



CEDAR RAPIDS

City Of Five Seasons

Request for Proposal

MAY 28, 2009

STATE LEGISLATIVE SERVICES – RFP #0509-314
Cedar Rapids Finance Department

City of Cedar Rapids
Purchasing Services Division

**SECTION I
NOTICE OF REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**

1.0 Receipt and Opening of Proposals

1.0.1 All proposals must be received in a sealed envelope in City Hall (date and time stamped) by Thursday, June 11, 2009 at 11:00 a.m. (our clock), Central Daylight Time, in order to be considered. City Hall is located at 3851 River Ridge Dr. NE, Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Proposals sent electronically or via facsimile will not be accepted. If a proposal is sent by mail or other delivery system, the mailing container or envelope shall be plainly marked on the outside with the notation '**SEALED RFP – STATE LEGISLATIVE SERVICES**' due on, **June 11, 2009 at 11:00 a.m.** Please submit one (1) original (marked "ORIGINAL"), four (4) copies and one (1) compact disk containing a PDF file in Microsoft Word format of all Proposal sheets and required attachments.

1.1 RFP Timeline

Name of the Proposal	State Legislative Services
Date of Issuance	Thursday, May 28, 2009
Deadline for Questions	Monday, June 8, 2009 at 11:00 a.m. CDT
Deadline for Proposal Submittal	Thursday, June 11, 2009 at 11:00 a.m. CDT
Submit Proposal to:	Sealed RFP –State Legislative Services City Hall 3851 River Ridge Dr. NE Cedar Rapids IA 52402
Method of Submittal	Mail, Overnight Delivery, Courier Service, or In Person. Fax or electronic proposals are not acceptable
Contact Person, Title	Rebecca Johnson
E-mail Address	r.johnson2@cedar-rapids.org
Phone/ Fax Numbers	Phone: 319-286-5062 Fax: 319-286-5130

1.2 The City reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals and to waive any informalities in proposals if such waiver does not substantially change the offer or provide a competitive advantage to any Company.

1.3 The City is not responsible for delays occasioned by the U.S. Postal Service, the internal mail delivery system of the City, or any other means of delivery employed by the Proposer. Similarly, the City is not responsible for, and will not open, any proposal responses that are received later than the date and time stated above. Late proposals will be retained in the RFP file, unopened. No responsibility will be attached to any person for premature opening of a proposal not properly identified.

1.4 Proposals will be opened on Thursday, June 11, 2009 at 11:00 a.m. (our clock) CDT in City Hall, 3851 River Ridge Dr. NE, Cedar Rapids. Only the names of companies who submitted proposals will be revealed. The main purpose of this opening is to reveal the name(s) of the Proposer(s), not to serve as a forum for determining the awarded proposal(s).

1.5 Proposals will be evaluated promptly after opening. After an award is made, a proposal summary will be sent to all companies who submitted a proposal. Proposal results will not be given over the telephone. Proposals may be withdrawn anytime prior to the scheduled closing time for receipt of proposals; no proposal may be modified or withdrawn for a period of sixty (60) calendar days thereafter.

