



Advertise Date: Friday, August 30, 2024

Lee County Board of County Commissioners
DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT MANAGEMENT

Request for Proposal (RFP) NON-CCNA

Solicitation No.:	RFP240474CMR		
Solicitation Name:	VCB- Market Research		
Open Date/Time:	Monday, September 30, 2024	Time:	2:30 PM
Location:	Lee County Procurement Management 2115 Second Street, 1st Floor Fort Myers, FL 33901		
Procurement Contact:	Carolina Rodriguez	Title	Procurement Analyst
Phone:	(239) 533-8858	Email:	Crodriguez3 @leegov.com
Requesting Dept.	Visitor & Convention Bureau		

Pre-Solicitation Meeting:	
Type:	No meeting scheduled at this time

All solicitation documents are available for download at
www.leegov.com/procurement

Advertise Date: Friday, August 30, 2024



Notice to Contractor / Vendor / Proposer(s)

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)

Lee County, Florida, is requesting proposals from qualified individuals/firms for

RPF240474CMR- VCB Market Research

Then and there to be publicly opened and read aloud for the purpose of selecting a vendor to furnish; all necessary labor, services, materials, equipment, tools, consumables, transportation, skills and incidentals required for Lee County, Florida, in conformance with proposal documents, which include technical specifications and/or a scope of work.

Those individuals/firms interested in being considered for (RFP) are instructed to submit, in accordance with specifications, their proposals, pertinent to this project prior to

2:30 PM Monday, September 30, 2024

to the office of the **Procurement Management Director, 2115 Second Street, 1st Floor, Fort Myers, Florida 33901**. The Request for Proposal shall be received in a sealed envelope, prior to the time scheduled to receive proposals, and shall be clearly marked with the solicitation name, solicitation number, proposer name, and contact information as identified in these solicitation documents.

The Scope of Services for this RFP is available from www.leegov.com/procurement. Vendors who obtain scope of services from sources other than www.LeeGov.com/procurement are cautioned that the solicitation package may be incomplete. The County's official bidders list, addendum(s) and information must be obtained from www.LeeGov.com/procurement. It is the proposer's responsibility to check for posted information. The County may not accept incomplete proposals.

There will be no Pre-proposal Conference for this RFP

It has been determined that the specifications and scope of work within this solicitation are adequate to describe the product or services being requested. A pre-proposal conference and site visit has not been scheduled for this solicitation. Questions regarding this Request for Proposal are to be directed, in writing, to the individual listed below using the email address listed below or faxed to (239) 485 8383 during normal working hours.

Carolina Rodriguez, crodriguez3@LeeGov.com

Sincerely,

A blue ink handwritten signature, appearing to read "Adam Brooke", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Adam Brooke, CPPO, CPPB
Procurement Manager

*WWW.LeeGov.Com/Procurement is the County's official posting site

Terms and Conditions

Request for Proposal

1. DEFINITIONS

- 1.1. **Addendum/Addenda:** A written change, addition, alteration, correction or revision to a bid, proposal or contract agreement. Addendum/Addenda may be issued following a pre-bid/pre-proposal conference or as a result of a specification or work scope change to the solicitation.
- 1.2. **Approved Alternate:** Solicitation documents may make reference of specific manufacturer(s) or product(s). These references serve only as a recommendation and a guide to minimum quality and performance. The references are not intended to exclude approved alternatives of other manufacturer(s) or product(s).
- 1.3. **Bid/Proposal Package:** A bid/proposal is a document submitted by a vendor in response to some type of solicitation to be used as a basis for negotiations or for entering into a contract.
- 1.4. **Bidder/Responder/Proposer:** One who submits a response to a solicitation.
- 1.5. **County:** Refers to Lee County Board of County Commissioners.
- 1.6. **Due Date and Time/Opening:** Is defined as the date and time upon which a bid or proposal shall be submitted to the Lee County Procurement Management Division. Only bids or proposals received prior to the established date and time will be considered.
- 1.7. **Liquidated Damages:** Damages paid usually in the form of monetary payment, agreed by the parties to a contract which are due and payable as damages by the party who breaches all or part of the contract. May be applied on a daily basis for as long as the breach is in effect.
- 1.8. **Procurement Management:** shall mean the Director of Lee County's Procurement Management Department or designee.
- 1.9. **Responsible:** A vendor, business entity or individual who is fully capable to meet all of the requirements of the bid/proposal solicitation documents and subsequent contract. Must possess the full capability including financial and technical, to perform as contractually required. Must be able to fully document the ability to provide good faith performance.
- 1.10. **Responsive:** A vendor, business entity or individual who has submitted a bid or request for proposal that fully conforms in all material respects to the bid/proposal solicitation documents and all of its requirements, including all form and substance.
- 1.11. **Solicitation:** An invitation to bid, a request for proposal, invitation to negotiate or any document used to obtain bids or proposals for the purpose of entering into a contract.

2. ORDER OF PRECEDENCE

- 2.1. If a conflict exists between the "Terms and Conditions" the following order of precedents will apply:
 - 2.1.1. Florida State Law as applied to County Purchasing
 - 2.1.2. Lee County Procurement Management Ordinance 22-06 & 23-21
 - 2.1.3. Special Conditions and Supplemental Instructions
 - 2.1.4. Detailed Scope of Work
 - 2.1.5. These Terms and Conditions

3. RULES, REGULATIONS, LAWS, ORDINANCES AND LICENSES

- 3.1. It shall be the responsibility of the proposer to assure compliance with all other federal, state, or county codes, rules, regulations or other requirements, as each may apply. Any involvement with the Lee County shall be in accordance with but not limited to:
 - 3.1.1. Lee County Procurement Policy Ordinance 22-06 & 23-21
 - 3.1.2. Pursuant to FL § Section 119.071, Public Records, General exemptions from inspection or copying of public records, sealed bids or proposals received by the County. Pursuant to this, solicitation are exempt from public records request (s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I, of the Florida Constitution) until such time as the agency provides notice of a decision or intended decision (pursuant to s. 119.071(2)) or within 30 days after bid or proposal opening, whichever is earlier.

- 3.1.3. Florida Statute 218 Public Bid Disclosure Act.
 - 3.1.4. Florida Statute 337.168 Confidentiality of official estimates, identities of potential bidders, and bid analysis and monitoring.
 - 3.1.5. FL § Section 607.1501(1) states: A foreign corporation may not transact business in the State of Florida until it obtains a certificate of authority from the Department of State.
 - 3.2. **Local Business Tax:** If applicable, provide with proposal.
 - 3.3. **License(s):** Proposer should provide, at the time of the opening of the proposal, all necessary permits and/or licenses required for this product and/or service.
4. RFP – PREPARATION OF PROPOSAL
- 4.1. Proposals must be sealed in an envelope, and the outside of the envelope must be affixed with the label included in the forms section.
 - 4.2. **Submission Format:**
 - 4.2.1. Required Forms: complete and return **all** required forms. If the form is not applicable, please return with “Not Applicable” or “N/A” in large letters across the form.
 - 4.2.2. Execution of Proposal: All documents must be properly signed by corporate authorized representative, witnessed, and where applicable corporate and/or notary seals affixed. All proposals shall be typed or printed in ink. The proposer may not use erasable ink. All corrections made to the proposal shall be initialed.
 - 4.2.3. Should not contain links to other Web pages.
 - 4.3. **Preparation Cost:**
 - 4.3.1. The Proposer is solely responsible for any and all costs associated with responding to this solicitation. No reimbursement will be made for any costs associated with the preparation and submittal of any proposal, or for any travel and per diem costs that are incurred by any Proposer.
5. RESPONSES RECEIVED LATE
- 5.1. It shall be the proposer’s sole responsibility to deliver the proposal submission to the Lee County Procurement Management Division prior to or on the time and date stated.
 - 5.2. Any proposals received after the stated time and date will not be considered. The proposal shall not be opened at the public opening. Arrangements may be made for the unopened proposal to be returned at the proposer’s request and expense.
 - 5.3. The Lee County Procurement Management Division shall not be responsible for delays caused by the method of delivery such as, but not limited to; Internet, United States Postal Service, overnight express mail service(s), or delays caused by any other occurrence.
6. PROPOSER REQUIREMENTS (unless otherwise noted)
- 6.1. **Responsive and Responsible:** Only proposals received from responsive and responsible proposers will be considered. The County reserves the right before recommending any award to inspect the facilities and organization; or to take any other necessary action, such as background checks, to determine ability to perform is satisfactory, and reserves the right to reject submission packages where evidence submitted, or investigation and evaluation indicates an inability for the proposer to perform.
 - 6.1.1. Additional sources may be utilized to determine credit worthiness and ability to perform.
 - 6.1.2. Any Proposer or sub-Proposer that will have access to County facilities or property may be required to be screened to a level that may include, but is not limited to fingerprints, statewide criminal. There may be fees associated with these procedures. These costs are the responsibility of the Proposer or sub-Proposer.
 - 6.1.3. Proposers are responsible for ensuring that any required background screening are conducted in accordance with Chapter 435. Proposers shall be aware, understand, and ensure compliance with the statutory requirements regarding background checks. FL Statutes Chapter 435 governs required background screenings for any employees, contractors, subcontractors, or agents of the Proposer who will have contact with any vulnerable person, as defined by statute, or who otherwise are required to undergo a Level 1 or Level 2 background screening in accordance with Florida law.

Such requirements shall flow down to sub-contractors/consultants of the prime Proposer and prime Proposer shall ensure compliance with Chapter 435 of such parties.

- 6.1.4. Documentation of such completed background screenings must be maintained for a period of no less than five (5) years and are subject to audit by Lee County at any time during such five (5) year period.
 - 6.2. **Past Performance:** All vendors will be evaluated on their past performance and prior dealings with Lee County (i.e., failure to meet specifications, poor workmanship, late delivery, etc.) Poor or unacceptable past performance may result in proposer disqualification.
 - 6.3. **Prohibition Against Considering Social, Political Or Ideological Interests in Government Contracting – F.S. 287.05701:** Bidders are hereby notified of the provisions of section 287.05701, Florida Statutes, as amended, that the County will not request documentation of or consider a Bidder's social, political, or ideological interests when determining if the Bidder is a responsible Bidder. Bidders are further notified that the County's governing body may not give preference to a Bidder based on the Bidder's social, political, or ideological interests.
7. PRE-SOLICITATION CONFERENCE
- 7.1. A pre-solicitation conference will be held in the location, date, and time specified on the cover of this solicitation. The cover will also note if the pre-solicitation conference is Non-Mandatory or Mandatory. All questions and answers are considered informal. All prospective proposers are encouraged to obtain and review the solicitation documents prior to the pre-proposal so they may be prepared to discuss any questions or concerns they have concerning this project. All questions must be submitted formally in writing to the procurement staff noted on the first page of the solicitation document. A formal response will be provided in the form of an addendum (see "County Interpretation/Addendums" for additional information.) A site visit may follow the pre-proposal conference, if applicable.
 - 7.2. **Non-Mandatory:** Pre-solicitation conferences are generally non-mandatory, but it is highly recommended that prospective proposers participate.
 - 7.3. **Mandatory:** Failure to attend a mandatory pre-solicitation conference will result in the proposal being considered **non-responsive**.
8. COUNTY INTERPRETATION/ADDENDUMS
- 8.1. Each Proposer shall examine the solicitation documents and shall judge all matters relating to the adequacy and accuracy of such documents. Any inquiries, suggestions or requests concerning interpretation, clarification or additional information pertaining to the solicitation shall be **submitted in writing prior to 5:00 PM at least eight (8) calendar days prior to the date when the submission is due.**
 - 8.2. Response(s) will be in the form of an Addendum posted on www.lee.gov/procurement. It is solely the proposer's responsibility to check the website for information. No notifications will be sent by Lee County Procurement Management Division.
 - 8.3. All Addenda shall become part of the Contract Documents.
 - 8.4. The County shall not be responsible for oral interpretations given by any County employee, representative, or others. Interpretation of the meaning of the plans, specifications or any other contract document, or for correction of any apparent ambiguity, inconsistency or error there in, shall be in writing. Issuance of a written addendum by the County's Procurement Management Division is the only official method whereby interpretation, clarification or additional information can be given.
9. QUALITY GUARANTEE/WARRANTY (as applicable)
- 9.1. Proposer will guarantee their work without disclaimers, unless otherwise specifically approved by the County, for a minimum of twelve (12) months from final completion.
 - 9.2. Unless otherwise specifically provided in the specifications, all equipment and materials and articles incorporated in the work covered by this contract shall be new, unused and of the most suitable grade for the purpose intended. Refurbished parts or equipment are not acceptable unless otherwise specified in the specifications. All warranties will begin from the date of final completion.

