

# GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE CITY OF HARRISONBURG, VA

## (REV. 12-05-23)

These General Terms & Conditions shall apply to all purchases and be a part of every contract awarded by the City of Harrisonburg unless otherwise specified in writing. Bidders/Offerors are expected to inform themselves fully as to the conditions, requirements and specifications before submitting bids/proposals. Procurement by the City is subject to the Virginia Public Procurement Act (VPPA) Title 2.2, Chapter 43 of the Code of Virginia and the provisions of The Purchasing and Contracting Policy Manual for the City of Harrisonburg and any revisions thereto. If an inconsistency exists between the VPPA and the Purchasing and Contracting Policy Manual for the City, the VPPA Virginia Code sections take precedence.

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### DEFINITIONS

- ADDENDUM/ADDENDA:** Addition(s) or supplement(s) to a solicitation to clarify, modify or support information which becomes part of the contract.
- BID:** The offer of a prospective vendor/supplier to an Invitation To Bid to provide specific goods or services at specified prices and/or other conditions specified in the solicitation.
- BIDDER/OFFEROR:** Any individual, company, firm, corporation, partnership or other organization who submits a response to an Invitation to Bid or a Request for Proposal and offering to enter into a contract with the City.
- COLLUSION:** A secret agreement or cooperation between two or more parties to accomplish a fraudulent, deceitful, or unlawful purpose.
- CONFLICT OF INTEREST:** An actual or potential situation in which the personal interests of a vendor, employee or public official are, or appear to be, in conflict with the best interests of the City.
- CONTRACTOR:** The entity that has a direct contract with the City to furnish goods, services or construction for a certain price.
- CITY or OWNER:** City of Harrisonburg, Virginia.
- DAY(S):** Defined as calendar days unless otherwise specified as business days.
- INFORMALITY:** A minor defect or variation of a bid or proposal from the exact requirements of the Invitation to Bid or Request for Proposal which does not affect the price, quality, quantity or delivery schedule for the goods, services or construction being procured.
- INVITATION TO BID (ITB):** A formal request which is made to prospective suppliers (bidders) for their quotation on goods, services, or construction desired by the City. The issuance of an ITB will contain or incorporate by reference the specifications and contractual terms and conditions applicable to the procurement.
- PROFESSIONAL SERVICES:** Any type of professional service performed by an independent contractor within the practice of accounting, actuarial services, architecture, dentistry, land surveying, landscape architecture, law, medicine, optometry, pharmacy, or professional engineering (which shall be procured as set forth in the Code of Virginia). **2.2-4301**
- PROPOSAL:** The document submitted by the offeror in response to the RFP to be used as the basis for negotiations for entering into a contract.
- PURCHASING AGENT:** The individual employed and given authority by the Harrisonburg City Council by adoption of the City of Harrisonburg Purchasing and Contracting Policy Manual. Purchasing Agent may also be referred to as Procurement Manager.
- REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP):** A formal request for a proposal from prospective offerors which will indicate the general terms which are sought to be procured from the offeror and where negotiations are conducted to come to a final contract. The RFP will specify the evaluation criteria to be used and will contain or incorporate by reference other contractual terms and conditions applicable to the procurement.
- RESPONSIBLE BIDDER/OFFEROR:** An individual, company, firm, corporation, partnership or other organization having the capability in all respects to perform fully the contract requirements, and also having the moral and business integrity and reliability which will assure good faith performance.
- RESPONSIVE BIDDER/OFFEROR:** An individual, company, firm, corporation, partnership or other organization having submitted a bid/proposal which conforms in all material respects to the ITB or RFP.
- SOLICITATION:** A formal document issued by the City with the intent to purchase goods, services or construction. Can be either an Invitation To Bid or a Request For Proposal.
- SWAM:** Small, Women, and Minority-owned businesses.
- SUBCONTRACTOR:** A business entity that has a contract to supply labor or materials to the prime contractor to whom the contract was awarded or to any subcontractor in the performance of the work provided for in such contract.

### CONDITIONS OF BIDDING

**BID PRICE CURRENCY:** Unless stated otherwise in the solicitation, bidders/offerors shall state bid/proposal prices in US dollars.

