



Transforming Lives & Communities

2640 Fountain View Drive, Houston, Texas 77057 | 713.260.0600 | David A. Northern, Sr., **President & CEO**
Houston Housing Authority Board of Commissioners: LaRence Snowden, *Chair* | Kristy M. Kirkendoll, *Vice Chair*
Dr. Max Miller, Jr. | Stephanie Ballard | Andrea Hillard Cooksey | Kris Thomas | Guillermo "Will" Hernandez

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL RFP 23-18

The Houston Housing Authority ("HHA") has issued this solicitation with the intent to establish a contract with an agency or agencies to act as Rapid Re-Housing (RRH) Case Managers and Housing Navigators, in accordance with the requirements specified herein.

Interested parties who wish to respond to this solicitation must submit the required documents to the below individual by **2:00 PM . Central Daylight Time (CDT) April 12, 2023.**

Houston Housing Authority
Attn: Austin Crotts, MA
RE: RFP 23-18 - RAPID RE-HOUSING
DO NOT OPEN
2640 Fountain View, Suite 100
Houston, Texas 77057

The face of the sealed envelope/package must contain the above information, and once they are in the possession of HHA, their contents will not be publicly opened or revealed until after a contract is awarded.

Late submissions will be handled in accordance with Section 6 of Attachment H Instruction to Offers Non-Construction HUD Form 5369-B.

Interested parties who have questions about this solicitation, or who need additional information should send an e-mail (**preferably**) to **Purchasing@housingforhouston.com** with "RFP 23-18" in the subject line by **5:00 P.M. CDT March 28, 2023.** As an alternative, interested parties have the option of sending a fax to the same individual at 713-260-0810. Any changes to the requirements specified herein will be issued via an Amendment.

3-15-2023

Date

Austin Crotts

Austin Crotts, MA
Procurement Manager
Houston Housing Authority



A Fair Housing and Equal Employment Opportunity Agency. For assistance: Individuals with disabilities may contact the 504/ADA Administrator at 713-260-0353, TTY 713-260-0574 or 504ADA@housingforhouston.com

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I. ORGANIZATION OVERVIEW

1.0 PROFILE OF THE HOUSTON HOUSING AUTHORITY(HHA)

- 1.1 HHA is currently governed by the Housing Authorities Law, codified in the Texas Local Government Code. It is a unit of government and its functions are essential governmental functions. It operates and manages its housing developments to provide decent, safe, sanitary and affordable housing to low income families, the elderly, and the disabled, and implements various programs designed and funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). HHA is a Public Housing Agency.
- 1.2 The property of HHA is used for essential public and governmental purposes, and its property are exempt from all taxes, including sales tax on all its purchases of supplies and services.
- 1.3 HHA enters into and executes contracts and other instruments that are necessary and convenient to the exercise of its powers.
- 1.4 HHA maintains contractual arrangements with HUD to manage and operate its Low Rent Public Housing program and administers the Section 8 Housing Assistance Payments programs. HHA's programs are federally funded, and its revenues are received from federal funds, administrative fees, development grants and rental income.
- 1.5 HHA provides affordable homes and services to more than 60,000 low-income Houstonians, including over 17,000 families housed through the Housing Choice Voucher Program, 4,200 living in 19 public housing and tax credit developments, and an additional 716 in project-based voucher developments around the city.

END OF SECTION

II. SPECIAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

2.0 INTENT

- 2.1 Houston is aligned with USICH's Federal strategy to prevent and end homelessness. To address family homelessness and support a system to end various types of homelessness; the Houston Continuum of Care (CoC) continues to expand the use/effectiveness of Rapid Re-Housing (RRH). This Program expands RRH to homeless individuals and/or families. Expansion includes the standardization of service delivery; for efficiency and effectiveness.
- 2.2 This existing and continual RRH system has the potential to reach further than the initial 1,500 households annually and operates in accordance with 24 CFR 578. Using common assessment tools to evaluate the barriers to housing stability, assistance will be targeted using Coordinated Access (CA) to individuals and/or families whose barriers to housing are high enough that they are not able to house themselves without assistance, but low enough that they can be successful in this limited assistance program. Homeless outreach teams are embedded within the CA system and exclusively use Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) to assess and refer to the appropriate intervention.
- 2.3 RRH is designed to help households quickly exit homelessness and return to housing. We will adhere to the Housing First Model; providing low barrier assistance to quickly move participants into housing and then provide services as needed. This approach ensures that participants are not screened out based on barriers such as income or sobriety; but supported as they transition into housing with supports tailored to the family's unique experience.
- 2.4 Program characteristics include: housing stabilization services, linkage to mainstream resources, housing identification assistance from navigators with specialized skills in building and maintaining relationships with landlords, and rental assistance. Households and/or individuals will be supported to financial and housing stability and not terminated due to failure to participate in supportive services, failure to make progress on a service plan, loss of income or failure to improve income, or being a victim of domestic violence.
- 2.5 Goals are as follows: 80% of persons housed will remain in permanent housing or exiting to permanent housing. These goals will be accomplished through the use of supportive case management. HHA will monitor Case Managers to ensure compliance with regulations and progress toward continuum wide outcomes. All outcomes will be tracked in Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) and adhere to data quality standards and any updates to the standards published.
- 2.6 This Program will partner with the Income Now Program to connect individuals and/or families with income to help them secure and maintain housing. Assistance includes connecting individuals with disabilities to SSI/D and others to the public workforce system. In addition, HHA will make available Housing Choice Voucher Program (HCVP) vouchers to RRH individuals and/or families identified as needing long term rental assistance with short-term supportive services to maintain housing.

2.7 Rapid Re-Housing Program Goals:

- 2.7.1 Rapidly move individuals and families from homelessness to housing;
- 2.7.2 Provide temporary stabilizing services to individuals and families experiencing homelessness ranging from 0-24 months in duration;
- 2.7.3 Build relationships with landlords when assistance in leasing a unit of their choice;
- 2.7.4 Ensure households remain stably housed;
- 2.7.5 Adhere to Federal, State, and local regulations as they apply;
- 2.7.6 Regularly communicate with RRH Financial Assistance Intermediary and the Case Management intermediary;
- 2.7.7 Submit required month reporting documentation to RRH Financial Assistance Intermediary; and,
- 2.7.8 Enter accurate and timely information into the Homeless information Management System.

3.0 **PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE**

- 3.1 Any contract executed as a result of this solicitation may have a initial period of performance of one (1) year, with HHA having the option to extend the contract two (2) additional years, in one (1) year increments.

4.0 **PROCUREMENT SCHEDULE**

- 4.1 The following is the anticipated procurement schedule for this solicitation:

<u>EVENT</u>	<u>DATE</u>
Date Solicitation Advertised	March 17, 2023
Deadline for the submittal of written questions to <u>Purchasing@housingforhouston.com</u>	5:00 P.M. CDT March 28, 2023
Deadline HHA will post answers to written questions	5:00 P.M. CDT March 31, 2023
Deadline for the receipt of responses	2:00 P.M. CDT April 12, 2023

5.0 **SCOPE OF WORK (SOW)**

- 5.1 See **Exhibit A** attached herein.

6.0 **SELECTION CRITERIA**

- 6.1 Interested parties that submit the required information by the specified due date and time will have their responses evaluated by an HHA Evaluation Committee, who will utilize the **Evaluation Criteria in Exhibit B** to evaluate and score the responses.
- 6.2 HHA reserves the right to make multiple award(s), reject responses at its discretion, request additional information from proposers, select the successful proposer(s) at its sole discretion, and conduct negotiations to establish a contract that is advantageous and beneficial to HHA.

7.0 **SUBMITTALS**

- 7.1 All responses must conform to the requirements specified herein.
 - 7.1.1 HHA is not responsible for any costs that may be incurred in the development and submittal of any responses to this solicitation.
- 7.2 **ALL ITEMS IN SECTION 7.3 MUST BE DOWNLOADED ON A FLASH DRIVE AS ONE COMPLETE ADOBE FILE, AND SUBMITTED WITH THE COMPLETED DOCUMENTS IN A SEALED ENVELOPE**
 - 7.2.1 **THE CONTENTS AND ACCURACY OF THE CD ROM SHOULD BE CHECKED BEFORE IT IS SUBMITTED TO HHA.**
 - 7.2.2 All responses shall become the property of HHA, and HHA will make all reasonable efforts to maintain their confidentiality.
- 7.3 One (1) original (clearly marked in a three-ring binder), the responses may be hand delivered, or mailed to the location specified on page 1. Each section of the response must be separated by a numerically sequential “Tab” (i.e., Tab 1, Tab 2, etc.) and contain the following:
 - 7.3.1 **Cover Letter (CL)**
 - 7.3.1.1 Acknowledge receipt, review of this solicitation, and any Amendment(s) issued by HHA.
 - 7.3.1.2 The CL must be on company letterhead, signed by authorized official of the company, with their title, phone number, and e-mail address.
 - 7.3.2 **Agency’s History and Capacity**
 - 7.3.2.1 Provide a brief description of your organizational history and capacity to fulfill the requirements stated herein. (As a minimum, include the date when the business was started, total number of employees, any special accommodations/services that can be provided, etc.)
 - 7.3.2.2 Provide a brief description of any organizational and or staff experience with delivering Rapid Rehousing services.

- 7.3.2.3 Provide a detailed description of your staffing plan(s) to fulfill the requirements listed herein.

Note: This information will be used by HHA's Evaluation Committee to assess a score relative to item 1 in Exhibit B Evaluation Criteria.

7.3.3 Demonstrated Relevant Experience

- 7.3.3.1 Provide:

7.3.3.1.1 An organizational chart, and resumes of key personnel who will be associated with performing the SOW described herein.

7.3.3.1.2 501 (c) 3 Documentation

7.3.3.1.3 Experience in meeting outcomes-based measures, including any experience with Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) programs.

7.3.3.1.4 Experience in reporting to multiple sources on multiple outcomes.

Note: This information will be used by HHA's Evaluation Committee to assess a score relative to item 2 in Exhibit B Evaluation Criteria.

7.3.4 Experience with Reporting Grant Outcomes

Note: This information will be used by HHA's Evaluation Committee to assess a score relative to item 3 in Exhibit B Evaluation Criteria.

7.3.5 Experience in Utilizing HMIS

- 7.3.5.1 Describe any experience using the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) or another electronic data management system.

Note: This information will be used by HHA's Evaluation Committee to assess a score relative to item 4 in Exhibit B Evaluation Criteria.

7.3.6 History of following Housing First Principles

Note: This information will be used by HHA's Evaluation Committee to assess a score relative to item 5 in Exhibit B Evaluation Criteria.

7.3.7 Tenant Based Rental Assistance Experience

Note: This information will be used by HHA's Evaluation Committee to assess a score relative to item 6 in Exhibit B Evaluation Criteria.

7.3.8 Demonstrated understanding of applicable Continuum of Care (CoC) Rules and Regulations

Note: This information will be used by HHA's Evaluation Committee to assess a score relative to item 7 in Exhibit B Evaluation Criteria.

7.3.9 Availability

Note: This information will be used by HHA's Evaluation Committee to assess a score relative to item 8 in Exhibit B Evaluation Criteria.

7.3.10 Working Capital

7.3.10.1 Provide:

7.3.10.1.1 Most Recent Financial Audit(s)

7.3.10.1.2 Most recent Tax Form 990

7.3.10.1.3 Letters of support or references

Note: This information will be used by HHA's Evaluation Committee to assess a score relative to item 9 in Exhibit B Evaluation Criteria.

7.3.11 Budget

7.3.11.1 Include letters of funding support for any leverage/matching funds

7.3.11.2 Itemize all fees needed to perform the Scope of Work (SOW).

Note: This information will be used by HHA's Evaluation Committee to assess a score relative to item 10 in Exhibit B Evaluation Criteria.

7.3.12 Project Information Description

7.3.12.1 Strategy for clients as they exit homelessness and obtain permanent housing

7.3.12.2 Strategy for working with clients once they have been housed and case management services that will be offered to help these individuals and/or families remain housed.

7.3.12.3 Describe experience(s) in housing homeless individuals following the Housing First model.

7.3.12.4 Describe experience(s) in reporting outcomes and spending as a contracted case management vendor.

7.3.12.5 Describe your agency's record-keeping and documentation experience in HMIS.

7.3.12.6 Describe any partnerships, programs or capacity, existing or planned, that have with other private or public partners that serve.

7.3.13 M/WBE Participation

Note: This information will be used by HHA's Evaluation Committee to assess a score relative to item 11 in Exhibit B Evaluation Criteria.

7.3.14 Attachment A Declaration

7.3.15 Attachment B Non-Collusive Affidavit

7.3.16 Attachment C M/WBE Participation

7.3.17 Attachment D Conflict of Interest (CIQ) Form

7.3.18 Attachment E Representations, Certifications and Other Statements Public Housing Programs (Form HUD 5369-A)

- 7.4 HHA may not evaluate responses that do not comply with the submittal requirements specified herein. Responses received after the specified date and time will be considered non-responsive.

END OF SECTION

III. GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

8.0 AMENDMENTS

- 8.1 Any interpretation(s) affecting this solicitation will be issued in the form of an amendment by HHA prior to the specified due date on page 1. HHA will not be bound by, or responsible for any other explanations or interpretations of this solicitation other than those given in writing as set forth herein. Oral instructions, interpretations, or representations will not be binding upon HHA or representatives of HHA. **All amendments shall be binding in the same way as if originally written in this solicitation.**

9.0 AVAILABILITY OF RECORDS

- 9.1 The U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, the Inspector General of the United States, the HHA, and any duly authorized representatives of each shall have access to, and the right to examine any and all pertinent books, records, documents, invoices, papers, and the like of the firm(s) office, that relates to any work that is performed as a result of this solicitation.

10.0 BASIS FOR AWARD

- 10.1 See Section 6.0.
- 10.2 Case management vendors will be selected on their ability to adhere to the continuum wide outcomes and meet the expectations of the funding collaborative as outlined in the RRH Business Rules and this RFP. Vendors must also ensure compliance with the written standards for rapid re-housing assistance.
- 10.3 Interested parties are responsible for ensuring they have all documents referenced and incorporated in this solicitation, and are familiar with the contents of those documents. Failure to do so shall be at the sole risk of the interested party, and no relief shall be given for errors or omissions by the interested party.

11.0 CANCELLING THE SOLICITATION

- 11.1 HHA may cancel this solicitation at any time, and when it is in its best interests to do so. (See Section 7.1.1)

12.0 FEDERAL REGULATIONS WITH REGARD TO NONDISCRIMINATION AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITY

- 12.1 The requirements of Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 and Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, relating to prohibitions against discrimination in housing and the benefits of federally funded programs because of race, color, religion, sex or national origin must be met by the successful firm(s).

12.2 The successful bidder(s)/proposer(s) will:

12.2.1 Adhere to federal regulations prohibiting discrimination on the basis of age under the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, and prohibit discrimination against handicapped individuals under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990.

12.2.2 Meet the requirements of:

12.2.2.1 Executive Orders (EO's):

- EO 11246 relating to equal employment opportunity in connection with federally funded programs
- EO's 11625, 12432, and 12138 relating to the use of minority and women's business enterprises in connection with federally funded programs

13.0 **INFORMALITIES**

13.1 HHA reserves the right to waive any informality, and make an award that is in the best interest of HHA.

13.1.1 Minor informalities are matters of form rather than substance. They are insignificant mistakes that can be waived or corrected without prejudice to the other proposers/bidders and have little or no effect on price, quantity, quality, delivery, or contractual conditions. Examples include failure to: return the number of signed bids required by the bid package; sign the bid, provided that the unsigned bid is accompanied by other documents indicating the bidder's intent to be bound (e.g., a signed cover letter or a bid guarantee); complete one or more certifications; or acknowledge receipt of an amendment or addendum, provided that it is clear from the bid that the bidder received the amendment/addendum and intended to be bound by its terms, or the amendment/addendum had a negligible effect on price, quantity, quality, or delivery.

14.0 **INSURANCE**

14.1 HHA will specify the amount of insurance that will be required during the Period of Performance.

15.0 **MINORITY WOMEN BUSINESS ENTERPRISE (M/WBE) PARTICIPATION**

15.1 Refer to Attachment C for M/WBE Participation requirements.

16.0 **MISTAKES IN BIDS**

16.1 General

- 16.1.1 While proposers/bidders will be bound by their submittals (the “firm bid rule”), circumstances may arise where correction or withdrawal of their bid or proposal is proper and may be permitted. Correction or withdrawal of a bid or proposal will be done in a manner that will protect and maintain the integrity and fairness of the competitive solicitation process.

