



CITY OF AUSTIN

Purchasing Office

Invitation for Quotation

IFQ 4400 PC1011

**2024 Climate Pollution Reduction Grant
Engagement Plan**

Bid Due: 07/22/2024 at 12:00 AM

The purpose of this contract is to identify a responsible party to carry out community engagement activities associated with the City of Austin's 'Comprehensive Climate Action Plan' project, on behalf of the City of Austin Office of Sustainability, hereafter, "OoS".

The Contractor shall propose and carry out a set of activities that meet desired objectives, outlined in Section 4.0. Bids will outline the proposed approach a contractor would take to achieve the objectives.

This Contract shall remain in effect for 12 months or the City terminates the Contract. Bids above \$50,000 will not be accepted for this Contract.

The City reserves the right to award this contract to multiple contractors. Bids will be evaluated based on local experience and subject-matter expertise in addition to cost.

Mali Calvo

Mali.Calvo@AustinTexas.gov



FINANCIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Central Procurement • PO Box 1088 Austin, TX 78767

Invitation

For Quotation

Instructions to Respondents of this IFQ

Submit quotes to the email address below using this form and the documents within this attachment. Items quoted must meet or exceed City of Austin Specifications. The City reserves the right to determine same or equal status.

The City is exempt from Federal Excise and State Sales Tax therefore, tax must not be included in the quoted price.

All quotes must be submitted on FOB Destination basis, with all freight charges included in the item price.

Quotes over \$50,000 will not be considered. Bids will be evaluated based on subject-matter expertise and experience.

EMAIL OFFER TO: Mali.Calvo@AustinTexas.gov

INSTRUCTIONS

1. INVITATION FOR QUOTATIONS (IFQ)

- 1.1. Invitation.** The City of Austin invites you to submit a Quote to provide the goods and/or services described in this Solicitation.
- 1.2. Process.** Notices for this IFQ are based on the applicable commodity code(s). If the commodity code(s) had enough certified vendors, an initial notice is sent via email only to those vendors who are certified through the State of Texas and City as HUBS or M/WBE's. If the City receives adequate quotes from those certified contractors, the contract will be awarded at that time. If the City does not receive adequate quotes from the initial notice, the solicitation will then be posted online at the City's Austin Finance Online website and a notice will be emailed to all vendors registered for the applicable commodity code(s).
- 1.3. Changes.** The City may change or revise any of the contents of this Solicitation through the issuance of a written Addendum. Any explanation, clarification, interpretation or change to the Solicitation made in any other manner is not binding upon the City, and Offerors shall not rely upon such explanation, clarification, interpretation, or change. Oral explanations or instructions given before the award of the Contract are not binding.
- 1.4. Review of Documents.** Offerors shall review the entire Solicitation, as revised. Offerors shall notify the person listed on the Cover Sheet in writing of any omissions, ambiguities, inconsistencies or errors in the Solicitation prior to the Offer Due Date and Time. Offerors shall also notify the City of any Solicitation contents the Offeror believes may be unreasonably restrictive.

2. COMMUNICATIONS

- 2.1. Questions.** Offerors shall submit any questions concerning this Solicitation in writing via e-mail to the contact person displayed on the Solicitation Cover Sheet.

3. OFFER PREPARATION

- 3.1. Offer Submittals.** Offerors intending to respond to this Solicitation shall complete each of the Submittal documents. At a minimum Submittals will include a Price Sheet and a signed Offer Sheet.
- 3.2. Proprietary and Confidential Information.** All Offers received and opened by the City are subject to the Texas Government Code, Ch. 552, and will be made available to the public. With the exception of the Quote Sheet, which shall not be kept confidential, Offerors seeking to keep any other portions of their Offer confidential shall mark each such portion as "Proprietary". The City will, to the extent allowed by law, endeavor to protect such information from disclosure. The City may request a review and determination from the Attorney General's Office of the State of Texas, of any contents marked as "Proprietary". A copyright notice or symbol is insufficient to identify proprietary or confidential information.

4. OFFER EVALUATION

- 4.1. Basis of Competition.** The City may compare quotes based on the prices for individual line items, the prices for categories of line items, the aggregate price, or other award basis that is most advantageous to the City. The City will choose the basis of competition that best meets the City's needs for the resulting contracts. Award will be made to the lowest Offer meeting any minimum requirements set forth in the solicitation.
- 4.2. Evaluation.** The lowest offer will be reviewed to ensure any minimum qualifications stated in this solicitation are met. If any minimum qualifications are not met, the City will move to the

next Lowest Offer and repeat the process. The City reserves the right to require references from the lowest offeror prior to contract award to confirm minimum qualifications.

5. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

- 5.1. Solicitation File.** All documents included in this Solicitation, and all timely received Offers in response to this Solicitation, except for Offer contents deemed by Offerors to be proprietary and confidential, will be available for public inspections.
- 5.2. Complaints.** Any complaint regarding this solicitation shall be emailed to the contact listed on the Solicitation Cover Sheet. The complaints will be reviewed and responded to in a timely manner.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- 1. ACCEPTANCE OF CONTRACT:** The Contract, including any Addenda, Exhibits, or Attachments incorporated herein by reference constitute the entire agreement between City of Austin ("City") and the Contractor for the materials, equipment, parts, and/or services (hereafter "goods" and/or "services") described thereon. Acceptance is limited to the terms stated herein, and any additional or different terms proposed by Contractor shall be of no force and effect and are hereby rejected unless expressly agreed to in writing by the City.
- 2. PAYMENT TERMS AND DISCOUNTS:** Payments shall be paid to Contractor within thirty (30) days contingent upon the following:
 - 2.1.** Application of payment discounts, if considered to be in the best interest of the City;
 - 2.2.** From date of receipt by the City's Authorized Contact of properly documented invoices as determined by the budgetary and fiscal guidelines of the City;
 - 2.3.** On the condition that the Contractor has delivered the goods and/or performed the services to the satisfaction of the City. Prices invoiced shall be inclusive of all taxes, fees, surcharges, or other payments unless agreed to in the Work Authorization.
 - 2.3.1.** Invoices for goods or services must be submitted to the City's Authorized Contact upon delivery of goods or upon performance of services. If invoices are for goods, invoices should be submitted to the City when such goods are delivered to a carrier for final delivery to the City or upon actual delivery of goods to the City by the Contractor. Contractor's submittal of invoices for services shall correlate with the payment schedule agreed upon by the Contractor and the City as evidenced in this Contract. Authorized contact name and mailing address can be found on the purchase order.
- 3. AUDITS AND RECORDS:**
 - 3.1.** The Contractor agrees that the representatives of the Office of the City Auditor or other authorized representatives of the City shall have access to, and the right to audit, examine, or reproduce, any and all records of the Contractor related to the performance under this Contract. The Contractor shall retain all such records for a period of three (3) years after final payment on this Contract or until all audit and litigation matters that the City has brought to the attention of the Contractor are resolved, whichever is longer. The Contractor agrees to refund to the City any overpayments disclosed by any such audit.
 - 3.2. Records Retention:**
 - 3.2.1.** Contractor is subject to City Code chapter 2-11 (Records Management), and as it may subsequently be amended. For purposes of this subsection, a Record means all books, accounts, reports, files, and other data recorded or created by a Contractor in fulfillment of the Contract whether in digital or physical format, except a record specifically relating to the Contractor's internal administration.
 - 3.2.2.** All Records are the property of the City. The Contractor may not dispose of or destroy a Record without City authorization and shall deliver the Records, in all requested formats and media, along with all finding aids and metadata, to the City at no cost when requested by the City
 - 3.2.3.** The Contractor shall retain all Records for a period of three (3) years after final payment on this Contract or until all audit and litigation matters that the City has brought to the attention of the Contractor are resolved, whichever is longer.

3.3. The Contractor shall include sections A and B above in all subcontractor agreements entered in connection with this Contract.

4. FINANCIAL DISCLOSURES AND ASSURANCES: The City may request and review financial information as the City requires to determine the credit worthiness of the Contractor, including but not limited to, annual reports, audited financial statements and reports, bank letters of credit or other credit instruments. Failure of the Contractor to comply with this requirement shall be grounds for terminating the Contract.

5. TERMINATION:

5.1. City reserves the right to terminate this Contract at any time and for any reason, including convenience, with respect to undelivered goods or unperformed services. Such termination shall be by written or electronic notice or by oral notice confirmed in writing.

5.2. Except as otherwise provided for in this Contract, the City and the Contractor shall consider this Contract terminated upon completion of the performance obligations and upon completion of payment obligations.

6. DELIVERY: Time is of the essence. If delivery of conforming goods or performance of conforming services is not completed by the time(s) promised, the City reserves the right, in addition to any other rights and/or remedies it may have under the law or in equity, to cancel this Contract, to reject such goods or services in whole or in part on reasonable notice to Contractor and/or to purchase substitute goods or services elsewhere and charge Contractor with any loss incurred by the City. Any provisions herein for delivery of goods or performance of services by installments shall not be construed as making the obligations of Contractor severable. The City will not accept shipments made by C.O.D.

7. PRICE: The City shall not be billed at prices higher than stated herein unless authorized in writing by the City. Contractor represents that the prices charged for the goods and/or services covered by this Contract are no greater than the lowest prices charged by Contractor to comparable entities and that such prices comply with all applicable laws and government regulations in effect at time of quotations, sale, delivery, and performance. Contractor agrees to notify the City of any price reduction made in goods and/or services covered by this Contract subsequent to the date hereof and prior to delivery or performance of services and Contractor agrees that any such reduction will be applicable to this Contract.

8. FORCE MAJEURE: Contractor may be excused from performance under the Contract for any period when performance is prevented as the result of an act of God, strike, war, civil disturbance, epidemic, pandemic, sovereign conduct, or court order provided that the Contractor experiences the event of force majeure and prudently and promptly acts to take any and all steps that are within the Contractor's control to ensure performance and to shorten the duration of the event of force majeure. Contractor shall provide notice of the force majeure event to the City within three (3) business days of the event or delay, whichever occurs later, to establish a mutually agreeable period of time reasonably necessary to overcome the effect of such failure to perform. Subject to this provision, such non-performance shall not be deemed a default or a ground for termination. However, the City may terminate an order under the Contract if it is determined by the City that the Contractor will not be able to deliver goods or services in a timely manner to meet the business needs of the City.