**BID/PROPOSAL ACCEPTANCE PERIOD:** Unless otherwise specified, all bids/proposals submitted shall be binding and may not be withdrawn for sixty (60) days following the bid/proposal opening date and time, unless extended by mutual consent of all parties. If the bid/proposal is not withdrawn at that time it remains in effect until an award is made or the solicitation is cancelled.

**CANCELLATION OF SOLICITATIONS: 2.2-4319** An ITB, RFP or any other solicitation may be cancelled or rejected, but shall not be cancelled or rejected solely to avoid awarding a contract to a particular responsive and responsible bidder/offeror. The reasons for cancellation shall be made part of the contract file.

**CLARIFICATION of TERMS: 2.2-4316** If any prospective bidder/offeror has questions about the specifications or other solicitation documents, the prospective bidder/offeror should contact the person identified in the solicitation no later than five (5) business days before the due date. Any revisions to the solicitation will be made only by addendum issued by the City.

**CONFLICT OF INTEREST/COLLUSION:** Contractor certifies by signing their bid/proposal submission to the City, that no conflict of interest or collusion exists between the Contractor and City that interferes with fair competition and no conflict of interest or collusion exists between Contractor and any other person or organization that constitutes a conflict of interest with respect to the contract with the City.

**DEBARMENT STATUS:** By signing their bid/proposal, the bidders/offerors certify that they are not currently debarred from submitting bids/proposals on contracts from any agency, public entity/locality or authority of the Commonwealth of Virginia.

**DISCRIMINATION PROHIBITED: 2.2-4310** In the solicitation or awarding of a contract the City shall not discriminate against a bidder/offeror because of race; religion; color; sex; national origin; age; disability; status as a small, women-owned, minority-owned, or service disabled veteran-owned; employment services organization; or any other basis prohibited by state law relating to discrimination in employment. The City encourages the participation of these entities in public procurement activities. Towards that end, the City encourages contractors to provide for the participation of these entities through partnerships, joint ventures, subcontracts, and other contractual opportunities.

**ERRORS IN BIDS/PROPOSALS:** When an error is made in extending total prices, the unit price will govern. Bidders/Offerors are cautioned to recheck their bids/proposals for possible errors prior to submission.

**ETHICS IN PUBLIC CONTRACTING: 2.2-4371** By submitting their bids/proposals, the bidders/offerors certify that their bids/proposals are made without collusion or fraud and that they have not offered or received any kickbacks or inducements from any other bidder/offeror, supplier, manufacturer or subcontractor in connection with their bid/proposal, and that they have not conferred on any public employee having official responsibility for this procurement transaction any payment, loan, subscription, advance, deposit of money, services or anything of more than nominal or minimal value, present or promised, unless consideration of substantially equal or greater value was exchanged.

**EXCUSABLE DELAY:** The City shall not be in default of any failure in performance of this agreement in accordance with its terms if such failure arises out of causes beyond its reasonable control and without the fault of or negligence of the City. Such causes may include, but are not restricted to acts of God or the public enemy, fires, flood, epidemics, quarantine restrictions, strikes, freight embargoes, and unusually severe weather, but in every case the failure to perform must be beyond the reasonable control and without the fault or negligence of the City.

**LICENSES, PERMITS and FEES:** All proposals submitted shall have included in price the cost of any business or professional licenses, permits or fees required by the City of Harrisonburg or the Commonwealth of Virginia. At or prior to delivery of the signed contract, the bidder/offeror to whom the contract is awarded shall deliver to the City a copy of their City Business License (if applicable). The bidder/offeror shall ensure that the Business License indicates a basis amount equal to or greater than the awarded Contract value. For information on City Business Licenses contact the Harrisonburg Commissioner of the Revenue's office at 540-432-7704. The bidder/offeror must have all necessary licenses to perform the services in the Commonwealth of Virginia and, if practicing as other than an individual, be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

**MANDATORY USE of CITY FORMS AND TERMS and CONDITIONS for ITBs AND RFPs:** Failure to submit a bid/proposal on the official City form(s) provided or in the format identified, for that purpose shall be a cause for rejection of the bid/proposal. Unauthorized modification of or additions to any portion of the ITB or RFP may be cause for rejection of the bid/proposal. The City reserves the right to decide, on a case by case basis, in its sole discretion, whether to reject any bid/ proposal which has been modified. As a precondition to its acceptance of an ITB response, the City may, in its sole discretion, request that the bidder withdraw or modify nonresponsive portions of a bid which do not affect quality, quantity, price, or delivery. No modification to the provisions of the contract shall be effective unless the modification is incorporated into the contract document.

