



CITY OF HOUSTON, TEXAS

NOTICE OF BEST VALUE BID (BVB)
SOLICITATION NO.: S30-L24414

STRATEGIC
PURCHASING DIVISION
"PARTNERING TO
BETTER SERVE
HOUSTON"

NIGP CODE:

962-68

**SOLICITATION DUE
DATE/TIME:**

December 13, 2012, at 10:30 A.M., CST

SUBMITTAL LOCATION:

**City Secretary's Office
City Hall Annex, Public Level
900 Bagby Street
Houston, Texas 77002**

DESCRIPTION:

**WOOD AND YARD WASTE REMOVAL SERVICES FOR THE
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT**

PRE-BID CONFERENCE:

| <i>Date</i> | <i>Time</i> |
|-------------|-------------|
| 11-27-2012 | 10:00 AM |

| <i>Location</i> |
|--|
| SPD, 901 Bagby, Conference Rm. 2 (Lower Level), Houston, TX 77002 |

In accordance with T.L.G.C. § Chapter 252, competitive sealed Bids for the services specified will be received by the City Secretary's Office of the City of Houston at the above specified location, until the time and date cited. Offers must be in the actual possession of the City Secretary's Office on or prior to the time and date, and at the location indicated above. Late offers will not be considered.

Offers must be submitted in a sealed envelope or package with the Solicitation Number and the Offeror's name and address clearly indicated on the envelope or package. All offers must be completed in ink or typewritten. Additional instructions for preparing an offer are included in this Solicitation.

OFFERORS ARE STRONGLY ENCOURAGED TO CAREFULLY READ THE ENTIRE SOLICITATION

**Solicitation Contact Person:
Richard Morris**

Name

richard.morris@houstontx.gov

E-Mail Address

City Purchasing Agent

November 16, 2012

Date

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS TO OFFEROR(S)

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1.0 SUBMITTAL PROCEDURE:

1.1 Sealed bids, two (2) hard copies of the Bid package, including one (1) printed original must be signed in ink on the Official Signature Page by an authorized officer of the Offering Company. Additionally, the Bid package must include the hard copy of the Electronic Bid Form and five (5) additional electronic CD copies of the Bid Forms as referenced in Section 2.3 below are required to be submitted in a sealed envelope/box bearing the assigned Solicitation Number, located on the first page of the BVB document to:

City Secretary's Office
 City Hall Annex, Public Level
 900 Bagby St.
 Houston, Texas 77002

1.2 The deadline for the submittal of the Bid to the City Secretary's Office is no later than the date and time as indicated on the first page of the BVB document. All bids will be opened and publicly read in the City Council Chamber, City Hall Annex, Public Level, 900 Bagby St. at 11:00 AM on the solicitation due date. Failure to submit the required number of copies as stated above may be subject for disqualification from the BVB process.

1.3 Respondents may elect to either mail or personally deliver their Bids to the City Secretary's Office.

1.4 The City of Houston shall bear no responsibility for submitting responses on behalf of any Offeror. Offeror(s) may submit their Bid to the City Secretary's Office any time prior to the stated deadline.

2.0 BEST VALUE BID FORMAT:

2.1 The Bid should be electronically generated, printed and signed in original ink. The bid should not be submitted in elaborate or expensive binders. Legibility, clarity, and completeness are important and essential.

2.2 The Bid must be signed by an individual(s) legally authorized to bind the Offeror(s), and the City may accept this bid offer by issuance of a Contract to the said Offeror(s) at any time on or before the 180th day following the day this Official Bid Form is opened by the City. This offer shall be irrevocable for 180 days, but shall expire on the 181st day unless the parties mutually agree to an extension of time in writing.

2.3 The complete Bid packet shall consist of the following items:

| TABLE 1 – REQUIRED BID FORMS |
|--|
| Signed Official Signature Page |
| Hard Copy of Electronic Bid Form (Pricing Sheet) |
| *Affidavit of Ownership.doc |
| *Fair Campaign Ordinance.doc |
| *Statement of Residency.doc |
| *Conflict of Interest Questionnaire.doc |
| *Pay or Play Program Acknowledgement Form |
| Contractor's Questionnaire |
| List of Subcontractor(s) |
| M/WBE Attachment A & B Forms |
| Expertise/Experience/Reliability Statement |
| Certifications/Licenses (If applicable) & Resumes of Key Personnel |
| Financial Statements |
| Five (5) Electronic CD Copies |

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* Documents/forms can be downloaded from the City's Website: <http://purchasing.houstontx.gov/index.shtml>

Table 2 lists other documents and forms that should be viewed/downloaded from the City's website, but are not required to be submitted with the bid. The City will request these forms, as applicable, to be completed and submitted to the City by the recommended/successful bidder:

| TABLE 2 - DOCUMENTS & FORMS |
|---|
| Drug Forms.doc |
| EEOC.doc |
| Formal Instructions for Bid Terms.doc |
| Sample Insurance Over \$50,000.pdf |
| Insurance Endorsements |
| Pay or Play Office of Business Opportunity & Contract Compliance Q & A |
| Pay or Play Office of Business Opportunity & Contract Compliance Requirements |
| Pay or Play Contractor/Subcontractor Payment Reporting Form |
| Pay or Play Contractor/Subcontractor Waiver Request |
| Pay or Play List of Participating Subcontractors |

3.0 PRE-BID CONFERENCE:

3.1 A Pre-Bid Conference will be held at the date, time, and location as indicated on the first page of the BVB document. Interested Offeror(s) should plan to attend. It will be assumed that potential Offeror(s) attending this meeting have reviewed the BVB in detail, and are prepared to bring up any substantive questions not already addressed by the City.

4.0 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND SPECIFICATION CHANGES:

4.1 Requests for additional information and questions should be addressed to the Administration and Regulatory Affairs Department, Strategic Purchasing Division Buyer, Richard Morris, telephone: (832) 393-8736, fax: (832) 393-8759, or e-mail (preferred method to): richard.morris@houstontx.gov no later than December 3, 2012, at 5:00 P.M. CST. The City of Houston shall provide written response to all questions received in writing before the submittal deadline. Questions received from all Offeror(s) shall be answered and sent to all Offeror(s) who are listed as having obtained the BVB. Offeror(s) shall be notified in writing of any changes in the specifications contained in this BVB.

5.0 LETTER(S) OF CLARIFICATION:

5.1 All Letters of Clarification and interpretations to this Solicitation shall be in writing. Any Letter of Clarification(s) or interpretation that is not in writing shall not legally bind the City of Houston. Only information supplied by the City of Houston in writing or outlined in this BVB should be used in preparing bid responses.

5.2 The City does not assume responsibility for the receipt of any Letters of Clarification sent to Offeror(s).

6.0 EXAMINATION OF DOCUMENTS AND REQUIREMENTS:

6.1 Each Offeror shall carefully examine all BVB documents and thoroughly familiarize themselves with all requirements prior to submitting a Bid to ensure that the Bid meets the intent of this BVB.

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS TO OFFEROR(S)
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6.2 Before submitting a Bid, each Offeror shall be responsible for making all investigations and examinations that are necessary to ascertain conditions and requirements affecting the requirements of this BVB. Failure to make such investigations and examinations shall not relieve the Offeror from obligation to comply, in every detail, with all provisions and requirements of the BVB.

7.0 EXCEPTIONS TO TERMS AND CONDITIONS:

7.1 Best Value Bids: An Offer that takes exception to a material requirement of any part of the Solicitation, including terms and conditions, may be rejected.

8.0 ACCEPTANCE AND REJECTION OF BIDS:

8.1 The City reserves the right to accept or reject, in whole or in part, any or all bids received and to make award on the basis of individual items or combination of items, as it is deemed most advantageous or in the best interest to the City.

8.2 The City may accept this bid offer by issuance of a Contract covering award of said bid to this Bidder at any time on or before the 180th day following the day this Official Bid Form is opened by the City. This offer shall be irrevocable for 180 days, but shall expire on the 181st day unless the parties mutually agree to an extension of time in writing.

9.0 HIRE HOUSTON FIRST:

9.1 Designation as a City Business or Local Business

9.1.1 To be designated as a City or Local Business for the purposes of the Hire Houston First Program, as set out in Article XI of Chapter 15 of the Houston City Code, a bidder or proposer must submit the **Hire Houston First Application and Affidavit (“HHF Affidavit”)** to the Director of the Mayor’s Office of Business Opportunities and receive notice that the submission has been approved prior to award of a contract. Bidders are encouraged to secure a designation prior to submission of a bid or proposal if at all possible.

9.1.2 **Download the HHF Affidavit** from the Office of Business Opportunities Webpage at the City of Houston e-Government Website at the following location:

<http://www.houstontx.gov/hbsc/hirehoustonfirstaffidavit.pdf>

9.1.3 Submit the completed application forms to: Mayor’s Office of Business Opportunity, One Stop Business Center, 900 Bagby St., Public Level, Houston, TX 77002 or Applications may be submitted via e-mail to HHF-MOBO@houstontx.gov or faxed to 832.393.0952.

