

**CITY OF MYRTLE BEACH – GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS  
MUST BE SIGNED AS PART OF INVITATION FOR BID PACKAGE**

**1.0 SUMMARY**

1.01 DOCUMENT INCLUDES:

- 2.0 Authority
  - 2.01 Equal Weight and Force
  - 2.02 Written Explanations
  - 2.03 Disputes with Written Explanations
  - 2.04 Written Addenda
  
- 3.0 Requirements for Written Bid Documents
  - 3.01 Availability of Documents
  - 3.02 Responsive Bids
  - 3.03 Non-Responsive Bids
  - 3.04 Document Completion
  - 3.05 Contents of Bid Packet
  - 3.06 Single Package Requirement
  - 3.07 Bid Submission
  - 3.08 Bid Delivery/Opening
  - 3.09 Document Ownership
  
- 4.0 Full Examination
  - 4.01 Thorough Investigation
  - 4.02 Pre-Bid Meetings
  - 4.03 Evidence of Examination
  
- 5.0 Pricing
  - 5.01 Unit Pricing
  - 5.02 Cash Discounts
  - 5.03 Changes in Cost
  - 5.04 Price Evaluation
  
- 6.0 Tax Information
  - 6.01 Sales Tax/Federal Tax
  - 6.02 Payment of Taxes

- 7.0 Material Assessment
  - 7.01 Product Documentation
  - 7.02 SDS
  - 7.03 Evidence of Work/Product
  - 7.04 Sample Submission
  - 7.05 Sample Ownership
  - 7.06 Furnished Items
  - 7.07 Quality of Items
  
- 8.0 Changes in Specifications
  - 8.01 Authority of Specifications
  - 8.02 Equipment
  - 8.03 Deviation from Specifications
  - 8.04 Material Preference
  - 8.05 Changes after Award
  - 8.06 Equivalent Items
  
- 9.0 Modifications
  - 9.01 Additional Work
  - 9.02 Adjustments to Items/Work
  
- 10.0 Bond Requirements
  - 10.01 Bid/Performance/Payment Bonds
  
- 11.0 Delivery
  - 11.01 Warehouse Deliveries
  - 11.02 Dates
  - 11.03 Delivery Price
  - 11.04 Documentation
  - 11.05 Wrong Deliveries
  
- 12.0 Award Criteria/Timeline
  - 12.01 Award Criteria
  - 12.02 Contract Issuance
  - 12.03 Commencement of Work
  - 12.04 Contract Timeline
  - 12.05 Notification
  - 12.06 City Business License

- 13.0 Bidder Responsibilities
  - 13.01 Duration of Bid
  - 13.02 Transfer of Responsibilities
  - 13.03 Drug-Free Workplace
  - 13.04 Subcontractors
  - 13.05 Coordination and Contact
  - 13.06 Liquidated Damages
  - 13.07 Force Majure
  
- 14.0 Indemnity Clause
  - 14.01 Hold Harmless
  - 14.02 Failure to Enforce
  
- 15.0 Federal and State Laws
  - 15.01 Employment Regulations
  - 15.02 Employment Discrimination
  - 15.03 Compliance with Laws
  
- 16.0 Financial Accounting
  - 16.01 Representation
  - 16.02 Payment
  
- 17.0 Bid Rejection/Withdrawal
  - 17.01 Reasons for Rejection
  - 17.02 Best Interest of the City
  - 17.03 Determination of Responsibility
  - 17.04 Disqualification
  - 17.05 Withdrawal Timeline
  
- 18.0 Protest Procedures/Timelines
  - 18.01 Bid Specifications/Contract Terms
  - 18.02 Intent to Award
  
- 19.0 City Reserved Rights
  - 19.01 Reserved Right
  - 19.02 Final Judgment
  - 19.03 Clarification
  - 19.04 Price Increase
  - 19.05 Loss/Damage
  - 19.06 Performance Failure
  - 19.07 Termination for Convenience
  - 19.08 Termination for Default
  - 19.09 Negotiation
  
- 20.0 ADA Compliance
  - 20.01 Contact Information

- 21.0 Signatures
  - 21.01 Accuracy and Completeness
  - 21.02 Non-Collusion
  - 21.03 Compliance

1.02 DEFINITIONS:

- A. City of Myrtle Beach – herein referred to as “City.”
- B. IFB – Invitation for Bid
- C. Bidder – any vendor, proprietor, business, company, service provider, or corporation who submits a bid to the City.
- D. Bid – the collection of documents that includes these general instructions, the scope of work and/or specifications, a written offer, and signature page to be used for consideration in negotiations and/or contract development.
- E. Addendum – a written change, addition, alteration, correction, or revision to a bid document.
- F. Bond – provides financial assurance that the bid has been submitted in good faith, that a bidder will enter into a contract at the amount bid, and will provide the appropriate performance and payment bonds.
- G. Bid Bond – an insurance agreement, accompanied by a monetary commitment, by which a third party accepts liability and guarantees that the bidder will not withdraw from the bid.
- H. Performance Bond – guarantees execution of the terms of a contract.
- I. Payment Bond – covers payment of subcontractors, laborers, materials, and suppliers associated with the project.