**MODIFICATION & WITHDRAWAL OF BIDS/PROPOSALS: 2.2-4330**

1. A bidder for a public construction contract, other than a contract for construction or maintenance of public highways, may withdraw his bid from consideration if the price bid was substantially lower than the other bids due solely to a mistake in the bid, 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 a bid, which unintentional arithmetic error 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.

If a bid contains both clerical and judgment mistakes, a bidder may withdraw his bid from consideration if the price bid would have been substantially lower than the other bids due solely to the clerical mistake, that was an unintentional arithmetic error or an unintentional omission of a quantity of work, labor or material made directly in the compilation of a bid that shall 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.

2. The bidder shall give notice in writing of his claim of right to withdraw his bid within two business days after the conclusion of the bid opening procedure and shall submit original work papers with such notice.
3. No bid shall be withdrawn under this section when the result would be the awarding of the contract on another bid of the same bidder or of another bidder in which the ownership of the withdrawing bidder is more than five percent.
4. If a bid is withdrawn in accordance with this section, the lowest remaining bid shall be deemed to be the low bid.
5. No bidder who is permitted to withdraw a bid shall, for compensation, supply any material or labor to 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.
6. The public body shall notify the bidder in writing within five business days of its decision regarding the bidder's request to withdraw its bid. If the public body denies the withdrawal of a bid under the provisions of this section, it shall state in such notice the reasons for its decision and award the contract to such bidder at the bid price, provided such bidder is a responsible and responsive bidder. At the same time that the notice is provided, the public body shall return all work papers and copies thereof that have been submitted by the bidder.
7. These procedures also apply for the withdrawal of bids for other than construction contracts.
8. A bidder/offeror may modify or withdraw his bid/proposal, either personally or by written request to the Purchasing office at any time prior to the scheduled time for opening of bids/proposals.

**PUBLIC INSPECTION OF CERTAIN RECORDS: 2.2-4342** Public inspection of all records is strictly governed by Code of Virginia 2.2-4342 and in accordance with the Virginia Freedom of Information Act (VA Code 2.2-3700 et seq). Any inspection of procurement transactions shall be subject to reasonable restrictions to ensure the security and integrity of the records. Cost estimates relating to a proposed procurement transaction prepared by or for a public body shall not be open to public inspection.

**REVISIONS to the OFFICIAL ITB/RFP:** No bidder/offeror shall modify, revise, edit or make any unauthorized change(s) to the original official ITB/RFP. The official solicitation document and the Addenda(um) are the documents posted on the eVA website at <https://eva.virginia.gov>. In the event the eVA website is not able to be used, the City will post Addenda on the City's website at [www.harrisonburgva.gov/bids-proposals](http://www.harrisonburgva.gov/bids-proposals). Any such violation as stated above may result in rejection of the ITB/RFP response. In addition, violations may result in the debarment of the bidder/offeror by the City of Harrisonburg.

**TAXES:** Sales to the City of Harrisonburg are normally exempt from State sales tax. Virginia Sales and Use Tax Certificate of Exemption, Form ST-12, will be issued upon request. The City may also be exempt from other taxes and fees.

## **AWARD**

### **CONTRACT AWARD**

For ITB: The award(s) made in response to an ITB will be made to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder(s) for each item, or group of items indicated in the bid. The City reserves the right to make the sole determination of whether the product and/or options offered meet the minimum specifications and is acceptable in accordance with the specifications. The City's decision shall be final. The City reserves the right to make a separate award for each item, a group of items or all items, and to make awards either in whole or in part, whichever is deemed by the City to be in its best interest. Delivery timelines may be a factor in making an award.

