REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL NO. P-266

CONSULTING SERVICES, BIRTH OUTCOMES INITIATIVE

Due Date: 8/14/20, Time: 3:15 PM

bid@baltimorecountymd.gov

AMBER BUTCHER, STAFF BUYER
PHONE: 410-887-3887
EMAIL: abutcher@baltimorecountymd.gov

Amendments to solicitations often occur prior to bid opening and sometimes within as little as 48 hours prior to bid opening. It is the potential vendor’s responsibility to frequently visit the Purchasing web site (www.baltimorecountymd.gov/purchasing) to obtain amendments once they have downloaded a solicitation.

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<th>BIDDER CHECK LIST</th>
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<td>Have you signed your bid?</td>
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<td>Have you signed the Procurement Affidavit?</td>
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<td>Have you filled out all applicable forms?</td>
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<td>Have you returned the original? (and required duplicate copies when required?)</td>
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<td>Have you signed and returned amendments?</td>
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<td>Have you included the bid bond, if required?</td>
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<td>Have you completed, signed and included all required MBE/WBE forms and documents? (if applicable)</td>
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1. Instructions, Forms and Specifications

1.1 All bids/proposals are to be submitted on and in accordance with the forms provided by the Purchasing Division. All bids must be submitted in a sealed envelope/carton or electronically as specified in the General Conditions. All bids must be clearly identified with the SOLICITATION NUMBER and the DUE DATE and TIME for mailed and/or hand-delivered submittals and SOLICITATION NUMBER for electronic submittals. Bid times are either Eastern Standard Time or Eastern Daylight Time, whichever prevails. Late bids will not be considered.

1.2 Responses to Requests for Bids and Requests for Proposals shall be accompanied by an executed Procurement Affidavit, as provided by the Purchasing Division. This does not apply to Requests for Quotations.

1.3 Amendments to solicitations often occur prior to bid opening and sometimes within hours prior to bid opening. All bidders are responsible for frequently visiting the Purchasing web site to obtain amendments once they have downloaded a solicitation.

1.4 Additional information or clarification of any of the instructions or information contained herein may be obtained from the Purchasing Division. The County assumes no responsibility for oral instructions or suggestions. All official correspondence in regard to this solicitation must be directed to, and will be issued by, the Purchasing Division.

1.5 Bidders finding any discrepancy in or omission from the specifications, in doubt as to meaning, or asserting that the specifications are discriminatory, shall notify the Purchasing Division in writing at once, but in no case later than five (5) business days prior to the scheduled opening of bids. Exceptions stated do not obligate the County to change the specifications. The Purchasing Division will notify all bidders in writing, by amendment duly issued, of any substantive revisions to specifications or instructions.

1.6 Unless a written exception detailing non-conformance to specifications is noted on the bid, any part number, product number, catalog number, etc., noted on the bid will be considered in full compliance with the specifications.

1.7 Submission of a bid in response to this solicitation evidences the bidder’s acceptance of these General Instructions and the terms and conditions of the solicitation. Submission of a bid evidences bidder’s representation and warranty that the person submitting the bid response is authorized to act for and bind the contractor.

1.8 All original and duplicate bids/proposals and other attachments, related documents and correspondence, including all follow-up documents and correspondence, shall be typed or written in English. All prices/percentages and/or other monetary figures shall be in United States dollars.

1.9 Requests for Bids and Requests for Proposals should be accompanied by an electronic version (Compact Disc) of the bid proposal in PDF format. It shall be the bidder’s responsibility to verify that the electronic version is complete. The electronic version of the non-successful proposal response will be the only version retained by Baltimore County. The Compact Disc must be labeled with the bid number, the bid title, and the bidder’s name submitting the response. All bids must be submitted in a sealed envelope or carton as appropriate. This does not apply to Requests for Quotation.

1.10 Issuing Officer: The sole point of contact for the County for purposes of this solicitation is the Buyer, listed on the cover page; questions regarding any aspect of the competitive process must be directed to the Buyer, in writing.

2. Award of Solicitations

2.1 Any award pursuant to Requests for Quotation and Requests for Bid is made to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder following the public opening of bids under Section 10-2-406 of the Baltimore County Code, 2003, as amended.

2.2 Awards on Requests for Quotations and Requests for Bid will be made within sixty (60) days after bid opening unless otherwise indicated in this solicitation. No bidder will be allowed to withdraw a bid during that period.

2.3 The successful bidder may be required to give security or bond, as stated in the bid document, for performance of the contract.

2.4 When there is a conflict between the unit price or percentage and the extension, the unit price or percentage will prevail as the amount of the bid.

2.5 Cash discounts will be considered in determining awards. However, cash discount offers must allow not less than 30 days to be considered in bid evaluation. A bid offering a cash discount in a period of less than 30 days will be evaluated as a bid without a discount offer; however, should that bidder obtain award by consideration of the gross price, the County shall
make every effort to obtain the discount. The County will not accept any payment terms with a period of less than 30 days.

2.6 Invoices against resulting order(s) must be submitted, in duplicate, to the Office of Budget and Finance, Disbursements Section, 400 Washington Avenue, Room 148, Towson, Maryland 21204-4665. Invoices must show the vendor’s Federal Tax Identification Number or Social Security Number, as appropriate, and order number and line number(s) that correspond with resulting order(s).

2.7 The County will not pay interest charges or other penalties for invoice payments.

2.8 Prices quoted shall be exclusive of all non-applicable Federal and Maryland State taxes. Tax exemption certificate will be furnished if required.

2.9 The County reserves the right to consider making payments via electronic funds transfers (EFT) on contracts for which this payment vehicle may be appropriate.

3. Reservations

3.1 The County reserves the right to reject, in whole or in part, any and all bids received, and to make a whole award, multiple awards, a partial award, or no award, to best serve the public interest.

3.2 The County may waive formalities in bids as the interests of the County may require.

3.3 The County reserves the right to increase or decrease quantities by approximately twenty (20) percent to be purchased at the prices bid.

3.4 The County reserves the right to award solicitations or place orders on a lump sum or individual item basis, or in such combination as to best serve the public interest.

3.5 The County may waive minor differences, irregularities, and technicalities in the specifications, provided they neither violate the specifications intent, materially affect the operation for which the items or services are being purchased, nor increase estimated maintenance and repair costs to the County.

3.6 At any time during normal business hours and as often as the County may deem necessary, the Contractor shall make available to and permit inspection and photocopying, by the County, its employees or agents, of all records, information and documentation of the Contractor related to the subject matter of this contract, including, but not limited to, all contracts, invoices, payroll, and financial audits.

3.7 Notwithstanding any other terms or provisions of the contract, in the event the County is temporarily or permanently prevented, restricted or delayed in the performance of any or all of the duties and obligations imposed upon or assumed by it thereunder, by act of the General Assembly of Maryland or the Baltimore County Council, by a court of competent jurisdiction or by administrative delay not due to the fault of the County (and its members and agents) shall not be liable directly or indirectly for any claims caused to or suffered by the Contractor or any other person in connection with or as a result of such prevention, restriction or delay.

3.8 The County further reserves the right to make such investigation as it deems necessary to determine the ability of bidders to furnish the required services, and bidders shall furnish all such information for this purpose as the County may request. The County also reserves the right to reject the proposal of any bidder who is not currently in a position to perform the contract, or who has previously failed to perform similar contracts properly, or in a manner acceptable to the County, all of which shall be in the County’s sole discretion.

4. Delivery

4.1 Bidders shall guarantee delivery of materials in accordance with the delivery schedule stated in specifications. All items shall be delivered F.O.B. Destination/Inside Delivery, unless otherwise indicated, with delivery costs and charges included in the bid price.

4.2 The County reserves the right to charge the Contractor or vendor for each day the materials, supplies, or services are not delivered in accordance with the delivery schedule. The sum established by the specifications may be invoked at the discretion of the Purchasing Agent, said sum to be considered not as a penalty, but as liquidated damages, and deducted from final payment, or otherwise, charged to the Contractor or vendor. This remedy is not exclusive but shall be in addition to all other rights and remedies available to the County. These liquidated damages shall be in addition to any and all actual damages incurred directly or indirectly by the County, its agents, assigns, and contractors.

