Further, it shall be an affirmative obligation upon the bidder to advise the City's Risk Management Department within two (2) days of the cancellation herein at one of the following options below:

- Email <u>cmcdaniel@cogsc.com</u>
- Fax 843.527.6173
- Mailing address PO Box 939, Georgetown, SC 29442 or
- Physical address 1134 N. Fraser Street, Georgetown, SC, 29440

Failure to do so shall be construed to be a breach of the agreement:

- 17. Indemnification The selected bidder agrees to indemnify, defend and hold harmless the City and their authorized officers, employees, agents, and volunteers from any and all claims, actions, losses damages, and/or liabilities arising from their acts, errors, or omissions and for any costs or expenses incurred by the City therefore under an agreement.
- 18. Compliance With Law The selected bidder and its agents and employees shall be bound and comply with all federal, state and local laws, ordinance rules and regulations, as well as all other governing bodies having legal jurisdiction with respect to the area where such work is performed.
- 19. City Business License and Permits The selected bidder shall be required to obtain all applicable City permits and business licenses prior to work commencing. Contact Jestin Gilliard, Revenues Manager, jgilliard@cogsc.com or 843.545.4041, for business license information. Contact the Planning & Community Development Department at 843.545.4017 for permitting information. These expenses shall be included in the total bid cost.
- 20. Payment terms A monthly itemized billing statement must be submitted in a form specified by the City for services performed. The City will remit full payment on all undisputed invoices within thirty (30) days from receipt of the invoice by the appropriate person(s) (to be designated at the time of contract).
- 21. Bid and Performance Bonds **Not Applicable**. Bid and Performance Bonds or other securities may be requested for supply contracts and service contracts as the Risk Manager,

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Purchasing Agent, and/or Department Head deems advisable to protect the City's interest. Any such bonding requirement shall be set forth in the solicitation.

**Bid Security:** In an amount equal to or at least five percent (5%) of the amount of the bid shall be required for all competitive bidding for construction contracts exceeding one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000). Bid security shall be a legitimate bid bond provided by a surety company authorized to do business in South Carolina, or the equivalent in cash, certified check, cashiers' check, or money order. The City, at its option, may require bid bonds on construction contracts under one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) when the circumstances warrant. Noncompliance with this provision mandates that the City reject the bid. Bid security will be returned to the unsuccessful bidders upon contract award by the Purchasing Agent. When a construction contract is awarded in excess of one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) the following bonds or security shall be delivered by the successful bidder to the City and shall become binding on the parties upon execution of the contract. Bid or performance bonds shall not be used in substitution for determination of bidder's responsibility.

- (a) A performance bond shall be in an amount equal to one hundred and ten percent (110%) of the contract amount; and
- (b) A payment bond for the protection of all persons supplying labor and material to the contractor or its subcontractors for the performance of the work shall be in an amount equal to one hundred percent (100%) of the contract amount.

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#### AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 2 ADMINISTRATION – ARTICLE IV PROCUREMENT

#### SECTION 2-185 COMPETITIVE SEALED BIDS LOCAL VENDOR PREFERENCE

WHEREAS, Council has determined that the existing Purchasing Regulations of the City of Georgetown should be revised and updated; and

WHEREAS, Council desires to further its support of local businesses when awarding contracts for the provision of supplies and construction services to the City through established procurement procedures.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Georgetown, South Carolina that the existing Chapter 2, Article IV, of the City Code of Ordinances.

## ARTICLE IV. PROCUREMENT DIVISION 2. ETHICS IN CITY CONTRACTING

Section 2-185 Competitive Sealed Bids (Bid)

Local Vendor Preference Option

- 1. A vendor shall be deemed a Local Georgetown City/County vendor for the purposes of this Section if such vendor is an individual, partnership, association or corporation that is authorized to transact business within the State, maintains an office in Georgetown County, and maintains a representative inventory or commodities within the City/County on which the bid is submitted, and has paid all taxes and business license fees duly assessed.
- 2. This option allows the lowest local bidder whose bid is within five-percent (5%) of the lowest non-local Bidder to match the bid submitted by the non-local Bidder and thereby be awarded the contract. This preference shall apply only when (a) the total dollar purchase is \$10,000 or more; (b) the vendor has a physical business address located and operating within the limits of Georgetown County and has been doing business in the City/County for a period of twelve (12) months or more; and (c) the vendor provides proof of payment of all applicable Georgetown City/County taxes, business license and fees if so requested.
- 3. Should the lowest responsible and responsive Georgetown City/County bidder not exercise its right to match the bid as granted herein, the next lowest qualified Georgetown City/County bidder shall have that right and so on. The right to match the non-Georgetown City/County bidder's bid shall be exercised within 24 hours of notification.