9.2 Award of Procurement Pursuant to a Request for Proposal, Best Value Solicitation or Alternative--- Pursuant to Chapter --- of the Local Government Code

9.2.1 IN EVALUATION OF A PROPOSAL SUBMITTED UNDER ANY OF THE ABOVE PROCUREMENT METHODS, THE CITY SHALL AWARD EXTRA POINTS EQUAL TO

- **THREE PERCENT** OF THE TOTAL EVALUATION POINTS AVAILABLE TO A “LOCAL BUSINESS,” AS DEFINED IN SECTION 15-176 OF THE CITY OF HOUSTON CODE OF ORDINANCES, AND
- **FIVE PERCENT** OF THE TOTAL EVALUATION POINTS AVAILABLE TO A “CITY BUSINESS ,”AS DEFINED IN SECTION 15-176 OF THE CITY OF HOUSTON CODE OF ORDINANCES
- UNLESS THE USER DEPARTMENT DETERMINES THAT AN AWARD TO THE LOCAL OR CITY BUSINESS WOULD UNDULY INTERFERE WITH CONTRACT NEEDS, AS PROVIDED N SECTION 15-181 OF THE CODE.

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10.0 PROTEST:

10.1 A protest shall comply with and be resolved, according to the City of Houston Procurement Manual [://purchasing.houstontx.gov/docs/Procurement_Manual.pdf](http://purchasing.houstontx.gov/docs/Procurement_Manual.pdf) and rules adopted thereunder. Protests shall be submitted in writing and filed with both, the City Attorney and the Solicitation contact person. A pre-award protest of the BVB shall be received five (5) days prior to the solicitation due date and a post-award protest shall be filed within five (5) days after City Council approval of the contract award.

10.2 A protest shall include the following:

10.2.1 The name, address, e-mail, and telephone number of the protester;

10.2.2 The signature of the protester or its representative who has the delegated authority to legally bind its company;

10.2.3 Identification of the BVB description and the BVB or Contract number;

10.2.4 A detailed written statement of the legal and factual grounds of the protest, including copies of relevant documents, etc.; and

10.2.5 The desired form of relief or outcome, which the protester is seeking.

11.0 LOBBYING AND OTHER FORMS OF INFLUENCE PROHIBITED:

11.1 Neither Offeror(s) nor any person acting on Offeror(s)'s behalf shall attempt to influence the outcome of the contract award by the offer, presentation or promise of gratuities, favors, or anything of value to any member of the Proposal evaluation committee, any appointed or elected official or employee of the City of Houston, their families or staff members. All inquiries regarding the solicitation are to be directed to the designated City Buyer identified on the first page of the BVB. Upon issuance of the BVB through the pre-award phase and up to the award of a contract, aside from Offeror's formal response to the BVB, communications publically made during the official pre-bid conference, written requests for clarification during the period officially designated for such purpose by the City Buyer and communications during an oral interview, scheduled at the request of and for the benefit of the Proposal evaluation committee, if any, neither Offeror(s) nor persons acting on their behalf shall communicate with any member of the Proposal evaluation committee, appointed or elected official or employee of the City of Houston, their families or staff through written or oral means in an attempt to persuade or influence the outcome of the contract award or to obtain or deliver information intended to or which could reasonably result in an advantage to any Offeror. However, nothing in this paragraph shall prevent Offeror from making public statements to the City Council body convened for a regularly scheduled session after the Proposal evaluation committee has made its official selection and presented same to Council for action.

UNIFORM INSTRUCTIONS TO OFFEROR(S)
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- 1.0 This BVB does not commit the City of Houston to award a Contract, issue a Purchase Order, or to pay any costs incurred in the preparation of a Bid in response to this request.
- 2.0 The Bid will become part of the City's official files without any obligation on the City's part. All Responses shall be held confidential from all parties other than the City until after the Bids are opened and publicly read. Afterward, the Bids shall be available to the public.
- 3.0 The City of Houston shall not be held accountable if material from responses is obtained without the written consent of the Offeror by parties other than the City, at any time during the Bid evaluation process.
- 4.0 In the event an Offeror submits trade secret information to the City, the information must be clearly labeled as a **"Trade Secret."** The City will maintain the confidentiality of such trade secrets to the extent provided by law.
- 5.0 Offeror(s) shall not offer any gratuities, favors, or anything of monetary value to any official or employee of the City of Houston (including any and all members of the Bid evaluation committees).
- 6.0 Offeror(s) shall not collude in any manner, or engage in any practices, with any other Offeror(s), which may restrict or eliminate competition, or otherwise restrain trade. This is not intended to preclude subcontracts and joint ventures for the purposes of: a) responding to this BVB; or b) establishing a project team with the required experience and/or capability to provide the goods or services specified herein.
- 7.0 Offeror(s), their authorized representatives and their agents are responsible for obtaining, and will be deemed to have, full knowledge of the Conditions, requirements, and Specifications of the BVB at the time a Bid is submitted to the City.
- 8.0 The Agreement(s) shall become effective on or about March 1, 2013 for a term of three (3) years. The City of Houston reserves the option of extending the Agreement(s) on an annual basis for two (2) additional one-year terms, or portions thereof.
- 9.0 If necessary for the completion of tasks required under the project, the City will provide reasonable working space to the Prime Contractor.
- 10.0 Clerical support and reproduction of documentation costs shall be the responsibility of the Prime Contractor. If required, such support and costs shall be factored into the Bid amount.
- 11.0 Prime Contractor personnel essential to the continuity, and the successful and timely completion of the project should be available for the duration of the project unless substitutions are approved in writing by the City Project Director.
- 12.0 The Prime Contractor will be expected to adhere to all standard contractual requirements of the City which shall include, but are not limited to, provisions for: Time Extensions; Appropriation of Available Funds; Approvals; Term and Termination; Independent Contractor; Business Structure and Assignments; Subcontractors; Parties in Interest; Non-Waiver; Applicable Laws; Notices; Use of Work Products; Equal Employment Opportunity; Force Majeure; and Inspections and Audits.
- 13.0 The City may terminate its performance under a Contract in the event of a default by the Prime Contractor and a failure to cure such default after receiving notice of default from the City. Default may result from the Prime Contractor's failure to perform under the Terms of the Contract or from the Prime Contractor becoming insolvent, having a substantial portion of its assets assessed for the benefit of creditors, or having a receiver or trustee appointed.
- 14.0 Prime Contractor must promptly report to the City Project Director any conditions, transactions, situation, or circumstances encountered by the Prime Contractor which would impede or impair the proper and timely performance of the Contract.
- 15.0 The City of Houston has sole discretion and reserves the right to cancel this BVB, or to reject any or all Bids

UNIFORM INSTRUCTIONS TO OFFEROR(S)
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received prior to Contract award.

- 16.0 The City reserves the right to waive any minor informality concerning this BVB, or to reject any or all Bids or any part thereof.
- 17.0 The City reserves the right to request clarity of any Bid after they have been received.
- 18.0 After Contract execution, the successful Offeror shall be the Prime Contractor and responsible party for contracting and communicating the work to be performed to subcontractors, and for channeling other information between the City and subcontractors. Any subcontracting must be specified in the BVB. Any subcontracting not specified in the BVB will need prior written approval from the City Purchasing Agent.
- 19.0 Prime Contractor assumes total responsibility for the quality and quantity of all work performed, whether it is undertaken by the Prime Contractor or is subcontracted to another organization.
- 20.0 If subcontractor involvement is required in the use of license, patent, or proprietary process, the Prime Contractor is responsible for obtaining written authorization from the subcontractor to use the process, or provide another process comparable to that which is required and which is acceptable to the City, all at no additional cost or liability to the City.

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SPECIFICATIONS / SCOPE OF WORK
SOLICITATION NO.: S30-L24414

1.0 Scope of Services:

- 1.1 The Contractor shall provide all labor, supplies, materials, equipment, transportation, and supervision necessary to provide wood waste and yard waste removal services for the Solid Waste Management Department. At no time should the material be used or placed in the landfill.
- 1.2 The Contractor shall grind and compost “clean wood waste”, consisting of tree limbs, branches and stumps, other organic materials generated from routine grounds maintenance, and clean, untreated lumber (**Wood free of all paints and chemicals**). The use of chipped wood for boiler fuel applications is also acceptable. The Contractor shall process “clean yard waste”, consisting of “clean bagged yard trimmings” and “clean bundled yard trimmings”. “Clean yard waste” will consist of leaves, grass, twigs and small brush generated from routine grounds maintenance.
- 1.3 The City shall have the right to deliver “clean wood waste” and “clean yard waste” to a collection site in each quadrant of the City.
- 1.4 The Contractor has the option to identify one, two, three or four collection sites, with the stipulation that a quadrant of the City will have only one collection site.
- 1.5 Preference will be given to vendors that can provide multiple collection sites throughout the city.
- 1.6 Preference will be given to vendors that can provide a rebate back to the City based on the sale of bulk and bagged mulch/compost products produced using the wood waste and yard waste material delivered by the City to the vendor.