- 9.3. Unless otherwise specifically provided in the specifications, the equipment must be warranted for twelve (12) months, shipping, parts and labor. Should the equipment be taken out of service for more than forty-eight (48) hours to have warranty work performed, a loaner machine of equal capability or better shall be provided for use until the repaired equipment is returned to service at no additional charge to the County.
- 9.4. If any product does not meet performance representation or other quality assurance representations as published by manufacturers, producers or distributors of such products or the specifications listed, the vendor shall pick up the product from the County at no expense to the County. The County reserves the right to reject any or all materials, if in its judgment the item reflects unsatisfactory workmanship or manufacturing or shipping damage. The vendor shall refund, to the County, any money which has been paid for same.
10. SUBSTITUTION(S)/APPROVED ALTERNATE(S)
- 10.1. Unless otherwise specifically provided in the specifications, reference to any equipment, material, article or patented process, by trade name, brand name, make or catalog number, shall be regarded as establishing a standard of quality and shall not be construed as limiting competition. If a proposer wishes to make a substitution in the specifications, the bidder shall furnish to the County, **no later than ten (10) business days prior to the solicitation opening date**, the name of the manufacturer, the model number, and other identifying data and information necessary to aid the County in evaluating the substitution. Such information is submitted through the Procurement Management Division. Any such substitution shall be subject to County approval through the issuance of a written addendum by the County's Procurement Management Division. Substitutions shall be approved only if determined by the County to be an **Approved Alternate** to the prescribed specifications.
- 10.2. A proposal containing a substitution is subject to disqualification if the substitution is not approved by the County. Items bid must be identified by brand name, number, manufacturer and model, and shall include full descriptive information, brochures, and appropriate attachments. Brand names are used for descriptive purposes only. An **Approved Alternate** product or service may be used.
11. ADDITIONS, REVISIONS AND DELETIONS
- 11.1. Additions, revisions, or deletions to the Terms and Conditions, specifications that change the intent of the solicitation will cause the solicitation to be non-responsive and the proposal will not be considered. The Procurement Management Director shall be the sole judge as to whether or not any addition, revision, or deletion changes the intent of the solicitation.
12. NEGOTIATED ITEMS
- 12.1. Any item not outlined in the Scope of Services may be subject to negotiations between the County and the successful Proposer.
- 12.2. After award of this proposal the County reserves the right to add or delete items/services at prices to be negotiated at the time of addition or deletion.
- 12.3. At contract renewal time(s) or in the event of significant industry wide market changes, the County may negotiate justified adjustments such as price, terms, etc., to this contract with the County, in its sole judgment, considers such adjustments to be in the best interest of the County.
13. ERRORS, OMISSIONS, CALCULATION ERRORS (as applicable)
- 13.1. **Errors/Omissions:** Approval by County of the successful proposer's work product for the project shall not constitute nor be deemed a release of the responsibility and liability of the successful proposer for the accuracy and competency of the successful proposer's designs, drawings, specifications or other documents and work pertaining to the project. Additionally, approval by the County of the successful proposer's work product shall not be deemed to be an assumption of drawings, specifications or other documents prepared by the successful proposer for the project. After acceptance of the final plans by the County, the successful proposer agrees, prior to and during the construction of the project, to perform such successful proposer

services, at no additional cost to the County, as may be required by the County to correct errors or omissions on the plans prepared by the successful proposer pertaining to the project.

- 13.2. **Calculation Errors:** In the event of multiplication/addition error(s), the unit price shall prevail. Written prices shall prevail over figures where applicable. All proposals shall be reviewed mathematically and corrected, if necessary, using these standards, prior to additional evaluation.

14. CONFIDENTIALITY

- 14.1. Proposers should be aware that all proposals provided are subject to public disclosure and will **not** be afforded confidentiality, unless provided by Chapter 119 Florida Statute.
- 14.2. If information is submitted with a proposal that is deemed “Confidential” the proposer must stamp those pages of the proposal that are considered confidential. The proposer must provide documentation as to validate why these documents should be declared confidential in accordance with Chapter 119, “Public Records,” exemptions.
- 14.3. Lee County ***will not reveal engineering estimates or budget amounts for a project*** unless required by grant funding or unless it is in the best interest of the County. According to Florida State Statute 337.168: A document or electronic file revealing the official cost estimate of the department of a project is confidential and exempt from the provisions of s. 119.07(1) until the contract for the project has been executed or until the project is no longer under active consideration.

15. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

- 15.1. All proposers are hereby placed on formal notice that per Section 3 of Lee County Ordinance No. 92-22: The County is prohibited from solicitation of a professional services firm to perform project design and/or construction services if the firm has or had been retained to perform the project feasibility or study analysis.
- 15.2. Should your proposal be found in violation of the above stated provisions; the County will consider this previous involvement in the project to be a conflict of interest, which will be cause for immediate disqualification of the proposal from consideration for this project.
- 15.3. **Business Relationship Disclosure Requirement:** The award hereunder is subject to the provisions of Chapter 112, Public Officers and Employees: General Provisions, Florida Statutes. All proposers must disclose with their proposal the name of any officer, director or agent who is also an employee of the Lee County or any of its agencies. Further, all proposers must disclose the name of any County employee who owns directly or indirectly, an interest of five percent (5%) or more in the proposer’s firm or any of its branches.
- 15.4. A Vendor that assisted in preparing and/or writing a scope of work and/or specifications may not submit a bid or proposal for County consideration on that project.

16. ANTI-LOBBYING CLAUSE (Cone of Silence)

- 16.1. Upon the issuance of the solicitation, prospective proposers or any agent, representative or person acting at the request of such proposer shall not have any contact, communicate with or discuss any matter relating in any way to the solicitation with any Commissioner, Evaluation Review Committee, agent or employee of the County other than the Procurement Management Director or their designee. This prohibition begins with the issuance of any solicitation and ends upon execution of the final contract or when the solicitation has been cancelled. **If it is determined that improper communications were conducted, the Proposer maybe declared non- responsible.**

17. ANTITRUST VIOLATION

- 17.1. A person or an affiliate who has been placed on the antitrust violator vendor list, available at [Antitrust Violator Vendor List / Vendor Registration and Vendor Lists / State Agency Resources / State Purchasing / Business Operations / Florida Department of Management Services - DMS \(myflorida.com\)](#), following a conviction or being held civilly liable for an antitrust violation may not submit a bid, proposal, or reply for any new contract to provide any goods or services to Lee County; may not submit a bid, proposal, or reply for a new contract with Lee County for the construction or repair of a

public building or public work; may not submit a bid, proposal, or reply on new leases of real property to Lee County; may not be awarded or perform work as a contractor, supplier, subcontractor, or consultant under a new contract with Lee County; and may not transact new business with Lee County.

18. DRUG FREE WORKPLACE

- 18.1. Lee County Board of County Commissioners encourages Drug Free Workplace programs.

19. FLORIDA CERTIFIED ENTERPRISES

- 19.1. The County encourages the use of Florida Certified Enterprises such as such as Disadvantaged, Minority, Women, Veterans Business Enterprise (DBE, MBE, WBE, VBE) firms.
- 19.2. Bidder/Proposer is requested to indicate whether the Firm and/or any proposed sub-consultants are a Florida Certified Enterprise. Lee County encourages the utilization and participation of DBE, MBE, WBE, VBE or similar in procurements, and evaluation proceedings will be conducted within the established guidelines regarding equal employment opportunity and nondiscriminatory action based upon the grounds of race, color, sex or national origin. Interested Florida Certified Enterprises such as Disadvantaged, Minority, Women, Veterans Business Enterprise (DBE, MBE, WBE, VBE) firms and similar are encouraged to submit.

20. ANTI-DISCRIMINATION/EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

- 20.1. The proposer agrees to comply, in accordance with, 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as amended, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), the ADA Amendments Act of 2008 (ADAAA) that furnishing goods or services to the County hereunder, no person on the grounds of race, religion, color, age, sex, national origin, disability or marital status shall be excluded from participation in, denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subjected to discrimination.
- 20.2. The proposer will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, religion, color, age, sex, national origin, disability or marital status. The proposer will make affirmative efforts to ensure that applicants are employed and that employees are treated during employment without regard to their race, religion, color, age, sex, national origin, disability or marital status.
- 20.3. The proposer will include the provisions of this section in every sub-contract under this contract to ensure its provisions will be binding upon each sub-contractor. The proposer will take such actions in respect to any sub-contractor, as the contracting agency may direct, as a means of enforcing such provisions, including sanctions for non-compliance.
- 20.4. An entity or affiliate who has been placed on the State of Florida's Discriminatory Vendor List (This list may be viewed by going to the Department of Management Services website at <http://www.dms.myflorida.com>) may not submit a bid on a contract to provide goods or services to a public entity, may not submit a bid on a contract with a public entity for the construction or repair of a public building or public work, may not submit bids on leases of real property to a public entity, may not award or perform work as a vendor, supplier, sub-contractor, or consultant under contract with any public entity, and may not transact business with any public entity.

21. SUB-PROPOSER/CONSULTANT

- 21.1. The use of sub-proposer/consultant under this solicitation is not allowed without prior written authorization from the County representative.

22. RFP - PROJECT GUIDELINES

- 22.1. The County has established the following Guidelines, Criteria, Goals, Objectives, Constraints, Schedule, Budget and or Requirements which shall service as a guide to the proposer(s) in conforming the professional services and work to provide pursuant to this Agreement/Contract:
- 22.1.1. No amount of work is guaranteed upon the execution of an agreement/contract.
- 22.1.2. Hourly rates and all other negotiated expenses will remain in effect throughout the duration of the agreement/contract period.

- 22.1.3. This contract does not entitle any firm to exclusive rights to County agreements/contracts. The County reserves the right to perform any and all available required work in-house or by any other means it so desires.
- 22.1.4. In reference to vehicle travel, mileage and man-hours spent in travel time, is considered incidental to the work and not an extra compensable expense.
- 22.1.5. Lee County reserves the right to add or delete, at any time, and or all tasks or services associated with this agreement.
- 22.1.6. Any Single Large Project: The County, in its sole discretion, reserves the right to separately solicit any project that is outside the scope of this solicitation, whether through size, complexity or the dollar value.

23. RFP – EVALUATION

- 23.1. **Ranking Method:** Lee County uses the Dense Ranking (1223” ranking). In Dense Ranking, items that compare equal, receive the same ranking number, and the next item(s) receive the immediately following ranking number. Equivalently, each item’s ranking number is 1 plus the number of items ranked above it that are distinct with respect to the ranking order. This ranking method is used for each individual committee member’s scores. Thus, if A ranks ahead of B and C (which compare equal) which are both ranked ahead of D, then A is ranked number 1 (“first”), B is ranked number 2 (“joint second”), C is also ranked number 2 (“joint second”) and D is ranked number 3 (“third”).
- 23.2. **Evaluation Meeting(s):**
 - 23.2.1. The first evaluation will rank Proposers based on the scores from the selection criteria point values.
 - 23.2.2. Following the initial evaluation process, the short-listed proposer(s) may be required to provide an on-site interview/presentation.
 - 23.2.3. Such subsequent evaluations are to be accomplished by simply ranking the Proposers based off the details provided through the on-site interview/presentation. Proposers will be ranked in sequential order with one (1) being the highest ranking. Proposers’ rankings will then be totaled with the total lowest scores receiving final rank order starting with one (1) that shall indicate the highest technically evaluated and most qualified Proposer by the evaluation committee.
 - 23.2.4. Proposed short-list and final selection meeting dates are posted on the Procurement Management web page: www.leegov.com/procurement (Projects, Award Pending.)

24. RFP – SELECTION PROCEDURE

- 24.1. The selection will be made in accordance with Lee County Procurement Policy. Some or all of the responding proposer(s) may be requested to provide interviews and/or presentations of their proposal, for the ranking process.
- 24.2. The recommendation to award, negotiated rates and agreement/contract(s) will be submitted to the Board of County Commissioners for approval.
- 24.3. If a satisfactory agreement/contract(s) cannot be negotiated, in a reasonable amount of time, the County, in its sole discretion, may terminate negotiations with the selected proposer(s) and begin agreement/contract negotiations with the next finalist.
- 24.4. The Procurement Management Director reserves the right to exercise their discretion to:
 - 24.4.1. Make award(s) to one or multiple proposers.
 - 24.4.2. Waive minor informalities in any response;
 - 24.4.3. Reject any and all proposals with or without cause;
 - 24.4.4. Accept the response that in its judgment will be in the best interest of Lee County

25. RFP – TIEBREAKER

- 25.1. In the event of a tie, two or more proposers that have the same ranking, the following steps will be taken to determine the highest ranked proposer. This method shall be used for all (RFP) ties.
 - 25.1.1. Step 1: The proposer that has the highest number of 1st place rankings shall be deemed the first ranked proposer. In the event a tie still exists the proposer with the highest number of 2nd, place rankings shall be the first ranked proposer. Should a tie still remain the method used above will

continue with each ranking level, 3rd, then 4th, then 5th, etc. rank, will be counted until the tie is broken.

25.1.2. Step 2: At the conclusion of step 1, if all is equal, the proposer having a drug-free workplace program, shall be deemed the first ranked proposer.

25.1.3. Step 3: In the event the tie exists then the highest ranked proposer from the first evaluation committee meeting, in which point values were applied, will win the award. One being the highest.

25.1.4. Step 4: At the conclusion of steps 1, 2, 3, if all are equal, the 1st place proposer shall be determined by the flip of a coin.

25.2. When the tiebreaker is determined the highest ranked proposer shall be awarded the contract or receive the first opportunity to negotiate, as applicable.

25.3. If an award or negotiation is unsuccessful with the highest ranked proposer, award or negotiations may commence with the next highest ranked proposer.

