

City of Rockville Rockville, Maryland

## **INVITATION FOR BIDS #04-24**

## PLANT BED INSTALLATION & MAINTENANCE

Bids Due by 2:00 PM (EST) FRIDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2023

## **ISSUED BY:**

Procurement Department City of Rockville, City Hall 111 Maryland Avenue, 1st Floor Rockville, Maryland 20850 Phone: (240) 314-8430

Fax: (240) 314-8439

Any individual with a disability who would like to receive the information in this publication in another form may contact the ADA Coordinator at 240-314-8100, TDD 240-314-8137

## MFD-V Outreach Program

It is the intent of the City of Rockville to increase opportunities for minority, female, disabled or Veteran (MFD-V) owned businesses to compete effectively at supplying goods, equipment, and services to the City, within the constraints of statutory purchasing requirements, departmental needs, availability, and sound economical considerations. Suggested changes and MFD-V enhancements to this solicitation's requirements for possible consideration and/or inclusion in future solicitations are encouraged. Any questions regarding MFD-V outreach or questions/concerns regarding the City's bidding process should be addressed to Pat Ryan, pryan@rockvillemd.gov or 240-314-8434.



## **Statement of "No Bid Submittal"**

If you do not intend to submit on this requirement, please complete and return this form prior to date shown for receipt of bids to the buyer listed in this IFB by **email only** to cbazekis@rockvillemd.gov.

I/WE HAVE DECLINED TO BID ON **IFB** #04-24, titled **PLANT BED INSTALLATION & MAINTENANCE** for the following reason(s): [Please place a check mark ( $\checkmark$ ) next to the reason(s) as applicable]

(✔)	Reason
	Proposal requirements too "restrictive".
	Insufficient time to respond to the Invitation for Bids.
	We do not offer this service.
	Our schedule would not permit us to perform.
	Unable to meet requirements.
	Unable to meet insurance or bond requirements.
	Scope of Services unclear (please explain below).
	Other (please specify below).

REMARKS:			
Are you a Minority, Female, o	r Disabled (MFD) business?	Yes No	
Telephone Number:	Email Address:		
Authorized Signatory		Printed Name	-
Title		Date	-

# CITY OF ROCKVILLE ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND

## INVITATION FOR BIDS #04-24 PLANT BED INSTALLATION & MAINTENANCE

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## City of Rockville IFB #04-24

## **Submittal Checklist and Signature (REQUIRED)**

This page must be completed and submitted with your bid. Failure to submit this page shall deem your bid non-responsive.

	date and time as shown i		ollaboration Portal no later than the due
	Did an authorized compa	any representative sign the bottom p	ortion of this of this page?
	Did an authorized repres	sentative sign the Affidavit form, Att	tachment A?
	Did you complete the Co	ontractor Information form in Attach	nment B?
	Did you complete the Re	eference form in Attachment C?	
	companies, limited liabitrade name filings), is the of Assessments and Taxa	ility limited partnerships, business t	
	Did you check the City response?	's website for any addenda and inc	clude a signed copy of each with your
issued. If your c	ompany is selected, you act/purchase order.		ors. Electronic payments will only be submit an ACH application prior to
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## **SECTION I: PROJECT OVERVIEW**

1.1 SECURED BIDS will be received electronically via a City designated bid receipt software solution until 2:00 PM EST, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2023. The bidder assumes full responsibility for the timely delivery of a bid via the designated solution. Bids delivered in any other fashion will not be considered. Properly submitted bids will be opened in a virtual environment after the time set for receipt of bids and will be read aloud via a City telepresence software solution at the phone number and/or web address provided by the City and contained within this solicitation.

Submission of a bid electronically is consent by the bidder to conduct any or all elements of the procurement by electronic means, in accordance with the terms of this invitation for bids.

Bids presented after the bid receiving deadline will not be received for any reason. The official time clock for receiving bids will be that of the City's third-party software solution provider's computer server system.

ATTENTION: BIDDERS ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT THE CITY'S THIRD-PARTY SOFTWARE SOLUTION PROVIDER'S COMPUTER SERVER TIME MAY DIFFER FROM THAT OF OTHER ELECTRONIC DEVICES, COMPUTER SOFTWARE AND COMPUTER HARDWARE THAT MAY BE USED TO ELECTRONICALLY SUBMIT THE BID. BIDDERS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR ALLOWING ADEQUATE TIME TO SUCCESSFULLY DELIVER THE BID TO THE REQUIRED ELECTRONIC LOCATION BY THE REQUIRED TIME.

#### 1.2 BACKGROUND

The purpose of this solicitation is to establish a contract for PLANT BED INSTALLATION AND MAINTENANCE for various planting beds throughout the City of Rockville. All work must be performed by a Contractor of established reputation who is regularly engaged in the performance of the specified work and who maintain and makes available for this purpose, a regular force of skilled employees and equipment.

#### 1.3 PROPOSED SCHEDULE

- A. IFB Release Date FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2023
- B. Pre-Bid Conference WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2023, AT 2:00 PM EST
- C. Questions Due WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2023, BY 2:00PM EST
- D. IFB Closing Date FRIDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2023, AT 2:00PM EST

## 1.4 PRE-BID CONFERENCE

A virtual/telepresence pre-bid Conference will be held on **WEDNESDAY**, **SEPTEMBER 13**, **2023**, **AT 2:00PM EST**. Bidders must register below in order to attend the meeting. This meeting is not mandatory; however, bidders are strongly encouraged to attend. Individuals interested in viewing the vicinity of the work are encouraged to do so independently, and in a socially distanced manner, prior to the pre-bid meeting. Bidders shall assume complete responsibility and liability for any and all visits.

## **Register for Virtual Pre-Bid Meeting Here:**

## **Meeting link:**

https://rockvillemd.webex.com/rockvillemd/j.php?MTID=m1f26a524156c2db07c14756113d777ec

Meeting number: 2634 542 1005 Meeting password: TDwqAmf592

Join from a video or application: Dial 26345421005@rockvillemd.webex.com You can also dial 173.243.2.68 and enter your meeting number.

## Join by phone:

+1-408-418-9388 United States Toll

Access code: 26345421005

## 1.5 DEADLINE FOR QUESTIONS

Questions pertaining to this bid may be directed to Christos Bazekis, Buyer, via the City's Collaboration Portal only at <a href="https://contracts.rockvillemd.gov/gateway/Default.aspx">https://contracts.rockvillemd.gov/gateway/Default.aspx</a>, NO LATER THAN 2:00 PM, WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2023. Oral answers to questions relative to interpretation of specification or the bid process will not be binding on the City.

## 1.6 SUBMISSION

All bid forms and documents must be electronically filled out, signed, and submitted <u>via one</u> <u>combined pdf document</u> using the City's Collaboration Portal <u>only</u> at:

https://contracts.rockvillemd.gov/gateway/Default.aspx

At a minimum the file name of the pdf document must contain the Bid Number, Bidders Name and Bid Due Date.

Instructions for uploading bid documents can be found within the Vendor Client User Manual and Quick Reference Guides in the Collaboration Portal under document library.

A virtual, telepresence bid opening will be held a few minutes after the bid submittal due date and time. Individuals interested in attending the virtual bid opening must register below:

**Register For Virtual Bid Opening Here:** 

## **Meeting link:**

https://rockvillemd.webex.com/rockvillemd/j.php?MTID=m05405d1a11bfb317bf77e91d5abca851

Meeting number: 2632 757 7783 Meeting password: TVwZc4Phn76

Join by phone:

+1-408-418-9388 United States Toll

Access code: 26327577783

Join from a video system or application
Dial 26327577783@rockvillemd.webex.com
You can also dial 173.243.2.68 and enter your meeting number.

#### 1.7 ADDENDUM

Oral answers to questions relative to interpretation of specifications or the proposal process will not be binding on the City.

To ensure fair consideration for all bidders, any interpretation made to prospective offerors will be expressed in the form of an addendum to the specifications, if such information is deemed necessary

for the preparation of bids or if the lack of such information would be detrimental to the uninformed offeror. Such addendums, if issued, will be posted at the City's Collaboration Portal listed below:

## https://contracts.rockvillemd.gov/gateway/Default.aspx

Please note, that it is the bidder's responsibility to check this site frequently for Addendums, which may impact pricing, this documents requirements, terms and/or conditions. Failure to sign and return an Addendum with your response may result in disqualification of proposal.

## 1.8 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

It is the intent of the City of Rockville to purchase goods, equipment, and services having the least adverse environmental impact, within the constraints of its codified purchasing requirements, departmental needs, availability, and sound economical considerations. Suggested changes and environmental enhancements for possible inclusion in future revisions of this specification are encouraged.

## 1.9 NOTICE TO BIDDERS

"Pursuant to 7-201 et seq. of the Corporations and Associations, Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland corporations not incorporated in the State, shall be registered with the Department of Assessments and Taxation, 301 West Preston Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21201 before doing any interstate or foreign business in this state. Before doing any intrastate business in this state, a foreign corporation shall qualify with the Department of Assessments and Taxation."

#### 1.10 US TREASURY IDENTIFICATION NUMBER

Bidders must supply with their bids their U.S. Treasury Department Employers' Identification Number as such number is shown on their Employer's quarterly Federal Tax Return (U.S. Treasury Department Form No. 941). This number shall be inserted on the Bid Sheet in the space provided.