2.0 Site Requirements/Options:

- 2.1 The City will deposit “clean wood waste” and “clean yard waste” at the “collection site” most convenient for city vehicles during its monthly heavy trash collection operations. Collection sites will be available during normal operating hours which are Monday – Friday and some Saturdays depending on the City’s holiday schedules.
- 2.2 The Contractor shall bear the responsibility of providing a portable scale system at each site it operates. The Contractor shall also be responsible for providing a building i.e., trailer/scale office or appropriate facility at each site. The Contractor shall also be responsible to market the processed material.
- 2.3 Although the City intends to exercise care to ensure that material not meeting the definition of “cleans wood waste” and “clean yard waste” is not collected, it is possible that such material may be delivered to a “collection site”. Should such material be delivered, the Contractor shall move it to a remote area of the “collection site” and inform the City. This material shall be collected and removed by the City at the City’s expense.

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- 2.4 All inclusive costs/revenue rates per ton (including the grinding/processing of “clean wood waste” and “clean yard waste” delivered, and the composting of the ground/processed material), must be included in the Contractor’s per ton cost/revenue.
- 2.5 The Contractor shall process all “clean wood waste” and “clean yard waste” delivered by the City to the “collection site(s)” during the term of this agreement.

3.0 Compensation

- 3.1 The contractor shall pay the City the cost per ton indicated as in the contract fee schedule, or charge the City the unit price indicated.

4.0 Daily Record:

- 4.1 The Contractor shall maintain a daily record of truck numbers arriving at the “collection site”. The daily record shall include the time, date, truck number, weight, type of each load of “clean wood waste” and “clean yard waste” and any other information as the City and Contractor shall mutually agree upon. Two copies of the daily record of deliveries of wood waste and yard waste received at the “collection site” shall be furnished to the Solid Waste Management Department of the City Of Houston on or before the tenth (10th) day of the next succeeding month. The City shall provide the Contractor a truck tare weight list.

5.0 Title to Wood Waste and Yard Waste:

- 5.1 Title to and all risks and responsibilities of ownership of the “clean wood waste” and “clean yard waste” delivered hereunder shall be transferred to and vested in Contractor at the time the “clean wood waste” and “clean yard waste” is fully unloaded at the designated working area of the “collection site” and the City’s vehicle has departed the “collection site.

6.0 Safety Regulations:

- 6.1 Equipment and employees entering the “collection site” shall comply with all federal, state and local health and safety regulations, including reasonable work or safety rules which have been promulgated by Contractor to govern operations at the “collection site”. Equipment or employees found not to be in compliance may be denied entry to or removed from the Processing Facility, provided that Contractor shall give written notice to the Director, within twenty-four (24) hours of such denial or removal, and of the reasons therefore.

7.0 Hours of Operations:

- 7.1 The Contractor shall operate the “collection site” from 8:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Weekend (Saturday) deposits may be needed, depending on holidays,

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business needs or emergency operations. The Contractor will be notified at least 24 hours in advance if weekend deposits are needed.

8.0 Site Inspectors:

8.1 The Director or designee shall have the right to station one or more Site Inspectors at the "collection site" to observe the operations under the Contract. The Contractor agrees to allow Site Inspectors access to those portions of the "collection site" where operations under this Agreement are carried out, to observe and record all equipment entering and exiting the facility, and to take any other actions necessary to accommodate the City's Site Inspectors. City Inspectors will sign in at the "collection site" prior to making inspections. The Contractor shall inform the Site Inspector, in advance, of material changes in the operation plan in effect at the "collection site" which relates to processing of "clean wood waste" and "clean yard waste", so that the Site Inspector can coordinate with City managers that utilize the "collection site".

9.0 Truck Unloading:

9.1 The Contractor shall operate the "collection site" in accordance with all applicable permits, standards, rules and regulations imposed by governmental agencies having jurisdiction. The Contractor shall use all reasonable efforts to control odors generated by the "clean wood waste" and "clean yard waste" processing operation. The Contractor shall provide a written statement to the Director or designee if there is an excessive or unreasonable delay from the time of entrance (check point) to the "collection site" to the time of discharge. The Contractor shall maintain a stabilized all weather tipping pad (with access thereto via all weather roads) which can accommodate up to two (2) trucks to unload at one time. The Contractor shall make space available on such pad for use of City vehicles.

10.0 Material Processing:

10.1 The Contractor shall be responsible for the processing of the "clean wood waste" and "clean yard waste". The Contractor shall ensure that the material shall be marketed and distributed effectively. No "clean wood waste" or "clean yard waste" processed or unprocessed should be disposed of in a landfill.

11.0 Scale:

11.1 The Contractor shall make available, at its expense, at the "collection site(s)" scales to weigh the "clean wood waste" and "clean yard waste". The Contractor shall maintain and calibrate the scales at least quarterly and shall permit a City representative to observe such procedures. The Contractor shall give the City at least three (3) working/business days notice of calibration. The City reserves the right to inspect and test the scales at any time, to have a City representative present at the "collection site" during City "clean wood waste" and "clean yard waste" deliveries and to audit scale house records at any time. If the scales are not operating at the time of delivery, the City shall be paid on the basis of weight based historical weights in tons of deliveries by such vehicles for the previous 30 days.

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12.0 ADDITIONS & DELETIONS:

12.1 The City, by written notice from the City Purchasing Agent to the Contractor, at any time during the term of this contract, may add or delete like or similar equipment, supplies, locations and/or services to the list of equipment, supplies, locations, and/or services to be provided. Any such written notice shall take effect on the date stated in the notice from the City. Similar equipment, supplies, services, or locations added to the contract shall be in accordance with the contract specification/scope of services, and the charges or rates for items added shall be the same as specified in the fee schedule. In the event that the additional equipment, supplies, locations and/or services are not identical to the item(s) already under contract, the charges therefore will then be the Contractor's normal and customary charges or rates for the equipment, supplies, locations and/or services classified in the fee schedule.

13.0 ESTIMATED QUANTITIES NOT GUARANTEED:

13.1 The estimated quantities specified herein are not a guarantee of actual quantities, as the City does not guarantee any particular quantity of services during the term of this Contract. The quantities may vary depending upon the actual needs of the Department. The quantities specified herein are good faith estimates of usage during the term of this Contract. Therefore, the City shall not be liable for any contractual agreements/obligations the Contractor enters into based on the City purchasing all the quantities specified herein.

14.0 INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT:

14.1 Under the same terms and conditions hereunder, the Contract may be expanded to other government entities through inter-local agreements between the City of Houston and the respective government entity that encompass all or part of the products/services provided under this contract. Separate contracts will be drawn to reflect the needs of each participating entity.

15.0 WARRANTY OF SERVICES:

15.1 *Definitions:* "Acceptance" as used in this clause, means the act of an authorized representative of the City by which the City assumes for itself, approval of specific services, as partial or complete performance of the Contract.

15.2 "Correction" as used in this clause, means the elimination of a defect.

15.3 Notwithstanding inspection and acceptance by the City or any provision concerning the conclusiveness thereof, the Contractor warrants that all services performed under this Contract will, at the time of acceptance, be free from defects in workmanship and conform to the requirements of this Contract. The City shall give written notice of any defect or nonconformance to the Contractor within a one-year period from the date of acceptance by the City. This notice shall state either (1) that the Contractor shall

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correct or re-perform any defective or non-conforming services at no additional cost to the City, or (2) that the City does not require correction or re-performance.

- 15.4 If the Contractor is required to correct or re-perform, it shall be at no cost to the City, and any services corrected or re-performed by the Contractor shall be subject to this clause to the same extent as work initially performed. If the Contractor fails or refuses to correct or re-perform, the City may, by contract or otherwise correct or replace with similar services and charge to the Contractor the cost occasioned to the City thereby, or make an equitable adjustment in the Contract price.

GENERAL TERMS & CONDITIONS/SPECIMEN CONTRACT
SOLICITATION NO.: S30-L24414

THE STATE OF TEXAS

BID # _____

ORDINANCE # _____

COUNTY OF HARRIS

CONTRACT # _____

I. PARTIES

1.0 ADDRESS:

THIS AGREEMENT FOR WOOD AND YARD WASTE REMOVAL SERVICES ("Agreement") is made on the Countersignature Date between the **CITY OF HOUSTON, TEXAS** ("City"), a Texas Home-Rule City and **CONTRACTOR NAME** ("Contractor or Vendor"), a corporation doing business in Texas.

The initial addresses of the parties, which one party may change by giving written notice to the other party, are as follows:

City

City Purchasing Agent for Director
of Solid Waste Management Department
City of Houston
P.O. Box 1562
Houston, Texas 77251

Contractor

Phone: _____
Fax: _____

The Parties agree as follows:

2.0 TABLE OF CONTENTS:

2.1 This Agreement consists of the following sections:

GENERAL TERMS & CONDITIONS/SPECIMEN CONTRACT

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EXHIBITS

- A. DEFINITIONS
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- D. MWBE SUBCONTRACT TERMS
- E. DRUG POLICY COMPLIANCE AGREEMENT
- F. CERTIFICATION OF NO SAFETY IMPACT POSITIONS
- G. DRUG POLICY COMPLIANCE DECLARATION
- H. FEES AND COSTS
- I. CONTRACTOR PAY OR PLAY

3.0 PARTS INCORPORATED:

3.1 The above described sections and exhibits are incorporated into this Agreement.

4.0 CONTROLLING PARTS:

4.1 If a conflict among the sections or exhibits arises the Exhibits control over the Sections.

5.0 DEFINITIONS:

5.1 Certain terms used in this Agreement are defined in Exhibit "A".

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6.0 SIGNATURES:

6.1 The Parties have executed this Agreement in multiple copies, each of which is an original.

ATTEST/SEAL (if a corporation): _____

WITNESS (if not a corporation):

By: _____

Name:

Title:

By: _____

Name:

Title:

Federal Tax ID Number: _____

ATTEST/SEAL:

CITY OF HOUSTON, TEXAS

Signed by:

City Secretary

Mayor

APPROVED:

COUNTERSIGNED BY:

City Purchasing Agent

City Controller

DATE COUNTERSIGNED:

This Contract has been reviewed as to form by the undersigned legal assistant and has been found to meet established Legal Department criteria. The Legal Department has not reviewed the content of these documents.

Date

Legal Assistant

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II. DUTIES OF CONTRACTOR

1.0 SCOPE OF SERVICES:

1.1 In consideration of the payments specified in this Agreement, Contractor shall provide all labor, material, equipment, transportation and supervision necessary to perform the services described in Exhibit "B."

2.0 INDEMNITY AND RELEASE:

2.1 RELEASE

PRIME CONTRACTOR/SUPPLIER AGREES TO AND SHALL RELEASE THE CITY, ITS AGENTS, EMPLOYEES, OFFICERS, AND LEGAL REPRESENTATIVES (COLLECTIVELY THE CITY) FROM ALL LIABILITY FOR INJURY, DEATH, DAMAGE, OR LOSS TO PERSONS OR PROPERTY SUSTAINED IN CONNECTION WITH OR INCIDENTAL TO PERFORMANCE UNDER THIS AGREEMENT, EVEN IF THE INJURY, DEATH, DAMAGE, OR LOSS IS CAUSED BY THE CITY'S SOLE OR CONCURRENT NEGLIGENCE AND/OR THE CITY'S STRICT PRODUCTS LIABILITY OR STRICT STATUTORY LIABILITY.

2.2 INDEMNIFICATION:

PRIME CONTRACTOR/SUPPLIER AGREES TO AND SHALL DEFEND, INDEMNIFY, AND HOLD THE CITY, ITS AGENTS, EMPLOYEES, OFFICERS, AND LEGAL REPRESENTATIVES (COLLECTIVELY "THE CITY") HARMLESS FOR ALL CLAIMS, CAUSES OF ACTION, LIABILITIES, FINES, AND EXPENSES (INCLUDING, WITHOUT LIMITATION, ATTORNEY'S FEES, COURT COSTS, AND ALL OTHER DEFENSE COSTS AND INTEREST) FOR INJURY, DEATH, DAMAGE, OR LOSS TO PERSONS OR PROPERTY SUSTAINED IN CONNECTION WITH OR INCIDENTAL TO PERFORMANCE UNDER THIS AGREEMENT INCLUDING, WITHOUT LIMITATION, THOSE CAUSED BY:

2.2.1 PRIME CONTRACTOR/SUPPLIERS AND/OR ITS AGENTS', EMPLOYEES', OFFICERS', DIRECTORS', CONTRACTORS', OR SUBCONTRACTORS' (COLLECTIVELY IN NUMBERED PARAGRAPHS 2.1-2.3, "PRIME CONTRACTOR/SUPPLIER") ACTUAL OR ALLEGED NEGLIGENCE OR INTENTIONAL ACTS OR OMISSIONS;

2.2.2 THE CITY'S AND PRIME CONTRACTOR/SUPPLIER'S ACTUAL OR ALLEGED CONCURRENT NEGLIGENCE, WHETHER PRIME CONTRACTOR/SUPPLIER IS IMMUNE FROM LIABILITY OR NOT; AND

2.2.3 THE CITY'S AND PRIME CONTRACTOR/SUPPLIER'S ACTUAL OR ALLEGED STRICT PRODUCTS LIABILITY OR STRICT STATUTORY LIABILITY, WHETHER PRIME CONTRACTOR/SUPPLIER IS IMMUNE FROM LIABILITY OR NOT.

2.2.4 PRIME CONTRACTOR/SUPPLIER SHALL DEFEND, INDEMNIFY, AND HOLD THE CITY HARMLESS DURING THE TERM OF THIS AGREEMENT AND FOR FOUR YEARS AFTER THE AGREEMENT TERMINATES. PRIME CONTRACTOR/SUPPLIER'S INDEMNIFICATION IS LIMITED TO \$500,000.00 PER OCCURRENCE. PRIME CONTRACTOR/SUPPLIER SHALL NOT INDEMNIFY THE CITY FOR THE CITY'S SOLE NEGLIGENCE.

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2.3 INDEMNIFICATION:

CONTRACTOR SHALL REQUIRE ALL OF ITS SUBCONTRACTORS (AND THEIR SUBCONTRACTORS) TO RELEASE AND INDEMNIFY THE CITY TO THE SAME EXTENT AND IN SUBSTANTIALLY THE SAME FORM AS ITS RELEASE AND INDEMNITY TO THE CITY

3.0 INDEMNIFICATION PROCEDURES:

3.1 Notice of Claims. If the City or Prime Contractor/Supplier receives notice of any claim or circumstances which could give rise to an indemnified loss, the receiving party shall give written notice to the other party within 10 days. The notice must include the following:

3.1.1 a description of the indemnification event in reasonable detail,

3.1.2 the basis on which indemnification may be due, and

3.1.3 the anticipated amount of the indemnified loss.

3.2 This notice does not stop or prevent the City from later asserting a different basis for indemnification or a different amount of indemnified loss than that indicated in the initial notice. If the City does not provide this notice within the 10 day period, it does not waive any right to indemnification except to the extent that Prime Contractor/Supplier is prejudiced, suffers loss, or incurs expense because of the delay.

3.3 Defense of Claims

3.3.1 Assumption of Defense. Prime Contractor/Supplier may assume the defense of the claim at its own expense with counsel chosen by it that is reasonably satisfactory to the City. Prime Contractor/Supplier shall then control the defense and any negotiations to settle the claim. Within 10 days after receiving written notice of the indemnification request, Prime Contractor/Supplier must advise the City as to whether or not it will defend the claim. If Prime Contractor/Supplier does not assume the defense, the City shall assume and control the defense, and all defense expenses constitute an indemnification loss.

3.3.2 Continued Participation. If Prime Contractor/Supplier elects to defend the claim, the City may retain separate counsel to participate in (but not control) the defense and to participate in (but not control) any settlement negotiations. Prime Contractor/Supplier may settle the claim without the consent or agreement of the City, unless it (i) would result in injunctive relief or other equitable remedies or otherwise require the City to comply with restrictions or limitations that adversely affect the City, (ii) would require the City to pay amounts that Prime Contractor/Supplier does not fund in full, (iii) would not result in the City's full and complete release from all liability to the plaintiffs or claimants who are parties to or otherwise bound by the settlement.

4.0 INSURANCE:

4.1 Contractor shall maintain in effect certain insurance coverage and shall furnish certificates of insurance, in duplicate form, before beginning its performance under this Agreement. All policies except Professional Liability and Workers' Compensation must name the City as an

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additional insured. The issuer of any policy (1) shall have a Certificate of Authority to transact insurance business in Texas or (2) shall be an eligible non-admitted insurer in the State of Texas and have a Best's rating of at least B+ and a Best's Financial Size Category of Class VI or better, according to the most current edition Best's Key Rating Guide. Contractor shall maintain the following insurance coverages in the following amounts:

- 4.1.1 Commercial General Liability insurance including Contractual Liability insurance:
\$500,000 per occurrence; \$1,000,000 aggregate
- 4.1.2 Workers' Compensation including Broad Form All States endorsement:
Statutory amount
- 4.1.3 Automobile Liability insurance
\$1,000,000 combined single limit per occurrence
Defense costs are excluded from the face amount of the policy.
Aggregate Limits are per 12-month policy period unless otherwise indicated.
- 4.1.4 Employer's Liability
Bodily injury by accident \$100,000 (each accident)
Bodily injury by disease \$100,000 (policy limit)
Bodily injury by disease \$100,000 (each employee)
- 4.2 All insurance policies must require by endorsement, that the insurance carrier waives any rights of subrogation against the City, Contractor shall give written notice to the Director if any of its insurance policies are cancelled, materially changed or non-renewed. Within the 30 day period, Contractor shall provide other suitable policies in lieu of those about to be canceled, materially changed, or non-renewed so as to maintain in effect the required coverage. If Contractor does not comply with this requirement, the Director, at his or sole discretion, may:
 - 4.2.1 immediately suspend Contractor from any further performance under this Agreement and begin procedures to terminate for default, or
 - 4.2.2 purchase the required insurance with City funds and deduct the cost of the premiums from amounts due to Contractor under this Agreement.
 - 4.2.3 All certificates of insurance submitted by Contractor shall be accompanied by endorsements for additional insured coverage in favor of the City for Commercial General Liability and Automobile Liability policies; and waivers of subrogation in favor of the City for Commercial General Liability, Automobile Liability, and Worker's Compensation/Employers' Liability policies. For a list of pre-approved endorsement forms see <http://purchasing.houstontx.gov/forms.shtml>. The Director will consider all other forms on a case-by-case basis.