For RFP: The award(s) made in response to an RFP will be made to the highest qualified offeror whose proposal is determined to be the most advantageous to the City, taking into consideration the evaluation criteria set forth in the RFP. After negotiations, the offeror who has made the best proposal and provides the best value shall be awarded the contract.

Professional services shall be procured and awarded by competitive negotiation as set forth in **2.2-4302.2 A 4**.

The City reserves the right to cancel a solicitation at any time and to reject any or all bids/proposals, in whole or in part, to waive any informality and to delete items prior to making the award(s), whenever it is deemed in the sole opinion of the City to be in its best interest.

**NEGOTIATION WITH THE LOWEST BIDDER: 2.2-4318** Unless all bids are canceled or rejected, the City reserves the right to negotiate with the lowest responsive and responsible bidder to obtain a contract price within the funds available to the City whenever such low bid exceeds the City's available funds for the project. The City shall initiate such negotiations by written notice to the lowest

responsive, responsible bidder that its bid exceeds the available funds and the City wishes to negotiate a lower contract price. The times, places and manner of negotiating shall be agreed to by the City and the lowest responsive, responsible bidder.

**PRECEDENCE of TERMS:** General Terms and Conditions shall apply in all instances with the exceptions for projects funded by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and by the Federal Transportation Administration (FTA). In the event there is a conflict between the General Terms and Conditions and any Federal, Special, Standard, or Supplementary Terms and Conditions in this solicitation, the Federal, Special, Standard, or Supplementary Terms and Conditions shall apply.

**QUALIFICATIONS of BIDDERS/OFFERORS:** The City may make such reasonable investigations as deemed proper and necessary to determine the responsibility and ability of the bidder/offeror to perform the services/furnish the goods and the bidder/offeror shall furnish to the City all such information and data for this purpose as may be requested. The City reserves the right to inspect bidder's/offeror's physical facilities prior to award to satisfy questions regarding the bidder's/offeror's capabilities. The City further reserves the right to reject any bid/proposal if the evidence submitted by, or investigations of, such bidder/offeror fails to satisfy the City that such bidder/offeror is properly qualified to carry out the obligations of the contract and to provide the services and/or furnish the goods contemplated therein.

**SELECTION PROCESS/NOTICE OF AWARD:** Upon the award or the announcement of the decision to award a contract as a result of this solicitation, the Purchasing office will publicly post such notice and/or will notify all responsive bidders/offerors and records are available for public inspection in accordance with the VA Freedom of Information Act (VA Code 2.2-3700 et seq). The City posts all Notice of Awards on eVA at <https://eva.virginia.gov/>. In the event the eVA website is not able to be used, the City will post Notice of Awards on the City's website at [www.harrisonburgva.gov/bids-proposals](http://www.harrisonburgva.gov/bids-proposals).

### **CONTRACT PROVISIONS**

**ANTI-DISCRIMINATION: 2.2-4311** By submitting their bids/proposals, bidders/offerors certify to the City that they will conform to the provisions of the Federal Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, as well as the Virginia Fair Employment Contracting Act of 1975, as amended, where applicable, the Virginians With Disabilities Act, the Americans With Disabilities Act.

In every contract over \$10,000 the provisions below apply:

1. During the performance of this contract, the contractor agrees as follows:
  - a. The contractor will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, religion, color, sex, national origin, age, disability, or any other basis prohibited by state law relating to discrimination in employment, except where there is a bona fide occupational qualification reasonably necessary to the normal operation of the contractor. The contractor agrees to post in conspicuous places, available to employees and applicants for employment, notices setting forth the provisions of this nondiscrimination clause.
  - b. The contractor, in all solicitations or advertisements for employees placed by or on behalf of the contractor, will state that such contractor is an equal opportunity employer.
  - c. Notices, advertisements and solicitations placed in accordance with federal law, rule or regulation shall be deemed sufficient for the purpose of meeting these requirements.
2. The contractor will include the provisions of 1. above in every subcontract or purchase order over \$10,000, so that the provisions will be binding upon each subcontractor or vendor.

**ANTITRUST:** By entering into a contract, the contractor conveys, sells, assigns, and transfers to the City all rights, title and interest in and to all causes of action it may now have or hereafter acquire under the antitrust laws of the United States and the Commonwealth of Virginia, relating to the particular goods or services purchased or acquired by the City under said contract.

**APPLICABLE LAWS and COURTS:** This solicitation and any resulting contract shall be governed in all respects by the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia, excluding its conflict of laws provisions, and venue for litigation with any respect thereto shall be proper only in the Circuit Court of Rockingham County, Virginia. The contractor shall comply with all applicable federal, state and local laws, rules and regulations.

**ASSIGNMENT of CONTRACT:** A contract shall not be assignable by the contractor in whole or in part without the written consent of the City.

**CHANGES to the CONTRACT:** Changes can be made to the contract in any of the following ways:

1. The parties by mutual agreement in writing, to modify the terms, conditions or scope of the contract subject to item 2. below. Any additional goods or services to be provided shall be of a sort that is ancillary to the contract goods or services, or within the same broad product or service categories as were included in the contract award. Any increase or decrease in the price of the contract resulting from such modification shall be agreed to by the parties as a part of their written agreement to modify the scope of the contract.
2. A public contract may include provisions for modification of the contract during performance, but no fixed-price contract may be increased by more than twenty-five percent (25%) of the amount of the contract or \$50,000, whichever is greater, without the

advance written approval of the Harrisonburg City Council. In no event may the amount of any contract, without adequate consideration, be increased for any purpose, including, but not limited to, relief of a bidder/offeror from the consequences of an error in its (bid/offer). **2.2-4309**

3. The Procurement Manager (or City delegated agent) may order changes within the general scope of the contract at any time by written notice to the contractor. Changes within the scope of the contract include, but are not limited to, things such as services to be performed, the method of packing or shipment, and the place of delivery or installation. The contractor shall comply with the notice upon receipt unless the contractor intends to claim an adjustment to compensation, schedule, or other contractual impact that would be caused by complying with such notice, in which case the contractor shall, in writing, promptly notify the City of the adjustment to be sought, and before proceeding to comply with the notice, shall await the City's written decision affirming, modifying, or revoking the prior written notice. If the City decides to issue a notice that requires an adjustment to compensation, the contractor shall be compensated for any additional costs incurred as the result of such order and shall give the City a credit for any savings. Said compensation shall be determined by one of the following methods:
  - a. By mutual agreement between the parties in writing; or
  - b. By agreeing upon a unit price or using a unit price set forth in the contract, if the work to be done can be expressed in units, and the contractor accounts for the number of units of work performed, subject to the City's right to audit the contractor's records and/or to determine the correct number of units independently; or
  - c. By ordering the contractor to proceed with the work and keep a record of all costs incurred and savings realized. A markup for overhead and profit may be allowed if provided by the contract. The same markup shall be used for determining a decrease in price as the result of savings realized. The contractor shall present the City with all vouchers and records of expenses incurred and savings realized. The City shall have the right to audit the records of the contractor as it deems necessary to determine costs or savings. Any claim for an adjustment in price under this provision must be asserted by written notice to the City within thirty (30) days from the date of receipt of the written order from the City. If the parties fail to agree on an amount of adjustment, the question of an increase or decrease in the contract price or time for performance shall be resolved in accordance with the procedures for resolving disputes provided by the Disputes Clause of this contract or, if there is none, in accordance with the disputes provisions of the City of Harrisonburg Purchasing and Contracting Policy Manual. Neither the existence of a claim nor a dispute resolution process, litigation or any other provision of this contract shall excuse the contractor from promptly complying with the changes ordered by the City or with the performance of the contract generally.

**CONTRACT EXECUTION:** Per City Code (Sec 3-1-2, 3-1-1), the City Manager and the Deputy City Manager shall have authority to execute all contracts and agreements on behalf of the City except as otherwise directed by the Harrisonburg City Council in specific instances.

**CONTRACTUAL DISPUTES:** Contractual claim procedures shall be as per Code of VA **2.2-4363**.

**COOPERATIVE PROCUREMENT:** **2.2-4304** This procurement is being conducted in accordance with the provisions of 2.2-4304 Code of VA. Except for contracts for architectural and engineering services, if agreed to by the contractor, other public bodies may utilize this contract. The Contractor shall deal directly with any public body it authorizes to use the contract. The City, its officials and staff are not responsible for placement of orders, invoicing, payments, contractual disputes, or any other transactions between the Contractor and any other public bodies, and in no event shall the City, its officials or staff be responsible for any costs, damages or injury resulting to any party from use of a City Contract. The City assumes no responsibility for any notification of the availability of the contract for use by other public bodies, but the Contractor may conduct such notification. Other public bodies desiring to use this contract must make their own legal determination as to whether the use of this contract is consistent with their laws, regulations, and other policies

**DEFAULT:** In case of failure to deliver goods or services in accordance with the contract terms and conditions, the City, after due oral or written notice, may procure items of a comparable quality from other sources and hold the contractor responsible for any resulting additional costs above the contract price when purchases are made in the open market. This remedy shall be in addition to any other remedies, which the City may have.

**DRUG-FREE WORKPLACE:** **2.2-4312** During the performance of this contract, the contractor agrees to: (i) provide a drug-free workplace for the contractor's employees; (ii) post in conspicuous places, available to employees and applicants for employment, a statement notifying employees that the unlawful manufacture, sale, distribution, dispensation, possession, or use of a controlled substance or marijuana is prohibited in the contractor's workplace and specifying the actions that will be taken against employees for violations of such prohibition; (iii) state in all solicitations or advertisements for employees placed by or on behalf of the contractor that the contractor maintains a drug-free workplace; and (iv) include the provisions of the foregoing clauses in every subcontract or purchase order of over \$10,000, so that the provisions will be binding upon each subcontractor or vendor.

**IMMIGRATION REFORM and CONTROL ACT OF 1986:** **2.2-4311.1** By submitting their bids/proposals, bidders/offerors certify that they do not and will not during the performance of this contract employ illegal alien workers or otherwise violate the provisions of the federal Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986.

**INDEMNIFICATION:** Contractor agrees to indemnify, defend and hold harmless the City, its officers, agents, volunteers, and employees against any and all liability, losses, damages, claims, causes of action, suits of any nature, cost, and expenses, including attorney's fees, resulting from or arising out of Contractor's or its agent's and subcontractor's negligent activities or omissions, or from which the Contractor would have legal liability outside of contract.

**INSURANCE:** By signing and submitting a bid/proposal under this solicitation, the bidder/offeror certifies that if awarded the contract, it will have insurance coverages per the solicitation document at the time of contract execution. For construction contracts, if any subcontractors are involved, the subcontractor will have workers' compensation insurance in accordance with **2.2-4332** and **65.2-800** et seq. of the Code of Virginia. The bidder/offeror further certifies that the contractor and any subcontractors will maintain these insurance coverages during the entire term of the contract and that all insurance coverages will be provided by insurance companies authorized to sell insurance in Virginia by the Virginia State Corporation Commission.

**LIABILITY AND LITIGATION:** The City shall not indemnify or hold harmless any contractor or other third party. The City does not waive any right or release any party from liability, whether on its own behalf or on behalf of any boards, employees or agents. The City does not waive the right to trial by jury for any cause of action arising from the contract and shall not submit any contract claim to binding arbitration or mediation. The City shall not be liable to contractor for any special, punitive or exemplary damages arising from the performance of the contract, including, but not limited to, incidental damages, and lost profit and lost wages, even if such special damages are reasonably foreseeable. Any provision(s) in the contract contrary to these statements is/are hereby deleted and rendered void.

**NONDISCRIMINATION OF CONTRACTORS: 2.2-4343.1H** A bidder, offeror, or contractor shall not be discriminated against in the solicitation or award of this contract because of race, religion, color, sex, national origin, age, disability, faith-based organizational status, any other basis prohibited by state law relating to discrimination in employment or because the bidder or offeror employs ex-offenders unless the state agency, department or institution has made a written determination that employing ex-offenders on the specific contract is not in its best interest. If the award of this contract is made to a faith-based organization and an individual, who applies for or receives goods, services, or disbursements provided pursuant to this contract objects to the religious character of the faith-based organization from which the individual receives or would receive the goods, services, or disbursements, the public body shall offer the individual, within a reasonable period of time after the date of his objection, access to equivalent goods, services, or disbursements from an alternative provider.

**PAYMENT: 2.2-4352 – 2.2-4354**

1. To Prime Contractor:

Invoices for items ordered, delivered and accepted shall be submitted by the contractor directly to the payment address shown on the purchase order/contract. Any payment terms requiring payment in less than 45 days will be regarded as requiring payment 45 days after invoice or delivery, whichever occurs last. This shall not affect offers of discounts for payment in less than 45 days, however. All goods or services provided under this contract or purchase order, that are to be paid for with public funds, shall be billed by the contractor at the contract price.

The following shall be deemed to be the date of payment: the date of postmark in all cases where payment is made by mail, or the date of offset when offset proceedings have been instituted as authorized under the Virginia Debt Collection Act. Individual contractors shall provide their social security numbers, and proprietors, partnerships, and corporations shall provide the City with a federal employer identification number, prior to receiving any payment from the City. The City requires an updated IRS Form W-9 be filed with the Purchasing Office at or before the contract is signed.

**Unreasonable Charges:** Under certain emergency procurements and for most time and material purchases, final job costs cannot be accurately determined at the time orders are placed. In such cases, contractors should be put on notice that final payment in full is contingent on a determination of reasonableness with respect to all invoiced charges. Charges which appear to be unreasonable will be researched and challenged, and that portion of the invoice held in abeyance until a settlement can be reached. Upon determining that invoiced charges are not reasonable, the City shall promptly notify the contractor, in writing, as to those charges which it considers unreasonable and the basis for the determination. A contractor may not institute legal action unless a settlement cannot be reached within thirty (30) days of notification.

The provisions of this section do not relieve the City of its prompt payment obligations with respect to those charges which are not in dispute (**2.2.4363**).

2. To Subcontractors:

A contractor awarded a contract under this solicitation is hereby obligated to pay the subcontractor(s) within seven (7) days of the contractor's receipt of payment from the City for the proportionate share of the payment received for work performed by the subcontractor(s) under the contract; or;

Notify the City and the subcontractor(s), in writing, of the contractor's intention to withhold payment and the reason.

The contractor is obligated to pay the subcontractor(s) interest at the rate of one percent per month (unless otherwise provided under the terms of the contract) on all amounts owed by the contractor that remain unpaid seven (7) days following receipt of payment from the City, except for amounts withheld as stated in (2) above. The date of mailing of any payment by U. S. Mail is deemed to be payment to the addressee. These provisions apply to each sub-tier contractor performing under the primary contract. A contractor's obligation to pay an interest charge to a subcontractor may not be construed to be an obligation of the City. Any such contract awarded shall further require the contractor to include in each of its subcontracts a provision requiring each subcontractor to include or otherwise be subject to the same payment and interest requirements with respect to each lower-tier subcontractor. A contractor's obligation to pay an interest charge to a subcontractor may not be construed to be an obligation of the City.

**SAFETY and OSHA STANDARDS:** All parties performing services for the City shall comply with all Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), State Occupational Health Standards, and any other applicable rules and regulations. All parties shall be held responsible for the training, supervision, and safety of their employees. Any unsafe acts or hazardous conditions that may cause injury or damage to any persons or property within and around the work site areas under this contract shall be remedied per the regulatory agency's guidelines.

**STORMWATER POLLUTION PREVENTION REQUIREMENTS:** All parties performing services for the City shall not improperly dispose of or release any hazardous substance, material, or waste. The contractors shall comply with the requirements of Harrisonburg City Code Sec 7-6-5 "Illicit Discharges and Connections," Virginia Statewide Fire Prevention Code Sec 5003.3 Release of Hazardous Materials, and Virginia Statewide Fire Prevention Code Sec 5003.3.1.4 Responsibility for Cleanup.

Projects that do not meet the criteria for operating under an approved erosion and sediment control site plan are still required to implement control measures, as needed, to prevent sediment deposition and other illicit discharges to adjacent properties, the City's Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) and waterways. These measures may include, but are not limited to construction entrances, road sweeping, silt fence installation, inlet protection, trash management and washout locations.

Contractors who will apply pesticides and/or herbicides shall be trained and certified in accordance with the Virginia Pesticide Control Act (§ 3.2-3900 et seq. of the Code of Virginia). Certification by the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (VDACS) Pesticide and Herbicide Applicator program shall constitute compliance with this requirement. Proof of certification shall be provided to the City before work begins.

The Contractor shall ensure that vehicles and equipment are not leaking oil or other fluids. If leaks are noted, contain the leak, and perform maintenance. For small spills, spot clean immediately, dry clean only (no water spraying), and sweep up absorbents and dispose of properly. For large spills call 911 for assistance.

**TERMINATION:** Subject to the provisions below, the contract may be terminated by the City upon thirty (30) days advance written notice to the other party. Any contract cancellation notice shall not relieve the contractor of the obligation to deliver and perform on all outstanding orders issued prior to the effective date of cancellation.

1. **Termination for Convenience:** In the event that the contract is terminated upon request and for the convenience of the City, without the required thirty (30) days advance notice, then the City shall be responsible for payment of services up to the termination date.
2. **Termination for Cause:** Termination by the City for cause, default or negligence on the part of the contractor shall be excluded from the foregoing provision; termination costs, if any shall not apply. However, the City may hold the contractor responsible for any resulting additional purchase and administrative costs. The thirty (30) day advance notice requirement is waived in the event of Termination for Cause.
3. **Termination Due to Unavailability of Funds:** Agreements are made subject to the appropriation of funds (including grant funds, gifts or donations) by the Harrisonburg City Council and are null and void in the event of non-appropriation by the City Council. Non-appropriation of funds shall not be deemed a cancellation and shall terminate this agreement without recourse and with no liability on the part of the City.

## **SPECIFICATIONS**

**CONDITION OF ITEMS:** Unless otherwise specified in the solicitation, all items shall be new, latest edition/model in first class condition.

**FORMAL SPECIFICATIONS:** When a solicitation contains a specification which states no substitutes, no deviation therefrom will be permitted and the bidder will be required to furnish articles in conformity with that specification.

**USE OF BRAND NAMES: 2.2-4315** Unless otherwise provided in this solicitation, the name of a certain brand, make or manufacturer does not restrict bidders/offers to the specific brand, make or manufacturer named, but conveys the general style, type, character, and quality of the article desired. Any article which the public body, in its sole discretion, determines to be the equal of that specified, considering quality, workmanship, economy of operation, and suitability for the purpose intended, shall be accepted. The bidder/offers is responsible to clearly and specifically identify the product being offered and to provide sufficient descriptive literature, catalog cuts

and technical detail to enable the City to determine if the product offered meets the requirements of the solicitation. This is required even if offering the exact brand, make or manufacturer specified. Normally in competitive sealed bidding only the information furnished with the bid will be considered in the evaluation. Failure to furnish adequate data for evaluation purposes may result in declaring a bid nonresponsive. Unless the bidder/offeror clearly indicates in its bid/proposal that the product offered is an “equal” product, such bid/proposal will be considered to offer the brand name product referenced in the solicitation. The City reserves the right to determine the suitability of substituted items for those specified and to accept in whole or in part any and all bids/proposals received.

### **DELIVERY**

**DEFECTS OR IMPROPRIETIES:** In instances where there is a defect or impropriety in an invoice or in the goods or services received, the City shall notify the supplier of the defect or impropriety, if the defect or impropriety would prevent payment by the payment date. The notice shall be sent within (30) thirty days after receipt of the invoice or the goods or services.

**TESTING AND INSPECTION: 2.2-4302.1** The City reserves the right to conduct any test/inspection it may deem advisable to assure goods and services conform to the specifications. Materials or components that have been rejected by the City, in accordance with the terms of the contract, shall be replaced by the Contractor at no cost to the City.

**TRANSPORTATION AND PACKAGING:** All materials shipped to the City must be shipped Free On Board (FOB) Destination unless otherwise stated in the contract. By submitting their bids/proposals, all bidders/offerors certify and warrant that the price offered for FOB destination includes only the actual freight rate costs at the lowest and best rate and is based upon the actual weight of the goods to be shipped. Except as otherwise specified herein, standard commercial packaging, packing and shipping containers shall be used. All shipping containers shall be legibly marked or labeled on the outside with purchase order number, commodity description, and quantity.