SECTION II INSTRUCTIONS TO PROPOSERS

- 2.0 Wherever requested throughout this document, a company representative who is authorized to bind the Company will sign on behalf of the company to indicate to the City that you have read, understand and will comply with the Instructions and all Terms and Conditions attached hereto. The City of Cedar Rapids reserves the right to reject any or all proposals, and to accept in whole or in part, the proposal, which, in the judgment of the proposal evaluators, is the most responsive and responsible proposal.
- 2.1 A Certificate of Insurance must be on file and approved by the City's Risk Manager before this project can begin. All Companies are required to submit a Certificate of Insurance with the proposal. (See page 11 for the exact requirements of the City).
- 2.2 This Request for Proposal does not commit the City to make an award, nor will the City pay any costs incurred in the preparation and submission of proposals, or costs incurred in making necessary studies for the preparation of proposals.
- 2.3 Proposers are encouraged to keep proposals concise and to the point. Elaborate brochures are not needed and are discouraged.
- 2.4 Proposals shall include a table of contents and corresponding page numbers. Pages should be consecutively numbered in the right hand corner and each page should have a footer indicating the name of the Proposer.
- 2.5 Addenda
- 2.5.0 Any matter of this proposal package that requires explanation or interpretation must be inquired into by the Company in writing by Thursday, June 4, 2009 at 11:00 a.m. CDT. FAX or E-MAIL all questions to Rebecca Johnson (319/286-5130 or r.johnson2@cedar-rapids.org). Any and all questions will be responded to in the form of written addenda to all Companies. All addenda that you receive shall become a part of the Contract Documents and shall be acknowledged and dated on the bottom of the Signature Page (Attachment A). All Addenda will be posted on the City's website, <http://www.cedar-rapids.org/purchasing/bids.asp>. It is the Proposer's responsibility to check for addenda.
- 2.6 Important Exceptions to Contract Documents - The Company shall clearly state in the submitted proposal any exceptions to, or deviations from, the minimum proposal requirements, and any exceptions to the terms and conditions of this RFP. Such exceptions or deviations will be considered in evaluating the proposals. Any exceptions should be noted on the Signature Page. Companies are cautioned that exceptions taken to this RFP may cause their proposal to be rejected.
- 2.7 Incomplete Information - Failure to complete or provide any of the information requested in this Request for Proposal, including references, and/or additional information as indicated, may result in disqualification by reason of "non responsiveness".
- 2.8 Proposer Expenses – The City is not responsible for any expenses that proposer may incur in preparing and submitting proposals called for in this request. The City will not pay for any out-of-pocket expenses, such as word processing, photocopying, postage, per diem, travel expenses and the like, incurred by the proposer. The City will not be liable for any costs incurred by the proposer in connection with any interviews/presentations (i.e., travel, accommodations, etc.).

**SECTION III
SPECIAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

3.0 Term of Contract

3.0.0 The initial term of the contract shall be for one (1) year anticipated to be July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010.

3.0.1 Annual Contract renewals(s) may be based upon contractor satisfactory performance and funding as made available by the City through its regular budgeting process.

3.0.2 A Letter of Agreement, prepared by the City and signed by the City Manager, shall become the document that authorizes the contract to begin, assuming the insurance requirements (if applicable) have been met. Each section contained herein, any addenda and the response from the successful bidder shall also be incorporated by reference into the resulting agreement.

3.0.3 No price escalation will be allowed during the initial term of the contract. If it is mutually decided to renew beyond the initial period and the Contractor requests a price increase, the Contractor shall provide sufficient written certification and documentation to substantiate the request. Documentation shall include, but not be limited to; actual materials invoices, copies of commercial price lists, provision of appropriate indices, etc which reflect said increases. The City reserves the right to accept or reject price increases, to negotiate more favorable terms or to terminate without cost, the future performance of the contract.

3.1 Agreement Forms

3.1.0 If a Proposer intends to request that the City of Cedar Rapids enter into any agreement form in connection with the award of this contract, the form must be submitted with the proposal for review by the City's legal counsel during the evaluation of proposals. If such agreement requires that payments be remitted to other than the Proposer, the Proposer shall indicate the name and address of the firm to whom Proposer would request payments to be made, and the firm's relationship to the Proposer.

3.1.1 Proposers are advised that in the event any such agreement contradicts the City of Cedar Rapids requirements, the proposal may be rejected due to the contradiction unless Proposer indicated deletion of such clauses.

3.1.2 If no agreement form is included with the proposal, no such form will be approved by the City during the evaluation or award processes, or following award of contract.

3.2 Term of Payment

The City's procurement card program allows authorized City employees to purchase goods and services using a MasterCard. Please indicate on the Signature Page whether or not your company will accept payment by MasterCard.

Services authorized under this contract that are not charged to the City MasterCard will be paid for upon receipt of an original invoice within thirty (30) days and after all products are delivered, inspected and accepted.

Invoices shall be addressed as follows:

City of Cedar Rapids
Finance Department
3851 River Ridge Dr. NE
Cedar Rapids, IA 52402