26. RFP – EVALUATION/ SELECTION COMMITTEE

26.1. The selection shall be by a Selection Committee consisting of staff representatives from the appropriate County Departments as approved by the Procurement Management Director or designee unless otherwise mandated by law.

26.2. The Selection Committee will receive and review written proposals in response to this Request for Proposal (RFP). Responses will be evaluated against a set of criteria to determine those Proposers/Firms most qualified and suited for this project, resulting, where applicable, in a short-list of no fewer than the top ranked three (3) firms to be interviewed or provide presentations.

26.3. The County reserves the right, where allowable and applicable, to begin negotiations with the top ranked firm(s) without hosting interviews/presentations.

27. WITHDRAWAL OF PROPOSAL

27.1. No proposal may be withdrawn for a period of **180 calendar days** after the scheduled time for receiving proposals. A proposal may be withdrawn prior to the proposal opening date and time. Withdrawal requests must be made in writing to the Procurement Management Director, who will approve or disapprove the request.

27.2. A proposer may withdraw a proposal any time prior to the opening of the solicitation.

27.3. After proposals are opened, but prior to award of the contract by the County Commission, the Procurement Management Director may allow the withdrawal of a proposal because of the mistake of the proposer in the preparation of the proposal document. In such circumstance, the decision of the Procurement Management Director to allow the proposal withdrawal, although discretionary, shall be based upon a finding that the proposer, by clear and convincing evidence, has met each of the following four tests:

27.3.1. The proposer acted in good faith in submitting the proposal,

27.3.2. The mistake in proposal preparation that was of such magnitude that to enforce compliance by the proposer would cause a severe hardship on the proposer,

27.3.3. The mistake was not the result of gross negligence or willful inattention by the proposer; and

27.3.4. The mistake was discovered and was communicated to the County prior to the County Commission having formally awarded the contract/agreement.

28. PROTEST RIGHTS

28.1. Any Bidder that has submitted a formal Response to Lee County, and who is adversely affected by an intended decision with respect to the Award, has the right to protest an intended decision posted by the County as part of the Solicitation process.

28.2. Notice of Intended Decision is posted on the Lee County Department of Procurement Management website (www.leegov.com/procurement). Bidders are solely responsible to check for information regarding the Solicitation.

28.3. Refer to the “Procurement Protest” section of the Lee County Procurement Ordinance 22-06 & 23-21 for a complete description of the protest process and associated requirements. The ordinance is posted on the Lee County website or may be obtained by contacting the Procurement Management Director.

28.4. In order to preserve the right to protest, a written **“Notice Of Intent To File A Protest” must be filed with the Lee County Procurement Management Director within seventy-two (72) hours of Posting of the Notice of Intended Decision.**

28.4.1. The notice shall clearly indicate all grounds being claimed for the protest.

28.4.2. The notice must be physically received by the Procurement Management Director within the required time frame described above. No additional time will be granted for mailing.

28.5. Following receipt of the Notice of Intent to File a Protest, a **“Protest Bond” and “Formal Written Protest”** must be filed **within ten (10) business days** of Posting of the Notice of Intended Decision.

28.6. **Failure to follow the protest procedures requirement within the time frames as prescribed herein and in the Lee County Procurement Ordinance 22-06 & 23-21 shall constitute a waiver of the right to protest and shall bar any resulting claims.**

29. AUTHORITY TO UTILIZE BY OTHER GOVERNMENT ENTITIES

29.1. This opportunity is also made available to any government entity. Pursuant to their own governing laws, and subject to the agreement of the vendor, other entities may be permitted to make purchases at the terms and conditions contained herein. Lee County Board of County Commissioners will not be financially responsible for the purchases of other entities from this solicitation.

30. CONTRACT ADMINISTRATION

30.1. Designated Contact:

30.1.1. The awarded proposer shall appoint a person(s) to act as a primary contact for all County departments. This person or back-up shall be readily available during normal working hours by phone or in person and shall be knowledgeable of the terms and procedures involved.

30.1.2. Lee County requires that the awarded proposer to provide the name of a contact person(s) and phone number(s) which will afford Lee County access 24 hours per day, 365 days per year, of this service in the event of major breakdowns or natural disasters.

30.2. RFP – Term: (unless otherwise stated in the Scope of Work or Detailed Specifications)

30.2.1. Unless otherwise stated in the scope of work, specifications, or special conditions the default **contract term shall be for one (1) three-year (3) period. Upon mutual written agreement of both parties, the parties may renew the Agreement, in whole or in part, for a renewal term or terms not to exceed the term of two (2) years. The increments of renewal shall be at the sole discretion of the County as deemed in its best interest.**

30.2.2. The County reserves the right to renew this contract, or any portion thereof, and to negotiate pricing as a condition for each.

30.2.3. The County’s performance and obligation to pay under this contract, and any applicable renewal options, is contingent upon annual appropriation of funds.

30.3. RFP – Basis of Award:

30.3.1. Award will be made to the most responsible and responsive proposer who offers the Best Value based on the evaluation criteria.

30.4. Agreement/Contract:

30.4.1. The awarded proposer will be required to execute an Agreement/Contract as a condition of award. A sample of this document may be viewed on-line at <http://www.leegov.com/procurement/forms>.

30.5. Records:

30.5.1. Retention: The proposer shall maintain such financial records and other records as may be prescribed by Lee County or by applicable federal and state laws, rules and regulations. Unless otherwise stated in the specifications, the proposer shall retain these records for a period of five years after final payment, or until they are audited by Lee County, whichever event occurs first.

30.5.2. Right to Audit/Disclosure: These records shall be made available during the term of the contract as well as the retention period. These records shall be made readily available to County personnel with reasonable notice and other persons in accordance with the Florida General Records Schedule.

Awarded Bidder/Proposer(s) are hereby informed of their requirement to comply with FL §119 specifically to:

- 30.5.2.1. Keep and maintain public records required by the County to perform the service.
- 30.5.2.2. Upon request from the County's custodian of public records, provide the County with a copy of the requested records or allow the records to be inspected or copied within a reasonable time at a cost that does not exceed the cost provided or as otherwise provided by law.
- 30.5.2.3. Ensure that public records that are exempt or confidential and exempt from public records disclosure requirements are not disclosed except as authorized by law for the duration of the contract term and following completion of the contract if the contractor does not transfer the records to the County.
- 30.5.2.4. Upon completion of the contract, transfer, at no cost, to the County all public records in possession of the contractor or keep and maintain public records required by the County to perform the service. If the contractor transfers all public records to the County upon completion of the contract, the contractor shall destroy any duplicate public records that are exempt or confidential and exempt from public records disclosure requirements. If the contractor keeps and maintains public records upon completion of the contract, the contractor shall meet all applicable requirements for retaining public records. All records stored electronically must be provided to the County, upon request from the County's custodian of public records, in a format that is compatible with the information technology systems of the County.

30.5.3. Public Record: **IF THE VENDOR HAS QUESTIONS REGARDING THE APPLICATION OF CHAPTER 119, FL § , TO THE VENDOR'S DUTY TO PROVIDE PUBLIC RECORDS RELATING TO THE CONTRACT, CONTACT THE CUSTODIAN OF PUBLIC RECORDS AT 239-533-2221, 2115 SECOND STREET, FORT MYERS, FL 33901, Email at PRRCustodian@leegov.com or Visit <http://www.leegov.com/publicrecords>.**

30.5.4. Ownership: It is understood and agreed that all documents, including detailed reports, plans, original tracings, specifications and all data prepared or obtained by the successful proposer in connection with its services hereunder, include all documents bearing the professional seal of the successful proposer, and shall be delivered to and become the property of Lee County, prior to final payment to the successful proposer or the termination of the agreement. This includes any electronic versions, such as CAD or other computer aided drafting programs.

30.6. **Termination:**

30.6.1. MATERIAL BREACH A Contractor may be Terminated for Cause by the County, at the sole discretion of the Procurement Management Director, for failing to perform a contractual requirement or for a material breach of any term or condition. A material breach of a term or condition of the Agreement may include but is not limited to: 1. Contractor failure to perform services or deliver materials, supplies, or equipment by the date required or by an alternate date as mutually agreed in a written amendment to the Agreement; 2. Contractor failure to carry out any warranty or fails to perform or comply with any mandatory provision of the Agreement; 3. Contractor becomes insolvent or in an unsound financial condition so as to endanger performance hereunder; 4. Contractor becomes the subject of any proceeding under any law relating to bankruptcy, insolvency or reorganization, or relief from creditors and/or debtors that endangers the Contractor's proper performance hereunder; 5. Appointment of any receiver, trustee, or similar official for Contractor or any of the Contractor's property and such appointment endangers the Contractor's proper performance hereunder; 6. A determination that the Contractor is in violation

of federal, state, or local laws or regulations and that such determination renders the Contractor unable to perform any aspect of the Agreement.

- 30.6.2. **OPPORTUNITY TO CURE** In the event that Contractor fails to perform a contractual requirement or materially breaches any term or condition, the County may issue a written cure notice. The Contractor may have a period of time in which to cure. The County is not required to allow the Contractor to cure defects if the opportunity for cure is not feasible as, determined solely within the discretion of the County. Time allowed for cure shall not diminish or eliminate Contractor's liability for damages, or otherwise affect any other remedies available against Contractor under the Agreement or by law. If the breach remains after Contractor has been provided the opportunity to cure, the County may do any one or more of the following: 1. Exercise any remedy provided by law; 2. Terminate this Agreement and any related contracts or portions thereof; 3. Procure replacements and impose damages as set forth elsewhere in this Agreement, if applicable; 4. Impose actual or liquidated damages; 5. Suspend or bar Contractor from receiving future solicitations or other opportunities; 6. Require Contractor to reimburse the County for any loss or additional expense incurred as a result of default or failure to satisfactorily perform the terms of the Agreement.
- 30.6.3. **TERMINATION FOR CAUSE** In the event the Procurement Management Director, in his/her sole discretion, determines that the Contractor has failed to comply with the conditions of this Agreement in a timely manner or is in material breach, the Procurement Management Director has the right to terminate this Agreement, in part or in whole. The Procurement Management Director shall notify the Contractor in writing of the need to take corrective action. If corrective action is not taken within thirty (30) calendar days or as otherwise specified by the Procurement Management Director, or if such corrective action is deemed by the County to be insufficient, the Agreement may be terminated. The County reserves the right to withhold further payments or prohibit the Contractor from incurring additional obligations of funds during investigation of the alleged breach and pending corrective action by the Contractor or a decision by the County to terminate the Agreement. In the event of termination, the County shall have the right to procure any replacement materials, supplies, services and/or equipment that are the subject of this Agreement on the open market. In addition, the Contractor shall be liable for damages as authorized by law including, but not limited to, any price difference between the original Agreement and the replacement or cover contract and all administrative costs directly related to the replacement contract, e.g., cost of the competitive bidding, mailing, advertising and staff time. If it is determined that: (1) the Contractor was not in material breach; or (2) failure to perform was outside of Contractor's or its subcontractor's control, fault or negligence, the termination shall be deemed to be a "Termination for Convenience." The rights and remedies of the County provided in this Agreement are not exclusive and are in addition to any other rights and remedies provided by law.
- 30.6.4. **TERMINATION FOR CONVENIENCE** Except as otherwise provided in this Agreement, the County, at the sole discretion of the Procurement Management Director, may terminate this Agreement, in whole or in part by giving thirty (30) calendar days written notice beginning on the second day after mailing to the Contractor. If this Agreement is so terminated, the County shall be liable only for payment required under this Agreement for properly authorized services rendered, or materials, supplies and/or equipment delivered to and accepted by the County prior to the effective date of Agreement termination. The County shall have no other obligation whatsoever to the Contractor for such termination.
- 30.6.5. The Procurement Management Director may immediately terminate any agreement as a result of this solicitation for emergency purposes, as defined by the Lee County Procurement Ordinance 22-06 & 23-21.
- 30.6.6. Any proposer who has voluntarily withdrawn from a solicitation without the County's mutual consent during the contract period shall be barred from further County procurement for a **period of 180 days**. The vendor may apply to the Board for a waiver of this debarment. Such application for waiver of debarment must be coordinated with and processed by the Procurement Management Department.

- 30.6.7. The County reserves the right to terminate award or contract following any of the below for goods or services over \$1,000,000:
 - 30.6.7.1. Contractor is found to have submitted a false certification as provided under FL § 287.135 (5);
 - 30.6.7.2. Contractor has been placed on the Scrutinized Companies with Activities in Sudan List or the Scrutinized Companies with Activities in the Iran Petroleum Energy Sector List;
 - 30.6.7.3. Contractor has engaged in business operations in Cuba or Syria;
 - 30.6.7.4. Contractor has been placed on the Scrutinized Companies that Boycott Israel List or is engaged in a boycott of Israel – beginning October 1, 2016.

31. WAIVER OF CLAIMS

- 31.1. Once this contract expires, or final payment has been requested and made, the awarded vendor shall have no more than **thirty (30) calendar days** to present or file any claims against the County concerning this contract. After that period, the County will consider the vendor to have waived any right to claims against the County concerning this agreement.