4.3 All bidders and vendors are to ensure that packaging materials used for this requirement are not made of non-recyclable Styrofoam (Polystyrene). Additionally, any materials used in packing to cushion, protect and ship are to be made of recycled, recyclable or biodegradable materials.
5. Competition

5.1 The name of any manufacturer, trade name, or vendor catalog number mentioned in the specifications is for the purpose of designating a standard of quality and type, and for no other purpose unless otherwise stated in the solicitation.

5.2 A bidder may offer a price on only one unit per line item. Even though two or more units may meet the specification, bidders must determine for themselves which to offer. Submission by a bidder of prices for more than one unit shall be sufficient cause for rejection of the bid for that specific item.

5.3 Bids which show omission, irregularity, alteration of forms or additions not called for, as well as conditional or unconditional unresponsive bids, or bids obviously unbalanced, may be rejected.

5.4 All bids must be accompanied by such descriptive literature as may be called for by the specifications or proposal.

5.5 If products to be provided to the County contain any substances that could be hazardous or injurious to a person's health, a material safety data sheet (MSDS) must be provided to the Purchasing Division. This applies also to any product used by a Contractor when providing a service to the County.

5.6 Specifications are based on County needs and uses, estimated costs of operations and maintenance, and other significant and/or limiting factors to meet County requirements, and to ensure consistency with County policies. Minimum specifications, and maximum specifications where included, are not established arbitrarily to limit competition or to exclude otherwise competitive bidders.

5.7 Unless multiple or alternate bids are requested in the solicitation, these bids may not be accepted. However, if a bidder clearly indicates a base bid, it shall be considered for award as though it were the only bid submitted by the bidder.

6. Terminations

6.1 Termination for Convenience: The County may terminate a contract, in whole or in part, without cause, by providing written notice thereof to the Contractor. In the event of termination, without cause, the County shall advise the Contractor in writing of the termination date and of work to be performed during the final days prior to contract termination. The Contractor shall be paid for all reasonable costs incurred by the Contractor up to the date of termination set forth in the written notice of termination. The Contractor will not be reimbursed for any anticipatory profits, which have not been earned up to the date of termination. Payments to be provided on a lump sum basis shall be prorated by the County based on the services rendered or goods delivered up to the date of termination set forth in the written notice.

6.2 Termination for Default:

6.2.1 In addition to other available rights and remedies, the County shall have the right upon the happening of any default, without providing notice to the Contractor: 1) To terminate a contract immediately, in whole or in part; 2) To suspend the contractor’s authority to receive any undisbursed funds; and/or 3) To proceed at any time or from time to time to protect and enforce all rights and remedies available to the County, by suit or any other appropriate proceedings, whether for specific performance or any covenant, term or condition set forth in the contract, or for damages or other relief, or proceed to take any action authorized or permitted under applicable law or regulations.

6.2.2 Upon termination of a contract for default, the County may elect to pay the Contractor for services provided or goods delivered up to the date of termination, less the amount of damages caused by the default, all as determined by the County in its sole discretion. If the damages exceed the undisbursed sums available for compensation, the County shall not be obligated to make any further disbursements hereunder.

6.3 Funding Out: If funds are not appropriated or otherwise made available to support contract continuation in any fiscal year, the County shall have the right to terminate the contract without prior notice to the Contractor and without any obligation or penalty.

7. Hold Harmless – Indemnification

7.1 The Contractor shall defend, indemnify and hold harmless the County, its employees, agents and officials from any and all liabilities, claims, suits, or demands including attorney’s fees and court costs which may be incurred or made against the County, its employees, agents or officials resulting from any act or omission committed in the performance of the duties imposed by and performed under the terms of the contract. The Contractor shall not be responsible for acts of gross negligence or willful misconduct committed by the County.

7.2 The Contractor shall also defend, indemnify and hold harmless the County, its employees, agents and officials from any and all liabilities, claims, suits, or demands including attorney’s fees and court costs which may be made against the County, its
employees, agents or officials by any third party arising from the alleged violation of any third party’s trade secrets, proprietary information, trademark, copyright, patent rights, or intellectual property rights in connection with the contract.

7.3 Unless notified in writing by the County to the contrary, the Contractor shall provide defense for the County, its employees, agents and officials in accordance with this Article and in doing so the Contractor shall allow the County to participate in said defense of the County, its employees, agents and officials, to the extent and as may be required by the County and the Contractor shall cooperate with the County in all aspects in connection therewith. All filings, actions, settlements, and pleadings shall be provided to the County for comment and review prior to filing or entering thereof. No filing, action, settlement or pleading shall be filed or entered without the prior consent and approval of the County.

8. Minority/Women’s Business Enterprise (MBE/WBE) and Small Business Notice: Baltimore County is seeking Minority, Woman and Small Businesses to bid on current solicitations as a prime or subcontractor. In accordance with the Executive Order 2017-003 dated July 27, 2017, “an overall goal of 15% of the cumulative total of all discretionary dollars spent in a fiscal year of County procurements is to be awarded to and/or performed by MBE and WBE firms.” Refer to the section entitled Minority Business Enterprise and Women Business Enterprise Requirements (MBE/WBE) for the current required goal. MBE/WBE’s and Small Businesses are encouraged to respond to this solicitation.

9. Authority

9.1 In case of disputes as to whether an item or service quoted or delivered meets specifications, the decision of the Purchasing Agent or authorized representative shall be final and binding on both parties. The Purchasing Agent may request the recommendation in writing of the head of the using agency, the Standards and Specifications Committee, or other objective sources.

9.2 Bidders desiring to appeal a decision of the Purchasing Division must deliver written protests to the Purchasing Division within 10 days of notification of award. The Purchasing Agent or designee will review the protested decision, examine any additional information provided by the bidder and respond in writing within 10 working days of receipt of written protests.

9.3 Instructions, Specifications, and Proposals are issued, and all bids, quotations, orders, and purchases are made pursuant and subject to the provisions of the Baltimore County Charter, and Article 10, Title 2 of the Baltimore County Code, 2003, as amended, and regulations and policies established or prescribed by the Purchasing Division.

10. HIPAA: The Contractor shall comply with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) and shall execute a Business Associate Agreement as may be required by the County.

11. Reports: When required, reports prepared for Baltimore County should be printed on recycled and recyclable paper printed on both sides per Section 10-2-312 of the Baltimore County Code, 2003, as amended.

12. Terms of Contract

12.1 Any contract awarded pursuant to this solicitation shall be by and between the successful bidder and the County, and shall contain and incorporate, but may not be limited to, all terms and conditions of the solicitation, any amendments or changes thereto. Submission of a bid in response to this solicitation evidences the Contractor’s acceptance of the terms and conditions therein.

12.2 The provisions of the contract awarded pursuant to this solicitation shall be governed by the laws and regulations of Maryland and Baltimore County.

12.3 Any litigation arising out of or relating in any way to the contract or the performance thereunder shall be brought only in the courts of Maryland, and the Contractor hereby irrevocably consents to such jurisdiction. To the extent that the County is a party to any litigation arising out of or relating in any way to the contract or the performance thereunder, such an action shall be brought only in a court of competent jurisdiction in the courts of the State of Maryland.

13. Severability: If any provisions in the contract are declared by a court or other lawful authority to be unenforceable or invalid for any reason the remaining provisions hereof shall not be affected thereby and shall remain enforceable to the full extent permitted by law.

14. Counterparts: The contract may be executed in any number of counterparts and by different parties hereto in separate counterparts, each of which when so executed and delivered shall be deemed to be an original and all of which taken together shall constitute but one and the same instrument.

15. Survival: The provisions of paragraphs 1.7 (Representations and Warranties), 4.2 (Damages), 7 (Indemnification), and 10 (HIPAA) shall survive delivery of commodities and/or performance of services.
16. No Waiver, Etc.: No failure or delay by the County to insist upon the strict performance of any term, condition or covenant of the contract, or to exercise any right, power, or remedy consequent upon a breach thereof, shall constitute a waiver of any such term, condition, or covenant or of any such breach, or preclude the County from exercising any such right, power, or remedy at any later time or times.

17. Maryland Registration / Qualification Requirements:

17.1 Baltimore County verifies the company’s status with SDAT and may require the successful bidder to submit a Good Standing Certificate (also known as a “Certificate of Status”) issued by the Maryland Department of Assessment and Taxation’s (“SDAT”) Charter Division, and the State of Organization.