#### 1.11 QUALIFICATION TO CONTRACT WITH PUBLIC BODY

Bidders must be qualified to bid in the State in accordance with Section 14-308 of the State Finance and Procurement Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland which ordains that any person convicted of bribery (upon acts committed after July 1, 1997) in furtherance of obtaining a contract from the state or any subdivision of the State of Maryland shall be disqualified from entering into a contract with the City.

#### 1.12 DISABILITY INFORMATION

ANY INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES WHO WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE THE INFORMATION IN THIS PUBLICATION IN ANOTHER FORM MAY CONTACT THE ADA COORDINATOR AT 240-314-8100 TDD 240-314-8137.



#### CITY OF ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND

## SECTION II: GENERAL CONDITIONS AND INSTRUCTIONS TO BIDDERS

NON-CONSTRUCTION - 3/2022

- 1. TERMS AND CONDITIONS The terms and conditions of this document govern in event of conflict with any terms of the bidder's proposal, and are not subject to change by reasons of written or verbal statement by the Contractor unless accepted in writing. Words and abbreviations that have well known technical or trade meanings are used in accordance with such meanings.
- 2. <u>SUBMISSION OF BID</u> All bids are to be submitted electronically, in a pdf format file, via a City designated bid receipt software solution. File name of the pdf document must contain the Bid Number, Bidders Name and Bid Due Date.

The bid proposal form must be filled out and submitted electronically. Conditional bids and bids containing escalator clauses will not be accepted. All bids must be regular in every respect and no interlineation, exclusions, or special conditions shall be made or included. Bids must contain an electronic or scanned signature, in the space provided, of an individual authorized to bind the bidder.

- 3. **BID ACCEPTANCE AND OPENINGS** It is the bidder's responsibility to assure delivery of the bid at the proper time via the designated electronic, software solution. Bids delivered in any other fashion will not be considered. All bids will be publicly opened in a virtual environment after the time set for receipt of bids and read aloud via a City telepresence software solution. Bidders may attend bid openings at the phone number and/or web address provided by the City.
- **4. <u>BID OPENING</u>** All bids received in response to an Invitation for Bid will be opened at the date, time and place specified and publicly read via a City telepresence software solution. A tabulation of bids received are posted using the City's designated electronic, software solution.
- **5. <u>BID AWARD</u>** Award will be made to lowest responsive and responsible bidder complying with all provisions of the Invitation for Bid, provided the price is reasonable and in the best interest of the City to accept. The City reserves the right to award by individual commodities/services, group, all or none or any combination thereof. When a group is specified, all items in the group must be bid.

In determining the responsibility of a bidder, the following criteria will be considered:

- a. The ability, capacity and skill of the bidder to perform the contract or provide the services required;
- b. Whether the bidder can perform the contract or provide the service promptly, or within the time specified, without delay or interference;
- c. The character, integrity, reliability, reputation, judgment, experience and efficiency of the bidder;
- d. The quality of performance on previous contracts or services;
- e. The previous and existing compliance by the bidder with laws and ordinance relating to the contract or service;

- f. The sufficiency of the financial resources and ability of the bidder to perform the contract or provide the service:
- g. The quality, availability and adaptability of the goods or services to the particular use required;
- h. The ability of the bidder to provide future maintenance and service for the use of the subject of the contract;
- i. Whether the bidder is in arrears to the City or a debt or contract or is in default on a surety to the City;
- j. Such other information as may be secured by the City having a bearing on the decision to award the contract.
- **6. ADDENDUM** In the event that any addenda to this solicitation is issued, all solicitation terms and conditions will remain in effect unless they are specifically changed in the addendum. It is the responsibility of the bidder to make inquiry as to addenda issued. Oral answers to questions relative to interpretation of specifications or the proposal process will not be binding on the City. Such addendums, if issued, will posted via the city's designated electronic, software solution.

Please note, that it is the bidder's responsibility to check this site frequently for Addendums, which may impact pricing, this document's requirements, terms and/or conditions. Failure to acknowledge an addendum on the bid proposal form or to sign and return an Addendum with your response may result in disqualification of proposal.

7. <u>ACCEPTANCE/REJECTION OF BIDS</u> The City reserves the right to reject any or all bids in part or full and to waive any technicalities or informalities as may best serve the interests of the City.

Unless otherwise stated in this solicitation, bids shall be valid for a minimum of 90 days following the deadline for submitting offers. Bids may not be withdrawn during that period.

- **8.** MULTI-YEAR BIDS Multi-year contracts may be continued each fiscal year only after funding appropriations have been granted. In the event necessary funding appropriation is not granted, the multi-year contract shall be null and void, effective July 1st of the affected year.
- **9. ERRORS IN BIDS** When an error is made in extending total prices the unit bid price will govern. Carelessness in quoting prices or in preparation of bid will not relieve the bidder from performing the contract. Errors discovered after public opening cannot be corrected and the bidder will be required to perform if the bid is accepted.
- **10. BID WITHDRAWAL** Bids may be electronically withdrawn (deleted) or modified by deleting the initial file uploaded and replacing it with a modified file using the City's electronic, software solution before the time specified for bid opening. Requests received after bid opening will not be considered.
- 11. TAX EXEMPTION The City is exempt from the payment of any federal excise or any Maryland sales tax.
- **12. MISTAKES** Bidders are expected to be thoroughly familiar with all bid documents, including all addenda. No consideration will be granted for any alleged misunderstanding of the intent of the specifications. Each bidder shall carefully and thoroughly examine these bid documents for completeness. No claim of any bidder will be allowed on the basis that these bid documents are incomplete.
- **13. PRICES** Bids must be submitted on a firm, fixed price, F.O.B. destination basis only unless otherwise specified herein.
- **14. PROMPT PAYMENT DISCOUNTS** All discounts other than prompt payment are to be included in the bid price. Prompt payment discounts may be considered in the evaluation of your bid if the discount on payment is not conditioned on payment being made in less than thirty (30) days from receipt of invoice.

- **15. <u>BIDDER'S PAYMENT TERMS</u>** The City will reject as non-responsive a bid under this solicitation, which is conditioned on payment of proper invoices in less than thirty (30) days. However, this does not preclude a bidder from offering a prompt payment discount for payment of proper invoices in less than thirty (30) days.
- 16. <u>SAMPLES</u> Samples of items, if requested, shall be furnished without charge, upon request within ten days. Failure on the part of the bidder to provide such samples within the specified time frame or to comply with these instructions may be cause to consider the bid as non-responsive. If not destroyed and upon request at the time of submission, samples will be returned at the bidder's expense. Samples may also be tested or become property of the City and may not be returned.
- 17. SENSITIVE DOCUMENTS Sensitive documents (either electronic or hardcopy documents dealing with critical facilities or sensitive information) received from the City must be handled consistent with the terms of non-disclosure required for application. Contractor is responsible to restrict use of sensitive documents to project participants only and shall take appropriate measure to prevent distribution of sensitive document to anyone inside or outside of the Contractor's company except Contractor's project participants. After completion of the project, all sensitive documents remaining in the Contractor's possession shall continue to be governed under the terms of non-disclosure and must continue to be store in a secure manner. After such records are no longer need for record purposes, the records shall be destroyed or returned to the City.

Where services require the Contractor to access the City's electronic information resources and/or its electronic data assets, the Contractor shall adhere to all requirements, terms and conditions of the City's Contractor/Vendor On-Site and Remote Access Confidentiality Agreement, which can be viewed at the following web address: <a href="http://www.rockvillemd.gov/documentcenter/view/74">http://www.rockvillemd.gov/documentcenter/view/74</a>

- 18. DOCUMENTS, MATERIALS AND DATA All documents materials or data developed as a result of this contract are the City's property. The City has the right to use and reproduce any documents, materials and data, including confidential information, used in the performance of, or developed as a result of this contract. The City may use this information for its own purposes, including reporting to state and federal agencies. The contractor warrants that it has title to or right to use all documents, materials or data used or developed in connection with this contract. The Contractor must keep confidential all documents, materials and data prepared or developed by the contractor or supplied by the City.
- 19. INTEREST IN MORE THAN ONE BID AND COLLUSION Multiple bids uploaded/received in response to a single solicitation from an individual, firm, partnership, corporation, affiliate, or association under the same or different names will be rejected. Reasonable grounds for believing that a bidder is interested in more than one bid for a solicitation both as a bidder and as a subcontractor for another bidder, will result in rejection of all bids in which the bidder is interested. However, a firm acting only as a subcontractor may be included as a subcontractor for two or more bidders submitting a bid for the work. Any or all bids may be rejected if reasonable grounds exist for believing that collusion exists among any bidders. Bidders rejected under the above provisions shall be disqualified if they respond to a re-solicitation for the same work.
- **20. QUALIFICATION OF THE BIDDER** The City shall have the right to take such steps as it deems necessary to determine the responsibility of the bidder to perform the obligations under the contract and the bidder shall furnish to the City all such information for this purpose as the City may request. The right is reserved to reject any bid where an investigation of available information does not satisfy the City that the bidder is qualified to carry out the terms of the contract.
- **21. EXECUTION OF CONTRACT** The awarded bidder shall be required to execute a formal agreement with the City within fifteen days from the award. A sample of the agreement is attached. No revisions to the agreement will be allowed. Exceptions or revisions to the City's agreement may deem the bidder non-responsive.
- **22.** <u>COMPENSATION</u> The City will compensate the Contractor in the form of either lump sum payment upon completion and acceptance of the work or monthly progress payments. In either event, compensation shall not exceed any fixed, firm Lump Sum or Total proposed pricing within the Contractor's offer. All non-labor costs associated with administration, including but not limited to plan copies, courier, mailing data processing, forms, fax transmission, telephone calls, printing, office supplies, copying, are to be included with the pricing and hourly

rates offer, otherwise they shall become the responsibility of the Contractor. No payment or reimbursement will be made for travel expenses which include travel time and mileage.