32. LEE COUNTY PAYMENT PROCEDURES

- 32.1. All vendors are requested to mail an original invoice to:
Lee County Finance Department
Post Office Box 2238
Fort Myers, FL 33902-2238
- 32.2. All invoices will be paid as directed by the Lee County payment procedure unless otherwise stated in the detailed specification portion of this project.
- 32.3. Lee County will not be liable for requests for payment deriving from aid, assistance, or help by any individual, vendor, proposer, or bidder for the preparation of these specifications.
- 32.4. Lee County is generally a tax-exempt entity subject to the provisions of the 1987 legislation regarding sales tax on services. Lee County will pay those taxes for which it is obligated, or it will provide a Certificate of Exemption furnished by the Department of Revenue. All proposers should include in their proposal, all sales or use taxes, which they will pay when making purchases of material or sub-contractor's services.

33. MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEETS (MSDS/SDS) (if applicable)

- 33.1. In accordance with Chapter 443 of the FL §, it is the vendor's responsibility to provide Lee County with Material Safety Data Sheets on bid materials, as may apply to this procurement.

34. DEBRIS DISPOSAL (if applicable)

- 34.1. Unless otherwise stated, the Proposer shall be fully responsible for the lawful removal and disposal of any materials, debris, garbage, vehicles or other such items which would interfere with the undertaking and completion of the project. There shall not be an increase in time or price associated with such removal.

35. SHIPPING (if applicable)

- 35.1. Cost of all shipping to the site, including any inside delivery charges and all unusual storage requirements shall be borne by the proposer unless otherwise agreed upon in writing prior to service. It shall be the proposer's responsibility to make appropriate arrangements, and to coordinate with authorized personnel at the site, for proper acceptance, handling, protection and storage (if available) of equipment and material delivered. All pricing to be F.O. B. destination.
- 35.2. The materials and/or services delivered under the proposal shall remain the property of the seller until a physical inspection and actual usage of these materials and/or services is accepted by the County and is deemed to be in compliance with the terms herein, fully in accord with the specifications and of the highest quality.

36. LOCAL VENDOR PREFERENCE

- 36.1. The Procurement Management Department will adhere to the Lee County Ordinance No. 22-06 & 23-21, and as may be amended from time to time (the County's "Local Vendor Preference"). It shall be at the discretion of the County Manager or Designee whether to apply Local Vendor Preference to any particular Solicitation.
- 36.2. The County's Local Vendor Preference, as it relates to Bidding preferences for local Vendors, is not applicable to Solicitations or Contracts when Commodities and/or Services may be provided in the event of an Emergency.
- 36.3. The County's Local Vendor Preference shall not apply in any procurement for Commodities or Services if the use of the Local Vendor Preference is prohibited by the terms of a grant or funding agreement or other prevailing law or policy.

37. INSURANCE (AS APPLICABLE)

- 37.1. Insurance shall be provided by the awarded proposer. Upon request, a certificate of insurance (COI) complying with the attached guide shall be provided by the proposer.
- 37.2. Insurance carriers providing coverage required herein shall be licensed to conduct business in the State of Florida and shall possess a current A.M. Best's Financial Strength Rating of "B or better."

End of Terms and Conditions Section

INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS



**Lee County Insurance Requirements
Includes Professional Liability**

Minimum Insurance Requirements: Risk Management in no way represents that the insurance required is sufficient or adequate to protect the vendors’ interest or liabilities. The following are the required minimums the vendor must maintain throughout the duration of this contract. The County reserves the right to request additional documentation regarding insurance provided

- a. **Commercial General Liability** - Coverage shall apply to premises and/or operations, products and completed operations, independent contractors, contractual liability exposures with minimum limits of:

- \$1,000,000 per occurrence
- \$2,000,000 general aggregate
- \$1,000,000 products and completed operations
- \$1,000,000 personal and advertising injury

- b. **Business Auto Liability** - The following Automobile Liability will be required and coverage shall apply to all owned, hired and non-owned vehicles use with minimum limits of:

- \$1,000,000 combined single limit (CSL); or
- \$500,000 bodily injury per person
- \$1,000,000 bodily injury per accident
- \$500,000 property damage per accident

- c. **Workers’ Compensation** - Statutory benefits as defined by FS 440 encompassing all operations contemplated by this contract or agreement to apply to all owners, officers, and employees regardless of the number of employees. Workers Compensation exemptions may be accepted with written proof of the State of Florida’s approval of such exemption. Employers’ liability will have minimum limits of:

- \$500,000 per accident
- \$500,000 disease limit
- \$500,000 disease – policy limit

- d. **Errors and Omissions** - Coverage shall include professional liability insurance, to cover claims arising out of negligent acts, errors or omissions of professional advice, privacy and network security insurance covering for losses arising from disclosure of confidential information, or other professional services.

- \$1,000,000 per occurrence

****The required minimum limit of liability shown in a. and b. may be provided in the form of “Excess Insurance” or “Commercial Umbrella Policies.” In which case, a “Following Form Endorsement” will be required on the “Excess Insurance Policy” or “Commercial Umbrella Policy.”***



**Lee County Insurance Requirements
Includes Professional Liability**

Verification of Coverage:

1. Coverage shall be in place prior to the commencement of any work and throughout the duration of the contract. A certificate of insurance will be provided to the Risk Manager for review and approval. The certificate shall provide for the following:

a. Under the Description of Operations, the following must read as listed:

“Lee County, a political subdivision and Charter County of the State of Florida, its agents, employees, and public officials are automatic additional insureds and includes an automatic waiver of subrogation with regard to general liability. The certificate holder is an additional insured on a primary and noncontributory basis with regards to general liability.”

b. The certificate holder must read as follows:

Lee County, a political subdivision and Charter County of the State of Florida
P.O. Box 398
Fort Myers, Florida 33902

Special Requirements:

1. An appropriate "Indemnification" clause shall be made a provision of the contract.
2. It is the responsibility of the general contractor to ensure that all subcontractors comply with all insurance requirements.

SPECIAL CONDITIONS

These are conditions that are in relation to this solicitation only and have not been included in the County's standard Terms and Conditions or the Scope of Work.

1. PROJECT TERM

- 1.1. The Vendor shall be responsible for furnishing and delivering to the Lee County requesting Department(s) the commodity or services on an "as needed basis" for one (1) three-year (3) period. Upon mutual written agreement of both parties, the parties may renew the Agreement, in whole or in part, for a renewal term or terms not to exceed the term of two (2) years. The increments of renewal shall be at the sole discretion of the County as deemed in its best interest.
- 1.2. The County currently has an Agreement in place for such services, that is set to expire April 1st, 2025. The Agreement associated with this solicitation will therefore not become effective until April 2nd, 2025, or soon thereafter. Should the existing Agreement be terminated prior to its expiration date, or the County have a need to activate this Agreement early, the County reserves the right to enter into Agreement with the Vendor prior to April 2nd, 2025.

2. COPYRIGHTED MATERIAL

- 2.1. Copyrighted material will be accepted as part of a proposal only if accompanied by a waiver that shall allow the County to make paper and electronic copies necessary for use of County staff and agents. Copyrighted material is not exempt from the Public Records Law, Chapter 119 Florida Statutes. Therefore, such material shall be subject to viewing by the public.

3. REIMBURSABLE EXPENSES AND GUIDELINES

- 3.1. The Vendor shall be entitled to reimbursement of out-of-pocket expenses and costs for travel, further described below, when performing services under this Agreement. All reimbursement requests must include copies of receipt(s) or any other reasonable documentation pertaining to reimbursement request.
- 3.2. Vendor and or any contracted personnel shall be subject to the policies and procedures as approved by the Administrative Code AC-3-21 attached herein as Attachment A.
- 3.3. **REIMBURSABLE EXPENSES SHALL INCLUDE:** expenses incurred directly from the Vendor's work under this Agreement as described herein:
 - 3.3.1. Reasonable, allowable travel and transportation expenses. Vendor must follow reimbursement plan described in this solicitation.
- 3.4. Reimbursable expenses are subject to approval by the County. Unallowable reimbursement includes, but are not limited to, travel rewards or benefit programs. The Vendor shall submit a request for reimbursement no less than quarterly, which shall include a description of the expense, and explanation of the Vendor's related business activities, and a complete copy of the detailed receipt.
- 3.5. The County shall review each request to verify the legitimacy of the expense(s) and reserves the right to reject any request for expenses not directly related to the Vendor's work on behalf of the County, or requests with insufficient documentation.
- 3.6. Mileage shall be paid pursuant to USGSA Code and said rate shall be amended from time to time to be consistent with the USGSA Code change.

3.7. TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT GUIDELINES: Travel expenses of travelers shall be limited to those expenses necessarily incurred by them in the performance of a public purpose authorized by law to be performed by the agency.

3.7.1. Vendors shall not be reimbursed for travel related to training or professional development, unless it is required by the VCB.

3.8. Vendor shall not be entitled to hourly compensation for time spent traveling.

3.8.1. Travel requires prior authorization by the County and prior authorization must be submitted with the reimbursement request for such expenses.

3.8.2. Accommodation and air travel reservations shall be made by the Vendor in a timely manner in order to obtain the best rates possible. The County shall reimburse approved air travel for economy class only.

3.9. MEALS: Per AC 3-21, meals shall be paid in accordance with the most recent USGSA Code per Florida Statute 112.061 (specific travel reimbursement amounts will be based on location). For areas not included on the USGSA list, the closest city in the region will be used.

3.9.1. Breakfast- When travel begins before 6:00 AM and extends beyond 8:00 AM.

3.9.2. Lunch- When travel begins before 12:00 PM and extends beyond 2:00 PM.

3.9.3. Dinner- When travel begins before 6:00 PM and extends beyond 8:00 PM, or when travel occurs during nighttime hours due to special assignment.

3.10. TIPS AND GRATUITIES: Pursuant to Florida Administrative Code Rule 69 I-42.010 tips and gratuities are reimbursable as follows (and as updated time to time by State of Florida)

3.10.1. Taxi- Actual tips not to exceed 15% of fare.

3.10.2. Mandatory valet parking, not to exceed \$1.00 per occasion, and incurred in performance of public business.

3.10.3. Portage- Not to exceed \$1.00 per bag or a total of \$5.00.

4. INVOICES

4.1. Vendor must submit appropriate invoices and detailed records of expenditures, as detailed by the Lee County Administrative Code - AC-3-21. (AC-3-21 attached herein as Attachment A)

4.2. Vendor shall provide invoicing details that accurately depict and specify all services provided as to the request of the County and or specific VCB fiscal staff.

4.3. Invoicing shall be submitted no less than quarterly and include supporting documentation for each expense submitted. All reimbursable expenses are subject to approval by the County. The county will review each request to verify the legitimacy of the expense(s) and reserves the right to reject any requests for expenses not directly related to the Vendor's work on behalf of the County.

4.4. Formatted invoices must include the following, but not limited to:

- Purchase order number

- Invoice number
 - Invoice date
 - Service period (can only be submitted once, unless approved in advance)
 - Invoice summary description and adequate descriptions for each individual charge
 - Receipts and or third-party invoices to support individual charges.
 - Appropriate forms as required.
- 4.5. The VCB may provide the VCB Invoice Submission Checklist as a courtesy to assist with accurate and timely invoice submission. The checklist is not an integral part of this Request for Proposal.
- 4.6. When requesting reimbursement for travel related expenses, the invoice must include but not be limited to:
- 4.6.1. Lee County Travel Reimbursement Form:
- All travel related expenses shall be appropriately documented completely, and substantiated with receipts, except GSA meal allowances and incidental amounts that may be claimed.
 - A breakdown of meals and incidental allowances from the appropriate website.
 - The form must be completed in its entirety.
 - The purpose must be included.
 - Travel related charges can only be submitted once unless pre-approval is obtained to submit a revised request for reimbursement. The original Travel Reimbursement Request Form must be revised and resubmitted for additional reimbursement related to a trip that was previously submitted.
 - Transportation tips provided must be reasonable and supported by a receipt.
- 4.7. Actual receipts for all reimbursement requests including ground transportation are required. Ground transportation shall include vehicle rental (rental, insurance, and fuel charges), taxi service, train tickets, rail passes, busses, etc. Expense reimbursements for missing receipts must be pre-approved by the County prior to invoicing and submitted on a Missing Receipts Justification Form.
- 4.8. The County reserves the right to short-pay invoices by ineligible expenses or charges with inadequate supporting documentation. A summarized explanation will be maintained by the Lee County VCB. The vendor may submit a revised invoice once all supporting documentation requirements are met.