SECTION IV TECHNICAL INSTRUCTIONS AND REQUIREMENTS

- 4.0 Agency Overview – The City of Cedar Rapids is a political subdivision of the State of Iowa. The legislative branch of the City is composed of nine elected Council Members, one of which is Mayor. The City Manager is responsible for the execution of Council’s established and adopted policy. The City, with an estimated population of more than 126,000 residents, is the largest incorporated area in Linn County. (Please visit our official web site, www.cedar-rapids.org)
- 4.1 Scope of Work – The City of Cedar Rapids (hereinafter referred to as “City”) is requesting sealed Proposals from qualified consulting firms or individuals for the provision of legislative services to represent the City of Cedar Rapids in Des Moines, IA for the purpose of securing funding and maintaining communications with elected officials regarding regulatory issues.
- 4.1.0 Emphasis shall be on the following:
- 4.1.0.0 Disaster assistance – housing and infrastructure
 - 4.1.0.1 Transportation – roads, mass transit, trails, bridges and light rail
 - 4.1.0.2 Property Tax Reform
 - 4.1.0.3 Pension contributions
 - 4.1.0.4 Water/sewer/storm water management and infrastructure
 - 4.1.0.5 Road use tax
 - 4.1.0.6 Eminent domain
 - 4.1.0.7 REAP funding
 - 4.1.0.8 Brownfield funding
 - 4.1.0.9 Revenue flexibility
- 4.1.1 The consultant shall work closely with the City’s legislative liaison in the development and ongoing implementation of the programs above and shall provide, at a minimum, the following services:
- 4.1.1.0 Meet with City Council and City staff to assist in the development of the City’s list of goals, priorities and specific projects, identify which could be addressed at the state level, and assist in developing written material on each request to provide to legislative staff.
 - 4.1.1.1 Provide City staff and City Council any new information that may impact the City, actively seek opportunities to enhance the City’s state legislative program, and provide options as to legislative strategy when necessary.
 - 4.1.1.2 Revise the City’s state legislative program as needed, and as requested by the City Council through City staff.
 - 4.1.1.3 Monitor current state legislation and the state budget process and report to the City, both orally and in writing, any legislative events that may directly or indirectly impact the City. Attend meetings as necessary.
 - 4.1.1.4 Provide the City with regular reports and updates on all legislative and budgetary issues that may impact the City.
 - 4.1.1.5 Advocate with Congress, congressional committees and state agencies in support of the City’s goals, priorities and projects.
 - 4.1.1.6 At the conclusion of session, prepare a final report, including the final status of the City’s priorities and a summary of the impact of major legislative changes to the City of Cedar Rapids.
 - 4.1.1.7 Monitor various state agency actions for potential impact on the City of Cedar Rapids and, in the event that action is needed, advise the City.
 - 4.1.1.8 Coordinate efforts with the Iowa League of Cities, the Metropolitan Coalition, and other groups on issues of mutual interest.

- 4.1.2 Qualified firms wishing to respond to the RFP must directly provide all services described in this document.
 - 4.1.3 The Successful Proposer shall appoint one of their employees as the key contact for approval by the City Manager and City Council.
 - 4.1.4 It is the City's belief that the service required is adequately described herein. Therefore, any negotiated contract, which may result from this RFP, must include the entire effort required of the Proposer to provide the service described. Specifically, no additional fees shall be allowed for any additional services performed for any reasons whatsoever.
- 4.2 Silence of Specifications – Commercially accepted practices shall apply to any detail not covered in this specification and to any omission of this specification. Any omission or question of interpretation of the specification that affects the performance or integrity of the legislative services being offered shall be addressed in writing and submitted with the Proposal.

SECTION V METHOD OF EVALUATION

- 5.0 Contract Award - Any contract award(s) made by the City of Cedar Rapids Treasury Division is subject to prior approval by the City of Cedar Rapids City Council.
 - 5.0.0 Award of contract shall be made to the most responsible and responsive proposal from a Company whose proposal offers the greatest value to the City with regard to the criteria detailed and the specifications set forth herein. The City may select a Proposer based on an "all or none" proposal, on individual responses, or as is otherwise deemed to be in the best interest of the City.
 - 5.0.1 The process of awarding the Contract shall be as follows:
 - 5.0.1.0 The evaluation team shall determine which Proposer has submitted the most responsive and responsible proposal using the criteria set forth below, and make its recommendation to the City Council.
 - 5.0.1.1 The City Council shall consider a resolution awarding the contract and authorizing the City Manager to sign the Letter of Agreement on behalf of the City. Note, as provided for by Section 4.03 of the Cedar Rapids Municipal Code, no contract shall be deemed to be created and exist, unless and until the City Council adopts a resolution awarding the contract and authorizing the City Manager to sign the Letter of Agreement.
 - 5.0.1.2 The City Manager executes the Letter of Agreement.
 - 5.0.1.3 The City issues a purchase order to the Contractor. The purchase order shall constitute authorization for the Contractor to commence the work.
- 5.1 Proposal Evaluation Criteria - In general, the proposals will be evaluated based on, but not limited to, the general evaluation criteria stated below and the completeness, clarity and content of the proposal.
 - 5.1.0 Qualifications and Experience
 - 5.1.0.0 Years of Experience of Key Personnel
 - 5.1.0.1 Past Performance
 - 5.1.0.1.0 Proven success in obtaining appropriations
 - 5.1.0.1.1 Success in bill drafting and gaining support for proposed legislation
 - 5.1.0.1.2 Proven success in protecting and/or advocating clients' position on proposed legislation
 - 5.1.0.2 On-going Training Offered
 - 5.1.0.3 Feedback from References
 - 5.1.0.4 Knowledge and experience with providing similar products
 - 5.1.0.5 Technical support offered
 - 5.1.0.6 Financial responsibility/stability
 - 5.1.1 Capacity – Current workload of firm or individual proposing
 - 5.1.2 Cost
 - 5.1.3 Company Responsiveness to RFP
 - 5.1.3.0 Total scope of services offered
 - 5.1.3.1 Responses to overall proposal and compliance with submission guidelines
 - 5.1.3.2 Proposal presentation (completeness, organization, appearance, etc.)
- 5.2 The City of Cedar Rapids reserves the right to use both primary and secondary suppliers or to otherwise use multiple sources to protect the City's overall interests.
- 5.3 Financial terms will not be the sole determining factor in the award. To determine the award the City will use a proposal evaluation method that will enable them to award a contract to the Proposer offering services and experience that represents the best overall value to the City.

- 5.4 Proposal Evaluation Procedures - Proposals will be evaluated individually by a Proposal Evaluation Team (hereinafter referred to as the Team) using the "Proposal Evaluation Criteria" as listed above.
- 5.4.0 Team members will evaluate each proposal based on their experience and judgment of how well the proposal addresses the City's requirements. Each prospective company is assured that any proposal submitted will be evaluated independently using the best available information and without any forgone conclusions.
- 5.4.1 Consideration will also be given to written clarification provided during the evaluation process and input from staff or other persons judged to have useful expertise that should be considered in a responsible, fair assessment of the relative merits of each proposal.
- 5.4.2 The Team may arrange conference calls with representatives of the companies whose proposals are deemed to be within the "competitive range." The purpose shall be the clarification of any aspect of the proposal that is deemed to have a material bearing on arriving at a fair determination of which proposal offers the best overall value. In addition, each Proposer deemed to be within the competitive range may be invited to submit a "best and final offer" if such seems appropriate under the clarifications issued to the provisions and specifications of this solicitation.
- 5.5 A Proposer's submission of a proposal constitutes its acceptance of this evaluation technique and its recognition and acceptance that subjective judgments will be used by the evaluators in the evaluation.

SECTION VI NON-FINANCIAL PROPOSAL

6.0 Non-Financial Proposal: This portion of the proposal must include the following information and proposers shall use the following format when compiling their responses. Sections should be tabbed and labeled; pages should be sequentially numbered at the bottom of the page.

- 6.0.0 **Title Page:** Title Page shall show the request for proposal's subject, title, RFP # and the firm's name; the name, address and telephone number of a contact person; and the date of the proposal.
- 6.0.1 **Cover Letter:** The response shall contain a cover letter signed by a person who is authorized to commit the offeror to perform the work included in the proposal, and should identify all materials and enclosures being forwarded in response to the RFP.
- 6.0.2 **Table of Contents:** The Table of Contents shall provide listing of all major topics, their associated section number, and starting page.
- 6.0.3 **Executive Summary:** The Executive Summary of the proposal shall be limited to three single-spaced typewritten pages. The purpose of the Executive Summary is to provide a high-level description of the offeror's ability to meet the requirements of the RFP.
- 6.0.4 **General Information:** Brief discussion about Offeror's business history and current purpose/function in the marketplace, age of the firm and average number of employees over the past five years.
- 6.0.5 **Summary of Qualifications:** Indicate the firm's background in providing these services to governmental entities.
 - 6.0.5.0 Discuss your firm's success rate for similar municipal government clients, and your experience in working with agencies in securing disaster assistance and all other funding. Additionally, provide discussion of your firm's overall track record for the past ten (10) years.
 - 6.0.5.1 Provide a listing of comparable client references that are using the firm's professional services, i.e., client name, address, telephone number, contact person and length of time service was provided and the fees charged by the clients.
 - 6.0.5.2 Provide a listing of any other clients (i.e. client name, address, telephone number, contact person and length of time service was provided) whose interests may be in conflict with the City of Cedar Rapids.
 - 6.0.5.3 Indicate specifically the members of the firm who will have primary responsibility for the City's contract and provide a resume for each. Also provide a response for each of the following items as to the key individuals who will have primary responsibility.
 - 6.0.5.3.0 Individual tasks and/or areas of expertise.
 - 6.0.5.3.1 Identify the type of issues, dollar value (if appropriations issues) and success of efforts for each.
 - 6.0.5.3.2 Number of years providing legislative services to municipalities for this firm or for other firms.

- 6.0.5.3.3 Membership and participation in professional associations and whether registered as a lobbyist
- 6.0.5.3.4 Current work assignments for other clients and percent of time spent on those assignments
- 6.0.5.3.5 Any other relevant experience and qualifications

6.0.5.4 List the public sector issues which best illustrate the experience of the firm and current staff to be assigned to this contract. (List no more than 10 issues, which were completed no more than five (5) years ago.) For each issue please provide the following:

- 6.0.5.4.0 Name of the client, including contact person's name, address and phone number
- 6.0.5.4.1 The nature of the issue pursued
- 6.0.5.4.2 The outcome of the legislative efforts on the issue
- 6.0.5.4.3 Key professionals involved, including the roles of each

6.0.6 **Technical Proposal:** Offeror's business plan to meet the technical requirements of the Request for Proposal must be included in this section. Outline the specific services to be provided. Describe clearly and concisely the tasks and activities that you will perform. Show the organization chart as it relates to this service identifying key personnel who will be responsible for the provision of this service. It should be understood that it is the intent of the City of Cedar Rapids to insist that those indicated as the consultant team in the RFP response actually execute the program. Describe how the organizational structure will ensure timely, orderly and responsive communications, distribution of information, effective coordination of activities, and accountability.

6.0.7 **Attachments:** Any additional information which the offeror feels will assist in the evaluation should be included.

DOCUMENTS TO BE SUBMITTED WITH THIS PROPOSAL

Submittal shall include one (1) original, four (4) copies, and one (1) compact disk

1. Financial Proposal and Signature Page – Attachment A
2. General Company Information – Attachment B
3. Non-Financial Proposal – Requirements on Pages 9 and 10
4. Certificate of Insurance – Requirements on Page 11

SECTION VII INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS

CONTRACTOR, at its own expense, shall procure and maintain during the entire term of this Agreement and any extensions thereof, the following insurance so as to cover risks which shall arise directly or indirectly from CONTRACTOR'S obligations and activities.

1. **Workers Compensation and Employers Liability Insurance** meeting the requirements of the Iowa Workers Compensation Law covering all the CONTRACTOR'S employees carrying out the work involved in this contract.
2. **General Liability Insurance** with limits of at least \$1,000,000 per occurrence for Bodily Injury, Property Damage, and Personal Injury. As a minimum, coverage for: Premises, Operations, Products, Completed Operations, Personal and Advertising Injury, and Contractual Liability shall be included. This coverage shall protect the public or any person from injury or property damages sustained by reason of the CONSULTANT or its employees carrying out the work involved in this contract.
3. **Automobile Liability Insurance** with **either** a combined limit of at least \$1,000,000 per occurrence for bodily injury and property damage without sub-limits **or** split limits of at least \$1,000,000 for bodily injury per person per occurrence and \$1,000,000 for property damage per occurrence. Coverage shall include all owned, hired, and non-owned motor vehicles used in the performance of this contract by the CONTRACTOR or its employees.
4. **Professional Liability Insurance** with limits of at least \$1,000,000 per occurrence covering all work performed by the CONTRACTOR, its employees, subcontractors, or independent contractors. If this coverage is written on a claims made policy form, the certificate of insurance must clearly state coverage is claims made and coverage must remain in effect for at least two years after final payment with the CONTRACTOR continuing to furnish the CITY certificates of insurance.

Subcontractors: In the case of any work sublet, the CONTRACTOR shall require subcontractors and independent contractors working under the direction of either the CONTRACTOR or a subcontractor to carry and maintain the same workers compensation and liability insurance required of the CONTRACTOR.