**23. INVOICING** The Contractor shall submit invoices, in duplicate, which shall include a detailed breakdown of all charges for that monthly period including employee names, date of services, itemized cost (hours and hourly rates) for service.

Invoices shall be based upon completion of tasks and deliverables and shall reference a City Purchase Order number. All such invoices will be paid promptly by the City of Rockville unless any items thereon are disputed in which event payment will be withheld pending verification of the amount claimed and the validity of the claim. The firm shall provide complete cooperation during any such investigation. All invoices shall be forwarded to the following address: City of Rockville, Attn: (Project Manager),111 Maryland Avenue, Rockville, MD 20850 or via email to the project manager.

- **24. ELECTRONIC PAYMENT OPTION** The Vendor ACH Payment Program of the City allows payments to be deposited directly to a designated financial institution account. Funds will be deposited into the account of your choice automatically and on time. All transactions are conducted in a secure environment. The program is free as part of the Finance Department's efforts to improve customer services.
- **25. PAYMENT TO SUBCONTRACTOR** Within seven days after receipt of amounts paid by the City for work performed by a subcontractor under this contract, the Contractor shall either: Pay the Subcontractor for the proportionate share of the total payment received from the City of Rockville attributable to the work performed by the Subcontractor under this contract; or Notify the City of Rockville and Subcontractor, in writing, of his/her intention to withhold all or a part of the Subcontractor's payment and the reason for non-payment.
- **26. PERSONNEL** Principal or key personnel included in the proposal may not be substituted without written approval of the City of Rockville. Replacements for key personnel under the contract must have equivalent professional qualifications and experience as those individuals listed in the proposal. The Consultant must submit written professional qualifications and experience for approval within ten working days prior to replacement for City review and approval or rejection.
- 27. PRICE ADJUSTMENTS (CPI) Unless otherwise stated in the bid document, rates quoted are to be firm for two (2) years after award of a contract. These rates will apply to additional work, change orders and contract modifications. A request for price adjustment after the 2-year period is subject to approval or rejection by the Purchasing Agent. The Consultant shall submit to the Purchasing Agent sufficient justification to support the Consultant's request. A request for price adjustment may not be approved which exceeds the amount of the annual percentage change of the Consumer Price Index (CPI) for the twelve-month period immediately prior to the date of the request.
- **28. INTERPRETATION** Any questions concerning general instruction and specifications shall be directed in writing to the Purchasing Office. The submission of a bid shall be prima facie evidence that bidder thoroughly understands the terms of the specification. The Contractor shall take no advantage of any error or omission in the specifications.
- **29. DELIVERY** All time limits stated in the contract documents are of the essence. The Contractor shall expedite the work and achieve substantial completion within the contract time. If time limits are not specified, state the number of days required to make delivery/completion in the space provided. Defective or unsuitable materials or workmanship shall be rejected and shall be made good by the Contractor, notwithstanding that such materials/workmanship have been previously overlooked and accepted.
- **30. TRAVEL TIME** No payment for travel time to or from the job site shall be charged. Charges begin when the Contractor arrives at each job site and end when the Contractor leaves the job site.
- **31. <u>DELAYS/EXTENSION OF TIME</u>** If the Contractor is delayed in the delivery of the supplies, equipment or services by any act or neglect of the City or by a separate Contractor employed by the City, or by any changes,

strikes, lockouts, fires, unusual delays in transportation or delay authorized by the City, the City shall review the cause of such delay and shall make an extension if warranted.

All claims for extensions must be a written notice sent to the Purchasing Agent within ten (10) calendar days after the date when such alleged cause for extension of time occurred. All such claims shall state specifically the amount of the delay the Contractor believes to have suffered. If statement is not received within the prescribed time the claim shall be forfeited and invalidated.

- 32. TERMINATION FOR DEFAULT The contract may be cancelled or annulled by the City in whole or in part by written notice of default to the Contractor upon nonperformance or violation of contract terms and an award may be made to the responsive second ranked Bidder, if default occurs within the initial contract period and the second ranked bidder agrees to hold its bid price, or, the work may be purchased on the open market similar to those so terminated. In either event, the defaulting Contractor (or his surety) shall be liable to the City for costs to the City in excess of the defaulted contract prices.
- **33. TERMINATION FOR CONVENIENCE** The performance of work or services under this contract may be terminated in whole or part, upon five (5) calendar day's written notice when the City determines that such termination is in its best interest. The City shall be liable only for those accepted goods and/or services furnished prior to the effective date of such termination.
- **34. ABANDONMENT, DISSOLUTION AND RESTRUCTING** A Contractor who abandons or defaults the work on this contract and causes this contract to be re-bid will not be considered in future bids for the same type of work unless the scope of the work is significantly changed. Written notification of changes to company name, address, telephone number, etc. shall be provided to the City of Rockville as soon as possible but not later than thirty (30) days from date of change.
- **35.** <u>CHANGES</u> The City, without invalidating the contract, may order written changes in the scope of work consisting of additions, deletions or modification with the contract sum and time being adjusted accordingly. All such changes shall be made in writing by the Purchasing Agent.

Costs shall be limited to the following: cost of materials, cost of labor and additional costs of supervision and field office personnel directly attributable to the change.

The cost or credit to the City from a change in the scope of work shall be determined by mutual agreement. The Contractor shall do all work that may be required to complete the work contemplated at the unit prices or lump sum to be agreed upon.

No alterations or variables in the terms of the contract shall be valid or binding upon the City unless made in writing and signed by the City.

- **36. EXTRA COSTS** If the Contractor claims that any instructions by the contract documents or otherwise involve extra compensation or extension of time, a written protest must be submitted to the purchasing agent within ten (10) calendar days after receipt of such instructions and before proceeding to execute the work, stating in detail the basis for objection. No such claim will be considered unless so made.
- **37. GUARANTEE** All guarantees and warranties required shall be furnished by the Contractor and shall be delivered to the Project Manager (e.g., other required documents, operating manuals, maintenance manuals/schedules, etc.) before final payment is made.

The Contractor guarantees that the items conform to the design and specifications and to drawings, samples or other descriptions referred to in this document. The Contractor further guarantees the items will be free from defects in materials and workmanship, latent or patent and are suitable for the intended purpose as far as the Contractor knows or has reason to know. The guarantee contained herein shall remain in full force and effect for a minimum of one year after initial delivery to the City unless another effective period is specified.

- 38. DEFECTIVE SUPPLIES/SERVICE Defective or unsuitable materials or workmanship shall be rejected and shall be made good by the Contractor. Contractor shall be responsible for the professional quality, technical accuracy, timely completion, and the coordination of all its effort and other services furnished by Contractor under the Agreement. Without additional compensation, Contractor shall correct or revise any errors, omissions, or other deficiencies in all products of its efforts and other services provided. This shall include resolving any deficiencies arising out of the acts or omissions of Contractor found during or after the course of the services performed by or for Contractor under this Agreement, regardless of City having knowledge of or condoning/accepting the products or the services. Correction of such deficiencies shall be at no cost to City.
- **39. LEGAL REQUIREMENTS** All materials, equipment, supplies and services shall conform to applicable Federal, State County and City laws, statutes, rules and regulations. The Contractor shall observe and comply with all Federal, State, County and City laws, statutes, rules, and regulations that affect the work to be done. The provisions of this contract shall be governed by the laws of the State of Maryland.
- **40. SUBCONTRACTING** When allowed, bidders who intend to subcontract any portion of the work including delivery, installation or maintenance will submit to the City prior to the start of work: 1) a description of the items to be subcontracted, 2) all subcontractor names, addresses and telephone numbers and 3) the nature and extent of the work utilized during the life of the contract.

This does not relieve the Contractor from the prime responsibility of full and complete performance under the contract. There shall be no contractual relationship between the City and any subcontractor.

41. <u>ADDITIONAL ITEMS</u> The City reserves the right to add or delete any item(s) from the bid in whole or in part at the City's discretion without affecting the bid prices for any item or remaining work. Unit prices submitted in the bid shall not be increased or decreased regardless of changes in quantity.

The City may waive minor differences in specifications in bids provided these differences do not violate the specifications' intent nor materially affect the operation for which the items are being purchased.