End of Special Conditions

DETAILED SPECIFICATIONS

1. GENERAL SCOPE OF PROJECT

- 1.1. The Lee County Board of County Commissioners is requesting proposals to contract with a skilled and qualified Firm to provide marketing research services for the Lee County Visitor & Convention Bureau (VCB). The Firm, otherwise known as the Marketing Research Provider, shall have extensive experience in the development and implementation of integrated destination marketing research studies, have the ability and experience to implement research among an international audience, and have in-depth destination-specific expertise in advertising effectiveness, visitor profiling, occupancy studies, economic impact, visitor trend analysis, seasonal and annual forecasting, among other types of tourism research.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1. The Lee County Visitor & Convention Bureau (VCB) is the lead agency responsible for destination marketing and management of the County's tourism economy. The VCB represents the broader interests of the economy and residents by marketing the area to visitors and cultivating relationships among attractions, hospitality businesses, and individual communities to cultivate the area's quality of life and unique attributes. The impact of the VCB's efforts creates continual benefits for the County's residents and guests.
- 2.2. The overarching goals for the Lee County VCB to continue to serve the broader social and economic interests of the County by marketing and managing the destination for the continual benefit of residents, visitors, and the travel and tourism industry are:
 - 2.2.1. Drive higher levels of shoulder and off-season visitation and visitor spending to the area.
 - 2.2.2. Support placemaking initiatives that enhance Lee County and continue destination product development efforts.
 - 2.2.3. Position the destination to be adaptable.
- 2.3. For more information, go to www.leevcb.com and click on the "About" section to access the VCB's Destination Strategic Plan.

3. DETAILED SCOPE DESCRIPTION & DELIVERABLES

- 3.1. The Marketing Research Provider shall be the principal advisor and provider to the VCB for the following services:
 - 3.1.1. Development and implementation of an integrated strategic research plan.
 - 3.1.2. Creation and implementation of all research materials including, but not limited to, questionnaires, in-person interview guides, written reports, presentations, etc.
 - 3.1.3. Development, coordination, analysis, and interpretation of primary, proprietary research studies to guide marketing research strategy and budget stewardship.
 - 3.1.4. Creation and implementation of an economic impact model.
 - 3.1.5. Development of proactive research programs and initiatives to stretch the efficiency and effectiveness of the research budget.

- 3.2. The Marketing Research Provider must be able to suggest strategies to expand the impact of each research study while allowing for the most effective measurement and data collection possible within the available budget. Maximizing the usage of data across various studies should be included in such strategies.
- 3.3. The Marketing Research Provider must have expertise in researching all types of consumer and business travelers (profiling by geography of origin, demographics, psychographics and frequency of travel, etc.), accommodations providers and other travel industry partners, as well as travel trade professionals such as travel agents, tour operators and meeting planners.
- 3.4. The Marketing Research Provider shall be responsible for developing/editing surveys, pre-testing surveys, validating surveys, encoding surveys, computer data entry, coding and cleaning, cross-tabulation, statistical significance testing, data analysis and preparation of written reports corresponding to each study. These tasks do not represent a separate budget line item but are to be included in the costs of the research studies and/or analyses.
- 3.5. The Marketing Research Provider agrees to provide and perform all services pursuant to the contract and in accordance with generally accepted standards of professional and ethical research practice, as outlined in the Codes of Standards established by the Insights Association. This includes, but is not limited to, ensuring that the VCB approves all questionnaires, surveys, sample construction, sample size, study timing, analysis plans, etc. prior to fielding.
 - 3.5.1. Upon request, the Marketing Research Provider must provide:
 - 3.5.2. Backup study documentation as appropriate for each completed study within 30 days of completion of study in the form of intercept logs, interviewer logs, etc.
 - 3.5.3. All raw data files to the County on a per study basis, preferably in the form of SPSS files.
 - 3.5.4. Electronic copies of all questionnaires, raw data files, cross-tabulation files, final reports, final presentations, intercept logs, interviewer logs, etc., for all studies for all contract years.
 - 3.5.5. If the Marketing Research Provider has any confidentiality concerns, name, address, phone number, and/or email address can be scrubbed from raw data files and replaced with an anonymous survey ID number before submitting the files to the VCB.
- 3.6. The Marketing Research Provider shall provide general professional consultation, which will constitute, but not be restricted to discussing future in-county assignments of hospitality-related business and meetings with the VCB staff to evaluate marketing strategies. This may be related to, but not be limited to the development of one new domestic market each year. Using research developed in previous months, the Marketing Research Provider shall assist the sales and marketing staff in identifying new domestic target markets and developing private sector presentations for Council, staff, and other community tourism professionals.
- 3.7. The Marketing Research Provider shall be responsible for participation in quarterly Tourist Development Council meetings to update the Council on research information and respond to questions. In-person attendance at monthly meetings is preferred, but monthly meetings can be observed remotely via Lee TV. In-person attendance shall be required on a quarterly basis.
- 3.8. The Marketing Research Provider shall provide special studies/additional services as required for emergency or special need response purposes in anticipation or following a physical disaster or economic crisis which affects the Lee County economy. Additional services are defined as any services that the County may request and authorize, in writing, which are not included in the Detailed Specifications set forth in this solicitation.

3.9. The following is a list of core deliverables the Marketing Research Provider shall provide on a regular basis, as specified below.

3.10. Visitor Profile Survey

3.10.1. Shall include, but may not be limited to:

3.10.1.1. Quarterly and annual reports of demographic and psychographic characteristics and related data of Lee County visitors, including visitor stays in motels, hotels, rental condominiums, time share rentals, RV parks, in-home visitors and business travelers to Lee County.

3.10.1.2. Filter tabulations of tourist staying in commercial lodging, tourists staying with friends and relatives, residents, seasonal residents and day-trippers are to be included.

3.10.1.3. The Market Research Provider shall conduct interviews of randomly selected Lee County visitors, including both tourists and business travelers. Historically, a total of N=300 surveys per month have been conducted via in-person, one-on-one intercepts.

3.10.1.4. Upon request, the Market Research Provider must provide backup study documentation for specific properties visitors were intercepted at, the number of intercepts per month/season, and time of day—in the form of intercept logs, interviewer logs, etc.

3.10.2. For more information, go to www.leevcb.com and click on the “Statistics” section to view the Annual and Quarterly Visitor Profile Reports and learn how visitors break out by quarter, geographic areas of origin, etc.

3.11. Occupancy Survey

3.11.1. The Market Research Provider shall prepare a quarterly analysis of the occupancy of Lee County lodging establishments which collect Tourist Development Tax. Such analysis can include, but not be limited to telephone, email and personal interviews with managers of Lee County accommodations, randomly selected, on a quarterly basis. Participation incentives, if approved by the VCB, shall be included in the total costs for the occupancy survey.

3.11.2. The Market Research Provider must include the number of occupancy survey participants in the study by season.

3.12. Visitation Trend Analysis

3.12.1. The Market Research Provider shall prepare four written (4) seasonal analyses of the points of origin of visitors to Lee County (by dominant area of influence) from the US, Canada and abroad. Fall analyses shall include the months of October, November and December. Winter analyses shall include the months of January, February and March. Spring analyses shall include the months of April, May and June. Summer analyses shall include July, August and September. The Market Research Provider shall base these analyses on the intercept interviews collected among randomly selected Lee County tourists and business travelers in the Visitor Profile Study.

3.13. Economic Impact Analysis

3.13.1. The Market Research Provider shall provide an analysis to determine the value of tourism to Lee County based upon retail sales generated by visitors to Lee County and tax revenues paid by visitors to Lee County and the State of Florida. The analysis shall include a comparison to previous

corresponding seasons, and must show economic impact overall, as well as by domestic versus international visitors.

- 3.13.2. The Market Research Provider must provide a detailed description of the algorithm, model, multipliers, input/output construct, assumptions, etc. that will be used to determine economic impact. Likewise, the Market Research Provider must provide written details with respect to where the data inputs come from (survey data, secondary data, panel data, intercepted visitors, etc.) for each of the factors used in the model.

3.14. Industry Barometer Analysis

- 3.14.1. The Market Research Provider shall provide evaluations of industry expectations for the following three- and six-month periods. Data derived from interviews with a representative sample of hotel/motel industry leaders, which are part of the Occupancy Survey, based on a question about their business being better/worse/same as last year.

3.15. Seasonal Information Report Preparation & Tourist Development Council Presentations

- 3.15.1. The Market Research Provider shall prepare four (4) oral and visual seasonal information reports which cover the Fall season, Winter season, Spring season and Summer season, and shall provide the characteristics of business and pleasure travelers to Lee County.

3.15.1.1. These reports represent a presentation (including any additional, necessary cross-tabulation) of data gathered in the Visitor Profile Survey and the Occupancy Survey, as well as information from the Visitation Trend Analysis.

3.15.1.2. These reports are presented on a seasonal basis at the regular meetings of the Tourist Development Council. In person presence is required for these four (4) seasonal meetings.

3.15.1.3. Such reports shall include but are not limited to: Executive Summary of salient monthly trends of statistical tourism indicators in Lee County, including an analytical narrative of these trends and changes in the industry and key markets. Additionally, the Market Research Provider will present a summary of the Annual Report during the presentation of the Spring season results.

3.15.1.4. Data tabulation of key statistics such as: occupancy by geographic region, occupancy by accommodation industry segments, visitor origins by geographic area, statistical estimate of number of visitors to Lee County, statistical estimate of visitor expenditures, statistical estimate of economic impact of tourism on Lee County.

4. EXAMPLE SPECIAL PROJECTS/SURVEYS/STUDIES

- 4.1. The following is a list of *examples* of special projects, surveys, analysis, studies, etc. that may be requested of the Marketing Research Provider under this contract. This list is not intended to be exhaustive, nor are each of these anticipated annually. Parameters may vary upon the needs of the VCB. No work is guaranteed.

4.2. Advertising Program Analysis & Conversion Study

- 4.2.1. As needed, the Market Research Provider shall prepare an analysis of the County's tourism advertising campaign which shall delineate the effectiveness of the campaign in influencing target market groups. The analysis shall list recommendations for improvements to the advertising campaign. This analysis shall be based upon a comparison of occupancy rates, visitor revenue contributions, tax collections

and the role played by special events. In addition, analysis may be based upon a post-campaign conversion study on inquiries made among those who have seen, heard or read any of the VCB's advertising/promotional messages, sourced from Internet inquiries, 800 number calls, reader response cards, coupons, etc. Sample shall address seasonality and source comparison.

4.3. Airport Tracking Study

4.3.1. As needed, the Market Research Provider shall provide a definition and profile of air travelers' destination in Southwest Florida; quantification of fly/drive opportunities for Lee County and Southwest Florida International Airport. A summary report shall focus on relevant DMA and associated market information. This includes collecting detailed zip code origin and destination information on a seasonal basis, as well as detailed analysis of airport enplanement and deplanement (collected in the Visitor Profile Study). In addition, airport passenger interviews may be used to supplement the Visitor Profile research, as needed. When conducted, the Market Research Provider must provide backup study documentation in terms of when visitors were intercepted, the number of intercepts per month, and time of day—in the form of intercept logs, interviewer logs, etc.

4.4. Convention and Meeting Visitor Research

4.4.1. As needed, this study shall be geared to the events and conventions calendar of County establishments. Results are to be reported as special post-event profiles, including occupancy impact generated, as needed.

4.5. Occupancy Inventory Study

4.5.1. As needed, this study shall update the County's existing data on the number of total units in the rental pool. Data shall be captured for the total pool, total pool excluding real estate rental agencies, and by condominiums, hotel/motel/resort, apartment/cottages/rental homes, B&Bs, and campground/RV parks.

5. MINIMUM QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

5.1 Proposers must meet the minimum qualification requirements as specified in Form 8 –Minimum Qualifications Requirements provided within this solicitation package to qualify for consideration of award. Form 8- Minimum Qualifications Requirements must be completed and returned with the proposal submittal along with any supporting documentation when requested and/or indicated herein.

5.2 The County reserves the right, in their sole judgment, to determine to its satisfaction whether the Proposer(s) has met the minimum qualification requirements as specified herein. The determination shall be based upon the examination of Form 8 – Minimum Qualifications Requirements and associated supportive documentation (if any requested).

5.3 An affirmative determination shall be a prerequisite for consideration of award of the contract to the Proposer(s). A negative determination shall result in disqualification of the proposal, in which event the County shall exclude the proposal from the evaluation process and therefore deeming the Proposer ineligible for award.

6. BUDGET & PRICING

6.1. The projected annual budget for this proposal for marketing research services is approximately \$300,000. Future budgets may be increased or decreased, as needed depending upon available funding. This budget is subject to the availability of funds, approved by the Lee County Board of County Commissioners. The specific compensation for the contract will be negotiated.

- 6.2. Details of your firm's pricing proposal shall be included in TAB 3- Plan of Approach and Value Pricing, as instructed within the solicitation documents located within the Submittal Requirements & Evaluation Criteria section. Total pricing of the detailed proposal shall not exceed \$300,000. A lumpsum proposal is not acceptable. Your proposal shall be detailed and explain how much can be done within the budget, and clearly indicate the plan, deliverables and services required to accomplish it.

7. MISCELLANOUS INFORMATION

- 7.1. The current advertising agency of record is MMGY. The Market Research Provider will coordinate at the direction of VCB staff with the advertising agency of record to deliver on strategic priorities.
- 7.2. Past reports and data collection instruments will be provided to the awarded Market Research Provider.