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- 4. In order to qualify for the local preference authorized by this Section, the vendor seeking same shall be required to submit with its bid a statement containing relevant information which demonstrates compliance with the provisions of this Section. This statement shall be on the "MANDATORY VENDOR SUBMITTAL" form included in this bid document. Failure to provide such affidavit at the time the bidder submits its bid shall constitute a waiver of any claim for preference.
- 5. For all contracts for architecture, professional engineering, or other professional services governed by Section 2-187, Professional and Construction Services, the City shall include the local business status of a bidder among the factors considered when selecting which bidders are "most highly qualified." In determining which bidder is the "most qualified" for purposes of negotiating a satisfactory contract, preference shall be given to a local business where all other relevant factors are equal.
- 6. Local preference shall not apply to the following categories of contracts:
  - (a) Goods or services provided under a cooperative purchasing agreement or similar "piggyback" contract;
  - (b) Contracts for professional services except as provided for in Section 2-187 above;
  - (c) Purchases or contracts which are funded, in whole or in part, by a governmental or other funding entity, where the terms and conditions of receipt of the funds prohibit the preference;
  - (d) Purchases or contracts made pursuant to a noncompetitive award process unless otherwise provided by this section; or
  - (e) Any bid announcement which specifically provides that the general local preference policies set forth in this section are suspended due to the unique nature of the goods or services sought, the existence of an emergency as found by either City Council or City Administrator, or where such suspension is, in the opinion of the City Attorney, required by law.

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#### **MANDATORY VENDOR SUBMITTAL FORM**

# AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 2 ADMINISTRATION - ARTICLE IV PROCUREMENT – JANUARY 19, 2017

#### SECTION 2-185 COMPETITIVE SEALED BIDS LOCAL VENDOR PREFERENCE

#### ARTICLE IV.

#### **PROCUREMENT**

#### DIVISION 2. ETHICS IN CITY CONTRACTING

| ☐ I certify that [Company Name]                   |  |
|---|--|
| is a <b>Resident Bidder</b> of Georgetown City/Co | ounty as defined in the City of Georgetown       |
| Ordinance Chapter 2 Administration, Article       | IV Procurement, Section 2-185, and our principal |
| place of business is [City and State].            |  |
| ☐ I certify that [Company Name]                   |  |
| is a <b>Non-Resident Bidder</b> of Georgetown Ci  | ty/County as defined in the City of Georgetown   |
| Ordinance Chapter 2 Administration, Article       | IV Procurement, Section 2-185, and our principal |
| place of business is                              | [City and State].                                |
|   |  |
| (X)   | (X)  |
| Signature of Company Officer                      | Date   |

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#### **General Contractual Requirements**

- 1. Force Majeure The bidder shall not be liable for any excess costs if the failure to perform the contract arises out of causes beyond the control and without the fault or negligence of the bidder. Such causes may include, but are not limited to acts of God or of the public enemy, acts of Governments in either its sovereign or contractual capacity, fires, floods, epidemics, quarantine restriction, strikes, freight embargoes, and unusually severe weather; but in every case the failure to perform must be beyond the control and without the fault or negligence of the bidder.
- 2. Governing Law Except to the extent that this agreement may be governed by any federal law, including federal bankruptcy law, this Agreement shall be governed by, constructed and interpreted under, and enforced exclusively in accordance with the laws of the State of South Carolina, and the courts in the State of South Carolina shall have jurisdiction with respect to any dispute arising hereunder.
- 3. Bidder Qualifications Bidder must, upon request of the City, furnish satisfactory evidence of its ability to furnish products and/or services in accordance with the terms and conditions of this RFB. The City reserves the right to make the final determination as to the bidder's ability to provide the services herein.
- 4. Bidder Responsibility Each bidder shall fully acquaint him/herself with conditions relating to the scope and restrictions attending the execution of the work under the conditions of this RFB. It is expected that this will sometimes require on-site observation. The failure or omission of the bidder to acquaint him/herself with existing conditions shall in no way relieve him/her of any obligation with respect to this RFB or to a contract.
- 5. Affirmative Action The bidder will take affirmative action in complying with all federal and state requirements concerning fair employment and employment of the handicapped, and concerning the treatment of all employees without regard or discrimination by reason of race, color, religion, sex, national origin or physical handicap.
- 6. Women and Minority Business Enterprise (WMBE) Statement It is the policy of the City to provide minorities, and women equal opportunity for participating in all aspects of the City's contracting and procurement programs, including but not limited to employment, construction projects, and lease agreements consistent with the laws of the State of South Carolina. It is the policy of the City to prohibit discrimination against any person or business in pursuit of these opportunities on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, handicap, or veteran status. It is further the policy of the City to conduct its contracting and procurement programs so as to prevent such discrimination and to resolve any and all claims of such discrimination.
- 7. Termination Subject to the following provisions, any contract resulting from this request for bids may be terminated by the City provided a thirty (30) day advance notice in writing by the City Administrator, or his designee, is given to the bidder:
  - 7.1 Non-Appropriations Funds for this contract are payable from local appropriations. If the sufficient appropriations are not made to pay the charges under the contract it shall terminate without any obligation to the City.
  - 7.2. Convenience In the event that a contract is terminated or canceled upon request and for the convenience of the City without the required thirty (30) day advance written notice, then the City shall negotiate reasonable termination costs, if applicable.
  - 7.3 Cause Termination by the City for the cause, default or negligence on part of the bidder, shall be excluded from the foregoing provisions; termination costs, if any shall not apply. The thirty (30) day advance notice requirement is waived and the default provision herein shall apply.