5.0 WARRANTIES:

- 5.1 Contractor represents and warrants that it shall perform all work in a good and workmanlike manner, meeting the standards of quality prevailing in Harris County, Texas for work of this kind. Contractor shall perform all work using trained and skilled persons having substantial experience performing the work required under this Agreement.
- 5.2 With respect to any parts and goods furnished by it, Contractor warrants:

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- 5.2.1 that all items are free of defects in title, material, and workmanship,
- 5.2.2 that each item meets or exceeds the manufacturer's specifications and requirements for the equipment, structure, or other improvement in which the item is installed,
- 5.2.3 that each replacement item is new in accordance with original equipment manufacturer's specifications, and of a quality at least as good as the quality of the item which it replaces (when the replaced item was new), and
- 5.2.4 that no item or its use infringes any patent, copyright, or proprietary right.

6.0 LICENSES AND PERMITS:

- 6.1 Contractor shall obtain and pay for all licenses, permits, and certificates required by any statute, ordinance, rule, or regulation.

7.0 COMPLIANCE WITH EQUAL OPPORTUNITY ORDINANCE:

- 7.1 Contractor shall comply with the City's Equal Employment Opportunity Ordinance as set out in Exhibit "C."

8.0 MWBE COMPLIANCE:

- 8.1 Contractor shall comply with the City's Minority and Women Business Enterprise ("MWBE") programs as set out in Chapter 15, Article V of the City of Houston Code of Ordinances. Contractor shall make good faith efforts to award subcontracts or supply agreements in at least 11% of the value of this Agreement to MWBEs. Contractor acknowledges that it has reviewed the requirements for good faith efforts on file with the City's Office of Business Opportunity (OBO) and will comply with them.
- 8.2 Contractor shall require written subcontracts with all MWBE subcontractors and shall submit all disputes with MWBEs to binding arbitration to be conducted in Houston, Texas if directed to do so by the OBO Director. MWBE subcontracts must contain the terms set out in Exhibit "D."

9.0 DRUG ABUSE DETECTION AND DETERRENCE:

- 9.1 It is the policy of the City to achieve a drug-free workforce and workplace. The manufacture, distribution, dispensation, possession, sale, or use of illegal drugs or alcohol by contractors while on City Premises is prohibited. Contractor shall comply with all the requirements and procedures set forth in the Mayor's Drug Abuse Detection and Deterrence Procedures for Contractors, Executive Order No. 1-31 ("Executive Order"), which is incorporated into this Agreement and is on file in the City Secretary's Office.
- 9.2 Before the City signs this Agreement, Contractor shall file with the Contract Compliance Officer for Drug Testing ("CCODT"):
 - 9.2.1 a copy of its drug-free workplace policy,
 - 9.2.2 the Drug Policy Compliance Agreement substantially in the form set forth in Exhibit "E," together with a written designation of all safety impact positions and,

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9.2.3 if applicable (e.g. no safety impact positions), the Certification of No Safety Impact Positions, substantially in the form set forth in Exhibit "F."

9.3 If Contractor files a written designation of safety impact positions with its Drug Policy Compliance Agreement, it also shall file every 6 months during the performance of this Agreement or on completion of this Agreement if performance is less than 6 months, a Drug Policy Compliance Declaration in a form substantially similar to Exhibit "G." Contractor shall submit the Drug Policy Compliance Declaration to the CCODT within 30 days of the expiration of each 6-month period of performance and within 30 days of completion of this Agreement. The first 6-month period begins to run on the date the City issues its Notice to Proceed or if no Notice to Proceed is issued, on the first day Contractor begins work under this Agreement.

9.4 Contractor also shall file updated designations of safety impact positions with the CCODT if additional safety impact positions are added to Contractor's employee work force.

9.5 Contractor shall require that its subcontractors comply with the Executive Order, and Contractor shall secure and maintain the required documents for City inspection.

10.0 ENVIRONMENTAL LAWS:

10.1 Contractor shall comply with all rules, regulations, statutes, or orders of the Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA"), the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality ("TCEQ"), and any other governmental agency with the authority to promulgate environmental rules and regulations ("Environmental Laws"). Contractor shall promptly reimburse the City for any fines or penalties levied against the City because of Contractor's failure to comply.

10.2 Contractor shall not possess, use, generate, release, discharge, store, dispose of, or transport any Hazardous Materials on, under, in, above, to, or from the site except in strict compliance with the Environmental Regulations. "Hazardous Materials" means any substances, materials, or wastes that are or become regulated as hazardous or toxic substances under any applicable federal, state, or local laws, regulations, ordinances, or orders. Contractor shall not deposit oil, gasoline, grease, lubricants or any ignitable or hazardous liquids, materials, or substances in the City's storm sewer system or sanitary sewer system or elsewhere on City Property in violation of the Environmental Laws.

11.0 CONTRACTOR'S PERFORMANCE:

11.1 Contractor shall make citizen satisfaction a priority in providing services under this Agreement. Contractor shall train its employees to be customer service-oriented and to positively and politely interact with citizens when performing contract services. Contractor's employees shall be clean, courteous, efficient, and neat in appearance and committed to offering the highest quality of service to the public. If, in the Director's opinion, Contractor is not interacting in a positive and polite manner with citizens, he or she shall direct Contractor to take all remedial steps to conform to these standards.

12.0 PAYMENT OF EMPLOYEES AND SUBCONTRACTORS:

12.1 Contractor shall make timely payments in accordance with applicable state and federal law to all persons and entities supplying labor, materials or equipment for the performance of this Agreement including Contractor's employees.

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- 12.2 Failure of Contractor to pay its employees as required by law shall constitute a default under this contract for which the Contractor and its surety shall be liable on Contractor's performance bond if Contractor fails to cure the default as provided under this Agreement.
- 12.3 Contractor shall defend and indemnify the City from any claims or liability arising out of Contractor's failure to pay its subcontractors as required by law. Contractor shall submit disputes relating to payment of M/WBE subcontractors to arbitration in the same manner as any other disputes under the M/WBE subcontract.

13.0 CONTRACTOR PAY OR PLAY PROGRAM:

- 13.1 The requirement and terms of the City of Houston Pay or Play Policy, as set out in Executive Order 1-7, are incorporated into this Agreement for all purposes. Contractor has reviewed Executive Order 1-7 and shall comply with its terms and conditions as they are set out at the time of City Council approval of this Agreement. Exhibit "I".
- 13.2 The Pay or Play Program for various departments will be administered by the City of Houston Office of Business Opportunity designee and for a Department specific contract; the Department's designated contract administrator will administer the Pay or Play Program.

III. DUTIES OF CITY

1.0 PAYMENT TERMS:

- 1.1 The City shall pay and Contractor shall accept fees at the unit prices provided in Exhibit H for all services rendered and the Deliverables furnished by Contractor. The fees must only be paid from Allocated Funds, as provided below.
- 1.2 Any quantities of services or Deliverables shown in any part of this contract or its exhibits are estimated only and are not any guarantee that the City will not purchase more or less of those services or Deliverables. The City will pay only for the services or Deliverables actually ordered and only at the unit prices set out.

2.0 TAXES:

- 2.1 The City is exempt from payment of Federal Excise and Transportation Tax and Texas Limited Sales and Use Tax. Contractor's invoices to the City must not contain assessments of any of these taxes. The Director will furnish the City's exemption certificate and federal tax identification number to Contractor if requested.

3.0 METHOD OF PAYMENT:

- 3.1 The City shall pay Contractor on the basis of invoices submitted by Contractor and approved by the Director, showing the specific tasks completed in the preceding month and the corresponding prices. The City shall make payments to Contractor at its address for notices within 30 days of receipt of an approved invoice.

4.0 METHOD OF PAYMENT - DISPUTED PAYMENTS:

- 4.1 If the City disputes any items in an invoice Contractor submits for any reason, including lack of supporting documentation, the Director shall temporarily delete the disputed item and pay the remainder of the invoice. The Director shall promptly notify Contractor of the dispute and request remedial action. After the dispute is settled, Contractor shall include the disputed

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amount on a subsequent regularly scheduled invoice or on a special invoice for the disputed item only.

5.0 LIMIT OF APPROPRIATION:

- 5.1 The City's duty to pay money to Contractor under this Agreement is limited in its entirety by the provisions of this Section.
- 5.2 In order to comply with Article II, Sections 19 and 19a of the City's Charter and Article XI, Section 5 of the Texas Constitution, the City has appropriated and allocated the sum of \$_____ to pay money due under this Agreement (the "Original Allocation"). The executive and legislative officers of the City, in their discretion, may allocate supplemental funds for this Agreement, but they are not obligated to do so. Therefore, the parties have agreed to the following procedures and remedies:
- 5.3 The City makes a Supplemental Allocation by issuing to Contractor a Service Release Order, or similar form approved by the City Controller, containing the language set out below. When necessary, the Supplemental Allocation shall be approved by motion or ordinance of City Council.

