

REQUEST FOR BID (RFB)

REQUESTOR: City of Georgetown

1134 North Fraser Street Georgetown, SC 29440

Contact: Daniella Howard, Purchasing Agent

Email: dhoward@georgetownsc.gov

Phone: 843.545.4043

PROJECT: Front Street Tree Lighting

PROJECT #: 1225

DATE ISSUED: Wednesday, November 18, 2020

DUE: On or before 2:00 pm EST (local time) Wednesday, December 16, 2020

Bids must be submitted electronically through the City's website, <u>www.georgetownsc.gov</u>. The City will not accept bids by hard copy, fax, or email.

For instructions on how to submit your bid electronically, please refer to Exhibit A, "How to register as a vendor", and Exhibit B, "How to respond to an online bid".

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COVID-19 Coronavirus Important Notice to Bidders

Pursuant to Governor Henry McMaster's declaration of a State of Emergency on Friday, March 13, 2020, City of Georgetown offices are closed to the public.

Until further notice, all bids <u>MUST BE</u> submitted electronically through the City of Georgetown's website, <u>www.georgetownsc.gov</u>, under "Bids". As always, bids received after the due date and time will not be considered for any reason.

The City **WILL NOT** accept bids by:

Hard copy

Fax

Email

Your bid must be submitted electronically to ensure it remains sealed until the scheduled bid opening date and time.

Due to the office closure to the public, bid openings will be streamed live via the City's public Facebook page, https://www.facebook.com/cityofgtown/.

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.georgetownsc.gov.

Purpose/Project Description

The City of Georgetown is seeking bids from qualified and licensed electrical contractors to furnish and install street lights along Front Street intersection of Screven and Broad Streets, Palmetto Park, Francis Marion Park, Constitution Park, and Rainey Park as indicated on the lighting plans bid documents. Contractors are encouraged to visit the site to become familiar 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 the contractual agreement.

All ambiguities, discrepancies, errors, omissions, or conflicting statements in this RFB shall be interpreted to require the better quality or greater quantity of work and/or materials, unless otherwise directed by addendum. Bidders assume responsibility for any patent ambiguity in the solicitation that their representatives do not bring to the City's attention.

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Preliminary Site Information

Front Street, Palmetto Park, Francis Marion Park, Constitution Park, and Rainey Park are located in the City's Historic District. The area is frequented by tourist and locals as well due to the shops, restaurants, and boardwalk attractions. The contractor will be performing the work during day light hours only from 7 AM until 6 PM.

Scope of Services

The contractor shall be responsible to furnish and install all light fixtures as shown on the electrical plans dated November 18, 2020, and prepared by Pinnacle Lighting Group.

Contractor is responsible for all necessary underground conduit and wiring and for any concrete or paver repairs needed due to the conduit work.

Contractor shall coordinate with the City's electrical department for all point of deliver locations. City will deliver all 120 V electric to poles and/or receptacles. The Contractor will be making tap and providing all wiring and conduits beyond tap point to lights.

Contractor is responsible to safely secure and protect work area from vehicular and pedestrian traffic. Contractor shall remove and properly dispose of any construction debris at the end of each work shift.

Contractor is responsible to comply with all OSHA safety regulations.

Contractor shall secure all necessary electrical permits and business licenses from the City upon project award but before the start of any field activities.

The contractor shall provide a 2-year workmanship warranty and a maintenance plan to be effective at the time of project acceptance by the City. The cost of this warranty and annual maintenance plan shall be included in the bid price.

The qualified contractor shall be a South Carolina licensed electrical contractor and able to demonstrate experience in commercial lighting work for a minimum of five years. A letter of reference and experience summary may be requested by the City after the bid submittals.

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Technical Specifications

1) Lighting Fixtures

The lighting fixture specifications (see Exhibit D), are based on lighting fixtures manufactured by Pinnacle Lighting Group, and are for the sole purpose of describing the standard of quality, performance, and features. They are not intended to limit or restrict competition. Any and all references to "Brand Name" are intended to be "Brand Name or Equal to" whether or not the words "or Equal to" are written out in full.

The City reserves the right to require the vendor to provide proof in each case that a substituted item is equal to the brand name specified. The City shall be the sole judge in determination of acceptable substitutes.

2) Exterior Electrical Conduit

Install required electrical conduit by open cut excavation or directional boring.

All conduits shall have 2 feet or more of cover under sidewalk or pavers or 3 feet minimum cover under soil or grass.

Conduit shall be made of High-Density Polyethylene (HDPE) or Polyvinyl Chloride (PVC) Schedule 40.

Process

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 www.georgetownsc.gov, and click on "Bids" at the bottom of the home page.
- 2. Bids will be received and evaluated as described in this RFB.
- 3. Best qualified, lowest 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 published on the City's website, www.georgetownsc.gov, 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 services being sought in this RFB;
- E. The previous and existing compliance by the bidder with laws and ordinances relating to the contract or services;

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- 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.