17.2 For information on registering to do business in the State of Maryland or to download SDAT related forms visit the Maryland Department of State Department of Assessments & Taxation at http://www.dat.state.maryland.gov/businesses/Pages/default.aspx. If you need additional assistance call (410) 767-1184.

17.3 Baltimore County requires the successful bidder to be in “good standing” (also known as Certificate of Status) with the State in which it is organized, and in the State of Maryland, under certain circumstances. Baltimore County verifies the successful bidder’s status with SDAT. Non-compliance to this section may result in a delay in contract award or rejection of a bid.

18. Eligibility of Candidates for Employment:

18.1 The E-Verify program is an internet-based employment verification system that allows employers to verify employee status against Federal Social Security and immigration databases.

18.2 Baltimore County encourages employers to utilize the E-verify program, or an equivalent system, as a means to help employers determine the eligibility of new hires.

19. Warranty:

19.1. Contractor warrants for one year from acceptance, or for such longer period otherwise expressly stated in the attached solicitation, all goods, services, and construction provided. This includes a warranty against any and all defects. The contractor must correct any and all defects in material and/or workmanship that may appear during the warranty period, even if discovered after the end of the warranty period, by repairing any such defect, (or replacing with new items or new materials, if necessary), at no cost to the County and to the County’s satisfaction.

19.2. Should a manufacturer’s or service provider’s warranty exceed the requirements stated above, that warranty will be the primary one used in the case of defect. Copies of manufacturer’s or service provider’s warranties must be provided upon request.

19.3. All warranties must be in effect from the date of acceptance by the County of the goods, services, or construction.

19.4. The contractor warrants that all work shall be accomplished in a workmanlike manner, and the contractor must observe and comply with all Federal, State, County and local laws, ordinances and regulations in providing the goods, and performing the services or construction.

20. American Manufactured Goods Required for Public Works:

20.1 The Contractor shall comply with Section 14-416 of the Maryland State Finance and Procurement Article which requires a contractor or subcontractor to use or supply American Manufactured goods in the performance of a contract for (a) constructing or maintaining a public work; or (b) buying or manufacturing machinery or equipment that is to be installed at a public work site, as the same may be amended from time to time.

20.2 This section does not apply: (a) if Baltimore County determines that: (i) the price of the American manufactured goods exceeds the price of a similar manufactured good that is not manufactured in the United States by an unreasonable amount; (ii) the item or a similar item is not manufactured or available for purchase in the United States in reasonably available quantities; (iii) the quality of the item or a similar item manufactured in the United States is substantially less than the quality of a comparably priced, similar, and available item that is not manufactured in the United States; or (iv) the procurement of a manufactured good would be inconsistent with the public interest; or (b) to emergency life safety and property safety goods.

20.3 The Contractor shall certify to Baltimore County whether the offered goods and/or services are provided in the United States.

21. Requests for Proposals: In addition to aforementioned instructions, the following apply to Requests for Proposals (RFP).
21.1 All RFP proposals submitted shall be valid for 180 days following the closing date noted, unless otherwise specified in the bid documents. This period may be extended by mutual written agreement between offerors and the County. Proposals may not be withdrawn during this period.

21.2 Modifications: The County may, at any time by written order, make changes within the general scope of a contract including, but not limited to, changes (1) in any designs or specifications; (2) in the method, quantity, or manner of performance of the work; (3) in any County-furnished facilities, equipment, materials, services, or property; or (4) directing acceleration in the performance of the work. No change, modification or revision shall be binding upon the County, unless made in writing by its authorized representatives.

21.3 Subcontracting and Assignment: All subcontracting arrangements require prior approval of the County. The Contractor shall not assign, transfer, convey, delegate, subcontract, or otherwise dispose of any award of any or all of its rights, title, or interest therein, without the prior written consent of the County, which shall not be unreasonably withheld.

21.4 Additional Reservations for RFP’s

21.4.1 This RFP creates no obligation on the part of the County to compensate offerors for proposal preparation expenses. The County reserves the right to award a contract based upon proposals received without further negotiation and may do so; offerors should not rely upon the opportunity to alter their proposals during discussions.

21.4.2 The County reserves the right to waive minor irregularities, to negotiate in any manner necessary to best serve the public interest, and to make a whole award, multiple awards, a partial award, or no award. The County reserves the right to cancel this RFP, in whole or in part, any time before the closing date.

21.5 Confidentiality: Offerors must specifically identify any portions of their proposals deemed to contain confidential information, proprietary information or trade secrets. Those portions must be readily separable from the balance of the proposal. Such designations will not be conclusive, and offerors may be required to justify why such material should not, upon written request, be disclosed by the County under the Public Information Act, General Provisions Article, Title 4, of the Annotated Code of Maryland, as amended. The County may disclose such information if required by law, court order or subpoena.
BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND
PROCUREMENT AFFIDAVIT

A. AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE

I HEREBY AFFIRM THAT:

I am the [title] ________________________________________ and I am duly authorized to represent and bind [business name] _______________________________________ (the “Business”) and that I possess the legal authority to make this Affidavit on behalf of myself and the Business for which I am acting.

B. AFFIRMATION REGARDING BRIBERY CONVICTIONS

I FURTHER AFFIRM THAT:

Neither I, nor to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief, the Business, directly involved in obtaining or performing contracts with public bodies (as is defined in Section 16-101(f) of the State Finance and Procurement Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland), has been convicted of, or has had probation before judgment imposed pursuant to Article 27, Section 6-225 of the Criminal Procedure Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland, or has pleaded nolo contendere to a charge of, bribery, attempted bribery, or conspiracy to bribe in violation of Maryland law, or of the law of any other state or federal law, except as follows [indicate the reasons why the affirmation cannot be given and list any conviction, plea, or imposition of probation before judgment with the date, court, official or administrative body, the sentence or disposition, the name(s) of person(s) involved, and their current positions and responsibilities with the Business]:

____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________.

C. AFFIRMATION REGARDING OTHER CONVICTIONS

I FURTHER AFFIRM THAT:

Neither I, nor to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief, the Business, nor any of its officers, directors, partners, members, affiliates, or any of its employees directly involved in obtaining or performing contracts with public bodies, has:

(1) Been convicted under state or federal statute of a criminal offense incident to obtaining, attempting to obtain, or performing a public or private contract, fraud, embezzlement, theft, forgery, falsification or destruction of records, or receiving stolen property;

(2) Been convicted of any criminal violation of a state or federal antitrust statute;

(3) Been convicted under the provisions of Title 18 of the United States Code for violation of the Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organization Act, 18 U.S.C. §1961, et seq., or the Mail Fraud Act, 18 U.S.C. §1341, et seq., for acts arising out of the submission of bids or proposals for a public or private contract;

(4) Been convicted of a violation of the State Minority Business Enterprise Law, Section 14-308 of the State Finance and Procurement Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland;

(5) Been convicted of conspiracy to commit any act or omission that would constitute grounds for conviction or liability under any law or statute described in subsection (1), (2), (3), or (4) above;

(6) Been found civilly liable under a state or federal antitrust statute for acts or omissions in connection with the submission of bids or proposals for a public or private contract;

(7) Admitted in writing or under oath, during the course of an official investigation or other proceedings, acts or omissions that would constitute grounds for conviction or liability under any law or statute described above, except as follows [indicate reasons why the affirmations cannot be given, and list any conviction, plea, or imposition
of probation before judgment with the date, court, official or administrative body, the sentence or disposition, the name(s) of the person(s) involved and their current positions and responsibilities with the Business, and the status of any debarment:

____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________.

D. AFFIRMATION REGARDING DEBARMENT

I FURTHER AFFIRM THAT:

Neither I, nor to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief, the Business, nor any of its officers, directors, partners, members, affiliates, or any of its employees directly involved in obtaining or performing contracts with public bodies, has ever been suspended or debarred (including being issued a limited denial of participation) by any public entity, except as follows [list each debarred or suspension providing the dates of the suspension or debarment, the name of the public entity and the status of the proceeding, the name(s) of the person(s) involved and their current positions and responsibilities with the Business, the grounds of the debarment or suspension, and the details of each person’s involvement in any activity that formed the grounds of the debarment or suspension]:

____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________.

E. AFFIRMATION REGARDING DEBARMENT OF RELATED ENTITIES

I FURTHER AFFIRM THAT:

(1) The Business was not established and it does not operate in a manner designed to evade the application of or defeat the purpose of debarment pursuant to Sections 16-101, et seq., of the State Finance and Procurement Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland; and

(2) The Business is not a successor, assignee, subsidiary, or affiliate of a suspended or debarred business, except as follows: [you must indicate the reasons why the affirmations cannot be given without qualification]:

____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________.

F. SUB-CONTRACT AFFIRMATION

I FURTHER AFFIRM THAT:

Neither I, nor to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief, the Business, has knowingly entered into a contract with a public body under which a person debarred or suspended under Title 16 of the State Finance and Procurement Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland will provide, directly or indirectly, supplies, services, architectural services, construction related services, leases of real property, or construction.