- **42. AUTHORITY OF THE CITY MANAGER IN DISPUTES** Except as may otherwise be provided by the final agreement, any dispute concerning a question of fact arising under the agreement signed by the City and the Contractor which is not disposed of by the final agreement shall be decided by the City Manager who shall notify the Contractor in writing of his determination. The Contractor shall be afforded the opportunity to be heard and offer evidence in support of the claim. Pending final decision of the dispute herein, the Contractor shall proceed diligently with performance under the agreement signed by the City and the Contractor. The decision of the City Manager shall be final and conclusive unless an appeal is taken pursuant to City Purchasing Ordinance.
- **43. INDEMNIFICATION OF THE COUNCIL** The Contractor shall indemnify and save harmless the Mayor and Council from all suits, actions and damages or costs, of every name and description to which the Mayor and Council may be subjected or put by reason of injury to persons or property as a result of the work, whether caused by negligence or carelessness on part of the Contractor, or subcontractors or agents of the Contractor.
- **44. NO LIMITATION OF LIABILITY** The mention of any specific duty or liability of the Contractor in any part of the specification shall not be construed as a limitation or restriction upon any general liability or duty imposed upon the Contractor.
- **45. PROPRIETARY INFORMATION**. The City agrees, to the extent permitted by law, to hold all material and information belonging to the offeror, which it deems to be confidential, in strictest confidence. The Contractor agrees to hold all material and information belonging to the City or the City's agents in strictest confidence and not to make use thereof other than for the performance of contractual obligations, to release it only to employees requiring such information. Reasonable precautions will be exercised for the protection of any proprietary data included in the proposal. It shall be the bidder/proposer's responsibility to duly note on their submittal if any information in their submitted bid/proposal contains proprietary information and the context under which same should be handled by reviewers. Bidders/proposers shall not mark sections of their bid/proposal as proprietary or confidential if they are to be part of the award of the contract/agreement and are a "material" nature (i.e., prices). Material information may be required to be released in accordance with Public Information Act laws.

- **46. RELEASE OF INFORMATION** During the term of the final agreement, the successful Contractor shall not release any information related to the services or the performance of the services under the agreement nor publish any final reports or documents without the prior written approval of the City.
- **47. PATENTS AND ROYALTIES** Whenever any article, material, appliance, process composition, means or things called for by these specifications is covered by Letter of Patent, the successful bidder must secure, before using or employing such materials, the assent in writing of the owner or licensee of such letters of patent, and file the same with the City.

The Contractor will defend, at its own expense, and will pay the cost and damages awarded in any action brought against the City based on any allegation that the items provided by the Contractor infringe on a patent and copyright license or trade secret. In the event that an injunction shall be obtained against the City's use of items by reason of infringement of any patent, copyright, license or trade secret, the Contractor will, at its expense, procure for the City the right to continue using the items, replace or modify the same so that it becomes non-infringing.

**48.** <u>MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS</u> The City and the Contractor each bind themselves, their partners, successors, assign and legal representatives of such other parties in respect to all covenants, agreements, and obligations contained in the contract document. Neither party to the contract shall assign the contract or sublet it as a whole without the written consent of the other, nor shall the Contractor assign any monies due or to become due hereunder without the previous written consent of the City. Written notice shall be deemed to have been duly served if delivered in person to the individual or member of the firm or to any officer of the corporation for whom it was intended if delivered or sent by registered or certified mail to the last known address.

Duties and obligations imposed by the contract documents and the rights and remedies available thereunder shall be in addition to and not a limitation of the duties, obligations, rights and remedies otherwise imposed or available by law, unless so indicated.

- **49. ETHICS REQUIREMENTS** In accordance with the City's financial disclosure and ethical conduct policy and/or ordinances a prerequisite for payment pursuant to the terms of this contract is that the Contractor may be required to furnish explicit statements, under oath, that the City Manager, and/or any other officer, agent, and/or employee of the City, and any member of the governing body of the City of Rockville or any member or employee of a Commission, Board, or Corporation controlled or appointed by the City Council, Rockville, Maryland has not received or has not been promised directly or indirectly any financial benefit by way of fee, commission, finder's fee, or in any other manner, remuneration arising from directly or indirectly related to this contract, and that upon request by the City Manager, or other authorized agent, as a prerequisite to payment pursuant to the terms of this contract, the Contractor will furnish to the Mayor and Council of the City of Rockville, under oath, answers to any interrogatories to a possible conflict of interest has herein embodied.
- **50. BROKERING** The Contractor warrants that only an established commercial or selling agency maintained by the Contractor for the purpose of securing business may be retained to solicit or secure this contract. Any brokerage arrangements must be disclosed in the proposal. For violation of this warranty, the City shall have the right to terminate or suspend this contract without liability to the City.
- 51. EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY The Contractor will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of age (in accordance with applicable law), sex, race, ancestry, color, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, physical or mental handicap, marital status, or political expression. The Contractor will take affirmative action to ensure that applicants are employed, and the employees are treated fairly and equally during employment with regard to the above. Such action shall include, but not be limited to, the following: employment, upgrading, demotion or transfer; recruitment, layoff or termination, rates of pay or other form of compensation; and selection for training, including apprenticeship. The Contractor agrees to post in conspicuous places, available to employees and applicants for employment, notices setting forth the provisions of this nondiscrimination clause.

If the Contractor fails to comply with nondiscrimination clauses of this contract or fails to include such contract provisions in all subcontracts, this contract may be declared void AB INITO, cancelled, terminated or suspended

in whole or in part and the Contractor may be declared ineligible for further contracts with the City of Rockville. Any employee, applicant for employment, or prospective employee with information concerning any breach of these requirements may communicate such information to the City Manager who shall commence a prompt investigation of the alleged violation. Pursuant to such investigation, the Contractor will permit access to the Contractor's books, records, and accounts. If the City Manager concludes that the Contractor has failed to comply with nondiscrimination clauses, the remedies set out above may be invoked.

- **52. LANGUAGE** If applicable, the Contractor shall appoint one or more crew members or supervisors to act as liaison with the City and emergency service personnel. All liaisons shall be fluently bilingual in English and the Contractor's employees' language(s), and at least one liaison shall be present at each work site at all times when any of the Contractor's employees or agents are at the site.
- 53. IMMIGRATION REFORM AND CONTROL ACT The Contractor awarded a contract pursuant to this bid shall warrant that it does not and shall not hire, recruit or refer for a fee, for employment under the contract, an alien knowing the alien is an unauthorized alien and hire any individual without complying with the requirements of the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986 (the Act), including but not limited to any verification and record keeping requirements. The Contractor shall further assure the City that, in accordance with the Act, it does not and will not discriminate against an individual with respect to hiring, or recruitment or referral for a fee, of the individual for employment or the discharging of the individual from employment because of such individual's national origin or in the case of a citizen or intending citizen, because of such individual's citizenship status.
- **54. SUBLETTING OR ASSIGNMENT OF CONTRACT** The City and the Contractor each bind themselves, their partners, successors, assigns and legal representatives of such other parties in respect to all covenants, agreements, and obligations contained in the contract documents. Neither party to the contract shall sublet, sell, transfer, assign or otherwise dispose of the contract or any portion thereof, or of the work provided for therein, or of his right, title or interest therein to any person, firm or corporation without the written consent of the other party, nor shall the Contractor assign any monies due or to become due hereunder without the previous written consent of the City.
- 55. OWNERSHIP OF DOCUMENTS Any and all deliverables, including but not limited to reports, specifications, blueprints, plans, negatives, electronic files and documents, as well as, any other documents prepared by the Contractor in the performance of its obligations under the resulting contract shall be the exclusive property of the City. The Contractor shall not use, willingly allow, or cause such materials to be used for any purpose other than performance of all Contractors' obligations under the resulting contract without the prior written consent of City. Documents and materials developed by the Contractor under the resulting contract shall be the property of City of Rockville; however, the Contractor may retain file copies, which cannot be used without prior written consent of the City. The City agrees that the Contractor shall not be liable for any damage, loss, or injury resulting from the future use of the provided documents for other than the project specified when the Contractor is not the firm of record.
- **56. NO CONTACT DURING PROCUREMENT PROCESS**. It is the policy of the City of Rockville that the evaluation and award process for City contracts shall be free from both actual and perceived impropriety, and that contracts between potential vendors and City officials, elected officials and staff regarding pending awards of City contracts shall be prohibited.
  - a. No person, firm, or business entity, however situated or composed, obtaining a copy of or responding to this solicitation, shall initiate or continue any verbal or written communication regarding this solicitation with any City officer, elected official, employee, or designated City representative, between the date of the issuance of this solicitation and the date of the City's recommendation to the City Manager or the Mayor and Council for award of the subject contract, except as may otherwise be specifically authorized and permitted by the terms and conditions of this solicitation.
  - b. All verbal and written communications initiated by such person, firm, or entity regarding this solicitation, if same are authorized and permitted by the terms and conditions of this solicitation, shall be directed to the procurement contact listed in this solicitation.

## IFB #04-24 PLANT BED INSTALLATION & MAINTENANCE

c. Any violation of this prohibition of the initiation or continuation of verbal or written communications with City officers, elected officials, employees, or designated City representatives shall result in a written finding by the Purchasing agent that the submitted bid or proposal of the person, firm, or entity in violation is "non-responsive," and same shall not be considered for award.