Qualifying Insurance: Policies shall be issued by insurers authorized to do business in the State of Iowa and currently having an A.M. Best Rating of "B" or better. All policies shall be occurrence form. If Professional Liability coverage is written on a claims made policy form, the certificate of insurance must clearly state coverage is claims made and coverage must remain in effect for at least two years after final payment with the CONTRACTOR continuing to furnish the CITY certificates of insurance. The CONTRACTOR shall be responsible for deductibles and self-insured retentions in the CONTRACTOR'S insurance policies.

Additional Insured: The City of Cedar Rapids, its officers and employees shall be named as additional insureds on the CONTRACTOR'S, subcontractor's, and independent contractor's liability insurance policies and certificates of insurance. This provision does not apply to professional liability insurance and workers compensation insurance.

CERTIFICATE OF INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS

1. The Description area of the certificate should state: **The City of Cedar Rapids, its officers and employees** are named as additional insureds. List **State Legislative Services** as the Contract the certificate covers.
2. The minimum liability limits required by the CITY are: **\$1,000,000**. This must be **occurrence form** liability coverage.
3. The following address must appear in the Certificate Holder section:
City of Cedar Rapids
Finance Department
3851 River Ridge Dr. NE
Cedar Rapids IA 52402
4. Certificates may be sent by e-mail (r.johnson2@cedar-rapids.org), fax (319-286-5130), mail or delivery to the attention of Rebecca Johnson. A certificate of insurance must be provided to the CITY prior to the execution of this Agreement.
5. During the term of the Agreement, CONTRACTOR shall provide the CITY with renewal certificates of insurance 20 days prior to policy expiration dates.

SECTION VIII GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1. **LANGUAGE, WORDS USED INTERCHANGEABLY** - The word CITY refers to the CITY OF CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA throughout these Instructions and Terms and Conditions. Similarly, PROPOSER refers to the person or company submitting an offer to sell its goods or services to the CITY.
2. **PROPOSER QUALIFICATIONS** - No Proposal shall be accepted from, and no contract will be awarded to, any person, firm or corporation that is in arrears to the City upon debt or contract, that is a defaulter, as surety or otherwise, upon any obligation to the City, or that is deemed irresponsible or unreliable by the City. If requested, Proposers shall be required to submit satisfactory evidence that they have a practical knowledge of the particular supply/service proposal and that they have the necessary financial resources to provide the proposed supply/service as described in the attached Technical Specifications.
3. **PROPOSAL FORM** - In case of a discrepancy between the unit price and the extended price, the unit price shall prevail.
4. **SPECIFICATION DEVIATIONS BY THE PROPOSER/OFFEROR** - Any deviation from this specification **MUST** be noted in detail, and submitted in writing on the Proposal Form. Completed specifications should be attached for any substitutions offered, or when amplifications are desirable or necessary. The absence of the specification deviation statement and accompanying specifications will hold the Proposer strictly accountable to the specifications as written herein. Failure to submit this document of specification deviation, if applicable, shall be grounds for rejection of the item when offered for delivery. If specifications or descriptive papers are submitted with Proposals, the Proposer's name should be clearly shown on each document.
5. **COLLUSIVE PROPOSAL** - The Proposer certifies that the proposal submitted by said Proposer is done so without any previous understanding, agreement or connection with any person, firm, or corporation making a proposal for the same contract, without prior knowledge of competitive prices, and it is, in all respects, fair, without outside control, collusion, fraud or otherwise illegal action.
6. **BROCHURES** - Proposals shall include adequate brochures, latest printed specifications and advertising literature, describing the product offered in such fashion as to permit ready comparison with our specifications on an item-by-item basis where applicable.
7. **SPECIFICATION CHANGES, ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS** - All changes in Proposal documents shall be through written addendum and furnished to all Proposers. Verbal information obtained otherwise will **NOT** be considered in awarding of Proposals.
8. **PROPOSAL CHANGES** - Proposals, amendments thereto, or withdrawal requests received after the time advertised for Proposal Opening, will be void regardless of when they were mailed.
9. **HOLD HARMLESS AGREEMENT** - The Contactor agrees to protect, defend, indemnify and hold harmless the City of Cedar Rapids, its officers and employees from any and all claims and damages of every kind and nature made, rendered or incurred by or in behalf of every person or corporation whatsoever, including the parties hereto and their employees that may arise, occur, or grow out of any acts, actions, work or other activity done by the Contractor, its employees, subcontractors or any independent contractors working under the direction of either the Contractor or subcontractor in the performance of this contract.
10. **ACCELERATED PAY DISCOUNTS** - Accelerated discounts should be so stated on your Signature Page. If quick pay discounts are offered, the City reserves the right to include that discount as part of the award criteria. Prices proposal or proposed must, however, be based upon payment in thirty (30) days after receipt, inspection and acceptance. In all cases, quick pay discounts will be calculated from the date of the invoice or the date of acceptance, whichever is later.
11. **AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS** - Purchases under this contract beyond the end of the current fiscal year are contingent upon the appropriation of funds for such purposes during the ensuing fiscal year(s).
12. **PROPOSAL REJECTION OR PARTIAL ACCEPTANCE** - The City reserves the right to reject any or all Proposals. The City further reserves the right to waive technicalities and formalities in Proposals, as well as to accept in whole or in part such Proposals where it is deemed advisable in protection of the best interests of the City.
13. **PIGGYBACK PROCUREMENT METHOD** - Upon request, the results of this proposal must be extended to any other City of Cedar Rapids department. In addition, the opportunity to purchase from this proposal may be extended to other government entities within Linn County. Any such usage must be in accordance with the policies of the respective entity and with the approval of the Contractor. The Contractor may determine it is necessary to charge delivery fees for entities located outside of the Cedar Rapids metro area. The City is not an agent of, partner to, or representative of these entities and is not obligated or liable for any action or debts that may arise out of such piggyback procurements.
14. **PROPOSAL CURRENCY/LANGUAGE** - All proposal prices shall be shown in US Dollars (\$). All prices must remain firm for the duration of the contract regardless of the exchange rate. All proposal responses must be submitted in English.
15. **PAYMENTS** - Payments will be made for all goods/services delivered, inspected and accepted within 30 days and on receipt of an original invoice.
16. **MODIFICATION, ADDENDA & INTERPRETATIONS** - Any apparent inconsistencies, or any matter requiring explanation or interpretation, must be inquired into by the Proposer in writing at least 72 hours (excluding weekends and holidays) prior to the time set for the Proposal Opening. Any and all such interpretations or

