

Cobb County General Instructions for Bidders, Terms and Conditions

I. Preparation of Bids

Each bidder shall examine the drawings, specifications, schedule and all instructions. Failure to do so will be at the bidder's risk, as the bidder will be held accountable for their bid response.

Unit price for each quotation shall be shown and such price shall include packing unless otherwise specified, along with a total and grand total where applicable. In case of discrepancy between a unit price and extended price, the unit price will be presumed correct.

Each bidder shall furnish all information required by the bid form or document. Each bidder shall sign the bid and print or type his or her name on the schedule. The person signing the bid must initial erasures or other changes. An authorized agent of the company must sign bids.

Invitations to Bid issued by Cobb County are advertised on the Cobb County Internet site (www.cobbcounty.org/purchasing), and on the Georgia Procurement Registry, and every Friday in the Cobb County legal organ, the Marietta Daily Journal.

II. Delivery

Each bidder should state the time of proposed delivery of goods or services. Words such as "immediate", "as soon as possible", etc. shall not be used. The known earliest date or the minimum number of calendar days required after receipt of order (delivery A.R.O.) shall be stated (if calendar days are used, include Saturday, Sunday and holidays in the number).

III. Explanation to Bidders

Any explanation desired by a bidder regarding the meaning or interpretation of the invitation for bids, drawings, specifications, etc. must be received by **5:00 PM on February 15, 2019** in order for a reply to reach all bidders before the close of the bid. Any information concerning an Invitation to Bid (ITB) will be furnished to all prospective bidders as an addendum if such information is necessary or if the lack of such information would be prejudicial to uninformed bidders.

Submit questions in writing to:
Cobb County Purchasing Department
122 Waddell Street NE
Marietta, GA 30060
Fax: 770-528-1154
Email: purchasing@cobbcounty.org

The written bid documents supersede any verbal or written communication between parties. Addenda are posted on the Purchasing web site: www.cobbcounty.org/purchasing. Receipt of addenda shall be acknowledged in the bid. It is the bidder's ultimate responsibility to ensure that they have all applicable addenda prior to bid submittal.

IV. Submission of Bids

Bids shall be enclosed in sealed envelopes, addressed to the Cobb County Purchasing Department with the name of the bidder, the date and hour of opening and the invitation to bid number on the face of the envelope. Bids must be received in the Purchasing Department no later than the date and time (determined by the date/time stamp in the department) set forth in the Invitation to Bid. It is the sole responsibility of the bidder to ensure that his or her bid reaches the Purchasing Department. Telegraphic/faxed bids will not be considered. Any addenda should be enclosed in the sealed envelopes as well. **All bids shall be submitted on the Bid Proposal Form. Any revisions made on the outside of the envelope will not be accepted.** The bids will be publicly opened and read at the time and place set forth in the Invitation to Bid.

Samples of items, when required, must be submitted within the time specified and, unless otherwise specified by the County, at no expense to the County. Unless otherwise specified, samples will be returned at the bidder's request and expense if items are not destroyed by testing. Items offered must meet required specifications and must be of a quality, which will adequately serve the use and purpose for which intended.

Full identification of each item bid upon, including brand name, model, catalog number, etc. must be furnished to identify exactly what the bidder is offering. The bidder must certify that items to be furnished are new and that the quality has not deteriorated so as to impair its usefulness.

If no items are bid on, the "Statement of No Bid" must be returned, with the envelope plainly marked "No Bid" including the bid number. Where more than one item is listed, any items not bid upon must be indicated "No Bid".

Unsigned bids will not be considered except in cases where bid is enclosed with other documents, which have been signed. The County will determine this.

Cobb County is exempt from federal excise tax and Georgia sales tax with regards to goods and services purchased directly by Cobb County. Suppliers and contractors are responsible for federal excise tax and sales tax, including any taxes for materials incorporated in county construction projects. Suppliers and contractors should contact the State of Georgia Sales Tax Division for additional information. Tax Exemption Certificates will be furnished upon request.

Except as otherwise provided by law, information submitted by a bidder in the bidding process shall be subject to disclosure after bid award in accordance with the Georgia Open Records Act. Proprietary information must be identified with the appropriate affidavit as required by the Georgia Open Records Act. Marking an entire bid as proprietary will be neither accepted nor honored.

Each Bidder is required to keep the contents of their bid confidential once it is submitted until the award to the successful Bidder is made. Releasing any information regarding the proposal to third parties or the media prior to the conclusion of the award process will be immediate grounds for the County to reject the bid as non-responsive.

V. Withdraw Bid Due to Errors

The bidder shall give notice in writing of his claim of right to withdraw his bid without penalty due to an error within two (2) business days (48 hours) after the conclusion of the bid opening. Bids may be withdrawn from consideration if the price was substantially lower than the other bids due solely to a mistake therein, provided the bid was submitted in good faith, and the mistake was a clerical mistake as opposed to a judgment mistake, and was actually due to an unintentional arithmetic error or an unintentional omission of a quantity of work, labor or material made directly in the compilation of the bid, which unintentional arithmetic or unintentional omission can be clearly shown by objective evidence drawn from inspection of original work papers, documents and materials used in the preparation of the bid sought to be withdrawn. The bidder's original work papers shall be the sole acceptable evidence of error and mistake if he elects to withdraw his bid. If a bid is withdrawn under the authority of this provision, the lowest remaining responsive bid shall be deemed to be low bid. Bid withdrawal is not automatically granted and will be allowed solely at the discretion of Cobb County.

No bidder who is permitted to withdraw a bid shall, for compensation, supply any material or labor or perform any subcontract or other work agreement for the person or firm to whom the contract is awarded or otherwise benefit, directly or indirectly, from the performance of the project for which the withdrawn bid was submitted.