16.2 Mistakes Discovered Before Solicitations Are Opened

- 16.2.1 Interested parties may withdraw or modify their submittals by written or facsimile notice prior to the opening of the solicitations. (Refer to Section 6 of Attachment H)

16.3 Review of Mistakes

- 16.3.1 After the solicitations are opened, HHA will review all submittals to ensure there are no obvious mistakes, e.g., the sum of individual bid line items does not equal the total price. If a submittal appears to have a mistake, HHA will notify the interested of any apparent mistake(s) in his/her submittal, and request verification of the total price as submitted.

16.4 Mistakes After Solicitations Are Opened

- 16.4.1 If this solicitation is soliciting bids, then in general, bidders will not be permitted to change a bid after bid opening. In rare cases, HHA may permit the revision of a bid if the bidder is able to present clear and convincing evidence, acceptable to HHA, of a mistake and the intended bid price. Allowing changes to bids without appropriate evidence may compromise the integrity of the public bid process and serve to undermine public confidence in HHA’s bidding process. Therefore, HHA will request as much evidence as it deems necessary. Examples of evidence may include: original work papers, bids from suppliers and subcontractors used to develop the bid, bonding or insurance evidence supporting a different bid price, etc. Failure or refusal by a bidder to provide adequate evidence shall result in the original bid remaining unchanged. Consultation with HHA’s Legal Dept. will occur before authorization is given change a bid. If justified, a low bidder can be replaced with the next lowest bidder.

17.0 **PERMITS**

- 17.1 The successful proposer(s) shall obtain and pay (independent of HHA), all permits, certificates, and licenses required and necessary for the performance of the work specified herein. Furthermore, they shall post all notices required by law, and shall comply with all laws, ordinances, and regulations which may affect their performance.

18.0 **PROJECT MANAGER**

18.1 HHA may designate a Project Manager during the Period of Performance.

19.0 **QUESTIONS**

19.1 Interested parties should follow the instructions on page 1 should they have any questions about this solicitation.

19.2 Interested parties are prohibited from querying HHA personnel, or members of its Board of Commissioners regarding this solicitation except through written questions submitted in the manner and within the time frame indicated on page 1 of this solicitation.

20.0 **REMOVAL OF EMPLOYEES**

20.1 HHA may request the successful contractor(s) to remove immediately from the contract/project, any employee found unfit to perform their duties due to one or more of the following reasons, which includes, but is not limited to:

20.1.1 Negligence, being disorderly, using abusive or offensive language, quarreling or fighting, stealing, vandalizing property; and,

20.1.2 Engaging in immoral or inappropriate behavior (e.g., being intoxicated, or under the influence of mind-altering substances), or pursuing criminal activity (e.g., selling, consuming, possessing or being under the influence of illegal substances).

21.0 **RESERVATION OF RIGHTS**

21.1 Depending upon the circumstance(s), HHA reserves the right to change, modify, or alter any Draft Contract associated with the solicitation.

22.0 **STANDARDS OF CONDUCT**

22.1 During the period of performance, the employees of the successful contractor(s) shall conduct themselves in a responsible and professional manner, and may be removed from the project if they display behavior that is unacceptable to HHA.

23.0 **SUBCONTRACTING**

23.1 Any contract issued as a result of this solicitation will not be subcontracted to third parties unless it has been previously approved by HHA in writing.

24.0 **TRAVEL AND REIMBURSEMENTS**

24.1 Any prices/fees mutually agreed upon shall include all necessary out-of-pocket expenses needed to perform the work specified herein. HHA will not issue any reimbursements for travel, lodging, meals, or other miscellaneous or ancillary expenses, unless it has been defined in the final contract.

25.0 **RULES, REGULATIONS AND LICENSING REQUIREMENTS**

25.1 The Offeror and staff must possess all necessary required license(s) to do business in Houston/Harris County and the State of Texas. Additionally, the Offeror, shall comply with all laws, ordinances, and regulations applicable to the services contemplated herein. Offerors are presumed to be familiar with all federal, state, and local laws, ordinances, codes, rules, and regulations that may in any way affect the services.

27.0 **TAXES**

28.1 HHA is exempt from State of Texas, and Local Taxes.

30.0 **VALIDITY OF RESPONSES**

30.1 Responses will not be unilaterally withdrawn or modified for a period of ninety (90) days after they have been received and opened by HHA.

31.0 **SUPPLEMENTS**

30.1 The following documents are considered part of this solicitation:

Attachment A:	Declaration
Attachment B:	Non-Collusive Affidavit
Attachment C:	M/WBE Participation
Attachment D:	Conflict of Interest (CIQ) Form
Attachment E:	Representations, Certifications and Other Statements Public Housing Programs (Form HUD 5369-A)
Attachment F:	Instruction to Offerors Non-Construction (Form HUD-5369-B)
Attachment G:	General Conditions for Non-Construction Contracts (Form HUD 5370-C)
Exhibit A:	Scope of Work
Exhibit B:	Evaluation Criteria
Exhibit C:	Draft Contract

END OF SECTION

ATTACHMENT A

DECLARATION

The undersigned declares the following:

- This response is being submitted in good faith, and without collusion or fraud
- The only person(s) interested in the aforementioned solicitation is listed below, and that this response is being submitted without connection or arrangement with any other person
- They have complied with the requirements of the aforementioned solicitation, have read all addenda (if any), and is satisfied that they fully understand the intent of the aforementioned solicitation, and the terms and conditions that will govern any award issued by HHA as a result of this solicitation
- They agree to execute an agreement with HHA based on the latter accepting the submittals required by the aforementioned solicitation

Persons Interested in this Response:

Name

Identity of Interest

1.

2.

3.

NAME OF CONTRACTOR/OFFEROR/FIRM/INDIVIDUAL/CORPORATION

SIGNATURE

TITLE

E-MAIL ADDRESS

PHONE NUMBER / FAX NUMBER

ADDRESS, CITY, STATE, ZIP

SUBMITTAL DATE

Note: This Form must have a manual signature.

ATTACHMENT B

NON-COLLUSIVE AFFIDAVIT

STATE OF TEXAS

COUNTY OF HARRIS

_____, being first duly sworn, deposes and says that he is

(a partner or officer of the firm of, etc.)

the party making the foregoing proposal or bid, that such proposal or bid is genuine and not collusive or sham; that said bidder has not colluded, conspired, connived or agreed, directly or indirectly, with any manner, directly or indirectly, sought by agreement or collusion, or communication or conference with any person to fix the bid price or affiant or of any other bidder, or to fix any overhead, profit, or cost element of said bid price, or of that of any other bidder, or to secure any advantage against

THE HOUSTON HOUSING AUTHORITY

of any person interested in the proposed Contract; and that all statements in said proposal or bid are true.

Signature of Bidder, if Bidder is an Individual

Signature of Bidder, if Bidder is a Partnership

Signature of Officer, if Bidder is a Corporation

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

Notary Public

My Commission expires _____

ATTACHMENT C

REQUIREMENTS FOR SUBCONTRACTING WITH SMALL BUSINESSES AND MINORITY BUSINESSES, WOMEN BUSINESS ENTERPRISES, AND LABOR SURPLUS AREA FIRMS.

I. INSTRUCTIONS.

Any Prime Contractor awarded a contract pursuant to this procurement must agree to comply with the subcontracting requirements set forth below. Please note that the capitalized terms used in this document are defined below in § VII.

(1) Please read this document carefully; (2) sign the acknowledgement; and (3) complete and sign the attached “Bidder’s Proposed M/WBE Participation Form.”

II. OVERVIEW.

Any contract resulting from this procurement must comply with: (1) the requirements in HHA’s Procurement Policy (the “Policy”) and the Code of Federal Regulations (the “Code”) regarding Subcontracting with small and minority owned businesses, women business enterprises, and labor surplus area firms (the “Policy Requirements”); and (2) HHA’s goal regarding Subcontracting with minority business enterprises and women business enterprises (the “HHA’s Goal”). Any person or firm that receives an award pursuant to this procurement must take affirmative steps to comply with the Policy Requirements and must use their best efforts to meet HHA’s Goal. The Policy Requirements and HHA’s Goal are described in detail below.

III. THE POLICY REQUIREMENTS.

Pursuant to the Policy, at § 15, and the Code, at 2 CFR § 200.321, if a Prime Contractor awarded a contract pursuant to this procurement lets Subcontracts, then the Prime Contractor must take affirmative steps to assure that, when possible, Subcontracts are let to Small Business Enterprises (“SBEs”), Minority Businesses Enterprises (“MBEs”), Women Business Enterprises (“WBEs”), and Labor Area Surplus Firms (“LASFs”). The affirmative steps a Prime Contractor who lets Subcontracts must take are:

- Placing SBEs, MBEs, and WBEs, on solicitation lists;
- Assuring that SBEs, MBEs, and WBEs, are directly solicited for bids or proposals whenever such entities are potential sources to perform Subcontracts;
- Dividing total job requirements, whenever economically feasible, into smaller tasks or quantifies to permit maximum participation by SBEs, MBEs, and WBEs, in a given project;
- Establishing delivery schedules, when the requirement permits, that encourage participation by SBEs, MBEs, and WBEs;
- Using the services and assistance, as appropriate, of such organizations as the Small Business Administration and the Minority Business Development Agency of the U.S. Department of Commerce; and,
- Including in Subcontracts, to the greatest extent feasible, a clause that requires Subcontractors to provide opportunities for training and employment for lower income persons who reside in the project area.

The affirmative steps listed above shall remain in effect for the duration of the Prime Contract awarded pursuant to this procurement. HHA encourages Prime Contractors to implement these steps when acquiring the materials, they need to perform their obligations under the Prime Contract.

IV. HHA'S GOAL.

A. Overview of HHA's Goal and related requirements.

In addition to taking the affirmative steps outlined above in § III, a Prime Contractor who anticipates using Subcontracts to complete any work associated with this procurement must use its best efforts to satisfy HHA's Goal regarding the participation of MBEs and WBEs in work under contracts awarded by HHA. HHA's Goal, as adopted by its Board of Commissioners, is that when Subcontracts are being let, at least 30% of the Prime Contract's total dollar amount is subcontracted to MBEs or WBEs, with at least 15% of the Prime Contract's total dollar amount being subcontracted to MBEs, and at least 15% being subcontracted to WBEs.

In furtherance of HHA's Goal, a Prime Contractor awarded a contract under this procurement who intends to let Subcontracts must use its best efforts to Subcontract with MBEs and WBEs. **Specifically, a Prime Contractor letting Subcontracts must use its best efforts (1) to Subcontract at least 15% of the Prime Contract's total dollar amount to MBEs, and (2) to Subcontract at least 15% of the Prime Contract's total dollar amount to WBEs. A Prime Contractor's obligation to use its best efforts to subcontract with MBEs and WBEs in accordance with HHA's Goal shall remain in effect for the duration of the Prime Contract, shall apply in any instance that the Prime Contractor lets Subcontracts, and shall apply equally to all Prime Contractors letting Subcontracts, regardless of whether the Prime Contractor is itself a MBE or WBE.**

- A Prime Contractor must document its use of best efforts to meet HHA's Goal. Generally, written evidence of a Prime Contractor's attempts to Subcontract with MBEs and WBEs shall suffice to document a Prime Contractor's best efforts. Written evidence may include, but is not necessarily limited to, emails, phone logs, or correspondence showing that a Prime Contractor attempted to Subcontract with MBEs and WBEs by, at a minimum, soliciting bids or quotes. Contractors may access a list of designated MBEs and WBEs at <http://www.window.state.tx.us/procurement/cmb1/cmb1hub.html>. In addition, upon request, HHA may assist contractors in identifying MBEs and WBEs (but, requesting such assistance, standing alone, is not sufficient to show best efforts).

A Prime Contractor's duty to document its best efforts to meet HHA's Goal shall remain in effect for the duration of the Prime Contract and shall apply to all Prime Contractors awarded a contract pursuant to this procurement. HHA encourages Prime Contractors to use their best efforts to procure from MBEs and WBEs the materials necessary for the Prime Contractor to perform its obligations under the Prime Contract.

V. CONTRACTOR'S AGREEMENT TO COMPLETE REQUIRED FORMS AND TO COOPERATE WITH HHA REGARDING THE POLICY REQUIREMENTS AND HHA'S GOAL.

All respondents to this procurement who anticipate letting subcontracts must complete and return the attached "Bidders Proposed M/WBE Participation Form" (the "Form"). Respondents should include the Form in their response to this procurement; in addition, information documenting the respondent's use of best efforts to subcontract with MBEs and WBEs should accompany the Form. If it does not anticipate letting subcontracts, a respondent must, along with its response, inform HHA of same, and provide a brief explanation of why no subcontracts will be let. HHA will consider as non-responsive any response that fails to include a completed Form; HHA will, however, allow respondents an opportunity to cure a failure to include the Form with a response.

In addition to completing and submitting the Form to HHA, any entity awarded a contract by HHA pursuant to this procurement must provide "M/WBE Confirmation of Payment Form(s)," as necessary or as requested by HHA. Prime Contractor must also to submit proof of payments to SBEs, MBEs, WBEs, and LASFs, as requested by HHA, or as otherwise is required by law.

VI. CONSEQUENCES FOR FAILING TO TAKE THE AFFIRMATIVE STEPS MANDATED BY THE POLICY REQUIREMENTS OR USING BEST EFFORTS TO MEET HHA'S GOALS.

If a Prime Contractor letting subcontracts does not take the affirmative steps mandated by the Policy Requirements, use its best efforts to meet HHA's Goal, or cooperate with HHA with respect to the requirements set forth herein, HHA reserves the right to refuse to award a contract to the Prime Contractor, to deem the Prime Contractor's response to a solicitation non-responsive, to terminate an existing contract with the Prime Contractor, and to bar the Prime Contractor from being awarded any future contracts by HHA.

VII. DEFINITIONS.

- “Code” means the Code of Federal Regulations.
- “Form” means the “Bidders Proposed M/WBE Participation Form” included with this procurement.
- “HHA” means the Houston Housing Authority, and, for the purposes of the requirements set forth herein, HHA's affiliates and any property management company procuring work or services for the benefit of a property owned by HHA or its affiliates.
- “LASFs” refers to Labor Area Surplus Firms. Labor Area Surplus Firms are businesses that will expend more than fifty percent of the cost of performing a contract in areas of concentrated unemployment or underemployment, as defined by the Department of Labor and promulgated at 20 CFR Part 654.
- “MBE(s)” refers to minority business enterprises. Minority business enterprises are businesses that are at least fifty-one percent owned by one or more minority group members, or, in the case of a publicly owned business, a business where at least fifty-one percent of the business's voting stock is owned by one or more minority group members and whose management and daily operations are controlled by one or more such individuals. Minority group members include, but are not necessarily limited to: (a) Black Americans; (b) Hispanic Americans; (c) Native Americans; (d) Asian-Pacific Americans; (e) Asian-Indian Americans; and (f) Hasidic Jewish Americans.
- “Policy” means the Houston Housing Authority's Procurement Policy.
- “Policy Requirements” shall have the meaning set forth in § II above.
- “Prime Contract(s)” means the contract awarded pursuant to this procurement that is between a respondent to the solicitation and HHA. For all purposes herein, the term is inclusive of all change orders or amendments to the initial contract entered between the Prime Contractor and HHA.
- “Prime Contractor(s)” means the person or entity who responds to this procurement and is awarded a contract by HHA.
- “SBEs” refers to small business enterprises. Small business enterprises are businesses that are independently owned, not dominant in their field of operation, and not an affiliate or subsidiary of a business that is dominant in its field of operation.
- “Subcontract(s)” means the contract between the Prime Contractor and a Subcontractor entered to accomplish all or a part of the Prime Contractor's obligations under its contract with HHA that results from this procurement.

- “Subcontractor(s)” means a person or entity who the Prime Contractor contracts with to perform a part or all of the Prime Contractor’s obligations under the Prime Contractor’s contract with HHA that results from this procurement.
- “WBEs” refers to women business enterprises. Women business enterprises are businesses that are at least fifty-one percent owned by a woman who is a United States citizen, or by women who are United States citizens and who control and operate the business.

VIII. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT.