End of Detailed Specifications

SUBMITTAL REQUIREMENTS & EVALUATION CRITERIA

1. SUBMITTAL REQUIREMENTS & EVALUATION CRITERIA

- 1.1 Interested firms shall include the following information in their submittal responses to this solicitation. The following format and sequence should be followed in order to provide consistency in the firm's responses and to ensure each proposal receives full consideration. Use 8 ½ x 11 sheet pages only with minimum font size of 10 points and with tabs or section dividers to separate sections as defined below. More than one section is permitted on one page unless otherwise indicated below. Undesignated information shall be inserted at the rear of each package. Place page numbers at the bottom of every page, excluding dividers. Proposal documents should not contain links to other web pages; such links will not be reviewed for evaluation purposes.
- 1.2 Submittal package may not exceed **12 pages** printed single-sided; **page restriction excludes required forms found herein and dividers**. **PLEASE INCLUDE PAGE TABS/SECTION DIVIDERS** so that those evaluating your submittal can easily compare each section with others that are submitted. If any of the information provided by the Proposer is found to be, in the sole opinion of the Evaluation Committee and Procurement Management Director, substantially unreliable their proposal may be rejected.
- 1.3 Proposers shall submit one (1) original hard copy (clearly marked as such) and one (1) electronic version(s) on a USB flash drive set(s) containing the proposal submittal in an unlocked PDF format. The County may request specific files be submitted in specialty format (IE: Provide a Project Timeline in Excel format.) Vendor shall accommodate such specialty requests as stated within the submittal requirements describe herein. Should files not be provided in the format or quantity as requested Vendor may be deemed Non-Responsive and therefore ineligible for award. In case of any discrepancies, the original will be considered by the County in evaluating the Proposal, and the electronic version is provided for the County's administrative convenience only. Limit the color and number of images to avoid unmanageable file sizes.

COVER PAGE: Introduction

- Project RFP Number & Name
- Firm's Name & Address
- Firm's Contact Person & Information (phone, fax and email address)
- How many years has Proposer been in business under present name?
- Under what other former names has your organization operated?

Cover Page: Introduction does NOT count towards page restriction requested herein.

TAB 1: Qualifications of Firm

- Provide a description of your firm, your firm's experience, and underlying philosophy in providing the services as described and requested herein. Description should include details such as: abilities, capacity, skill, strengths, number of years, location of office(s), as well as MBE, WBE, DBE, VBE or similar status, and recent, current, and/or projected workload, etc....

TAB 2: Company Relevant Experience & Reference

- Provide details of a maximum of three (3) projects similar in scope and size to that being requested through this solicitation that your firm has completed recently. Details for each project example provided should include:
 - Project Name
 - Project Address

- Customer Name
 - Customer Contact Information
 - Point of contact Name, Phone, and Email
 - Brief description of work provided.
 - Initial costs of work
 - Final costs of work
 - Number of change orders
 - Total completion time (From Notice to Proceed to Final Invoice payment)
- Provide a list of the current clients your Firm actively manages. List should be sorted largest to smallest and include the total annual research budget per client. Provide an indication on the list as to where the VCB would fall in terms of contract size and workload to the clients your Firm currently handles.
 - Provide a statement of understanding that your firm recognizes the County reserves the right to evaluate the proposing Firm on their past performance and prior dealings with Lee County (i.e., failure to meet specifications, poor workmanship, late delivery, etc.) as part of their experience criteria.

TAB 3: Firm Plan of Approach and Value Pricing

- Provide a detailed Plan of Approach that explains how your firm intends to comply with and meet the anticipated deliverables as detailed within this solicitation.
- Plan of Approach should include the processes, techniques, standards, and software your Firm anticipates utilizing to manage this Contract and the associated timelines, budgets, deliverables, etc.
- Plan of Approach should demonstrate your Firm's understanding of the current travel industry and the problems and opportunities Lee County and the VCB face or may face related to market research. Include in your description recommendations for research methodologies, sample sizes, sample composition(s), etc. that may be utilized in providing the market research services requested.
- Using the information included in the Detailed Specification of the Solicitation, please craft a detailed Value Pricing Proposal that illustrates your experience with marketing research services, in the development and implementation of integrated destination marketing research studies.
- This must adhere to and not exceed the annual project budget of \$300,000. A line-item pricing is required, no lump sum shall be accepted.
 - Firms shall provide pricing for the tasks and personnel descriptions as listed on the Bid/Proposal Form Proposal Form. (Bid/Proposal Form attached to County's website as an excel file.)
 - Keep in mind additional tasks may be requested by the VCB under this Contract and shall fall within the anticipated budget for this Contract. The Example Special Projects/Surveys/Studies are considered additional tasks for the purpose of pricing.
 - Detailed price proposal shall include, at minimum, pricing for all reports, studies, analysis, and travel expenses, as listed in the Detailed Specifications of this solicitation document.

- A personnel hourly rate schedule is also requested on the price proposal, for anticipated positions to service this contract. Personnel hourly rates will not be used for price calculations or scoring but shall become part of the final contract.

TAB 4: Personnel

- Provide a detailed description of the firm's **specific** project management team, inclusive of sub-consultants anticipated to be utilized, that will be assigned to the Lee County contract. Identify the roles and responsibilities of the primary team members as they pertain/apply to the Project Approach and include details that demonstrate individual's knowledge and understanding of the types of services to be performed as well as previous experience in similar or related work.
- Firm must identify staff member that will serve as Project Director that shall be authorized and responsible to act on behalf of the Consultant with respect to directing, coordinating and administering all aspects of the services to be provided and performed.
- Provide a statement acknowledging your firm's understanding that the project management team/key team members assigned to the Lee County contract, as described above, shall not be substituted without the expressed permission of Lee County.
- Should any portion of the services in the Contract be assigned to sub-consultants, please describe the specific tasks that will be assigned to the sub-consultants.
- Provide resumes, licensure, and certifications of proposed **specific** project management team, inclusive of sub-Consultants anticipated to be utilized, to be assigned to the Lee County contract.
Resumes are not included within page restrictions but should be limited to one (1) page per person.
**Firms are encouraged to submit valid copies of MBE, WBE, DBE, VBE or similar certifications for adequate committee consideration."*

TAB 5: Research Development

- Provide detailed suggestions and/or examples of services that (1) expand the impact of each research study while allowing for the most effective measurement and data collection possible within the anticipated available budget and (2) add other research studies or analyses to augment what is specified and specifically requested herein.

TAB 6: Local Vendor Preference

- If applicable, provide documentation supporting your firm's physical business address located within the boundaries of Lee County, Florida; having at least two (2) fulltime employees in Lee County; and a Local Business Tax Receipt issued by Lee County at least one year prior to solicitation opening.
 - All qualified local vendors will be awarded five (5) points out of a possible one hundred (100) point score.

TAB 7: Required Forms

- Forms 1- 8

2. SCORING CRITERIA & WEIGHT

CRITERIA	CRITERIA DESCRIPTION	MAX. POINTS AVAILABLE
1	QUALIFICATIONS OF COMPANY	20
2	COMPANY RELEVANT EXPERIENCE & REFERENCE	20
3	PLAN OF APPROACH & VALUE PRICING	25
4	PERSONNEL	10
5	RESEARCH DEVELOPMENT	20
6	LOCAL VENDOR PREFERENCE	5
TOTAL POINTS		100
*Additional details and documents found within submittal package, although not located within tabs as listed above, may be reviewed and considered by evaluation committee when scoring Proposers.		

3. RFP SUBMISSION SCHEDULE

Submission Description	Date(s)	Time
Advertise Request for Proposal (RFP)	Friday, August 30, 2024	N/A
Pre-Proposal Meeting	N/A	N/A *
Proposal Question Deadline	8 Calendar days prior to submission deadline	Prior to 5:00 PM
Submission Deadline	Monday, September 30, 2024	Prior to 2:30 PM
First Committee Meeting Short list discussion	TBD	TBD
Notify Shortlist Selection via e-mail	TBD	N/A
Final Scoring/Selection Meeting	TBD	TBD
Board Meeting	TBD	9:30 AM
<p>Additional notes on Submission Schedule:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Submission Schedule is provided as a guideline only and is subject to change at the discretion of Lee County authorized personnel.</i> <i>Changes in closing date or other parameters may occur and will be posted to the Lee County Procurement website. It shall be the responsibility of Contractor to verify all dates through County website.</i> <p><i>Unless otherwise stated, location of all openings and meetings will take place at 2115 Second Street, 1st Floor, Fort Myers, FL 33901 – Procurement Management.</i></p>		

End of Section

FORMS DESCRIPTION & INSTRUCTIONS

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (NON-CCNA)

This table provides a brief list, description, and instructions regarding the standard requested forms that should be submitted with all bids or proposals. This is not intended to be an all-inclusive list of forms required for your submission, but rather a guide to assist in completion of the County's standard forms.

Form # Title/Description

1 Solicitation Response Form

All signatures must be by a corporate authorized representative, witnessed, and corporate and/or notary seal (if applicable.) The corporate or mailing address must match the company information as it is listed on the Florida Department of State Division of Corporations. Attach a copy of the web-page(s) from <http://www.sunbiz.org> as certification of this required information. Sample attached for your reference.

Verify that all addenda and tax identification number have been provided.

1a Proposal Form

This form is used to provide itemization of project cost. A more detailed "schedule of values" may be requested by the County

** Business Relationship Disclosure Requirement (if Applicable)*

Sections 112.313(3) and 112.313(7), F.S., prohibit certain business relationships on the part of public officers and employees, their spouses, and their children. If this **disclosure is applicable, the Bidder must request the form entitled "INTEREST IN COMPETITIVE BID FOR PUBLIC BUSINESS"** (Required by § 112.313(12)(b), F.S.) to be completed and **returned with the Solicitation Response**. **It is the Bidder's responsibility to request the form and disclose this relationship; failure to do so may result in being declared non-responsive.**

NOTICE: UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF § 112.317, F.S., A FAILURE TO MAKE ANY REQUIRED DISCLOSURE CONSTITUTES GROUNDS FOR, AND MAY BE PUNISHED BY, ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING: IMPEACHMENT, REMOVAL OR SUSPENSION FROM OFFICE OR EMPLOYMENT, DEMOTION, REDUCTION IN SALARY, REPRIMAND, OR A CIVIL PENALTY NOT TO EXCEED \$10,000.00.

2 Affidavit Certification Immigration Laws

Form is acknowledgement that the proposer is in compliance in regard to Immigration Laws.

3 Reference Survey

Provide this form to reference respondents. This form **will be turned in with the proposal** package.

1. **Section 1:** Bidder/Proposer to complete with reference respondent's information prior to providing to them for their response. (This is **not** the Bidder/Proposer's information.)
2. **Section 2:** Enter the name of the Bidder/Proposer; provide the project information in which the reference respondent is to provide a response.
3. The reference respondent should complete "**Section 3.**"
4. **Section 4:** The reference respondent to print and sign name
5. **Three (3) Reference responses** are to be **returned with the proposal package**.
6. Failure to obtain reference surveys may make your company non-responsive.

4 *Negligence or Breach of Contract Disclosure Form*

The form may be used to disclose negligence or breach of contract litigation that your company may be a part of over the past ten years. You may need to duplicate this form to list all history. If the proposer has more than 10 lawsuits, you may narrow them to litigation of the company or subsidiary submitting the solicitation response. Include, at a minimum, litigation for similar projects completed in the State of Florida. Final outcome should include in whose favor the litigation was settled and was a monetary amount awarded. The settlement amount may remain anonymous.

If you have **no litigation**, enter “None” in the first “type of incident” block of the form. Please do not write N/A on this form.

5 *Sub-Contractor/Consultant List* (if applicable)

To be completed and returned when sub-contractor/consultants are to be utilized and are known at the time of the submission.

6 *Public Entity Crimes Form (Required form)*

Any person or affiliate as defined by statute who has been placed on the convicted vendor list following a conviction for a public entity crime may not submit a bid or a contract to provide any goods or services to the County; may not submit a bid on a contract with the County for the construction or repair of a public building or public work; may not submit bids or leases of real property to the County; may not be awarded or perform works as a contractor, supplier, subcontractor, or consultant under a contract with the County, and may not transact business with the County in excess of \$25,000.00 for a period of 36 months from the date of being placed on the convicted vendor list.

7 *Minimum Qualifications Requirements*

States the minimum qualifications the Bidder/Proposer is required to meet in order to be considered for award or evaluation.

8 *Affidavit of Compliance with Section 287.138 and 787.06 Florida Statutes*

Vendor pursuant to Florida Statute certifies that Vendor is not owned by a government of a foreign country of concern, a government of a foreign country of concern does not have a controlling interest in Vendor, and Vendor is not organized under the law of nor has its principal place of business in a foreign country of concern, as defined by statute.

***** *Proposal Label* (Required)

Self-explanatory. Please affix to the outside of the sealed submission documents.

Include any licenses or certifications requested

Local Business Tax Account (as applicable) issued by City and/or County entity. This is necessary for all Florida vendors.

It is the Proposer’s responsibility to ensure the Solicitation Response is mailed or delivered in time to be received no later than the specified opening date and time. (If solicitation is not received prior to deadline, it cannot be considered or accepted.)