## SECTION III: SPECIAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

## 3.1 Point of Contact

To ensure fair consideration for all Bidders, the City prohibits communication to or with any department, elected official or employee during the submission process, other than the Procurement Division, regarding the requirements for this submittal. Any such contact may be considered grounds for disqualification. The City shall not be responsible for oral interpretations given by any City employee or its representative.

All inquiries concerning clarifications of this solicitation or for additional information shall be submitted via the City's Collaboration Portal.

All responses to questions/clarifications will be sent to all prospective Bidders in the form of a written addendum. Material changes, if any, to the scope of work, or bid procedures will also be transmitted by written addendum.

## 3.2 Minimum Qualification Requirements

At a minimum, Bidders must provide written evidence (through references) of five (5) years prior experience with the scope of work as detailed in the specifications.

The City shall have the right to take such steps as it deems necessary to determine the ability of the Bidder to perform the work and reserves the right to request additional information. The right is reserved to reject any bid where an investigation of the evidence or information submitted by such Bidder does not satisfy the City that the Bidder is qualified to properly carry out the terms of the Bid Document.

## 3.3 Contract Term

The Base Period of this Contract begins on or close to April 1, 2024, through October 31, 2024.

Upon satisfactory service and by mutual agreement the City reserves the right to renew the contract.

The Contract may be renewed for four (4) additional one-year options.

## 3.4 Option to Renew Contract Period

- A. Upon satisfactory service and by mutual agreement the City reserves the right to renew the contract. The term of renewal shall not exceed four (4) additional one (1) year periods.
- B. The City expects all vendors to provide year over year cost reductions recommendations.
- C. Price decreases are acceptable at any time, need not be verifiable, and are required should the contractor/producer/processor/manufacturer experience a decrease in costs associated with the execution of the contract.
- D. Price adjustments from the contractor/producer/processor/manufacturer for any/all items may be considered at renewal. The request is subject to approval by the Director of Procurement. The request must be submitted in writing at least sixty (60) days prior to the renewal term and shall be accompanied by supporting documentation. The increased contract unit price shall not apply to orders received by the Contactor prior to the effective date of the approved increased contract unit price. The City may cancel, without liability to either party, any portion of the contract affected by the requested increase and any materials, supplies or services undelivered at the time of such

cancellation. The request for a change in the unit price shall include at a minimum; (1) the cause for the adjustment; (2) proposed effective date (minimum of 60 days); and (3) the amount of the change requested with documentation to support the requested adjustment (i.e., appropriate Bureau of Labor Statistics, Consumer Price Index (CPI-U) change in manufacturer's price, etc.).

E. Should the awarded vendor, at any time during the life of the contract, sell materials of similar quality to another customer, or advertise special discounts or sales, at a price below those quoted within the contract, the lowest discounted prices shall be offered to the City.

## 3.5 Extension of Contract

The City reserves the right to extend the contract for any reason for a period or periods up to but not to exceed 12 months. This extension clause must be exercised when the City determines that an extension of the contract is advantageous to the City. Any extension beyond 12 months will be subject to the City's option to renew clause as set forth in this contract. This provision in no way affects or alters the City's ability to renew the contract consistent with the renewal option clause. If it is then decided to renew the resulting contract, the renewal date will commence on the day following the last day of the contract extension.

## 3.6 Estimated Quantities

No warranty is given or implied by the City as to any components listed in this Bid and are considered to be estimates for the purpose of information only. The City reserves the right to accept all or any part of the bid and to increase or decrease quantities of Bidder's bid to meet additional or reduced requirements of the City.

#### 3.7 Additional Items/Duties

The City may require additional items/duties of a similar nature, but not specifically listed in the contract. The Contractor agrees to provide such items/duties, and shall provide the City prices on such additional items or duties based upon a formula or method which is the same or similar to that used in establishing the prices in the bid. If the price(s) offered are not acceptable to the City, and the situation cannot be resolved to the satisfaction of the City, the City reserves the right to purchase those items from other vendors, or to cancel the contract upon giving the Contractor thirty (30) days written notice.

## 3.8 No Exclusive Contract/Additional Services

Contractor agrees and understands that the contract shall not be construed as an exclusive arrangement and further agrees that the City may, at any time, secure similar or identical services at its sole option.

## 3.9 Exceptions

An exception is any condition, limitation, restriction, term or other deviation from the requirements of the Invitation for Bids that is a condition of the bidder's bid or that the bidder expects to become part of a contract with the City. Bidders are strongly discouraged from taking exceptions to the requirements of the Invitation for Bids. Exceptions may result in the City declaring the bidder's bid to be non-responsive. Any exceptions taken must refer to the specific language of the Invitation for Bids to which the bidder objects and must be included with the bid on a separate page. The City shall be entitled to assume that the absence of any exceptions constitutes the bidder's willingness to comply with all requirements of all parts of the Invitation for Bids.

## 3.10 Complete Information Required on Bid Form

All bids must be submitted on the attached Bid Form with all sections completed. To be considered a valid bid, the bid form pages and required forms must be returned, properly completed, as outlined in the General Conditions.

## 3.11 Insurance Requirements

Prior to execution of the contract by the City, the Contractor must obtain at their own cost and expense and keep in force and effect during the term of the contract including all extensions, the following insurance with an insurance company/companies licensed to do business in the State of Maryland evidenced by a certificate of insurance and/or copies of the insurance policies. The Contractor's insurance shall be primary.

The Contractor must electronically submit to the Procurement Division a certificate of insurance prior to the start of any work. In no event may the insurance coverage be less than shown below.

Unless otherwise described in this contract the successful contractor and subcontractors will be required to maintain for the life of the contract and to furnish the City evidence of insurance as follows:

	Type of Insurance	Amounts of Insurance	<b>Endorsements and Provisions</b>
1. 2.	Workers' Compensation Employers' Liability	Bodily Injury by Accident: \$100,000 each accident  Bodily Injury by Disease: \$500,000 policy limits  Bodily Injury by Disease: \$100,000 each employee	Waiver of Subrogation:  WC 00 03 13 Waiver of Our Rights to  Recover From Others Endorsement – signed and dated.
a. b. c. d. e. f. g.	Bodily Injury Property Damage Contractual Liability Premise/Operations Independent Contractors Products/Completed Operations Personal Injury	Each Occurrence: \$1,000,000	City to be listed as additional insured and provided 30 day notice of cancellation or material change in coverage.  CG 20 37 07 04 and CG 20 10 07 04 forms to be both signed and dated.
a. b. c.	All Owned Autos Hired Autos Non-Owned Autos	Combined Single Limit for Bodily Injury and Property Damage -  (each accident):  \$1,000,000	City to be listed as additional insured and provided 30 day notice of cancellation or material change in coverage.  Form CA20 48 02 99 form to be both signed and dated.

	Type of Insurance	Amounts of Insurance	Endorsements and Provisions
5.	Excess/Umbrella Liability	Each Occurrence/Aggregate: \$1,000,000	City to be listed as additional insured and provided 30 day notice of cancellation or material change in coverage.
6.	Professional Liability (if applicable)	Each Occurrence/Aggregate: \$1,000,000	

## 3.11.1 Policy Cancellation

No change, cancellation or non-renewal shall be made in any insurance coverage without thirty (30) days written notice to the City's Procurement Division. The Contractor shall electronically furnish a new certificate prior to any change or cancellation date. The failure of the Contractor to deliver a new and valid certificate will result in suspension of all payments and cessation of on-site work activities until a new certificate is furnished.

#### 3.11.2 Additional Insured

The Mayor and Council of Rockville, which includes its elected and appointed officials, officers, consultants, agents, and employees must be named as an additional insured on the Contractor's Commercial and Excess/Umbrella Insurance for liability arising out of contractor's products, goods, and services provided under the contract. Additionally, the Mayor and Council of Rockville must be named as additional insured on the Contractor's Automobile and General Liability Policies. Endorsements reflecting the Mayor and Council of Rockville as an additional insured are required to be submitted with the insurance certificate.

#### 3.11.3 Subcontractors

There shall be NO subcontracting or assignment of work delegation. No Exceptions will be accepted.

## 3.12 Cooperative Procurement

The Contractor may extend all of the terms, conditions, specifications, and unit or other prices of any award resulting from this solicitation to any and all other public bodies, subdivisions, school districts, community colleges, colleges, and universities. The City assumes no authority, liability or obligation, on behalf of any other public entity that may use any contract resulting from this solicitation.

#### 3.13 License and Support Agreements

In the event a bidder or manufacturer requires an agreement to be signed the agreement must be returned with the bid for review prior to any subsequent award. The City reserves the right to refuse consideration of an agreement and may hold the bidder to any agreement entered into as a result of a purchase order being issued as a result of this IFB without prior knowledge that the bidder and/or manufacturer will require an additional document, contract or agreement to be executed.

## SECTION IV: TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS/SCOPE OF WORK

## 4.1 PURPOSE

The purpose of this solicitation is to establish a contract for PLANT BED INSTALLATION AND MAINTENANCE from April through October each planting year in designated locations throughout the city.

All work shall be performed by a Contractor of established reputation who is regularly engaged in the performance of the specified work and who maintains and makes available for this purpose, a regular force of skilled employees and equipment.

Contractor shall supply all labor, equipment, supplies, materials, and tools necessary to complete all tasks, as detailed in these specifications.