2.0 AUTHORITY:

- 2.01 **Equal Weight and Force.** The instructions herein contained are given for the purpose of guidance in properly preparing an applicable bid. These directions have equal weight and force with the specifications and strict compliance is required with all of the provisions. Unless otherwise stated in the special instructions of the bid, these general instructions shall apply.
- 2.02 **Written Explanations.** Only written information from the procurement manager or an authorized representative of the purchasing division is binding; therefore no verbal instructions or verbal information from any other source shall be binding on the City. The City shall not be responsible for any other explanation or interpretation and the decision of the procurement manager or an authorized representative of the purchasing division shall be final and binding upon each Bidder.
- 2.03 **Disputes with Written Explanations.** The written specifications are considered clear and complete. Failure of the Bidder to call attention in writing to any disputes, definitions, discrepancies, inconsistencies or incompleteness before the opening of the bid in the time and manner set forth herein is a waiver of right to do so upon opening of

the bids. Clarifications requested by Bidders must be in writing not less than three (3) days before date and time set for receipt of bids.

**2.04 Written Addenda.** Should the procurement manager deem it necessary to alter bid specifications, those alterations shall be made in the form of written addenda that shall be posted on the City website, and may be advertised in the South Carolina Business Opportunities (SCBO) online publication and the local newspaper. The Bidder is responsible for monitoring all of these sources and should not rely on a single source for updates. These addenda shall then be considered as part of these specifications. No interpretations of the meaning of the bid specifications shall be made orally.

### **3.0 REQUIREMENTS FOR WRITTEN DOCUMENTS:**

**3.01 Availability of Documents.** Bid documents may be obtained through the City of Myrtle Beach website ([www.cityofmyrtlebeach.com](http://www.cityofmyrtlebeach.com)), or in person at the City of Myrtle Beach Purchasing Office, 3231 Mr. Joe White Avenue, Myrtle Beach, SC 29577, Monday through Friday (excluding City holidays), from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM. Bid documents may be mailed or sent via e-mail by vendor request only.

**3.02 Responsive Bids.** The City of Myrtle Beach will review bids on a pass/fail basis to determine whether the bid is “responsive” to this IFB. A responsive bid will contain all required documents and forms that are completed in their entirety. Documents and forms must be unaltered, legible, signed, sealed appropriately, and free from errors without noted corrections. The City reserves the right (at its sole discretion) to determine whether a bid is responsive.

**3.03 Non-Responsive Bids.** Bids that are incomplete, unsigned, improperly signed or sealed, conditional, illegible, obscure, contain arithmetical errors, corrections without initials, ambiguities, alterations, and/or irregularities of any kind, may be declared non-responsive.

**3.04 Document Completion.** A bid and signature document is provided as part of the solicitation. This form must be used in submitting a bid and all pages of the bid document must be completely filled out in blue ink and signed by the Bidder. No bid shall be accepted unless submitted on the forms furnished herein. The format of the bid documents shall not be altered in any way. Written errors made on the bid documents prior to submission must be corrected by marking through the entry in blue ink and making the correct entry adjacent to the written error and initialed by the Bidder in blue ink.

**3.05 Contents of Bid Packet.** The general instructions, scope of work and/or specifications, and the bid and signature document constitute the bid packet. By submitting a bid, the Bidder is deemed to have accepted all of the terms and conditions set forth in the bid packet documents. Alternative bids shall not be considered. All bid packet documents, after completion by the Bidder, must be returned with the bid in the same order as received by the Bidder.

- 3.06 Single Package Requirement.** Unless otherwise stated in the special instructions section of this bid request, submit one complete bid package using the attached form(s), if applicable, for bid pricing.
- 3.07 Bid Submission.** Each bid must be enclosed in a sealed envelope, clearly marked on the outside with the company name/address in the upper left-hand corner and bid number/name and time/date of opening in the lower left-hand corner. This sealed envelope must be delivered to the procurement buyer. If the required information is not clearly stated on the outside of the envelope, the bid is considered nonresponsive. It is the Bidder's responsibility to ensure that the bid is delivered by the official opening date and time. Bids submitted after the date and time set for receipt shall be considered late, regardless of the degree of lateness or the reason related thereto, including causes beyond the control of the Bidder. Late bids shall not be opened and will be returned to the Bidder unopened. The City of Myrtle Beach is not responsible for late or misdirected mail.
- 3.08 Bid Delivery/Opening.** All bids must be sealed, marked and delivered in accordance with these instructions to Purchasing Division, City of Myrtle Beach, 3231 Mr. Joe White Avenue, Myrtle Beach, SC 29577. Bids received prior to the advertised hour of opening shall be securely kept sealed. Bids shall be opened and read publicly at the time so specified on the front cover sheet.
- 3.09 Document Ownership.** All documents, reports, bids, submittals, working papers or other material submitted to the City from the Bidder shall become the sole and exclusive property of the City, in the public domain, and are not the property of the Bidder. The Bidder shall not copyright, or cause to be copyrighted, any portion of any of said documents submitted to the City as a result of this solicitation.