"NOTICE OF SUPPLEMENTAL ALLOCATION OF FUNDS"

By the signature below, the City Controller certifies that, upon the request of the responsible director, the supplemental sum set out below has been allocated for the purposes of the Agreement out of funds appropriated for this purpose by the City Council of the City of Houston. This supplemental allocation has been charged to such appropriation.

- 5.4 The Original Allocation plus all supplemental allocations are the Allocated Funds. The City shall never be obligated to pay any money under this Agreement in excess of the Allocated Funds. Contractor must assure itself that sufficient allocations have been made to pay for services it provides. If Allocated Funds are exhausted, Contractor's only remedy is suspension or termination of its performance under this Agreement and it has no other remedy in law or in equity against the City and no right to damages of any kind.

6.0 CHANGES:

- 6.1 At any time during the Agreement Term, the City Purchasing Agent or Director may issue a Change Order to increase or decrease the scope of services or change plans and specifications, as he or she may find necessary to accomplish the general purposes of this Agreement. Contractor shall furnish the services or deliverables in the Change Order in accordance with the requirements of this Agreement plus any special provisions, specifications, or special instructions issued to execute the extra work.
- 6.2 The City Purchasing Agent or Director will issue the Change Order in substantially the following form:

CHANGE ORDER

TO: [Name of Contractor]
FROM: City of Houston, Texas (the "City")
DATE: [Date of Notice]

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SUBJECT: Change Order under the Agreement between the City and [Name of Contractor] countersigned by the City Controller on [Date of countersignature of the Agreement]

Subject to all terms and conditions of the Agreement, the City requests that Contractor provide the following:

[Here describe the additions to or changes to the equipment or services and the Change Order Charges applicable to each.]

Signed:
[Signature of City Purchasing Agent or Director]

- 6.3 The City Purchasing Agent or Director may issue more than one Change Order, subject to the following limitations:
 - 6.3.1 Council expressly authorizes the City Purchasing Agent or Director to approve a Change Order of up to \$50,000. A Change Order of more than \$50,000 over the approved contract amount must be approved by the City Council.
 - 6.3.2 If a Change Order describes items that Contractor is otherwise required to provide under this Agreement, the City is not obligated to pay any additional money to Contractor.
 - 6.3.3 The Total of all Change Orders issued under this section may not increase the Original Agreement amount by more than 25%.
- 6.4 Whenever Contractor receives a Change Order, Contractor shall furnish all material, equipment, and personnel necessary to perform the work described in the Change Order. Contractor shall complete the work within the time prescribed. If no time for completion is prescribed, Contractor shall complete the work within a reasonable time. If the work described in any Change Order causes an unavoidable delay in any other work Contractor is required to perform under this Agreement, Contractor may request a time extension for the completion of the work. The City Purchasing Agent's or Director's decision regarding a time extension is final.
- 6.5 A product or service provided under a Change Order is subject to inspection, acceptance, or rejection in the same manner as the work described in the Original Agreement, and is subject to the terms and conditions of the Original Agreement as if it had originally been a part of the Agreement.
- 6.6 Change Orders are subject to the Allocated Funds provisions of this Agreement.

IV. TERM AND TERMINATION

1.0 CONTRACT TERM:

- 1.1 This Agreement is effective on the Countersignature Date and expires three (3) years after the date specified in the Notice to Proceed unless sooner terminated according to the terms of this Agreement.

2.0 NOTICE TO PROCEED:

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2.1 Contractor shall begin performance under this Agreement on the date specified in a Notice to Proceed from the City Purchasing Agent.

3.0 RENEWALS:

3.1 Upon expiration of the Initial Term, and so long as the City makes sufficient supplemental allocations, this Agreement will be automatically renewed for two successive one-year terms on the same terms and conditions. If the Director of the City Department elects not to renew this Agreement, the City Purchasing shall notify Contractor in writing of non-renewal at least 30 days before the expiration of the then-current term.

4.0 TIME EXTENSIONS:

4.1 If the Department requests an extension of time to complete its performance, then the City Purchasing Agent may, in his or her sole discretion, extend the time so long as the extension does not exceed 90 days. The extension must be in writing but does not require amendment of this Agreement. Contractor is not entitled to damages for delay(s) regardless of the cause of the delay(s).

5.0 TERMINATION FOR CONVENIENCE BY THE CITY:

5.1 The City Purchasing Agent or Director may terminate this Agreement at any time by giving 30 days written notice to Contractor. The City's right to terminate this Agreement for convenience is cumulative of all rights and remedies which exist now or in the future.

5.2 On receiving the notice, Contractor shall, unless the notice directs otherwise, immediately discontinue all services under this Agreement and cancel all existing orders and subcontracts that are chargeable to this Agreement. As soon as practicable after receiving the termination notice, Contractor shall submit an invoice showing in detail the services performed under this Agreement up to the termination date. The City shall then pay the fees to Contractor for services actually performed, but not already paid for, in the same manner as prescribed in Section III unless the fees exceed the allocated funds remaining under this Agreement.

5.3 TERMINATION OF THIS AGREEMENT AND RECEIPT OF PAYMENT FOR SERVICES RENDERED ARE CONTRACTOR'S ONLY REMEDIES FOR THE CITY'S TERMINATION FOR CONVENIENCE, WHICH DOES NOT CONSTITUTE A DEFAULT OR BREACH OF THIS AGREEMENT. CONTRACTOR WAIVES ANY CLAIM (OTHER THAN ITS CLAIM FOR PAYMENT AS SPECIFIED IN THIS SECTION), IT MAY HAVE NOW OR IN THE FUTURE FOR FINANCIAL LOSSES OR OTHER DAMAGES RESULTING FROM THE CITY'S TERMINATION FOR CONVENIENCE.

6.0 TERMINATION FOR CAUSE BY CITY:

6.1 If Contractor defaults under this Agreement, the City Purchasing Agent or Director may either terminate this Agreement or allow Contractor to cure the default as provided below. The City's right to terminate this Agreement for Contractor's default is cumulative of all rights and remedies which exist now or in the future. Default by Contractor occurs if:

6.1.1 Contractor fails to perform any of its duties under this Agreement;

6.1.2 Contractor becomes insolvent;

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6.1.3 all or a substantial part of Contractor's assets are assigned for the benefit of its creditors;
or

6.1.4 a receiver or trustee is appointed for Contractor.

6.2 If a default occurs, the City Purchasing Agent or Director may, but is not obligated to, deliver a written notice to Contractor describing the default and the termination date. The City Purchasing Agent or Director at his or her sole option, may extend the termination date to a later date. If the City Purchasing Agent or Director allows Contractor to cure the default and Contractor does so to the City Purchasing Agent's or Director's satisfaction before the termination date, then the termination is ineffective. If Contractor does not cure the default before the termination date, then the City Purchasing Agent or Director may terminate this Agreement on the termination date, at no further obligation of the City.

6.3 To effect final termination, the City Purchasing Agent or Director must notify Contractor in writing. After receiving the notice, Contractor shall, unless the notice directs otherwise, immediately discontinue all services under this Agreement, and promptly cancel all orders or subcontracts chargeable to this Agreement.

7.0 TERMINATION FOR CAUSE BY CONTRACTOR:

7.1 Contractor may terminate its performance under this Agreement only if the City defaults and fails to cure the default after receiving written notice of it. Default by the City occurs if the City fails to perform one or more of its material duties under this Agreement. If a default occurs and Contractor wishes to terminate the Agreement, then Contractor must deliver a written notice to the Director describing the default and the proposed termination date.

7.2 The date must be at least 30 days after the Director receives notice. Contractor, at its sole option, may extend the proposed termination date to a later date. If the City cures the default before the proposed termination date, then the proposed termination is ineffective. If the City does not cure the default before the proposed termination date, then Contractor may terminate its performance under this Agreement on the termination date.

8.0 REMOVAL OF CONTRACTOR OWNED EQUIPMENT AND MATERIALS:

8.1 Upon expiration, or termination of this Agreement, Contractor is permitted ten (10) days within which to remove contractor-owned material and equipment from the City's premises. The City shall make such material and equipment readily available to Contractor. The time period may be extended upon approval by the Director. The City reserves the right to deny any extension of time.

V. MISCELLANEOUS

1.0 INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR:

1.1 Contractor shall perform its obligations under this Agreement as an independent contractor and not as an employee of the City.

2.0 FORCE MAJEURE:

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- 2.1 Timely performance by both parties is essential to this Agreement. However, neither party is liable for delays or other failures to perform its obligations under this Agreement to the extent the delay or failure is caused by Force Majeure. Force Majeure means fires, floods, explosions, and other acts of God, war, terrorist acts, riots, court orders, and the acts of superior governmental or military authority.
- 2.2 This relief is not applicable unless the affected party does the following:
- 2.2.1 uses due diligence to remove the Force Majeure as quickly as possible; and
- 2.2.2 provides the other party with prompt written notice of the cause and its anticipated effect.
- 2.3 The City may perform contract functions itself or contract them out during periods of Force Majeure. Such performance does not constitute a default or breach of this Agreement by the City.
- 2.4 If the Force Majeure continues for more than 30 days, the City Purchasing Agent or Director may terminate this Agreement by giving 30 days' written notice to Contractor. This termination is not a default or breach of this Agreement. CONTRACTOR WAIVES ANY CLAIM IT MAY HAVE FOR FINANCIAL LOSSES OR OTHER DAMAGES RESULTING FROM THE TERMINATION EXCEPT FOR AMOUNTS DUE UNDER THE AGREEMENT AT THE TIME OF THE TERMINATION.