The undersigned has read the foregoing “Requirements for Subcontracting with Small Businesses, Minority Businesses, Women Business Enterprises, and Labor Area Surplus Firm,” and understands and accepts the requirements and obligations set forth therein. When Subcontracting any portion of the work associated with this procurement, the undersigned agrees to take the affirmative steps stated in § III above, and agrees to use its best efforts to meet HHA’s Goal, as stated in § IV above. The undersigned understands and acknowledges that failure to comply the requirements set forth herein may result in HHA refusing to award a contract to the undersigned or the termination of an existing contract.

Name of Firm

Complete Address

Name of Individual Completing this Form

Title

Direct Phone Number / Cell Phone Number

Direct Fax Number

E-Mail Address

Date

Manual or E-Signature

Bidder's Proposed M/WBE Participation Form

Instructions

- HHA requires bidders (Prime Contractors) who let Subcontracts to use their best efforts to Subcontract at least 30% of a Prime Contract's total dollar amount to Minority Business Enterprises ("MBEs") or Women Business Enterprises ("WBEs").
- It is HHA's Goal, that Prime Contractors letting Subcontracts award at least 15% of the Prime Contract's total amount to MBEs and at least 15% of the Prime Contract's total amount to WBEs.
- The requirement that Prime Contractors letting Subcontracts use their best efforts to Subcontract with MBEs and WBEs applies to all Prime Contractors, regardless of their own status as a MBE or WBE.
- Please complete and sign the form below indicating firm Subcontracting commitments from MBEs and WBEs. Use additional pages, if necessary.
- For detailed information on HHA's MBE and WBE Subcontracting requirements, see Attachment C.

MBEs	Name of MBE Subcontractor	Certification(s)	Amount of Subcontract	Percent of Contract Total
		<i>Total</i>		

Note: Attach additional sheets if necessary.

WBEs	Name of MBE Subcontractor	Certification(s)	Amount of Subcontract	Percent of Contract Total
		<i>Total</i>		

Note: Attach additional sheets if necessary.

Name of Firm

Printed Name

Date

Manual or E-Signature

CONFLICT OF INTEREST QUESTIONNAIRE**FORM CIQ****For vendor doing business with local governmental entity****This questionnaire reflects changes made to the law by H.B. 23, 84th Leg., Regular Session.**

This questionnaire is being filed in accordance with Chapter 176, Local Government Code, by a vendor who has a business relationship as defined by Section 176.001(1-a) with a local governmental entity and the vendor meets requirements under Section 176.006(a).

By law this questionnaire must be filed with the records administrator of the local governmental entity not later than the 7th business day after the date the vendor becomes aware of facts that require the statement to be filed. See Section 176.006(a-1), Local Government Code.

A vendor commits an offense if the vendor knowingly violates Section 176.006, Local Government Code. An offense under this section is a misdemeanor.

OFFICE USE ONLY

Date Received

1 Name of vendor who has a business relationship with local governmental entity.

2 ☐ **Check this box if you are filing an update to a previously filed questionnaire.** (The law requires that you file an updated completed questionnaire with the appropriate filing authority not later than the 7th business day after the date on which you became aware that the originally filed questionnaire was incomplete or inaccurate.)

3 Name of local government officer about whom the information is being disclosed.

Name of Officer

4 Describe each employment or other business relationship with the local government officer, or a family member of the officer, as described by Section 176.003(a)(2)(A). Also describe any family relationship with the local government officer. Complete subparts A and B for each employment or business relationship described. Attach additional pages to this Form CIQ as necessary.

A. Is the local government officer or a family member of the officer receiving or likely to receive taxable income, other than investment income, from the vendor?

☐ Yes

☐ No

B. Is the vendor receiving or likely to receive taxable income, other than investment income, from or at the direction of the local government officer or a family member of the officer AND the taxable income is not received from the local governmental entity?

☐ Yes

☐ No

5 Describe each employment or business relationship that the vendor named in Section 1 maintains with a corporation or other business entity with respect to which the local government officer serves as an officer or director, or holds an ownership interest of one percent or more.

6 ☐ Check this box if the vendor has given the local government officer or a family member of the officer one or more gifts as described in Section 176.003(a)(2)(B), excluding gifts described in Section 176.003(a-1).

7

Signature of vendor doing business with the governmental entity

Date

CONFLICT OF INTEREST QUESTIONNAIRE

For vendor doing business with local governmental entity

A complete copy of Chapter 176 of the Local Government Code may be found at <http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/Docs/LG/htm/LG.176.htm>. For easy reference, below are some of the sections cited on this form.

Local Government Code § 176.001(1-a): "Business relationship" means a connection between two or more parties based on commercial activity of one of the parties. The term does not include a connection based on:

- (A) a transaction that is subject to rate or fee regulation by a federal, state, or local governmental entity or an agency of a federal, state, or local governmental entity;
- (B) a transaction conducted at a price and subject to terms available to the public; or
- (C) a purchase or lease of goods or services from a person that is chartered by a state or federal agency and that is subject to regular examination by, and reporting to, that agency.

Local Government Code § 176.003(a)(2)(A) and (B):

- (a) A local government officer shall file a conflicts disclosure statement with respect to a vendor if:

- (2) the vendor:

(A) has an employment or other business relationship with the local government officer or a family member of the officer that results in the officer or family member receiving taxable income, other than investment income, that exceeds \$2,500 during the 12-month period preceding the date that the officer becomes aware that

(i) a contract between the local governmental entity and vendor has been executed;
or

(ii) the local governmental entity is considering entering into a contract with the vendor;

(B) has given to the local government officer or a family member of the officer one or more gifts that have an aggregate value of more than \$100 in the 12-month period preceding the date the officer becomes aware that:

- (i) a contract between the local governmental entity and vendor has been executed; or
- (ii) the local governmental entity is considering entering into a contract with the vendor.

Local Government Code § 176.006(a) and (a-1)

- (a) A vendor shall file a completed conflict of interest questionnaire if the vendor has a business relationship with a local governmental entity and:

(1) has an employment or other business relationship with a local government officer of that local governmental entity, or a family member of the officer, described by Section 176.003(a)(2)(A);

(2) has given a local government officer of that local governmental entity, or a family member of the officer, one or more gifts with the aggregate value specified by Section 176.003(a)(2)(B), excluding any gift described by Section 176.003(a-1); or

(3) has a family relationship with a local government officer of that local governmental entity.

- (a-1) The completed conflict of interest questionnaire must be filed with the appropriate records administrator not later than the seventh business day after the later of:

- (1) the date that the vendor:

(A) begins discussions or negotiations to enter into a contract with the local governmental entity; or

(B) submits to the local governmental entity an application, response to a request for proposals or bids, correspondence, or another writing related to a potential contract with the local governmental entity; or

- (2) the date the vendor becomes aware:

(A) of an employment or other business relationship with a local government officer, or a family member of the officer, described by Subsection (a);

(B) that the vendor has given one or more gifts described by Subsection (a); or

(C) of a family relationship with a local government officer.

**U.S. Department of Housing
and Urban Development**

Office of Public and Indian Housing

**Representations, Certifications,
and Other Statements of Bidders
Public and Indian Housing Programs**

Representations, Certifications, and Other Statements of Bidders

Public and Indian Housing Programs

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1. Certificate of Independent Price Determination

(a) The bidder certifies that--

(1) The prices in this bid have been arrived at independently, without, for the purpose of restricting competition, any consultation, communication, or agreement with any other bidder or competitor relating to (i) those prices, (ii) the intention to submit a bid, or (iii) the methods or factors used to calculate the prices offered;

(2) The prices in this bid have not been and will not be knowingly disclosed by the bidder, directly or indirectly, to any other bidder or competitor before bid opening (in the case of a sealed bid solicitation) or contract award (in the case of a competitive proposal solicitation) unless otherwise required by law; and

(3) No attempt has been made or will be made by the bidder to induce any other concern to submit or not to submit a bid for the purpose of restricting competition.

(b) Each signature on the bid is considered to be a certification by the signatory that the signatory--

(1) Is the person in the bidder's organization responsible for determining the prices being offered in this bid or proposal, and that the signatory has not participated and will not participate in any action contrary to subparagraphs (a)(1) through (a)(3) above; or

(2) (i) Has been authorized, in writing, to act as agent for the following principals in certifying that those principals have not participated, and will not participate in any action contrary to subparagraphs (a)(1) through (a)(3) above.

[insert full name of person(s) in the bidder's organization responsible for determining the prices offered in this bid or proposal, and the title of his or her position in the bidder's organization];

(ii) As an authorized agent, does certify that the principals named in subdivision (b)(2)(i) above have not participated, and will not participate, in any action contrary to subparagraphs (a)(1) through (a)(3) above; and

(iii) As an agent, has not personally participated, and will not participate in any action contrary to subparagraphs (a)(1) through (a)(3) above.

(c) If the bidder deletes or modifies subparagraph (a)2 above, the bidder must furnish with its bid a signed statement setting forth in detail the circumstances of the disclosure.

[] [Contracting Officer check if following paragraph is applicable]

(d) Non-collusive affidavit. (applicable to contracts for construction and equipment exceeding \$50,000)

(1) Each bidder shall execute, in the form provided by the PHA/IHA, an affidavit to the effect that he/she has not colluded with any other person, firm or corporation in regard to any bid submitted in response to this solicitation. If the successful bidder did not submit the affidavit with his/her bid, he/she must submit it within three (3) working days of bid opening. Failure to submit the affidavit by that date may render the bid nonresponsive. No contract award will be made without a properly executed affidavit.

(2) A fully executed "Non-collusive Affidavit" [] is, [] is not included with the bid.

2. Contingent Fee Representation and Agreement

(a) Definitions. As used in this provision:

"Bona fide employee" means a person, employed by a bidder and subject to the bidder's supervision and control as to time, place, and manner of performance, who neither exerts, nor proposes to exert improper influence to solicit or obtain contracts nor holds out as being able to obtain any contract(s) through improper influence.

"Improper influence" means any influence that induces or tends to induce a PHA/IHA employee or officer to give consideration or to act regarding a PHA/IHA contract on any basis other than the merits of the matter.

(b) The bidder represents and certifies as part of its bid that, except for full-time bona fide employees working solely for the bidder, the bidder:

(1) [] has, [] has not employed or retained any person or company to solicit or obtain this contract; and

(2) [] has, [] has not paid or agreed to pay to any person or company employed or retained to solicit or obtain this contract any commission, percentage, brokerage, or other fee contingent upon or resulting from the award of this contract.

(c) If the answer to either (a)(1) or (a)(2) above is affirmative, the bidder shall make an immediate and full written disclosure to the PHA/IHA Contracting Officer.

(d) Any misrepresentation by the bidder shall give the PHA/IHA the right to (1) terminate the contract; (2) at its discretion, deduct from contract payments the amount of any commission, percentage, brokerage, or other contingent fee; or (3) take other remedy pursuant to the contract.

3. Certification and Disclosure Regarding Payments to Influence Certain Federal Transactions (applicable to contracts exceeding \$100,000)

(a) The definitions and prohibitions contained in Section 1352 of title 31, United States Code, are hereby incorporated by reference in paragraph (b) of this certification.

(b) The bidder, by signing its bid, hereby certifies to the best of his or her knowledge and belief as of December 23, 1989 that:

(1) No Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress on his or her behalf in connection with the awarding of a contract resulting from this solicitation;

(2) If any funds other than Federal appropriated funds (including profit or fee received under a covered Federal transaction) have been paid, or will be paid, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress on his or her behalf in connection with this solicitation, the bidder shall complete and submit, with its bid, OMB standard form LLL, "Disclosure of Lobbying Activities;" and

(3) He or she will include the language of this certification in all subcontracts at any tier and require that all recipients of subcontract awards in excess of \$100,000 shall certify and disclose accordingly.

(c) Submission of this certification and disclosure is a prerequisite for making or entering into this contract imposed by section 1352, title 31, United States Code. Any person who makes an expenditure prohibited under this provision or who fails to file or amend the disclosure form to be filed or amended by this provision, shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000, and not more than \$100,000, for each such failure.

(d) Indian tribes (except those chartered by States) and Indian organizations as defined in section 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 450B) are exempt from the requirements of this provision.

4. Organizational Conflicts of Interest Certification

The bidder certifies that to the best of its knowledge and belief and except as otherwise disclosed, he or she does not have any organizational conflict of interest which is defined as a situation in which the nature of work to be performed under this proposed contract and the bidder's organizational, financial, contractual, or other interests may, without some restriction on future activities:

- (a) Result in an unfair competitive advantage to the bidder; or,
- (b) Impair the bidder's objectivity in performing the contract work.

[] In the absence of any actual or apparent conflict, I hereby certify that to the best of my knowledge and belief, no actual or apparent conflict of interest exists with regard to my possible performance of this procurement.

5. Bidder's Certification of Eligibility

(a) By the submission of this bid, the bidder certifies that to the best of its knowledge and belief, neither it, nor any person or firm which has an interest in the bidder's firm, nor any of the bidder's subcontractors, is ineligible to:

(1) Be awarded contracts by any agency of the United States Government, HUD, or the State in which this contract is to be performed; or,

(2) Participate in HUD programs pursuant to 24 CFR Part 24.

(b) The certification in paragraph (a) above is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when making award. If it is later determined that the bidder knowingly rendered an erroneous certification, the contract may be terminated for default, and the bidder may be debarred or suspended from participation in HUD programs and other Federal contract programs.

6. Minimum Bid Acceptance Period

(a) "Acceptance period," as used in this provision, means the number of calendar days available to the PHA/IHA for awarding a contract from the date specified in this solicitation for receipt of bids.

(b) This provision supersedes any language pertaining to the acceptance period that may appear elsewhere in this solicitation.

(c) The PHA/IHA requires a minimum acceptance period of [Contracting Officer insert time period] calendar days.

(d) In the space provided immediately below, bidders may specify a longer acceptance period than the PHA's/IHA's minimum requirement. The bidder allows the following acceptance period: calendar days.

(e) A bid allowing less than the PHA's/IHA's minimum acceptance period will be rejected.

(f) The bidder agrees to execute all that it has undertaken to do, in compliance with its bid, if that bid is accepted in writing within (1) the acceptance period stated in paragraph (c) above or (2) any longer acceptance period stated in paragraph (d) above.

7. Small, Minority, Women-Owned Business Concern Representation

The bidder represents and certifies as part of its bid/ offer that it --

(a) [] is, [] is not a small business concern. "Small business concern," as used in this provision, means a concern, including its affiliates, that is independently owned and operated, not dominant in the field of operation in which it is bidding, and qualified as a small business under the criteria and size standards in 13 CFR 121.

(b) [] is, [] is not a women-owned business enterprise. "Women-owned business enterprise," as used in this provision, means a business that is at least 51 percent owned by a woman or women who are U.S. citizens and who also control and operate the business.

(c) [] is, [] is not a minority business enterprise. "Minority business enterprise," as used in this provision, means a business which is at least 51 percent owned or controlled by one or more minority group members or, in the case of a publicly owned business, at least 51 percent of its voting stock is owned by one or more minority group members, and whose management and daily operations are controlled by one or more such individuals. For the purpose of this definition, minority group members are:

(Check the block applicable to you)

- | | |
|------------------------|------------------------------|
| [] Black Americans | [] Asian Pacific Americans |
| [] Hispanic Americans | [] Asian Indian Americans |
| [] Native Americans | [] Hasidic Jewish Americans |

8. Indian-Owned Economic Enterprise and Indian Organization Representation (applicable only if this solicitation is for a contract to be performed on a project for an Indian Housing Authority)

The bidder represents and certifies that it:

(a) [] is, [] is not an Indian-owned economic enterprise. "Economic enterprise," as used in this provision, means any commercial, industrial, or business activity established or organized for the purpose of profit, which is at least 51 percent Indian owned. "Indian," as used in this provision, means any person who is a member of any tribe, band, group, pueblo, or community which is recognized by the Federal Government as eligible for services from the Bureau of Indian Affairs and any "Native" as defined in the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act.

(b) [] is, [] is not an Indian organization. "Indian organization," as used in this provision, means the governing body of any Indian tribe or entity established or recognized by such governing body. Indian "tribe" means any Indian tribe, band, group, pueblo, or

community including Native villages and Native groups (including corporations organized by Kenai, Juneau, Sitka, and Kodiak) as defined in the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act, which is recognized by the Federal Government as eligible for services from the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

9. Certification of Eligibility Under the Davis-Bacon Act (applicable to construction contracts exceeding \$2,000)

(a) By the submission of this bid, the bidder certifies that neither it nor any person or firm who has an interest in the bidder's firm is a person or firm ineligible to be awarded contracts by the United States Government by virtue of section 3(a) of the Davis-Bacon Act or 29 CFR 5.12(a)(1).

(b) No part of the contract resulting from this solicitation shall be subcontracted to any person or firm ineligible to be awarded contracts by the United States Government by virtue of section 3(a) of the Davis-Bacon Act or 29 CFR 5.12(a)(1).

(c) The penalty for making false statements is prescribed in the U. S. Criminal Code, 18 U.S.C. 1001.

10. Certification of Nonsegregated Facilities (applicable to contracts exceeding \$10,000)

(a) The bidder's attention is called to the clause entitled **Equal Employment Opportunity** of the General Conditions of the Contract for Construction.

(b) "Segregated facilities," as used in this provision, means any waiting rooms, work areas, rest rooms and wash rooms, restaurants and other eating areas, time clocks, locker rooms and other storage or dressing areas, parking lots, drinking fountains, recreation or entertainment areas, transportation, and housing facilities provided for employees, that are segregated by explicit directive or are in fact segregated on the basis of race, color, religion, or national origin because of habit, local custom, or otherwise.

(c) By the submission of this bid, the bidder certifies that it does not and will not maintain or provide for its employees any segregated facilities at any of its establishments, and that it does not and will not permit its employees to perform their services at any location under its control where segregated facilities are maintained. The bidder agrees that a breach of this certification is a violation of the Equal Employment Opportunity clause in the contract.

(d) The bidder further agrees that (except where it has obtained identical certifications from proposed subcontractors for specific time periods) prior to entering into subcontracts which exceed \$10,000 and are not exempt from the requirements of the Equal Employment Opportunity clause, it will:

(1) Obtain identical certifications from the proposed subcontractors;

(2) Retain the certifications in its files; and

(3) Forward the following notice to the proposed subcontractors (except if the proposed subcontractors have submitted identical certifications for specific time periods):

Notice to Prospective Subcontractors of Requirement for Certifications of Nonsegregated Facilities

A Certification of Nonsegregated Facilities must be submitted before the award of a subcontract exceeding \$10,000 which is not exempt from the provisions of the Equal Employment Opportunity clause of the prime contract. The certification may be submitted either for each subcontract or for all subcontracts during a period (i.e., quarterly, semiannually, or annually).

Note: The penalty for making false statements in bids is prescribed in 18 U.S.C. 1001.

11. Clean Air and Water Certification (applicable to contracts exceeding \$100,000)

The bidder certifies that:

(a) Any facility to be used in the performance of this contract [] is, [] is not listed on the Environmental Protection Agency List of Violating Facilities:

(b) The bidder will immediately notify the PHA/IHA Contracting Officer, before award, of the receipt of any communication from the Administrator, or a designee, of the Environmental Protection Agency, indicating that any facility that the bidder proposes to use for the performance of the contract is under consideration to be listed on the EPA List of Violating Facilities; and,

(c) The bidder will include a certification substantially the same as this certification, including this paragraph (c), in every nonexempt subcontract.

12. Previous Participation Certificate (applicable to construction and equipment contracts exceeding \$50,000)

(a) The bidder shall complete and submit with his/her bid the Form HUD-2530, "Previous Participation Certificate." If the successful bidder does not submit the certificate with his/her bid, he/she must submit it within three (3) working days of bid opening. Failure to submit the certificate by that date may render the bid nonresponsive. No contract award will be made without a properly executed certificate.

(b) A fully executed "Previous Participation Certificate" [] is, [] is not included with the bid.

13. Bidder's Signature

The bidder hereby certifies that the information contained in these certifications and representations is accurate, complete, and current.

(Signature and Date)

(Typed or Printed Name)

(Title)

(Company Name)

(Company Address)

Instructions to Offerors Non-Construction

U.S. Department of Housing
and Urban Development
Office of Public and Indian Housing



- 03291 -

1. Preparation of Offers

(a) Offerors are expected to examine the statement of work, the proposed contract terms and conditions, and all instructions. Failure to do so will be at the offeror's risk.

(b) Each offeror shall furnish the information required by the solicitation. The offeror shall sign the offer and print or type its name on the cover sheet and each continuation sheet on which it makes an entry. Erasures or other changes must be initialed by the person signing the offer. Offers signed by an agent shall be accompanied by evidence of that agent's authority, unless that evidence has been previously furnished to the HA.

(c) Offers for services other than those specified will not be considered.

2. Submission of Offers

(a) Offers and modifications thereof shall be submitted in sealed envelopes or packages (1) addressed to the office specified in the solicitation, and (2) showing the time specified for receipt, the solicitation number, and the name and address of the offeror.

(b) Telegraphic offers will not be considered unless authorized by the solicitation; however, offers may be modified by written or telegraphic notice.

(c) Facsimile offers, modifications or withdrawals will not be considered unless authorized by the solicitation.

3. Amendments to Solicitations

(a) If this solicitation is amended, then all terms and conditions which are not modified remain unchanged.

(b) Offerors shall acknowledge receipt of any amendments to this solicitation by

- (1) signing and returning the amendment;
- (2) identifying the amendment number and date in the space provided for this purpose on the form for submitting an offer,
- (3) letter or telegram, or
- (4) facsimile, if facsimile offers are authorized in the solicitation. The HA/HUD must receive the acknowledgment by the time specified for receipt of offers.

4. Explanation to Prospective Offerors

Any prospective offeror desiring an explanation or interpretation of the solicitation, statement of work, etc., must request it in writing soon enough to allow a reply to reach all prospective offerors before the submission of their offers. Oral explanations or instructions given before the award of the contract will not be binding. Any information given to a prospective offeror concerning a solicitation will be furnished promptly to all other prospective offerors as an amendment of the solicitation, if that information is necessary in submitting offers or if the lack of it would be prejudicial to any other prospective offerors.

5. Responsibility of Prospective Contractor

(a) The HA shall award a contract only to a responsible prospective contractor who is able to perform successfully under the terms and conditions of the proposed contract. To be determined responsible, a prospective contractor must -

- (1) Have adequate financial resources to perform the contract, or the ability to obtain them;

- (2) Have a satisfactory performance record;
- (3) Have a satisfactory record of integrity and business ethics;
- (4) Have a satisfactory record of compliance with public policy (e.g., Equal Employment Opportunity); and
- (5) Not have been suspended, debarred, or otherwise determined to be ineligible for award of contracts by the Department of Housing and Urban Development or any other agency of the U.S. Government. Current lists of ineligible contractors are available for inspection at the HA/HUD.

(b) Before an offer is considered for award, the offeror may be requested by the HA to submit a statement or other documentation regarding any of the foregoing requirements. Failure by the offeror to provide such additional information may render the offeror ineligible for award.

6. Late Submissions, Modifications, and Withdrawal of Offers

(a) Any offer received at the place designated in the solicitation after the exact time specified for receipt will not be considered unless it is received before award is made and it -

- (1) Was sent by registered or certified mail not later than the fifth calendar day before the date specified for receipt of offers (e.g., an offer submitted in response to a solicitation requiring receipt of offers by the 20th of the month must have been mailed by the 15th);
- (2) Was sent by mail, or if authorized by the solicitation, was sent by telegram or via facsimile, and it is determined by the HA/ HUD that the late receipt was due solely to mishandling by the HA/ HUD after receipt at the HA;
- (3) Was sent by U.S. Postal Service Express Mail Next Day Service - Post Office to Addressee, not later than 5:00 p.m. at the place of mailing two working days prior to the date specified for receipt of proposals. The term "working days" excludes weekends and U.S. Federal holidays; or
- (4) Is the only offer received.

(b) Any modification of an offer, except a modification resulting from the HA's request for "best and final" offer (if this solicitation is a request for proposals), is subject to the same conditions as in subparagraphs (a)(1), (2), and (3) of this provision.

(c) A modification resulting from the HA's request for "best and final" offer received after the time and date specified in the request will not be considered unless received before award and the late receipt is due solely to mishandling by the HA after receipt at the HA.

(d) The only acceptable evidence to establish the date of mailing of a late offer, modification, or withdrawal sent either by registered or certified mail is the U.S. or Canadian Postal Service postmark both on the envelope or wrapper and on the original receipt from the U.S. or Canadian Postal Service. Both postmarks must show a legible date or the offer, modification, or withdrawal shall be processed as if mailed late. "Postmark" means a printed, stamped, or otherwise placed impression (exclusive of a postage meter machine impression) that is readily identifiable without further action as having been supplied and affixed by employees of the U.S. or Canadian Postal Service on the date of mailing. Therefore, offerors should request the postal clerk to place a hand cancellation bull's-eye postmark on both the receipt and the envelope or wrapper.

(e) The only acceptable evidence to establish the time of receipt at the HA is the time/date stamp of HA on the offer wrapper or other documentary evidence of receipt maintained by the HA.

(f) The only acceptable evidence to establish the date of mailing of a late offer, modification, or withdrawal sent by Express Mail Next Day Service-Post Office to Addressee is the date entered by the post office receiving clerk on the "Express Mail Next Day Service-Post Office to Addressee" label and the postmark on both the envelope or wrapper and on the original receipt from the U.S. Postal Service. "Postmark" has the same meaning as defined in paragraph (c) of this provision, excluding postmarks of the Canadian Postal Service. Therefore, offerors should request the postal clerk to place a legible hand cancellation bull's eye postmark on both the receipt and the envelope or wrapper.

(g) Notwithstanding paragraph (a) of this provision, a late modification of an otherwise successful offer that makes its terms more favorable to the HA will be considered at any time it is received and may be accepted.

(h) If this solicitation is a request for proposals, proposals may be withdrawn by written notice, or if authorized by this solicitation, by telegram (including mailgram) or facsimile machine transmission received at any time before award. Proposals may be withdrawn in person by a offeror or its authorized representative if the identity of the person requesting withdrawal is established and the person signs a receipt for the offer before award. If this solicitation is an invitation for bids, bids may be withdrawn at any time prior to bid opening.

7. Contract Award

(a) The HA will award a contract resulting from this solicitation to the responsible offeror whose offer conforming to the solicitation will be most advantageous to the HA, cost or price and other factors, specified elsewhere in this solicitation, considered.

(b) The HA may

- (1) reject any or all offers if such action is in the HA's interest,
- (2) accept other than the lowest offer,
- (3) waive informalities and minor irregularities in offers received, and (4) award more than one contract for all or part of the requirements stated.

(c) If this solicitation is a request for proposals, the HA may award a contract on the basis of initial offers received, without discussions. Therefore, each initial offer should contain the offeror's best terms from a cost or price and technical standpoint.

(d) A written award or acceptance of offer mailed or otherwise furnished to the successful offeror within the time for acceptance specified in the offer shall result in a binding contract without further action by either party. If this solicitation is a request for proposals, before the offer's specified expiration time, the HA may accept an offer, whether or not there are negotiations after its receipt, unless a written notice of withdrawal is received before award. Negotiations conducted after receipt of an offer do not constitute a rejection or counteroffer by the HA.

(e) Neither financial data submitted with an offer, nor representations concerning facilities or financing, will form a part of the resulting contract.

8. Service of Protest

Any protest against the award of a contract pursuant to this solicitation shall be served on the HA by obtaining written and dated acknowledgment of receipt from the HA at the address shown on the cover of this solicitation. The determination of the HA with regard to such protest or to proceed to award notwithstanding such protest shall be final unless appealed by the protestor.

9. Offer Submission

Offers shall be submitted as follows and shall be enclosed in a sealed envelope and addressed to the office specified in the solicitation. The proposal shall show **the hour and date specified in the solicitation for receipt, the solicitation number, and the name and address of the offeror, on the face of the envelope.**

It is very important that the offer be properly identified on the face of the envelope as set forth above in order to insure that the date and time of receipt is stamped on the face of the offer envelope. Receiving procedures are: date and time stamp those envelopes identified as proposals and deliver them immediately to the appropriate contracting official, and only date stamp those envelopes which do not contain identification of the contents and deliver them to the appropriate procuring activity only through the routine mail delivery procedure.

[Describe bid or proposal preparation instructions here:]

Attachment G RFP 23-18

General Conditions for Non-Construction Contracts

Section I — (With or without Maintenance Work)

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

Office of Public and Indian Housing

Office of Labor Relations

OMB Approval No. 2577-0157 (excl. 11/30/2023)

Public Reporting Burden for this collection of information is estimated to average one hour per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. HUD may not conduct or sponsor, and an applicant is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Applicability. This form HUD-5370-C has 2 Sections. These Sections must be inserted into non-construction contracts as described below:

- 1) **Non-construction contracts** (*without* maintenance) **greater than \$250,000 - use Section I;**
- 2) **Maintenance contracts** (including nonroutine maintenance as defined at 24 CFR 905.100) **greater than \$2,000 but not more than \$250,000 - use Section II; and**
- 3) **Maintenance contracts** (including nonroutine maintenance), **greater than \$250,000 — use Sections I and II.**

Section I - Clauses for All Non-Construction Contracts greater than \$250,000

1. Definitions

The following definitions are applicable to this contract:

- (a) "Authority or Housing Authority (HA)" means the Housing Authority.
- (b) "Contract" means the contract entered into between the Authority and the Contractor. It includes the contract form, the Certifications and Representations, these contract clauses, and the scope of work. It includes all formal changes to any of those documents by addendum, Change Order, or other modification.
- (c) "Contractor" means the person or other entity entering into the contract with the Authority to perform all of the work required under the contract.
- (d) "Day" means calendar days, unless otherwise stated.
- (e) "HUD" means the Secretary of Housing and Urban development, his delegates, successors, and assigns, and the officers and employees of the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development acting for and on behalf of the Secretary.

2. Changes

- (a) The HA may at any time, by written order, and without notice to the sureties, if any, make changes within the general scope of this contract in the services to be performed or supplies to be delivered.
- (b) If any such change causes an increase or decrease in the hourly rate, the not-to-exceed amount of the contract, or the time required for performance of any part of the work under this contract, whether or not changed by the order, or otherwise affects the conditions of this contract, the HA shall make an equitable adjustment in the not-to-exceed amount, the hourly rate, the delivery schedule, or other affected terms, and shall modify the contract accordingly.
- (c) The Contractor must assert its right to an equitable adjustment under this clause within 30 days from the date of receipt of the written order. However, if the HA decides that the facts justify it, the HA may receive and act upon a

proposal submitted before final payment of the contract.

- (d) Failure to agree to any adjustment shall be a dispute under clause Disputes, herein. However, nothing in this clause shall excuse the Contractor from proceeding with the contract as changed.
- (e) No services for which an additional cost or fee will be charged by the Contractor shall be furnished without the prior written consent of the HA.

3. Termination for Convenience and Default

- (a) The HA may terminate this contract in whole, or from time to time in part, for the HA's convenience or the failure of the Contractor to fulfill the contract obligations (default). The HA shall terminate by delivering to the Contractor a written Notice of Termination specifying the nature, extent, and effective date of the termination. Upon receipt of the notice, the Contractor shall: (i) immediately discontinue all services affected (unless the notice directs otherwise); and (ii) deliver to the HA all information, reports, papers, and other materials accumulated or generated in performing this contract, whether completed or in process.
- (b) If the termination is for the convenience of the HA, the HA shall be liable only for payment for services rendered before the effective date of the termination.
- (c) If the termination is due to the failure of the Contractor to fulfill its obligations under the contract (default), the HA may (i) require the Contractor to deliver to it, in the manner and to the extent directed by the HA, any work as described in subparagraph (a)(ii) above, and compensation be determined in accordance with the Changes clause, paragraph 2, above; (ii) take over the work and prosecute the same to completion by contract or otherwise, and the Contractor shall be liable for any additional cost incurred by the HA; (iii) withhold any payments to the Contractor, for the purpose of off-set or partial payment, as the case may be, of amounts owed to the HA by the Contractor.
- (d) If, after termination for failure to fulfill contract obligations (default), it is determined that the Contractor had not failed, the termination shall be deemed to have been effected for the convenience of the HA, and the Contractor shall be entitled to payment as described in paragraph (b) above.
- (e) Any disputes with regard to this clause are expressly made subject to the terms of clause titled Disputes herein.

4. Examination and Retention of Contractor's Records

- (a) The HA, HUD, or Comptroller General of the United States, or any of their duly authorized representatives shall, until 3 years after final payment under this contract, have access to and the right to examine any of the Contractor's directly pertinent books, documents, papers, or other records involving transactions related to this contract for the purpose of making audit, examination, excerpts, and transcriptions.

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- (b) The Contractor agrees to include in first-tier subcontracts under this contract a clause substantially the same as paragraph (a) above. "Subcontract," as used in this clause, excludes purchase orders not exceeding \$10,000.
 - (c) The periods of access and examination in paragraphs (a) and (b) above for records relating to:
 - (i) appeals under the clause titled Disputes;
 - (ii) litigation or settlement of claims arising from the performance of this contract; or,
 - (iii) costs and expenses of this contract to which the HA, HUD, or Comptroller General or any of their duly authorized representatives has taken exception shall continue until disposition of such appeals, litigation, claims, or exceptions.

5. Rights in Data (Ownership and Proprietary Interest)

The HA shall have exclusive ownership of, all proprietary interest in, and the right to full and exclusive possession of all information, materials and documents discovered or produced by Contractor pursuant to the terms of this Contract, including but not limited to reports, memoranda or letters concerning the research and reporting tasks of this Contract.

6. Energy Efficiency

The contractor shall comply with all mandatory standards and policies relating to energy efficiency which are contained in the energy conservation plan issued in compliance with the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (Pub.L. 94-163) for the State in which the work under this contract is performed.

7. Disputes

- (a) All disputes arising under or relating to this contract, except for disputes arising under clauses contained in Section 111, Labor Standards Provisions, including any claims for damages for the alleged breach there of which are not disposed of by agreement, shall be resolved under this clause.
- (b) All claims by the Contractor shall be made in writing and submitted to the HA. A claim by the HA against the Contractor shall be subject to a written decision by the HA.
- (c) The HA shall, with reasonable promptness, but in no event in no more than 60 days, render a decision concerning any claim hereunder. Unless the Contractor, within 30 days after receipt of the HA's decision, shall notify the HA in writing that it takes exception to such decision, the decision shall be final and conclusive.
- (d) Provided the Contractor has (i) given the notice within the time stated in paragraph (c) above, and (ii) excepted its claim relating to such decision from the final release, and (iii) brought suit against the HA not later than one year after receipt of final payment, or if final payment has not been made, not later than one year after the Contractor has had a reasonable time to respond to a written request by the HA that it submit a final voucher and release, whichever is earlier, then the HA's decision shall not be final or conclusive, but the dispute shall be determined on the merits by a court of competent jurisdiction.
- (e) The Contractor shall proceed diligently with performance of this contract, pending final resolution of any request for relief, claim, appeal, or action arising under the contract, and comply with any decision of the HA.

8. Contract Termination; Debarment

A breach of these Contract clauses may be grounds for termination of the Contract and for debarment or denial of participation in HUD programs as a Contractor and a subcontractor as provided in 24 CFR Part 24.

9. Assignment of Contract

The Contractor shall not assign or transfer any interest in this contract; except that claims for monies due or to become due from the HA under the contract may be assigned to a bank, trust company, or other financial institution. If the Contractor is a partnership, this contract shall inure to the benefit of the surviving or remaining member(s) of such partnership approved by the HA.

10. Certificate and Release

Prior to final payment under this contract, or prior to settlement upon termination of this contract, and as a condition precedent thereto, the Contractor shall execute and deliver to the HA a certificate and release, in a form acceptable to the HA, of all claims against the HA by the Contractor under and by virtue of this contract, other than such claims, if any, as may be specifically excepted by the Contractor in stated amounts set forth therein.

11. Organizational Conflicts of Interest

- (a) The Contractor warrants that to the best of its knowledge and belief and except as otherwise disclosed, it does not have any organizational conflict of interest which is defined as a situation in which the nature of work under this contract and a contractor's organizational, financial, contractual or other interests are such that:
 - (i) Award of the contract may result in an unfair competitive advantage; or
 - () The Contractor's objectivity in performing the contract work may be impaired.
- (b) The Contractor agrees that if after award it discovers an organizational conflict of interest with respect to this contract or any task/delivery order under the contract, he or she shall make an immediate and full disclosure in writing to the Contracting Officer which shall include a description of the action which the Contractor has taken or intends to take to eliminate or neutralize the conflict. The HA may, however, terminate the contract or task/delivery order for the convenience of the HA if it would be in the best interest of the HA.
- (c) In the event the Contractor was aware of an organizational conflict of interest before the award of this contract and intentionally did not disclose the conflict to the Contracting Officer, the HA may terminate the contract for default.
- (d) The terms of this clause shall be included in all subcontracts and consulting agreements wherein the work to be performed is similar to the service provided by the prime Contractor. The Contractor shall include in such subcontracts and consulting agreements any necessary provisions to eliminate or neutralize conflicts of interest.

12. Inspection and Acceptance

- (a) The HA has the right to review, require correction, if necessary, and accept the work products produced by the Contractor. Such review(s) shall be carried out within 30 days so as to not impede the work of the Contractor. Any

product of work shall be deemed accepted as submitted if the HA does not issue written comments and/or required corrections within 30 days from the date of receipt of such product from the Contractor.

- (b) The Contractor shall make any required corrections promptly at no additional charge and return a revised copy of the product to the HA within 7 days of notification or a later date if extended by the HA.
- (c) Failure by the Contractor to proceed with reasonable promptness to make necessary corrections shall be a default. If the Contractor's submission of corrected work remains unacceptable, the HA may terminate this contract (or the task order involved) or reduce the contract price or cost to reflect the reduced value of services received.

13. Interest of Members of Congress

No member of or delegate to the Congress of the United States of America or Resident Commissioner shall be admitted to any share or part of this contract or to any benefit to arise there from, but this provision shall not be construed to extend to this contract if made with a corporation for its general benefit.

14. Interest of Members, Officers, or Employees and Former Members, Officers, or Employees

No member, officer, or employee of the HA, no member of the governing body of the locality in which the project is situated, no member of the governing body in which the HA was activated, and no other public official of such locality or localities who exercises any functions or responsibilities with respect to the project, shall, during his or her tenure, or for one year thereafter, have any interest, direct or indirect, in this contract or the proceeds thereof.

15. Limitation on Payments to Influence Certain Federal Transactions

(a) Definitions. As used in this clause:

"Agency", as defined in 5 U.S.C. 552(f), includes Federal executive departments and agencies as well as independent regulatory commissions and Government corporations, as defined in 31 U.S.C. 9101(1).

"Covered Federal Action" means any of the following Federal actions:

- (i) The awarding of any Federal contract;
- (ii) The making of any Federal grant;
- (iii) The making of any Federal loan;
- (iv) The entering into of any cooperative agreement; and,
- (v) The extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement.

Covered Federal action does not include receiving from an agency a commitment providing for the United States to insure or guarantee a loan.

"Indian tribe" and "tribal organization" have the meaning provided in section 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 450B). Alaskan Natives are included under the definitions of Indian tribes in that Act.

"Influencing or attempting to influence" means making, with the intent to influence, any communication to or appearance before an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with any covered Federal action.

"Local government" means a unit of government in a State and, if chartered, established, or otherwise recognized by a State for the performance of a governmental duty, including a local public authority, a special district, an intrastate district, a council of governments, a sponsor group representative organization, and any other instrumentality of a local government

"Officer or employee of an agency" includes the following individuals who are employed by an agency:

- (i) An individual who is appointed to a position in the Government under title 5, U.S.C., including a position under a temporary appointment;
- (ii) A member of the uniformed services as defined in section 202, title 18, U.S.C.;
- (iii) A special Government employee as defined in section 202, title 18, U.S.C.; and,
- (iv) An individual who is a member of a Federal advisory committee, as defined by the Federal Advisory Committee Act, title 5, appendix 2.

"Person" means an individual, corporation, company, association, authority, firm, partnership, society, State, and local government, regardless of whether such entity is operated for profit or not for profit. This term excludes an Indian tribe, tribal organization, or other Indian organization with respect to expenditures specifically permitted by other Federal law.

"Recipient" includes all contractors, subcontractors at any tier, and subgrantees at any tier of the recipient of funds received in connection with a Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement. The term excludes an Indian tribe, tribal organization, or any other Indian organization with respect to expenditures specifically permitted by other Federal law.

"Regularly employed means, with respect to an officer or employee of a person requesting or receiving a Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement, an officer or employee who is employed by such person for at least 130 working days within one year immediately preceding the date of the submission that initiates agency consideration of such person for receipt of such contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement. An officer or employee who is employed by such person for less than 130 working days within one year immediately preceding the date of submission that initiates agency consideration of such person shall be considered to be regularly employed as soon as he or she is employed by such person for 130 working days.

"State" means a State of the United States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, a territory or possession of the United States, an agency or instrumentality of a State, and a multi-State, regional, or interstate entity having governmental duties and powers.

(b) Prohibition.

- (i) Section 1352 of title 31, U.S.C. provides in part that no appropriated funds may be expended by the recipient of a Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement to pay any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with any of the following covered Federal actions: the awarding of any Federal contract, the making of any Federal grant, the making of any Federal loan, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement.

(v) The prohibition does not apply as follows:

(1) Agency and legislative liaison by
Own Employees.

(a) The prohibition on the use of appropriated funds, in paragraph (i) of this section, does not apply in the case of a payment of reasonable compensation made to an officer or employee of a person requesting or receiving a Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement, if the payment is for agency and legislative activities not directly related to a covered Federal action.

(b) For purposes of paragraph (b)(i)(1)(a) of this clause, providing any information specifically requested by an agency or Congress is permitted at any time.

(c) The following agency and legislative liaison activities are permitted at any time only where they are not related to a specific solicitation for any covered Federal action:

(1) Discussing with an agency (including individual demonstrations) the qualities and characteristics of the person's products or services, conditions or terms of sale, and service capabilities; and,

(2) Technical discussions and other activities regarding the application or adaptation of the person's products or services for an agency's use.

(d) The following agency and legislative liaison activities are permitted where they are prior to formal solicitation of any covered Federal action:

(1) Providing any information not specifically requested but necessary for an agency to make an informed decision about initiation of a covered Federal action;

(2) Technical discussions regarding the preparation of an unsolicited proposal prior to its official submission; and

(3) Capability presentations by persons seeking awards from an agency pursuant to the provisions of the Small Business Act, as amended by Public Law 95-507 and other subsequent amendments.

(e) Only those activities expressly authorized by subdivision (b)(ii)(1)(a) of this clause are permitted under this clause.

(2) Professional and technical services.

(a) The prohibition on the use of appropriated funds, in subparagraph (b)(i) of this clause, does not apply in the case of-

(i) A payment of reasonable compensation made to an officer or employee of a person requesting or receiving a covered Federal action or an extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of a covered Federal action, if payment is for professional or technical services rendered directly in the preparation, submission, or negotiation of any bid, proposal, or application for that Federal action or for meeting requirements imposed by or pursuant to law as a condition for receiving that Federal action.

(i) Any reasonable payment to a person, other than an officer or employee of a

person requesting or receiving a covered Federal action or an extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of a covered Federal action if the payment is for professional or technical services rendered directly in the preparation, submission, or negotiation of any bid, proposal, or application for that Federal action or for meeting requirements imposed by or pursuant to law as a condition for receiving that Federal action. Persons other than officers or employees of a person requesting or receiving a covered Federal action include consultants and trade associations.

(b) For purposes of subdivision (b)(ii)(2)(a) of clause, "professional and technical services" shall be limited to advice and analysis directly applying any professional or technical discipline.

(c) Requirements imposed by or pursuant to law as a condition for receiving a covered Federal award include those required by law or regulation, or reasonably expected to be required by law or regulation, and any other requirements in the actual award documents.

(d) Only those services expressly authorized by subdivisions (b)(ii)(2)(a)(i) and (ii) of this section are permitted under this clause.

(iii) Selling activities by independent sales representatives.

(c) The prohibition on the use of appropriated funds, in subparagraph (b)(i) of this clause, does not apply to the following selling activities before an agency by independent sales representatives, provided such activities are prior to formal solicitation by an agency and are specifically limited to the merits of the matter:

(i) Discussing with an agency (including individual demonstration) the qualities and characteristics of the person's products or services, conditions or terms of sale, and service capabilities; and

(ii) Technical discussions and other activities regarding the application or adaptation of the person's products or services for an agency's use.

(d) Agreement. In accepting any contract, grant, cooperative agreement, or loan resulting from this solicitation, the person submitting the offer agrees not to make any payment prohibited by this clause.

(e) Penalties. Any person who makes an expenditure prohibited under paragraph (b) of this clause shall be subject to civil penalties as provided for by 31 U.S.C. 1352. An imposition of a civil penalty does not prevent the Government from seeking any other remedy that may be applicable.

(f) Cost Allowability. Nothing in this clause is to be interpreted to make allowable or reasonable any costs which would be unallowable or unreasonable in accordance with Part 31 of the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR), or OMB Circulars dealing with cost allowability for recipients of assistance agreements. Conversely, costs made specifically unallowable by the requirements in this clause will not be made allowable under any of the provisions of FAR Part 31 or the relevant OMB Circulars.

16. Equal Employment Opportunity

During the performance of this contract, the

Contractor/Seller agrees as follows:

(a) The [contractor/seller] will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, or national origin. The

[contractor/seller] will take affirmative action to ensure that applicants are employed, and that employees are treated during employment, without regard to their race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, or national origin. Such action shall include, but not be limited to the following: Employment, upgrading, demotion, or transfer, recruitment or recruitment advertising; layoff or termination; rates of pay or other forms of compensation; and selection for training, including apprenticeship. The [contractor/seller] agrees to post in conspicuous places, available to employees and applicants for employment, notices to be provided by the contracting officer setting forth the provisions of this nondiscrimination clause.

(b) The [contractor/seller] will, in all solicitations or advertisements for employees placed by or on behalf of the [contractor/seller], state that all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, or national origin.

(c) The [contractor/seller] will not discharge or in any other manner discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because such employee or applicant has inquired about, discussed, or disclosed the compensation of the employee or applicant or another employee or applicant. This provision shall not apply to instances in which an employee who has access to the compensation information of other employees or applicants as a part of such employee's essential job functions discloses the compensation of such other employees or applicants to individuals who do not otherwise have access to such information, unless such disclosure is in response to a formal complaint or charge, in furtherance of an investigation, proceeding, hearing, or action, including an investigation conducted by the employer, or is consistent with the [contractor/seller]'s legal duty to furnish information.

(d) The [contractor/seller] will send to each labor union or representative of workers with which it has a collective bargaining agreement or other contract or understanding, a notice to be provided by the agency contracting officer, advising the labor union or workers' representative of the [contractor/seller]'s commitments under section 202 of Executive Order 11246 of September 24, 1965, and shall post copies of the notice in conspicuous places available to employees and applicants for employment.

(e) The [contractor/seller] will comply with all provisions of Executive Order 11246 of September 24, 1965, and of the rules, regulations, and relevant orders of the Secretary of Labor.

(f) The [contractor/seller] will furnish all information and reports required by Executive Order 11246 of September 24, 1965, and by the rules, regulations, and orders of the Secretary of Labor, or pursuant thereto, and will permit access to his books, records, and accounts by the contracting agency and the Secretary of Labor for purposes of investigation to ascertain compliance with such rules, regulations, and orders.

(g) In the event of the [contractor/seller]'s non-compliance with the nondiscrimination clauses of this contract or with any of such rules, regulations, or orders, this contract may be canceled, terminated or suspended in whole or in part and the [contractor/seller] may be declared ineligible for further Government contracts in accordance with procedures authorized in Executive Order 11246 of September 24, 1965, and such other sanctions may be imposed and remedies invoked as provided in Executive Order 11246 of September 24, 1965, or by rule, regulation, or order of the Secretary of Labor, or as otherwise provided by law.

(g) In the event of the [contractor/seller]'s non-compliance with the nondiscrimination clauses of this contract or with any of such rules, regulations, or orders, this contract may be canceled, terminated or suspended in whole or in part and the [contractor/seller] may be declared ineligible for further Government contracts in accordance with procedures authorized in Executive Order 11246 of September 24, 1965, and such other sanctions may be imposed and remedies invoked as provided in Executive Order 11246 of September 24, 1965, or by rule, regulation, or order of the Secretary of Labor, or as otherwise provided by law.

(h) The [contractor/seller] will include the provisions of paragraphs (a) through (h) in every subcontract or purchase order unless exempted by rules, regulations, or orders of the Secretary of Labor issued pursuant to section 204 of Executive Order 11246 of September 24, 1965, so that such provisions will be binding upon each subcontractor/seller or vendor. The [contractor/seller] will take such action with respect to any subcontract or purchase order as may be directed by the Secretary of Labor as a means of enforcing such provisions including sanctions for noncompliance: Provided, however, that in the event the [contractor/seller] becomes involved in, or is threatened with, litigation with a subcontractor or vendor as a result of such direction, the [contractor/seller] may request the United States to enter into such litigation to protect the interests of the United States.

17. Equal Opportunity for Workers with Disabilities

1. The [contractor/seller] will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of physical or mental disability in regard to any position for which the employee or applicant for employment is qualified. The [contractor/seller] agrees to take affirmative action to employ and advance in employment individuals with disabilities, and to treat qualified individuals without discrimination on the basis of their physical or mental disability in all employment practices, including the following:

- i. Recruitment, advertising, and job application procedures;
- ii. Hiring, upgrading, promotion, award of tenure, demotion, transfer, layoff, termination, right of return from layoff and rehiring;
- iii. Rates of pay or any other form of compensation and changes in compensation;
- iv. Job assignments, job classifications, organizational structures, position descriptions, lines of progression, and seniority lists;
- v. Leaves of absence, sick leave, or any other leave;
- vi. Fringe benefits available by virtue of employment, whether or not administered by the [contractor/seller];
- vii. Selection and financial support for training, including apprenticeship, professional meetings, conferences, and other related activities, and selection for leaves of absence to pursue training;
- viii. Activities sponsored by the [contractor/seller] including social or recreational programs; and
- ix. Any other term, condition, or privilege of employment.

2. The [contractor/seller] agrees to comply with the rules, regulations, and relevant orders of the Secretary of Labor issued pursuant to the act.

3. In the event of the [contractor/seller] noncompliance with the requirements of this clause, actions for noncompliance may be taken in accordance with the rules, regulations, and relevant orders of the Secretary of Labor issued pursuant to the act.

4. The [contractor/seller] agrees to post in conspicuous places, available to employees and applicants for employment, notices in a form to be prescribed by the Director, Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs, provided by or through the contracting officer. Such notices shall state the rights of applicants and employees as well as the [contractor/seller]'s obligation under the law to take affirmative action to employ and advance in employment qualified employees and applicants with disabilities.

The [contractor/seller] must ensure that applicants or employees with disabilities are provided the notice in a form that is accessible and understandable to the individual applicant or employee (e.g., providing Brail or large print versions of the notice, or posting a copy of the notice at a lower height for easy viewing by a person using a wheelchair). With respect to employees who do not work at a physical location of the [contractor/seller], a [contractor/seller] will satisfy its posting obligations by posting such notices in an electronic format, provided that the [contractor/seller] provides computers, or access to computers, that can access the electronic posting to such employees, or the [contractor/seller] has actual knowledge that such employees otherwise are able to access the electronically posted notices. Electronic notices for employees must be posted in a conspicuous location and format on the company's intranet or sent by electronic mail to employees. An electronic posting must be used by the [contractor/seller] to notify job applicants of their rights if the [contractor/seller] utilizes an electronic application process. Such electronic applicant notice must be conspicuously stored with, or as part of, the electronic application.

5. The [contractor/seller] will notify each labor organization or representative of workers with which it has a collective bargaining agreement or other contract understanding, that the [contractor/seller] is bound by the terms of section 503 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, and is committed to take affirmative action to employ and advance in employment, and shall not discriminate against, individuals with physical or mental disabilities.

6. The [contractor/seller] will include the provisions of this clause in every subcontract or purchase order in excess of \$ 10,000, unless exempted by the rules, regulations, or orders of the Secretary issued pursuant to section 503 of the act, as amended, so that such provisions will be binding upon each subcontractor or vendor. The contractor will take such action with respect to any subcontract or purchase order as the Director, Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs may direct to enforce such provisions, including action for noncompliance.

7. The [contractor/seller] must, in all solicitations or advertisements for employees placed by or on behalf of the [contractor/seller], state that all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment and will not be discriminated against on the basis of disability.

18. Dissemination or Disclosure of Information

No information or material shall be disseminated or disclosed to the general public, the news media, or any person or organization without prior express written approval by the HA.

19. Contractor's Status

It is understood that the Contractor is an independent contractor and is not to be considered an employee of the HA, or assume any right, privilege or duties of an employee, and shall save harmless the HA and its employees from claims suits, actions and costs of every description resulting from the Contractor's activities on behalf of the HA in connection with this Agreement.

20. Other Contractors

HA may undertake or award other contracts for additional work at or near the site(s) of the work under this contract. The contractor shall fully cooperate with the other contractors and with HA and HUD employees and shall carefully adapt scheduling and performing the work under this contract to accommodate the additional work, heeding any direction that may be provided by the Contracting Officer. The contractor shall not commit or permit any act that will interfere with the performance of work by any other contractor or HA employee.

21. Liens

The Contractor is prohibited from placing a lien on HA's property. This prohibition shall apply to all subcontractors.

22. Training and Employment Opportunities for Residents in the Project Area (Section 3, HUD Act of 1968; 24 CFR 135)

- (a) The work to be performed under this contract is subject to the requirements of section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968, as amended, 12 U.S.C. 1701u (section 3). The purpose of section 3 is to ensure that employment and other economic opportunities generated by HUD assistance or HUD-assisted projects covered by section 3, shall, to the greatest extent feasible, be directed to low- and very low-income persons, particularly persons who are recipients of HUD assistance for housing.
- (b) The parties to this contract agree to comply with HUD's regulations in 24 CFR Part 75, which implement section 3. As evidenced by their execution of this contract, the parties to this contract certify that they are under no contractual or other impediment that would prevent them from complying with the Part 75 regulations.
- (c) The contractor agrees to send to each labor organization or representative of workers with which the contractor has a collective bargaining agreement or other understanding, if any, a notice advising the labor organization or workers' representative of the contractor's commitments under this section 3 clause, and will post copies of the notice in conspicuous places at the work site where both employees and applicants for training and employment positions can see the notice. The notice shall describe the section 3 prioritization requirements, and shall state the minimum percentages of labor hour requirements established in the Benchmark Notice (FR-6085-N-04)..
- (d) The contractor agrees to include this section 3 clause in every subcontract subject to compliance with regulations in 24 CFR Part 75, and agrees to take appropriate action, as provided in an applicable provision of the subcontract or in this section 3 clause, upon a finding that the subcontractor is in violation of the regulations in 24 CFR Part 75. The contractor will not subcontract with any subcontractor where the contractor has notice or knowledge that the subcontractor has been found in violation of the regulations in 24 CFR Part 75.
- (e) Noncompliance with HUD's regulations in 24 CFR Part 75 may result in sanctions, termination of this contract for default, and debarment or suspension from future HUD assisted contracts
- (f) Contracts, subcontracts, grants, or subgrants subject to Section 7(b) of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 5307(b)) or subject to tribal preference requirements as authorized under 101(k) of the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act (25 U.S.C. 4111(k)) must provide preferences in employment, training, and business opportunities to Indians and Indian organizations, and are therefore not subject to the requirements of 24 CFR Part 75.

23. Procurement of Recovered Materials

- (a) In accordance with Section 6002 of the Solid Waste Disposal Act, as amended by the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, the Contractor shall procure items designated in guidelines of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) at 40 CFR Part 247 that contain the highest percentage of recovered

materials practicable consistent with maintaining a satisfactory level of competition. The Contractor shall procure items designated in the EPA guidelines that contain the highest percentage of recovered materials practicable unless the Contractor determines that such items: (1) are not reasonably available in a reasonable period of time; (2) fail to meet reasonable performance standards, which shall be determined on the basis of the guidelines of the National Institute of Standards and Technology, if applicable to the item; or (3) are only available at an unreasonable price.

- (b) Paragraph (a) of this clause shall apply to items purchased under this contract where: (1) the Contractor purchases in excess of \$10,000 of the item under this contract; or (2) during the preceding Federal fiscal year, the Contractor: (i) purchased any amount of the items for use under a contract that was funded with Federal appropriations and was with a Federal agency or a State agency or agency of a political subdivision of a State; and (ii) purchased a total of in excess of \$10,000 of the item both under and outside that contract

Exhibit A

Scope of Work

Tasks

Task Area 1

1.1 Provide services consistent with the Houston Harris County Rapid Re-Housing Business Rules (“RRH Business Rules”) and the Continuum of Care (CoC) Homeless Standards for the Provision of Assistance for RRH.

1.1.1 Following the Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing (HEARTH) Act the, Houston/Harris County Continuum of Care began to coordinate service delivery across the continuum. This began with Continuum wide standards for the provision of Emergency Solutions Grants funding, initially supported by public funders within the CoC in 2011. Since implementing Continuum-wide standards, entitlement communities that are members of the Houston/Harris County Continuum of Care have met regularly to solidify coordination across the continuum with both the CoC lead agency and among entitlement communities to ensure the most effective and efficient use of funding to end homelessness.

1.1.2 As part of this coordination, continuum participants are assembling resources to create a standard Rapid Re-housing Model of funding for the continuum. This funding model aims to increase the reach of rapid re-housing funds to provide assistance to the most families possible in the Continuum, allow for efficiency in providing services and standardized service delivery among providers.

1.1.3 The rules set forth in the RRH Business Rules outline the process and responsibilities for funders, service providers and intermediaries in the implementation and ongoing work around this strategy for providing assistance. The model for the Houston/Harris County CoC was developed collaboratively using data to support decision making. Outcomes and ongoing data monitoring will support the continued growth of the strategy as well as inform stakeholders of opportunities for improvement. Any adjustments to the business rules will be made through a transparent process that will be based on recommendations from the Rapid Re-Housing Provider Workgroup and authorized by the Rapid Re-Housing Funders Collaborative. The strategy is in line with The Way Home, the community plan to end homelessness; *Opening Doors*, the Federal Plan to End Homelessness; and the policies of the CoC Steering Committee.

Task Area 2

- 2.1 Utilize the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) database to accept clients solely from the CoC Coordinated Access, enroll, and track outcomes.
 - 2.1.1 Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) is the information system designated by the Continuum of Care to comply with HUD's data collection, management, and reporting standards and used to collect client-level data and data on the provision of housing and services to homeless individuals and families and persons at risk of homelessness.
 - 2.1.2 Coordinated Access is designed to meet the requirements for coordinated assessment as outlined by the Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing (HEARTH) Act. The Houston/Harris County CoC has created a Coordinate Access System that institutes a consistent and uniform assessment and referral processes to determine and secure the most appropriate response to each individual or family's immediate and long-term housing needs. Coordinated Access, Coordinated Placement and Coordinate Access System are used interchangeably throughout this document.

Task Area 3

- 3.1 Participate in the RRH Provider Workgroups and attend all mandatory trainings.
 - 3.1.1 The Rapid Re-housing provider workgroup is the CoC affinity group of providers that provide strategic support to the development of continuum-wide tools adopted by the rapid re-housing funders collaborative. The RRH provider workgroup will continue to provide feedback to the CoC Steering Committee in its role as affinity group and recommend to the CoC Steering Committee any changes that may be necessary to the rapid re-housing program tools or strategies based on best practices in implementation.

Task Area 4

- 4.1 Provide housing stabilization case management services following the Housing First Approach.
 - 4.1.1 Housing First is a philosophy of providing housing to homeless individuals that focuses on providing services to individuals once they are in housing to assure housing stability and does not require sobriety, medication compliance or agreement to participate in specific services as a condition of receiving assistance.
 - 4.1.2 Housing Stability case management will be provided to households receiving rapid re-housing assistance which may or may not be linked to short- or medium- term rental assistance and other financial assistance. Housing stability case management focuses on addressing the immediate need for housing, stabilizing families and individuals in housing and connecting households to mainstream resources to ensure long term housing sustainability.

Task Area 5

5.1 Serve literally homeless households living on the streets or in shelter. Contract is responsible for insuring that homeless documentation is obtained, verified and maintained in files.

5.1.2 Homelessness as defined by HUD for the purposes of rapid re-housing, only those households that fall under the HUD definition of:

5.1.1.1 Literally Homeless includes an individual or family who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence, meaning:

- Has a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not meant for human habitation;
- Is living in a publicly or privately operated shelter designated to provide temporary living arrangements (including congregate shelters, transitional housing, and hotels and motels paid for by charitable organizations or by federal, state and local government programs); or
- Is exiting an institution where (s)he has resided for 90 days or less and who resided in an emergency shelter or place not meant for human habitation immediately before entering that institution. Fleeing or attempting to flee domestic violence includes any individual or family who:
 - Is fleeing, or is attempting to flee, domestic violence;
 - Has no other residence; and
 - Lacks the resources or support networks to obtain other permanent housing

Deliverables

6.1 Performance related to established targets will be reported in the HMIS and submitted to HHA each month. Performance report and meeting targets may be considered in future funding opportunities with the program.

6.2 Contractor will:

6.2.1 Provide monthly data reports as requested to ensure compliance with targets, goals and performance objectives by the 15th of each contracted month;

6.2.2 Utilize internal quality control systems to ensure accurate billing, financial spending, data entry and client record keeping;

- 6.2.3 Maintain all fiscal records relating to this Contract in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. In addition, Contractor shall maintain any other records pertinent to this Contract in such a manner as to clearly document the Contractor's performance hereunder. Except as required longer by law, all such fiscal records, books, documents, papers, plans and writings shall be retained by Contractor and kept accessible for the later of five (5) years following final payment and termination of this Contract or until the conclusion of any audit, controversy or litigation arising out of or related to this Contract; and,
- 6.2.4 Allow HHA and its authorized representatives (to the extent allowed by law with forty-eight (48) hour notice, allow HHA and its authorized representatives access to all books, documents, papers, and records of the Contractor that are directly related to this Contract for the purpose of making any audit, examination, copies, excerpts and transcripts.

Service Delivery

- 7.1 Service delivery for the rapid re-housing model is standardized and uniform across the continuum. All eligibility, referral and assessment will be done through a continuum-wide, standardized process and use standardized tools that ensure the same level and quality of service regardless of vendor agency. The process described below outlines the way rapid re-housing assistance will be provided to homeless households from entrance and eligibility through housing placement, program exit and follow up.
 - 7.1.1 The continuum-wide coordinated access and placement system will be the sole source of placement into rapid re-housing for the Houston/Harris County Continuum of Care. Households will access the homeless services system through one of the coordinated assessment hub sites or through a case manager supported assessment to the call-in center.
 - 7.1.2 Once an individual is found eligible for rapid re-housing, the coordinated access assessor will provide a direct referral to a case manager vendor. Available slots for rapid re-housing in the HMIS will be based on an average caseload of 15-25 families. Each case manager will accept households until they reach 15-25 units. If a case management vendor is unable to accept a referral, the vendor must initiate a case call between Coordinated Access, the Case Management Intermediary (as described in the RRH Business rules) and the vendor to identify the reason a household is not an appropriate fit for that vendor.
 - 7.1.3 Once Coordinated Access directly refers a client to a case management vendor, a case manager will have an initial appointment with the household to conduct an overall housing assessment and develop a housing plan. This assessment and housing plan will be done using the standardized tools approved for all case managers in the Houston/Harris County CoC.

- 7.1.4 The case manager must enroll the household or deny the referral within 7 days. A case manager can reject or deny the referral if the case manager has been unable to contact the household after 7 days. If a household shows up at the case management vendor after the 7 days have expired, the case manager will assist the household in reentering the system through coordinated access.
- 7.1.5 Case managers will use the housing plan and budget as a communication tool with HHA to indicate client portion and anticipated payment request to the landlord. The budget document will be submitted electronically via HMIS
- 7.1.6 Once a housing plan is complete, the process for housing search and placement can begin. The case manager will refer directly to housing navigation staff as needed for any household requesting or requiring additional assistance. Housing navigation assistance will be available but not required for each household. Case managers will assist with housing navigation services for those households that do not need a dedicated housing navigator.
- 7.1.7 Housing navigation specialists will also help secure utility and security deposits and application fees for households that require this additional assistance. Part of housing search and placement, either with the case manager or housing navigation staff, will include informal rent reasonableness to ensure a client is seeking housing that is reasonable for the area, but also for their projected income and needs.
- 7.1.8 The goal for the rapid re-housing program is that the total process, from eligibility referral to housing placement, within 30 days.

General

- 8.1 The Contractor must be flexible with a system of change and HHA and CFTH approved system operational standards.
- 8.2 Case Managers must be qualified to effectively provide housing stabilization case management and have the ability to provide support housing navigation services as needed. Flexible schedules must be maintained including weekend and evening hours as necessary to meet client needs and assist clients in achieving their stabilization goals.
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EXHIBIT B
EVALUATION CRITERIA

Item No.	Criteria	Maximum Points
1	Agency's history and capacity working with homeless individuals and families	20
2	Demonstrated relevant experience in providing the required services	15
3	Experience reporting grant outcomes and spending to funders	5
4	Experience utilizing HMIS for all program reporting requirements	5
5	History of following Housing First Principles	15
6	Experience working with or administering Tenant Based Rental Assistance paired with case management services	5
7	Demonstrated understanding of applicable Continuum of Care (CoC) rules and regulations	10
8	Ability to immediately hire once contracted	5
9	Evidence of 90-day working capital	10
10	Budget	50
11	M/WBE Participation	10
	Total Points	150

CONTRACT NO. 23-18

FOR

RAPID RE-HOUSING

BETWEEN

AND

THE HOUSTON HOUSING AUTHORITY

This contract (the “Contract”¹) is entered into by and between the HOUSTON HOUSING AUTHORITY (the “HHA”),² having its principal place of business at 2640 Fountain View, Houston, Texas 77057, and _____ (the “Contractor”), having its principal place of business at _____. Hereinafter, all references to the “Parties” shall mean the HHA and the Contractor.

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, the HHA is a public body corporate, duly organized and validly existing and in good standing under the laws of the State of Texas and currently engaged in business defined in the Local Government Code of the State of Texas, including the provision of decent, safe, and sanitary housing to the residents of its facilities, low-income families, the elderly, and the disabled;

WHEREAS, the HHA, or its affiliates or subsidiaries, owns certain multifamily housing developments (“Properties”) and has an administrative office;

WHEREAS the HHA requires a contract for Rapid Re-Housing services.

WHEREAS the HHA, on or about January 12, 2023, issued Request for Proposal No. 23-18 (“RFP 23-18”), including any amendments or addenda thereto, soliciting responses from qualified firms to contract for call center staffing and management services.

WHEREAS the HHA reviewed the responses it received to RFP 23-18, and determined that the response submitted by the Contractor was the most advantageous to the HHA; and

¹ The Contract may also be referred to interchangeably as the “Agreement.”

² In addition to being referred to as the “HHA,” the Houston Housing Authority may alternatively be referred to as the “Authority,” the “Agency,” the “PHA,” the “Housing Authority,” the “Local Authority,” the “LHA,” or the “HA.”

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the promises of the Parties herein, and pursuant to the mutual covenants and terms and conditions set forth in this Contract, the HHA and the Contractor agree to be legally bound as follows:

1. The Contract Documents.

- 1.1 In addition to the foregoing document, this Contract shall include: (a) § I of Form 5370-C, as promulgated by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (“HUD”), and commonly known as “General Conditions for Non-Construction Contracts” (“Form 5370-C”); (b) RFP 23-18, including all exhibits, addenda, or amendments thereto; (c) Contractor’s Response to RFP 23-18, including all exhibits, addenda, or amendments thereto. Form 5370-C is attached hereto and incorporated by reference as if set forth fully herein. The parties agree to be bound by the terms of Form 5370-C and the contract documents as outlined herein.
- 1.2 Form 5370-C, RFP 23-18, and Contractor’s Response to RFP 23-18 are attached hereto as, respectively, Exhibit 1, Exhibit 2 and Exhibit 3 and are incorporated by reference as if set forth fully herein.
- 1.3 In the event of a conflict between or among the contract documents, the following order of priority shall apply: (a) Form 5370-C; (b) the foregoing document; (c) RFP 23-18, and (d) Contractor’s Response to RFP 23-18. The Section 3 Form and the M/WBE Form shall receive the lowest priority in the event of a conflict between or among the contract documents.
- 1.4 A Contract document’s silence on a provision, issue, or term and condition found in another Contract document shall not be considered a conflict between or among the Contract documents.

2. Contractor’s Services.

- 2.1 The work/services³ to be performed by the Contractor pursuant to this Contract shall include _____
- 2.2 The contractor shall be required to provide all the necessary personnel, supervision, transportation, equipment, insurance, tools, supplies, materials, and any other item(s) or resource(s) needed to perform the services that are the subject of this agreement.
- 2.3 Absent the HHA’s written consent or written instruction, the Work under this Contract shall be performed by Contractor.
- 2.4 The HHA may designate a Project Manager during the period of performance.

³ Hereinafter referred to interchangeably as “Work” or “Services”.

- 2.5 Contractor agrees to conduct all activities and perform all Work under this Agreement in accordance with all applicable federal, state and local laws, rules, regulations, policies, procedures and issuances in effect or promulgated during the term of this Agreement.

3. Consideration and Payment.

- 3.1 In consideration of the work to be performed by the Contractor in accordance with the requirements and Scope of Work previously referenced herein, the HHA shall pay the Contractor an amount not to exceed _____ (\$_____), during the Contract term.
- 3.2 Contractor shall receive payment after invoices have been submitted and work has been approved by HHA's Project Manager. Payment terms are net 30 days. Should Contractor receive payment by wire or electronic means, Contractor must provide HHA written confirmation and instructions signed by Contractor's duly authorized official before any type of electronic or wire payment will be made by HHA. Any changes to wire or electronic payment information must be submitted to HHA in writing and signed by Contractor's duly authorized official.
- 3.3 The Contractor will ensure that its work and services are provided in a cost-efficient manner.
- 3.4 By the twentieth day of a given month, the Contractor, with respect to the work and services provided under this Contract in the preceding month, shall provide the HHA with an invoice that includes: (a) an itemized list of the work and services performed, (b) who performed the work and services, (c) the Properties and amount at which the work and services was billed; (d) the amount of time spent on the work and services, measured in one-tenth of an hour increments, (3) costs incurred for reimbursable expenses, if any such expenses are reimbursable under this Contract. Invoices comporting with this section that are approved by the HHA shall be due and payable by the HHA no later than thirty days after receipt. Invoices may be sent by the Contractor to the HHA via the United States Postal Service or via email. If sent via email, an invoice shall be considered to be received by the HHA on the day the email was sent by the Contractor.
- 3.5 If the HHA does not approve of an invoice, or a part thereof, the HHA will, within seven business days after receipt of the invoice, provide the Contractor with written notice of adjustments that the HHA believes are warranted. If, within seven business days of receiving such notice from the HHA the Contractor does not present the HHA with additional detail or documentation to adequately support the disputed invoice (or portion thereof), then any adjustments made by the HHA to the invoice in question shall become binding upon the Contractor and the Contractor will waive any and all of its rights to dispute the adjusted invoice. If the Contractor responds timely within the seven business day timeframe allotted herein, and provides sufficient detail to

adequately support the disputed invoice, (or disputed portion thereof), then the HHA shall consider the Contractor's timely response and will not unreasonably withhold payment of the disputed amount, provided that the additional detail or documentation submitted by the Contractor sufficiently and adequately supports the disputed invoice (or disputed portion thereof).

- 3.6 The HHA shall pay only the Contractor under this Contract. The HHA shall have no liability, directly or indirectly, for payment to the Contractor's employees, workers, agents, contractors, or subcontractors, if any. The Contractor agrees to indemnify, hold harmless, and defend the HHA and its employees, agents, affiliates, subsidiaries, representatives, and board members from any and all such claims.
- 3.7 **The Contractor is solely responsible for the payment of wages and any applicable benefits to workers for work performed under this contract. The Contractor shall be responsible for withholding federal and state income taxes, paying Federal Social Security taxes, maintaining unemployment insurance and maintaining workers' compensation insurance, in an amount and under such terms as required by the applicable laws of the State of Texas. THE HHA'S PAYMENT IS TO THE CONTRACTOR. HHA SHALL HAVE NO LIABILITY, DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY, FOR PAYMENT TO THE CONTRACTOR'S WORKERS OR TO SUBCONTRACTORS. THE CONTRACTOR SHALL INDEMNIFY AND HOLD THE HHA, ITS EMPLOYEES, REPRESENTATIVES, AND AFFILIATES HARMLESS FROM ANY AND ALL SUCH CLAIMS.**
- 3.8 **The HHA is not responsible to the Contractor or the Contractor's workers for payment of any overtime compensation or any additional payments pursuant to the Fair Labor Standards Act; the Texas Pay Day Act; the Equal Pay Act; Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 42 U.S.C 2000e, *et al.*, as amended; or any provisions of the Texas Labor Code Ann., as amended. The HHA will not be responsible for overtime wages.**

4. Term/Period of Performance, Effective Date, and Termination.

- 4.1 This Contract shall have an initial term of _____ (____) _____ from the effective date. At its sole discretion, the HHA may elect to extend the period of performance for up to an additional _____ (____) _____, in _____ (____) year increments.
- 4.2 All work performed by the Contractor under the Contract shall be performed between the hours of _____ a.m. and _____ p.m., Monday through Friday. HHA reserves the right to change hours as necessary.
- 4.3 This Contract shall be signed by the HHA and the Contractor. The Contractor shall sign the Contract first, and after signing, shall deliver the original signed contract, along with any and all required payment bonds, performance bonds, and required proof of

insurance, to the HHA for signature by the HHA. This Contract shall not become effective until it is executed by the HHA. The Contract's effective date shall be the date of execution by the HHA.

- 4.4 Execution of the Contract by the Contractor is a representation that the Contractor has visited the work site, become generally familiar with local conditions under which the Contractor is to perform its work, and correlated personal observations with the requirements set forth in the Contract.
- 4.5 Passage of the Agreement expiration date shall not extinguish or prejudice HHA's right to enforce this Agreement with respect to default or defect in performance that has not been cured.
- 4.6 Irrespective of any default hereunder, HHA may at any time cancel the contract in whole or in part. Should this occur, the Contractor shall be entitled to equitable compensation for all work completed and accepted by HHA's Project Manager prior to such termination or cancellation.

5. Confidentiality.

- 5.1 The Contractor acknowledges and agrees that all information which the Contractor shall receive from the HHA or its agents or affiliates in connection with this Contract shall be confidential and the Contractor shall not disclose such information to any party without the HHA's prior written consent or unless required to do so by law.

6. Contractor's Representations and Warranties.

- 6.1 The Contractor represents and warrants that it has all applicable licenses and registrations to engage in and perform the services contemplated by this Contract. Unless otherwise stated herein, all local, State, or Federal permits or registrations which may be required to provide the services to be provided by the Contractor shall be the sole responsibility of the Contractor and any costs submitted by the Contractor in its Response shall reflect all costs required by the Contractor to procure and provide such necessary permits and registrations.
- 6.2 The Contractor represents and warrants that the Contractor presently has no interest and shall not acquire any interest, direct or indirect, which would conflict in any manner or degree or have the potential of conflicting with the performance of its services under the Contract or the impartial rendering of assistance or advice to the HHA. The Contractor further represents, covenants, and warrants that in the performance of the Contract no person having any such interest shall be employed. In the event the Contractor becomes aware of such an interest after the execution of this Contract, the Contractor shall immediately disclose the interest to the HHA in writing. The Contractor agrees that in carrying out its duties and responsibilities under this Agreement, it will neither undertake, nor cause, nor permit to be undertaken, any

activity which either (i) is illegal under any laws, decrees, rules, or regulations in effect in Texas or the United States; or (ii) would have the effect of causing the HHA to be in violation of any laws, decrees, rules, or regulations in effect in Texas or the United States.

- 6.3 Contractor agrees that in connection with this Agreement or any extension thereof, it will update the Conflict of Interest Questionnaire and any other relevant forms required by law, HUD or HHA, as needed. Contractor further agrees to notify the HHA immediately of any conflict of interest relating to the subject matter of this Agreement.
- 6.4 The Contractor represents and warrants that in performing its services under this Contract, it will comply with all applicable State of Texas laws and regulations pertaining to the provision of its services under this Contract and that the Contractor will perform its services in a good and workmanlike manner, with the same degree of skill, diligence, competency and knowledge which is ordinarily exhibited, possessed by and consistent with the professional standards that apply to the provision of such services in metropolitan areas of similar size to Houston, Texas and other professionals in good standing in the same or similar field as Contractor.

7. Insurance.

- 7.1 The Contractor shall maintain the following insurance for the duration of this Contract, unless otherwise noted:
- a. Workers' compensation insurance in accordance with State of Texas rules and regulations for all employees providing work and services hereunder. The policy must be endorsed to contain a waiver of subrogation and a thirty (30) day notice of cancellation or non-renewal in favor of the HHA.
 - b. Commercial general liability insurance with a single limit for bodily injury of \$1,000,000.00 per occurrence and property damage limit of no less than \$1,000,000.00 per occurrence. The insurance may have a combined aggregate of coverage amounting to no less than \$2,000,000.00. Such insurance shall cover the operations of the Contractor under this Contract and shall protect the Contractor and its officers, agents, and employees against claims of bodily injury or death, including specifically such claims resulting from any form of sexual misconduct and for property damage to others. Such insurance shall also include coverage for completed operations and contractual liability. If the Contractor has a "claims made policy," then the following additional requirements apply: (i) the policy must provide a "retroactive date" which must be on or before the date the Contractor executes this Contract; and (ii) the extended reporting period may not be less than five years following the completion date of this Contract. Regardless of whether the Contractor's policy is claims made or per occurrence, the HHA must be named as an additional insured and the policy must be endorsed to be

primary/noncontributory and to contain a waiver of subrogation in favor the HHA. The policy must also be endorsed with a thirty (30) day notice of cancellation or non-renewal in favor of the HHA.

- c. Automobile liability insurance covering owned, non-owned, hired and all vehicles used by the Contractor or its officers, employees, or agents with a combined single limit of not less than \$1,000,000.00 applicable to bodily injury, sickness or death and loss of, or damage to, property in any one occurrence. The HHA must be named as an additional insured under this policy and this policy must be endorsed to be primary and to contain a waiver of subrogation in favor the HHA. The policy must also be endorsed with a thirty (30) day notice of cancellation or non-renewal in favor of the HHA.
- d. Umbrella/Excess Liability Insurance in the amount of \$ TBD providing excess limits over Workers' Compensation, Automobile Insurance, Professional Liability and General Liability Insurance. The HHA must be named as an additional insured and this policy must be endorsed to be primary/noncontributory and contain a waiver of subrogation endorsement in favor of the HHA. The policy must also be endorsed with a thirty (30) day notice of cancellation or non-renewal in favor of the HHA.
- e. Errors and omissions professional liability insurance in an amount no less than \$2,000,000 and for a continuous period of at least three years following the completion of the Contractor's services under this Agreement. The policy shall provide for coverage for all work performed by the Contractor. The Contractor shall ensure that any subcontractors hired by the Contractor that perform work on the Contractor's behalf will maintain their own Errors and Omissions Professional Liability Insurance coverage in the amount of no less than \$2,000,000 and the Contractor shall obtain evidence of such insurance in a manner satisfactory to the HHA and provide such evidence to the HHA upon the HHA's request. The policy must also be endorsed with a thirty (30) day notice of cancellation or non-renewal in favor of the HHA.

7.2 Before commencing its performance of any work or services under this Contract, the Contractor, at the request of the HHA, shall provide the HHA with copies of the applicable certificates of insurance, policies, declarations, and endorsements for the required coverages listed above so that the HHA may confirm: (a) that said coverages are valid and in effect; (b) that it is named as an additional insured under the Contractor's comprehensive general liability insurance policy ("CGL"), umbrella/excess liability insurance, errors and omissions/professional liability insurance and its automobile liability insurance policy; (c) that none of the required policies may be cancelled or non-renewed until at least thirty days prior written notice has been provided to the HHA; (d) that the Contractor's CGL policy, umbrella/excess liability and automobile policy are primary; and that (e) the Contractor's CGL policy, workers' compensation, umbrella/excess liability insurance and automobile policy contain waivers of subrogation

in favor of the HHA. All certificates of insurance must reference this job/project and contract number.

- 7.3 All insurance shall be carried with companies that are financially responsible and admitted to do business in the State of Texas. The Contractor shall not permit the insurance policies required for this Contract to lapse during any period for which this Agreement is in effect.
- 7.4 The insurance requirements in this section are not intended to and shall not in any manner limit or qualify the liabilities or obligations assumed by the Contractor under this Contract, including, but not limited to, liability assumed by the Contractor pursuant to section 8 of this Contract.
- 7.5 The Contractor shall be solely responsible for any premiums, deductibles, or self-insured retentions that may apply to the insurance coverages required in this Contract.
- 7.6 The Contractor shall require each of its subcontractors, if any, to provide the coverages noted in this section, unless such coverages are waived or reduced in writing by the HHA.