Form 1 – Solicitation Response Form



LEE COUNTY PROCUREMENT MANAGEMENT
SOLICITATION RESPONSE FORM

Date Submitted: _____ Deadline Date: 9/30/2024

SOLICITATION IDENTIFICATION: RFP240474CMR

SOLICITATION NAME: VCB- Market Research

COMPANY NAME: _____

NAME & TITLE: (TYPED OR PRINTED) _____

BUSINESS ADDRESS: (PHYSICAL _____

CORPORATE OR MAILING ADDRESS: _____

[] SAME AS PHYSICAL

ADDRESS MUST MATCH SUNBIZ.ORG _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

PHONE NUMBER: _____ FAX NUMBER: _____

NOTE REQUIREMENT: IT IS THE SOLE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE VENDOR TO CHECK LEE COUNTY PROCUREMENT MANAGEMENT WEB SITE FOR ANY ADDENDA ISSUED FOR THIS PROJECT. THE COUNTY WILL POST ADDENDA TO THIS WEB PAGE, BUT WILL NOT NOTIFY.

In submitting this proposal, Proposer makes all representations required by the instructions to Proposer and further warrants and represents that: Proposer has examined copies of all the solicitation documents and the following addenda:

No. _____ Dated: _____ No. _____ Dated: _____ No. _____ Dated: _____
No. _____ Dated: _____ No. _____ Dated: _____ No. _____ Dated: _____

Tax Payer Identification Number: _____

(1) Employer Identification Number -OR- (2) Social Security Number:

** Lee County collects your social security number for tax reporting purposes only

Please submit a copy of your registration from the website www.sunbiz.org establishing the Proposer/firm as authorized (including authorized representatives) to conduct business in the State of Florida, as provided by the Florida Department of State, Division of Corporations.

1 Collusion Statement: Lee County, Florida The undersigned, as Proposer, hereby declares that no person or other persons, other than the undersigned, are interested in this solicitation as Principal, and that this solicitation is submitted without collusion with others; and that we have carefully read and examined the specifications or scope of work, and with full knowledge of all conditions under which the services herein is contemplated must be furnished, hereby propose and agree to furnish this service according to the requirements set out in the solicitation documents, specifications or scope of work for said service for the prices as listed on the county provided price sheet or (CCNA) agree to negotiate prices in good faith if a contract is awarded.

2 Scrutinized Companies Certification: Section 287.135, FL § , prohibits agencies from contracting with companies, for goods or services over \$1,000,000, that are on either the Scrutinized Companies with Activities in Sudan List or the Scrutinized Companies with Activities in the Iran Petroleum Energy Sector List. Both lists are created pursuant to section 215.473, FL§. As the person authorized to sign on behalf of Respondent, I hereby certify that the company identified above not listed on either the Scrutinized Companies with Activities in Sudan List or the Scrutinized Companies with Activities in the Iran Petroleum Energy Sector List. I understand that pursuant to section 287.135, FL§, the submission of a false certification may subject company to civil penalties, attorney's fees, and/or costs.

Form 1 – Solicitation Form, Page 2

3 Business Relationship Disclosure Requirement: Sections 112.313(3) and 112.313(7), FL§, prohibit certain business relationships on the part of public officers and employees, their spouses, and their children. See Part III, Chapter 112, FL § and/or the brochure entitled "A Guide to the Sunshine Amendment and Code of Ethics for Public Officers, Candidates and Employees" for more details on these prohibitions. However, Section 112.313(12), FL § (1983), provides certain limited exemptions to the above-referenced prohibitions, including one where the business is awarded under a system of sealed, competitive bidding; the public official has exerted no influence on bid negotiations or specifications; and where disclosure is made, prior to or at the time of the submission of the bid, of the official's or his spouse's or child's interest and the nature of the intended business. The Commission on Ethics has promulgated this form for such disclosure, if and when applicable to a public officer or employee.

If this disclosure is applicable request form "INTEREST IN COMPETITIVE BID FOR PUBLIC BUSINESS" (Required by 112.313(12)(b), Florida Statute (1983)) to be completed and returned with solicitation response. It is the proposer's responsibility to disclose this relationship, failure to do so could result in being declared non-responsive.

Business Relationship Applicable (request form)

Business Relationship NOT Applicable

4 Disadvantaged, Minority, Women, Veterans Business Enterprise (DBE, MBE, WBE, VBE) Proposer? If yes, please attach a current certificate.

Yes

No

ALL PROPOSALS MUST BE EXECUTED BY AN AUTHORIZED AUTHORITY OF THE PROPOSER. WITNESSED AND SEALED (IF APPLICABLE)

Company Name (Name printed or typed)

Authorized Representative Name (printed or typed)

Authorized Representative's Title (printed or typed)

Authorized Representative's Signature

(Affix Corporate Seal, if applicable)

Witnessed/Attested by:

(Witness/Secretary name and title printed or typed)

Witness/Secretary Signature

Any blank spaces on the form(s), qualifying notes or exceptions, counter offers, lack of required submittals, or signatures, on County's Form may result in the submission being declared non-responsive by the County.

Detail by Entity Name

Florida Profit Corporation

Bill's Widget Corporation

Filing Information

Document Number 655555
 FEI/EIN Number 5111111111
 Date Filed 09/22/1980
 State FL
 Status ACTIVE
 Last Event AMENDED AND RESTATED ARTICLES
 Event Date Filed 07/25/2006
 Event Effective Date NONE

Principal Address

555 N Main Street
 Your Town, USA 99999
 Changed 02/11/2012

Verify either Principal or Mailing address is on Form 1

Mailing Address

555 N Main Street
 MYour Town, USA 99999
 Changed 02/11/2012

Registered Agent Name & Address

My Registered Agent
 111 Registration Road
 Registration, USA99999
 Name Changed:12/14/2006
 Address Changed: 12/14/2006

Officer/Director Detail

Name & Address

Title P
 President, First
 555 AVENUE
 Anytown, USA99999
 Title V
 President, Second
 555 AVENUE
 Anytown, USA99999

IMPORTANT:

For corporations, ALL documents must be signed by the president of the company or an authorized individual. For any individual other than the president, we will need one of the following to confirm their authority to sign:

1. a corporate resolution by the Board of Directors, or
2. an extract of minutes, or
3. an extract of Vote by the Board of Directors

If the company's articles of incorporation identify additional positions that have the power to bind the corporation, we will accept the articles of incorporation with verification from the president that a certain individual serves in that role (e.g., the president confirms that John Doe is the CEO, and the articles of incorporation provide that the CEO has the power to bind the company).

With respect to an LLC, the authority to bind a limited liability company is controlled by Florida statutes. Managers or managing members have inherent authority to bind an LLC.

If the president of a corporation or a manager/managing member of an LLC delegates their authority, such delegation must be sent to us on company letterhead with the President's or manager's/managing member's original, wet signature.

v01/03/2018

Form 1a – Bid/Proposal Form



**PROCUREMENT MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT
BID/PROPOSAL FORM**

COMPANY NAME: _____

SOLICITATION: RFP240474CMR- VCB- Market Research

Detailed Price Proposal to be provided as part of and as described in Tab 3 – Plan of Approach and Value Pricing, of the project Submittal Requirements.

Bid/Proposal Form Excel sheet attached to County’s website and shall be submitted with Tab 3- Plan of Approach and Value Pricing

REMINDER:

Details of your firm’s pricing proposal shall be included in TAB 3- Plan of Approach and Value Pricing, as instructed within the solicitation documents located within the Submittal Requirements & Evaluation Criteria section. Total pricing of the detailed proposal shall not exceed \$300,000. A lumpsum proposal is not acceptable. Your proposal shall be detailed and explain how much can be done within the budget, and clearly indicate the plan, deliverables and services required to accomplish it.

Form 2 – Affidavit Certification of Immigration Laws



AFFIDAVIT CERTIFICATION IMMIGRATION LAWS

SOLICITATION NO.: **RFP240474CMR**

SOLICITATION NAME: **VCB – Market Research**

LEE COUNTY WILL NOT INTENTIONALLY AWARD COUNTY CONTRACTS TO ANY CONTRACTOR WHO KNOWINGLY EMPLOYS UNAUTHORIZED ALIEN WORKERS, CONSTITUTING A VIOLATION OF THE EMPLOYMENT PROVISIONS CONTAINED IN 8 U.S.C. SECTION 1324 a(e) {SECTION 274A(e) OF THE IMMIGRATION AND NATIONALITY ACT (“INA”).

LEE COUNTY MAY CONSIDER THE EMPLOYMENT BY ANY CONTRACTOR OF UNAUTHORIZED ALIENS A VIOLATION OF SECTION 274A(e) OF THE INA. **SUCH VIOLATION BY THE RECIPIENT OF THE EMPLOYMENT PROVISIONS CONTAINED IN SECTION 274A(e) OF THE INA SHALL BE GROUNDS FOR UNILATERAL CANCELLATION OF THE CONTRACT BY LEE COUNTY.** PROPOSER ATTESTS THAT THEY ARE FULLY COMPLIANT WITH ALL APPLICABLE IMMIGRATION LAWS (SPECIFICALLY TO THE 1986 IMMIGRATION ACT AND SUBSEQUENT AMENDMENTS).

BY REGISTERING AS A VENDOR, SUBMITTING A RESPONSE TO A SOLICITATION, OR ENTERING INTO A CONTRACT, IF YOU ARE OBLIGATED TO COMPLY WITH THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION 448.095, FLA. STAT., "EMPLOYMENT ELIGIBILITY." FURTHER, BY YOUR REGISTRATION AS A VENDOR, RESPONSE TO A SOLICITATION, ENTERING INTO A CONTRACT, YOU AFFIRM AND REPRESENT THAT YOU ARE REGISTERED WITH THE E-VERIFY SYSTEM AND ARE USING SAME, AND WILL CONTINUE TO USE SAME AS REQUIRED BY SECTION 448.095, F.S. COMPLIANCE WITH SECTION 448.095 INCLUDES, BUT IS NOT LIMITED TO, UTILIZATION OF THE E-VERIFY SYSTEM TO VERIFY THE WORK AUTHORIZATION STATUS OF ALL NEWLY HIRED EMPLOYEES, AND REQUIRING ALL SUBCONTRACTORS TO PROVIDE AN AFFIDAVIT ATTESTING THAT THE SUBCONTRACTOR DOES NOT EMPLOY, CONTRACT WITH, OR SUBCONTRACT WITH, AN UNAUTHORIZED ALIEN. FAILURE TO COMPLY WILL LEAD TO TERMINATION AS A VENDOR, DISQUALIFYING YOU FOR AWARD OF A SOLICITATION, DENIAL OF ENTERING INTO A CONTRACT AND/OR, CANCELLATION OF AN ACTIVE CONTRACT, OR IF YOUR SUBCONTRACTOR KNOWINGLY VIOLATES THE STATUTE, THE SUBCONTRACT MUST BE TERMINATED IMMEDIATELY. ANY CHALLENGE TO TERMINATION UNDER THIS PROVISION MUST BE FILED WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF PROCUREMENT MANAGEMENT NO LATER THAN 20 CALENDAR DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF TERMINATION. IF TERMINATED FOR A VIOLATION OF THE STATUTE BY THE VENDOR, THE VENDOR MAY NOT BE ALLOWED TO DO BUSINESS WITH THE COUNTY OR BE AWARDED A SOLICITATION OR CONTRACT FOR A PERIOD OF 1 YEAR AFTER THE DATE OF TERMINATION. ALL COSTS INCURRED TO INITIATE AND SUSTAIN THE AFOREMENTIONED PROGRAMS SHALL BE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE VENDOR.

Company Name: _____

Signature Title Date

STATE OF _____
COUNTY OF _____

The foregoing instrument was signed and acknowledged before me, by means of physical presence or online notarization, this _____ day of _____ 20____, by _____ who has produced _____ (Print or Type Name) as identification.
(Type of Identification)

Notary Public Signature

Printed Name of Notary Public

Notary Commission Number/Expiration

The signee of this Affidavit guarantee, as evidenced by the sworn affidavit required herein, the truth and accuracy of this affidavit to interrogatories hereinafter made. **LEE COUNTY RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REQUEST SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION, AS EVIDENCE OF SERVICES PROVIDED, AT ANY TIME.**

Form 3 - Reference Survey

**Lee County Procurement Management
Reference Survey**

Reference surveys submitted can be a maximum of twelve (12) months old. If using a previous reference, Proposers must clearly identify the project name and number the reference is being submitted for.

Project Name & Number: _____

Section 1	Reference Respondent Information	Please return completed form to:	
FROM:	_____	Bidder/Proposer:	
COMPANY:	_____	Due Date:	
PHONE #:	_____	Total # Pages: 1	
FAX #:	_____	Phone #:	Fax #:
EMAIL:	_____	Bidder/Proposer E-Mail:	

Section 2	Enter Bidder/Proposer Information , if applicable Similar Performed Project (Bidder/Proposer to enter details of a project performed for above reference respondent)		
Proposer Name:	_____		
Reference Project Name:	Project Address:	Project Cost:	_____
Summarize Scope:	_____		

You as an individual or your company has been given as a reference on the project identified above. Please provide your responses in section 3 below.