3.0 SEVERABILITY:

- 3.1 If any part of this Agreement is for any reason found to be unenforceable, all other parts remain enforceable unless the result materially prejudices either party.

4.0 ENTIRE AGREEMENT:

- 4.1 This Agreement merges the prior negotiations and understandings of the Parties and embodies the entire agreement of the Parties. No other agreements, assurances, conditions, covenants (express or implied), or other terms of any kind exist between the Parties regarding this Agreement.

5.0 WRITTEN AMENDMENT:

- 5.1 Unless otherwise specified elsewhere in this Agreement, this Agreement may be amended only by written instrument executed on behalf of the City (by authority of an ordinance duly adopted by the City Council) and Contractor. The Director is only authorized to perform the functions specifically delegated to him or her in this Agreement.

6.0 APPLICABLE LAWS:

- 6.1 This Agreement is subject to the laws of the State of Texas, the City Charter and Ordinances, the laws of the federal government of the United States, and all rules and regulations of any regulatory body or officer having jurisdiction.
- 6.2 Venue for any litigation relating to this Agreement is Harris County, Texas.

7.0 NOTICES:

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7.1 All notices to either party to the Agreement must be in writing and must be delivered by hand, facsimile, United States registered or certified mail, return receipt requested, United States Express Mail, Federal Express, Airborne Express, UPS or any other national overnight express delivery service. The notice must be addressed to the party to whom the notice is given at its address set out in Section I of this Agreement or other address the receiving party has designated previously by proper notice to the sending party. Postage or delivery charges must be paid by the party giving the notice.

8.0 NON-WAIVER:

8.1 If either party fails to require the other to perform a term of this Agreement, that failure does not prevent the party from later enforcing that term and all other terms. If either party waives the other's breach of a term, that waiver does not waive a later breach of this Agreement.

8.2 An approval by the Director, or by any other employee or agent of the City, of any part of Contractor's performance does not waive compliance with this Agreement or establish a standard of performance other than that required by this Agreement and by law. The Director is not authorized to vary the terms of this Agreement.

9.0 INSPECTIONS AND AUDITS:

9.1 City representatives may perform, or have performed, (1) audits of Contractor's books and records, and (2) inspections of all places where work is undertaken in connection with this Agreement. Contractor shall keep its books and records available for this purpose for at least 4 years after this Agreement terminates. This provision does not affect the applicable statute of limitations.

10.0 ENFORCEMENT:

10.1 The City Attorney or his or her designee may enforce all legal rights and obligations under this Agreement without further authorization. Contractor shall provide to the City Attorney all documents and records that the City Attorney requests to assist in determining Contractor's compliance with this Agreement, with the exception of those documents made confidential by federal or State law or regulation.

11.0 AMBIGUITIES:

11.1 If any term of this Agreement is ambiguous, it shall not be construed for or against any party on the basis that the party did or did not write it.

12.0 SURVIVAL:

12.1 Contractor shall remain obligated to the City under all clauses of this Agreement that expressly or by their nature extend beyond the expiration or termination of this Agreement, including but not limited to, the indemnity provisions.

13.0 PARTIES IN INTEREST:

13.1 This Agreement does not bestow any rights upon any third party, but binds and benefits the City and Contractor only.

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14.0 SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS:

14.1 This Agreement binds and benefits the Parties and their legal successors and permitted assigns; however, this provision does not alter the restrictions on assignment and disposal of assets set out in the following paragraph. This Agreement does not create any personal liability on the part of any officer or agent of the City.

15.0 BUSINESS STRUCTURE AND ASSIGNMENTS:

15.1 Contractor shall not assign this Agreement at law or otherwise or dispose of all or substantially all of its assets without the City Purchasing Agent's or Director's prior written consent. Nothing in this clause, however, prevents the assignment of accounts receivable or the creation of a security interest under Section 9.406 (c) of the Texas Business & Commerce Code. In the case of such an assignment, Contractor shall immediately furnish the City with proof of the assignment and the name, telephone number, and address of the Assignee and a clear identification of the fees to be paid to the Assignee.

15.2 Contractor shall not delegate any portion of its performance under this Agreement without the City Purchasing Agent's or Director's prior written consent.

16.0 REMEDIES CUMULATIVE:

16.1 Unless otherwise specified elsewhere in this Agreement, the rights and remedies contained in this Agreement are not exclusive, but are cumulative of all rights and remedies which exist now or in the future. Neither party may terminate its duties under this Agreement except in accordance with its provisions.

17.0 CONTRACTOR DEBT:

17.1 If Contractor, at any time during the term of this agreement, incurs a debt, as the word is defined in Section 15-122 of the Houston City Code of Ordinances, it shall immediately notify the City Controller in writing. If the City Controller becomes aware that Contractor has incurred a debt, she shall immediately notify contractor in writing. If Contractor does not pay the debt within 30 days of either such notification, the City Controller may deduct funds in an amount equal to the debt from any payments owed to Contractor under this agreement, and Contractor waives any recourse therefor.

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GENERAL TERMS & CONDITIONS/SPECIMEN CONTRACT
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EXHIBIT "A"
DEFINITIONS

As used in this Agreement, the following terms have the meanings set out below:

"Agreement" means this contract between the Parties, including all exhibits, change orders, and any written amendments authorized by City Council and Contractor.

"Biodegradable Bag" means a transparent, disposable bag made of plastic film or any other synthetic or natural organic material that has sufficient strength and quality to securely contain a capacity of not more than 39 gallons and meets the American Society for Testing & Materials (ASTM) D6400-04 Standard Test Method for Compostable Plastics. The bags must be approved by the Director of the Solid Waste Management Department, City of Houston, and bear the City's seal.

"City" is defined in the preamble of this Agreement and includes its successors and assigns.

"City Purchasing Agent" is defined as the person or duly authorized successor, authorized in writing to act for the City. The term includes, except as otherwise provided in this Contract, the authorized representative of the City Purchasing Agent acting within the limits of delegated authority.

"Contractor Administrator" means the representative of the Department who is responsible for the administration for the Contract.

"Contract Award Notice" means the official notification substantiated by the Notice to Proceed issued by the City Purchasing Agent to the Contractor.

"Contract Charges" means charges that accrue during a given month as defined in Article III.

"Contract Term" is defined in Article IV.

"Contractor" is defined in the preamble of this Agreement and includes its successors and assigns.

"Countersignature Date" means the date this agreement is countersigned by the City Controller.

"Director" mean the Directors/Chiefs of each of the Departments or the City Purchasing Agent for the City, or the person he or she designates.

"Effective Date" is defined as date contract is countersigned by the City Controller.

"Governing Body" means the Mayor and City Council of the City of Houston.

"Hazardous Materials" is defined in Article II (Environmental Laws).

"Notice to Proceed" means a written communication from the City Purchasing Agent to Contractor instructing Contractor to begin performance.

"Parties" mean all the entities set out in the Preamble who are bound by this Agreement.

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“Wood Waste” means all “clean wood waste”, consisting of tree limbs, branches and stumps, other organic materials generated from routine grounds maintenance, and clean, untreated lumber (Wood free of all paints and chemicals). The use of chipped wood for boiler fuel applications is also acceptable.

“Yard Waste” means all “clean yard waste” consisting of “clean bagged yard trimmings” and “clean bundled yard trimmings. “Clean yard waste” consists of leaves, grass, twigs and small brush generated from routine grounds maintenance. “Clean bagged yard trimmings” will be delivered by the City of Houston in City of Houston approved “biodegradable bags” bearing the City of Houston seal of approval.

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EXHIBIT "B"
SCOPE OF WORK

(Will Be Inserted In Original Contract)

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EXHIBIT "C"
EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

(Will Be Inserted In Original Contract)

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EXHIBIT "D"
MWBE REQUIREMENTS

(Will Be Inserted In Original Contract)

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EXHIBIT "E"
DRUG POLICY COMPLIANCE AGREEMENT

(Will Be Inserted In Original Contract)

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EXHIBIT "F"
CONTRACTOR'S CERTIFICATION OF NO SAFETY IMPACT POSITIONS
IN PERFORMANCE OF A CITY CONTRACT

(Will Be Inserted In Original Contract)

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EXHIBIT "G"
DRUG POLICY COMPLIANCE DECLARATION

(Will Be Inserted In Original Contract)

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EXHIBIT "H"
FEES AND COSTS

(Will Be Inserted In Original Contract)

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EXHIBIT "I"
PAY OR PLAY PROGRAM

(Will Be Inserted In Original Contract)

RESPONSIVENESS & RESPONSIBLENESS EVALUATION ASSESSMENT

SOLICITATION NO.: S30-L24414

To simplify the review process and to obtain the maximum degree of comparability, the Offeror(s) must provide the responses to the items set forth below and include this information as requested in their bid packet; to allow for the evaluation committee to conduct a thorough assessment of the Offeror(s) experience and capabilities. Moreover, Offeror(s) are encouraged to include additional relevant and supporting information to demonstrate their qualifications.