8. INDEMNITY AND HOLD HARMLESS.

- 8.1 **THE CONTRACTOR SHALL INDEMNIFY, DEFEND, AND HOLD THE HHA AND ITS OFFICERS, AGENTS, SUBSIDIARIES, AFFILIATED ENTITIES, COMMISSIONERS AND EMPLOYEES (THE “INDEMNIFIED PERSONS”) HARMLESS FROM ALL LIABILITY, LOSS OR DAMAGE, INCLUDING REASONABLE ATTORNEY FEES AND EXPENSES, RESULTING FROM, BROUGHT FOR, OR ON ACCOUNT OF ALL CLAIMS, DEMANDS, AND CAUSES OF ACTION OF EVERY KIND AND CHARACTER ASSERTED BY ANY PERSON (INCLUDING, WITHOUT LIMITATION, THE INDEMNIFIED PERSONS’ OR CONTRACTOR’S EMPLOYEES), FOR PERSONAL INJURY, DEATH, OR FOR LOSS OF OR DAMAGE TO ANY AND ALL PROPERTY IN ANY WAY ARISING OUT OF, IN CONNECTION WITH, OR TO THE EXTENT CAUSED BY THE CONTRACTOR OR ANY SUBCONTRACTOR’S PERFORMANCE HEREUNDER. SUCH INDEMNITY SHALL BE WITHOUT REGARD TO THE NEGLIGENCE (WHETHER ACTIVE, PASSIVE, SOLE, CONCURRENT OR GROSS), STRICT LIABILITY OR OTHER FAULT OF ANY INDEMNIFIED PERSON. CONTRACTOR ACKNOWLEDGES AND AGREES THAT THIS INDEMNITY CONTROLS OVER ALL OTHER PROVISIONS IN THE AGREEMENT AND SURVIVES THE TERMINATION OF THIS AGREEMENT.**
- 8.2 **THE CONTRACTOR SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR, AND SHALL RELEASE AND HOLD HARMLESS THE HHA FROM ANY LIABILITY FOR, ALL DAMAGE AND LOSS SUSTAINED BY IT TO ITS TOOLS AND EQUIPMENT UTILIZED IN THE PERFORMANCE OF SERVICES, OR THE**

PERFORMANCE OF ANY SUBCONTRACTORS' SERVICES, HEREUNDER. THE CONTRACTOR SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR SATISFYING ALL DEDUCTIBLES UNDER ITS POLICIES WITHOUT REIMBURSEMENT FROM THE HHA AND THE DEDUCTIBLE PORTION OF ANY LOSS SHALL NOT BE EXCLUDED FROM THE CONTRACTOR'S INDEMNITY OBLIGATION.

8.3 NOTWITHSTANDING ANYTHING HEREIN TO THE CONTRARY, ANY LEGAL LIMITATIONS AFFECTING THE SCOPE OF PERMISSIBLE INDEMNITY SHALL BE READ INTO THESE CLAUSES SUCH THAT THE CLAUSE PROVIDES THE MAXIMUM INDEMNITY PURSUANT TO ITS TERMS WHILE STILL COMPLYING WITH THE LEGAL LIMITATIONS.

9. Notices.

9.1 All notices and communications regarding the Contract must be in writing and shall be directed to the following representatives:

HHA

Tel: _____
Fax: _____

CONTRACTOR

Tel: _____
Fax: _____

10. Compliance with Federal Laws and Regulations

10.1 To the extent applicable, the Contractor shall comply with any and all federal laws and regulations, including but not limited to, the following:

- The requirements of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 and Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, relating to prohibitions against discrimination in housing and the benefits of federally funded programs because of race, color, religion, sex, or national origin;
- The prohibition against discrimination on the basis of age under the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, the prohibition against discrimination against handicapped individuals under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act;
- All federal and state laws, rules and regulations related to energy efficiency and resource conservation;

- The requirements of Executive Order 11246 relating to equal employment opportunity in connection with federally funded programs;
- The requirements of Section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968 relating to training and employment of individuals and contracting for business opportunities in metropolitan areas in which federally funded programs are being operated; and
- The requirements of Executive Orders 11625, 12432 and 12138 to implement Minority Business Enterprise (“MBE”) and Women’s Business Enterprise (“WBE”) participation goals in federal agencies’ programs.

11. Compliance with M/WBE and Section 3 Policy.

- 11.1 When subcontracting, the Contractor agrees to utilize its good faith and best efforts to subcontract a sufficient dollar amount with M/WBE’s certified as such or recognized by the HHA as certified M/WBE in an effort to meet the HHA’s goal of a minimum of 30% of the final contract dollars being expended on one or more M/WBEs. All adjustments that cause the contract price to increase will also increase the total amount that the Contractor must expend on M/WBEs.
- 11.2 The Contractor hereby specifically agrees to adhere to the M/WBE Participation Plan as submitted by the Contractor and attached hereto as Exhibit 3.
- 11.3 The Contractor further agrees to adhere to the Section 3 Business Certification as submitted by the Contractor within its Response, attached hereto as Exhibit 4.

12. Records.

- 12.1 Without limitation to any other provision of the Contract, the Contractor shall maintain all records pertaining to the Contract, which the HHA reasonably requires for three (3) years from the expiration date of the Contract unless a longer period is required under Title 24, CFR §85.42. The Contractor shall maintain records required by 24 CFR §135.120 for the period that HUD requires the records to be maintained. The Contractor will give the HHA, HUD, the Comptroller General of the United States, the General Accounting Office, and any of their authorized representative’s access to, and the right to examine, audit, copy, or reproduce all records pertaining to the project financed under the Contract and the operation of the program or project. The right to access shall continue as long as the records are required to be maintained.

13. Independent Contractor.

- 13.1 The Contractor is an independent contractor of the HHA and not an employee of the HHA. Nothing contained in the Contract will be deemed or construed to create a partnership between the Contractor and the HHA. The Contractor will have no authority to create any obligation or make representations or warranty binding on the

HHA. All personnel supplied or used by the Contractor in connection with this Contract will be deemed employees, agents, or subcontractors of the Contractor and will not be considered employees, agents, or subcontractors of the HHA for any purpose whatsoever. The Contractor is solely responsible for payment of wages and overtime to the Contractor's employees. By entering into this Contract the Contractor and the HHA are not entering into a joint employment relationship or an employment relationship of any kind.

- 13.2 The Contractor agrees to comply with all applicable federal and state laws pertaining to the proper classification of workers. Additionally, the Contractor is aware that in accordance with Section 214.008 of the Texas Labor Code, contractors and subcontractors who fail to properly classify individuals performing work under a governmental contract will be penalized \$200.00 for each individual that has been misclassified.

14. Subcontracts.

- 14.1 The Contractor shall not subcontract any portion of its services under this Contract without first obtaining the written consent of the HHA.

15. Non-Appropriation.

- 15.1 The Contractor understands that the HHA is a governmental entity and this Agreement is contingent upon the receipt, availability and allocation of funding allocated to the HHA for the payment of such services or obligations. Should it not be funded for any period during the term of the Agreement, any sums due for the remainder of the term shall be forgiven and the HHA shall not be liable for payment. HHA may terminate this Agreement in writing at any time, or suspend services, if sufficient funds are not available to continue operations under this Agreement. Upon such written notice from the HHA, the Contract will automatically terminate.

16. Proprietary Information.

- 16.1 The Contractor shall maintain the confidentiality of all proprietary information provided to it by the HHA. Information in the public domain, or otherwise obtained independently by the Contractor, is not considered confidential.
- 16.2 Any programs, data, or other materials furnished by the HHA for use by the Contractor concerning the services performed under the Contract shall remain the sole property of the HHA.

17. Ownership of Work Product.

- 17.1 All drawings, designs, specifications, manuals, reports, studies, surveys, models, software, source code and source code documentation, documentation or system architecture and any other documents, materials, data and products ("Work Product")

prepared or assembled by the Contractor or its subcontractors pursuant to this Contract shall be the exclusive property of the HHA and copies of all Work Products shall be delivered to the HHA upon the completion or termination of the Contract. The Contractor hereby assigns to the HHA ownership of all right, title and interest in and to such Work Products, including ownership of any copyright, patent, trademark, trade secret, or other intellectual property or proprietary rights in the Work Product. Further, Contractor hereby grants to the HHA a perpetual, royalty-free, paid-in-full, nonexclusive and irrevocable license to copy, reproduce, perform, dispose of, or use, in whole or in part, the Work Product and to authorize others to do so. The Contractor also agrees to execute all papers necessary for the HHA to perfect its ownership of the rights in the Work Product.

18 Criminal Background Checks Required.

- 18.1 After execution of this Agreement and as soon as reasonably possible, the Contractor shall conduct criminal background checks on all employees and subcontractors before such employees or subcontractors are assigned to perform any work under this Agreement. The Contractor agrees that no employee or subcontractor currently suspended or debarred under 2 CFR § 180, et seq., or who has been convicted of a felony, shall be authorized to perform any work under the terms of this Agreement, without prior written approval from the HHA.

19. Special Requirements.

- 19.1 The Contractor agrees that if the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (“HUD”) requires a cost certification after substantial completion of the work performed under the Contract, then the Contractor will cooperate with the HHA and HUD and assist in providing such cost certification, provided that any payment to the Contractor hereunder shall not be conditioned upon any such cost certification, but shall be paid in accordance with the terms of the Contract.

20. Time.

- 20.1 Time is of the essence in the Contract and each and all of its provisions.

21. Tax Exempt Status.

- 21.1 The HHA is a unit of government and its functions are governmental functions. Its property is public property used for essential public and governmental purposes. By virtue of Section 392.005 of the Texas Local Government Code (the “Housing Authorities Law”), the HHA and its property are exempt from all taxes, including sales tax. A copy of the Tax Exemption Certificate will be provided to the Contractor, if required.

22. Cooperation with HHA.

- 22.1 In the performance of this Contract, the Contractor agrees to cooperate with the HHA and its staff, including the HHA's Section 3 Coordinator.

23. Miscellaneous.

- 23.1 *Legal Construction/Severability.* HHA and Contractor agree, that if any term or provision of this Agreement is declared by a court of competent jurisdiction to be illegal or in conflict with any law, the validity of the remaining terms and provisions shall not be affected, and the rights and obligations of the parties shall be construed and enforced as if the Agreement did not contain the particular term or provision held to be invalid. The failure of either party to enforce any provision of this Agreement shall not constitute a waiver by the party of that or any other provision of this Agreement. Whenever context requires, the singular will include the plural (and vice-versa) and references to gender shall include the masculine and feminine. Article and section headings in this Contract are for reference only and are not intended to restrict or define the text of any section or article herein. This Contract shall not be construed more or less favorably by reason of the authorship or origin of its language; this Contract shall not be construed against the drafter in the event of an ambiguity (or otherwise).
- 23.2 *Limitation of Liability.* In no event shall the HHA be liable to the Contractor for any indirect, incidental, or exemplary damages.
- 23.3 *Own Investigation.* The Contractor represents and warrants that it entered this Contract based solely on its own investigation and due diligence and not on reliance on any statements, representations, or omissions of the HHA unless otherwise noted in this Contract. The Contractor represents and warrants that it is fully satisfied that it has received any information it requested from the HHA in order to determine whether to enter this Contract. The Contractor expressly disclaims any reliance on any representation, statement, or omission by the HHA with respect to this Contract, including the Contractor's decision to enter this Contract, unless otherwise noted herein.
- 23.4 *Venue and Choice of Law.* Venue for any legal action arising from or relating to this Contract shall exclusively lie in Harris County, Texas. The laws of the State of Texas shall govern and control any dispute that arises from or relates to this Agreement. In the event of any litigation arising from or related to this Agreement, or the services provided under this Agreement, each party will be responsible for its own costs incurred including staff time, court costs, attorney fees, and all other related expenses incurred in such litigation.
- 23.5 *Notice of Court Actions.* The Contractor agrees to give the HHA immediate notice in writing of any actions or suits filed and prompt notice of any claims made against the HHA or any of the parties involved in the implementation and administration of the Contract.

- 23.6 *Integration.* This Contract, along with the attached Exhibits, contains the complete agreement of the Parties and cannot be varied except by the Parties' written agreement. The Parties agree that there are no oral agreements, representations, or warranties that are not expressly set forth in this Contract.
- 23.7 *Waiver of Default.* It is not a waiver of or consent to default if the non-defaulting party fails to declare immediately a default or delays in taking any action. Pursuit of any remedy set forth in this Contract does not preclude pursuit of other remedies in this Contract or that are provided by law.
- 23.8 *Non-Waiver.* No covenant or condition of the Contract may be waived except by written consent of the waiving party. Forbearance or indulgence by one party in any regard whatsoever shall not constitute a waiver of the covenant or condition to be performed by the other party to which the same may apply, and until complete performance of any covenant or condition, the aggrieved party shall be entitled to invoke any remedy available to it under the Contract or by law or in equity despite such forbearance or indulgence. Unless otherwise stated herein, this Contract cannot be modified or altered in any way without the express written consent of the parties hereto.
- 23.9 *Remedies Cumulative.* All rights and remedies of HHA and Contractor shall be cumulative and may be exercised successively or concurrently. The foregoing is without limitation to or waiver of any other rights or remedies of HHA according to law.
- 23.10 *Legal and Regulatory Compliance.* All activities under this Agreement shall comply with all applicable local, state and federal laws, ordinances and regulations. This Agreement shall automatically be amended as necessary to comply with all applicable local, state and federal laws, ordinances and regulations, including incorporation of any provisions now or hereafter applicable to the subject matter hereof and/or required to be included by any federal, state or local governmental authority with relevant jurisdiction over the subject matter hereof. Any such change or incorporation of legal and regulatory requirements shall be deemed incorporated herein, irrespective of whether or not such provisions are expressly set forth in this Agreement or any written amendment hereto.
- 23.11 *Assignment.* The Contractor shall not assign, subcontract, or transfer any services, obligations, or interest in this Contract without the prior written consent of the HHA. Such consent shall not unreasonably be withheld when such assignment is for financing the Contractor's performance.
- 23.12 *Successors and Assigns.* This Contract shall be binding on and inure to the benefit of the parties to this Contract and their respective heirs, executors, administrators, legal representatives, successors, and assigns, if any.

- 23.13 No Third-Party Rights. Nothing contained in this Contract shall create a contractual relationship with or a cause of action in favor of third party against either the HHA or the Contractor.
- 23.14 Amendment. This Agreement may only be amended by a written amendment signed by the authorized agents of both parties.
- 23.15 Survival. The terms, conditions, representations, and all warranties contained in this Agreement shall survive the termination or expiration of this Agreement.
- 23.16 Publicity. Contractor shall not use in its advertising, marketing or other promotion efforts; any data, pictures or other representation of HHA except on prior specific written authorization from the HHA President/CEO or designee.
- 23.17 No Personal Inducements. Contractor acknowledges and agrees that HHA requires all Contractors to adhere to basic principles in conducting business with HHA. These principles include no direct or indirect personal inducement of HHA employees or Commissioners, such as the giving of gifts, money, tickets, trips, loans, discounts or any other item or service in connection with this Agreement. Contractor further acknowledges and agrees that breach of these principles may be grounds for termination of this Agreement.
- 23.18 Force Majeure. Neither party hereto will be liable or responsible to the other for any loss or damage or for any delays or failure to perform due to causes beyond its reasonable control including, but not limited to acts of God, strikes, epidemics, pandemics, disease, war, acts of terrorism, riots, civil disorder or unrest, flood, fire, tsunami, volcano, sabotage, air space closure, ground stop(s), a U.S. Department of State Travel Warning or any other circumstances of like character (“force majeure occurrence”).
- 23.19 Other: Contractor shall adhere to all federal, state and local laws and ordinances, as well as standards and recommendations outlined by the World Health Organization (WHO); Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), and any other standards or procedures applicable to Contractor as it relates to the health, safety and welfare of tenants, residents, guests, HHA employees and others who may be involved in the execution of this Agreement.
- 23.20 Authority. Contractor represents and warrants that Contractor has the power and authority to enter into and perform this Agreement and that this Agreement, when executed and delivered, shall be a valid and binding obligation of Contractor enforceable in accordance with its terms.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, this document may be executed in multiple counterparts. Each counterpart is deemed an original. All counterparts together constitute one and the same instrument. Each party warrants that the undersigned is a duly authorized representative with the power to execute this contract.

*******SIGNATURES FOLLOW*******

IN WITNESS THEREOF,

HOUSTON HOUSING AUTHORITY

SERVICE PROVIDER

By: _____
David A. Northern, Sr., President & CEO

By: _____

Date: _____

Date: _____

Contract No. 23-18