VI. Testing and Inspection

Since tests may require several days for completion, the County reserves the right to use a portion of any supplies before the results of tests are determined. Cost of inspections and tests of any item, which fails to meet specifications, shall be borne by the bidder.

VII. F.O.B. Point

Unless otherwise stated in the Invitation to Bid and any resulting contract, or unless qualified by the bidder, items shall be shipped F.O.B. Destination. The seller shall retain title for the risk of transportation, including the filing for loss or damages. The invoice covering the items is not payable until items are delivered and the contract of carriage has been completed. Unless the F.O.B. clause states otherwise, the seller assumes transportation and related charges either by payment or allowance.

VIII. Patent Indemnity

The contractor guarantees to hold the County, its agents, officers, or employees harmless from liability of any nature or kind for use of any copyrighted or uncopyrighted composition, secret process, patented or unpatented invention, articles or appliances furnished or used in the performance of contract, for which the contractor is not the patentee, assignee or licensee.

IX. Insurance

A. Requirement:

Contractor shall procure and maintain in full force and effect for the duration of this Agreement, insurance protecting against claims for injuries to persons or damages to

property which may arise from or in connection with performance of the Work hereunder by the Contractor, his agents, representatives, employees, or subcontractors.

B. Minimum Limits of Insurance:

Contractor shall maintain insurance policies with coverage and limits no less than:

- i. Commercial General Liability: \$1,000,000 combined single limit per occurrence for comprehensive coverage including bodily and personal injury, sickness, disease or death, injury to or destruction of property, including loss of use resulting therefrom, damage for premises/operations, products/completed operations, independent contractors and contractual liability (specifically covering the indemnity), broad-from property damage, and underground, explosion and collapse hazard. This coverage may be achieved by using an excess or umbrella policy. The policy or policies must be on "an occurrence" basis ("claims made" coverage is not acceptable).
- ii. Commercial Automobile Liability (owned, non-owned and hired): \$1,000,000 combined single limit per occurrence and for bodily and personal injury, sickness, disease or death, injury to or destruction of property, including loss of use resulting therefrom.
- iii. Workers' Compensation and Employers Liability: Workers' Compensation limits as required by the State of Georgia and Employers Liability of \$1,000,000 per occurrence or disease.
- iv. Professional Liability (Errors and Omissions) Coverage: \$1,000,000 combined single limit per occurrence is required, in the event a contractor is performing design, engineering or other professional services.
- v. Commercial Umbrella or Excess Liability Coverage: \$2,000,000 in liability excess coverage per occurrence above the contracts stated minimum coverage limits for Commercial General Liability, Commercial Automobile Liability, and the Workers' Compensation and Employers Liability policies of insurance. This may be satisfied by having the underlying liability limits that equal or exceed the combined amount of the underlying liability limits and umbrella coverage.
- vi. Builder's "All Risk" Insurance: In the event Contractor is performing construction services under the Contract, Contractor shall procure and maintain "All-Risk" Builder's insurance, written on a commercially recognized policy form, providing coverage for the Work performed under the contract, and the materials, equipment or other items incorporated therein, while the same are located at the construction site, stored off-site, or at the place of manufacture. The policy limit shall be in a minimum amount equal to the "full insurable value" of such equipment and 100% of the value of the Contract, including any additional costs which are normally insured under such policy. The insurance coverage shall include boiler and machinery insurance on a comprehensive basis and include coverage against damage or loss caused by earth movement (including but not limited to earthquake, landslide, subsidence and volcanic

eruption), fire, flood, hurricanes, explosion, hail, lighting, weather, vandalism, malicious mischief, wind, collapse, riot, aircraft, smoke, or other cataclysmic events, and coverage against damage or loss caused by machinery accidents and operational and performance testing, commissioning and start-up, with extended coverage, and providing coverage for transit, with sub-limits sufficient to insure the full replacement value of the property or equipment removed from its site and while located away from its site until the date of final acceptance of the Work.

The making of progress payments to the Contractor shall not be construed as relieving the Contractor or its subcontractors or insurance carriers providing the coverage described herein for responsibility for loss or direct physical loss, damage or destruction occurring prior to final acceptance of the Work.

C. Deductibles and Self-Insured Retention

Any deductibles or self-insurance retentions must be declared to and approved by Owner so that Owner may ensure the financial solvency of the Contractor. At the option of Owner, either the insurer shall reduce or eliminate such deductibles or self-insured retentions as respects Owner, its officers, officials, and employees; or the Contractor shall procure a bond guaranteeing payment of losses and related investigations, claim administration and defense expenses. Contractor shall pay all deductibles and be liable for all claims, losses and damages for which it self-insures.

D. Other Insurance Provisions

The policies are to contain, or be endorsed to contain, the following provisions:

- i. General Liability, Automobile Liability, and Umbrella/Excess Insurance
 - (a) Additional Insured Requirement. Cobb County, its elected and appointed officials, officers, boards, commissions, officers, employees, representatives, servants, volunteers and agents (hereinafter referred to as "Insured Party" or "Insured Parties") are to be **covered as additional insureds** as respects: liability arising out of activities performed by or on behalf of the Contractor; products and completed operations of the Contractor, premises owned, leased, or used by the Contractor; and automobiles owned, leased, hired, or borrowed by the Contractor. The coverage shall contain no special limitations on the scope of protection afforded to the Insured Parties. Nothing contained in this section shall be construed to require the Contractor to provide liability insurance coverage to the any Insured Party for claims asserted against such Insured Party for its sole negligence.
 - (b) Primary Insurance Requirement. The Contractor's insurance coverage shall be primary and noncontributing insurance as respects to any other insurance or self-insurance available to the Insured Parties. Any insurance or self-insurance maintained by the Insured Parties shall be in excess of the Contractor's insurance and shall not contribute with it.