## 4.2 LOCATIONS

The locations and approximate square footage of the plant beds to be serviced are listed in Section V.II – Bid Pricing Form (By Location).

## 4.3 SUBCONTRACTING

There shall be NO subcontracting or assignment of work delegation. No Exceptions will be accepted.

## 4.4 CONTRACTOR QUALIFICATIONS

Contractor shall be of established reputation with a minimum of five (5) consecutive years' experience in landscape installation and maintenance and regularly engaged in the performance of the specified work and makes available, for this purpose, a regular force of skilled workers.

Contractor shall perform all specified work using skilled, bonded, and licensed technicians; supervised and directly employed by the Contractor. Materials and equipment furnished by the Contractor shall conform in strength, quality of material, appearance, and workmanship to that which is usually provided by contractors in this trade.

Contractor shall be required to maintain an office staffed by company representatives during normal business hours, Monday through Friday 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Contractor shall have available at all times an email address and telephone number for 24 hour, 7 days a week, communication between the Contractor and the City's Contract Administrator.

In the event of an emergency, calls outside normal business hours (nights, weekends and holidays), the Contractor shall provide a contact name and telephone number, or provide the telephone number to a voice mail paging system or answering service. Messages left on voice mail or with an answering service must be responded to within 30 minutes after the call is placed.

Contractor shall assume full responsibility for any and all damages or claims for damage, for injury to persons, property, and equipment, which might result from any services performed under this contract.

Contractor must be licensed and bonded in the State of Maryland. All work shall be following applicable federal, state, local, EPA codes and regulations.

Contractor's date of incorporation/organization must be more than 5 years before the date of release of this Bid Document.

#### 4.5 REFERENCES

The Bidder shall provide five (5) current commercial business references (see Reference Form, Attachment C). Requirements for each reference is that Bidder must be primary contractor (no subcontracting), reference must be of comparable size and services in which similar services have been provided preferably to a local, county, state or federal government, a major housing development, college campus or business park.

The Bidder must be the primary contractor for each reference provided, no subcontracted work shall be considered as a reference for this IFB.

The Bidder shall have a well-established reputation with a minimum of five (5) consecutive years in providing services similar to services specified in this Invitation to Bid.

At least one reference must be for plant bed installation and maintenance.

#### 4.6 LICENSE REQUIREMENTS

The Contractor and technicians shall be licensed and bonded in the State of Maryland.

The Contractor must hold a Maryland Department of Agriculture Pesticide Business License and have Certification in Category 3A and 6. Contractor's employees working under this license must be registered with the Maryland Department of Agriculture if they are responsible for the application of any pesticides. Proof of Certification must be available on demand during the term of the contract.

The Contractor shall abide by all Maryland Department of Agriculture regulations.

The Contractor shall provide a copy of the above referenced licenses with the bid submittal. If awarded, the Contractor's licenses shall be maintained in a current status throughout the term of the contract.

#### 4.7 EMPLOYEES

The Contractor shall maintain a fully qualified work force and shall make available throughout the period of the contract enough employees to perform the required services within the hours indicated in the schedule and respond to more than one job at any given time should the need arise.

The Contractor's employees are to carry identification as prepared by the Contractor. Identification information will include the employee's full name, photograph, company name, address, telephone number and the employee's identification number.

At all times, the Contractor shall provide, on-site, a properly trained and experienced English-speaking supervisor.

Employees of the Contractor shall be in uniform and display a neat and clean appearance. All employees shall be pleasant and courteous to the public and City staff during all work.

# 4.8 ACCIDENT PREVENTION AND PROTECTION OF CITY PROPERTY AND OCCUPANTS

Safety precautions shall always be exercised for the protection of persons and property. All Contractors performing services under this contract shall conform to all relevant OSHA, State, County, and City regulations during such effort. Any fines levied by the above-mentioned authorities for failure to comply with these requirements shall be borne solely by the responsible Contractor. Barricades and/or signage shall be provided by the Contractor when work is performed in areas traversed by persons, or when deemed necessary by the Contract Administrator.

The Contractor shall be responsible for coordinating with the City of Rockville Police Department any traffic control measures. The Contractor shall be solely responsible for pedestrian and vehicular safety and control within the workday, and shall provide all necessary warning devices, barricades, and ground personnel needed to give safety, protection, and warning to all persons and vehicles in the work area. Blocking of public streets shall not be permitted without written consent of the City Police Department.

The Contractor must comply with all Maryland State Highway Safety Regulations (Work Zone Traffic Control – Standards & Guidelines) concerning traffic flow. The Contractor will be held liable for all accidents or injuries resulting from negligence on the part of the Contractor, his agents, or employees.

While working on State, County, or City roadways, the area must be posted with warning signs and employees must always wear ANSI Class II fluorescent yellow green safety vests.

## 4.9 SAFETY AND CLEANLINESS

The Contractor shall provide for a neat, clean, and safe environment at all times during all work. Vehicles and all other equipment utilized on the contract must be in proper working order and present a neat, clean appearance.

Any fluid spills or spoils generated from equipment operations or maintenance are the sole responsibility of the contractor and must be handled according to all applicable regulations. All spills shall be cleaned up and damage repaired at the cost of the contractor.

Whenever the Contractor leaves a location, that location shall be clean, safe, and free of any equipment and other materials related the work.

The Contractor shall be responsible for initiating, maintaining, and supervising all safety precautions with the work. The Contractor shall take all reasonable protection to prevent damage, injury, or loss to:

All employees on the job and any other persons who may be affected thereby.

All work and all materials

Other property at the site or adjacent thereto.

The Contractor shall give all notices and comply with all applicable laws, ordinance, rules, regulations, and orders of any public authority bearing on safety of persons and property and their protection from damage, injury, or loss. The Contractor shall notify the Contract Administrator and promptly remedy all damage or loss to property caused in whole or in part by the Contractor.

The Contractor shall assume full responsibility for any and all damages or claims for damage, for injury to persons, property, and equipment, which might result from any services performed under this contract.

It is the responsibility of the Contractor to bring all hazardous situations to the immediate attention of the Contract Administrator.

## 4.10 DEFICIENCIES IN WORK

The Contractor shall promptly correct all apparent and latent deficiencies and/or defects in work, and/or any work that fails to conform to the contract documents regardless of project completion status. All corrections shall be made within two (2) calendar days after such rejected defects, deficiencies, and/or non-conformances are verbally reported to the vendor by the Contract Administrator. The Contractor shall bear all costs of correcting such rejected work. If the Contractor fails to correct the work within the period specified the City may, at its discretion, notify the Contractor, in writing, that the Contractor is subject to contractual default provisions if the corrections are not completed to the satisfaction of the City within three (3) calendar days of receipt of the notice. If the Contractor fails to correct the work within the period specified in the notice, the City shall place the Contractor in default, obtain the services of another vendor to correct the deficiencies, and charge the Contractor for these costs, either through a deduction from the final payment owed to the Contractor or through invoicing. If the Contractor fails to honor this invoice or credit memo, the City may terminate the contract for default.

## 4.11 EXISTING UTILITIES

If required for any service work or repairs, the Contractor shall be responsible for locating all existing underground utilities in the work area and if in conflict with the proposed scope of work, seek acceptable modifications after consultation with the Contract Administrator.

## 4.12 WORK SCHEDULE

All scheduled services will be performed between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except for contract holidays. The Contractor must obey all noise ordinance regulations as required by County, City, or Municipal jurisdictions. Contract holidays are as follows:

New Year's Day Martin Luther King's Birthday President's Day
Memorial Day Juneteenth Independence Day
Labor Day Veterans' Day Thanksgiving Day
Thanksgiving Friday Christmas Day

No holiday or overtime work is authorized without prior approval of the Contract Administrator.

## 4.13 LABOR, MATERIALS AND EQUIPMENT

Contractor shall furnish all labor, material, and equipment necessary for satisfactory contract performance for plant bed installation and maintenance. When not specifically identified in the technical specifications, such materials shall be of a suitable type and grade for the purpose.

Contractor's equipment shall be of commercial quality, size, and type suitable for the tasks specified in this contract. All equipment and vehicles shall be kept and maintained in safe, optimum operation condition without leaking fuel or fluids. All Contractor vehicles used in the execution of this contract shall have the company and and/or logo prominently displays on both sides of the

vehicle and be clean, maintained and painted to present a neat, professional appearance. In addition, all vehicles and equipment shall meet all current local, state and federal safety requirements.

Contractor shall own a water truck or apparatus with a minimum capacity of 500 gallons.

The City reserves the right to inspect the contractor's material, workmanship, and equipment at any time and to perform such investigations as may be deemed necessary.

## 4.14 MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEETS

By law, the City of Rockville will not receive any materials, products, or chemicals, which may be hazardous to an employee's health unless accompanied by a Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) when received.

Maryland's Access to Information About Hazardous and Toxic Substances Law (The Right-To-Know Law) requires the City to maintain and distribute Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) for all hazardous materials used in City facilities. To meet this requirement, all products used as a result of this Invitation for Bid in which hazardous materials are present, require a current MSDS published by the respective manufacturer for the specific formulation of the product shipped. MSDS shall be sent to the Contract Administrator prior to the use of materials at City facilities. The City reserves the right to require a MSDS for any product.