#### **4.0 FULL EXAMINATION:**

- 4.01 Thorough Investigation.** Bidders shall make all investigations necessary to thoroughly inform themselves regarding plant and facilities for delivery of material and equipment and/or service to be performed as required by the bid conditions. No plea of ignorance by the Bidder of conditions that exist or that may hereafter exist as a result of failure or omission on the part of the Bidder to make the necessary examination and investigations, or failure to fulfill in every detail the requirements of the contract documents, shall in no way relieve the Bidder from any obligation in respect to the bid.
- 4.02 Pre-Bid Meetings.** When Bidders are required to make site visits or attend pre-bid meetings, all expenses shall be paid for by the Bidder, unless previous written arrangements are made with the City. No bidder shall be admitted to a pre-bid meeting after the specified start time, otherwise the bid shall be considered non-responsive.
- 4.03 Evidence of Examination.** Submission of a bid shall be considered as conclusive evidence of the Bidder's complete examination, understanding and acceptance of the specifications.

## 5.0 PRICING:

- 5.01 Unit Pricing.** Unit pricing shall govern over extended prices unless otherwise stated in the special instructions in this bid request. All prices quoted should be firm. In those cases where a firm bid cannot be made, consideration shall still be given to all Bidders. Also, maximum or ceiling prices should be quoted where possible when bid contains non-firm prices.
- 5.02 Cash Discounts.** Cash discounts, if allowed, should be so stated on the bid form. Prices must, however, be based upon payment thirty (30) calendar days after delivery.
- 5.03 Changes in Cost.** If during the term of the contract entered into as a result of this bid, the cost of material(s) is/are increased through no act on the part of the contractor other than to comply with any prevailing rise in the market price(s) of material(s) used, it shall be the contractor's responsibility to notify the City of Myrtle Beach Purchasing Office in writing of the price increase(s) and the effective date of the increase(s). Price(s) shall be increased only to the point of absorbing additional cost(s) of material(s) paid for by the contractor. At any time during the term of the contract, the City may request that the contractor provide written documentation from the manufacturer/supplier of the material(s) to substantiate price increase(s). If during the term of the contract, the cost of material(s) to the contractor is reduced, then the contractor shall reduce the contract price(s) and notify the procurement buyer in writing.
- 5.04 Price Evaluation.** The City of Myrtle Beach shall evaluate the Bidder's price proposal for completeness, price reasonableness, price realism, and unbalanced pricing. Price reasonableness shall be established by competition and determined primarily by comparison with other bids submitted. Price realism shall be established by analysis of the unit price submitted to determine whether the bid price reflects a clear understanding of the requirements, are realistic for the work to be performed, and are consistent with the methods of performance and materials described in the bid response. Unbalanced pricing exists when, despite an acceptable total evaluated price, the price of one or more contract line items is significantly overstated or understated and poses an unacceptable risk to the City. The City may determine that a bid is unacceptable if the proposed price is materially unbalanced between line items.

## 6.0 TAX INFORMATION:

- 6.01 Sales Tax/Federal Tax.** The City of Myrtle Beach pays South Carolina State Sales Tax. The City is exempt from Federal Excise Tax and shall issue exemption certificates if required. All applicable taxes should be shown as separate line items unless otherwise indicated.
- 6.02 Payment of Taxes.** The contractor agrees to pay all taxes and license fees of whatever nature applicable to conduct business and furnish the City of Myrtle Beach, if requested, with duplicate receipts or other satisfactory evidence showing the prompt payment of all taxes and fees when referred to and showing that all licenses are in effect.

## 7.0 MATERIAL ASSESSMENT:

- 7.01 **Product Documentation.** Bid shall include adequate brochures, latest printed specification and advertising literature describing the product(s) offered in such a fashion as to permit ready comparison with the specifications on an item-by-item basis where applicable.
- 7.02 **Safety Data Sheet (SDS).** If so requested in the bid documents, a completed SDS for the item(s) indicated must be provided with the bid documents. Failure to submit this form upon request may result in rejection of bid.
- 7.03 **Evidence of Work/Product.** All Bidders must be prepared to present suitable evidence of similar work recently completed or goods supplied. Products are to be brand name or equal unless otherwise specified. If submitting an equal product, supporting documents must be provided with bid.
- 7.04 **Sample Submission.** When samples are required with a bid, they must be submitted with the bid unless approved by the purchasing manager or purchasing manager's authorized representative.
- 7.05 **Sample Ownership.** Samples submitted shall become the property of the City of Myrtle Beach. The entire cost of the sample(s) shall be paid for by the Bidder unless previous written arrangements are made with the City.
- 7.06 **Furnished Items.** Bidders are required to state exactly what they intend to furnish; otherwise, they shall be required to furnish the items as specified.
- 7.07 **Quality of Items.** Bidders shall submit, with their bid, data necessary to evaluate and determine the quality of the item(s) they are bidding. Unless otherwise specified, the Bidder shall unconditionally guarantee the items and workmanship being bid. If any defects or signs of deterioration are noted which, in the City's opinion, are due to faulty workmanship or material, the Bidder, upon notification and at the expense of the Bidder, shall replace the items to the complete satisfaction of the City. Upon the Bidder's failure to replace items, the City may return the rejected items to the Bidder at the Bidder's risk and expense, or the City may dispose of them as its own property.