G. AFFIRMATION REGARDING COLLUSION

I FURTHER AFFIRM THAT:

Neither I, nor to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief, the Business, nor any of its employees, have in any way:

(1) Agreed, conspired, connived, or colluded to produce a deceptive show of competition in the compilation of the accompanying bid or offer that is being submitted;

(2) In any manner, directly or indirectly, entered into any agreement of any kind to fix the bid price or price proposal of the bidder or offeror or of any competitor, or otherwise take any action to impact, restrain, or inhibit free competitive bidding in connection with the contract for which the accompanying bid or offer is submitted;
H. AFFIRMATION REGARDING POLITICAL CONTRIBUTION DISCLOSURE

I FURTHER AFFIRM THAT:

The Contractor affirms that it is aware of, and will comply with, the provisions of Sections 14-101 through 14-108 of the Election Law Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland, which require that every person who makes, during any 12-month period, one or more contracts, with one or more Maryland governmental entities involving cumulative consideration, or at least $200,000.00, shall file with the State Board of Elections certain specified information to include disclosure of attributable political contributions in excess of $500 during defined reporting periods.

I. CERTIFICATION OF REGISTRATION AND TAX PAYMENT

I FURTHER AFFIRM THAT:

(1) The business was formed in the State of (Insert State Name):

(2) The Business is a (please select one):

- □ Corporation
- □ Partnership
- □ Limited Liability Company
- □ Limited Liability Partnership
- □ Sole Proprietor
- □ Other: __________________________

(If sole proprietor #3 below does not apply, continue to #4.)

(3) Is this business registered with the Maryland State Department of Assessments and Taxation (“SDAT”) in accordance with the Corporations and Associations Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland?

- □ Yes  □ No

  a. If yes, is the business in good standing in the State of Maryland, and has it filed all of its annual reports, together with filing fees? □ Yes  □ No

  b. Registered Agent as shown in SDAT:

     Name: ______________________________________________________
     Address: ____________________________________________________
     ___________________________________________________________

  c. If not, is the business in good standing in the formed in State of origination? □ Yes  □ No

(4) Except as validly contested, has the Business paid, or arranged for payment of, all taxes due the State of Maryland and Baltimore County, and -filed all required returns and reports with the Comptroller of the Treasury, the State Department of Assessments and Taxation, and the Employment Security Administration, as applicable, and -paid all withholding taxes due the State of Maryland prior to final settlement?

  □ Yes  □ No

J. CONTINGENT FEES

I FURTHER AFFIRM THAT:

The Business has not employed or retained any person, partnership, corporation, or other entity, other than a bona fide employee or agent working for the Business, to solicit or secure the Contract, and that the Business has not paid or agreed to pay any person, partnership, corporation, or other entity, other than a bona fide employee or agent, any fee or other consideration contingent on the making of the Contract.
**K. AFFIRMATION OF NONDISCRIMINATION IN EMPLOYMENT**

I FURTHER AFFIRM THAT:

During the performance of any contract awarded pursuant to the solicitation of which this affidavit is a part:

1. The Business will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, marital status, sexual orientation, genetic information, or disability unrelated in nature and extent so as to reasonably preclude the performance of the employment, or because of the individual's refusal to submit to a genetic test or make available the results of a genetic test. The Business will take affirmative action to ensure that applicants are employed, and that employees are treated during employment, without regard to their race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, marital status, sexual orientation, genetic information, status as a veteran, or disability unrelated in nature and extent so as to reasonably preclude the performance of the employment, or because of the individual's refusal to submit to a genetic test or make available the results of a genetic test. Such action shall include, but not be limited to the following: employment, promotion, upgrading, demotion or transfer, rates of pay or other forms of compensation; and selection for training, including apprenticeship. The Business agrees to post in conspicuous places, available to employees and applicants for employment, notices to be provided by the owner setting forth provisions of this nondiscrimination clause.

2. The Business will, in all solicitations or advertisements for employees placed by or on behalf of the Business, state that all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, marital status, sexual orientation, genetic information, status as a veteran or disability unrelated in nature and extent so as to reasonably preclude the performance of the employment, or because of the individual's refusal to submit to a genetic test or make available the results of a genetic test.

3. The Business shall send to each labor union or representative of workers with which the Business has a collective bargaining agreement or other contract or understanding, a notice, to be provided by the owner, advising the said labor union or workers' representative of these commitments, and shall post copies of the notice in conspicuous places available to employees and applicants for employment.

4. The Business shall furnish, if requested by the County, a compliance report concerning our employment practices and policies in order for the County to ascertain compliance with the special provisions of this affidavit concerning nondiscrimination in employment.

5. In the event of the Business's noncompliance with the nondiscrimination clause of this affidavit, the contract may be canceled, terminated, or suspended in whole or in part, and the Business may be declared ineligible for further County work.

6. The Business shall include the special provisions outlined herein pertaining to nondiscrimination in employment in every subcontract, so that such nondiscrimination in employment provisions shall be binding on each subcontractor or vendor.

**L. FOREIGN CONTRACTS DISCLOSURES**

I FURTHER AFFIRM THAT:

1. The Business affirms that it is aware of, and will comply with, the provisions of Sections 10-2-110 Article 10. Finance, Title 2 – Purchasing, Baltimore County Code 2003, as amended, which requires that prior to the award of a contract for services under the provisions of this title, and during the entire term of a contract award, the bidder or vendor shall disclose to the County whether any services covered by the bid or contract, including any subcontracted services, will be performed outside the United States.

2. The Business affirms that it is aware of, and will comply with, the provisions of Section 12-111 of the Maryland State Finance Procurement Article, which requires bidders to make certain disclosures relating to subcontractors or services, regarding plans at the time the bid is submitted, to perform any services with an estimated value of $2 million or more under the contract outside the United States. This provision applies to: (1) construction-related services; (2) architectural services; (3) engineering services; or (4) energy performance contract services. The provision requires bidders to disclose:
   a. Whether the Business or any contractor that the Business will subcontract with to perform the contract has plans, at the time the bid is submitted, to perform any services required under the contract outside the United States; and
b. If the services under the contract are anticipated to be performed outside the United States;
c. Where the services will be performed; and
d. The reasons why it is necessary or advantageous to perform the services outside the United States.

(3) Indicate below whether or not the Business has information to disclose. (You must check one of these)
[ ] The Business has no plans, at the time the bid is submitted, to perform any services under the contract outside the United States.
[ ] The Business has plans, at the time the bid is submitted, to perform services under the contract outside the United States.
   i. The services will be performed in the following location: _________________________
   ii. It is necessary or advantageous to perform the services outside the United States for the following reason(s): _________________________

M. AFFIRMATION REGARDING INVESTMENT ACTIVITIES IN IRAN

I FURTHER AFFIRM THAT:

At the time the bid/proposal is submitted, or if the contract is renewed, the Business:
   i. Is not identified on the list created by the Maryland State Board of Public Works as a person, Business or entity engaging in investment activities in Iran as described in Section 17-702 of the Maryland State Finance and Procurement Article; or
   ii. Is not engaging in investment activities in Iran as described in Section 17-702 of the Maryland State Finance and Procurement Article.

If the Business is unable to make the certification, it will provide the County, under penalty of perjury, a detailed description of the Business' investment activities in Iran.