modifications will be in the form of written addenda. All addenda shall become part of the contract documents and shall be acknowledged and dated on the Signature Page.

17. **LAWS AND REGULATIONS** - All applicable State of Iowa and federal laws, ordinances, licenses and regulations of a governmental body having jurisdiction shall apply to the award throughout as the case may be, and are incorporated here by reference.
18. **SUBCONTRACTING** - No portion of this Proposal may be subcontracted without the prior written approval by the City.
19. **ELECTRONIC SUBMITTAL** - Telegraphic and/or proposal offers sent by electronic devices (e.g. facsimile machines) are not acceptable and will be rejected upon receipt. Proposing firms will be expected to allow adequate time for delivery of their proposal either by airfreight, postal service, or other means.
20. **MISCELLANEOUS** - The City reserves the right to reject any and all proposals or parts thereof. The City reserves the right to inspect Supplier's facilities prior to the award of this proposal. The City reserves the right to negotiate optional items with the successful Proposer.
21. **MODIFICATION OF AGREEMENT** - No modification of award shall be binding unless made in writing and signed by the City.
22. **CANCELLATION** - Either party may cancel the award in the event that a petition, either voluntary or involuntary, is filed to declare the other party bankrupt or insolvent or in the event that such party makes an assignment for the benefit of creditors.
23. **PATENT GUARANTEE** - Proposer shall, with respect to any device or composition of Proposer's design or Proposer's standard manufacture, indemnify and hold harmless the City, its employees, officers, and agents, from costs and damage as finally determined by any court of competent jurisdiction for infringement of any United States Letters Patent, by reason of the sale of normal use of such device or composition, provided that Proposer is promptly notified of all such actual or potential infringement suits, and is given an opportunity to participate in the defense thereof by the City.
24. **TERMINATION OF AWARD FOR CAUSE** - If, through any cause, the successful Proposer shall fail to fulfill in a timely and proper manner its obligations or if the successful Supplier shall violate any of the covenants, agreements or stipulations of the award, the City shall thereupon have the right to terminate the award by giving written notice to the successful Proposer of such termination and specifying the effective date of termination. In that event, and as of the time notice is given by the City, all finished or unfinished services, reports or other materials prepared by the successful Proposer shall, at the option of the City, become its property, and the successful Proposer shall be entitled to receive compensation for any satisfactory work completed, prepared documents or materials as furnished. Notwithstanding the above, the successful Supplier shall not be relieved of liability to the City for damage sustained by the City by virtue of breach of the award by the successful Supplier and the City may withhold any payments to the successful Supplier for the purpose of set off until such time as the exact amount of

damages due the City from the successful Supplier is determined.