## 4.15 STORAGE

No materials or equipment belonging to the Contractor shall be stored at any of the City facilities or on City property.

#### **4.16 PAYMENT**

Contractor shall submit an invoice at the end of each month for services provided. Payment shall not be made for any work or material in any given delivery or shipment until the material has been properly accounted for, both as to quantity and compliance with the specifications, and accepted by the Contract Administrator. All warranties shall be provided to the City prior to payment.

The detailed invoice, with the Purchase Order number referenced, shall be directed to:

City of Rockville, Department of Recreation and Parks
Attn: Alexandra Kramer – Parks and Facilities Administrative Manager
14625 Rothgeb Drive
Rockville, Maryland 20850
<a href="mailto:akramer@rockvillemd.gov">akramer@rockvillemd.gov</a>

## 4.17 ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS

The City reserves the right to increase or decrease the number of plant bed locations and plant bed material to be serviced.

While the City has listed all major services on the bid solicitation there may be ancillary services that may be purchased by the City during the term of this contract. Under these circumstances, the Contract Administrator will contact the Contractor to obtain a price quote for the ancillary services.

## 4.18 CONTRACT ADMINISTRATORS

Questions regarding the contract after award shall be referred to the Contract Administrators:

## **Primary:**

Rob Orndorff, City Horticulturist 14625 Rothgeb Drive Rockville, Maryland 20850 Telephone: 240-314-8707

Email: orndorff@rockvillemd.gov

#### Alternate:

Jessica Corazza, Parks Maintenance Specialist 14625 Rothgeb Drive Rockville, Maryland 20850 Telephone: 240-314-8706

Email: jcorazza@rockvillemd.gov

## 4.19 SCOPE OF WORK FOR PLANT BED INSTALLATION AND MAINTENANCE

The City seeks an experienced and knowledgeable landscape firm that will furnish all labor, materials, and tools to provide the installation of various plant material and maintenance of annual and shrub beds located throughout the City beginning April 1 through October 31 each contract year. Annual installation shall be completed within 3 weeks of plants arriving at Rothgeb facility or by May 22 of each contract year.

Contractor shall, prepare annual beds by removing spring flowering bulbs (where applicable), remove and properly dispose of debris including rocks, till, fertilize, plant annuals, apply a pre-emergent weed control, mulch, and water at all locations.

Contractor shall provide a weed free and trash free condition at the designated sites through weekly site visits. All work shall be performed to provide a neat, clean, well-maintained plant bed performed in a professional manner.

All work shall follow standard horticultural practices to provide complete and satisfactory services as detailed in these specifications.

#### 4.20 PLANT MATERIAL

Plant material shall be provided by the City and shall be in four-inch (4"), four and half inch (4- $\frac{1}{2}$ ") or six-inch (6") containers depending on type of plant material.

Contractor will be contacted by the Contract Administrator when the plant material is ready for pick up from the City. Contractor shall be responsible for picking up the plant material within (48) hours after notification. Pick up location will be the City's Stockroom, 14625 Rothgeb Drive, Rockville, MD 20850.

Following the issuing of plant material to the Contractor, it shall be the Contractor's responsibility to ensure the survival and good health of all plants until the completion of the installation of all beds. The Contractor, at the Contractor's expense, shall replace any dead, dying, or damaged plants.

## 4.21 ANNUAL BED PREPARATION AND INSTALLATION

Contract Administrator will provide Contractor bed designs and supervise layouts for each annual bed.

One-week prior to the start of installation, the Contract Administrator will tour the bed locations with the Contractor for final review before work begins.

Within a week's notification by the Contract Administrator, the Contractor shall remove, and properly dispose of all flowering bulbs, turf, thatch, large stones, weed, debris and foreign objects from within the existing beds.

Prior to planting and fertilizing, soil shall be loosened to a depth of four to six inch (4" - 6") by rototilling or with hand tools.

During planting, an application of a controlled release fertilizer, which provides a minimum fourmonth feeding with ratio of 1:1:1 (example: Osmocote 14-14-14), shall be broadcast over the bed, at the recommended rate of 3 lbs. of nitrogen per 1000 square feet, before tilling. Fertilizer is to be supplied by Contractor, at Contractors cost, upon approval by the Contract Administrator. The fertilizer MSDS sheets shall be provided to the Contract Administrator prior to application.

Four to four and half inch  $(4"-4\frac{1}{2}")$  plant material will be installed on twelve-inch (12") centers so that the roots of the plants are surrounded by soil unless directed otherwise. Six-inch (6") plant material will be installed on two to three-foot (2-3') centers so that the roots of the plants are surrounded by soil unless directed otherwise.

## 4.22 PLANT BED MAINTENANCE

Contractor shall provide all material and labor to maintain annual, perennial and shrub beds in a weed free and trash free condition during the growing season (April 1 to October 1).

Weed control shall consist of a combination of practices that may include but is not limited to mechanical methods and the applications of pre-emergent, post-emergent, and selective herbicides.

All pre-emergent, post-emergent, or selective herbicides/pesticides are to be supplied by the Contractor, at the Contractors cost, upon pre-approval by the Contract Administrator. Contractor shall supply material safety data sheets (MSDS) of the approved products to the Contract Administrator prior to application.

Plant material damaged by misuse or drift after application, as well as mechanical damage, shall be replaced at the Contractor's expense.

All trash must be removed from the plant beds and disposed of properly at the Contractor's expense.

## 4.23 APPLICATION POSTING

Contractor must follow Maryland Department of Agriculture rules and regulations for the chemical applications such as pesticides, herbicides and emergent. Upon completion of all chemical applications the proper signage must be posted.

#### 4.24 WATERING REQUIREMENTS AND EQUIPMENT

All plant material shall be watered thoroughly at the time of installation. Watering shall be repeated, every seven days, unless there has been a minimum .5 inch of rainfall during each seven-day period until June 30.

Water is to be provided by the Contractor. Contractor shall own a water truck or apparatus with a minimum capacity of 500 gallons.

Contractor shall, during prolonged dry periods, water all annual beds, within 48 hours as requested by the Contract Administrator. All beds shall be watered at a rate of 1 cubic inch per square foot.

## 4.25 UNIT PRICES

The unit prices shall include all costs, labor, general and administrative overhead, Contractor's taxes, materials, insurance, and equipment normal, and utilized by Contractors for this service.

# 4.26 OPTIONAL SERVICES – ANNUAL REMOVAL AND FLOWERING BULB INSTALLATION

The City of Rockville is requesting pricing for the optional service of annual removal and installation in various plant beds.

This is not a guarantee that service will be requested, nor is it a factor in the final award of this IFB.

If requested, beginning November 1, contractor shall removal all annuals from designated locations. Annual removal includes removing all annuals (where applicable), remove and dispose of debris including rocks, and rake smooth to even appearance.

If requested spring flowering bulb installation shall be completed by December 1 of each year. The City shall provide all the flowering bulbs for installation by Contractor. Spring flowering bulbs shall be planted at a depth of eight (8) inches and spaced six (6) inches for tulips and twelve inches for daffodils and hyacinths. Upon completion of the bulb planting the entire bed shall be mulched to a depth of two (2) inches.

Contract Administrator will provide Contractor bed designs and supervise layouts for each bed.

Within a week's notification by the Contract Administrator, the Contractor shall remove, and properly dispose of, all summer annuals, large stones, weeds, debris and foreign objects from within the existing beds.

The Contract Administrator requests pricing of this service as an option only. If the optional service is requested, pricing submitted on the bid pricing form will be held firm.

## **SECTION V.I: BID PRICING FORM**

THIS FORM MUST BE COMPLETED AND INCLUDED WITH THE BID SUBMITTAL. FAILURE TO SUBMIT THIS FORM SHALL DEEM THE BIDDER NON-RESPONSIVE.

IN ACCORDANCE WITH ALL TERMS, SPECIFICATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS, WE PROPOSE TO FURNISH ALL LABOR, EQUIPMENT, MATERIALS AND SERVICES AND THE PERFORMANCE OF ALL WORK NECESSARY FOR FURNISH AND DELIVER FLOWERING ANNUALS SERVICES. PROVIDE PRICING BELOW TO INCLUDE OVERHEAD, PROFIT, TAXES, INSURANCE AND OTHER APPLICABLE FEES AND COSTS. ALTERATIONS TO THIS FORM OR BID ALTERNATES (UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFIED) ARE NOT ACCEPTABLE. LINE ITEMS LEFT BLANK OR MARKED "\$0" SHALL DEEM THIS BID NON-RESPONSIVE.

LOCATIONS TOTAL (FILL OUT SECTION V.II TO CALCULATE)		
<u>Item #</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Price</u>
1	TOTAL ANNUAL INSTALLATION	\$
2	TOTAL MONTHLY PLANT BED MAINTENANCE	\$
PRICE TOTAL A (Freight/Shipping Costs included)  \$		

## **ADDITIONAL SERVICES**

The following services shall be requested, by the Contractor Administrator, for locations not listed in Section V.II. The quantities listed below are an estimated amount, and not a guaranteed amount.