N. ACKNOWLEDGMENT

I ACKNOWLEDGE THAT this Affidavit is to be furnished to the County and may be distributed to units of (1) Baltimore County; (2) the State of Maryland; (3) other counties or political subdivisions of the State of Maryland; (4) other states; and (5) the federal government. I further acknowledge that this Affidavit is subject to applicable laws of the United States and the State of Maryland, both criminal and civil, and that nothing in this Affidavit or any contract resulting from the submission of this bid or proposal shall be construed to supersede, amend, modify or waive, on behalf of Baltimore County, or the State of Maryland or any unit of the State of Maryland having jurisdiction, the exercise of any right or remedy at Law or in equity with respect to any misrepresentation made or any violation of the obligations, terms and covenants undertaken by the Business with respect to (a) this Affidavit, (b) the contract, and (3) other Affidavits comprising part of the contract.

I DO SOLEMNLY DECLARE AND AFFIRM UNDER THE PENALTIES OF PERJURY THAT THE CONTENTS OF THIS AFFIDAVIT ARE TRUE AND CORRECT TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE, INFORMATION, AND BELIEF, AFTER DILIGENT INQUIRY.

Date: ________________________  By: ___________________________________________
   Name: ________________________________
   Title: _________________________________
   (Authorized Representative and Affiant)
First Source Hiring Agreement Overview

What is First Source Hiring?

Baltimore County’s First Source Hiring Agreement requires that developers, contractors, and employers utilize good faith efforts toward employing economically disadvantaged Baltimore County residents in newly created positions on applicable projects. These efforts are supported by Baltimore County’s workforce development system, a partnered network of business and economic development professionals, education and training providers, and human service agencies working together systematically to provide a ready supply of qualified workers to employers with hiring needs. The intent of First Source is to connect these individuals with new jobs that are generated by the County’s investment in contracts or public works; or by business activity that requires approval by the County’s Department of Economic and Workforce Development.

The goals of the First Source Hiring Agreement are to:

- Increase awareness of the resources, services and potential benefits available to help Baltimore County employers meet their workforce needs; and,
- Give economically disadvantaged individuals the first opportunity to apply for new jobs in Baltimore County.

Which businesses can participate in First Source Hiring?

1. Businesses who have leases with the County or on County property; or,
2. Businesses with County contracts for goods, services, and grants in excess of $100,000 which are projected to create new jobs/positions to fulfill contract terms

How can first source help your business?

Baltimore County Department of Economic & Workforce Development’s (DEWD’s) Business Services Team can help coordinate recruitment services with our workforce partners in collaboration with our three Baltimore County Career Center locations to assist with finding pre-screened, qualified candidates. Available services may include but are not limited to:

- Posting and promotion of employment opportunities through our network of service providers
- Access to diverse talent pools from within Baltimore County’s workforce system
- Access to Baltimore County Career Centers for coordinated recruitment/interviewing activities
- Referral of pre-screened, qualified candidates for employer consideration
- Assistance with using the Maryland Workforce Exchange - a statewide job database and candidate matching platform
- Information on earning tax credits and other employer benefits for new hires (if applicable)
- Workforce and Business Services staff to assist you throughout your recruitment efforts
I’d like to participate in First Source Hiring…Where do I start?

Step #1: Register your business with the Maryland Workforce Exchange. This is an online database to track First Source Hiring job opportunities. As an employer, the Maryland Workforce Exchange can help you promote job openings, search for qualified candidates and share placement information.

Step #2: Businesses or non-profits who receive a non-construction or professional services contract from Baltimore County over $100,000 are required to project the number of job openings they expect during the contract period. After registering your business with Maryland Workforce Exchange, complete the First Source Hiring Description Form and email it to the Baltimore County Department of Economic and Workforce Development (DEWD) at firstsourcehire@baltimorecountymd.gov. If you have any questions about registering with MWE or completing the form, contact our office at 410-887-8000.

Step #3: Once you are registered in MWE and Baltimore County receives your First Source Hiring Description Form via email, you will be contacted by a member of the Business Development Team to assist with recruitment for your open positions.

Helpful Tips:
Businesses that qualify are asked to post their openings with Baltimore County’s First Source Hiring network of service providers, and offer the County the first opportunity to refer qualified candidates to those positions. While the agreement does not require an employer to hire a specific candidate, it does ask that employers make a good faith effort to hire referrals from the County’s workforce development system. We ask that employers would report basic information for any new hires by entering the placement data in the Maryland Workforce Exchange, or by completing an Employment Verification and Employer Survey Form (see FORM 2 attached) or via email at the completion of your recruitment activities.

Company Name

Contact Name

Company Address

City, MD

E-mail Address

Telephone

Acknowledgment Signature

Date
List your **legal business name** below, as shown on your income tax return. **Sole proprietors** should list their individual name as noted on your social security card. You may enter a business name on line 2. Other entities must list your business name as shown on Federal tax documents. This name should match the name shown on the charter or other legal document creating the entity. You may enter any business, trade, or DBA name on the business name line (2). For **limited liability companies** (LLC) that are owned by an individual, the owner’s name must be listed in the Name line (1) and the business name can be listed on the business name line (2). For **limited liability companies** that are corporations, partnerships, etc., enter the business name on Name line (1).

1. **Name (as shown on your income tax return)**

2. **Business name, if different from above**

**Address**

City
State
ZIP Code

**Remittance Address, if different from above**

City
State
ZIP Code

**Contact Person**

Title

**Phone Number**

( ) - Ext:

**Fax Number**

( ) -

E-mail address

**Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN)**

Enter your TIN in the appropriate box. The TIN provided must match the name given on Line 1. For individuals, this is your social security number (SSN). For other entities, it is your employer identification number (EIN). Note, this is the TIN shown on your federal tax documents.

**Social Security Number**

---

**OR**

**Employer Identification Number**

---

**IF YOU ARE EXEMPT FROM BACK-UP WITHHOLDING**

**IF YOU ARE TAX-EXEMPT, EXPLAIN:**

**Filing Status (Ownership) (LLC is not acceptable)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Individual</th>
<th>Sole Proprietor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Corporation</td>
<td>Partnership</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Other: (explain) |

**CERTIFICATION:**

Under penalties of perjury, I certify that:

1. The number shown on this form is my correct taxpayer identification number (or I am waiting for a number to be issued to me), and
2. I am not subject to backup withholding because: (a) I am exempt from backup withholding, or (b) I have not been notified by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) that I am subject to backup withholding as a result of a failure to report all interest or dividends, or (c) the IRS has notified me that I am no longer subject to backup withholding, and
3. I am a U.S. person (including a U.S. resident alien).

**Signature of U.S. Person**

**Date**
## MBE / WBE Certification

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT)</th>
<th>City of Baltimore</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Certification #: _____________________________</td>
<td>Certification #: _____________________________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Certification Date: _______ / _______ / ________</td>
<td>Certification Date: _______ / _______ / ________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pending: ____________________________________</td>
<td>Pending: ____________________________________</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Business Ownership (Check Only One)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>G</th>
<th>Government Entity</th>
<th>O</th>
<th>Other: ____________________________</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>H</td>
<td>Disabled</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>Non Profit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MA</td>
<td>Minority-owned, Not small business</td>
<td>W</td>
<td>Woman-owned, Small business</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M</td>
<td>Minority-owned, Small business</td>
<td>WA</td>
<td>Woman-owned, Not small business</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NS</td>
<td>Non-minority-owned, small business</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>Woman-owned, Minority, Small business</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NL</td>
<td>Non-minority-owned, Large business</td>
<td>XA</td>
<td>Woman-owned, Minority, Not small business</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Type of Business/Organization

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Association</th>
<th>Attorney</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Government Entity</td>
<td>Educational Institution</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical Service Provider</td>
<td>Non-profit Organization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other: (explain)</td>
<td>Financial Institution</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Ethnicity of Ownership (Check Only One)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A</th>
<th>Asian American</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>African American</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H</td>
<td>Hispanic American</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>American Indian/Alaskan Native</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N</td>
<td>Non-minority</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O</td>
<td>Other Ethnic Group: ____________________________</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Incorporation

Incorporation State: ____________________________  OR  Date Business Started _______ / _______ / ________

## Signature

I certify that the information shown on this registration is true and correct. I will advise the Purchasing Division immediately, in writing, of any change affecting this data.