25. **TERMINATION OF AWARD FOR CONVENIENCE** - The City may terminate the award at any time by giving written notice to the successful Supplier of such termination and specifying the effective date thereof, at least thirty (30) working days before the effective date of such termination. In that event, all finished or unfinished services, reports, materials(s) prepared or furnished by the successful Proposer under the award shall, at the option of the City, become its property. If the award is terminated due to the fault of the successful Proposer, termination of award for cause relative to termination shall apply. If the award is terminated by the City as provided herein, the successful Supplier will be paid an amount as of the time notice is given by the City which bears the same ratio to the total compensation as the services actually performed or material furnished bear to the total services/materials the successful Proposer covered by the award, less payments of compensation previously made.
26. **FORCE MAJEURE** - For the purpose hereof, force majeure shall be any of the following events: acts of God or the public enemy; compliance with any order, rule, regulation, decree, or request of any governmental authority or agency or person purporting to act therefore; acts of war, public disorder, rebellion, terrorism, or sabotage; floods, hurricanes, or other storms; strikes or labor disputes; or any other cause, whether or not of the class or kind specifically named or referred to herein, not within the reasonable control of the party affected.

A delay in or failure of performance of either party shall not constitute a default hereunder nor be the basis for, or give rise to, any claim for damages, if and to the extent such delay or failure is caused by force majeure.

The party who is prevented from performing by force majeure (i) shall be obligated, within a period not to exceed fourteen (14) days after the occurrence or detection of any such event, to give notice to the other party setting forth in reasonable detail the nature thereof and the anticipated extent of the delay, and (ii) shall remedy such cause as soon as reasonably possible.
27. **ACCEPTANCE OF TERMS BY SHIPMENT** - Shipment of all or any portion of the goods covered by any order placed shall be deemed an acceptance of the proposal upon the terms and prices set forth herein.
28. **ASSIGNMENT** - Proposer shall not assign this order or any monies to become due hereunder without the prior written consent of the City. Any assignment or attempt at assignment made without such consent of the City shall be void.
29. **EQUAL OPPORTUNITY** - The successful firm agrees not to refuse to hire, discharge, promote, demote, or to otherwise discriminate in matters of compensation against any person otherwise qualified solely because of race, creed, sex, national origin, ancestry or physical handicap.
30. **SPECIFIC DELIVERY SCHEDULE** - For purposes of this proposal and subsequent awards, City holiday closures are typically New Year's Day, President's Day, Good Friday, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Veterans Day, Thanksgiving Day and the day following, Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. Deliveries

generally will not be accepted on those dates. (Please note these dates on your calendars for deliveries, sales calls, etc. throughout the year.)

Notice of a late delivery arrival should be made no more than twenty-four (24) hours prior to the originally scheduled time. Otherwise, the City may not be available to facilitate the receiving and the shipment will be returned to you or its originating point.

- 31. **EXTENSION** - Any or all of the awards made as a result of this Request for Proposal may be extended for an additional period of time, up to one year, if mutually agreed between the parties.
- 32. **FREIGHT** - Those charges are to be included in the quoted price of these materials, rather than as a separate item unless otherwise noted.
- 33. **FOB POINT** - In terms of loss or damage, as well as where title to the goods is passed, please quote FOB - Destination.
- 34. **METHOD OF AWARDING/QUOTING** - The City reserves the right to make awards based on the entire proposal or on an individual basis. However if you offer

your proposal based on an "all or none" condition, the City may consider your proposal non-responsive and reject the entire proposal.

- 35. **TAXES** - The City of Cedar Rapids is exempt from sales tax and certain other use taxes. Any charges for taxes from which the City is exempt will be deducted from invoices before payment is made.
- 36. **PROPOSAL INFORMATION IS PUBLIC** - All documents submitted with any proposal or proposal shall become public documents and subject to Iowa Code Chapter 22, which is otherwise known as the "Iowa Open Records Law". By submitting any document to the City of Cedar Rapids in connection with a proposal or proposal, the submitting party recognized this and waives any claim against the City of Cedar Rapids and any of its officers and employees relating to the release of any document or information submitted. Each submitting party shall hold the City of Cedar Rapids and its officers and employees harmless from any claims arising from the release of any document or information made available to the City of Cedar Rapids arising from any proposal opportunity.