- (c) Reporting Requirement. Any failure to comply with reporting provisions of the policies shall not affect coverage provided to the Insured Parties.
- (d) Separate Coverage. Coverage shall state that the Contractor's insurance shall apply separately to each Insured Party against whom claim is made or suit is brought.
- (e) Defense Costs/Cross Liability. Coverage shall be provided on a “pay on behalf” basis, with defense costs payable in addition to policy limits. There shall be no cross liability exclusion.

E. Workers' Compensation and Employers Liability Coverage

The Contractor shall have and maintain in full force and effect for the duration of this Agreement, insurance protecting against claims for injuries to persons or damages to property which may arise from or in connection with the performance of the Work by the Contractor, its agents, representatives, employees or subcontractors. The insurer shall agree to waive all rights of subrogation against Owner, and its officers, officials, employees and volunteers for losses arising from the work performed by the Contractor for Owner.

F. Waiver of Subrogation

The insurers shall agree under each policy of insurance required by this Contract to waive all rights of subrogation against the Insured Parties for losses arising from work performed by the Contractor for Owner.

G. All Coverages

i. Notice Requirement.

Each insurance policy required by this Contract shall be endorsed to state that coverage shall not be suspended, voided, canceled, reduced in coverage or in limits except after thirty (30) days' prior written notice by certified mail, return receipt requested, has been given to Owner, in care of the Cobb County *insert department name and address*. Owner reserves the right to accept alternate notice terms and provisions provided they meet the minimum requirements under Georgia law.

(ii) Acceptability.

The insurance to be maintained by Contractor must be issued by a company licensed or approved by the Insurance Commissioner to transact business in the State of Georgia. Such insurance shall be placed with insurers with a Best's Policyholder's Rating of “A” or better and with a financial rating of Class VII or greater, or be otherwise acceptable to Cobb County. All policies shall be subject to approval by Cobb County Attorney's Office as to form and content.

(iii) Failure of Insurers. The Contractor shall be responsible for any delay resulting from the failure of any insurer to furnish proof of coverage in the prescribed form

H. Verification of Coverage

Contractor shall furnish Owner with certificates of insurance and endorsements to the policies evidencing all coverages required by this Contract. Additionally, the declarations page for each insurance policy listed on the certificate of insurance shall be submitted to Owner. The certificates and endorsements for each insurance policy are to be signed by a person authorized by that insurer to bind coverage on its behalf. The certificates and endorsements shall be received and approved by Owner before any work commences. Owner reserves the right to require complete, certified copies of all required insurance policies at any time. The contractor shall provide proof that any expiring coverage has been renewed or replaced prior to the expiration of the coverage

I. Subcontractors

Contractor shall include all subcontractors as insureds under its policies or shall furnish separate certificates and endorsements for each subcontractor. All coverage for subcontractors shall be subject to all of the requirements stated in this Agreement, including, but not limited to, naming the Insured Parties as additional insureds.

X. Award

Award will be made to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder. Conditional bids are not accepted. The quality of articles to be supplied, their conformity with the specifications, their suitability to the requirements of the County, and the delivery terms will be taken into consideration in making the award. The County may make such investigations as it deems necessary to determine the ability of the bidder to perform, and the bidder shall furnish to the County all such information and data for this purpose as the County may request. The County reserves the right to reject any bid if the evidence submitted by, or investigation of such bidder fails to satisfy the County that such bidder is properly qualified to carry out the obligations of the contract. The County reserves the right to reject or accept any or all bids and to waive technicalities, informalities, and minor irregularities in the bids received in the County's sole discretion and best interest.

The Bidder does not have the exclusive right to fill all of the County's requirements for the goods or services awarded nor will the County be obligated to purchase the estimated annual quantity or any quantity contained in the bid document.

The County reserves the right to make an award as deemed in its best interest, which may include awarding a bid to a single bidder or multiple bidders; or to award the whole bid, only part of the bid, or none of the bid to single or multiple bidders, based on its sole discretion of its best interest. In case of tie bid, the award will be made as follows:

1. The bid will be awarded to the in-county vendor.
2. The bid will be awarded to the in-state vendor.
3. The bid will be awarded to the vendor with the lesser total dollar volume.

The County reserves the right to award by line item to more than one vendor. The County reserves the right to negotiate a lower price than the bid award price on any line item with the successful vendor, should the quantity required significantly exceed those on the Invitation to Bid. If the County is unable to negotiate an acceptable price, it reserves the right to rebid the item(s) involved. If after the award of the bid there is a decrease in the price of a product from

the manufacturer, or a rebate, the successful bidder will pass that price decrease and/or rebate onto the County.

Time payment discounts will be considered in arriving at net prices and in award of bids. Offers of discount for payment within ten (10) days following the end of the month are preferred.

It is the intent of Cobb County Government to award all contracts in a manner that promotes fair, equitable treatment of all contractors and sub-contractors without regard to race, color, creed, national origin, gender, age, or disability.

XI. Delivery Failures

Failure of a contractor to deliver within the time specified or within reasonable time as interpreted by the Purchasing Director, or failure to make replacement of rejected articles/services when so requested, immediately or as directed by the Purchasing Director, shall constitute authority for the Purchasing Director to purchase in the open market articles/services of comparable grade to replace the articles/services rejected or not delivered. On all such purchases, the contractor shall reimburse the County within a reasonable time specified by the Purchasing Director for any expense incurred in excess of contract prices, or the County shall have the right to deduct such amount from monies owed the defaulting contractor. Alternatively, the County may penalize the contractor one percent (1%) per day for a period of up to ten (10) days for each day that delivery or replacement is late. Should public necessity demand it, the County reserves the right to use or consume articles delivered which are substandard in quality, subject to an adjustment in price to be determined by the Purchasing Director.

XII. County Furnished Property

No material, labor or facilities will be furnished by the County unless so provided in the invitation to bid.

XIII. Reject and Withdraw Bids

Failure to observe any of the instructions or conditions in this invitation to bid may constitute grounds for rejection of bid.

XIV. Contract

Upon submitting a bid in response to an ITB containing a Cobb County Sample Contract as part of the requirements, it is understood that the bidder has reviewed the documents with the understanding that Cobb County requires that the successful bidder(s) shall enter into a contract that is substantially the same as the Sample Contract unless modified by agreement of the parties. If any exceptions are taken to any part of the Sample Contract, each exception must be stated in detail and submitted as part of the bid document. If no exceptions are stated, it is assumed that the bidder fully agrees to the Sample Contract in its entirety. The foregoing should not be interpreted to prohibit either party from proposing additional contract terms and conditions during negotiation of the final contract, and the County reserves the right to make

changes to the Sample Contract. In no event is a bidder to submit its own standard contract terms and conditions as a response to this ITB.

The Price and all unit prices shown shall be deemed to include all costs of Contractor's performance of the Work as set forth in the Bid Documents, including, but not limited to, the costs of labor, supervision, travel, services, materials, equipment, tools, scaffolds, hoisting, transportation, storage, insurance and taxes.

Each bid is received with the understanding that selection as the successful bidder by the County does not constitute a written contract between the successful bidder and the County, but shall bind the bidder on his part to furnish and deliver the articles quoted at the prices stated in accordance with the conditions of said accepted bid upon execution of a written contract with the County authorized by the County Board of Commissioners and signed by the Chairman. Once a contract is executed by the proper authorities for each party, the County, on its part, may order from such contractor, and except for cause beyond reasonable control, pay for, at the agreed prices, all articles specified and delivered.

XV. Non-Collusion

By submission of a bid, the vendor certifies, under penalty of perjury, that to the best of its knowledge and belief:

- (a) The prices in the proposal have been arrived at independently without collusion, consultation, communications, or agreement, for the purpose of restricting competition, as to any matter relating to such prices with any other vendor or with any competitor.
- (b) Unless otherwise required by law, the prices which have been quoted in the proposal have not been knowingly disclosed by the vendor prior to opening, directly or indirectly, to any other vendor or to any competitor.
- (c) No attempt has been made, or will be made, by the vendor to induce any other person, partnership or corporation to submit or not to submit a proposal for the purpose of restricting competition.

Collusions and fraud in bid preparation shall be reported to the State of Georgia Attorney General and the United States Justice Department.

XVI. Conflict of Interest, Etc.

By submission of a bid, the responding firm certifies, under penalty of perjury, that to the best of its knowledge and belief:

1. No circumstances exist which cause a Conflict of Interest in performing the services required by this ITB, and
2. That no employee of the County, nor any member thereof, not any public agency or official affected by this ITB, has any pecuniary interest in the business of the responding firm or his sub-consultant(s) has any interest that would conflict in any manner or degree with the performance related to this ITB.

By submission of a bid, the vendor certifies under penalty of perjury, that to the best of its knowledge and belief:

- (a) The prices in the bid have been arrived at independently without collusion, consultation, communications, or agreement, for the purpose of restricting

competition, as to any matter relating to such prices with any other vendor or with any competitor.

- (b) Unless otherwise required by law, the prices which have been quoted in the bid have not knowingly been disclosed by the vendor prior to opening, directly or indirectly, to any other vendor or competitor.
- (c) No attempt has been made, or will be made, by the vendor to induce any other person, partnership or cooperation to submit or not to submit a bid for the purpose of restricting competition.

For any breach or violation of this provision, the County shall have the right to terminate any related contract or agreement without liability and at its discretion to deduct from the price, or otherwise recover, the full amount of such fee, commission, percentage, gift, payment or consideration.

The successful responding firm shall require each of its sub-consultant(s) to sign a statement certifying to and agreeing to comply with the terms of the Sub-sections above.

XVII. Default

The contract may be cancelled or annulled by the Purchasing Director in whole or in part by written notice of default to the contractor upon non-performance or violation of contract terms. An award may be made to the next low responsive and responsible bidder, or articles specified may be purchased on the open market similar to those so terminated. In either event, the defaulting contractor (or his surety) shall be liable to the County for costs to the County in excess of the defaulted contract prices; provided, however, that the contractor shall continue the performance of this contract to the extent not terminated under the provisions of this clause. Failure of the contractor to deliver materials or services within the time stipulated on his bid, unless extending in writing by the Purchasing Director, shall constitute contract default.

XVIII. Disputes

Except as otherwise provided in the contract documents, any dispute concerning a question of fact arising under the contract which is not disposed of shall be decided after a hearing by the Purchasing Director, who shall reduce his/her decision to writing and mail or otherwise furnish a copy thereof to the contractor. The decision of the Purchasing Director shall be final and binding; however, the contractor shall have the right to appeal said decision to a court of competent jurisdiction.

XIX. Substitutions

Bidders offering and quoting on substitutions or who are deviating from the attached specifications shall list such deviations on a separate sheet to be submitted with their bid. The absence of such a substitution list shall indicate that the bidder has taken no exception to the specifications contained herein.