Signature: ____________________________  Title: ____________________________  Date: ____________________________
1. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

1.1 Coverages Required:
Unless otherwise required by the specifications or the contract, the Contractor/Vendor shall purchase and maintain the insurance coverages listed herein.

Insurance Companies must be acceptable to Baltimore County and have an A.M. Best Rating of A-, Class X or better.

1.2 Verification of Insurance:
Before starting work on the contract or prior to the execution of the Contract on those bid, the Contractor/Vendor shall provide Baltimore County, Maryland with verification of insurance coverage evidencing the required coverages.

1.3 Baltimore County as Additional Insured:
The coverage required, excluding Worker's Compensation and Employers' Liability and Medical Malpractice Liability/Errors and Omissions Liability, must include Baltimore County, Maryland as an additional insured.

1.4 Contractor's/Vendor's Responsibility:
The providing of any insurance herein does not relieve the Contractor/Vendor of any of the responsibilities or obligations the Contractor/Vendor has assumed in the contract or for which the Contractor/Vendor may be liable by law or otherwise.

1.5 Failure to Provide Insurance:
Failure to provide and continue in force the required insurance shall be deemed a material breach of the contract.

2. INSURANCE COVERAGES

2.1 General Liability Insurance

2.1.1 Minimum Limits of Coverage:
Personal Injury Liability and Property Damage Liability Combined Single Limit - $500,000 each occurrence

2.1.2 Such insurance shall protect the Contractor/Vendor from claims which may arise out of, or result from, the Contractor's/Vendor's operations under the contract, whether such operations be by the Contractor/Vendor, any subcontractor, anyone directly or indirectly employed by the Contractor/Vendor or Subcontractor, or anyone for whose acts any of the above may be liable.

2.1.3 Minimum Coverages to be Included:
(a) Independent Contractor's coverage;
(b) Completed Operations and Products Liability coverage; and
(c) Contractual Liability coverage.

2.1.4 Damages not to be Excluded:
Such insurance shall contain no exclusions applying to operations by the Contractor/Vendor or any Subcontractor in the performance of the Contract including but not limited to: (a) Collapse of, or structural injury to, any building or structure; (b) Damage to underground property; or (c) Damage arising out of blasting or explosion.

2.2 Automobile Liability Insurance

2.2.1 Minimum Limits of Coverage:
Bodily Injury Liability and Property Damage Liability Combined Single Limit - $500,000 any one accident

2.2.2 Minimum Coverages to be Included:
Such insurance shall provide coverage for all owned, non-owned and hired automobiles.

2.3 Workers' Compensation and Employers' Liability Insurance

Such insurance must contain statutory coverage, including:
Employers' Liability insurance with limits of at least:
Bodily Injury by Accident - $500,000 each accident
Bodily Injury by Disease - $500,000 policy limit
Bodily Injury by Disease - $500,000 each employee

2.4 Other
Such other insurance in form and amount as may be customary for the type of business being undertaken by the Contractor/Vendor.
1. **BACKGROUND.**

1.1 Baltimore County seeks contractual support for a qualified meeting facilitator and writer to assist the County Department of Health and community stakeholders in the development of a needs assessment and strategic plan to guide the creation of a Birth Outcomes Initiative for Baltimore County.

1.2 The awarded offeror(s) will work closely with the County Department of Health, the project planning committee, and community stakeholders, to shape the development of this initiative over the course of an eight (8) to ten (10) month period currently targeted to begin in the fall of 2020 and conclude during spring/early summer of 2021.

2. **SCOPE OF SERVICES.** The Scope of Work includes all of the following activities based on contractor expertise and the needs of the Department of Health, the project planning committee, and community stakeholders:

2.1 Work session(s) with the project planning committee to shape the planning process;

2.2 Meeting design and facilitation for up to four group and/or individual discussions with community stakeholders for the purpose of identifying priority needs related to youth suicide prevention (e.g., stakeholder forum, focus group, key informant interview);

2.3 Implementation of an online survey for the purpose of gathering input from community stakeholders;

2.4 Work session with the project planning committee to synthesize major themes and critical issues identified through the collection of community stakeholder input;

2.5 Work session(s) with the project planning committee to reach consensus on the vision, mission, strategic goals, objectives, and activities of this project using a collective impact approach; and,

2.6 Writing and design of the strategic planning document.

3. **PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS.** For each section, Technical, MBE/WBE and Price, each page shall be consecutively numbered and submitted in the following format.

3.1 **Technical Proposal:** Offerors must provide the following, in the following sequence:

3.1.1 Proposal Signature Cover Page (page 1) **must be** signed by a duly authorized representative of the Offeror.

3.1.2 Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN) and Certification form (pages 2-3)

3.1.3 Procurement Affidavit. (pages 4-8)

3.1.4 Minority Participation Affidavit (page 9)

3.1.5 Signed acknowledgement of all Addenda to the RFP, if applicable
3.2 **Technical Proposal**: Continuation no. 1, in the following sequence: Details of the Offeror’s proposal submission should not exceed six pages, with other supporting documentation appended as supplemental material, and should include:

3.2.1 Name of firm;

3.2.2 Name and contact information for the consultant(s);

3.2.3 Description of experience and qualifications;

3.2.4 Indication of availability during project period;

3.2.5 Statement of work to include a brief outline of contractor’s suggested approach for the project with the understanding that the actual scope of work will be refined after consultant selection; and

3.2.6 At least three references.

3.3 **Technical Proposal**: Continuation no. 2, in the following sequence: This is not included in the six pages as listed in General Condition section 3.2.

3.3.1 Full resume(s) and at least two (2) samples of previous strategic planning work, appropriate to this project, as appendices.

3.4 **MBE/WBE: Economic Benefit Factor (and/or MBE/WBE Participation)**

3.4.1 Provide your firm’s Economic Benefit Factor/Social Responsibility as listed in General Conditions Section 20.

3.4.2 MBE/WBE Participation forms (if applicable). Forms can be found at: [https://www.baltimorecountymd.gov/Agencies/budfin/purchasing/minoritybusiness/index.html](https://www.baltimorecountymd.gov/Agencies/budfin/purchasing/minoritybusiness/index.html)

3.5 **Price Proposal: Cost**

3.5.1 Price Sheet (not to be included in the Technical Proposal).

3.5.2 Budget details as requested in General Condition Section 4.

3.6 Provide any additional information or documentation as requested in this RFP.

3.6.1 It is the Offeror’s responsibility to ensure any Technical, MBE/WBE or Price information or documentation that is requested in any section of this RFP is submitted in the proper portion (Technical, MBE/WBE or Price) of your proposal.

4. **COMPENSATION**. Cost proposal must include an overall estimate for all work in the proposal, as well as hourly and daily rates. Price Proposal should factor in time for communication, as necessary, with the project planning committee throughout the process. Proposal should also include a budget for focus group incentives.

5. **TERM OF AGREEMENT**.

5.1 The term of the contract shall be for one (1) year. The County reserves the right to renew the contract for up to one (1) additional one-year renewal options under the same terms and conditions. The County will automatically renew the contract on each option year unless notice is given to the Contractor that the contract is not renewed.
If price adjustments are requested pursuant to the terms of the contract, the Contractor must notify the County Purchasing Division at least ninety (90) days prior to the current terms expiration date.

The Contractor must maintain the insurance coverages required by the County while the contract is in force, including automatic renewal terms, and shall provide documentation of such insurance in a form satisfactory to the County when required.

**6. PRE-PROPOSAL CONFERENCE.** Baltimore County will not hold a pre-proposal conference for this solicitation.

**7. QUESTIONS AND INQUIRIES; ADDENDA.**

7.1 Questions will be entertained via email to the buyer, Amber Butcher at abutcher@baltimorecountymd.gov. Answers or clarifications not detailed in this RFP, will be addressed in an addenda. If it becomes necessary to revise any part of this RFP, addenda will be posted on the web site at [www.baltimorecountymd.gov](http://www.baltimorecountymd.gov).

7.2 Offerors must acknowledge, in writing, receipt of all addenda in the text of their proposals. All official correspondence in regard to the specifications should be directed to and will be issued by the Purchasing Division. Offerors are cautioned that the County assumes no responsibility for oral explanations or interpretations of solicitation documents.