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- 7.4 Default In case of default by the bidder, the City reserves the right to purchase any and all items/services in default in open market, charging bidder with any excessive costs. SHOULD SUCH CHARGE BE ASSESSED, NO SUBSEQUENT BIDS OF THE DEFAULTING BIDDER WILL BE CONSIDERED UNTIL THE ASSESSED CHARGE HAS BEEN SATISFIED.
- 8. Prime Bidder Responsibilities The bidder will be required to assume sole responsibility for the complete effort as required by this RFB. The City will consider the bidder to be the sole point of contact with regard to all contractual matters.
- 9. Subcontracting If any part of the work covered by this RFB is to be subcontracted, the bidder shall identify the subcontracting organization and the contractual arrangements made therewith at the time of the offer. All subcontractors must be approved by the City. The successful bidder will also furnish the corporate or company name and the names of the officers of any subcontractors engaged by the bidder.
- 10. Ownership of Material All materials and documents submitted by the bidder in response to this specification become the property of the City and will not be returned to the bidder.
- 11. Compliance with State and Federal Requirements State and Federal requirements that are more restrictive than these set forth herein shall be followed by the bidder.
- 12. Contract Amendments Amendments to any agreement between the City and the bidder must be reviewed and approved in writing by the City Administrator or his designee.
- 13. Assignment No contract or its provisions may be assigned, sublet, or transferred without the written consent of the City Finance Department.
- 14. Records Retention and Right to Audit The City shall have the right to audit the books and records of the bidder as they pertain to this contract. Such books and records shall be maintained for a period of three (3) years from the date of final payment under contract.
- 15. The City may conduct performance audits of the bidder, as determined necessary by the City. Pertaining to all audits, the bidder shall make available to the City, access to its computer files containing the history of the contract performance and all other documents related to the audit. Additionally, any software used by the bidder shall be made available for auditing purposes at no cost to the City.
- 16. Independent Contractor Status The parties hereby agree that the contractor is an independent contractor of the City and that nothing in an agreement with the City shall be deemed to place the parties in a relationship of employer/employee, partners, or joint ventures. Neither party shall have the right to obligate or bind the other in any manner. Each party agrees and acknowledges that it will not hold itself out as an authorized agent with the power to bind the other party in any manner. Each party shall only be responsible for any withholding taxes, payroll taxes, disability insurance payments, unemployment taxes, or other similar taxes or charges with respect to its activities in relation to the performance of its obligations of an agreement.
- 17. Representations of Bidder Bidder represents, warrants, and covenants that:
  - (a) In providing the services bidder shall utilize the care and skill used by members of bidder's profession practicing under similar circumstances at the same time and in the same locality.
  - (b) All employees provided by the bidder to the City shall have the qualifications, skills, and experience necessary to perform his/her job in accordance with the requirements of the agreement. The City may request removal of any employee for good cause.
  - (c) Bidder is a business, validly existing and in good standing under the Laws of the State of South Carolina.

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- 18. Indemnity Provisions Bidder agrees to and shall indemnify and hold the City harmless from and against all liability, loss, damages or injury, and all costs and expenses (Including attorney fees and costs of any suit related thereto) suffered or incurred by the City, arising from or related to the terms of this project, or bidder's performance thereunder.
- 19. City Business License and permits The selected bidder shall be required to obtain all applicable City permits and business licenses **prior to work commencing**. Contact Jestin Gilliard, Revenues Manager, jgilliard@cogsc.com or 843.545.4041, for business license information. Contact the Planning & Community Development Department at 843.545.4017 for permitting information. These expenses shall be included in the total bid cost.

#### **Exhibits Available**

- A) Bid Form
- B) Photos

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