1.0 EXPERTISE/EXPERIENCE/QUALIFICATION STATEMENT:

- 1.1 Provide a brief statement describing the Offeror's background information, history, resources and/or track record. Please limit to three (3) pages.
- 1.2 Provide an organizational chart of proposed team or staff for this project. Also, include professional background and experience of the employees at the collection site.
- 1.3 Provide resumes of key personnel whom will be responsible for the delivery of the services/project.
- 1.4 Provide copies of key personnel certifications and/or licenses.
- 1.5 Provide address of collection site facilities
- 1.6 Provide Offeror's commitment and ability to provide all services required in the scope of services and willingness to agree to the City of Houston's legal requirements.

2.0 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS:

- 2.1 Submit your company's audited annual financial statements, in accordance with and as defined in the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) regulation(s) for the past two years. In addition, include your and Dunn & Bradstreet Report or Federal Tax Forms Filed to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) for the past two years.

3.0 SITE INSPECTION:

- 3.1 The City of Houston reserves the right to inspect the bidder's current place of business to evaluate equipment condition and capabilities, staff experience, training and capabilities, and storage capabilities as they relate to the performance of this contract.

4.0 QUALITY AND WORKMANSHIP:

- 4.1 The bidder must be able to demonstrate upon request that it has satisfactorily performed services similar to the services specified herein. The bidder will provide records of warranty and repair services upon request by City. The City of Houston shall be the sole judge as to whether the services performed are similar to the scope of services contained herein and whether the bidder is capable of performing such services.

5.0 BID LINE ITEMS

Offeror shall submit the electronic bid line items for rebate of bulk and/or bagged mulch/compost produced/sold using City materials, and revenue bid line items to receive compostable bags collected at curbside.

EXHIBIT I – CONTRACTOR’S QUESTIONNAIRE
SOLICITATION NO.: S30-L24414

1.0 EVALUATION SUMMARY:

1.1 An evaluation committee will develop a short list of Offeror(s) based upon the initial review of each Bid received. The short listed Offeror(s) may be scheduled for a structured oral presentation, demonstration, site visit and/or interview. Such presentations will be at no cost to the City of Houston. At the end of the oral presentation, demonstration and/or interview, the evaluation of the short listed Offeror(s) will be completed. However, the evaluation committee reserves the right to issue letter(s) of clarity when deemed necessary to any or all Offeror(s). The oral presentations, demonstrations, site visits and/or interview may be recorded and/or videotaped.

2.0 SELECTION PROCESS:

2.1 The award of this Contract(s) will be made to the respondent(s) offering the response which best meets the needs of the City. The City may make investigations, as it deems necessary, to determine the capabilities of the Offeror(s) to create, modify and implement the required application modules. The Offeror(s) shall furnish to the City such data as the City may request for this purpose. The City reserves the right to reject any offer if the evidence submitted by or the investigation of the Offeror(s) fails to satisfy the City or the Offeror(s) is deemed unqualified to provide the services contemplated. Each Offeror will be evaluated on the basis of the following evaluation criteria that are listed in order of importance below:

2.1.1 Hauling Distance from City of Houston service center to the Collection Site 25 points

2.1.2 Professional Background and Experience of the Contractor Employees at the Collection Site 20 points

2.1.3 Bidder's Financial Stability 15 points

2.1.5 Bidders's Demonstrated Level of Commitment and Ability to Provide all Services, Including the willingness to agree to the legal requirements set by the City of Houston 10 points

2.1.4 M/WBE Participation 10 points

2.1.5 Bidder's Seperate (Revenue) bid to receive Compostable Bags Collected at Curbside 15 points

2.1.6 Bidder's Proposed Rebate to the City for Bulk and/or Bagged Mulch/Compost Produced and Sold Using City Materials 5 points

Hire Houston First Preference Points (City Business = five (5) extra percentage points or Local Business = three (3) extra percentage points and Non-City and Non-Local Business will receive zero (0) extra percentage points).

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EXHIBIT I – CONTRACTOR’S QUESTIONNAIRE
SOLICITATION NO.: S30-L24414

In order to receive bid award consideration, the bidder must be able to demonstrate that they are currently providing or have had at least one contract, as a prime contractor, for the required Services that is similar in size and scope to this BVB requirements. Bidder must have references documenting that it has performed the required BVB services. The reference(s) should be included in the space provided below. Please attach another piece of paper if necessary. **Bidder’s capability and experience shall be evaluated and a factor in determining the Contractor’s responsibility.**

LIST OF PREVIOUS CUSTOMERS

1. Name: _____ Phone No.: _____
Address: _____
Contract Award Date: _____ Contract Completion Date: _____
Contract Name/Title: _____
Project Description: _____

2. Name: _____ Phone No.: _____
Address: _____
Contract Award Date: _____ Contract Completion Date: _____
Contract Name/Title: _____
Project Description: _____

3. Name: _____ Phone No.: _____
Address: _____
Contract Award Date: _____ Contract Completion Date: _____
Contract Name/Title: _____
Project Description: _____

**EXHIBIT II – MINORITY/WOMEN BUSINESS ENTERPRISES
CONTRACT REQUIREMENTS
SOLICITATION NO.: S30-L24414**

**EXHIBIT II – ATTACHMENT “A”: SCHEDULE OF M/WBE PARTICIPATION
SOLICITATION NO.: S30-L24414**

DATE OF REPORT: _____

BID NO.: _____

FORMAL BID TITLE: _____

| NAME OF MINORITY/WOMEN SUBCONTRACTOR | OFFICE OF BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY CERTIFICATION NO. | STREET ADDRESS AND CITY, STATE, ZIP CODE | TELEPHONE NO. | SCOPE OF WORK | AGREE PRICE |
|--|--|---|------------------|------------------|-------------|
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| TOTAL..... | | | | | \$ _____ |
| M/WBE PARTICIPATION AMOUNT..... | | | | | \$ _____% |
| TOTAL BID AMOUNT..... | | | | | \$ _____ |

**EXHIBIT II – ATTACHMENT “A” (CONTINUED): SCHEDULE OF M/WBE PARTICIPATION
SOLICITATION NO.: S30-L24414**

IF YOU HAVE USED YOUR BEST EFFORTS TO CARRY OUT THE CITY’S M/WBE POLICY BY SEEKING SUBCONTRACTS AND SUPPLY AGREEMENTS WITH MINORITY AND WOMEN BUSINESS ENTERPRISES, YET FAILED TO MEET THE STATED PERCENTAGE GOAL OF THIS BID DOCUMENT, LIST BELOW YOUR GOOD FAITH EFFORTS FOR COMPLIANCE (DEFINITION OF REQUIREMENTS CAN BE OBTAINED THROUGH OFFICE OF BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY AT (713) 837-9000).

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THE UNDERSIGNED WILL ENTER INTO A FORMAL AGREEMENT WITH THE MINORITY AND/OR WOMEN SUBCONTRACTORS AND SUPPLIERS LISTED IN THIS SCHEDULE CONDITIONED UPON AWARD OF A CONTRACT FROM THE CITY.

NOTE:
ALL FIRMS LISTED ABOVE MUST BE CERTIFIED (OR ELIGIBLE FOR CERTIFICATION) BY THE OFFICE OF BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY.
THIS SCHEDULE OF M/WBE PARTICIPATION SHOULD BE RETURNED, IN DUPLICATE, WITH THE BID FORM.

BIDDER COMPANY NAME

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED OFFICER OR AGENT OF BIDDER

NAME (TYPE OR PRINT)

TITLE

THIS AGREEMENT IS SUBJECT TO BINDING ARBITRATION ACCORDING TO THE TEXAS GENERAL ARBITRATION ACT.

TO: **City of Houston**
City Purchasing Agent

MINORITY/WOMEN BUSINESS ENTERPRISE (M/WBE) AND SUPPLIER

LETTER OF INTENT

Contract Bid Number: _____

Bid Title: _____

Bid Amount: _____

M/WBE Participation Amount: \$ _____ **M/WBE GOAL** _____ %

1. _____ agrees to perform work/supply goods and/or
(Name of Minority/Women Business Enterprise)
Services in connection with the above-named contract and _____ as:
Name of Prime Contractor

- (a) _____ An Individual
- (b) _____ A Partnership
- (c) _____ A Corporation
- (d) _____ A Joint Venture

2. _____ status is confirmed by M/WBE Directory made
(Name of Minority/Women Business Enterprise)
available through the City of Houston Office of Business Opportunity. Certificate No.: _____.

3. _____ and _____
(Name of Prime Contractor) **(Minority/Women Business Enterprise)**
intend to work on the above-named contract in accordance with the M/WBE Participation Section of the City of Houston Contract Bid Provision.

The Terms & Conditions of Attachment "C" attached hereto are incorporated into this Letter of Intent for all purposes.

(Signed -- Prime Contractor)

(Signed -- Minority/Women Business Enterprise)

(Title)

(Title)

(Date)

(Date)