7.3 **The deadline for written questions pertaining to this solicitation is Friday, August 7, 2020.**

**8. EVALUATION OF OFFERS.** Award will be made to the responsible offeror whose proposal best meets the needs of the County as set forth herein.

8.1 Proposals will be evaluated based on the following criteria, listed in order of importance.

8.1.1 Statement of work including outline of consultant’s suggested approach for the project.

8.1.2 Consultant’s description of experience and qualifications (e.g., resumes).

8.1.3 Indication of consultant’s availability during the projected project.

8.1.4 Quality of two (2) samples of previous strategic planning work submitted with proposal and references.

8.1.5 Degree of completeness of response to the RFP and degree to which the offeror followed instructions for submittal.

8.1.6 Economic Benefit Factor and/or MBE/WBE subcontracting.

8.17 Cost.

8.2 After consideration of the factors set forth in this RFP, the committee will recommend award to the offeror whose proposal is most advantageous to the County.

8.3 This RFP will result in the submission of “proposals” (not “bids”), and the evaluation and award process will be based on both scored technical and price responses, not just price. Therefore, the County may enter into negotiations with Offerors and invite “best and final offers” as deemed to be in the best interest of the County. Negotiations may be in the form of face-to-face, telephone, facsimile or written communications, or any combination thereof, at the County’s sole discretion.
8.4 Offerors are strongly advised not to prepare their proposal submissions based on any assumption or understanding that negotiations will take place. Offerors are advised to respond to this RFP fully and with forthrightness at the time of proposal submission.

8.5 Nonacceptance of an individual offer may mean that one or more other proposals were more advantageous, or that all were rejected.

9. **ORAL PRESENTATION.** Offerors may be required to clarify their proposals by making individual presentations to the evaluation committee.

10. **OFFEROR QUALIFICATIONS.**

   10.1 At the option of the County, Offerors may be required to furnish evidence of sufficient financial responsibility to fulfill the contract, and that they have, or can obtain the necessary equipment, manpower, and storage facility to ensure delivery within the parameters of the contract.

   10.2 Offerors must provide at least three (3) references (names of contact persons and phone numbers) of similar sized contracts serviced during the past eighteen (18) months.

   10.3 Prior to awarding of this contract, the county reserves the right to inspect the facilities of any responsive Offeror. The reputation of Offerors regarding adequacy of their resources and facilities, and past records of their skillful performance of work of the type and magnitude required herein shall be considered when making the award.

11. **ELECTRONIC SUBMITTAL PROCESS AND REQUIRED COPIES.**

   11.1 The cost of preparing Proposals is the responsibility of Offerors.

   11.2 To be considered, Bids shall be received by the bid closing date and time to the following e-mail address: bid@baltimorecountymd.gov. The Bid Number should be referenced in the Subject Line of the e-mail. Bids may not be submitted by any other means. Bids that are mailed or otherwise delivered to the Purchasing Division (including emails which indicate links to locations where the bid may be downloaded) and/or emails sent to any other Baltimore County email address will not be accepted.

   11.2.1 **DO NOT CARBON COPY** (cc) the buyer on the bid submission.

   11.3 Technical, MBE/WBE and Price Proposals are to be submitted separately. **There shall be no reference to the price of products and services in the Technical Proposal.** All timely proposals become the property of County.

   11.3.1 The Technical, MBE/WBE and Price Proposal should be submitted in separate emails and marked as such in the subject line.

   11.4 Late Proposals will not be considered. Offerors are strongly encouraged not to wait until the last minute to submit proposals. The time stated on the auto-receipt (described below) will be definitive of the time of receipt. Proposals received after the deadline will not be accepted. Offerors are advised that the County cannot receive email attachments greater in size than twenty-five (25) megabytes and this size limitation may be further reduced by requirements of the Offeror’s email provider which are beyond the control of the County. Offeror should consider separating any large proposal attachment into multiple parts and emailing each part separately. In such case, Offeror will note that each email is 1 of 2, 2 of 2, etc. Multiple part Proposals will not be considered unless all parts are received by the bid closing date and time.

   11.5 Proposals should be prepared simply and economically, providing a straightforward, concise description of the offer, and all required information.
11.6 Each Proposal shall be accompanied by an executed procurement affidavit in the Technical Proposal which is provided by the Purchasing Division in the solicitation package.

12. **FUNDING OUT.** If funds are not appropriated or otherwise made available to support contract continuation in any fiscal year, the County shall have the right to terminate the contract without any obligation or penalty.

13. **INSURANCE.**

13.1 The Contractor will be required to provide verification of insurance coverage to include Endorsement Page(s) for each carrier in accordance with the attached requirements. The Contractor will have fifteen (15) calendar days from receipt of notice of intent to award in which to comply with this requirement, excluding County holidays and non-work days, if applicable.

13.2 The Insurer must maintain the insurance coverage required by the County while the contract is in force, including renewal terms, and shall provide documentation of such insurance in a form satisfactory to the County when required.

13.3 In the event the Contractor changes its insurance carrier, new verification of insurance coverage and Endorsement Page(s) must be provided to the County by the new insurance carrier within ten (10) days of the change of policy.

14. **COUNTY HOLIDAYS.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Holiday</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>New Year’s Day</td>
<td>Columbus Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>MLK, Jr. Birthday</td>
<td>General Election Day (each even year)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Presidents’ Day</td>
<td>Veterans’ Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Memorial Day</td>
<td>Thanksgiving Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Independence Day</td>
<td>Christmas Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Labor Day</td>
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15. **MULTI-AGENCY PROCUREMENT.** Baltimore County reserves the right to extend the terms and conditions of the contract to any and all other County agencies requiring these commodities and/or services. A sub-order release will be issued against the original purchase order, confirming the contracted pricing and giving quantity and delivery requirements.

16. **COOPERATIVE PURCHASE.**

16.1 The County reserves the right to extend all of the terms, conditions, specifications, and unit or other prices of any contracts resulting from this RFP to any and all public bodies, subdivisions, school districts, community colleges, colleges, and universities including non-public schools. This is conditioned upon mutual agreement of all parties pursuant to special requirements which may be appended thereto. The Contractor agrees to notify the issuing body of those entities that wish to use any contract resulting from this RFP and will also provide usage information, which may be requested.

16.2 The County assumes no authority, liability or obligation, on behalf of any other public or non-public entity that may use any contract resulting from this proposal. All purchases and payment transactions will be made directly between the Contractor and the requesting entity. Any exceptions to this requirement must be specifically noted in the proposal response.

17. **COMPLIANCE WITH FEDERAL AND STATE CONFIDENTIALITY LAW.**

17.1 The Contractor acknowledges its duty to become familiar with and comply, to the extent applicable, with all laws and regulations including, but not limited to, the federal Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), 42 U.S.C. §§ 1320 et seq., as the same may be amended from time to
time and implementing regulations including, but not limited to, 45 CFR Parts 160 and 164, as the same may be amended from time to time, the Maryland Confidentiality of Medical Records Act (MCMRA), Md. Code Ann. Health-General §§4-301 et seq., as the same may be amended from time to time, and the Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health (HITECH) Act, Title XIII of Division A and Title IV of Division B of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA), Pub. L. No. 111-5 (February 17, 2009), as amended. This obligation includes but is not limited to:

17.1.1 As necessary, adhering to the privacy and security requirements for protected health information and medical records under federal HIPAA, HITECH, and State MCMRA and making the transmission of all electronic information compatible with the federal requirements; and

17.1.2 Providing good management practices regarding all health information and medical records.

17.2 The Contractor must execute a business associate agreement, when and if required by federal or state laws and/or regulations, as the same may be amended from time to time.

17.3 Protected Health Information as defined in the HIPAA regulations at 45 CFR 160.103 and 164.501, as the same may be amended from time to time, means information transmitted as defined in the regulations, that is individually identifiable; that is created or received by a healthcare provider, health plan, public health authority, employer, life insurer, school or university, or healthcare clearinghouse; and that is related to the past, present, or future physical or mental health or condition of an individual, to the provision of healthcare to an individual, or to the past, present, or future payment for the provision of healthcare to an individual. The definition excludes certain education records as well as employment records held by a covered entity in its role as employer.