Protest Procedure

In accordance with the City's Procurement Ordinance, any protest or objection to this RFB award process must be submitted in writing to the City of Georgetown, Attn: Daniella Howard, Purchasing Agent, PO Drawer 939, Georgetown, SC 29440, within ten (10) calendar days of the notification of award posted to the City's website. The City's Procurement Ordinance to include Section 2-194, Protest Procedure, can be found in its entirety on the City's website at:

https://www.georgetownsc.gov/wpfb-file/procurement

Ouestions

No answers will be given over the phone.

Questions regarding this RFB should be submitted in writing and emailed to <u>oarteaga@georgetownsc.gov</u>, no later than 5:00 pm EST (local time), Wednesday, December 2, 2020.

For questions regarding the City's Request for Bids process, please contact <u>purchasing@georgetownsc.gov</u>, no later than the aforementioned deadline.

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.

No questions will be accepted after the aforementioned deadline. All submittals shall include the following in the subject line: **Front Street Tree Lighting.**

Answers to questions will be published on the City's website at www.georgetownsc.gov under "Bids" as an Addendum no later than 5:00 pm EST (local time), Wednesday, December 9, 2020.

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Schedule of Events

MILESTONE EVENT	DATE	TIME EST (LOCAL TIME)
1. RFB issued	Wednesday, November 18, 2020	
2. Deadline for questions - email to oarteaga@georgetownsc.gov	Wednesday, December 2, 2020	5:00 pm
3. Deadline for answer(s) to be published on the City's website www.georgetownsc.gov	Wednesday, December 9, 2020	5:00 pm
4. Bid due date	Wednesday, December 16, 2020	on or before 2:00 pm
5. City Council Approval (tentative)	January 21, 2021	
6. Notice to Proceed (NTP) issued (tentative)	February 15, 2021	
7. Completion Date	Sixty (60) calendar days after NTP is issued	

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, www.georgetownsc.gov.

Procurement procedures are subject to the City's procurement policies as outlined in Section 2-185 of the City's Municipal Code (Chapter (Administration), Article IV (Procurement)). The City's Procurement Ordinance can be found in its entirety on the City's website at: http://www.georgetownsc.gov/find/find-ordinances/.

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 publish notice of such on 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, missing information, or to make substantive revisions to the original bid.

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 published on the City's website <u>www.georgetownsc.gov</u>, under "Bids". It is the bidder's responsibility to obtain the information directly from the City's website regarding this project.

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No:	Dated:	
No:	Dated:	
No:	Dated:	

Submittal Instructions

By initialing the bottom of each page of this RFB document, bidder represents that (1) their representatives have read and understood the solicitation and (2) their bid is made in compliance with this solicitation. Bidder's representatives are expected to examine this RFB thoroughly and should request an explanation of any ambiguities, discrepancies, errors, omissions, or conflicting statements. Failure to do so will be at their risk.

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

- 1. Submit bid proposal electronically through the City's website, www.georgetownsc.gov, under "Bids". Submittal package must include all of the following items. If more than one PDF file is uploaded, each PDF file should be clearly labeled as such:
 - 1. Complete Bid Form Exhibit E
 - 2. Complete initialed copy of this RFB document
 - 3. Complete Local Vendor Preference Option Mandatory Vendor Submittal Form (see page 13)

4.

2. Electronic bid proposal must be received electronically through the City's website, www.georgetownsc.gov, no later than the aforementioned deadline. Bids will be publicly Facebook opened and read aloud via City's public the https://www.facebook.com/cityofgtown/. 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 technological failure in submitting bids electronically. It is the sole responsibility of the bidder to confirm that their bid was submitted on time, and that their PDF file/files are not corrupt. 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.

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- 3. This solicitation does not commit the City to award a contract. 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. 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. 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:

<u>Vendor Disclosure</u>

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 as "PROPRIETARY INFORMATION" 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.

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- 12. Proposed Process Approach Not applicable 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 Not applicable Must be no more than one (1) page listing most recent professional references for similar projects and their contact information.
- 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 cmcdaniel@georgetownsc.gov
- 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@georgetownsc.gov 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.

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20.	0. Payment terms - A monthly itemized billing statement must specified by the City for services performed. The City will reundisputed invoices within thirty (30) days from receipt of the in person(s) (to be designated at the time of contract).	emit full payment on all

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MANDATORY VENDOR SUBMITTAL FORM

The City's Procurement Ordinance to include the Local Vendor Preference Option, can be found in its entirety on the City's website at: https://www.georgetownsc.gov/wpfb-file/procurement:

SECTION 2-185 COMPETITIVE SEALED BIDDING LOCAL VENDOR PREFERENCE

☐ I certify that [Company Name]	
is a Resident Bidder 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 <u>Non-Resident Bidder</u> 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)	(<u>X)</u>
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

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- apply. The thirty (30) day advance notice requirement is waived and the default provision herein shall apply.
- 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.

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- (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.
- 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@georgetownsc.gov, 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) How to register as a vendor
- B) How to respond to an online bid
- C) Lighting Plans (Sheets 1 and 2)
- D) Light fixtures specifications sheets
- E) Bid Form

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