Section 3		Indicate: "Yes" or "No"
1. Did this company have the proper resources and personnel by which to get the job done?		
2. Were any problems encountered with the company's work performance?		
3. Were any change orders or contract amendments issued, other than owner initiated?		
4. Was the job completed on time?		
5. Was the job completed within budget?		
6. On a scale of one to ten, ten being best, how would you rate the overall work performance, considering professionalism; final product; personnel; resources. <small>Rate from 1 to 10. (10 being highest)</small>		
7. If the opportunity were to present itself, would you rehire this company?		
8. Please provide any additional comments pertinent to this company and the work performed for you:		

Section 4 Please submit non-Lee County employees as references

Reference Name (Print Name) _____

Reference Signature _____

Form 4 – Negligence, Breach and/or Non-Compliance Disclosure Form



ALLEGED NEGLIGENCE/BREACH OF CONTRACT/NON-COMPLIANCE WITH GOVERNMENTAL REGULATION FORM

“Please fill in the form below. Provide details for each incident of alleged negligence, breach of contract or non-compliance with governmental regulation that has occurred over the past 10 years. Examples of non-compliance with governmental regulation include but are not limited to zoning violations, code enforcement violations, civil or criminal citations, denial, or revocation of permits. Provide details for all entities currently or previously owned in whole or in part by the proposer in the last 10 years. Please complete in chronological order with the most recent incident starting on page 1. Please do not modify this form (expansion of spacing allowed) or submit your own variation.”

Company Name: _____

Type of Incident <i>Alleged Negligence, Breach of Contract, or Non-Compliance</i>	Incident Date And Date Filed	Plaintiff <i>(Company, person, entity-acted against your company or state if your company initiated the action)</i>	Case Number	Court <i>(Name of State and County)</i>	Project <i>(Address and Name)</i>	Allegation <i>(Stated reason your company was accused of negligence, breach of contract or non-compliance of governmental regulation or the allegations your company made)</i>	Final Outcome <i>(Who prevailed and how)</i>

Make as many copies of this sheet as necessary to **provide a 10-year history** of the requested information. If there is no action pending or action taken in the last 10 years, complete the **company name and write “NONE” in the first “Type of Incident” box** of this page and return with your proposal package. This form should also include the primary partners listed in your proposal. Do not include litigation with your company as the plaintiff. Final outcome should include who prevailed and what method of settlement was made. If a monetary settlement was made the amount may remain anonymous.

Proposals may be declared “non-responsive” due to omissions of “Negligence or Breach of Contract” on this disclosure form. Additionally, proposals may be declared “not responsible” due to past or pending lawsuits that are relevant to the subject procurement such that they call into question the ability of the proposer to assure good faith performance. This determination may be made by the Procurement Management Director, after consulting with the County Attorney.

Page Number: _____ Of _____ Total pages

Form 6 - Public Entity Crime Form

This form must be signed and sworn to in the presence of a notary public or other officer authorized to administer oaths.

1. This sworn statement is submitted to _____
(Print name of the public entity)

by _____
(Print individual's name and title)

for _____
(Print name of entity submitting sworn statement)

whose business address is _____

(If applicable) its Federal Employer Identification Number (FEIN) is _____

(If the entity has no FEIN, include the Social Security Number of the individual signing this sworn statement: On the attached sheet.) Required as per IRS Form W-9.

2. I understand that a "public entity crime" as defined in Paragraph 287.133(1) (g), Florida Statutes, means a violation of any state or federal law by a person with respect to and directly related to the transaction of business with any public entity or with an agency or political subdivision of any other state or with the United States, including but not limited to, and bid or contract for goods or services to be provided to any public entity or agency or political subdivision or any other state or of the United States, and involving antitrust, fraud, theft, bribery, collusion, racketeering, conspiracy, or material misrepresentation.

3. I understand that "convicted" or "conviction" as defined in Paragraph 287.133(1) (b), Florida Statutes, means a finding of guilt or a conviction of a public entity crime, with or without an adjudication of guilt, in any federal or state trial court of record relating to charges brought by indictment or information after July 1, 1989, as a result of a jury verdict, nonjury trial, or entry of a plea of guilty or nolo contendere.

4. I understand that "affiliate" as defined in Paragraph 287.133(1)(a), Florida Statutes, means:
1. A predecessor or successor of a person convicted of a public entity crime:
or:
2. An entity under the control of any natural person who is active in the management of the entity and who has been convicted of a public entity crime. The term "affiliate" includes those offices, directors, executives, partners, shareholders, employees, members and agents who are active in the management of the affiliate. The ownership by one person of shares constituting a controlling interest in another person, or a pooling of equipment or income among persons when not fair market value under an arm's length agreement, shall be a facie case that one person controls another person. A person who knowingly enters into a joint venture with a person who has been convicted of a public entity crime in Florida during the preceding 36 months shall be considered an affiliate.

5. I understand that a "person" as defined in Paragraph 287.133(1) (c), Florida Statutes, means any natural person or entity organized under the laws of any state or of the United States with the legal power to enter a binding contract and which bids or applies to bid on contracts for the provision of goods or services let by a public entity, or which otherwise transacts or applies to transact business with a public entity. The term "person" includes those officers, directors, executives, partners, shareholders, employees, members, and agents who are active in management of the entity.

6. Based on information and belief, the statement which I have marked below is true in relation to the entity submitting those sworn statement. (Please indicate which statement applies.)

_____ Neither the entity submitted this sworn statement, nor any officers, directors, executives, partners, shareholders, employees, members, and agents who are active in management of an entity nor affiliate of the entity have been charged with and convicted of a public entity crime subsequent to July 1, 1989.

Form 6 - Public Entity Crime Form, Page 2

_____ The entity submitting this sworn statement, or one or more of the officers, directors, executives, partners, shareholders, employees, member, or agents who are active in management of the entity, or an affiliate of the entity have been charged with and convicted of a public entity crime subsequent to July 1, 1989.

_____ The entity submitting this sworn statement, or one or more of its officers, directors, executives, partners, shareholders, employees, member, or agents who are active in management of the entity, or an affiliate of the entity has been charged with and convicted of a public entity crime subsequent to July 1, 1989. However, there has been subsequent proceeding before a Hearing Officer of the State of Florida, Division of Administrative Hearing and the Final Order entered by the Hearing Officer determined that it was not in the public interest to place the entity submitting this sworn statement on the convicted vendor list. (Attach a copy of the final order)

I UNDERSTAND THAT THE SUBMISSION OF THIS FORM TO THE CONTRACTING OFFICER FOR THE PUBLIC ENTITY IDENTIFIED IN PARAGRAPH 1 (ONE) ABOVE IS FOR THAT PUBLIC ENTITY ONLY AND, THAT THIS FORM IS VALID THROUGH DECEMBER 31 OF THE CALENDAR YEAR IN WHICH IS FILED. I ALSO UNDERSTAND THAT I AM REQUIRED TO INFORM THE PUBLIC ENTITY PRIOR TO ENTERING INTO A CONTRACT IN EXCESS OF THE THRESHOLD AMOUNT PROVIDED IN SECTION 287.017, FLORIDA STATUTES, FOR CATEGORY TWO OR ANY CHANGE IN THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS FORM.

(Signature)

(Date)

STATE OF _____
COUNTY OF _____

The foregoing instrument was signed and acknowledged before me, by means of physical presence or online notarization, this _____ day of _____ 20____, by _____ who has produced _____ as identification.
(Type of Identification)

(NOTARY PUBLIC)

My Commission Expires: _____

Form 7: Minimum Qualifications Requirements



MINIMUM QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS
FOR

RFP240474CMR- VCB- Market Research

Vendor(s)/Contractor(s)/Proposer(s) must meet the minimum qualification requirements as specified in the following form to qualify for consideration of award. This form must be completed and returned with the proposal submittal along with any supporting documentation where requested and/or indicated herein.

The County reserves the right, in their sole judgment, to determine to its satisfaction whether the Vendor(s)/Contractor(s)/Proposer(s) has met the minimum qualification requirements as specified herein. The determination shall be based upon the examination of the Minimum Qualification Requirements form and associated supportive documentation (if any requested).

An affirmative determination shall be a prerequisite for award of the contract to the Vendor(s)/Contractor(s)/Proposer(s). A negative determination shall result in disqualification of the proposal, in which event the County shall exclude the proposal from the evaluation or consideration process and therefore deeming the Bidder(s)/Proposer(s) ineligible for award.

- 1. CRITERIA 1 – Firm Size:** Firm must have documented billings of a minimum of \$500,000 (USD) annually. This requirement will ensure the Firm is of the size and has access to the necessary resources to successfully handle the VCB account.

Does your Firm have documented billings of a minimum of \$500,000 (USD) annually?

_____ **YES** _____ **NO**

If YES, provide details as requested below:

- Provide a copy of documentation, such as your Firm’s Annual Report, that accurately reflects your Firm’s minimum annual billings of \$500,000 (USD) or more.

- 2. CRITERIA 2 – Year in Business:** Firm must have a minimum of 5 years’ experience conducting tourism research.

Does your Firm have a minimum of 5 years’ experience conducting tourism research?

_____ **YES** _____ **NO**

If YES, provide project / client details as requested below that successfully depict a minimum of 5 years’ experience. Proposers may restate projects listed within Tab 2 of the submittal requirements as necessary. Proposer is not required to provide three projects, but rather successfully depict a minimum of 5 years’ experience. Should Proposer need additional space copies of the below should be made and attached.

PROJECT 1

PROJECT NAME: _____
CONTRACT AWARD DATE: _____ CONTRACT EXPIRATION DATE: _____
CLIENT NAME: _____
CLIENT CONTACT NUMBER: _____ CLIENT EMAIL: _____
AMOUNT OF AWARD: _____
SCOPE OF WORK SUMMARY: _____

PROJECT 2

PROJECT NAME: _____
CONTRACT AWARD DATE: _____ CONTRACT EXPIRATION DATE: _____
CLIENT NAME: _____
CLIENT CONTACT NUMBER: _____ CLIENT EMAIL: _____
AMOUNT OF AWARD: _____
SCOPE OF WORK SUMMARY: _____

PROJECT 3

PROJECT NAME: _____
CONTRAT AWARD DATE: _____ CONTRACT EXPIRATION DATE: _____
CLIENT NAME: _____
CLIENT CONTACT NUMBER: _____ CLIENT EMAIL: _____
AMOUNT OF AWARD: _____
SCOPE OF WORK SUMMARY: _____

Authorized Proposer Signature

Date:

Authorized Proposer Name (Print or Type)

AFFIDAVIT OF COMPLIANCE WITH SECTION 287.138 and 787.06, FLORIDA STATUTES

Before me, the undersigned authority, personally appeared **(Name of affiant)** _____, who, after being first duly sworn, deposes and says of his or her personal knowledge the following:

1. Affiant is the **(Title)** _____ of **(Business Name)** _____ which does business in the State of Florida, hereinafter called the “Vendor.”
2. Vendor, pursuant to Section 287.138, Florida Statutes, certifies that (1) Vendor is not owned by a government of a foreign country of concern; (2) a government of a foreign country of concern does not have a “controlling interest” in Vendor, as defined by Section 287.138(1)(a), Florida Statutes; and (3) Vendor is not organized under the law of nor has its principal place of business in a foreign country of concern. For the purposes of this affidavit, foreign country of concern means the People’s Republic of China, the Russian Federation, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, the Republic of Cuba, the Venezuelan regime of Nicolás Maduro, or the Syrian Arab Republic, including any agency of or any other entity of significant control of such foreign country of concern, as defined in Section 287.138(1)(c), Florida Statutes, as amended from time to time.
3. Vendor, pursuant to Section 787.06, Florida Statutes, certifies that Vendor does not use coercion for labor or services as defined in Section 787.06, Florida Statutes, as amended from time to time.
4. This Affidavit is executed by the Vendor in accordance with Section 287.138, Florida Statutes, for the purposes of preventing the County from entering contracts with foreign entities of concern which would provide Vendor access to an individual’s personal identifying information.
5. This Affidavit is executed by the Vendor in accordance with Section 787.06, Florida Statutes.

(Signature)

(Date)

STATE OF _____

COUNTY OF _____

Sworn to (or affirmed) and subscribed before me, by means of physical presence or online notarization, this ____ day of _____ 20____, by _____ who has produced
(Print or Type Name)

_____ as identification.
(Type of Identification)

Notary Public Signature

Printed Name of Notary Public

Notary Commission Number/Expiration

Sealed Proposal Label

Cut along the outer border and affix this label to your sealed solicitation envelope to identify it as a “Sealed Submission/Proposal”.

PROPOSAL DOCUMENTS • DO NOT OPEN	
SOLICITATION No.:	RFP240474CMR
SOLICITATION TITLE:	VCB - Market Research
DATE DUE:	Monday, September 30, 2024
TIME DUE:	Prior to: 2:30 PM
SUBMITTED BY:	_____ (Name of Company)
e-mail address	Telephone
DELIVER TO:	Lee County Procurement Management 2115 Second Street, 1st Floor Fort Myers FL 33901
<i>Note: proposals received after the time and date above will not be accepted.</i>	



***Notice:** the Date Due/Submission Deadline Date/Opening Date as stated on this label and other forms contained herein may have been updated via issuance of Addenda against this project. It is the sole responsibility of the Contractor/Vendor to monitor the County project webpage for any updates to the Date Due/Submission Deadline Date/Opening Date via Addenda. This label nor other original forms may not be updated. Contractor/Vendor may strike through and update Date Due/Submission Deadline Date/Opening Date at their discretion to match any updates to this date that have been published via Addenda.

Submission received after the time and date of the Date Due/Submission Deadline Date/Opening Date will not be accepted at the sole discretion of the County.

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY