

BRAZORIA COUNTY

STANDARD TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- 1. FUNDING:** Funds for payment have been provided through the Brazoria County budget approved by the Commissioners Court for the current fiscal year only. State of Texas statutes prohibit the obligation and expenditure of public funds beyond the fiscal year for which a budget has been approved. Therefore, anticipated orders or other obligations that may arise past the end of the current Brazoria County fiscal year shall be subject to budget approval.
- 2. DELIVERY:** Items ordered from this bid/offer may require delivery to various locations throughout Brazoria County, as specified in this bid/offer or at time of order. All delivery and freight charges (F.O.B. Brazoria County designated location) are to be included in the bid/offer price except as noted herein.
- 3. AWARD OF CONTRACT:** Brazoria County reserves the right to reject any or all bids/offers, and to select any part or parts thereof without accepting the entire bid/offer. All solicitations may be compared with contracts available to the County through other sources such as Interlocal Agreements and other appropriate sources. Brazoria County may purchase through the source that provides the lowest and best bid/offer to the County. Successful bidder will be notified of award as promptly as a thorough analysis of bids/offers will permit, and shall have ten (10) calendar days following date of notification of award in which to supply bonds and certificate of insurance as may be required herein.
 - 3.1** Brazoria County hereby notifies Bidder/Offerer that pursuant to Texas Local Government Code §262.0276 (effective September 1, 2003) Brazoria County is prohibited from entering into a contract or other transaction which requires approval by the Commissioners Court with an individual, sole proprietorship, corporation, non-profit corporation, partnership joint venture, limited corporation or other entity which is indebted to the County. Further, that this contract may be terminated and payment withheld if awarded Bidder/Offerer becomes indebted to the County during the term of the Contract.
- 4. EQUAL EMPLOYMENT:** All contracts will be awarded by Brazoria County without consideration as to race, religion, sex, national origin or disability of bidder. Successful bidders are required to adhere to the provisions of 42 USCA Sec. 12101 et seq., Americans with Disabilities Act.
- 5. CONTRACT:** The bid/offer, when properly supplemented by any bonds and/or certificate of insurance as may be required herein, and when accepted by Brazoria County, shall constitute a Contract equally binding between the successful bidder and Brazoria County. No invoices will be paid prior to acceptance of Contract by Brazoria County. No different or additional terms will become a part of this Contract.
- 6. INTERLOCAL PARTICIPATION:** It is hereby made a precondition of any bid/offer for a Contract for supplies or services and a part of these specifications, that the submission of any bid/offer in response to this request constitutes a bid/offer made under the same conditions, for the same price, and for the same effective period as this bid/offer, to any other governmental entity having an interlocal agreement with Brazoria County.
 - 6.1** It is further understood, that any other governmental entity that elects to use a Brazoria County Semi-annual or annual award will issue its own Contracts or purchase orders and will require separate billing.
- 7. DEFAULT OF BIDDER:** If successful bidder defaults by failing to supply bonds and/or certificate of insurance within the ten (10) day period allotted, award shall pass to the next lowest bidder upon the approval of Commissioners' Court.
 - 7.1** Bidder, in submitting this bid/offer, agrees that Brazoria County shall not be liable to prosecution for damages in the event that the County declares the bidder in default.
- 8. ADDENDA:** Any interpretations, corrections or changes to these Contract documents and specifications will be made by addenda. Sole issuing authority of addenda shall be vested in the Brazoria County Purchasing Director. Addenda will be mailed to all that are known to have received a copy of the bid/offer package and/or Contract. Bidders shall acknowledge receipt of all addenda.
- 9. SALES TAX:** Brazoria County is exempt by law from payment of Texas Sales Tax and Federal Excise Tax.

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10. ETHICAL CONDUCT: The bidder shall not offer or accept gifts or anything of value, not enter into any business arrangement with any employee, official, or Director of Brazoria County. No public official shall have interest in this Contract, in accordance with Texas Local Government Code Annotated Title 5, Subtitle C, Chapter 171.

10.1 The bidder affirms that the only person or parties interested in this bid/offer as principals are those named herein, and that this bid/offer is made without collusion with any other person, firm, or corporation.

11. MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR RESPONSIBLE PROSPECTIVE BIDDERS: A prospective bidder must affirmatively demonstrate bidder's responsibility. A prospective bidder must meet the following requirements:

- 1) Have adequate financial resources, or the ability to obtain such resources as required;
- 2) Be able to comply with the required or proposed delivery schedule;
- 3) Have a satisfactory record of performance;
- 4) Have a satisfactory record of integrity and ethics;
- 5) Be otherwise qualified and eligible to receive an award.

11.1 Brazoria County may request representation and other information sufficient to determine bidder's ability to meet these minimum standards listed above.

12. REFERENCES: During an analysis of all bids/offers, Brazoria County may request bidder to supply a list of three (3) references to which like services or materials have been supplied by bidder. If requested, references should include name of firm, address, telephone number and name of representative.

13. INSURANCE: Prior to acceptance of contract by Brazoria County, the successful bidder must furnish a Certificate of Insurance from an approved insurance carrier for the coverage indicated.

14. SILENCE OF SPECIFICATIONS: The apparent silence of the specifications contained as a part of this package as to any detail or to the apparent omission of a detailed description concerning any point, shall be regarded as meaning that only the best commercial practices are to prevail. All interpretations of these specifications shall be made on the basis of this statement.

15. INDEMNIFICATION: The successful bidder (herein after referred to as Contractor), shall defend, indemnify, and save harmless Brazoria County and all its officers, Directors, and employees from all suits, actions, or other claims of any character, name, and description brought for or on account of any injuries or damages of any negligent act or fault of the Contractor; or on account of or in consequence of any neglect in safeguarding the work; or through use of unacceptable materials in constructing the work; or because of any act of omission, neglect, or misconduct of said Contractor; or because any claims or amount recovered from any infringements of patent, trademark, or copyright; or from any claims or amounts arising recovered under the Worker's Compensation Act, or any other law ordinance, order, or decree; or of any Director, employee, subcontractor, or supplier in the execution of, or performance under, any Contract which may result from award of bid/offer.

15.1 Further, Contractor indemnifies and will indemnify and save harmless Brazoria County from liability, claim or demand on their part, their Directors, servants, customers, and/or employees, whether such liability, claim, or demand arise from event or casualty happening within the job site itself or elsewhere. Contractor shall pay any judgment with costs which may be obtained against Brazoria County growing out of such injury or damages.

15.2 Money due the Contractor under and by virtue of his Contract as may be considered necessary by the County for such purpose may be retained for the use of the County, or in case no money is due, his surety may be held until such suit or suits action or actions, claim or claims for injuries or damages as aforesaid shall have been settled and suitable evidence to the effect furnished to the County, except that money due the Contractor will not be withheld when the Contractor produces satisfactory evidence that he is adequately protected by public liability and property damage insurance.

16. THIRD PARTY BENEFICIARY CLAUSE: It is specifically agreed between the parties executing the Contract that it is not intended by any of the provisions of any part of the Contract to create with the public or any member thereof a third party beneficiary or to authorize anyone not a party to the Contract to maintain a suit for personal injuries or property damage pursuant to the terms or provisions of the Contract.

17. PURCHASE ORDERS REQUIRED: All orders for materials or work must be authenticated by a purchase order issued by the Brazoria County Purchasing Department. Invoices not bearing a purchase order number will not be paid.

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- 18. TESTING:** All materials being used in fulfillment of this Contract are subject to inspection or test at any time during their preparation, delivery, or use. At the option of the County Purchasing Director, they may be sampled and tested in order to determine compliance with the governing specifications. Materials not conforming to the requirements of these specifications shall not be used in fulfillment of this Contract with Brazoria County. The County reserves the right to immediately cancel any Contract found not to be in compliance with governing specifications as a result of testing by the County.
- 19. WAGES:** Contractor shall pay or cause to be paid, without cost or expense to Brazoria County, all Social Security, Unemployment and Federal Income Withholding Taxes of all employees; and all such employees shall be paid wages and benefits as required by Federal and/or State law. Contracts involving construction work or supply of materials in place shall abide by the provisions of Article 5159d Texas Revised Civil Statutes Annotated.
- 20. TERMINATION OF CONTRACT:** This Contract shall remain in effect until Contract expires, or until terminated by either party upon thirty (30) days written notice. The Contractor must state in such notice the reasons for such cancellation, and shall address it to the County Purchasing Director, 111 East Locust, Bldg. A-29, Suite 100, Angleton, Texas 77515. Brazoria County reserves the right to award canceled Contract to next lowest and best bidder as it deems to be in the best interest of the County.
- 20.1** In the event of breach or default of this Contract, Brazoria County reserves the right to enforce the performance of this Contract in any manner prescribed by law or deemed to be in the best interest of the County.
- 20.2** In the event the Contractor shall fail to perform, keep, or observe any of the terms and conditions to be performed, kept, or observed, Brazoria County shall give the Contractor written notice of such default; and in the event said default is not remedied to the satisfaction and approval of the County within two (2) working days of receipt of such notice by the Contractor, default will be declared and all the Contractor's rights shall terminate.
- 21. DELIVERY OF NOTICES:** Any notice provided by this Contract (or required by law) to be given to the Contractor by Brazoria County shall be conclusively deemed to have been given and received on the next day after such written notice has been deposited in the mail in Angleton, Texas, by Registered or Certified mail with sufficient postage affixed thereto, addressed to the Contractor at the address so provided; provided this shall not prevent the giving of actual notice in any other manner.
- 22. DELIVERY TICKETS:** Delivery tickets shall accompany each order shipped, and shall show Contractor's name and address, delivery location, Brazoria County purchase order number and descriptive information as to item and quantity delivered.
- 23. HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES:** State law requires that shipments of hazardous substances shall include MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEETS (MSDS). MSDS must be supplied with the first order shipped under any contract, and at any time MSDS is revised.
- 24. PAYMENT:** Payment shall be made upon receipt and/or acceptance in accordance with the terms of this Contract by the County of items(s) ordered, and receipt of a valid invoice in accordance with Article 601f Texas Revised Civil Statutes Annotated. Contractor is required to pay subcontractors within ten (10) days.
- 25. CONTRACTOR'S LIABILITY:** The Contractor shall be responsible for all damage or injury to property of any character during the execution of the work, resulting from any act, omission, neglect, or misconduct in his manner or method of executing the work, or at any time due to defective work or materials, and said responsibility will not be released until the project shall have been completed and accepted.
- 25.1** When or where any direct or indirect damage or injury is done to public or private property by or on account of any act, omission, neglect, or misconduct in the execution of the work, or in consequence of the nonexecution thereof by the Contractor, he shall restore, at his own expense, such property to a condition similar or equal to that existing before such damage or injury was done, by repairing, rebuilding, or otherwise restoring as he may be directed, or he shall make good such damage or injury in an acceptable manner.
- 26. DEFECTIVE MATERIALS:** Unless otherwise stated herein, items supplied under this Contract shall be subject to the County's approval. Items found defective or not meeting specifications shall be picked up and replaced by the Contractor at the next service day at no expense to the County. If item is not picked up within one (1) week after notification, the item will become a donation to the County for disposition.

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- 27. WARRANTY:** Contractor shall warrant that all items/services shall conform to the proposed specifications and/or all warranties as stated in the Uniform Commercial Code and be free from all defects in material, workmanship and title. Contractor and the County agree that both parties have all rights, duties, and remedies available as stated in the Uniform Commercial Code. Further, Contractor shall provide additional warranty requirements as defined in the Scope of Work attached. Offeror must provide all warranty terms and conditions in response package.
- 28. ASSIGNMENT:** Contractor shall not sell, assign, transfer or convey this Contract, in whole or in part, without the prior written consent of Brazoria County.
- 29. GOVERNING LAW:** Contractor is advised that these requirements shall be fully governed by the laws of the State of Texas and that Brazoria County may request and rely on advice, decisions and opinions of the Attorney General of Texas and the County Attorney concerning any portion of these requirements. All disputes arising out of this agreement will be resolved in Brazoria County, Texas.

All documents are subject to Texas Open Records requirements.

- 30. DRAWINGS:** All plans and specifications are hereby attached and made a part of this Contract.
- 31. RIGHT TO AUDIT:** At anytime during the term of this contract and for a period of four (4) years thereafter, the State of Texas, Brazoria County, and/or other federal, State and local agencies which may have jurisdiction over this contract and/or purchase order, at reasonable times and at its expense reserve the right to audit successful bidder's records and books. If needed for audit, original or independently certified copies of off-site records will be provided to auditors at successful bidders expense within two (2) weeks of written request.
- 32. BID BOND:** When applicable, all offerers must submit, with bid/proposal, a cashier's check or certified check for at least five percent (5%) of the total bid/proposal price, if the bid/proposal exceeds \$100,000 in contract price or if the contract includes construction of public work. Such cashier's check shall be payable to the order of Brazoria County, or a Bid/Proposal Bond in the same amount issued by a surety, acceptable to Brazoria County, authorized to do business in the State of Texas, as a guaranty that the offerer will enter into a contract with Brazoria County (as outlined in the Specifications/Statement of Work and attachments) and that offer will furnish the requisite performance and payment bonds as may be required. (*See Package Checklist.*)
- 33. PERFORMANCE AND PAYMENT BONDS:** (Public Works Contract or as Required by Commissioner's Court) In the event the total accepted bid/proposal price exceeds \$25,000 the successful offerer must provide to the office of the County Purchasing Director, a payment bond, and if the price exceeds \$100,000 the successful offerer must also provide a performance bond, each in the amount of one hundred percent (100%) of the total contract sum within ten (10) calendar days after receipt of notification of bid/proposal award. Such bonds shall be executed by a corporate surety or corporate sureties in accordance with Article 7.19-1, Vernon's Texas Insurance Code. Such corporate surety/sureties shall be duly authorized and admitted to do business in the State of Texas and licensed in the State of Texas to issue fidelity and surety bonds with a Best Rating of "A" or better and have a bonding capacity adequate for the prescribed amount. Brazoria County reserves the right to accept or reject any surety company proposed by the offerer. In the event Brazoria County rejects the proposed surety company, the offerer will be afforded five (5) additional days to submit the required bonds issued by a surety company acceptable to Brazoria County. (*See Package Checklist.*)
- 34. APPLICABLE LAW:** All applicable laws and regulations of the State of Texas and ordinances and regulations of Brazoria County shall apply.
- 35. COMPLIANCE WITH APPLICABLE LAWS:** Offerer shall at all times observe and comply with all federal, state, local and municipal ordinances, rules, regulations, relating to the provision of the services contracted to be provided by offerer hereunder or which in any manner affect this Contract.
- 36. FORCE MAJEURE:** Neither the County nor the successful offerer shall be deemed in violation of this Agreement if either is prevented from performing its obligations hereunder for any reason beyond its control, including but not limited to, acts of God, civil or military authority, acts of public enemy, war riots, rebellions, accidents, fires, explosions, earthquakes, floods, or catastrophic failure of public transportation; provided however, that in the event of strikes or labor disputes, an inability to procure raw materials, equipment, power or supplies, or the enactment of any law, order, proclamation, regulation, ordinance, demand, or other requirement of any governmental agency or intergovernmental body, which prevents, restricts, interferes or delays with the performance of this Contract, the party so affected, upon giving notice to the other party, shall be excused from such performance to the extent of such prevention, restriction, delay or interference, so long as the party so affected shall use reasonable efforts under the circumstance to avoid or remove such causes of nonperformance, and shall continue performance hereunder with the utmost dispatch whenever such causes are removed. Initials_____

37. SEVERABILITY: If any provision of this Contract is held to be unenforceable for any reason, the unenforceability thereof shall not affect any other provision contained herein, and the remainder of the Contract shall remain in full force and effect, and enforceable in accordance with its terms.

38. QUANTITIES: Brazoria County requests purchase prices for the items identified in this bid/offer, and in accordance with the specifications provided herein. The quantities provided are given as a guideline only for the purpose of bid/offer preparation. These quantities shall not be construed as the total number of purchases for the Contract. This estimated figure may increase and/or decrease throughout the year. No guarantee is expressed or implied as to the total quantity of items to be purchased under this Contract.

38.1 Brazoria County reserves the right to add or delete like or related items at any time during the term of this Contract. The additions or deletions shall be incorporated into the contract in the form of an addendum. Additional items shall be priced in accordance with this contract with appropriate discounts being applied.

39. PURCHASE FROM OTHER SOURCES: Brazoria County reserves the right to purchase goods and/or services specified herein, or of equal or like kind, through contracts established by other governmental agencies or through separate procurement actions due to the unique or special needs of Brazoria County. Further, the County reserves the right to obtain such goods and/or services from others without penalty or prejudice to the County or the offerer and such action shall not invalidate in whole or in part this Contract or any rights or remedies Brazoria County may have hereunder.

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