XX. Ineligible Bidders

The County may choose not to accept the bid of a bidder who is in default on the payment of taxes, licenses, or other monies due to the County. Failure to respond three (3) consecutive

times for any given commodity/service may result in removal from the supplier list under that commodity/service.

XXI. Alterations of Documents

Alterations of County documents are strictly prohibited and will result in automatic disqualification of the firm's solicitation response. If there are "exceptions" or comments to any of the solicitation requirements or other language, then the firm may make notes to those areas, but may not materially alter any document language.

XXII. Termination for Convenience

The successful Bidder will be required to enter into a contract containing a provision for termination of the contract for the County's convenience. The following is a sample of the provision.

The County, by written notice, may terminate this contract, in whole or in part, when it is in the County's interest. If this contract is terminated, the County shall be liable only for goods or services delivered or accepted. The County Notice of Termination may provide the contractor thirty (30) days prior notice before it becomes effective. However, at the County's sole option a termination of convenience may be effective immediately and may apply to delivery orders (if applicable) or to the contract in whole.

XXIII. Inter-Governmental Agreement

Other cities and Authorities located in Cobb County will be allowed to purchase identical items at the same price and upon the same terms and conditions, pursuant to the Intergovernmental Cooperative Purchasing Agreements entered into between the BOC and Cobb County Governmental entities listed under the Intergovernmental Cooperative Purchasing Program. These entities include the Cobb County Board of Education and Cities of Acworth, Austell, Kennesaw, Smyrna, Marietta, and Powder Springs and the Cobb County-Marietta Water Authority and the Cobb-Marietta Coliseum and Exhibit Hall Authority.

XXIV. Indemnification

By submitting a Bid, the Bidder hereby agrees to indemnify, defend and hold harmless the County, its departments, employees and the Board of Commissioners from and against any and all claims, demands, liabilities, losses, costs or expenses, including attorneys' fees, due to liability to a third party or parties, for any loss due to bodily injury (including death), personal injury, and property damage, including but not limited to intellectual property claims, arising directly or indirectly from the submission of the Bid hereunder, but only to the extent such claims are caused by the negligence, recklessness or intentionally wrongful conduct of the Bidder or its agents, employees, associates, subcontractors or others working at the direction of Bidder. This indemnification obligation survives beyond the submission date of the Bid and the dissolution or, to the extent allowed by law, the bankruptcy of the Bidder.

XXV. Indemnification and Hold Harmless

The Contractor covenants and agrees to take and assume all responsibility for the Work rendered in connection with this Agreement. The Contractor shall bear all losses and damages directly or

indirectly resulting to it on account of the performance or character of the Work rendered pursuant to this Agreement. To the fullest extent permitted by law, the Contractor shall defend, indemnify and hold harmless the County and the County's elected and appointed officials, officers, boards, commissions, employees, representatives, consultants, servants, agents and volunteers (individually an "Indemnified Party" and collectively the "Indemnified Parties") from and against any and all claims, suits, actions, judgments, injuries, damages, losses, expenses, and liability of any kind whatsoever, including but not limited to attorneys' fees and other legal expenses, ("Liabilities") to the extent caused by or resulting from negligence, recklessness, or intentionally wrongful conduct arising out of the Work, performance of contracted services, or operations by Contractor, any subcontractor, anyone directly or indirectly employed by the Contractor or subcontractor or anyone for whose acts the Contractor or subcontractor may be liable, regardless of whether or not the negligent act or omission is caused in part by a party indemnified hereunder. This indemnity obligation does not include Liabilities caused by or resulting from the sole negligence of an Indemnified Party. Such obligation shall not be construed to negate, abridge or otherwise reduce other rights or obligations of indemnity which would otherwise exist as to the party or person described in this Section XXIV.

In any and all claims against an Indemnified Party or Indemnified Parties by an employee of the Contractor, its subcontractors, anyone directly or indirectly employed by them or anyone for whose acts they may be liable, the indemnification obligation under this Section XXIV shall not be limited by a limitation on amount or type of damages, compensation or benefits payable by or for the Contractor, or its subcontractors, under workers' or workmen's compensation acts, disability benefit acts or other employee benefit acts.

This obligation to indemnify, defend and hold harmless the Indemnified Party and Indemnified Parties shall survive the expiration or termination of this Agreement provided that the claims are based upon or arise out of acts or omissions that occurred during the performance of this Agreement.

XXVI. Special Terms and Conditions

Should these General Terms and Conditions be in conflict with any attached Special Terms and Conditions, the Special Terms and Conditions will control.

**XXVII. Compliance with Georgia Security and Immigration Compliance Act
PROCEDURES & REQUIREMENTS**
(Effective 09-20-2013 - Supersedes All Previous Versions)

BACKGROUND

Pursuant to the “Georgia Security and Immigration Compliance Act,” Cobb County cannot enter into a contract for the physical performance of services unless the contractor registers and participates in the federal work authorization program to verify information of all newly hired employees or subcontractors. Neither may any contractor or subcontractor enter a contract with the county in connection with the physical performance of services unless the contractor and/or subcontractor registers and participates in the federal work authorization program to verify information of all new employees. O.C.G.A. § 13-10-91.

Before any bid for the physical performance of services is considered, the bid must include a signed, notarized affidavit from the contractor attesting to the following: (1) the affiant has registered with and is authorized to use the federal work authorization program; (2) the user ID number and date of authorization for the affiant; and (3) the affiant is using and will continue to use the federal work authorization program throughout the contract period. O.C.G.A. § 13-10-91 (b) (1). Affidavits shall be maintained for five years from the date of receipt. O.C.G.A. § 13-10-91 (b) (1).