## 8.0 CHANGES IN SPECIFICATIONS:

- 8.01 **Authority of Specifications.** It shall be understood that in all cases the terms and conditions, as detailed in the specifications, shall supersede terms and conditions, as detailed in the general instructions. No verbal agreement or conversation with any officer, agent, or employee of the City shall affect or modify any of the terms and conditions.
- 8.02 **Equipment.** If this bid is for the purchase of equipment, the Bidder guarantees that the equipment offered is standard new equipment, latest model or regular stock product, with



parts regularly used for the type of equipment offered; also that no attachment or part has been substituted or applied contrary to the manufacturer's recommendations and standard practices.

**8.03 Deviation from Specifications.** Any deviation from specifications must be noted in detail and submitted in writing with this bid. Complete specifications should be attached for any substitutions offered, or when amplifications are desirable or necessary. The absence of a specification deviation statement and accompanying specifications shall hold the Bidder strictly accountable to the specifications as written herein.

**8.04 Material Preference.** The specifications, as listed herein, represent our preference in material; however, we are fully cognizant that no two pieces of comparable material are identical and/or same in size, function, and operation; and some of the specifications will not completely coincide with ours as listed. Please list your exceptions and explanations separately. It is not our intent to write specifications for any project on which only one proponent can submit a bid.

**8.05 Changes after Award.** Any changes in specifications, after the purchase order/contract has been awarded, must be with the written consent of the purchasing division; otherwise, the responsibility for such changes shall be with the Bidder.

**8.06 Equivalent Items.** For items identified in this bid as "brand name or equal," the Bidder's offer must indicate each product that is being offered as an "equal" product by providing the following information:

- A. A description reflecting the characteristics and level of quality that will satisfy the salient physical, functional, or performance characteristics of "equal" products specified in the bid
- B. A clear identification of the item by brand name and make/model number (if any)
- C. Descriptive literature such as illustrations, drawings, photographs, or a clear reference to previously furnished descriptive data or information that is readily available to the purchasing buyer
- D. A clear description of any modifications the Bidder plans to make in a product so that it conforms to the bid requirements

Compliance verification is performed by the City purchasing buyer and their requestor(s). The purchasing buyer is required to evaluate "equal" products on the basis of information furnished by the Bidder, or identified in the bid. The buyer is not responsible for locating, obtaining, or researching any information that is not provided. A Bidder's product shall not be considered as an "equal" product if there is an inadequate description of how the "equal" product meets the salient characteristics specified in the bid.

## **9.0 MODIFICATIONS:**

**9.01 Additional Work.** The bid shall not contain any unauthorized additions. No additional work shall be allowed or paid for unless such extra or additional work is ordered in writing by the purchasing division and with the price for such established and agreed

upon before such extras are delivered or work is performed.

**9.02 Adjustments to Items/Work.** The City of Myrtle Beach shall have the right, without invalidating the contract, to make additions to or deductions from the items or work covered by the specifications. In case such deductions or additions are made, an equitable price adjustment shall be made between the City and the contractor. Any such adjustments in price shall be made in writing.

## **10.0 BOND REQUIREMENTS:**

**10.01 Bid/Performance/Payment Bonds.** If required, Bidder shall supply a bid bond of 5% of the total bid amount. The successful Bidder at its own cost and expense shall furnish, if required, a valid performance and payment bond (payable to the City of Myrtle Beach) in the full amount of this agreement conditioned on the full and faithful performance of the work under this agreement in accordance with the specifications and contract documents. Bonds are required if the contract work is valued at \$20,000.00 or more for construction and/or any type of service related requirement. The performance and payment bonds shall be executed by the contractor and a bonding company authorized to do business in the State of South Carolina and approved by the State of South Carolina to issue such performance and payment bonds. Bonds must be received within ten (10) calendar days from the date and time of notification of award. Only the forms provided by the City for the performance and payment bonds shall be accepted.

## **11.0 DELIVERY:**

**11.01 Warehouse Deliveries.** Unless otherwise stated in the special instructions section of this bid request, deliveries shall be accepted during the hours between 8:00 AM and 4:00 PM Monday through Friday, excluding City holidays.

**11.02 Dates.** The delivery date as stated in the bid shall be the time required to deliver the complete item(s) after the receipt of the order or award of the contract. Where multiple items appear on a bid request, the Bidder shall, unless otherwise stated by the City, show delivery date for each item separately. If only a single delivery date is shown, it shall be assumed to mean that all items included in the bid can and will be delivered on or before the specified date. The Bidder certifies that the delivery shall be completed in the time the Bidder states, starting at the time the order is placed, provided that the time between the bid opening and the placing of the order does not exceed the number of days stipulated in the bid. The right is reserved to reject any bid on which the delivery time indicated is considered sufficient to delay the operation for which the commodity is intended. Successful Bidder(s) shall be responsible for making any and all claims against carriers for missing or damaged items.

**11.03 Delivery Price.** Bid prices are to be Delivered Price (FOB Destination). Bid prices must include all delivery costs, including but not limited to, loading and unloading cost(s), transportation charge(s) and fuel surcharge(s). The City of Myrtle Beach shall not be responsible for any demurrage charge(s).

**11.04 Documentation.** Invoice(s), certificates of origin, warranties and guarantees must be submitted at the time of delivery of the item(s).

**11.05 Wrong Deliveries.** In the event that materials, supplies, etc. are delivered which do not comply with specifications and have not been approved by the purchasing division, the contractor, upon notification, shall immediately remove from the premises any such materials, supplies, etc. and replace them with materials, supplies, etc. in full accordance with the specifications.

## **12.0 AWARD CRITERIA/TIMELINE:**

**12.01 Award Criteria.** For service and supply-related requirements, the award shall be made within the time specified to the responsible Bidder meeting the specifications and having the lowest possible cost consistent with the quality and service needed for effective use.

The following criteria may also be used in making this determination:

- A. Superior quality and specification adherence
- B. Adequate maintenance and service
- C. Delivery and/or completion time
- D. Guarantees and warranties
- E. Company's reputation and financial status
- F. Past experience and cost with similar or like equipment or service
- G. Anticipated future cost and experience
- H. Performance of proponent's equipment by other agencies, plants, and firms

Evaluation factors, if required, shall be stated in either a percent basis or a numerical format.

**12.02 Contract Issuance.** The award of a contract is accomplished by executing a written agreement that incorporates the entire bid, Bidder's response, clarifications, addenda, and additions. All such materials constitute the contract documents. The Bidder agrees to accept the contract terms unless substantive changes are made without the approval of the Bidder. Bidder shall not add any provisions reserving the right to accept or reject an award. The procurement office is the sole point of contact for the issuance of the contract.

**12.03 Commencement of Work.** Upon execution and delivery of the contract and insurance certificates, the Bidder shall be notified to proceed with the work of the contract. The work of the contract shall be commenced within one (1) City business day following such notification, or as otherwise specified in the Notice to Proceed. The performance period shall be from date of issuance of Notice to Proceed through \_\_\_\_\_. Contract prices shall remain firm for the duration of the contract period. The City of Myrtle Beach reserves the right to adjust the performance period to meet the best interests of the City. Any such adjustment will be made in writing through the Purchasing Office.

**12.04 Contract Timeline.** In the event the successful Bidder fails or refuses to execute a formal written contract with the City of Myrtle Beach in form and content acceptable to

the City, within ten (10) City business days after notice of acceptance of the bid, the bid may be revoked, and all obligations of the City in connection with the bid may be canceled.

**12.05 Notification.** Bid tabulations shall be available on-line at [www.cityofmyrtlebeach.com/purchasing.html](http://www.cityofmyrtlebeach.com/purchasing.html). Winning Bidder shall be notified five (5) City business days after bid tabulations are posted.

**12.06 City Business License.** The successful Bidder must obtain a City of Myrtle Beach business license in order to conduct business within our city. A business license is not required to submit a bid; however, any bidder that receives an award under this bid shall be required to obtain a City business license before work can begin. For further information on obtaining a city business license, contact the City Business License Office at 843-918-1200.

### **13.0 BIDDER RESPONSIBILITIES:**

**13.01 Duration of Bid.** Bid prices, terms and conditions shall be firm for a period of at least one hundred twenty (120) calendar days from the deadline for receipt of submittal, or until such time as established in the bid. The successful bid shall not be subject to future price escalation or changes of terms if accepted during the one hundred twenty (120) day period, or the specified bid time. Price decreases or changes in terms by others after the acceptance of a bid shall not be considered.

**13.02 Transfer of Responsibilities.** The contractor shall not assign or otherwise transfer any of its responsibilities or obligations under the contract to any other person or entity without prior written consent of the City.

**13.03 Drug-Free Workplace.** In accordance with the provisions of the Drug-Free Workplace Act, the City of Myrtle Beach shall promote a drug-free workplace. Illegal drugs or narcotics in the workplace are strictly prohibited. The manufacture, possession, use, and/or distribution of a controlled substance of any kind while working on City property is subject to disciplinary action up to and including immediate discharge. As such, Bidders are required to insure that a drug-free workplace is provided in the performance of any City contracts. By submitting a bid, Bidder certifies that, if awarded the contract, they and their subcontractors shall comply with the City's Drug-Free Workplace Policy. The failure of any Bidder to uphold and enforce this policy is subject to termination of contract.