18. **“SAMPLE” FORM CONTRACT**

18.1 A sample of the County’s form contract may be found on the Baltimore County website at http://www.baltimorecountymd.gov/Agencies/budfin/purchasing/currentsolicitations.html. By the act of submitting a proposal, the Offeror expressly acknowledges that he/she/it accepts the terms and conditions as stated in the form contract unless exceptions are submitted in writing with the proposal.

18.2 The Offerors’ acceptance of, or deviations from, the form contract terms and conditions are considered during the evaluation and subsequent award.

18.3 If the Offeror submits an exception, which alters the County’s risk, liability, exposure in, or the intent of this procurement, the County reserves the right in its’ sole and absolute discretion to deem the Offeror non-responsive.

18.4 The County will accept no exceptions to the form contract at any time after submission of the proposal.

19. **UTILIZATION OF BALTIMORE COUNTY’S DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT.**

19.1 Baltimore County’s First Source Hiring Agreement requires that developers, contractors, and employers utilize good faith efforts toward employing economically disadvantaged Baltimore County residents in newly created positions on applicable projects. These efforts are supported by Baltimore County’s workforce development system, a partnered network of business and economic development professionals, education and training providers, and human service agencies working together systematically to provide a ready supply of qualified workers to employers with hiring needs.

19.2 The Contractor may use Baltimore County’s Department of Economic and Workforce Development as a “First Source” for training and recruitment of employees. To utilize “First Source” the
Contractor may notify the Department of Economic and Workforce Development of employment opportunities to present qualified candidates to the Contractor for consideration. The Contractor may use reasonable efforts to consider qualified Baltimore County residents who are either unemployed or under-employed for all available positions. For additional information call 410-887-8000 or visit: http://www.baltimorecountymd.gov/Agencies/economicdev/business/workforce/recruiting-retention.html

20. **MBE/WBE and/or ECONOMIC BENEFIT FACTOR.**

20.1 The Economic Benefit Factor is included to determine if there are any new jobs being created or provides social responsibility to Baltimore County (as first preference) and/or Maryland its constituents. Examples of economic benefits to be derived from a contract shall include any of, but not limited to, the following. For each factor identified below, identify the specific benefit and contractual commitments and provide a breakdown of expenditures in that category:

20.1.1 The number and types of jobs for Baltimore County and/or Maryland residents resulting from the Contract. Indicate job classifications, number of employees in each classification and aggregate payroll to which the Offeror has committed, including contractual commitments at both prime and, if applicable, subcontract levels. If no new positions or subcontracts are anticipated as a result of this Contract, so state explicitly;

- Placement or employment in High Growth Areas of Employment
- Retention and Average Earnings – Fiscal Performance
- Serving Veterans
- Strengthen Local Workforce Economy

20.1.2 Subcontract dollars committed to Baltimore County and/or Maryland minority-owned and women-owned businesses,

20.1.3 Other benefits to the Baltimore County and/or Maryland economy which the Offeror promises will result from awarding the Contract to the Offeror, including contractual commitments. Describe the benefit, its value to the Baltimore County and/or Maryland economy, and how it will result from, or because of the Contract award. Offerors may commit to benefits that are not directly attributable to the Contract, but for which the Contract award may serve as a catalyst or impetus, and

20.1.4 Provide your firm’s policies with regards to the commitment to social responsibility. Submit examples. Include any examples in the Baltimore County vicinity.

21. **MINORITY BUSINESS ENTERPRISE AND WOMEN BUSINESS ENTERPRISE REQUIREMENTS (MBE/WBE):** The resulting minority and women business participation requirement for this contract is 0%.

21.1 Each Contractor must comply with all Minority Business Enterprise and Women Business Enterprises (MBE/WBE) participation requirements. Included with this solicitation package are copies of the County’s MBE/WBE policy and provisions and MWBE participation schedule forms. All MBE/WBE participation forms must be completed, executed, and returned with the bid, proposal or qualifications if a goal has been assigned. MBE/WBE participation forms are available online at www.baltimorecountymd.gov/go/mwbe or you may contact the buyer on the solicitation.

21.2 It is the intention of the contract that the Contractor complies with the required participation levels on a cumulative basis for the full term of this agreement. The successful Contractor shall estimate the participation level (for the full term of the contract) for each subcontractor and/or suppliers listed on the participation schedule.

21.3 The Prime shall make a genuine good faith effort to comply with the Baltimore County MBE/WBE minimum participation goal even if the Prime Contractor has the capability to complete the work with its own workforce. However, the percentage requirement may vary. The Prime shall make a good
faith effort to obtain MBE/WBE subcontractor participation. The selected MBE/WBE subcontractor(s) must perform a commercially useful function when it is responsible for execution of the work of the contract and is carrying out its responsibilities by actually performing, managing, and supervising the work involved. Certified Minority-owned or Certified Women-owned Prime may count their participation for up to 50% of the solicitation goal. Certified firms must make a good faith effort to obtain MBE/WBE subcontractor participation of the remaining portion of the goal. Example: 20% MBE/WBE participation goal. Certified Minority-owned or Certified Women-owned firm bidding as the prime may count for 10% of the goal provided they are self-performing the work. The remaining 10% must be subcontracted to a MDOT and/or City of Baltimore certified firm.

21.4 All primes and MBE/WBE sub-contractors are required to report monthly to the County through an online MBE/WBE Compliance Portal (PRISM). The portal can be found under Compliance Reporting for Prime and Sub-Contractors at www.baltimorecountymd.gov/go/mwbe. The prime must provide a contact person and contact information for the MBE/WBE compliance reporting. If the prime cannot submit his/her report on time, he/she will notify the County MBE/WBE office and request additional time to submit the report. Failure to report in a timely manner may result in a finding of noncompliance. The County in its sole discretion may require additional reports regarding MBE/WBE. Questions regarding the use of this system can be directed to the MBE Office at mwbe@baltimorecountymd.gov or call 410-887-3407.
SUBMISSION OF A BID/PROPOSAL IN RESPONSE TO THIS SOLICITATION EVIDENCES THE BIDDER’S ACCEPTANCE OF THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS THEREIN. THIS PAGE MUST BE PROPERLY SIGNED BY AN AUTHORIZED OFFICIAL IN THE FIRM WHO REPRESENTS AND WARRANTS ACCEPTANCE OF ALL TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE REQUEST FOR BID/REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL. THE PERSON SIGNING THE BID/PROPOSAL MUST INITIAL ANY ALTERATIONS IN FIGURES ON THIS FORM IN INK.

COMPANY NAME: ____________________________________________________________

ADDRESS: __________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________  ____________________________________________
(City)  (State)  (Zip Code)

TELEPHONE:______________________________  FAX: ________________________________

SIGNED:____________________________________  DATE:______________________________

PRINT NAME: ________________________________  TITLE: ________________________________

TAX ID NUMBER (FIN/SS#)____________________  EMAIL: ________________________________

Is your company a certified Minority Business Enterprise? Bidders must complete the applicable Minority Participation Affidavit attached.

Initial to confirm that a complete electronic version of the bid proposal response is included in the bid package. ________

Is your firm in compliance with all applicable laws and regulations relating to the employment of undocumented worker? If YES, check here ________

NOTICE: A notice required to be delivered shall be deemed to have been received when such notice has been sent to the following address and individual:

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

F.O.B. Destination (unless otherwise stated herein).

Delivery shall be made within ___________ calendar days after receipt of order.

Payment Terms: ________________________________ Cash discounts for less than 30 days will not be considered in determining awards. However, should that bidder obtain award by consideration of the gross price, the County should make every effort to obtain the discount. The County will not accept payment terms with a period of less than (30) days.

If your firm is not already receiving email notification of new solicitations and amendments, you may register for email notification on the County’s web site at http://www.baltimorecountymd.gov/purchasing.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LINE NO.</th>
<th>COMMODITY/SERVICE DESCRIPTION</th>
<th>AMOUNT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>COMMODITY CODE: 91867</td>
<td>$__________</td>
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Consulting Services, qualified meeting facilitator and writer to assist the County Department of Health and community stakeholders in the development of a needs assessment and strategic plan to guide the creation of a Birth Outcomes Initiative for Baltimore County.

GRAND TOTAL $___________________

COMPANY NAME: __________________________________________________________

FED ID OR SOCIAL SECURITY NO. _____________________________________________