Upon contracting with a new subcontractor, a contractor or subcontractor shall, as a condition of the contract or subcontract, provide Cobb County with notice of the identity of any and all subsequent subcontractors hired or contracted by that contractor or subcontractor within five (5) business days of entering into a contract or agreement for hire with any subcontractor. Such notice shall include an affidavit including the subcontractor’s name, address, user ID number, and date of authorization to use the federal work authorization program. O.C.G.A. § 13-10-91 (b) (3).

Based upon the County’s experience and desire for full compliance, no work may be commenced by any subsequent subcontractor prior to notice being received by the County that the subcontractor (regardless of tier) is in compliance with the law and the attached Procedures & Requirements, including the preparation and submission of the Contractor (or Subcontractor) Affidavit & Agreement AND the Immigration Compliance Certificate PRIOR to the commencement of any work.

DEFINITIONS

Affidavit – a written statement made or taken under oath before an officer of the court or a notary public or other person who duly has been authorized so to act.

Affiant – the person who makes and subscribes to a statement made under oath (affidavit).

Physical Performance of Services – any performance of labor or services for a public employer using a bidding process or by contract wherein the labor or services exceed \$2,499.99.

PROCEDURES & REQUIREMENTS

1. Bid Documents: Bid documents should contain information regarding the contract language and contractual requirements described below.
2. Responsive Bid Documents: Responsive bid documents MUST INCLUDE a signed, notarized affidavit from the contractor in the form attached as EXHIBIT A (CONTRACTOR AFFIDAVIT & AGREEMENT). **If the affidavit is not submitted at the time of the bid, the applicant will be disqualified.**

This Affidavit Must Be Signed, Notarized And Submitted With Any Bid Requiring The Performance Of Physical Services. If The Affidavit Is Not Submitted At The Time Of The Bid, The Bid Will Be Determined To Be Non-Responsive And Will Be Disqualified.

3. Contract Language & Contractual Requirements: Affirmative language shall be contained in agreements for the performance of services to cover all statutory and County requirements; such language shall require:
 - (a) That affidavits in the form attached to these “Procedures & Requirements” be executed from a contractor (and any subcontractors, regardless of tier) and notarized, showing compliance with the requirements of O.C.G.A. § 13-10-91 and that such be made part of the contract and/or subcontracts;
 - (b) That the contractor (and any subcontractors, regardless of tier) fully comply with the requirements for completing and submitting the “Immigration Compliance Certification” and that such certification be received by the County prior to the commencement of any work under the contract or subcontract;
 - (c) That the contractor (or any subcontractor, regardless of tier) notify the County within five (5) business days of entering into a contract or other agreement for hire with any subcontractor(s), regardless of tier;
 - (d) That the contractor be responsible for obtaining and providing to the County the “Subcontractor Affidavit & Agreement” and “Immigration Compliance Certification” attached to and required under these “Procedures & Requirements” from each subcontractor, regardless of tier, employed or retained for work under the contract prior to the commencement of any work under the contract or any subcontract;
 - (e) That Cobb County, Georgia, reserves the right to dismiss, or require the dismissal of, any contractor or subcontractor for failing to provide the required affidavit or certification and/or for failure to comply with the statutory requirements of O.C.G.A. § 13-10-91 and/or for providing false or misleading information upon the required affidavit(s) or certification(s);
 - (f) That any contractor and/or subcontractor retaining any other subcontractor to perform services under the contract provide legal notice to any subcontractor of the requirements of Cobb County for immigration compliance and further provide notice that Cobb County, Georgia, reserves the right to dismiss, or require the dismissal of, any contractor or subcontractor for failing to provide the required affidavit or certification and/or for failure to

comply with the statutory requirements of O.C.G.A. § 13-10-91 and/or for providing false or misleading information upon the required affidavit(s) or certification(s);

(g) That failure to comply with any of the requirements and procedures of the County (i.e., failure to timely supply required affidavits or compliance certification documents; failure to utilize federal work authorization procedures; failure to permit or facilitate audits or reviews of records by County or State officials upon request; and/or failure to continue to meet any of the statutory or County obligations during the life of the contract) shall constitute a material breach of the agreement and shall entitle the County to dismiss any general contractor or to require the dismissal of any subcontractor or sub/subcontractor (irrespective of tier) for failing to fully comply with these requirements;

(h) That upon notice of a material breach of these provisions, the contractor (or subcontractor, regardless of tier) shall be entitled to cure the breach within ten (10) days and provide evidence of such cure. Should the breach not be cured, the County shall be entitled to all available remedies, including termination of the contract, the requirement that a subcontractor be dismissed from performing work under the contract, and any and all damages permissible by law.

4. Immigration Compliance Certification: Prior to commencing work under any contract for the physical performance of services, the contractor shall complete the “IMMIGRATION COMPLIANCE CERTIFICATION” form attached to these “Procedures & Requirements” and submit the same to the County.

Prior to allowing any other subcontractor to perform work under the contract, the contractor shall obtain a completed “IMMIGRATION COMPLIANCE CERTIFICATION” from each subcontractor (regardless of tier) and submit the same to the County.

FORM ATTACHMENTS:

1. CONTRACTOR AFFIDAVIT & AGREEMENT (EXHIBIT A);
2. SUBCONTRACTOR AFFIDAVIT & AGREEMENT (EXHIBIT A-1);
3. IMMIGRATION COMPLIANCE CERTIFICATION (EXHIBIT A-2).

**CONTRACTOR AFFIDAVIT & AGREEMENT
(EXHIBIT A)**

This affidavit must be signed, notarized and submitted with any bid requiring the performance of physical services. If the affidavit is not submitted at the time of the bid, the bid will be determined non-responsive and will be disqualified.

By executing this affidavit, the undersigned contractor verifies compliance with O.C.G.A. §13-10-91, stating affirmatively that the individual, firm or corporation which is contracting with Cobb County, Georgia, has registered with, is authorized to use, and is participating in a federal work authorization program (an electronic verification of work authorization program operated by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security or any equivalent federal work authorization program operated by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security to verify information of newly hired employees, pursuant to the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986 (IRCA)). The undersigned contractor further attests that it will continue to use the federal Employment Eligibility Verification (EEV) work authorization program throughout the contract period.

The undersigned further agrees that should it employ or contract with any subcontractor(s) or should its subcontractor(s) employ other subcontractor(s) for the physical performance of services pursuant to the contract with Cobb County, Georgia, the contractor or subcontractor will:

- (1) Notify the County within five business days of entering into a contract or agreement for hire with any subcontractor(s);
- (2) Secure from any subcontractor(s) and/or their subcontractor(s) verification of compliance with O.C.G.A. § 13-10-91 on the attached Subcontractor Affidavit (EXHIBIT A-1) prior to the commencement of any work under the contract/agreement;
- (3) Secure from any subcontractor(s) and/or their subcontractor(s) a completed Immigration Compliance Certification (EXHIBIT A-2) prior to the commencement of any work under the contract/agreement;
- (4) Provide the subcontractor(s) with legal notice that Cobb County, Georgia, reserves the right to dismiss, or require the dismissal of, any contractor or subcontractor for failing to provide the affidavit and/or for failure to comply with the requirements referenced in the affidavit;
- (5) Maintain records of such compliance and provide a copy of each such verification to Cobb County, Georgia, at the time the subcontractor(s) is retained to perform such services or upon any request from Cobb County, Georgia; and
- (6) Maintain such records for a period of five (5) years.

EEV (E-Verify) Program Number

EEV Program Date of Authorization

BY: Authorized Officer or Agent
[Contractor Name]

Contractor Business Name

Printed Name

Date

SWORN AND SUBSCRIBED BEFORE ME
ON THIS THE ____ DAY OF _____, 201_

Notary Public Commission Expires: _____

Effective 09-20-2013

**SUBCONTRACTOR AFFIDAVIT & AGREEMENT
(EXHIBIT A-1)**

By executing this affidavit, the undersigned subcontractor verifies its compliance with O.C.G.A. § 13-10-91, stating affirmatively that the individual, firm or corporation which is engaged in the physical performance of services on behalf of Cobb County, Georgia, has registered with, is authorized to use, and is participating in a federal work authorization program (an electronic verification of work authorization program operated by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security or any equivalent federal work authorization program operated by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security to verify information of newly hired employees, pursuant to the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986 (IRCA)). The undersigned contractor further attests that it will continue to use the federal Employment Eligibility Verification (EEV) work authorization program throughout the contract period.

The undersigned further agrees that should it employ or contract with any subcontractor(s) or should its subcontractor(s) employ other subcontractor(s) for the physical performance of services pursuant to the contract with Cobb County, Georgia, the undersigned subcontractor will:

- (1) Notify the County within five business days of entering into a contract or agreement for hire with any subcontractor(s);
- (2) Secure from any subcontractor(s) and/or their subcontractor(s) verification of compliance with O.C.G.A. § 13-10-91 on this Subcontractor Affidavit form (EXHIBIT A-1) prior to the commencement of any work under the contract/agreement;
- (3) Secure from any subcontractor(s) and/or their subcontractor(s) a completed Immigration Compliance Certification (EXHIBIT A-2) prior to the commencement of any work under the contract/agreement;
- (4) Provide the subcontractor(s) with legal notice that Cobb County, Georgia, reserves the right to dismiss, or require the dismissal of, any contractor or subcontractor for failing to provide the affidavit and/or for failure to comply with the requirements referenced in the affidavit;
- (5) Maintain records of such compliance and provide a copy of each such verification to Cobb County, Georgia, at the time the subcontractor(s) is retained to perform such services or upon any request from Cobb County, Georgia; and
- (6) Maintain such records for a period of five (5) years.

EEV (E-Verify) Program Number

EEV Program Date of Authorization

BY: Authorized Officer or Agent
[Subcontractor Name]

Subcontractor Business Name

Printed Name

Date

SWORN AND SUBSCRIBED BEFORE ME
ON THIS THE ____ DAY OF _____, 201_

Notary Public Commission Expires: _____

Effective 09-20-2013

IMMIGRATION COMPLIANCE CERTIFICATION
(Required to be completed by Contractors and all Subcontractors)
(EXHIBIT A-2)

I certify to the Cobb County Board of Commissioners that the following employees will be assigned to:

_____ <i>(Project Name/Description)</i>		
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

I further certify to Cobb County, Georgia the following:

- The E-Verify program was used to verify the employment eligibility of each of the above-listed employees hired after the effective date of our contract to use the program;
- We have not received a Final Nonconfirmation response from E-Verify for any of the employees listed.
- If we receive a Final Nonconfirmation response from E-Verify for any of the employees listed above, we will immediately terminate that employee's involvement with the project.
- I have confirmed that we have an I-9 on file for every employee listed above and that to the best of my knowledge all the I-9s are accurate.
- To the best of my knowledge and belief, all of the employees on the above list are legally authorized to work in the United States.
- If any other employee is assigned to this Cobb County project, a certification will be provided for said employee prior to the employee commencing work on the project.

To the best of my knowledge and belief, the above certification is true, accurate and complete.

Sworn to by:

Employer Name & Address:

Signature of Officer

Printed Name/Title

Date

SWORN AND SUBSCRIBED BEFORE ME
ON THIS THE ____ DAY OF _____, 201_

Notary Public
Commission Expires: _____

Effective 09-20-2013

XXVIII. Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBE): The following provisions should be carefully read to determine applicability to your business.

Cobb County Government encourages the participation of all businesses in offering their services and/or products. The Cobb County Government has the goal to fairly and competitively procure the best product at the most reasonable cost.

A Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) is generally defined as a Female, Black American, Hispanic American and any other minority owned business. The Federal Government has long had program in place to ensure participation of DBE vendors and suppliers. The State of Georgia has established a similar program whereby DBE firms are defined, certified and made known. This effort is managed by the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT). More information can be obtained from GDOT web site:

1. <http://www.dot.state.ga.us/eeo-div/index.shtml>

The Cobb County Government addresses DBE business participation (frequency and dollar value) in the following ways:

1. Cobb County wishes to identify all DBE participation; both at the contractor and sub-contractor levels in the following ways.
 - a. DBE businesses are requested to identify such status at the time they register as a vendor.
 - b. DBE businesses are requested to identify themselves at the time they propose to do business. Please complete **EXHIBIT B** if applicable and return with bid submittal.
 - c. All businesses will receive with each Purchase Order an instruction sheet for use of the furnished *Cobb County Government DBE Participation Report*, **EXHIBIT C**. Businesses are requested to complete this report and submit it with each invoice for the time period billed.
2. Cobb County has established a Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Plan in accordance with the regulations of the U.S. Department of Transportation (U. S. Department of Transportation (USDOT), 49 CFR Part 26.) The Cobb County Department of Transportation is the lead agency for implementing the USDOT DBE Program for the County.

The Plan applies only to projects which are clearly indicated by the County.

EXHIBIT B

DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS ENTERPRISE (DBE) IDENTIFICATION FORM

A Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) is generally defined as a Female, Black American, Hispanic American and any other minority owned business. If your firm is classified as a Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE), please complete this form and submit with bid response or send to:

Cobb County Purchasing Department
Attn: Purchasing Director
122 Waddell Street
Marietta, GA 30060
Fax: 770-528-1154
Email: purchasing@cobbcounty.org

Name of Business: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Fax: _____

Email: _____

Certification Number: _____

Name of Organization Certification _____

This information is acquired for informational purposes only and will have no bearing on the award unless otherwise stated.

Instructions for Completing Exhibit C
Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE)
Participation Report

All Cobb County Government contractors or vendors are requested to complete a report descriptive of any DBE subcontractor involvement in work for which the government is making payment. If otherwise specified in an RFP/ITB or contract, additional reporting forms may be required as well.

The objective of this request is to assist in the identification of Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) business participation with the Cobb County Government and to quantify that participation.

The Cobb County Government does not administer a DBE Certification Program. The principle certification agency for the State of Georgia is the Georgia Department of Transportation. As a Contractor/Vendor you are not responsible for verification of any DBE Certification information of your subcontractor.

***** Instructions *****

1. Contractor/Vendor is furnished the one-page *DBE Monthly Participation Report* with each Cobb County Government-issued Purchase Order.
2. Contractor/Vendor completes this report for each billing period and attaches it to the invoice to then be sent to the County department/agency receiving the service or product.
3. Upon receipt of a Contractor/Vendor invoice and DBE report, the County department/agency receiving the service or product should keep a copy of the completed DBE report for their reporting process. In order to add or verify the prime contractor is registered as a DBE vendor in AMS, the County department/agency should send a copy of the DBE report to:

Cobb County Purchasing Division
Attn.: DBE Report

A Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) is a firm that is under the control of someone in an ownership position (at least 51%) that:

1. Has membership in one or more of the following groups: Female, Black American, Hispanic American, Native American, Subcontinent Asian American and Asian-Pacific America. There may be other groups that may be eligible to be certified as DBE.
2. Is a U.S. citizen or lawfully admitted permanent resident of the U.S.
3. Has a personal net worth which does not exceed \$750,000.
4. The business meets the Small Business Administration's size standard for a small business. Its annual gross receipts for the three previous fiscal years cannot have exceeded \$22,410,000. Depending on the type of work the business performs, other size standards may apply.
5. The business is organized as a for-profit business.
6. The business may also be DBE eligible as a certified U.S. Small Business Administration 8 (a) program.

Exhibit C
Cobb County Government Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Participation
Monthly Report

Contractor/Vendor: Please keep this blank report to make copies as needed. Print or type in the report, then send the completed report to the County department/agency receiving the service or product.

County Departments: Keep a copy of this completed report and use the dollar figures to input into your quarterly DBE report to the DBE Liaison (Records Management Division). If you already have a similar reporting method of gathering the dollar figures continue to use it. Send a copy of this completed report to the Purchasing Division (Attn: DBE Report) to add or verify the prime contractor is registered as a DBE vendor.

Submitted by: _____ Month Invoiced: _____
Name of Prime Contractor/Vendor **From/To:**

Cobb County Project Name: _____ Bid or P.O. Number: _____

Cobb County Department or Agency receiving service or product: _____

Description of Purchased Service/Product: _____

Full Contracted Amount: \$ _____ Payment amount requested at this time: \$ _____

1. Are YOU, the Prime Contractor a DBE business? YES _____ NO _____
2. Are YOUR subcontractors DBE vendors? YES _____ NO _____

Please provide information below for each participating DBE subcontractor(s).

DBE Subcontractor Business Name	Type Service or Product Supplied	DBE Subcontractor Business/Contact Tel. Number	Actual Dollar Value of DBE Subcontractor Participation this Reporting Month
			\$
			\$
			\$
			\$
			\$

Submitted by: _____
Printed Name Signature of Authorized Representative

Title or position: _____

Date Completed: _____