**13.04 Subcontractors.** The contractor shall be wholly responsible for the performance of all subcontractors and for their acts and omissions, and those of persons either directly or indirectly employed by the contractor, and the fact that subcontractors are subject to the approval of the City of Myrtle Beach shall not affect the contractor's responsibility in this regard. The Bidder shall bind every subcontractor to all terms and conditions anywhere contained in the contract documents as far as applicable to the work of such subcontractor so that the subcontractor assumes toward the contractor and toward the work all the

obligations and responsibilities that the contract assumes toward the City as to the performance of the subcontractor's portion of the work.

**13.05 Coordination and Contact.** The selected Bidder shall be required to assume responsibility for coordination, engineering, delivery, installation, and maintenance of all equipment, software and services offered in their bid, whether they are the manufacturer or producer of them. Bidder shall not assign, transfer, convey, sublet, or otherwise dispose of the contract or their right, title, or interest therein without prior written consent of the City. Further, the City of Myrtle Beach shall consider the selected Bidder to be the sole point of contact with regard to contractual matters, including payment of any and all charges resulting from the lease or purchase of the entire service equipment and software configuration, when applicable. Only service and equipment offered by Bidders who have installed similar systems of comparable size shall be considered. All service and equipment offered shall be in current standard production and of the latest design.

**13.06 Liquidated Damages.** If the Bidder fails to deliver the supplies or perform the services within the time specified in the contract, the Bidder shall, in place of actual damages, pay to the City of Myrtle Beach liquidated damages of \$\_\_\_\_\_ per calendar day of delay. If the City terminates the contract, in whole or in part, the contractor is liable for liquidated damages accruing until the City reasonably obtains delivery or performance of similar supplies or services from an alternate bidder. These liquidated damages are in addition to excess costs of repurchase due to contract termination. The Bidder shall not be charged with liquidated damages when the delay in delivery or performance is documented to be beyond the control and without the fault or negligence of the Bidder.

**13.07 Force Majure.** The Bidder shall not be held responsible for failure to perform the responsibilities imposed by this bid due to legal strikes, fires, riots, rebellions, and acts of God beyond the control of the Bidder, unless otherwise specified in the bid.

#### **14.0 INDEMNITY CLAUSE:**

**14.01 Hold Harmless.** The contractor agrees to indemnify and save harmless the City of Myrtle Beach, its officers, representatives, departments, agencies, employees, and agents, from all claims, loss, damage, injury, fines, penalties, demands, actions, suits, and liabilities arising from the contractor's own fault or negligence or through the negligence or fault of the manufacturer of goods supplied by the contractor. This obligation shall extend to and include, all litigation costs, court costs, and reasonable attorney fees incurred by the City in response to such claims, provided it is ultimately determined that such claims result from the contractor's or manufacturer's fault or negligence.

**14.02. Failure to Enforce.** Failure by the City at any time to enforce the provisions of the bid shall not be construed as a waiver of any provisions. The failure to enforce shall not affect the validity of any part of the bid.

## 15.0 FEDERAL AND STATE LAWS:

**15.01 Employment Regulations.** Bidders shall comply with all local, state, and federal directives, orders, and laws as applicable to this bid and subsequent contract(s) including, but not limited to Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO), in compliance with executive Order 11246, Minority Business Enterprise (MBE), and Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA), as applicable to this contract and Immigration Bill H4400 which states that every contractor doing business with the City of Myrtle Beach for the physical performance of services with the total value of the contract to be performed in a twelve-month period exceeding fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000.00) must agree to the following:

- A. Register and participate in the federal work authorization program to verify the employment authorization of all new employees; and require agreement from its sub-contractors to do the same; or
- B. To employ only workers who:
  - 1. Possess a valid South Carolina Driver's License or ID issued by the South Carolina Department of Motor Vehicles; or
  - 2. Are eligible to obtain a South Carolina Driver's License or ID card in that they meet the requirements; or
  - 3. Possess a valid Driver's License or ID card from another state where the requirements are at least as strict as those in South Carolina.

**15.02 Employment Discrimination.** During the performance of this bid, the Bidder agrees not to discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, religion, color, sex, orientation, age, disability, or national origin; however, some conditions may be a bona fide occupational qualification reasonably necessary for the completion of this bid. Furthermore, the Bidder agrees that this non-discriminatory agreement shall be incorporated by the Bidder in all contracts entered into with suppliers, subcontractors, and all labor organizations furnishing skilled, unskilled, and craft union skilled labor, or who may perform any such labor or services.

**15.03 Compliance with Laws.** The Bidder shall, in the performance of work under this bid, fully comply with all applicable federal, state, county, or municipal laws, rules, regulations, or ordinances, and shall hold the City harmless from any liability resulting from failure of such compliance.

## 16.0 FINANCIAL ACCOUNTING:

**16.01 Representation.** The selected Bidder shall assign a competent account representative acceptable to the City of Myrtle Beach who shall represent the Bidder in providing contracted services to the City. The account representative shall maintain accurate and detailed records, correspondence, and accounts relating all parts of the bid. Records shall be kept in accordance with sound, generally accepted accounting principles. The City shall have the right to audit all records pertaining to the costs incurred under this bid. If the account representative is removed by the Bidder, the new representative must be acceptable to the City.

**16.02 Payment.** Inspection and acceptance of the material, goods, and/or service by an authorized representative of the City shall be required prior to any payment. After acceptance by the City, payments shall be made to the contractor within thirty (30) calendar days of receipt of invoice.

**17.0 BID REJECTION/DISQUALIFICATION/WITHDRAWAL:**

- 17.01 Reasons for Rejection.** The City of Myrtle Beach may reject a bid if:
- A. The Bidder misstates or conceals any material fact in the bid; or if,
  - B. The bid does not strictly conform to the law or requirements of the bid; or if,
  - C. The bid is conditional, except that the Bidder may qualify his/her bid for acceptance by the City on an “all or none” basis, or a “low item” basis. An “all or none” basis bid must include all items upon which bids are invited.
- 17.02 Best Interest of City of Myrtle Beach.** The City may, however, reject all bids whenever it is deemed in the best interest of the City to do so, and may reject any part of a bid unless the bid has been qualified as provided in statement. The City may also waive any minor informalities or irregularities in any bid.
- 17.03 Determination of Responsibility.** The City may make such investigation as it deems necessary to determine the ability of a Bidder to furnish the required goods/services, and the Bidder shall furnish to the City any requested information and data for this purpose at the Bidder’s expense. Information requested may include, but not be limited to: financial statements, credit ratings, criminal histories, references, records of past performance, and/or on-site inspections. The City reserves the right to reject any Bidder if the evidence fails to satisfy the City that such Bidder is properly qualified to carry out the terms of this bid.
- 17.04 Disqualification.** Any of the following factors may be considered just cause to disqualify a bid without further consideration: evidence of either direct or indirect collusion among bidders in regard to the amount, terms, or conditions of the bid; attempts to improperly influence any member of the evaluation team; evidence of bidder’s inability to successfully complete required responsibilities and obligations of the bid; existence of any lawsuit, unresolved contractual claim, or dispute between the bidder and the City; and/or default under any previous agreement with the City that resulted in the termination of the agreement.
- 17.05 Withdrawal Timeline.** Bids may be withdrawn on a written request, received from Bidders prior to the bid closing date and time. Negligence on the part of the Bidder in preparing the bid creates no right for withdrawal of the bid after the bid has been opened. No modifications, clarifications, or explanations of any bids shall be allowed after the date and time of closing.

## 18.0 PROTESTS:

### 18.01 Procedures/Timelines. Protest of Bid Specifications and/or Contract Terms:

- A. Specifications and contract terms shall be made available for inspection and copying. Unless a different deadline is specified in the IFB, protests of the bid specifications or contract terms shall be presented to the City in writing within five (5) City of Myrtle Beach business days prior to bid closing.
- B. Such protest or request for change shall include the reasons for protest or request, and any proposed changes to specifications or terms.
- C. Envelopes containing protests of specifications shall be marked and mailed, or hand delivered within five (5) city of Myrtle Beach business days to the procurement buyer.
- D. No protest against award because of the content of bid specifications or contract terms shall be considered after the deadline established for submitting such protest in paragraph A above.
- E. Submission of a bid without the timely submission of protest of specifications or contract terms is deemed a waiver to the right to protest specifications or contract terms.
- F. A decision by the procurement buyer shall be given in writing in each of such cases at least one (1) City of Myrtle Beach business day before the time set for the opening of bids. A copy of the decision may be obtained at the procurement manager's office.
- G. If, in the judgment of the procurement manager, the previously mentioned inquiry requires explanation or interpretation, any such explanation or interpretation of said plans, specifications, or other contract documents shall be made by written addendum duly issued with copies mailed or delivered to each person or firm receiving a set of contract documents.

### 18.02 Procedures/Timelines. Intent to Award:

- A. The written purchase order shall constitute a final decision of the City of Myrtle Beach to award the contract if no written protest is filed with the City within five (5) City of Myrtle Beach business days of the posting of the bid tab. If a protest is timely filed, the purchase order is a final decision of the City only upon issuance of a written decision denying the protest and affirming the award.
- B. Purchasing buyer shall notify winning Bidder five (5) City days after bid tab is posted on the City website. It is the responsibility of the Bidder to check the website. Any actual Bidder who is adversely affected or aggrieved by the award of the contract to another Bidder on the same solicitation shall have five (5) City business days after the posting of bid tab to submit to the City a written protest of the award. The written protest shall specify the grounds upon which the protest is based. The City shall not entertain a protest submitted after the time period established in this rule or such different period as may be provided in the City's request for bids.
- C. Bidders must submit written protests of the intent to award to the procurement manager within five (5) business days. The written protest must include name



and contact information of the protestor, solicitation, title and number, the grounds upon which the protest is based, and relief expected.

## **19.0 CITY RESERVED RIGHTS:**

- 19.01 Reserved Rights.** The City of Myrtle Beach expressly reserves the following rights:
- A. To reject any and/or all irregularities in the bids submitted
  - B. To reject any and all bids, or parts thereof, as deemed in the best interest of the City.
  - C. To base awards due with regard on quality of services, experiences, compliance with specifications, and other such factors as may be necessary in the circumstances.
  - D. To make the award to any Bidder who, in the opinion of senior management, is in the best interest of the City.
  - E. To make award based on negotiations conducted in accordance with this solicitation or on the basis of a best and final offer by the Bidder.
  - F. Only the evaluation factors specified in this solicitation shall be used as a basis for award.
- 19.02 Final Judgment.** If any doubt or difference of opinion arises between the City of Myrtle Beach and the Bidder as to the interpretation of this request for bid, the decision of the City shall be final and binding upon all parties.
- 19.03 Clarification.** The City of Myrtle Beach reserves the right to obtain clarification on any point in the Bidder's bid. The failure of the Bidder to make additional information available could result in the rejection of the response. Such clarification might involve the delivery of demonstration equipment to the City for evaluation purposes. Such hardware shall be provided at no cost to the City. The City is not obliged to evaluate any or all products.
- 19.04 Price Increase.** The City of Myrtle Beach reserves the right to accept or reject any price increase(s) and to cancel any and all item(s) under the contract for which price increase(s) is/are considered unacceptable.
- 19.05 Loss/Damage.** The City of Myrtle Beach shall not be responsible for the loss or damage of any items during the IFB process.
- 19.06 Performance Failure.** In the event that the Bidder fails to perform any material obligations, the City of Myrtle Beach reserves the right to give the Bidder written cure notice of such failure. The Bidder shall then have five (5) calendar days to resolve the failure. If the failure is not resolved within five (5) calendar days, the City reserves the right to withhold all money that is due and payable to the Bidder. Such a remedy is in addition to other remedies that might be available to the City. Moreover, the City reserves the right to terminate the contract if the Bidder exceeds the five (5) calendar days of non-performance without the approval of the purchasing manager.

**19.07 Termination for Convenience.** The City of Myrtle Beach reserves the right to terminate the contract with the Contractor when it is in the best interest of the City. If the contract is so terminated, the City shall provide the Contractor with thirty (30) calendar days written notice and shall compensate the Contractor for all necessary and reasonable direct costs of performing the services actually accomplished as of the date of termination. No other costs shall be allowed for a termination for convenience. No damages shall be allowed for a termination of convenience.

**19.08 Termination for Default.** The performance of work under this bid may be terminated by the City in whole, or in part, upon non-performance, violation of contract terms, delivery failure, bankruptcy or insolvency, or whenever the City determines that termination is in the City's best interest. Any such termination shall be communicated by a written notice of default, delivered to the Bidder, at least fifteen calendar (15) days before the date of termination, specifying the extent to which performance of the work is terminated, and the date upon which such termination becomes effective. The City of Myrtle Beach shall be entitled to recover all fees, costs, claims, or damages incurred as a result of the Contractor's breach of this Agreement, including reasonable attorney's fees and costs of legal action instituted by the City to collect such fees, costs, claims, or damages.

**19.09 Negotiation.** Prior to the notice of award to any bidder, the City of Myrtle Beach may elect to open negotiations and ultimately reach an agreement with a Bidder who demonstrates the best combination of attributes to conduct the project, and who also negotiates a project cost with the City that is fair and reasonable. The negotiation period shall be no more than five (5) City business days. In these negotiations, the City may address scope of work, unit pricing, or any other contractual requirements fairly contained within the bid documents. In the event that negotiations should commence but fail, the City shall reject any or all bids.

## **20.0 ADA COMPLIANCE:**

**20.01 Contact Information.** Questions concerning the bid requirements or specifications should be directed in writing to the procurement buyer shown on the front page of this bid package. If you need disability-related accommodations, please contact (843) 918-2170.

## **21.0 SIGNATURES:**

**21.01 Accuracy and Completeness.** The authorized signer of the bid shall represent and warrant that they have been sufficiently informed in all matters relating to the specified products; that they have checked their bid for errors and omissions; that the prices stated in their bid are correct and as intended are a complete and correct statement of prices.

**21.02 Non-Collusion.** The authorized signer of the bid certifies that the bid is made without collusion or fraud, and that they have not offered or received any kickbacks or inducements from any other bidder, supplier, manufacturer, or subcontractor in

connection with their bid. Furthermore, the authorized signer certifies that they have not conferred on any public employee having official responsibility for this procurement transaction any payment, loan, subscription, advance, deposit of money, services, or anything of more than nominal value, present or promised, unless consideration of substantially equal or greater value was exchanged. Prior compensated consulting shall not preclude a Bidder from making a bid.

**21.03 Compliance.** By signature below the Bidder affirms that they have examined, understands and accepts all instructions, specifications and conditions, and shall provide for appropriate insurance, deposits, and performance bonds if required, and shall comply fully with specifications as attached for the agreed contract, especially where materials and work are involved, and that any and all registration requirements where required for Bidders as set forth in law are met.

---

Signature of Bidder

Date of Signing

---

Print Name of Bidder

If more convenient, tabulations are available for pick-up after final award. No bid tabulations will be faxed.