<u>Description</u>	<u>Unit Price</u>	Est. Annual QTY	<u>Price</u>
Additional Bed Preparation	\$/ 100 SQ FT	X 5,000 SQ FT	\$
Additional Weeding	\$/ 100 SQ FT	X 5,000 SQ FT	\$
Additional Watering	\$/ 100 SQ FT	X 5,000 SQ FT	\$
PRICE TOTAL B (Freight/Shipping Costs included)			\$

GRAND TOTAL (GRAND TOTAL = PRICE TOTAL A + PRICE TOTAL B)	<b>\$</b>
GRAND TOTAL IN WORDS	

OPTIONAL SERVICES  The following services, if requested by the Contractor Administrator, will be provided on an as needed basis. (These Prices ARE NOT part of the Award Evaluation).		
Description	Unit Price	
Annual Removal	\$/ 100 SQ FT	
Plant Flowering bulbs	\$/ 100 SQ FT	
provided below. Unless noted as component or standard called for.  The City Manager for the City of exception taken to the specificatio	cations contained in this document must be clearly indicated in the space of an exception, the bidder will be held responsible for providing each Rockville, Maryland retains the exclusive right to approve or reject arons contained in this bid. It is hereby agreed that if this bid is rejected duration by the bidder, the rejection taken will be final and no further action	
Do you claim an exception	to any specification to this bid? If yes, please explai	
RIDDER NAME	RETURN THIS PAGE WITH BID	

## **SECTION V.II: LOCATION PRICING FORM**

- AN EXCEL SPREADSHEET IS ATTACHED TO THIS SOLICITATION,

  TITLED:
  LOCATION PRICING FORM IFB 04-24 Plant Bed Installation & Maintenance
- PLEASE SUBMIT THE EXCEL SPREADSHEET ELECTRONICALLY ALONG WITH YOUR BID.
- PLEASE FILL OUT THE SPREADSHEET TO CALCULATE THE LOCATION TOTALS.

## **REQUIRED FORMS**

ATTACHMENT A – AFFIDAVIT FORM

ATTACHMENT B – CONTRACTOR'S INFORMATION REPORT/REFERENCES

ATTACHMENT C – BIDDER REFERENCE FORM

## PLANT BED INSTALLATION & MAINTENANCE

ATTACHMENT A – AFFIDAVIT FORM		
I hereby affirm that: I am the	and the duly authorized representative of the firm of	
and that I possess the legal authority to make this affidav I further affirm:	ess is vit on behalf of myself and the firm for which I am acting.	
	OF QUALIFICATION TO WITH A PUBLIC BODY	
stockholders, officers, directors, or partners, performing governmental entity in the state, including any bi-county  A. been convicted under the laws of the State of Ma (1) bribery, attempted bribery, or conspiracy to b (2) a criminal offense incident to obtaining, atten (3) fraud, embezzlement, theft, forgery, falsificat (4) a criminal violation of an anti-trust statute. (5) a violation of the Racketeer Influenced and County the submission of bids or proposals for a public (6) a violation of Section 14-308 of the State Final (7) conspiracy to commit any of the foregoing.  B. pled nolo contendere to, or received probation be paragraph.  C. been found civilly liable under an anti-trust statute omissions in connection with the submission of be D. during the course of an official investigation or	aryland, any other state, or the United States of any of the following: ribe.  Inputing to obtain, or performing a public or private contract.  Inputing to obtain, or performing a public or private contract.  Input Organization of records, or receiving stolen property.  Input Organization act, or the Mail Fraud Act, for acts in connection with or private contract.  In ance and Procurement Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland.  In the of the State of Maryland, another state, or the United States for acts of the State of Maryland, another state, or the United States for acts of the State of Maryland, another state, or the United States for acts of the State of Maryland, another state, or the United States for acts of the State of Maryland, another state, or the United States for acts of the State of Maryland, another state, or the United States for acts of the State of Maryland, another state, or the United States for acts of the State of Maryland, another state, or the United States for acts of the States for acts of the States for acts of the States of the States for acts of the St	
	ction, plea or admission as described in Paragraph 1 above, with the date, volved and their position with the firm, and the sentence or disposition, if	
3. I further affirm that neither I nor the above firm Rockville under which a person or business debarred or Finance and Procurement Article of the Annotated Coarchitectural services, construction related services, lease I acknowledge that this Affidavit is to be furnished to the Board of Public Works and to the Attorney General. I provisions of Title 16 of the State Finance and Procurement who have engaged in certain prohibited activity may be into contracts with the Mayor and Council of Rockville.	m shall knowingly enter into a contract with the Mayor and Council of suspended from contracting with a public body under Title 16 of the State ode of Maryland, will provide, directly or indirectly, supplies, services as of real property, or construction. The Mayor and Council of Rockville and, where appropriate, to the State acknowledge that I am executing this Affidavit in compliance with the ent Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland which provides that persons a disqualified, either by operation in law or after a hearing, from entering I further acknowledge that if the representations set forth in this Affidavit wille may terminate any contract awarded and take any other appropriate	
	LLUSION AFFIDAVIT	
such bid;  2. Such bid is genuine and is not a collusive or shan  3. Neither the said bidder nor any of its officers, p including this affiant, has in any way colluded, conspired person to submit a collusive or sham bid in connection w from bidding in connection with Contract, or has in a communication or conference with any other bidder, fir	I contents of the attached bid and of all pertinent circumstances respecting in bid artners, owners, agents, representatives, employees or parties in interest. d., connived or agreed, directly or indirectly with any other bidder, firm or ith the Contract for which the attached bid has been submitted or to refrain my manner, directly or indirectly, sought by agreement or collusion or more person to fix the price or prices in the attached bid or of any other the bid price or the bid price of any other bidder, or to secure through any	
collusion, conspiracy, connivance or unlawful agreement (Local Public Agency) or any person interested in the production of the price or prices quoted in the attached bid are for unlawful agreement on the part of the bidder or any	nt any advantage against the Mayor and Council of Rockville, Maryland	
Signature and Title	Date	

## ATTACHMENT B – CONTRACTOR'S INFORMATION REPORT/REFERENCES

In order to be considered for award the Bidder must complete in its entirety and submit with the bid. The bidder must answer all questions. If a question does not pertain to the bidder's organization in any way, indicate that fact with the symbol N/A. If additional space is required, attach continuation sheets and clearly indicate the question being answered. The City reserves the right to verify any information contained within this report and to request additional information or clarification.

The City may make such investigation, as it deems necessary to determine the ability of the Bidder to furnish the services. The City reserves the right to reject any bid if the evidence submitted by or investigation of such bidder, including past performance with the City of Rockville, fails to satisfy the City that such bidder is properly qualified to carry out the obligations of the contract and deliver the services herein.

Subn	nitted by:
Nam	e of Firm:
1.	How many years has your organization been business under your present business name (date of incorporation/organization)?
2.	How many years has your present organization been actively engaged in the type of work to be performed under this contract?
3.	If a corporation, answer the following:  Date of incorporation  State of incorporation  President's name:  Vice-president(s) name:  Secretary's name:  Treasurer's name:
	If an individual or a partnership, answer the following:  Date of organization:
4.	Name and address of all partners (State whether general or limited partnership)
5.	List states and categories in which your organization is legally qualified to do business. Indicate registration or license numbers, if applicable. List states in which partnership or trade name is filed.
	RETURN THIS PAGE WITH BID
BIDI	DER NAME

## ATTACHMENT C - BIDDER REFERENCE FORM

The City of Rockville reserves the right to reject bids from any company not meeting the minimum qualifications. The Bidder shall be a competent and experienced contractor with an established reputation within the community performing the type of work required for this contract. The bidder shall have performed similar work for a minimum period of five (5) years. Indicate below a listing of three recent projects completed by your firm that can substantiate past work performance and experience in the type of work required for this contract. The City may make such investigations as it deems necessary to determine the ability of the bidder to perform the work, and the bidder shall furnish to the City all such information and data for this purpose as the City may request.

1. Company Name				
Bidder was Primary Contractor? (Y/N)				
Address:				
C / P				
Contact Person:	Current phone #			
Current Email:	NT 0 1 1			
Contract Amount:	Name of project supervisor:			
Contract Term:		<del></del>		
Project Description:				
2. Company Name				
Bidder was Primary Contractor? (Y/N)				
Address:				
Contact Person:	Current phone #			
Current Email:				
Contract Amount:	Name of project supervisor:			
Contract Term:				
Project Description:		-		
3. Company Name				
Bidder was Primary Contractor? (Y/N)				
Address:				
Contact Person:	Current phone #			
Current Email:				
Contract Amount:	Name of project supervisor:			
Contract Term:				
Project Description:				

# ATTACHMENT C CITY OF ROCKVILLE BIDDER REFERENCE FORM (CONTINUED)

4. Company Name						
<b>Bidder was Primary Contractor? (Y.</b>						
Address:						
Contact Person:	Current phone #					
Current Email:						
Contract Amount:	Name of project supervisor:					
Contract Term:						
Project Description:						
	<del></del>					
5 Company Name						
Ridder was Primary Contractor? (V	/N)					
riddi ess.						
Contact Person:	Current phone #					
Current Email:						
Contract Amount:	Name of project supervisor:					
Contract Term:						
Project Description:						
RETURN THIS PAGE WITH BID						
BIDDER NAME						