9. WARRANTIES: In addition to all warranties established by law, Contractor hereby warrants and agrees that:

- 9.1.** All goods and services covered by this Contract shall conform to the specifications, drawings, samples or other descriptions furnished by the City and shall be merchantable, fit for the purpose intended, of best quality and workmanship and free from all defects. The City shall have the right of inspections and approval and, in addition to its other rights and remedies, reject and return goods or require re-performance of services at Contractor's expense if defective or not in compliance with the City's specifications and/or scope of work. Defects shall not be deemed waived by the City's failure to notify Contractor upon receipt of goods or completion of services or by payment of invoice.
- 9.2.** No disclosure, description or other communication of any sort shall be made by Contractor to any third person of the City's purchase of goods or services hereunder, or of the details and characteristics thereof, without the City's prior written consent. Anything furnished to Contractor by the City pursuant to this Contract, including without limitation samples, drawings, patterns and materials shall be kept confidential and remain the property of the City, shall be held at Contractor's risk and shall be returned upon completion of performance hereunder, and no disclosure or reproduction thereof in any form shall be made without the City's prior consent in writing.
- 9.3.** All goods delivered pursuant to this Contract and manner of delivery thereof shall conform to standards established for such goods and delivery in accordance with any applicable federal, state, or local laws or regulations.
- 9.4.** The use or sale of any goods delivered hereunder, or any part thereof, except goods produced to the City's drawings or specifications, does not infringe on any adverse and existing patent, copyright, or license. Contractor agrees to indemnify and hold harmless the City from any such patent, copyright, or license infringement violations. This indemnity provision shall survive any termination or expiration of this Contract.
- 9.5.** The foregoing warranties shall survive City's acceptance of goods and performance of services hereunder.

10. LOSS IN TRANSIT AND ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY: Title and risk of loss of goods and services purchased by the City under this Contract shall pass to the City upon acceptance of such goods and/or services. All shipments made under this Contract, regardless of the designated F.O.B. point, shall be in accordance with all applicable federal, state, or local laws and/or regulations, including but not limited to U.S. Department of Transportation and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency regulations for hazardous substances. Prior to the City's acceptance of such goods and/or services, the City shall not be liable for any discharge, spill or other incident, including but not limited to expenses nor for any clean-up costs involving any materials, equipment, or parts.

11. MARKING: Contractor shall mark each package, container, or shipment clearly with the City's name, address, contents, and applicable Contract number(s).

12. ASSIGNMENT: Contractor shall not assign or subcontract any of its rights or obligations under this Contract without the prior written permission of the City. As such, assignment of this Contract or of any interest herein or of any money due or to become due hereunder without the prior written consent of the City shall be void. In no event shall the City's written permission (if any) be construed as discharging or releasing Contractor from the performance of its obligations

specified in this Contract.

13. JURISDICTION AND VENUE: The formation, interpretation, and performance of this Contract shall be governed by the laws of the State of Texas as applicable to the City of Austin. Court of jurisdiction shall be the state courts in Travis County, Texas.

14. EMPLOYEES, INSURANCE, INDEMNIFICATION:

- 14.1.** In providing goods, materials, equipment, parts or performing services hereunder, Contractor is an independent contractor, with sole responsibility for all persons employed in connection therewith, including without limitation, exclusive liability for the payment of all Federal, State, and Local Unemployment and Disability Insurance and all Social Security and/or other taxes and contributions payable in respect of such persons, FROM AND AGAINST WHICH LIABILITY THE CONTRACTOR AGREES TO INDEMNIFY, EXONERATE AND HOLD HARMLESS THE CITY.
- 14.2.** Prior to the commencement of any services hereunder, Contractor must have purchased insurance to show evidence that at least an appropriate level of personal and business insurance to ensure the City is adequately indemnified for any and all claims related to the Contractor's performance. At the City's option, higher limits and additional insurance policies may be required. Contractor shall, when required by the terms of the contract or solicitation documents, provide to the City with certificate of insurance coverage.
- 14.3.** Contractor's insurance policies, regardless of any like insurance coverage that the City may have, shall be primary with respect to the interest of the City, and any insurance maintained by the City is in excess and not contributory to Contractor's insurance policies regardless of any like insurance coverage that the City may have.
- 14.4.** Contractor will (or will cause the respective insurance carrier to) provide the City with written notice prior to the cancellation, termination, non-renewal, or any other material change in the policies.
- 14.5.** Nothing in this Contract shall limit Contractor's liability to the limits of the insurance coverages required hereunder. Contractor shall be solely responsible for payment of all deductible or retention amounts pertaining to any insurance policies required herein or by law.
- 14.6.** Where applicable, all insurance policies shall provide for waiver of subrogation in favor of the City, include cross liability provisions, and all policies, except Workers' Compensation or Professional Liability, shall name the City and its directors, officers, officials, managers, representatives, agents, and employees as additional insured, to the extent allowable under such policies.

15. GENERAL LIABILITY AND INDEMNIFICATION: CONTRACTOR SHALL INDEMNIFY AND HOLD HARMLESS THE CITY, INCLUDING ITS OFFICERS, OFFICIALS, EMPLOYEES, OR AGENTS, AGAINST LIABILITY, CLAIMS, DAMAGES, LOSSES OR EXPENSES, INCLUDING ATTORNEY FEES, ONLY TO THE EXTENT THAT THE LIABILITY, DAMAGES, LOSSES OR COSTS ARE CAUSED BY, OR ARISE OUT OF, THE ACTS OR OMISSIONS OF CONTRACTOR OR ITS OFFICERS, EMPLOYEES, OR AGENTS. THIS INDEMNITY PROVISION SHALL SURVIVE ANY TERMINATION OR EXPIRATION OF THIS CONTRACT.

16. CARE, CUSTODY, AND CONTROL OF SERVICES, PROPERTY, MATERIALS, AND EQUIPMENT: To the extent that Contractor provides goods and/or services, Contractor shall have the full responsibility for and the risk of loss for such goods and/or services, including the City's furnished

property, equipment, and materials under Contractor's care, custody, control.

17. WAIVER OF CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES: NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION IN THIS CONTRACT, NEITHER PARTY SHALL BE LIABLE TO THE OTHER PARTY FOR SPECIAL, INDIRECT, NOR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES RESULTING FROM OR ARISING OUT OF THIS CONTRACT, INCLUDING, WITHOUT LIMITATION, LOSS OF PROFITS OR BUSINESS INTERRUPTION, HOWEVER SAME MAY BE CAUSED. THIS LIMITATION ON CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES DOES NOT APPLY TO CLAIMS FOR PERSONAL INJURY, WRONGFUL DEATH OR DIRECT DAMAGES TO PROPERTY. NEITHER PARTY SHALL BE LIABLE TO THE OTHER FOR PUNITIVE DAMAGES.

18. COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS AND CITY'S RULES:

18.1. The City of Austin is exempt from payment of gross receipts tax on certain and various materials but is subject to such tax on services and certain other materials.

18.2. The taxable status of any sale of materials or services must be determined by the Contractor's legal counsel or tax consultant. Invoices rendered for additional taxes after contract award will not be honored.

18.3. Any bribes, gratuities or kickbacks of any type are expressly forbidden, and such acts may be subject to civil penalty.

18.4. The Contractor, its Subcontractors, and their respective employees, shall comply fully with all applicable Federal, State, and local health, safety, and environmental laws, ordinances, rules and regulations in the performance of the services, including but not limited to those promulgated by the City and by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA). In case of conflict, the most stringent safety requirement shall govern. The Contractor shall indemnify and hold the City harmless from and against all claims, demands, suits, actions, judgments, fines, penalties, and liability of every kind arising from the breach of the Contractor's obligations under this Paragraph.

18.5. Wage Theft: This Solicitation is subject to City Code, Chapter 4-22 Wage Theft ([Ordinance No. 20221201-031 | Code of Ordinances | Austin, TX | Municode Library](#)). In accordance with City Code, Ch. 4-22, any Employer that submits an Offer to the City is required to provide certification (see the Employer Certification Wage Theft Ordinance – Responsibility Criteria included in this the Solicitation) that they have not been adjudicated for Wage Theft related incidents within five (5) years prior to the date set forth within the Employer Certification Wage Theft Ordinance – Responsibility Criteria. Additionally, City Code, Ch. 4-22 Wage Theft, requires all Employers to complete a training program designed by the Wage Theft Coordinator on federal and state wage laws and the provisions of City Code, Ch. 4-22 Wage Theft. All Employers must complete the City of Austin Wage Theft Training within 30 days of being awarded a contract with the City. Contact the Wage Compliance Team to register for training or additional information at wagetheft@austintexas.gov.

19. NON-DEBARMENT CERTIFICATION: When using Federal funds, the City of Austin does not Contract with or makeprime or sub-awards to parties that are debarred or whose principals are debarred from Federal Contracts. By accepting a Contract with the City, the Vendor certifies that its firm and its principals are not currently debarred from doing business with the Federal Government, as indicated by the General Services Administration List of Parties Excluded from Federal Procurement and Non-Procurement Programs. The Contractor shall notify the Procurement Specialist within five business days if they become debarred from doing

business with the Federal Government during the term of the Contract.

20. EQUAL OPPORTUNITY:

- 20.1. Equal Employment Opportunity:** No Contractor, or Contractor's agent, shall engage in any discriminatory employment practice as defined in Chapter 5-4 of the City Code. No Offer submitted to the City shall be considered, nor any Purchase Order issued, or any Contract awarded by the City unless the Offeror has executed and filed with the City's Central Procurement Office a current Non-Discrimination Certification. Non-compliance with Chapter 5-4 of the City Code may result in sanctions, including termination of the Contract and the Contractor's suspension or debarment from participation on future City Contracts until deemed compliant with Chapter 5-4.
- 20.2. Non-Retaliation:** The Contractor agrees to prohibit retaliation, discharge or otherwise discrimination against any employee or applicant for employment who has inquired about, discussed or disclosed their compensation.
- 20.3. Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Compliance:** No Contractor, or Contractor's agent, shall engage in any discriminatory practice against individuals with disabilities as defined in the ADA, including but not limited to: employment, accessibility to goods and services, reasonable accommodations, and effective communications.

21. MANDATORY ANTI-ISRAEL BOYCOTT PROVISION: Pursuant to *Amawi v. Pflugerville Independent School District*, 373 F.Supp.3d 717 (W.D. Texas 2019), the State of Texas is preliminarily enjoined from enforcing this provision. However, if that injunction is lifted, this provision may apply to the Contract:

- 21.1.** Pursuant to Texas Government Code §2271.002, the City is prohibited from contracting with any "company" for goods or services unless the following verification is included in this Contract.
- 21.2.** For the purposes of this Section only, the terms "company" and "boycott Israel" have the meaning assigned by Texas Government Code §2271.001.
- 21.3.** If the Contractor qualifies as a "company", then the Contractor verifies that he:
 - 21.3.1.** does not "boycott Israel"; and
 - 21.3.2.** will not "boycott Israel" during the term of this Contract.
- 21.4.** The Contractor's obligations under this Section, if any exist, will automatically cease or be reduced to the extent that the requirements of Texas Government Code Chapter 2271 are subsequently repealed, reduced, or declared unenforceable or invalid in whole or in part by any court or tribunal of competent jurisdiction or by the Texas Attorney General, without any further impact on the validity or continuity of this Contract.

22. PROHIBITION ON LGBTQ+ CONVERSION THERAPY: The Contractor certifies that it is aware of City Council Resolution No. 20191114-056, which prohibits the City from Contracting with entities that engage in certain practices related to conversion therapy. By accepting this Contract, the Contractor agrees that: (1) its firm and its principals are not currently and will not during the term of the Contract engage in practicing LGBTQ+ conversion therapy; referring persons to a healthcare provider or other person or organization for LGBTQ+ conversion therapy; or Contracting with another entity to conduct LGBTQ+ conversion therapy; and (2) if the City determines in its sole discretion that Contractor has during the term of this Contract engaged in any such practices, the City may terminate this Contract without penalty to the City.

NON-DISCRIMINATION AND NON-RETALIATION CERTIFICATION

Instruction. Offerors shall read and acknowledge this certification by checking the box below. Offerors that do not check the box below indicating their compliance with this certification shall be determined nonresponsive.

☐
(Check)

OFFEROR HEREBY CERTIFIES

Offeror has read the following and will comply with Austin City Code, Sec. 5-4-2.

1. Not to engage in any discriminatory employment practice defined in this chapter;
2. To take affirmative action to ensure that applicants are employed, and that employees are treated during employment, without discrimination being practiced against them as defined in this chapter, including affirmative action relative to employment, promotion, demotion or transfer, recruitment or recruitment advertising, layoff or termination, rate of pay or other forms of compensation, and selection for training or any other terms, conditions or privileges of employment;
3. To state in all solicitations or advertisements for employees placed by or on behalf of the Contractor, that all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, creed, color, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, sex or age.
4. To state in all solicitations or advertisements for employees placed by or on behalf of the Contractor, that all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, creed, color, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, sex or age.
5. To obtain a written statement from any labor union or labor organization furnishing labor or service to Contractors in which said union or organization has agreed not to engage in any discriminatory employment practices as defined in this chapter and to take affirmative action to implement policies and provisions of this chapter.
6. To cooperate fully with City and the Equal Employment/Fair Housing Office in connection with any investigation or conciliation effort of the Equal Employment/Fair Housing Office to ensure that the purpose of the provisions against discriminatory employment practices are being carried out.
7. To require of all subcontractors having 15 or more employees who hold any subcontract providing for the expenditure of \$2,000 or more in connection with any contract with the City subject to the terms of this chapter that they do not engage in any discriminatory employment practice as defined in this chapter.

For the purposes of this Offer and any resulting Contract, Contractor adopts the provisions of the City's Minimum Non-Discrimination and Non-Retaliation Policy set forth below.

MINIMUM NON-DISCRIMINATION AND NON-RETALIATION POLICY

1. As an Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) employer, the Contractor will conduct its personnel activities in accordance with established federal, state and local EEO laws and regulations. The Contractor will not discriminate against any applicant or employee based on race, creed, color, national origin, sex, age, religion, veteran status, gender identity, disability, or sexual orientation. This policy covers all aspects of employment, including hiring, placement, upgrading, transfer, demotion, recruitment, recruitment advertising, selection for training and apprenticeship, rates of pay or other forms of compensation, and layoff or termination.
2. The Contractor agrees to prohibit retaliation, discharge or otherwise discrimination against any employee or applicant for employment who has inquired about, discussed, or disclosed their compensation.
3. Further, employees who experience discrimination, sexual harassment, or another form of harassment should immediately report it to their supervisor. If this is not a suitable avenue for addressing their complaint, employees are advised to contact another member of management or their human resources representative. No employee shall be discriminated against, harassed, intimidated, nor suffer any reprisal as a result of reporting a violation of this policy. Furthermore, any employee, supervisor, or manager who becomes aware of any such discrimination or harassment should immediately report it to executive management or the human resources office to ensure that such conduct does not continue.
4. Contractor agrees that to the extent of any inconsistency, omission, or conflict with its current non-discrimination and nonretaliation employment policy, the Contractor has expressly adopted the provisions of the City's Minimum Non-Discrimination Policy contained in Section 5-4-2 of the City Code and set forth above, as the Contractor's Non-Discrimination Policy or as an amendment to such Policy and such provisions are intended to not only supplement the Contractor's policy, but will also supersede the Contractor's policy to the extent of any conflict.
5. UPON CONTRACT AWARD, THE CONTRACTOR SHALL PROVIDE THE CITY A COPY OF THE CONTRACTOR'S NON-DISCRIMINATION AND NON-RETALIATION POLICIES ON COMPANY LETTERHEAD, WHICH CONFORMS IN FORM, SCOPE AND CONTENT TO THE CITY'S MINIMUM NON-DISCRIMINATION AND NON-RETALIATION POLICIES, AS SET FORTH HEREIN, OR THIS NON-DISCRIMINATION AND NON-RETALIATION POLICY, WHICH HAS BEEN ADOPTED BY THE CONTRACTOR FOR ALL PURPOSES WILL BE CONSIDERED THE CONTRACTOR'S NON-DISCRIMINATION AND NON-RETALIATION POLICY WITHOUT THE REQUIREMENT OF A SEPARATE SUBMITTAL.
6. Contractor agrees that non-compliance with Chapter 5-4 and the City's Non-Retaliation Policy may result in sanctions, including termination of the contract and suspension or debarment from participation in future City contracts until deemed compliant with the requirements of Chapter 5-4-2 and the Non-Retaliation Policy.
7. The Contractor agrees that this Non-Discrimination and Non-Retaliation Certificate, which the Contractor has executed and filed with the City, will remain in force and effect for one year from the date of filing. The Contractor further agrees that, in consideration of the receipt of continued Contract payment, the Contractor's Non-Discrimination and Non-Retaliation Policy will automatically renew from year-to-year for the term of the underlying Contract.

NONRESIDENT BIDDER AND MANUFACTURING CERTIFICATION

Instruction. Offerors shall read and check the applicable boxes in response to both certifications below.

☐ **YES** ☐ **NO**
(Check One)

OFFEROR HEREBY CERTIFIES

Offeror **IS (YES)** or **IS NOT (NO)** a Non-Resident Bidder in accordance with Texas Government Code Ch. 2252.002.

If "YES" is checked, provide the name of the State where Non-Resident Bidder's Principal Place of Business is located.

(STATE)

☐ **YES** ☐ **NO**
(Check One)

OFFEROR HEREBY CERTIFIES

Offeror **INCLUDES (YES)** or **DOES NOT INCLUDE (NO)** Equipment, Supplies, and/or Materials in accordance with Texas Government Code Ch. 2252.002.

If "YES" is checked, provide the name of the State where majority of the Equipment, Supplies, and/or Materials were manufactured.

(STATE)

Reciprocal Preference. In accordance with Texas Government Code Ch. 2252.002 (see below), the City must apply a reciprocal preference to a Nonresident Bidder's offer, consistent with the applicable preference granted by the state of the Nonresident Bidder's principal place of business. The City will also apply a reciprocal preference to a Resident Bidder or Nonresident Bidder's offer, consistent with the applicable preference granted by the state where the majority of the equipment, supplies and/or materials were manufactured.

Resident bidder. An Offeror whose principal place of business is in Texas, including a contractor whose ultimate parent company or majority owner has its principal place of business in Texas.

Nonresident Bidder. An Offeror that is not a Resident Bidder.

Statute: <https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/GV/htm/GV.2252.htm>

OFFEROR HEREBY CERTIFIES

Offeror has **NOT** been debarred from contracting with the City of Austin, any other local governments or states, or the US federal government.

Suspended or Debarred Offerors. The City finds that offerors, including any subcontractors that may be included in the Offer, that are suspended or debarred from contracting with the US federal government, any state or local government, as of the submission date of their offer, are not sufficiently responsible to contract with the City. The City may reject and set aside any offer or terminate for cause any contract resulting from an offer, in which the offeror falsely certified they were not suspended or debarred when in fact they were.

The undersigned, by his/her signature, represents that he/she is submitting a binding offer and is authorized to bind the respondent to fully comply with the solicitation document contained herein. The Respondent, by submitting and signing below, acknowledges that he/she has received and read the entire document packet sections defined above including all documents incorporated by reference, and agrees to be bound by the terms therein.

Company Name: _____

Company Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Federal Tax ID No.: _____

Printed Name or Officer of Authorized Representative: _____

Title: _____

Signature of Officer or Authorized Representative: _____

Date: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

***Completed Quote Sheet must be submitted with this Offer Sheet to be considered for award.**

ACCEPTANCE BY THE CITY

For City Staff only. The City will complete and sign this section only if the City accepts the Offer.

Contract Number: _____

Printed Name of City's Authorized Procurement Staff: _____

Title of City's Authorized Procurement Staff: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

ACCEPTANCE: The Offer is hereby accepted. Contractor is now bound to sell the materials or services specified in the Contract.

WAGE THEFT

Any Employer that submits an offer to the City seeking award of a city contract prior to awarding a contract are required to certify that they have not been adjudicated for certain offenses related to wage theft. See City of Austin Ordinance No. 20221201-031. “Wage theft” and “adjudicated” are to be understood per the definitions set forth in Austin City Code Chapter 4, § 4-22-1 (G) and (H).

Solicitation or Agreement Title: _____

Solicitation Posting Date or Agreement Start Date: _____

All Employers are required to complete the City of Austin Wage Theft Training within 30 days of being awarded a contract with the City. Contact the Wage Compliance Team to register for a class.

I hereby certify, under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Texas, that the below certification is true and correct and that I am authorized to make the following certification on behalf of the firm listed herein.

CERTIFICATION:

This firm has NOT been adjudicated for wage theft related incidents as defined in Austin City Code Chapter 4, § 4-22-1 (G) & (H) within five (5) years prior to the above-stated date. Furthermore, this firm agrees to abide by the items outlined in Section 4-22-5 (B) and Section 4-22-6 (A) of the Austin City Code.

Firm

Name: _____
Name of Employer - Print Full Legal Entity Name of Firm

Signed: _____
Signature of Authorized Person Print Name of Person Making Certification for Firm

Title: _____ **Place:** _____
Title of Person Making Certificate Print City and State Where Signed

Date: _____

EMPLOYER CERTIFICATION – WAGE THEFT PROGRAM

If you have questions or need more information, contact us at wagetheft@austintexas.gov

Scope of Work

SOLICITATION NO.

City of Austin Office of Sustainability

Climate Pollution Reduction Grant Engagement Plan

Introduction

About the City of Austin

The City of Austin, Texas, population 840,000, is the 13th largest city in the country. This vibrant and dynamic city tops numerous “Best” lists for business, entertainment, cost of living and quality of life. Austin was selected as the “Best City for the Next Decade” (Kiplinger), the “Top Creative Center” in the US (Entrepreneur.com) and is in the Top Seven List of Intelligent Communities for 2012 as ranked by the Intelligent Community Forum. Austin continues to lead the country with its vision of being the “Most Livable City in the Country”, emerging as a player on the international scene with such events as SXSW, Formula 1 and being home to companies such as Apple, Samsung, Dell, The Seton Healthcare Family and St. David's HealthCare systems. From the home of state government and the City of Texas, to the “Live Music Capital of the World” and its growth as a film center, Austin has gained worldwide attention as a hub for education, business, health, and sustainability. Since 1900, Austin's population has doubled every 20 years, with continued projected record-breaking growth into the next decade and beyond.

Purpose

The purpose of this contract is to identify a responsible party to carry out community engagement activities associated with the City of Austin’s ‘Comprehensive Climate Action Plan’ project, on behalf of the City of Austin Office of Sustainability, hereafter, “OoS”. The Contractor shall propose and carry out a set of activities that meet desired objectives, outlined in Section 4.0. Bids will outline the proposed approach a contractor would take to achieve the objectives.

This Contract shall remain in effect for 12 months or the City terminates the Contract. **Bids above \$50,000 will not be accepted for this Contract.** The City reserves the right to award this contract to multiple contractors. Bids will be evaluated based on local experience and subject-matter expertise in addition to cost.

Term of Contract

This Contract shall become effective on the date executed by the City (“Effective Date”) and shall remain in effect until the earliest of when the deliverables set forth in the Contract are complete or the City terminates the Contract.

Background

Climate Change

A changing climate is expected to lead to negative economic, public health, and environmental outcomes in the Austin-Round Rock-Georgetown Region. Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions accelerate these negative outcomes in the long term, and worsen air quality in the short term. These impacts bring especially negative outcomes to communities of color, lower income groups, and the elderly, very young, homeless, or disabled.

Programmatic Background

The City of Austin is the recipient of a \$1 million grant from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), funded through the federal Inflation Reduction Act. This grant, part of the \$5 billion allocated to the Climate Pollution Reduction Grants (CPRG) program, is designed to support states, local governments, tribes, and territories in developing and implementing robust plans to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and harmful air pollution. Our city plans to use these funds to collaborate with regional partners and neighboring cities, extending our climate planning and action beyond Austin's borders. Austin's Office of Sustainability is leading this initiative for our region and has engaged a community and stakeholder advisory group to help along the way.

The first deliverable, a Priority Climate Action Plan, identified high-priority, ready-to-implement measures to lower emissions at a regional level. This engagement process will be focused on the second deliverable, the Comprehensive Climate Action Plan (CCAP). The plan is required to include:

- A GHG inventory
- GHG emissions projections
- GHG reduction targets
- Quantified GHG reduction measures in various sectors (Natural and Working Lands, Electricity Generation, Industry, Transportation, Buildings, and Waste Management)
- A benefits analysis for the full geographic scope and population covered by the plan
- A low-income and disadvantaged communities benefits analysis

The plan will be due in late summer of 2025. Project geographic scope includes the five county region of Travis, Hays, Williamson, Bastrop, and Caldwell Counties.

Staff have worked using a “grasstops” approach, grassroots and community-based organization leaders through a Community and Stakeholder Advisory Group (CSAG) to understand diverse perspectives on potential GHG emissions reduction measures. This group met monthly during the course of the first deliverable and will continue to meet for the CCAP. The project team is now **seeking a contractor to assist with** engaging the general public and **broadening portions of the community engagement process**. Information gathered during engagement will help OoS staff and other internal and external stakeholders understand community priorities for inclusion in the CCAP.

Tasks/Requirements

Contractor's Responsibilities

The purpose of this engagement is to identify community priorities for GHG emissions reduction measures in the CCAP. The below goals are intended to guide engagement activities. The contractor selected will work closely with the project management team to develop and execute a plan to achieve engagement goals. Engagement activities shall be culturally-appropriate and inclusive to community members with a broad range of backgrounds, knowledge, and experience levels, and center disadvantaged communities.

Goals:

- Build awareness of climate action in the Austin-Round Rock-Georgetown Region among the public and stakeholders.
- Identify priorities for GHG emissions reduction measures and how they differ among the public and stakeholders across the region.
- Inform the public and stakeholders of the project and the opportunity to engage through the Community and Stakeholder Advisory Group (CSAG); support recruitment of a diverse CSAG (racial, age, gender, location, topic area).

Activities undertaken to achieve the intended objectives could include, but are not limited to:

- Outreach
- Surveys
- Interviews and focus groups
- Messaging Advice
- Community Meetings and Event Tabling
- Event Design and Execution
- Online Engagement

City's Responsibilities

OoS can provide the following logistical support for meetings, which does not need to be included in the scope of this quote:

- Meeting space
- Food
- Childcare
- A/V
- Language interpretation

OoS staff may also provide staff support to the contractor if needed to meet the desired objectives within the maximum bid amount. For example, this staff support could include

language/translation services for surveys, interviews, or meetings, creating survey and interview questions or identifying key stakeholders to contact. Bidders should specify what city staff support they are requesting in their response.

Responses to this solicitation should outline the proposed approach, what activities will be carried out and where, how the desired goals and objectives will be met, and what city staff support and/or logistical support is needed to achieve the desired objectives.

Contractor Qualifications

Equity

- Contractor should be grounded in and very familiar with environmental justice and social equity.
- Contractor should have experience tailoring engagement materials and methodologies to be culturally appropriate, and identifying and mitigating barriers to participation.
- Contractor management should reflect diverse communities.
- Contractor should have experience with language translation and interpretation.

Geographic Familiarity

- Contractor should have completed past projects in the Austin-Round Rock-Georgetown region.
- Contractor should understand regional geographical, political, and cultural dynamics.
- Contractor should have familiarity with local community organizations, especially those which represent communities that are underrepresented, including people of color, low-income families, age-vulnerable populations, people with disabilities, and those who are otherwise marginalized.

Methods and Background

- Contractor should have experience planning and executing community engagement using a range of methods and strategies.
- Contractor should have a strong ability to identify, reach, and engage diverse community stakeholders through inclusive and participatory methods, with clear evidence of impactful engagement.
- Contractor should be highly competent at communicating and adapting messages for various audiences.

Delivery Locations

Delivery of goods shall be made to the following location unless otherwise specified by the City in the order:

Location/Facility Name:	One Texas Center
Address:	505 Barton Springs Rd, Austin, TX 78704
Attn:	Office of Sustainability, Leti Alvarez

Specific Invoice Requirements

The City's preference is to have invoices emailed to leti.alvarez@austintexas.gov and mali.calvo@austintexas.gov or mailed to the below address:

	City of Austin
Department	Office of Sustainability
Attn:	Leti Alvarez
Address	505 Barton Springs Rd, Austin, TX 78704

For questions regarding your invoice/payment please contact the City Contract Manager.

Designation of Key Personnel

The City and the Contractor resolve to keep the same key personnel assigned to this engagement throughout its term. In the event that it becomes necessary for the Contractor to replace any key personnel, the replacement will be an individual having equivalent experience and competence in executing projects such as the one described herein. Additionally, the Contractor shall promptly notify the City and obtain approval for the replacement. Such approval shall not be unreasonably withheld. The Contractor's and City's key personnel are identified as follows:

	<u>Name/ Title</u>	<u>Phone Number</u>	<u>Email Address</u>
City Contract Manager	Mali Calvo	856-238-8326	Mali.Calvo@austintexas.gov
City Project Manager	Rohan Lilauwala	512-974-9394	rohan.lilauwala@austintexas.gov
City Contract Administrator, Procurement Specialist			
Contractor's Key Personnel			
Contractor's Key Personnel			

IFQ PRICE SHEET CITY OF AUSTIN					
SOLICITATION NAME: Climate Pollution Reduction Grant Community Engagement					
SOLICITATION NO.:					
Special Instructions: Offerors must use this Price Sheet to submit pricing. Prices being submitted shall include ALL discounts, handling and shipping charges, FOB Destination. Any quantities noted below are estimates. The City does not guarantee the purchase of the quantities listed.					
ITEM NO	ITEM DESCRIPTION	ESTIMATED QUANTITY	UNIT OF MEASURE	UNIT PRICE	EXTENDED PRICE
1	Engagement Plan	1	Report developed		
2	Engagement Plan Execution Report on Plan Execution and Findings	1	Activities completed		
3		1	Report developed		
TOTAL					
DELIVERY TERMS: DELIVERY IS TO BE FOB DESTINATION, PREPAID AND ALLOWED					
Delivery Method: mali.calvo@austintexas.gov					
Company Name: City of Austin Office of Sustainability					