

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL GHTD RFP #03-025

MARKETING AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SERVICES FOR THE GREATER HARTFORD TRANSIT DISTRICT (GHTD)

HARTFORD, CT

October 10, 2024

RFP KEY INFORMATION SUMMARY SHEET

Request for Proposals: Marketing & Community Engagement Services

for the Greater Hartford Transit District (GHTD)

Solicitation Number: RFP #03-025

RFP Issue Date: Thursday, October 10, 2024

RFP Issuing Office: Greater Hartford Transit District (GHTD)

Procurement Officer: LaShaunda Drake

Contract and Procurement Specialist Greater Hartford Transit District

One Union Place Hartford, CT 06103 Phone: (860) 380-2012 Email: ldrake@ghtd.org

Proposal to be sent to:Greater Hartford Transit District

One Union Place Hartford, CT 06103 Attn: LaShaunda Drake

Pre-Proposal Conference (Virtual): Thursday, October 24, 2024 at *Participation is not mandatory* 11:00 AM-12:00 PM Local Time

Web Meeting via Zoom

https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81801139555?pwd=7

<u>Hu1A1hTyql90oeUWaRrOhtz2wDHfk.1</u>

Meeting ID: 818 0113 9555

Passcode: 365254

To call in by phone: (929) 205 6099

Inquiries Deadline: Wednesday, October 30, 2024 at 12:00 PM

Local Time

Proposal Due Date and Time: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 at 2:30 PM

Local Time



NOTICE

GREATER HARTFORD TRANSIT DISTRICT REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS GHTD RFP #03-025 MARKETING & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SERVICES

The Greater Hartford Transit District (The District), Hartford, Connecticut is seeking a qualified marketing and communications firm or firms interested and capable of entering into a contract with the District to assist in the promotion of a variety of its public transportation related services. The firm(s) selected for this work will provide marketing, advertising, web design and content management, social media, print, and other promotion services as necessary to meet the needs of GHTD's programs run from the District's two facilities, the Union Station Transportation Center Complex located at One Union Place, Hartford, CT 06103 and the District's ADA Paratransit Operations and Maintenance Facility located at 148 Roberts Street, East Hartford, CT 06108. The District, under contract to the Connecticut Department of Transportation (CTDOT), provides the complementary paratransit service required by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) in the Greater Hartford/Capitol Region area. RFP documents may be obtained by calling the District at 860.380.2012 or by emailing LaShaunda Drake, Contract and Procurement Specialist, at ldrake@ghtd.org.

Documents will also be posted at the District's website: www.hartfordtransit.org and on the State of Connecticut DAS Contracting Portal at: https://portal.ct.gov/DAS/CTSource/CTSource.

A non-mandatory Virtual Pre-Proposal Conference will be held by the District on Thursday, October 24, 2024 at 11:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M. local time via Zoom, to outline the requirements and service standards that the District will expect of the Marketing and Community Engagement Services firm, as well as to provide the opportunity for questions and explanations.

To join the web meeting via Zoom, visit:

https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81801139555?pwd=7Hu1A1hTyql90oeUWaRrOhtz2wDHfk.1

Meeting ID: 818 0113 9555 Passcode: 365254 To call in by phone: (929) 205 6099

Proposals shall be submitted to LaShaunda Drake, Greater Hartford Transit District, One Union Place, Hartford, CT 06103, on or before **2:30 P.M. Wednesday, November 13, 2024.** Proposals received after the deadline will not be considered and will be returned to the Proposer unopened. Any changes, or any requests for changes in the specifications, will not be recognized after sealed proposals are submitted to the District.

Any contract resulting from this request for proposals is subject to a financial assistance contract between the District and the Connecticut Department of Transportation and the Federal Transit Administration. All Proposers will be required to certify that they are not on the Comptroller General's list of ineligible contractors. Further, the contractor will be required to comply with all applicable equal employment opportunity laws and regulations.

The District hereby notifies all Proposers that in regard to any contract entered into pursuant to this Request for Proposals, advertisement or solicitation, small and/or minority business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit proposals in response, and will not be subjected to discrimination on the basis of race, color, sex or national origin in consideration for an award.

The District reserves the right to reject any and all proposals as submitted by this Request for Proposals, and to waive informalities and irregularities, as it deems in its best interest.

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SECTION I - GENERAL INFORMATION

1. INTRODUCTION

The Greater Hartford Transit District (the "District") is a quasi-municipal corporation operating under the authority of Chapter 103a of the Connecticut General Statutes. There are currently sixteen-member towns represented by appointees who collectively form the Board of Directors, the policy making body of the District. The District has broad powers to acquire, operate, finance, plan, develop, maintain and otherwise provide all forms of land transportation and related services including the development or renewal of transportation centers and parking facilities.

The District is eligible and authorized under state and local law to request, receive, and manage Federal Transit Administration (FTA) funds and to execute and administer FTA-funded projects. The District provides a variety of services in support of public transportation in the Capitol Region of Connecticut.

The District is also the owner and operator of Hartford's Historic Union Station Transportation Center Complex, an intermodal hub of transportation that currently serves Amtrak rail, CTrail, intercity and intra city bus service, taxi services, and public parking. The Complex includes the Spruce Street Parking Lot. The Union Station Transportation Center is a mixed-use facility that includes: ticketing booths for bus and rail travel, and leased tenant space on three levels. It is currently estimated to be approximately 650,000 passengers visiting the Transportation Center annually (pre-COVID statistics was 900,000 passengers annually). The Transportation Center is open 20 hours per day, Monday through Friday, and 19 hours per day on Saturday and Sunday. The Transportation Center is closed between 12:30am to 4:45am Monday through Friday, and from 12:30am to 5:30am Saturday and Sunday.

The District is soliciting proposals through this Request for Proposals ("RFP") from a qualified marketing and communications firm or firms interested and capable of entering into a contract with the District to assist in the promotion of a variety of its public transportation related services. The firm(s) selected for this work will provide marketing, advertising, web design and content management, social media, print, and other promotion services as necessary to meet the needs of GHTD's programs run from the District's two facilities, the Union Station Transportation Center Complex located at One Union Place, Hartford, CT 06103 and the District's ADA Paratransit Operations and Maintenance Facility located at 148 Roberts Street, East Hartford, CT 06108. The specifics of the services, and other documents relevant to this RFP, are set forth in the Scope of Services and in the Exhibits attached hereto and made a part hereof.

2. SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS

Contractors shall submit their Proposal prior to 2:30 p.m., Wednesday, November 13, 2024 to:

LaShaunda Drake Contract and Procurement Specialist Greater Hartford Transit District One Union Place Hartford, Connecticut 06103

Proposals shall be prepared as described in Section III of this RFP.

Late submissions will not be accepted. It is the responsibility of the Proposer to ensure that its Proposal is delivered to the District by the date and time referred to hereinabove. <u>Delivery by facsimile or any other electronic means will not be accepted (with the exception of the (1) electronic copy requested.</u> Refer to Section III for details).

All costs associated with the preparation and delivery of a Proposal is the sole responsibility of the applicable Proposer. Proposers shall not include any such expenses as part of the price proposed in response to the RFP.

A submission of a proposal will be considered by the District as constituting a legal offer by the Proposer to perform the required services at the proposed price.

3. PROPOSAL INQUIRIES

Communication by any Proposer with any agent or employee of the District on the subject of this RFP, or the pending process may result in the Proposer being deemed ineligible with regard to this RFP. All questions and requests for clarification regarding this RFP or this process must be submitted in writing to LaShaunda Drake via email ldrake@ghtd.org on or before 12:00 P.M. Local Time on Wednesday, October 30, 2024. Any correction or changes to this RFP will be made by written addendum only and will be distributed to all known recipients of the RFP document.

4. PRE-PROPOSAL CONFERENCE

A non-mandatory Virtual Pre-Proposal Conference will be held by the District on Thursday, October 24, 2024 at 11:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M. local time, to outline the requirements and service standards that the District will expect of the Marketing and Community Engagement Services firm, as well as to provide the opportunity for questions and explanations.

To join the web meeting via Zoom, visit:

https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81801139555?pwd=7Hu1A1hTyql90oeUWaRrOhtz2wDHfk.1 Meeting ID: 818 0113 9555

Passcode: 365254
To call in by phone: (929) 205 6099

The Proposer may submit any written requests for clarification as well as any questions regarding this solicitation package prior to the pre-proposal conference.

5. COMMENCEMENT OF SERVICES/TERM OF CONTRACT

<u>An initial three (3) year contract</u> (initiating from the date the agreement for services is entered) will be executed with the successful Proposer with <u>an option of two (2) one-year successive</u> <u>renewals</u> by the District upon mutual agreement by both parties.

6. QUALIFICATION OF PROPOSERS

Prospective Proposers must meet the following minimum qualifications to be considered for selection. All Proposers to this RFP shall have demonstrated experience in supplying such services and shall meet all criteria and requirements identified in the RFP. The District is the sole judge in determining compliance with qualifications standards:

- Firms submitting proposals must be qualified to provide Marketing and Community Engagement Services (as outlined in this RFP) in the State of Connecticut.
- Firms submitting proposals must be registered with the Secretary of State's Office to

- conduct business in the State of Connecticut.
- The Offeror shall have a minimum of five (5) years previous experience in Marketing and Community Engagement Services (i.e. marketing, advertising, web design and content management, social media, print, and other promotion services).

7. FEDERAL GRANT REQUIREMENTS

Exhibit A, attached hereto and made a part hereof sets forth federal requirements placed upon vendors who are participating in a project funded in whole or in part with Federal grants. Its provisions are hereby included herein as an integral part of this RFP.

8. STATE GRANT REQUIREMENTS

Exhibit B, attached hereto and made a part hereof sets forth state requirements placed upon vendors who are participating in a project funded in whole or in part with state grants. Its provisions are hereby included herein as an integral part of this RFP.

9. PROCUREMENT AND APPEALS PROCESS

The District's procurement procedures and appeals process are contained in Exhibit C attached hereto and made a part hereof.

10. FUNDING

Any contract resulting from this request for proposals is subject in part to a financial assistance contract between the District and the State of Connecticut Department of Transportation (CTDOT) and between the District and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA). All firms will be required to certify that they are not on the U.S. Department of Transportation's list of ineligible contractors. Further, the contractor will be required to comply with all applicable equal employment opportunity laws and regulations.

No proposal will be accepted from, or a Contract awarded to any person, firm, or corporation that is in arrears or is in default to the State of Connecticut upon any debt or contract or that is in default as a surety or in any other manner is in default of any obligation to the State. Additionally, no Contract shall be awarded to any person, firm, or corporation that has failed to perform on any prior or previous contract, agreement, or license with the State. Nor will any Contract be awarded to any firm that is not registered with the Secretary of State's Office to conduct business in the State of Connecticut.

11. SPECIAL PROVISION

It is the policy of the District that Small Contractor and Small Contractor Minority Business Enterprises ("SBE and MBE") be afforded the maximum opportunity to participate in the performance of all contracts let by the District in accordance with Section 4a-60g of the Connecticut General Statutes as revised. This participation may be in the form of prime contracts, and/or subcontracts, and/or direct or general overhead items procured from SBE and/or MBEs allocated to the Services.

For the purpose of this "Special Provision", the SBE/MBE named to satisfy this requirement must be certified by the Department of Administrative Services of the State of Connecticut (www.das.state.ct.us) as an SBE/MBE as defined by Section 4a-60g of the Connecticut General Statutes as revised or with the U.S. Small Business Administration.

Proposer will submit a statement indicating its own SBE/MBE status and what subcontracts and/or overhead purchases with amounts thereof under this project it will let. <u>There is no SBE/MBE</u> <u>contract goal for this contract</u>, however the District does have an annual SBE goal of 25%. See attached Certification for SBEs. The use of SBE/MBE subcontractors is encouraged if feasible.

If the Contractor is unable to achieve the specified contract goals for the Special Provision, the Contractor must submit written documentation to the District indicating his/her good faith efforts to satisfy goal requirements.

12. DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS ENTERPRISE

It is the policy of the District that disadvantaged business enterprises ("DBE's") be afforded the maximum opportunity to participate in the performance of all contracts let by the District. This participation may be in the form of prime contracts, and/or sub-contracts, and/or direct or general overhead items procured from DBEs allocated to the Services. The term "disadvantaged business enterprise" means a business enterprise that is at least 51% owned and controlled by one or more socially disadvantaged persons. Such disadvantage may arise from cultural, racial, chronic economic circumstances or background, or other similar cause. Such persons would include but not be limited to citizens of the United States who are: African Americans (not of Hispanic origin); Hispanic Americans; Native Americans; Asian-Pacific Americans; and, women regardless of race and ethnicity. Proposers will submit a statement indicating its own DBE status and what subcontracts and/or overhead purchases with amounts thereof under this project it will get to comply with the District's DBE goal of **7.9%.** DBEs must be certified with the CTDOT. There is no DBE contract goal for this contract.

If the Contractor is unable to achieve the specified contract goals, the Contractor must submit written documentation to the District indicating his/her good faith efforts to satisfy goal requirements. The bidder must present information on DBEs proposed to meet the goal as part of bid responsiveness (provided at the time of bid) or no later than five (5) calendar days after bid opening as a matter of responsibility. An example of a good faith effort includes whether the contractor provided written notice to a reasonable number of DBEs with potential interest in the contract and with sufficient time to allow participation. It is important to note that DBEs are certified to perform certain types of work. To receive credit for good faith efforts and to count towards goal attainment, named DBEs must be certified to do the scopes of work that they are contacted/contracted to perform.

The District is a part of the State of Connecticut Department of Transportation Unified Certification Program ("UCP") and any contractor and/or sub-contractor and/or vendor utilized to meet the DBE Participation requirements must be certified through that UCP. A list of CTDOT Certified DBE vendors can be found at: http://www.biznet.ct.gov/dot_dbe/dbesearch.aspx. Upon request, the District will provide information related to the state certification process.

13. SUBCONTRACTING

If subcontractors are necessary to complete any functions of this requirement, the Proposer must list the names and business locations of any proposed subcontractors, with their submitted Proposal Form. The District reserves the right to review and approve any subcontractors proposed by the Respondent. Any approval of the subcontractor shall not be construed as making the District party of such contract, giving the subcontractor privities of contract with the District, or subjecting the District to liability of any kind to any subcontractor.

14. VALIDITY OF PROPOSALS

Proposers agree that their proposals remain valid for a period of one hundred twenty (120) days after the above cited due date for submission of proposals and may be extended beyond that time by mutual agreement.

Proposers agree that the technical portion of their proposals (not including proprietary or pricing information) may be released to other Proposers upon announcement of award, if requested by such other Proposers.

By responding to this RFP, the Proposer implicitly states that the proposal is not made in connection with any competing firm submitting a separate response to this RFP, and is in all respects fair and without collusion or fraud. It is further implied that the Proposer did not participate in the District's RFP development process, had no knowledge of the specific contents of this RFP prior to its issuance, and that no employee of the District participated directly or indirectly in the firm's proposal preparation.

15. ADDENDA AND PROPOSAL REJECTION

The District reserves the right to issue addenda to this RFP as a result of inquiries received, or to adjust its project schedule if it is deemed in the District's best interest to do so. It is the Proposer's responsibility to assure receipt of all addenda. The Proposer should verify with the designated contact person prior to entering a proposal that all addenda have been received. Proposers are required to acknowledge the number of addenda received as part of their proposal.

The District reserves the right to reject any and all Proposals resulting from this RFP if the District deems that it is in the best interest of the District to do so. The District may elect to make an award of the subject contract as a direct result of Proposals received or elect to negotiate with Proposers.

16. PROPOSAL WITHDRAWAL

The Proposer's authorized representative may, prior to the date and times set as the deadline for receipt of proposals, modify or withdraw a proposal in person or by written or facsimile notice to the official listed in this document. If a proposal is modified or withdrawn in person, the authorized representative shall make his or her identity known and shall sign a receipt for the proposal. Written or facsimile notices shall be received at the District's offices, One Union Place, Hartford, CT 06103 no later than the date scheduled as the proposal receipt deadline. After the proposal receipt deadline, proposal may not be withdrawn for one hundred twenty (120) calendar days.

17. EXCEPTIONS TO RFP

All exceptions taken by Proposer must be specific. Proposer must clearly indicate what alternative is being offered to allow the District a meaningful opportunity to evaluate the Proposal. Submitting an alternative proposal does not relieve the Proposer from submitting the Minimum Requirements as stated in the RFP. The District is under no obligation to accept any proposed exceptions or alternatives.

18. INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS

Contractor shall obtain and maintain throughout the term of this Contract (or such longer period as may be specified below, if any) the following insurance:

Commercial General Liability

The Contractor shall carry Commercial General Liability Insurance, including a broad form comprehensive general liability endorsement and coverage against claims for personal injury, bodily injury, death or property damage, to be on the so-called "occurrence" form with a combined limit of not less than Two Million Dollars (\$2,000,000) in the aggregate and One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000) per occurrence, and to cover at least the following hazards: (1) premises and operations; (2) products and completed operations on an "if any" basis; (3) independent contractors; (4) blanket contractual liability; and (5) contractual liability covering the indemnities in this Contract. Coverage is to be written on an occurrence form.

Workers' Compensation Insurance

With respect to all services the Contractor performs and all those performed for the Contractor by its subcontractors, the Contractor and its subcontractor(s) shall carry Workers' Compensation Insurance and, as applicable, insurance required in accordance with the U.S. Longshore and Harbor Workers' Compensation Act, in accordance with the requirements of the laws of the State of Connecticut, and of the laws of the United States, respectively.

Business Automobile Insurance

Business Automobile Liability Insurance, to cover the use of all owned, hired, and non-owned vehicles, providing for the following minimum liability limits: One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000) for all damages arising out of bodily injuries to or death of all persons in any one accident or occurrence, and for all damages arising out of injury to or destruction of property in any one accident or occurrence. In cases where the insurance policy shows an aggregate limit as part of the automobile liability coverage, the aggregate limit must be at least Two Million Dollars (\$2,000,000).

Professional Liability Insurance

If the Contractor or any of its subcontractors are providing design, architectural or engineering services with respect to this Contract, the Contractor and such subcontractors shall carry Professional Liability Insurance Policy in an annual aggregate amount not less than Two Million Dollars (\$2,000,000), which coverage shall be maintained in force for a period of not less than three (3) years after the completion of the work under this Contract. If the services of the contractor are to include any marketing or media services, this professional liability requirement shall include Media Liability coverage at the same limits stated in this section.

Certificate of Insurance

All insurance provided for above shall be obtained under valid and enforceable policies, and issued by financially sound and responsible insurance companies authorized to do business in the State of Connecticut and having a general policy rating of A- or better and a financial class of VIII or better, each as determined by AM Best Company, Inc. Prior to commencing any work under this Contract and at least ten (10) days prior to the expiration dates of any insurance required hereunder, Contractor shall deliver to the District certificates of insurance evidencing such coverage and any renewal or successor policies. If the Contractor engages any subcontractor to perform any of its obligations under this Contract, the Contractor shall also deliver to the District certificates of insurance from such subcontractor evidencing such coverage and any renewal or successor policies. All policies of insurance required hereunder shall name the District (and such other persons or entities designated by the District) as an additional insured (except the workers' compensation and Professional Liability insurance). For the Workers' Compensation Insurance and, as applicable, U.S. Longshore and Harbor Workers' Compensation Act coverage, the policy number(s) and term of the policy (ies) shall be indicated on the certificate. With the exception of Professional Liability Insurance, each insurance policy shall

state that the insurance company agrees to investigate and defend the insured against all claims for damages, even if groundless. All insurance policies provided for above shall contain clauses or endorsements to the effect that: (i) no act or negligence of the Contractor, or anyone acting for the Contractor, or failure to comply with the provisions of any policy, which might otherwise result in a forfeiture of the insurance or any part thereof, shall in any way affect the validity or enforceability of the insurance insofar as the District is concerned; (ii) no such policies shall be canceled without at least thirty (30) days' notice to the District (10 days for non-payment of premium); (iii) shall contain a waiver of subrogation in favor of the District, and (iv) shall provide that such coverage is primary and non-contributory.

Such insurance shall protect the District against all claims, liabilities, suits, actions, damages, or costs resulting from or arising out of the ownership, lease, operation, maintenance, repairs, or use in any way of any project equipment for the purposes of the program covered by this Contract and for any other purpose. No project equipment shall be delivered to the Contractor, or operated by the Contractor until the Contractor has delivered the certificate(s) of insurance required hereunder. Prior to the annual renewal of a motor vehicle registration, the Contractor shall submit to the District a certificate of insurance for the project equipment. This Section shall not prevent the District from contracting for such required insurance coverage at any time, and in such event the Contractor shall pay the District for all costs of such insurance.

INDEMNIFICATION

To the fullest extent permitted by law, the Contractor shall indemnify, defend and hold harmless the District and its officers, directors, employees and agents (collectively "Indemnified Parties") from and against all claims, damages, demands, losses, expenses, fines, penalties, causes of action, suits or other liabilities (including all costs of reasonable attorneys' fees) arising out of, related to, in connection with or resulting from, or alleged to arise out of or arise from the negligent acts or omissions, breach or failure to perform under the Contract or the violation of any applicable law or regulation, by Contractor, Contractor's subcontractors or anyone directly or indirectly employed by Contractor or by Contractor's subcontractors or anyone for whose acts any of them may be responsible or liable and whether such claim, damage, demand, loss, expense, fine, penalty, cause of action, suit or other liability is attributable to bodily injury, personal injury, sickness, disease or death, or to injury to or destruction of tangible property, including the loss of use resulting therefrom. This indemnity shall be effective regardless of whether or not such claim, damage, loss or expense is caused in part by any of the Indemnified Parties (but the indemnity shall not cover liability to the extent resulting from gross negligence or willful misconduct of the Indemnified Parties). Such indemnity obligation shall not be in derogation or limitation of any other obligation or liability of the Contractor or the rights of the District contained in this Contract or otherwise. This indemnification shall not be limited in any way by any limitation on the amount or type of damages, compensation or benefits payable by or for the Contractor under any workers' compensation acts, disability benefit acts or other employee benefits acts and includes any loss or injury suffered by an employee of Contractor. This indemnification shall survive the completion of the Work or the termination of the Contract.

To the extent the foregoing Indemnity applies to any violation of federal, state or local laws, ordinances or regulations, Contractor shall do and perform all work necessary to correct such violation.

19. ATTACHED EXHIBITS

The following exhibits are included in this RFP package:

- A. Federally Required Contract Clauses
- **B.** State of Connecticut Grant Requirements
- **C.** Procurement Procedures and Appeals Process
- **D.** General Information Form

E. Required Certifications

- o Affidavit
- o Certificate of Eligibility
- o Certificate of Non-Collusion
- o Certificate of Restrictions on Lobbying
- o Eligible Contractors Certificate
- o Certification of Disadvantaged Business Enterprise
- o DBE Letter of Intent

F. State of Connecticut Certifications

- o Requirements of the State of Connecticut
- o Small/Minority Business Enterprise (SBE/MBE) Certification
- o SBE Letter of Intent
- o OPM Forms
- **G.** Cost Proposal Form

SECTION II - TECHNICAL

1. BACKGROUND AND OVERVIEW

The District seeks to procure a qualified marketing and communications firm or firms interested and capable of entering into a contract with the District to assist in the promotion of a variety of its public transportation related services. The firm(s) selected for this work will provide marketing, advertising, web design and content management, social media, print, and other promotion services as necessary to meet the needs of GHTD's programs run from the District's two facilities, the Union Station Transportation Center Complex located at One Union Place, Hartford, CT 06103 and the District's ADA Paratransit Operations and Maintenance Facility located at 148 Roberts Street, East Hartford, CT 06108.

In addition to the District's operational capacity and service delivery outlined in <u>Section I. General Information</u>, <u>1. Introduction</u> of this RFP, the District also administers a variety of programs/projects related to public transportation in Connecticut. While these programs/projects change from time-to-time, the agency's current initiatives include:

- 1. The provision of transportation services under the <u>American's with Disabilities Act</u> (ADA) in Connecticut's Capital Region (ADA Paratransit);
- 2. The operations of a regional transportation service known as the <u>Encompass Program</u> which also provides regional mobility services for riders with disabilities and seniors in the Capital Region;
- 3. The management of a Taxi voucher program for ADA eligible riders known as <u>Freedom</u> Ride, which permits riders to travel beyond the current ADA service area and service span;
- 4. The operation of a pilot Microtransit service known as <u>GHTD Link</u>, providing door-to-door service for residents in select areas of Enfield and East Windsor; and

In addition to the projects noted above, the District also oversees several programs on behalf of the Connecticut Department of Transportation including:

- 1. The Connecticut Statewide Insurance Consortium for Public Transit Agencies;
- 2. The Connecticut Statewide Drug and Alcohol Testing Consortium; and
- 3. Connecticut's Rural Transit Assistance Program known as RTAP.

The Greater Hartford Transit District has a variety of constituents or markets that it needs to reach with professional engagement materials and using a variety of methods depending on the goals and targets of each effort. Accordingly, some of the outreach and community engagement will be outward and public facing and some will be targeted at specific groups such as transit agencies who participate in any of the programs or consortia.

2. PROJECT SCOPE

The District anticipates the efforts under this program to include, but not be limited to:

• <u>Electronic and Print Newsletters</u> – Material delivered to a variety of target markets related to one or more of the agency's projects or programs.

- <u>Web Site Modifications</u> Select ongoing work associated with GHTD's website <u>Home</u> <u>Greater Hartford Transit District (www.hartfordtransit.org).</u>
- <u>Social Media Management and Promotion</u> The design and implementation of special media campaigns using Facebook and Twitter and other platforms to inform and or promote GHTD services.
- **Special Events Promotion** Assistance with the development of promotional campaigns and materials for special events.
- <u>Print Material Design</u> Ongoing editing and creation of a variety of print materials (flyers, brochures, newsletter, and Rider's Guides.)
- <u>Video</u> Assist in the creative development and production aspects of GHTD's efforts to promote its services and programs through videos for use on a variety of platforms

3. FAILURE TO PERFORM REQUIRED SERVICES

In the event the contractor fails to accomplish any task under this scope of work, GHTD will provide reasonable notice to take corrective action. If the Contractor does not perform the service, GHTD may, at its option, cause the non-performed tasks to be accomplished through another source and deduct the cost of such from the amount normally due the Contractor for that product to be installed or monitoring period.

4. EQUIMPENT, MATERIALS AND SUPPLIES

All equipment, materials, and supplies required to carry out functions within the scope of this contract shall be provided by the Contractor.

5. CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION

Contractor agrees that any information received by Contractor or his/her employees during the course of the work specified in this agreement which concerns the personal, financial or other affairs of the District and its tenants and employees shall be kept in full confidence and shall not be revealed to any other person, firm, organization or other entity.

No unauthorized person or persons shall accompany contractor's personnel while conducting work under this contract.

SECTION III - RESPONSE CRITERIA

1. SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

All information shall be provided according to the following instructions in order to be considered a responsive Proposal.

Interested parties shall submit a proposal in one package with two (2) sealed envelopes within the proposal package. Envelope 1 of the package will contain one (1) original and four (4) copies and (1) electronic copy (CD, flash drive, and Dropbox or similar are all acceptable forms) of the technical written proposal; no price or fee information is to be included in Envelope 1.

Envelope 1 should be clearly marked "Technical Proposal for Marketing and Community Engagement Services (for the Greater Hartford Transit District)" and shall include the Respondent's name. Envelope 2 will contain only information related to the price proposal in the form of one (1) original and four (4) copies and (1) electronic copy (CD, flash drive, and Dropbox are all acceptable forms) of the cost proposal. Envelope 2 should be clearly marked "Cost Proposal for Marketing and Community Engagement Services (for the Greater Hartford Transit District)" and shall include the Respondent's name.

Cost Proposal information shall be based on the type of service to be provided and the associated requirements as specified in this RFP. The price to be quoted in any proposal shall include all items of labor, materials, and other costs necessary to fully provide the services. Any items omitted from this specification which are clearly necessary for the completion of the project shall be considered a portion of the project although not directly named in these specifications.

The outer envelope (or box) of the proposal package must be clearly marked <u>Request for Proposal #03-025:</u> Marketing and Community Engagement Services (for the Greater Hartford Transit District) on the front thereon. The Respondent's complete return address must be included on the outer envelope.

Each Proposal shall be typed and should be concise but comprehensive and not include any unnecessary elaborate or promotional materials. Appendices should provide information relevant to the proposal and not consist of Proposer's general marketing materials. The Proposal is limited to 12 - 8 ½ X 11 sheets (links to web-based material is encouraged). Font size 12 points. Required certifications and forms, cover letter, resumes, and information required thereon (Exhibits D, E, F, and G) are not considered part of the page limit.

Proposers shall provide a proposal which includes the required elements, both in content and sequence as set forth in this section. Proposal Forms must be completed and signed. <u>All required certifications must be completed, signed and submitted with each Proposal</u>. In addition to the required certifications, the proposal must include a cover letter and a table of contents.

2. GENERAL INFORMATION FORM

The Proposer must provide a completed and signed General Information Form as shown in Exhibit D.

3. COVER LETTER

Each Proposer shall submit a maximum two-page letter including the name and address of the organization submitting the proposal; a brief description of the Proposer's organization including whether the organization is an individual, partnership, corporation or joint venture.

4. TECHNICAL PROPOSAL

A. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

The purpose of the technical proposal is to demonstrate the qualifications, competence and capacity of the firms seeking to provide Marketing and Community Engagement Services for the Greater Hartford Transit District.

In this section the Proposer shall also present the case for the selection of the Proposer as the District's Marketing and Community Engagement Services firm or firms. Do not repeat information requested elsewhere instead, use this opportunity to indicate the unique qualifications, experience, approach, background and other characteristics of the Proposer that make it the best choice for the District.

B. EXPERIENCE/QUALIFICATIONS

The Proposal must include a statement regarding the experience and performance of the Proposer in providing commercial Marketing and Community Engagement Services similar in scope to those requested in this RFP.

The Proposer should, at a minimum, state in their RFP their qualifications as a Marketing and Community Engagement Services firm which should include, but not be limited to, previous Marketing and Community Engagement Services offered to commercial businesses, current contracts awarded to the Proposer for Marketing and Community Engagement Services, the length of time employees who will execute the service have been employed by the Proposer, and any special qualifications those employees might have.

The Proposer must also provide the following information:

- State whether the firm is local, national, or international.
- State the location of the office from which the work is to be managed.
- State the length of time that the Contractor has been providing Marketing and Community Engagement Services.
- State if the firm is licensed with the State of Connecticut to perform Marketing and Community Engagement Services.

The Proposer must have a minimum of five years of experience in the provision of Marketing and Community Engagement Services, including but not limited to: marketing, advertising, web design and content management, social media, print, and other promotion services, and demonstrate it has the ability to fulfill the obligations of this contract.

The proposal must also include a list of references (at least three) to which the Proposer has provided professional services similar in scope and complexity to that concerned with this RFP. The most recent reference should be listed first, then others in reverse chronological order. Include the name of the reference, contact person, title of contact person, telephone number, period of performance of service, a short narrative describing the services, total contract value, and whether or not the contract was renewed.

The District reserves the right to seek references beyond those supplied by the Proposer, which may be used as part of the evaluation process.

The Proposer must identify subcontractors (if any) by name, address, contact person, telephone number and project function.

C. PROJECT MANAGEMENT/WORK PLAN

In this section, the Proposer will include a description of the project team, the type of equipment, materials, and supplies to be used, and how the services will be provided, including how supervision will be provided. These requirements are described in greater detail below.

The Proposer must provide, a brief identification of the roles of all project team members being proposed for the contract, indicating, at a minimum, the individual's name, which position the individual would be assigned to, years of relevant experience, and specific relevant experience. Resumes and qualifications must be provided for all project team members who will be involved in the project.

The Proposer should provide detailed information that clearly explains and demonstrates the Proposer's ability to provide the services in a safe, efficient, timely and professional manner.

The Proposal should include an outline of the type of marketing and community engagement equipment, supplies, and materials which the Proposer intends to use in fulfilling the responsibilities outlined in the SOW.

A description of how the services will be provided or what tasks will be done in response to the Scope of Work. The Scope of Work shows at a minimum what the Proposer is supposed to do; the description of services should show how the Proposer intends to perform the services (for example, the proposed approach to conducting the work and any special services the Proposer plans to perform).

The Proposer must submit a proposed work plan. The contents of the work plan shall include, at a minimum, the following:

- 1. Number of employees to be assigned to the project and their respective roles.
- 2. Experience and qualifications of project team.
- 3. Availability of the project team's key personnel (to include time allocated to the project).

5. AFFIRMATIVE ACTION STATEMENT

The Proposer shall include a copy of the Proposer's (and, if applicable any subcontractor's) Affirmative Action Plan, EEO Plan, or any other Non-Discrimination Plan or Policy that has been adopted by the Proposer and a brief description of how the plan or policy is implemented.

6. REQUIRED CERTIFICATIONS

The Proposer must submit the completed and signed certifications shown in Exhibits D, E, and F. Failure to submit the certifications will result in the proposal not being evaluated.

7. COST PROPOSAL

Proposer must specify all costs and fees to be charged to provide the Marketing and Community Engagement Services as stated in this RFP. Cost information must be completed for each service year. The cost information shall include all of the costs and expenses associated with the provision of the specifications as stated in the scope of work. Proposer must also include a detailed explanation of hourly rates for the above types of services. This information should be presented in the format provided as Exhibit G.

<u>PLEASE NOTE: Cost information must appear only in the Cost Proposal; cost information</u> must not be discussed in the technical proposal.

The subsequent contract is considered a FIRM FIXED-PRICE CONTRACT. The fee proposed shall remain firm and shall include all charges that may be incurred in fulfilling the terms of the contract

8. MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION

The Proposer is encouraged to submit other information which may be pertinent to the evaluation of its Proposal.

SECTION IV -PROPOSAL EVALUATION

1. EVALUATION PROCEDURES

An award will be made to the most responsible and responsive firm in accordance with the evaluation criteria set forth in this RFP. All proposals received will be evaluated and scored by an Evaluation Review Committee. Proposal evaluation is an assessment of both the Proposal and the Proposer's ability to successfully accomplish the required services.

The Evaluation Review Committee shall review each Proposal submitted and may invite some or all of the Proposers to submit additional material to support or clarify their proposals. The Evaluation Review Committee will take all information provided into consideration in making its recommendation to award a contract to the successful proposer in the best interests of the District. The District shall select the highest rated Proposal subject to negotiation of fair and reasonable compensation.

If determined necessary, the Evaluation Review Committee may invite top Proposers found to be within the competitive range, or may be reasonably made to be within the competitive range for an interview. If interviews are conducted, the Evaluation Review Committee will be provided the opportunity to revise their original evaluation and score to accurately reflect any additional information that may have been obtained through the interview process.

The final score for each proposal will be obtained by summing the results from each section (Technical Proposal and Cost Proposal), with a perfect final score being 100 points. The Evaluation Committee will take the total score for each Technical Proposal and add to it the respective Cost Proposal evaluation score to rank the proposal and to determine the overall preferred proposals.

In the event that a proposal, which has been included in the competitive range, contains conditions, exceptions, reservations or understanding to any Contract requirements, said conditions, exceptions, reservations or understandings may be discussed during the interview or negotiation meetings. However, the District shall have the right to reject any and all conditions and/or exceptions, and instruct the Proposer to amend its Proposal and remove said conditions and/or exceptions; and any Proposer failing to do so may cause the District to determine such Proposal to be outside the competitive range.

The Proposer with the highest-ranking Proposal may be contacted regarding any potential areas to be negotiated. If negotiations are determined not necessary, a contract will be awarded to that firm. If negotiations are conducted and not successful with the highest-ranking Proposer then negotiations may be conducted with the next highest-ranking Proposer and so on down the line until negotiations are successful.

The District reserves the right to contact Proposer(s) regarding an interview, areas of concern, areas to be negotiated and/or request to amend its proposal and to make its Best and Final Offer (BAFO). The District reserves the right to award on the basis of initial Proposal submitted without negotiations or discussions if such action is deemed to be in the best interest of the District.

2. TECHNICAL PROPOSAL

The Evaluation Review Committee shall evaluate and rank all technical proposals from responsible proposers for the purpose of determining any competitive range and to select a proposal for potential award. Any exceptions, conditions, reservations or understandings explicitly, fully and separately stated by a Proposer which do not cause the Committee to consider a Proposal outside of the competitive range, will be evaluated according to the respective evaluation criteria which they affect

The Evaluation Review Committee shall evaluate all technical Proposals to determine which meet the District's minimum requirements, without regard to price. The minimum requirements will be an initial cut off point for assessing minimum levels of financial capabilities. Compliance with each standard is required. The minimum requirements will be evaluated. The evaluation may, at the District's discretion, be augmented by verbal or written requests for clarification, or additional information as necessary to determine whether the technical requirements can be met.

The District will only consider those proposals that meet the minimum requirements for further evaluation based on the following criteria.

A. FIRM'S QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE – 35 Points

Elements thereof include experience of Proposer providing Marketing and Community Engagement Services, including but not limited to: marketing, advertising, web design and content management, social media, print, and other promotion services similar to the one described in this RFP. The years of experience of the Proposer providing Marketing and Community Engagement Services. References provided to the District. Positive references on similar type projects.

B. PROJECT MANAGEMENT/WORKPLAN – 35 Points

Elements thereof include a demonstrated understanding of the required scope of work; project approach and understanding; the experience of the project manager, the proposed project team, including the supervisors assigned (if applicable); marketing & community engagement materials and equipment/software (where applicable); and proposers' work plan. Experience and qualifications of key personnel; availability of staff and their responsibilities in the provision of service; and adequacy, training and licenses of personnel assigned.

C. UTILIZATION OF DBEs/SBEs/MBEs -5 Points

Compliance with the District's DBE/SBE/MBE goals as set forth in the RFP will be evaluated.

D. COST PROPOSAL - 25 Points

This aspect relates to the Contractor's overall budget, and the completeness and reasonableness of specific budget assumptions and projected level estimates. The reasonableness of the total cost proposal and the competitiveness of this amount with other offers received; adequacy of data in support of figures quoted; and reasonableness of unit price.

Proposals will be rated on the basis of the total cost of Marketing and Community Engagement Services. The Proposal asserting the lowest will receive 25 points. All other proposals will receive between 1 to 24 points based on the numerical relation of their cost to the amount asserted in the Proposal having the lowest cost amount. The formula is as follows:

- a) Divide lowest proposed cost by cost of relevant proposal
- b) Multiply result from step a) times 25 points to determine points to be awarded.

The final score for each proposal will be obtained by summing the results from each section, with a perfect final score being 100 points. The Committee will take the Technical Proposal score for each proposal and add to it the respective Cost Proposal evaluation score to rank the proposal and to determine the overall preferred proposals.

The top Proposers with the highest rating based by points upon the award criteria may be granted an interview with the Evaluation Committee as part of the review process.



FEDERALLY REQUIRED CONTRACT CLAUSES

Access to Records and Reports -

- a. Record Retention. The Contractor will retain, and will require its subcontractors of all tiers to retain, complete and readily accessible records related in whole or in part to the contract, including, but not limited to, data, documents, reports, statistics, leases, subcontracts, arrangements, other third-party Contracts of any type, and supporting materials related to those records.
- b. Retention Period. The Contractor agrees to comply with the record retention requirements in accordance with 2 C.F.R. § 200.334. The Contractor shall maintain all books, records, accounts and reports required under this Contract for a period of at not less than three (3) years after the date of termination or expiration of this Contract, except in the event of litigation or settlement of claims arising from the performance of this Contract, in which case records shall be maintained until the disposition of all such litigation, appeals, claims or exceptions related thereto
- c. Access to Records. The Contractor agrees to provide sufficient access to FTA and its contractors to inspect and audit records and information related to performance of this contract in accordance with 2 CFR § 200.337.
- d. Access to the Sites of Performance. The Contractor agrees to permit FTA and its contractors access to the sites of performance under this contract in accordance with 2 CFR § 200.337.

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) -

The contractor agrees to comply with all applicable requirements of section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, 29 U.S.C. § 794, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of handicaps, with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), as amended, 42 U.S.C. §§ 12101 et seq., which requires that accessible facilities and services be made available to persons with disabilities, including any subsequent amendments to that Act, and with the Architectural Barriers act of 1968, as amended, 42 U.S.C. §§ 4151 et seq., which requires that buildings and public accommodations be accessible to persons with disabilities, including any subsequent amendments to that Act. In addition, the contractor agrees to comply with any and all applicable requirements issued by the FTA, DOT, DOJ, U.S. GSA, U.S. EEOC, U.S. FCC, any subsequent amendments thereto and any other nondiscrimination statute(s) that may apply to the Project.

Bond Requirements –

For construction or facility improvement contracts or subcontracts exceeding the Simplified Acquisition Threshold, the Federal awarding agency or pass-through entity may accept the bonding policy and requirements of the non-Federal entity provided that the Federal awarding agency or pass-through entity has made a determination that the Federal interest is adequately protected. If such a determination has not been made, the minimum requirements must be as follows:

(a) A bid guarantee from each bidder equivalent to five percent of the bid price. The "bid guarantee" must consist of a firm commitment such as a bid bond, certified check, or other negotiable instrument accompanying a bid as assurance that the bidder will, upon acceptance of the bid, execute such contractual documents as may be required within the time specified.

- (b) A performance bond on the part of the contractor for 100 percent of the contract price. A "performance bond" is one executed in connection with a contract to secure fulfillment of all the contractor's requirements under such contract.
- (c) A payment bond on the part of the contractor for 100 percent of the contract price. A "payment bond" is one executed in connection with a contract to assure payment as required by law of all persons supplying labor and material in the execution of the work provided for in the contract.

It is also understood and agreed that if the bidder should withdraw any part or all of their bid within [90] days after the bid opening without the written consent of the Agency, or refuse or be unable to enter into this Contract as provided above, or refuse or be unable to furnish adequate and acceptable Performance and Payment Bonds, or refuse or be unable to furnish adequate and acceptable insurance, as provided above, it shall forfeit its bid guaranty to the extent Agency's damages occasioned by such withdrawal, or refusal, or inability to enter into a Contract, or provide adequate security thereof.

It is further understood and agreed that to the extent the defaulting bidder's bid guaranty shall prove inadequate to fully recompense Agency for the damages occasioned by default, then the bidder agrees to indemnify Agency and pay over to Agency the difference between the bid guarantee and Agency's total damages so as to make Agency whole.

The bidder understands that any material alteration of any of the above or any of the material contained herein, other than that requested will render the bid unresponsive.

Performance Guarantee. A Performance Guarantee in the amount of 100% of the Contract value is required by the Agency to ensure faithful performance of the Contract. Either a Performance Bond or an Irrevocable Stand-By Letter of Credit shall be provided by the Contractor and shall remain in full force for the term of the Contract. The successful Bidder shall certify that it will provide the requisite Performance Guarantee to the Agency within ten (10) business days from Contract execution. The Agency requires all Performance Bonds to be provided by a fully qualified surety company acceptable to the Agency and listed as a company currently authorized under 31 C.F.R. part 22 as possessing a Certificate of Authority as described hereunder. Agency may require additional performance bond protection when the contract price is increased. The increase in protection shall generally equal 100 percent of the increase in contract price. The Agency may secure additional protection by directing the Contractor to increase the amount of the existing bond or to obtain an additional bond.

If the Bidder chooses to provide a Letter of Credit as its Performance Guarantee, the Bidder shall furnish with its bid, certification that an Irrevocable Stand-By Letter of Credit will be furnished should the Bidder become the successful Contractor. The Bidder shall also provide a statement from the banking institution certifying that an Irrevocable Stand-By Letter of Credit for the action will be provided if the Contract is awarded to the Bidder. The Irrevocable Stand-By Letter of Credit will only be accepted by the Agency if:

- 1. A bank in good standing issues it. The Agency will not accept a Letter of Credit from an entity other than a bank.
- 2. It is in writing and signed by the issuing bank.
- 3. It conspicuously states that it is an irrevocable, non-transferable, "standby" Letter of Credit.

- 4. The Agency is identified as the Beneficiary.
- 5. It is in an amount equal to 100% of the Contract value. This amount must be in U.S. dollars.
- 6. The effective date of the Letter of Credit is the same as the effective date of the Contract
- 7. The expiration date of the Letter of Credit coincides with the term of the contract.
- 8. It indicates that it is being issued in order to support the obligation of the Contractor to perform under the Contract. It must specifically reference the Contract between the Agency and the Contractor the work stipulated herein.

The issuing bank's obligation to pay will arise upon the presentation of the original Letter of Credit and a certificate and draft to the issuing bank's representative at a location and time to be determined by the parties. This documentation will indicate that the Contractor is in default under the Contract.

Payment Bonds. A Labor and Materials Payment Bond equal to the full value of the contract must be furnished by the contractor to Agency as security for payment by the Contractor and subcontractors for labor, materials, and rental of equipment. The bond may be issued by a fully qualified surety company acceptable to (Agency) and listed as a company currently authorized under 31 C.F.R. part 223 as possessing a Certificate of Authority as described thereunder.

Buy America -

The contractor agrees to comply with 49 U.S.C. 5323(j) and 49 C.F.R. part 661 and 2 CFR § 200.322 Domestic preferences for procurements, which provide that Federal funds may not be obligated unless all steel, iron, and manufactured products used in FTA funded projects are produced in the United States, unless a waiver has been granted by FTA or the product is subject to a general waiver. General waivers are listed in 49 C.F.R. § 661.7.

Construction materials used in the Project are subject to the domestic preference requirement of the Build America, Buy America Act, Pub. L. 117-58, div. G, tit. IX, §§ 70911 – 70927 (2021), as implemented by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget, the U.S. Department of Transportation, and FTA. The Recipient acknowledges that this agreement is neither a waiver of § 70914(a) nor a finding under § 70914(b).

Separate requirements for rolling stock are set out at 49 U.S.C. 5323(j)(2)(C), 49 U.S.C. § 5323(u) and 49 C.F.R. § 661.11. Domestic preferences for procurements.

The bidder or offeror must submit to the Agency the appropriate Buy America certification. Bids or offers that are not accompanied by a completed Buy America certification will be rejected as nonresponsive. For more information, please see the FTA's Buy America webpage at: https://www.transit.dot.gov/buyamerica.

<u>Cargo Preference Requirements</u> –

The contractor agrees:

a. to use privately owned United States-Flag commercial vessels to ship at least 50 percent of the gross tonnage (computed separately for dry bulk carriers, dry cargo liners, and tankers) involved, whenever shipping any equipment, material, or commodities pursuant to the underlying contract to the extent such vessels are available at fair and reasonable rates for United States-Flag commercial vessels;

b. to furnish within 20 working days following the date of loading for shipments originating within the United States or within 30 working days following the date of loading for shipments originating outside the United States, a legible copy of a rated, "on-board" commercial ocean bill-of-lading in English for each shipment of cargo described in the preceding paragraph to the Division of National Cargo, Office of Market Development, Maritime Administration, Washington, DC 20590 and to the FTA Recipient (through the contractor in the case of a subcontractor's bill-of-lading.); and

c. to include these requirements in all subcontracts issued pursuant to this contract when the subcontract may involve the transport of equipment, material, or commodities by ocean vessel.

Civil Rights Laws and Regulations -

The following Federal Civil Rights laws and regulations apply to all contracts.

- 1 Federal Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) Requirements. These include, but are not limited to:
- a) Nondiscrimination in Federal Public Transportation Programs. 49 U.S.C. § 5332, covering projects, programs, and activities financed under 49 U.S.C. Chapter 53, prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex (including sexual orientation and gender identity), disability, or age, and prohibits discrimination in employment or business opportunity.
- b) Prohibition against Employment Discrimination. Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, 42 U.S.C. § 2000e, and Executive Order No. 11246, "Equal Employment Opportunity," September 24, 1965, as amended, prohibit discrimination in employment on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, or national origin.
- 2 **Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Sex.** Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, as amended, 20 U.S.C. § 1681 et seq. and implementing Federal regulations, "Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Sex in Education Programs or Activities Receiving Federal Financial Assistance," 49 C.F.R. part 25 prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex.
- 3 Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Age. The "Age Discrimination Act of 1975," as amended, 42 U.S.C. § 6101 et seq., and Department of Health and Human Services implementing regulations, "Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Age in Programs or Activities Receiving Federal Financial Assistance," 45 C.F.R. part 90, prohibit discrimination by participants in federally assisted programs against individuals on the basis of age. The Age Discrimination in Employment Act (ADEA), 29 U.S.C. § 621 et seq., and Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) implementing regulations, "Age Discrimination in Employment Act," 29 C.F.R. part 1625, also prohibit employment discrimination against individuals age 40 and over on the basis of age.
- 4 Federal Protections for Individuals with Disabilities. The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, as amended (ADA), 42 U.S.C. § 12101 et seq., prohibits discrimination against qualified individuals with disabilities in programs, activities, and services, and imposes specific requirements on public and private entities. Third party contractors must comply with their responsibilities under Titles I, II, III, IV, and V of the ADA in employment, public services, public accommodations, telecommunications, and other provisions, many of which are subject to regulations issued by other Federal agencies.

Civil Rights and Equal Opportunity

The Agency is an Equal Opportunity Employer. As such, the Agency agrees to comply with all applicable Federal civil rights laws and implementing regulations. Apart from inconsistent requirements imposed by Federal laws or regulations, the Agency agrees to comply with the requirements of 49 U.S.C. § 5323(h) (3) by not using any Federal assistance awarded by FTA to support procurements using exclusionary or discriminatory specifications. Under this Contract, the Contractor shall at all times comply with the following requirements and shall include these requirements in each subcontract entered into as part thereof.

- 1. **Nondiscrimination**. In accordance with Federal transit law at 49 U.S.C. § 5332, the Contractor agrees that it will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, disability, or age. In addition, the Contractor agrees to comply with applicable Federal implementing regulations and other implementing requirements FTA may issue.
- 2. Race, Color, Religion, National Origin, Sex. In accordance with Title VII of the Civil Rights Act, as amended, 42 U.S.C. § 2000e et seq., and Federal transit laws at 49 U.S.C. § 5332, the Contractor agrees to comply with all applicable equal employment opportunity requirements of U.S. Department of Labor (U.S. DOL) regulations, "Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs, Equal Employment Opportunity, Department of Labor," 41 C.F.R. chapter 60, and Executive Order No. 11246, "Equal Employment Opportunity in Federal Employment," September 24, 1965, 42 U.S.C. § 2000e note, as amended by any later Executive Order that amends or supersedes it, referenced in 42 U.S.C. § 2000e note. The Contractor agrees to take affirmative action to ensure that applicants are employed, and that employees are treated during employment, without regard to their race, color, religion, national origin, or sex (including sexual orientation and gender identity). Such action shall include, but not be limited to, the following: employment, promotion, demotion or transfer, recruitment or recruitment advertising, layoff or termination; rates of pay or other forms of compensation; and selection for training, including apprenticeship. In addition, the Contractor agrees to comply with any implementing requirements FTA may issue.
- 3. **Age**. In accordance with the Age Discrimination in Employment Act, 29 U.S.C. §§ 621-634, U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (U.S. EEOC) regulations, "Age Discrimination in Employment Act," 29 C.F.R. part 1625, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended, 42 U.S.C. § 6101 et seq., U.S. Health and Human Services regulations, "Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Age in Programs or Activities Receiving Federal Financial Assistance," 45 C.F.R. part 90, and Federal transit law at 49 U.S.C. § 5332, the Contractor agrees to refrain from discrimination against present and prospective employees for reason of age. In addition, the Contractor agrees to comply with any Implementing requirements FTA may issue.
- 4. **Disabilities**. In accordance with section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, 29 U.S.C. § 794, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, as amended, 42 U.S.C. § 12101 et seq., the Architectural Barriers Act of 1968, as amended, 42 U.S.C. § 4151 et seq., and Federal transit law at 49 U.S.C. § 5332, the Contractor agrees that it will not discriminate against individuals on the basis of disability. In addition, the Contractor agrees to comply with any implementing requirements FTA may issue.
- 5. **Promoting Free Speech and Religious Liberty**. The Contractor shall ensure that Federal funding is expended in full accordance with the U.S. Constitution, Federal Law, and statutory and

public policy requirements: including, but not limited to, those protecting free speech, religious liberty, public welfare, the environment, and prohibiting discrimination.

Clean Air Act and Federal Water Pollution Control Act -

The Contractor agrees to comply with all applicable standards, orders, or regulations issued pursuant to the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. § 7401-7671q) and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act as amended (33 U.S.C. § 1251-1387). Violations must be reported to FTA and the Regional Office of the Environmental Protection Agency. The following applies for contracts of amounts in excess of \$150,000:

Clean Air Act

- (1) The contractor agrees to comply with all applicable standards, orders or regulations issued pursuant to the Clean Air Act, as amended, 42 U.S.C. § 7401 et seq.
- (2) The contractor agrees to report each violation to the Agency and understands and agrees that the Agency will, in turn, report each violation as required to assure notification to the Agency, Federal Emergency Management Agency, and the appropriate Environmental Protection Agency Regional Office.
- (3) The contractor agrees to include these requirements in each subcontract exceeding \$150,000 financed in whole or in part with Federal assistance provided by FTA.

Federal Water Pollution Control Act

- (1) The contractor agrees to comply with all applicable standards, orders or regulations issued pursuant to the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, as amended, 33 U.S.C. 1251 et seq.
- (2) The contractor agrees to report each violation to the Agency and understands and agrees that the Agency will, in turn, report each violation as required to assure notification to the Agency, Federal Emergency Management Agency, and the appropriate Environmental Protection Agency Regional Office.
- (3) The contractor agrees to include these requirements in each subcontract exceeding \$150,000 financed in whole or in part with Federal assistance provided by FTA."

Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act –

- a. Applicability: This requirement applies to all FTA grant and cooperative agreement programs.
- b. Where applicable (see 40 U.S.C. § 3701), all contracts awarded by the non-Federal entity in excess of \$100,000 that involve the employment of mechanics or laborers must include a provision for compliance with 40 U.S.C. §§ 3702 and 3704, as supplemented by Department of Labor regulations at 29 C.F.R. Part 5. See 2 C.F.R. Part 200, Appendix II.
- c. Under 40 U.S.C. § 3702, each contractor must be required to compute the wages of every mechanic and laborer on the basis of a standard work week of 40 hours. Work in

excess of the standard work week is permissible provided that the worker is compensated at a rate of not less than one and a half times the basic rate of pay for all hours worked in excess of 40 hours in the work week.

- d. The requirements of 40 U.S.C. § 3704 are applicable to construction work and provide that no laborer or mechanic must be required to work in surroundings or under working conditions which are unsanitary, hazardous or dangerous. These requirements do not apply to the purchases of supplies or materials or articles ordinarily available on the open market, or contracts for transportation or transmission of intelligence.
- e. The regulation at 29 C.F.R. § 5.5(b) provides the required contract clause concerning compliance with the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act:

Compliance with the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act.

- (1) Overtime requirements. No contractor or subcontractor contracting for any part of the contract work which may require or involve the employment of laborers or mechanics shall require or permit any such laborer or mechanic in any workweek in which he or she is employed on such work to work in excess of forty hours in such workweek unless such laborer or mechanic receives compensation at a rate not less than one and one-half times the basic rate of pay for all hours worked in excess of forty hours in such workweek.
- (2) Violation; liability for unpaid wages; liquidated damages. In the event of any violation of the clause set forth in paragraph (1) of this section the contractor and any subcontractor responsible therefor shall be liable for the unpaid wages. In addition, such contractor and subcontractor shall be liable to the United States (in the case of work done under contract for the District of Columbia or a territory, to such District or to such territory), for liquidated damages. Such liquidated damages shall be computed with respect to each individual laborer or mechanic, including watchmen and guards, employed in violation of the clause set forth in paragraph (1) of this section, in the sum of \$10 for each calendar day on which such individual was required or permitted to work in excess of the standard workweek of forty hours without payment of the overtime wages required by the clause set forth in paragraph (1) of this section.
- (3) Withholding for unpaid wages and liquidated damages. The agency shall upon its own action or upon written request of an authorized representative of the Department of Labor withhold or cause to be withheld, from any moneys payable on account of work performed by the contractor or subcontractor under any such contract or any other Federal contract with the same prime contractor, or any other federally-assisted contract subject to the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act, which is held by the same prime contractor, such sums as may be determined to be necessary to satisfy any liabilities of such contractor or subcontractor for unpaid wages and liquidated damages as provided in the clause set forth in paragraph (2) of this section.
- (4) Subcontracts. The contractor or subcontractor shall insert in any subcontracts the clauses set forth in paragraph (1) through (4) of this section and also a clause requiring the subcontractors to include these clauses in any lower tier subcontracts. The prime contractor shall be responsible for compliance by any subcontractor or lower tier subcontractor with the clauses set forth in paragraphs (1) through (4) of this section."

Davis Bacon Act and Copeland Anti-Kickback Act –

For all prime construction, alteration or repair contracts in excess of \$2,000 awarded by FTA, the Contractor shall comply with the Davis-Bacon Act and the Copeland "Anti-Kickback" Act. Under 49 U.S.C. § 5333(a), prevailing wage protections apply to laborers and mechanics employed on FTA assisted construction, alteration, or repair projects. The Contractor will comply with the Davis-Bacon Act, 40 U.S.C. §§ 3141-3144, and 3146-3148 as supplemented by DOL regulations at 29 C.F.R. part 5, "Labor Standards Provisions Applicable to Contracts Governing Federally Financed and Assisted Construction." In accordance with the statute, the Contractor shall pay wages to laborers and mechanics at a rate not less than the prevailing wages specified in a wage determination made by the Secretary of Labor. In addition, the Contractor agrees to pay wages not less than once a week. The Contractor shall also comply with the Copeland "Anti-Kickback" Act (40 U.S.C. § 3145), as supplemented by DOL regulations at 29 C.F.R. part 3, "Contractors and Subcontractors on Public Building or Public Work Financed in Whole or in part by Loans or Grants from the United States." The Contractor is prohibited from inducing, by any means, any person employed in the construction, completion, or repair of public work, to give up any part of the compensation to which he or she is otherwise entitled.

Debarment and Suspension—

The Contractor shall comply and facilitate compliance with U.S. DOT regulations, "Nonprocurement Suspension and Debarment," 2 C.F.R. part 1200, which adopts and supplements the U.S. Office of Management and Budget (U.S. OMB) "Guidelines to Agencies on Governmentwide Debarment and Suspension (Nonprocurement)," 2 C.F.R. part 180. These provisions apply to each contract at any tier of \$25,000 or more, and to each contract at any tier for a federally required audit (irrespective of the contract amount), and to each contract at any tier that must be approved by an FTA official irrespective of the contract amount. As such, the Contractor shall verify that its principals, affiliates, and subcontractors are eligible to participate in this federally funded contract and are not presently declared by any Federal department or agency to be:

- a) Debarred from participation in any federally assisted Award;
- b) Suspended from participation in any federally assisted Award;
- c) Proposed for debarment from participation in any federally assisted Award;
- d) Declared ineligible to participate in any federally assisted Award;
- e) Voluntarily excluded from participation in any federally assisted Award; or
- f) Disqualified from participation in ay federally assisted Award.

By signing and submitting its bid or proposal, the bidder or proposer certifies as follows: The certification in this clause is a material representation of fact relied upon by the AGENCY. If it is later determined by the AGENCY that the bidder or proposer knowingly rendered an erroneous certification, in addition to remedies available to the AGENCY, the Federal Government may pursue available remedies, including but not limited to suspension and/or debarment. The bidder or proposer agrees to comply with the requirements of 2 C.F.R. part 180, subpart C, as supplemented by 2 C.F.R. part 1200, while this offer is valid and throughout the period of any contract that may arise from this offer. The bidder or proposer further agrees to include a provision requiring such compliance in its lower tier covered transactions.

<u>Disadvantaged Business Enterprises</u> —

(Does not apply to projects fully funded by the Tribal Transportation Program (TTP).)

It is the policy of the Agency and the United States Department of Transportation ("DOT") that Disadvantaged Business Enterprises ("DBE's"), as defined herein and in the Federal regulations published at 49 C.F.R. part 26, shall have an equal opportunity to participate in DOT-assisted contracts.

The contractor or subcontractor shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, or sex in the performance of this contract. The contractor shall carry out applicable requirements of 49 C.F.R. part 26 in the award and administration of DOT-assisted contracts. Failure by the contractor to carry out these requirements is a material breach of this contract, which may result in the termination of this contract or such other remedy as the Agency deems appropriate, which may include, but is not limited to:

- (1) Withholding monthly progress payments;
- (2) Assessing sanctions;
- (3) Liquidated damages; and/or
- (4) Disqualifying the contractor from future bidding as non-responsible. 49 C.F.R. § 26.13(b).

Prime contractors are required to pay subcontractors for satisfactory performance of their contracts no later than 30 days from receipt of each payment the Agency makes to the prime contractor. 49 C.F.R. § 26.29(a).

Finally, for contracts with defined DBE contract goals, each FTA Recipient must include in each prime contract a provision stating that the contractor shall utilize the specific DBEs listed unless the contractor obtains the Agency's written consent; and that, unless the Agency's consent is provided, the contractor shall not be entitled to any payment for work or material unless it is performed or supplied by the listed DBE. 49 C.F.R. § 26.53(f) (1).

Energy Conservation –

The contractor agrees to comply with mandatory standards and policies relating to energy efficiency, which are contained in the state energy conservation plan issued in compliance with the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C.§ 6201).

Equal Employment Opportunity-

During the performance of this contract, the contractor agrees as follows:

(1) The contractor will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, or national origin. The contractor will take affirmative action to ensure that applicants are employed, and that employees are treated during employment, without regard to their race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, or national origin. Such action shall include, but not be limited to the following: Employment, upgrading, demotion, or transfer, recruitment or recruitment advertising; layoff or termination; rates of pay or other forms of compensation; and selection for training, including apprenticeship. The contractor agrees to post in conspicuous places, available to employees and applicants for employment, notices to be provided by the contracting officer setting forth the provisions of this nondiscrimination clause.

- (2) The contractor will, in all solicitations or advertisements for employees placed by or on behalf of the contractor, state that all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, or national origin.
- (3) The contractor will not discharge or in any other manner discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because such employee or applicant has inquired about, discussed, or disclosed the compensation of the employee or applicant or another employee or applicant. This provision shall not apply to instances in which an employee who has access to the compensation information of other employees or applicants as a part of such employee's essential job functions discloses the compensation of such other employees or applicants to individuals who do not otherwise have access to such information, unless such disclosure is in response to a formal complaint or charge, in furtherance of an investigation, proceeding, hearing, or action, including an investigation conducted by the employer, or is consistent with the contractor's legal duty to furnish information.
- (4) The contractor will send to each labor union or representative of workers with which it has a collective bargaining agreement or other contract or understanding, a notice to be provided by the agency contracting officer, advising the labor union or workers' representative of the contractor's commitments under section 202 of Executive Order 11246 of September 24, 1965, and shall post copies of the notice in conspicuous places available to employees and applicants for employment.
- (5) The contractor will comply with all provisions of Executive Order 11246 of September 24, 1965, and of the rules, regulations, and relevant orders of the Secretary of Labor.
- (6) The contractor will furnish all information and reports required by Executive Order 11246 of September 24, 1965, and by the rules, regulations, and orders of the Secretary of Labor, or pursuant thereto, and will permit access to his books, records, and accounts by the contracting agency and the Secretary of Labor for purposes of investigation to ascertain compliance with such rules, regulations, and orders.
- (7) In the event of the contractor's non-compliance with the nondiscrimination clauses of this contract or with any of such rules, regulations, or orders, this contract may be canceled, terminated or suspended in whole or in part and the contractor may be declared ineligible for further Government contracts in accordance with procedures authorized in Executive Order 11246 of September 24, 1965, and such other sanctions may be imposed and remedies invoked as provided in Executive Order 11246 of September 24, 1965, or by rule, regulation, or order of the Secretary of Labor, or as otherwise provided by law.
- (8) The contractor will include the provisions of paragraphs (1) through (8) in every subcontract or purchase order unless exempted by rules, regulations, or orders of the Secretary of Labor issued pursuant to section 204 of Executive Order 11246 of September 24, 1965, so that such provisions will be binding upon each subcontractor or vendor. The contractor will take such action with respect to any subcontract or purchase order as may be directed by the Secretary of Labor as a means of enforcing such provisions including sanctions for noncompliance: Provided, however, that in the event the contractor becomes involved in, or is threatened with, litigation with a subcontractor or vendor as a result of such direction, the contractor may request the United States to enter into such litigation to protect the interests of the United States.

Notice to Third Party Participants –

Federal requirements that apply to the Recipient or the Award, the accompanying Underlying Agreement, and any Amendments thereto may change due to changes in federal law, regulation, other requirements, or guidance, or changes in the Recipient's Underlying Agreement including any information incorporated by reference and made part of that Underlying Agreement; and Applicable changes to those federal requirements will apply to each Third-Party Agreement and parties thereto at any tier.

Federal Changes

Proposer shall at all times comply with all applicable federal regulations, policies, procedures and directives, including without limitation those listed directly or by reference in the Master Agreement between the District and the FTA as they may be amended or promulgated from time to time during the term of this contract. Contractor's failure to so comply shall constitute a material breach of this contract.

Federal Tax Liability and Recent Felony Convictions -

- (1) The contractor certifies that it:
 - (a) Does not have any unpaid Federal tax liability that has been assessed, for which all judicial and administrative remedies have been exhausted or have lapsed, and that is not being paid in a timely manner pursuant to an agreement with the authority responsible for collecting the tax liability; and
 - (b) Was not convicted of the felony criminal violation under any Federal law within the preceding 24 months.

If the contractor cannot so certify, the Recipient will refer the matter to FTA and not enter into any Third-Party Agreement with the Third-Party Participant without FTA's written approval.

(2) Flow-Down. The Recipient agrees to require the contractor to flow this requirement down to participants at all lower tiers, without regard to the value of any subagreement.

Fly America Requirements –

- a) Definitions. As used in this clause—
 - 1) "International air transportation" means transportation by air between a place in the United States and a place outside the United States or between two places both of which are outside the United States.
 - 2) "United States" means the 50 States, the District of Columbia, and outlying areas.
 - 3) "U.S.-flag air carrier" means an air carrier holding a certificate under 49 U.S.C. Chapter 411.
- b) When Federal funds are used to fund travel, Section 5 of the International Air Transportation Fair Competitive Practices Act of 1974 (49 U.S.C. 40118) (Fly America Act) requires contractors, Agency's, and others use U.S.-flag air carriers for U.S. Government-financed international air transportation of personnel (and their personal effects) or property, to the extent that service by those carriers is available. It requires the Comptroller General of the United States, in the absence of satisfactory proof of the necessity for foreign-flag air transportation, to disallow expenditures from funds, appropriated or otherwise established for the account of the United States, for international air transportation secured aboard a foreign-flag air carrier if a U.S.-flag air carrier is available to provide such services.
- c) If available, the Contractor, in performing work under this contract, shall use U.S.-flag carriers for international air transportation of personnel (and their personal effects) or property.

d) In the event that the Contractor selects a carrier other than a U.S.-flag air carrier for international air transportation, the Contractor shall include a statement on vouchers involving such transportation essentially as follows:

Statement of Unavailability of U.S.-Flag Air Carriers

International air transportation of persons (and their personal effects) or property by U.S.-flag air carrier was not available or it was necessary to use foreign-flag air carrier service for the following reasons. See FAR § 47.403. [State reasons]:

e) Contractor shall include the substance of this clause, including this paragraph (e), in each subcontract or purchase under this contract that may involve international air transportation.

Incorporation of Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Terms –

The provisions within include, in part, certain Standard Terms and Conditions required under the Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (2 CFR § 200), whether or not expressly set forth in the preceding contract provisions. All contractual provisions required by DOT, detailed in 2 CFR § 200 or as amended by 2 CFR § 1201, or the most recent version of FTA Circular 4220.1 are hereby incorporated by reference. Anything to the contrary herein notwithstanding, all mandated terms shall be deemed to control in the event of a conflict with other provisions contained in this Contract. The Contractor shall not perform any act, fail to perform any act, or refuse to comply with any request which would cause a violation of the FTA terms and conditions.

No Government Obligation to Third Parties –

The Recipient and Contractor acknowledge and agree that, notwithstanding any concurrence by the Federal Government in or approval of the solicitation or award of the underlying Contract, absent the express written consent by the Federal Government, the Federal Government is not a party to this Contract and shall not be subject to any obligations or liabilities to the Recipient, Contractor or any other party (whether or not a party to that contract) pertaining to any matter resulting from the underlying Contract. The Contractor agrees to include the above clause in each subcontract financed in whole or in part with Federal assistance provided by the FTA. It is further agreed that the clause shall not be modified, except to identify the subcontractor who will be subject to its provisions.

Notification to FTA –

If a current or prospective legal matter that may affect the Federal Government emerges, the Recipient must promptly notify the FTA Chief Counsel and FTA Regional Counsel for the Region in which the Recipient is located. The Recipient must include a similar notification requirement in its Third-Party Agreements and must require each Third-Party Participant to include an equivalent provision in its subagreements at every tier, for any agreement that is a "covered transaction" according to 2 C.F.R. §§ 180.220 and 1200.220.

(1) The types of legal matters that require notification include, but are not limited to, a major dispute, breach, default, litigation, or naming the Federal Government as a party to litigation or a legal disagreement in any forum for any reason.

- (2) Matters that may affect the Federal Government include, but are not limited to, the Federal Government's interests in the Award, the accompanying Underlying Agreement, and any Amendments thereto, or the Federal Government's administration or enforcement of federal laws, regulations, and requirements.
- (3) The Recipient must promptly notify the U.S. DOT Inspector General in addition to the FTA Chief Counsel or Regional Counsel for the Region in which the Recipient is located, if the Recipient has knowledge of potential fraud, waste, or abuse occurring on a Project receiving assistance from FTA. The notification provision applies if a person has or may have submitted a false claim under the False Claims Act, 31 U.S.C. § 3729 et seq., or has or may have committed a criminal or civil violation of law pertaining to such matters as fraud, conflict of interest, bribery, gratuity, or similar misconduct. This responsibility occurs whether the Project is subject to this Agreement or another agreement between the Recipient and FTA, or an agreement involving a principal, officer, employee, agent, or Third-Party Participant of the Recipient. It also applies to subcontractors at any tier. Knowledge, as used in this paragraph, includes, but is not limited to, knowledge of a criminal or civil investigation by a Federal, state, or local law enforcement or other investigative agency, a criminal indictment or civil complaint, or probable cause that could support a criminal indictment, or any other credible information in the possession of the Recipient.

Program Fraud and False or Fraudulent Statements and Related Acts -

The Contractor acknowledges that the provisions of the Program Fraud Civil Remedies Act of 1986, as amended, 31 U.S.C. § 3801 et seq. and U.S. DOT regulations, "Program Fraud Civil Remedies," 49 C.F.R. part 31, apply to its actions pertaining to this Project. Upon execution of the underlying contract, the Contractor certifies or affirms the truthfulness and accuracy of any statement it has made, it makes, it may make, or causes to be made, pertaining to the underlying contract or the FTA assisted project for which this contract work is being performed. In addition to other penalties that may be applicable, the Contractor further acknowledges that if it makes, or causes to be made, a false, fictitious, or fraudulent claim, statement, submission, or certification, the Federal Government reserves the right to impose the penalties of the Program Fraud Civil Remedies Act of 1986 on the Contractor to the extent the Federal Government deems appropriate. The Contractor also acknowledges that if it makes, or causes to be made, a false, fictitious, or fraudulent claim, statement, submission, or certification to the Federal Government under a contract connected with a project that is financed in whole or in part with Federal assistance originally awarded by FTA under the authority of 49 U.S.C. chapter 53, the Government reserves the right to impose the penalties of 18 U.S.C. § 1001 and 49 U.S.C. § 5323(1) on the Contractor, to the extent the Federal Government deems appropriate.

The Contractor agrees to include the above two clauses in each subcontract financed in whole or in part with Federal assistance provided by FTA. It is further agreed that the clauses shall not be modified, except to identify the subcontractor who will be subject to the provisions.

Prohibition on Certain Telecommunications and Video Surveillance Services or Equipment

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- a) Recipients and subrecipients are prohibited from obligating or expending loan or grant funds to:
- 1) Procure or obtain;
- 2) Extend or renew a contract to procure or obtain; or
- 3) Enter into a contract (or extend or renew a contract) to procure or obtain equipment, services, or systems that uses covered telecommunications equipment or services as a substantial or

essential component of any system, or as critical technology as part of any system. As described in Public Law 115-232, section 889, covered telecommunications equipment is telecommunications equipment produced by Huawei Technologies Company or ZTE Corporation (or any subsidiary or affiliate of such entities).

- (i) For the purpose of public safety, security of government facilities, physical security surveillance of critical infrastructure, and other national security purposes, video surveillance and telecommunications equipment produced by Hytera Communications Corporation, Hangzhou Hikvision Digital Technology Company, or Dahua Technology Company (or any subsidiary or affiliate of such entities).
- (ii) Telecommunications or video surveillance services provided by such entities or using such equipment.
- (iii) Telecommunications or video surveillance equipment or services produced or provided by an entity that the Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Director of the National Intelligence or the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, reasonably believes to be an entity owned or controlled by, or otherwise connected to, the government of a covered foreign country.
- b) In implementing the prohibition under Public Law 115-232, section 889, subsection (f), paragraph (1), heads of executive agencies administering loan, grant, or subsidy programs shall prioritize available funding and technical support to assist affected businesses, institutions and organizations as is reasonably necessary for those affected entities to transition from covered communications equipment and services, to procure replacement equipment and services, and to ensure that communications service to users and customers is sustained.
- c) See Public Law 115-232, section 889 for additional information.
- d) See also § 200.471.

Prompt Payment –

(Does not apply to projects fully funded by the Tribal Transportation Program (TTP).)

The contractor is required to pay its subcontractors performing work related to this contract for satisfactory performance of that work no later than 30 days after the contractor's receipt of payment for that work. In addition, the contractor is required to return any retainage payments to those subcontractors within 30 days after the subcontractor's work related to this contract is satisfactorily completed.

The contractor must promptly notify the Agency, whenever a DBE subcontractor performing work related to this contract is terminated or fails to complete its work and must make good faith efforts to engage another DBE subcontractor to perform at least the same amount of work. The contractor may not terminate any DBE subcontractor and perform that work through its own forces or those of an affiliate without prior written consent of the Agency.

Restrictions on Lobbying –

Byrd Anti-Lobbying Amendment, 31 U.S.C. 1352, as amended by the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995, P.L. 104-65 [to be codified at 2 U.S.C. § 1601, et seq.] - Contractors who apply or bid for an award of \$100,000 or more shall file the certification required by 49 CFR part 20, "New Restrictions on Lobbying." Each tier certifies to the tier above that it will not and has not used Federal appropriated funds to pay any person or organization for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a member of Congress, officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a member of Congress in connection with obtaining any Federal contract, grant or any other award covered by 31 U.S.C. 1352. Each tier shall also disclose the name of any registrant under the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 who has made lobbying contacts on its behalf with non-Federal funds with respect to that Federal contract, grant or award covered by 31 U.S.C. 1352. Such disclosures are forwarded from tier to tier up to the recipient.

Conditions on use of funds.

- (a) No appropriated funds may be expended by the recipient of a Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement to pay any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with any of the following covered Federal actions: the awarding of any Federal contract, the making of any Federal grant, the making of any Federal loan, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement.
- (b) Each person who requests or receives from an agency a Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement shall file with that agency a certification, that the person has not made, and will not make, any payment prohibited by paragraph (a) of this section.
- (c) Each person who requests or receives from an agency a Federal contract, grant, loan, or a cooperative agreement shall file with that agency a disclosure form if such person has made or has agreed to make any payment using non-appropriated funds (to include profits from any covered Federal action), which would be prohibited under paragraph (a) of this section if paid for with appropriated funds.
- (d) Each person who requests or receives from an agency a commitment providing for the United States to insure or guarantee a loan shall file with that agency a statement, whether that person has made or has agreed to make any payment to influence or attempt to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with that loan insurance or guarantee.
- (e) Each person who requests or receives from an agency a commitment providing for the United States to insure or guarantee a loan shall file with that agency a disclosure form if that person has made or has agreed to make any payment to influence or attempt to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with that loan insurance or guarantee.

Certification and disclosure.

- (a) Each person shall file a certification, and a disclosure form, if required, with each submission that initiates agency consideration of such person for:
 - (1) Award of a Federal contract, grant, or cooperative agreement exceeding \$100,000; or
 - (2) An award of a Federal loan or a commitment providing for the United States to insure or guarantee a loan exceeding \$150,000.
- (b) Each person shall file a certification, and a disclosure form, if required, upon receipt by such person of:
 - (1) A Federal contract, grant, or cooperative agreement exceeding \$100,000; or

(2) A Federal loan or a commitment providing for the United States to insure or guarantee a loan exceeding \$150,000,

Unless such person previously filed a certification, and a disclosure form, if required, under paragraph (a) of this section.

- (c) Each person shall file a disclosure form at the end of each calendar quarter in which there occurs any event that requires disclosure or that materially affects the accuracy of the information contained in any disclosure form previously filed by such person under paragraphs (a) or (b) of this section. An event that materially affects the accuracy of the information reported includes:
 - (1) A cumulative increase of \$25,000 or more in the amount paid or expected to be paid for influencing or attempting to influence a covered Federal action; or
 - (2) A change in the person(s) or individual(s) influencing or attempting to influence a covered Federal action; or,
 - (3) A change in the officer(s), employee(s), or Member(s) contacted to influence or attempt to influence a covered Federal action.
- (d) Any person who requests or receives from a person referred to in paragraphs (a) or (b) of this section:
 - (1) A subcontract exceeding \$100,000 at any tier under a Federal contract;
 - (2) A subgrant, contract, or subcontract exceeding \$100,000 at any tier under a Federal grant;
 - (3) A contract or subcontract exceeding \$100,000 at any tier under a Federal loan exceeding \$150,000; or,
 - (4) A contract or subcontract exceeding \$100,000 at any tier under a Federal cooperative agreement,

Shall file a certification, and a disclosure form, if required, to the next tier above.

- (e) All disclosure forms, but not certifications, shall be forwarded from tier to tier until received by the person referred to in paragraphs (a) or (b) of this section. That person shall forward all disclosure forms to the agency.
- (f) Any certification or disclosure form filed under paragraph (e) of this section shall be treated as a material representation of fact upon which all receiving tiers shall rely. All liability arising from an erroneous representation shall be borne solely by the tier filing that representation and shall not be shared by any tier to which the erroneous representation is forwarded. Submitting an erroneous certification or disclosure constitutes a failure to file the required certification or disclosure, respectively. If a person fails to file a required certification or disclosure, the United States may pursue all available remedies, including those authorized by section 1352, title 31, U.S. Code.
- (g) For awards and commitments in process prior to December 23, 1989, but not made before that date, certifications shall be required at award or commitment, covering activities occurring between December 23, 1989, and the date of award or commitment. However, for awards and commitments in process prior to the December 23, 1989 effective date of these provisions, but not made before December 23, 1989, disclosure forms shall not be required at time of award or commitment but shall be filed within 30 days.
- (h) No reporting is required for an activity paid for with appropriated funds if that activity is allowable under either subpart B or C.

Safe Operation of Motor Vehicles -

Seat Belt Use

The Contractor is encouraged to adopt and promote on-the-job seat belt use policies and programs for its employees and other personnel that operate company-owned vehicles, company rented vehicles, or personally operated vehicles. The terms "company-owned" and "company-leased" refer to vehicles owned or leased either by the Contractor or Agency.

Distracted Driving

The Contractor agrees to adopt and enforce workplace safety policies to decrease crashes caused by distracted drivers, including policies to ban text messaging while using an electronic device supplied by an employer, and driving a vehicle the driver owns or rents, a vehicle Contactor owns, leases, or rents, or a privately-owned vehicle when on official business in connection with the work performed under this Contract.

Seismic Safety -

The contractor agrees that any new building or addition to an existing building will be designed and constructed in accordance with the standards for Seismic Safety required in Department of Transportation (DOT) Seismic Safety Regulations 49 C.F.R. part 41 and will certify to compliance to the extent required by the regulation. The contractor also agrees to ensure that all work performed under this contract, including work performed by a subcontractor, is in compliance with the standards required by the Seismic Safety regulations and the certification of compliance issued on the project.

Severability -

The Contractor agrees that if any provision of this agreement or any amendment thereto is determined to be invalid, then the remaining provisions thereof that conform to federal laws, regulations, requirements, and guidance will continue in effect.

Simplified Acquisition Threshold -

Contracts for more than the simplified acquisition threshold, which is the inflation adjusted amount determined by the Civilian Agency Acquisition Council and the Defense Acquisition Regulations Council (Councils) as authorized by 41 U.S.C. § 1908, or otherwise set by law, must address administrative, contractual, or legal remedies in instances where contractors violate or breach contract terms, and provide for such sanctions and penalties as appropriate. (Note that the simplified acquisition threshold determines the procurement procedures that must be employed pursuant to 2 C.F.R. §§ 200.317–200.327. The simplified acquisition threshold does not exempt a procurement from other eligibility or processes requirements that may apply. For example, Buy America's eligibility and process requirements apply to any procurement in excess of \$150,000. 49 U.S.C. § 5323(j)(13).)

Solid Wastes -

A Recipient that is a state agency or agency of a political subdivision of a state and its contractors must comply with section 6002 of the Solid Waste Disposal Act, as amended by the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act. The requirements of Section 6002 include procuring only items designated in guidelines of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) at 40 CFR Part 247 that contain the highest percentage of recovered materials practicable, consistent with maintaining a satisfactory level of competition, where the purchase price of the item exceeds \$10,000 or the value of the quantity acquired during the preceding fiscal year exceeded \$10,000; procuring solid waste management services in a manner that maximizes energy and resource recovery; and establishing an affirmative procurement program for procurement of recovered materials identified in the EPA guidelines.

Special DOL EEO Clause –

The applicant hereby agrees that it will incorporate or cause to be incorporated into any contract for construction work, or modification thereof, as defined in the regulations of the Secretary of Labor at 41 CFR Chapter 60, which is paid for in whole or in part with funds obtained from the Federal Government or borrowed on the credit of the Federal Government pursuant to a grant, contract, loan, insurance, or guarantee, or undertaken pursuant to any Federal program involving such grant, contract, loan, insurance, or guarantee, the following equal opportunity clause:

During the performance of this contract, the contractor agrees as follows:

(1) The contractor will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, or national origin. The contractor will take affirmative action to ensure that applicants are employed, and that employees are treated during employment without regard to their race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, or national origin. Such action shall include, but not be limited to the following:

Employment, upgrading, demotion, or transfer; recruitment or recruitment advertising; layoff or termination; rates of pay or other forms of compensation; and selection for training, including apprenticeship. The contractor agrees to post in conspicuous places, available to employees and applicants for employment, notices to be provided setting forth the provisions of this nondiscrimination clause.

- (2) The contractor will, in all solicitations or advertisements for employees placed by or on behalf of the contractor, state that all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, or national origin.
- (3) The contractor will not discharge or in any other manner discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because such employee or applicant has inquired about, discussed, or disclosed the compensation of the employee or applicant or another employee or applicant. This provision shall not apply to instances in which an employee who has access to the compensation information of other employees or applicants as a part of such employee's essential job functions discloses the compensation of such other employees or applicants to individuals who do not otherwise have access to such information, unless such disclosure is in response to a formal complaint or charge, in furtherance of an investigation, proceeding, hearing, or action, including an investigation conducted by the employer, or is consistent with the contractor's legal duty to furnish information.
- (4) The contractor will send to each labor union or representative of workers with which he has a collective bargaining agreement or other contract or understanding, a notice to be provided advising the said labor union or workers' representatives of the contractor's commitments under this section, and shall post copies of the notice in conspicuous places available to employees and applicants for employment.
- (5) The contractor will comply with all provisions of Executive Order 11246 of September 24, 1965, and of the rules, regulations, and relevant orders of the Secretary of Labor.
- (6) The contractor will furnish all information and reports required by Executive Order 11246 of September 24, 1965, and by rules, regulations, and orders of the Secretary of Labor, or pursuant

thereto, and will permit access to his books, records, and accounts by the administering agency and the Secretary of Labor for purposes of investigation to ascertain compliance with such rules, regulations, and orders.

- (7) In the event of the contractor's noncompliance with the nondiscrimination clauses of this contract or with any of the said rules, regulations, or orders, this contract may be canceled, terminated, or suspended in whole or in part and the contractor may be declared ineligible for further Government contracts or federally assisted construction contracts in accordance with procedures authorized in Executive Order 11246 of September 24, 1965, and such other sanctions may be imposed and remedies invoked as provided in Executive Order 11246 of September 24, 1965, or by rule, regulation, or order of the Secretary of Labor, or as otherwise provided by law.
- (8) The contractor will include the portion of the sentence immediately preceding paragraph (1) and the provisions of paragraphs (1) through (8) in every subcontract or purchase order unless exempted by rules, regulations, or orders of the Secretary of Labor issued pursuant to section 204 of Executive Order 11246 of September 24, 1965, so that such provisions will be binding upon each subcontractor or vendor. The contractor will take such action with respect to any subcontract or purchase order as the administering agency may direct as a means of enforcing such provisions, including sanctions for noncompliance:

Provided, however, that in the event a contractor becomes involved in, or is threatened with, litigation with a subcontractor or vendor as a result of such direction by the administering agency, the contractor may request the United States to enter into such litigation to protect the interests of the United States.

The applicant further agrees that it will be bound by the above equal opportunity clause with respect to its own employment practices when it participates in federally assisted construction work: Provided, That if the applicant so participating is a State or local government, the above equal opportunity clause is not applicable to any agency, instrumentality or subdivision of such government which does not participate in work on or under the contract.

Special Notification Requirements for States –

Applies to States –

- a. To the extent required under federal law, the State, as the Recipient, agrees to provide the following information about federal assistance awarded for its State Program, Project, or related activities:
- (1) The Identification of FTA as the federal agency providing the federal assistance for a State Program or Project;
- (2) The Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number of the program from which the federal assistance for a State Program or Project is authorized; and
- (3) The amount of federal assistance FTA has provided for a State Program or Project.
- b. Documents The State agrees to provide the information required under this provision in the following documents: (1) applications for federal assistance, (2) requests for proposals or solicitations, (3) forms, (4) notifications, (5) press releases, and (6) other publications.

Termination -

Termination for Convenience (General Provision)

The Agency may terminate this contract, in whole or in part, at any time by written notice to the Contractor when it is in the Agency's best interest. The Contractor shall be paid its costs, including contract close-out costs, and profit on work performed up to the time of termination.

The Contractor shall promptly submit its termination claim to Agency to be paid the Contractor. If the Contractor has any property in its possession belonging to Agency, the Contractor will account for the same, and dispose of it in the manner Agency directs.

Termination for Default [Breach or Cause] (General Provision)

If the Contractor does not deliver supplies in accordance with the contract delivery schedule, or if the contract is for services, the Contractor fails to perform in the manner called for in the contract, or if the Contractor fails to comply with any other provisions of the contract, the Agency may terminate this contract for default. Termination shall be effected by serving a Notice of Termination on the Contractor setting forth the manner in which the Contractor is in default. The Contractor will be paid only the contract price for supplies delivered and accepted, or services performed in accordance with the manner of performance set forth in the contract. If it is later determined by the Agency that the Contractor had an excusable reason for not performing, such as a strike, fire, or flood, events which are not the fault of or are beyond the control of the Contractor, the Agency, after setting up a new delivery of performance schedule, may allow the Contractor to continue work, or treat the termination as a Termination for Convenience.

Opportunity to Cure (General Provision)

The Agency, in its sole discretion may, in the case of a termination for breach or default, allow the Contractor [an appropriately short period of time] in which to cure the defect. In such case, the Notice of Termination will state the time period in which cure is permitted and other appropriate conditions

If Contractor fails to remedy to Agency's satisfaction the breach or default of any of the terms, covenants, or conditions of this Contract within [10 days] after receipt by Contractor of written notice from Agency setting forth the nature of said breach or default, Agency shall have the right to terminate the contract without any further obligation to Contractor. Any such termination for default shall not in any way operate to preclude Agency from also pursuing all available remedies against Contractor and its sureties for said breach or default.

Waiver of Remedies for any Breach

In the event that Agency elects to waive its remedies for any breach by Contractor of any covenant, term or condition of this contract, such waiver by Agency shall not limit Agency's remedies for any succeeding breach of that or of any other covenant, term, or condition of this contract.

Termination for Convenience (Professional or Transit Service Contracts)

The Agency, by written notice, may terminate this contract, in whole or in part, when it is in the Agency's interest. If this contract is terminated, the Agency shall be liable only for payment under the payment provisions of this contract for services rendered before the effective date of termination.

Termination for Default (Supplies and Service)

If the Contractor fails to deliver supplies or to perform the services within the time specified in this contract or any extension, or if the Contractor fails to comply with any other provisions of this contract, the Agency may terminate this contract for default. The Agency shall terminate by delivering to the Contractor a Notice of Termination specifying the nature of the default. The Contractor will only be paid the contract price for supplies delivered and accepted, or services performed in accordance with the manner or performance set forth in this contract.

If, after termination for failure to fulfill contract obligations, it is determined that the Contractor was not in default, the rights and obligations of the parties shall be the same as if the termination had been issued for the convenience of the Agency.

Termination for Default (Transportation Services)

If the Contractor fails to pick up the commodities or to perform the services, including delivery services, within the time specified in this contract or any extension, or if the Contractor fails to comply with any other provisions of this contract, the Agency may terminate this contract for default. The Agency shall terminate by delivering to the Contractor a Notice of Termination specifying the nature of default. The Contractor will only be paid the contract price for services performed in accordance with the manner of performance set forth in this contract.

If this contract is terminated while the Contractor has possession of Agency goods, the Contractor shall, upon direction of the Agency, protect and preserve the goods until surrendered to the Agency or its agent. The Contractor and Agency shall agree on payment for the preservation and protection of goods. Failure to agree on an amount will be resolved under the Dispute clause.

If, after termination for failure to fulfill contract obligations, it is determined that the Contractor was not in default, the rights and obligations of the parties shall be the same as if the termination had been issued for the convenience of the Agency.

Termination for Default (Construction)

If the Contractor refuses or fails to prosecute the work or any separable part, with the diligence that will ensure its completion within the time specified in this contract or any extension or fails to complete the work within this time, or if the Contractor fails to comply with any other provision of this contract, Agency may terminate this contract for default. The Agency shall terminate by delivering to the Contractor a Notice of Termination specifying the nature of the default. In this event, the Agency may take over the work and compete it by contract or otherwise, and may take possession of and use any materials, appliances, and plant on the work site necessary for completing the work. The Contractor and its sureties shall be liable for any damage to the Agency resulting from the Contractor's refusal or failure to complete the work within specified time, whether or not the Contractor's right to proceed with the work is terminated. This liability includes any increased costs incurred by the Agency in completing the work.

The Contractor's right to proceed shall not be terminated nor shall the Contractor be charged with damages under this clause if:

- 1. The delay in completing the work arises from unforeseeable causes beyond the control and without the fault or negligence of the Contractor. Examples of such causes include: acts of God, acts of Agency, acts of another contractor in the performance of a contract with Agency, epidemics, quarantine restrictions, strikes, freight embargoes; and
- 2. The Contractor, within [10] days from the beginning of any delay, notifies Agency in writing of the causes of delay. If, in the judgment of Agency, the delay is excusable, the time for

completing the work shall be extended. The judgment of Agency shall be final and conclusive for the parties, but subject to appeal under the Disputes clause(s) of this contract.

3. If, after termination of the Contractor's right to proceed, it is determined that the Contractor was not in default, or that the delay was excusable, the rights and obligations of the parties will be the same as if the termination had been issued for the convenience of Agency.

Termination for Convenience or Default (Architect and Engineering)

The Agency may terminate this contract in whole or in part, for the Agency's convenience or because of the failure of the Contractor to fulfill the contract obligations. The Agency shall terminate by delivering to the Contractor a Notice of Termination specifying the nature, extent, and effective date of the termination. Upon receipt of the notice, the Contractor shall (1) immediately discontinue all services affected (unless the notice directs otherwise), and (2) deliver to the Agency's Contracting Officer all data, drawings, specifications, reports, estimates, summaries, and other information and materials accumulated in performing this contract, whether completed or in process. Agency has a royalty-free, nonexclusive, and irrevocable license to reproduce, publish or otherwise use, all such data, drawings, specifications, reports, estimates, summaries, and other information and materials.

If the termination is for the convenience of the Agency, the Agency's Contracting Officer shall make an equitable adjustment in the contract price but shall allow no anticipated profit on unperformed services.

If the termination is for failure of the Contractor to fulfill the contract obligations, the Agency may complete the work by contact or otherwise and the Contractor shall be liable for any additional cost incurred by the Agency.

If, after termination for failure to fulfill contract obligations, it is determined that the Contractor was not in default, the rights and obligations of the parties shall be the same as if the termination had been issued for the convenience of Agency.

Termination for Convenience or Default (Cost-Type Contracts)

The Agency may terminate this contract, or any portion of it, by serving a Notice of Termination on the Contractor. The notice shall state whether the termination is for convenience of Agency or for the default of the Contractor. If the termination is for default, the notice shall state the manner in which the Contractor has failed to perform the requirements of the contract. The Contractor shall account for any property in its possession paid for from funds received from the Agency, or property supplied to the Contractor by the Agency. If the termination is for default, the Agency may fix the fee, if the contract provides for a fee, to be paid the Contractor in proportion to the value, if any, of work performed up to the time of termination. The Contractor shall promptly submit its termination claim to the Agency and the parties shall negotiate the termination settlement to be paid the Contractor.

If the termination is for the convenience of Agency, the Contractor shall be paid its contract close-out costs, and a fee, if the contract provided for payment of a fee, in proportion to the work performed up to the time of termination.

If, after serving a Notice of Termination for Default, the Agency determines that the Contractor has an excusable reason for not performing, the Agency, after setting up a new work schedule, may allow the Contractor to continue work, or treat the termination as a Termination for Convenience.

Tracking In Persons -

The contractor agrees that it and its employees that participate in the Recipient's Award, may not:

- (a) Engage in severe forms of trafficking in persons during the period of time that the Recipient's Award is in effect;
- (b) Procure a commercial sex act during the period of time that the Recipient's Award is in effect; or
- (c) Use forced labor in the performance of the Recipient's Award or subagreements thereunder.

Veterans Hiring Preference –

Veterans Employment - Recipients and subrecipients of Federal financial assistance shall ensure that contractors working on a capital project funded using such assistance give a hiring preference, to the extent practicable, to veterans (as defined in section 2108 of title 5) who have the requisite skills and abilities to perform the construction work required under the contract. This subsection shall not be understood, construed or enforced in any manner that would require an employer to give a preference to any veteran over any equally qualified applicant who is a member of any racial or ethnic minority, female, an individual with a disability, or a former employee.

Violation and Breach of Contract –

Disputes:

Disputes arising in the performance of this Contract that are not resolved by agreement of the parties shall be decided in writing by the authorized representative of the agency. This decision shall be final and conclusive unless within [10] days from the date of receipt of its copy, the Contractor mails or otherwise furnishes a written appeal to the agencies authorized representative. In connection with any such appeal, the Contractor shall be afforded an opportunity to be heard and to offer evidence in support of its position. The decision of the agencies authorized representative shall be binding upon the Contractor and the Contractor shall abide be the decision.

Performance During Dispute:

Unless otherwise directed by the agencies authorized representative, contractor shall continue performance under this contract while matters in dispute are being resolved.

Claims for Damages:

Should either party to the contract suffer injury or damage to person or property because of any act or omission of the party or of any of his employees, agents or others for whose acts he is legally liable, a claim for damages therefore shall be made in writing to such other party within a reasonable time after the first observance of such injury or damage.

Remedies:

Unless this contract provides otherwise, all claims, counterclaims, disputes and other matters in question between the agencies authorized representative and contractor arising out of or relating to this agreement or its breach will be decided by arbitration if the parties mutually agree, or in a court of competent jurisdiction within the State in which the Agency is located.

Rights and Remedies:

Duties and obligations imposed by the contract documents and the rights and remedies available thereunder shall be in addition to and not a limitation of any duties, obligations, rights and remedies otherwise imposed or available by law. No action or failure to act by the Agency or

contractor shall constitute a waiver of any right or duty afforded any of them under the contract, nor shall any such action or failure to act constitute an approval of or acquiescence in any breach thereunder, except as may be specifically agreed in writing.

ADDITIONAL FTA PROCUREMENT PROVISIONS-

Geographic Preference: The Greater Hartford Transit District will conduct procurements in a manner that does not give in-State or local geographic preferences in the evaluation of bids or proposals, except in those cases where applicable Federal or State statutes expressly mandate or encourage geographic preference. This does not preempt Connecticut licensing laws from being considered in those disciplines that are regulated by the State. This is in accordance with FTA Circular 4220.1F, Third Party Contracting Guidance.

Cost Plus a Percentage of Cost: The Greater Hartford Transit District strictly prohibits the use of cost plus a percentage of cost-based contracts in accordance with FTA Circular 4220.1F., as the Common Grant Rules states that this method of contracting is strictly prohibited.

EXHIBIT B – State of CT Contract Requirements

STATE OF CONNECTICUT REQUIREMENTS

<u>Small Business Enterprises.</u> In connection with the performance of this Agreement, the Consultant shall cooperate with the District in meeting its commitments and goals with regard to the maximum utilization of small business enterprises ("SBEs"), as defined in Section 4a-60 of the Connecticut General Statutes, and will use its best efforts to insure that SBEs shall have the maximum practicable opportunity to compete for any sub-contract work under this Agreement.

The District has agreed with the Connecticut Department of Transportation to include in the Agreement the Special Provisions Requirements of Section 46a-68j-30(9) of the Contract Compliance Regulations.

The Contractor agrees to ensure that small business enterprises as defined in Section 4a-60 of the Connecticut General Statutes have the maximum opportunity to participate in the performance of contracts and subcontracts financed in whole or in part with State funds provided under this agreement. In this regard all recipients or contractors shall take necessary and reasonable steps in accordance with Section 4a-60 of the Connecticut General Statutes to ensure that small business enterprises have the maximum opportunity to compete and perform contracts. Recipients and their contractors shall not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, national origin, age or sex in the award of federal assisted contracts.

Failure by the contractor to carry out these requirements is a material breach of this contract, which may result in the termination of this contract or such other remedy as the recipient (the District) deems appropriate.

Non-Discrimination in Employment and Affirmative Action. In connection with the carrying out of the Project the Consultant shall not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, color, religion, sex or national origin. The Consultant shall take affirmative action to ensure that applicants are employed, and that employees are treated during their pre-employment, without regard to their race, color, religion, sex or national origin. Such action shall include, but not be limited to the following: employment, upgrading, demotion, or transfer; recruitment or recruitment advertising; layoff, or termination; rates of pay, or other forms of compensation; and selection for training, including apprenticeship. The provisions of Executive Order No. 11246 of September 21, 1965, as amended, and all rules, regulations and orders of the Federal government issued pursuant thereto are incorporated herein by reference and made a part hereof. The Consultant agrees to comply with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. §2000d-4) and all requirements imposed by Title 49 C.F.R. part 21 and other pertinent directives of the federal government to the end that no person shall on the grounds of race, color, sex or national origin be excluded from participation in, or be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under the Project.

The District has agreed with the Connecticut Department of Transportation ("CTDOT") to include in this Agreement the following Sections from the Agreement between the District and CTDOT:

Section 32 <u>Civil Rights.</u> (b)(1) The Second Party (the "District and its Operator") agrees and warrants that in the performance of the contract such Second Party will not discriminate or permit discrimination against any person or group of persons on the grounds of race, color, religious creed, age, marital status, national origin, ancestry, sex, mental retardation or physical disability, including, but not limited to, blindness, unless shown by such Second Party that such disability prevents

performance of the work involved, in any manner prohibited by the laws of the United States or of the State of Connecticut. The Second Party further agrees to take affirmative action to insure that applicants with job related qualifications are employed and that employees are treated when employed without regard to their race, color, religious creed, age, marital status, national origin, ancestry, sex, mental retardation, or physical disability, including, but not limited to, blindness, unless shown by such Second Party that such disability prevents performance of the work involved; (2) the Second Party agrees, in all solicitations or advertisements for employees placed by or on behalf of the Second Party, to state that it is an "affirmative action-equal opportunity employer" in accordance with regulations adopted by the Commission (on Human Rights and Opportunities of the State of Connecticut); (3) the Second Party agrees to provide each labor union or representative of workers with which such Second Party has a collective bargaining agreement or other contract or understanding and each vendor with which such Second Party has a contract or understanding, a notice to be provided by the Commission advising the labor union or workers' representative of the Second Party's commitments under this section, and to post copies of the notice in conspicuous places available to employees and applicants for employment; (4) the Second Party agrees to comply with each provision of this section and Conn. Gen. Stat. §§ 46a-68e and 46a-68f and with each regulation or relevant order issued by said Commission pursuant to Conn. Gen. Stat. §§ 46a-56, 46a-68e, and 46a-68f; (5) the Second Party agrees to provide the Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities with such information requested by the Commission, and permit access to pertinent books, records and accounts, concerning the employment practices and procedures of the Second Party as they relate to the provisions of this section and § 46a-56.

Section 33. Nondiscrimination (Sexual Orientation). (a) Pursuant to § 4a.60 of the Connecticut General Statutes, (1) the Second Party agrees and warrants that in the performance of the contract such Second Party sill not discriminate or permit discrimination against any person or group of persons on the grounds of sexual orientation, in any manner prohibited by the laws of the United States or of the State of Connecticut, and that employees are treated when employed without regard to their sexual orientation; (2) the Second Party agrees to provide each labor union or representative of workers with which such Second Party has a collective bargaining agreement or other contract or understanding and each vendor with which such Second Party has a contract or understanding, a notice to be provided by the Commission advising the labor union or workers' representative of the Second Party's commitments under this section, and to post copies of the notice in conspicuous places available to employees and applicants for employment; (3) the Second Party agrees to comply with each provision of this section and with each regulation or relevant order issued by said Commission pursuant to § 46a-56 of the general statutes; (4) the Second Party agrees to provide the Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities with such information requested by the Commission, and permit access to pertinent books, records and accounts, concerning the employment practices and procedures of the Second Party as they relate to the provisions of this section and § 46a-56.

<u>Non-Discrimination on the Basis of Disability</u>. The Consultant shall insure that all fixed facility construction or alteration and all <u>new</u> equipment purchased to provide the Services comply with applicable regulations regarding Non-Discrimination on the Basis of Handicap in Programs and

Activities Receiving or Benefitting from Federal Financial Assistance, set forth at Title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 27, and any amendments thereto.

The Agreement shall be deemed to include the CONNECTICUT REQUIRED CONTRACT/AGREEMENT PROVISIONS including but not limited to Equal Employment Opportunity Responsibilities, Policy on SBEs, and Code of Ethics, incorporated herein by reference, and all requirements upon consultants and contractors of the "Second Party" (the "District") set forth in said PROVISIONS shall be deemed requirements upon the Consultant hereunder. In any event, the Consultant shall do nothing which would cause the District to be in violation of the requirements upon it, as the "Second Party" under said PROVISIONS.

EXECUTIVE ORDERS

This Agreement is subject to the provisions of Executive Order No 7C of Governor M. Jodi Rell, promulgated July 13, 2006, concerning contracting reforms, Executive Order No. Three of Governor Thomas J. Meskill, promulgated June 16, 1971, concerning labor employment practices, Executive Order No. Seventeen of Governor Thomas J. Meskill, promulgated February 15, 1973, concerning the listing of employment openings and Executive Order No. Sixteen of Governor John G Rowland promulgated August 4, 1999, concerning violence in the workplace, all of which are incorporated into and are made a part of this agreement as if they had been fully set forth in it.

Environmental Law Compliance

The Proposer shall be responsible to comply with all federal and state environmental laws and regulations pertaining to the operation of transit motor buses and/or facilities managed by the Second Party, including but not limited to, pollutants emissions control, storage and/or disposal of waste, fluids, fuels, oil, and chemicals in general. The Second Party shall be responsible to comply with OSHA regulations. The Second Party will hold the State and CTTRANSIT harmless of any lawsuits and/or fines with respect to any environmental and/or OSHA regulations violations.

Publication of Reports

The ownership of all data and material collected under this Agreement shall be vested in the Proposer and the State. All reports shall be submitted to District for review prior to publication. The following statement should appear on the cover or title page of any published report prepared under the terms of this Agreement:

"Prepared in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Transportation (including its participating agencies), Connecticut Department of Transportation and the Greater Hartford Transit District. The opinions, findings and conclusions expressed in this publication are those of the Second Party and do not necessarily reflect the official views or policies of the District, Connecticut Department of Transportation and/or the U.S. Department of Transportation."

Jurisdiction and Forum Language

This Agreement shall be governed, interpreted and construed under and in accordance with the laws of the State of Connecticut, whether or not its conflict of laws principles would dictate otherwise. This Agreement shall be deemed to have been made in Hartford, Connecticut.

The Proposer irrevocably consents with respect to any claims or remedies at law or in equity, arising out of or in connection with this Agreement to the jurisdiction of the Connecticut Superior Court (except as otherwise required by law or that Agreement), and, with respect to any claim between the Parties, to venue in Judicial District of Hartford-New Britain at Hartford or the United States Federal Court, District of Connecticut, and irrevocably waives any objections that it may have to such jurisdiction on the grounds of lack of personal jurisdiction of such court or the laying of venue of such court or on the basis of forum non convenience or otherwise. Nothing herein shall be construed to waive any of the States or the District's immunities.

Litigation

The Proposer agrees that the sole and exclusive means for the presentation of any claim against the State arising from or in connection with this Agreement shall be in accordance with Chapter 53 of the Connecticut General Statutes (Claims against the State) and the Proposer further agrees

not to initiate legal proceedings in any State or Federal Court in addition to, or in lieu of, said Chapter 53 proceedings.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT

The State is entitled to receive a copy of records and files related to the performance of the Proposer under this Agreement, and such records and files may be subject to the Freedom of Information Act and may be disclosed by the Sate pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act. No request to inspect or copy such records or files shall be valid unless the request is made to the State in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act. Any complaint by a person who is denied the right to inspect or copy such records or files shall be brought to the Freedom of Information Commission in accordance with the provisions of Sections 1-205 and 1-206 of the Connecticut General Statutes.

RIGHT TO INSPECT RECORDS

By way of its agreement with the Connecticut Department of Transportation, the District agrees to include in all its subcontracts a provision to the effect the subcontractor agrees that the State, the U.S. Department of Transportation and the Comptroller General of the United States or any of their duly authorized representatives, shall, until the expiration of three (3) years after the final payment under the subcontract, have access to and the right to examine any directly pertinent books, documents, papers, and records of such subcontractor, involving transactions related to the subcontractor. The term "subcontractor" as used in this clause excludes work not exceeding \$25,000.00.

The period of access and examination described above, for records which relate to (1) appeals for disputes, (2) litigation of the settlement of claims arising out of the performance of this contract, or (3) costs and expenses in relation to the performance of this contract to which exception has been taken by the State, the Comptroller General or any of their duly authorized representatives, shall continue until such appeals, litigation, claims or exceptions have been disposed of.

PROVISIONS DATED MARCH 6, 1998 "SPECIFIC EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY RESPONSIBILITIES"

1. General

- A. Equal employment Opportunity Requirements not to discriminate and to take affirmative action to assure equal employment opportunity as required by Executive Order 11246, Executive Order 11375, the Railroad Revitalization and Regulatory Reform Act of 1976 and other U.S. Department of Transportation nondiscrimination legislation are set forth in this Required Contract/Agreement Provision. The requirements set forth in these special provisions shall constitute the specific affirmative action requirements for project activities under this contract (or agreement) and supplement the equal employment opportunity requirements set forth in other related contract provisions.
- B. "Company" refers to any entity doing business with the Connecticut Department of Transportation and includes but is not limited to the following:

Contractors Vendors (where applicable)
Subcontractors Suppliers of Materials (where applicable)

Consultants Municipalities (where applicable) Subconsultants Utilities (where applicable)

- C. The Company will work with the Connecticut Department of Transportation and the federal government in carrying out equal employment opportunity obligations and in their review of his/her activities under the contract or agreement.
- E. The Company and all their subcontractors or subconsultants holding subcontracts or subagreements of \$10,000 or more on federally assisted projects and \$5,000 or more on state funded projects, will comply with the following minimum specific requirement activities of equal employment opportunity. The Company will physically include these requirements in every subcontract or subagreement meeting the monetary criteria above with such modification or language as is necessary to make them binding on the subcontractor or subconsultant.
- F. These Required Contract Provisions apply to all state funded and/or federally assisted projects. activities and programs in all facets of the Connecticut Department of Transportation operations resulting in contracts or agreements.

2. Equal Employment Opportunity Policy

The Company will develop, accept and adopt as its operating policy and Affirmative Action Plan utilizing as a guide the Connecticut Department of Transportation Affirmative Action Plan Guideline.

3. Equal Employment Opportunity Officer

The Company will designate and make known to the State Department of Transportation contracting officers an equal employment opportunity officer (hereinafter referred to as the EEO Officer) who will have the responsibility for and must be capable of effectively

administering and promoting an active program of equal employment opportunity and who must be assigned adequate authority and responsibility to do so.

4. <u>Dissemination of Policy</u>

- A. All members of the Company's staff who are authorized to hire, supervise, promote, and discharge employees, or who recommend such action, or who are substantially involved in such action, will be made fully cognizant of, and will implement, the Company's equal employment opportunity policy and contractual responsibilities to provide equal employment opportunity in each grade and classification of employment. To ensure that the above agreement will be met, the following actions will be taken as a minimum:
 - (1) Periodic meetings of supervisory and personnel office employees will be conducted before the start of work and then not less than once every six (6) months thereafter, at which time the Company's equal employment opportunity policy and its implementation will be reviewed and explained. The meetings will be conducted by the EEO Officer or other knowledgeable Company Official.
 - (2) All new supervisory or personnel office employees will be given a thorough indoctrination by the EEO Officer or other knowledgeable Company official covering all major aspects of the Company's equal employment opportunity obligations within thirty (30) days following their reporting for duty with the Company.
 - (3) All personnel who are engaged in direct recruitment for the project will be instructed by the EEO Officer or appropriate Company official in the Company's procedures for locating and hiring protected class group employees.
- B. In order to make the Company's equal employment opportunity policy known to all employees, prospective employees and potential sources of employees, i.e., schools, employment agencies, labor unions (where appropriate), college placement officers, etc., the Company will take the following actions:
 - (1) Notices and posters setting forth the Company's equal employment opportunity policy will be placed in areas readily accessible to employees, applicants for employment and potential employees.
 - (2) The Company's equal employment opportunity policy and the procedures to implement such policy will be brought to the attention of employees by means of meetings, employee handbooks, or other appropriate means.

5. Recruitment

A. When advertising for employees, the Company will include in all advertisements for employees the notation: "An Equal Opportunity Employer". All such advertisements will be published in newspapers or other publications having a large circulation among minority groups in the area from which the project work force would normally be derived.

B. The Company will, unless precluded by a valid bargaining agreement, conduct systematic and direct recruitment through public and private employee referral sources likely to yield qualified minority group applicants, including, but not limited to, State employment agencies, schools, colleges and minority group organizations. To meet this requirement, the Company will, through its EEO Officer, identify sources of potential minority group employees, and establish with such identified sources procedures whereby minority group applicants may be referred to the Company for employment consideration.

In the event the Company has a valid bargaining agreement providing for exclusive hiring of all referrals, the Company is expected to observe the provisions of that agreement to the extent that the system permits the Company's compliance with equal employment opportunity contract provisions. (The U.S. Department of Labor has held that where implementation of such agreements have the effect of discriminating against minorities or women, or obligates the Company to do the same, such implementation violates Executive Order 11246, as amended.)

C. The Company will encourage its present employees to refer minority group applicants for employment by posting appropriate notices or bulletins in the areas accessible to all such employees. In addition, information and procedures with regard to referring minority group applicants will be discussed with employees.

6. Personnel Actions

Wages, working conditions, and employee benefits shall be established and administered, and personnel actions of every type, including hiring, upgrading, promotion, transfer, demotion, layoffs, and termination, shall be taken without regard to race, color, religion, sex, or national origin, etc. The following procedures shall be followed:

- A. The Company will conduct periodic inspections of project sites to insure that working conditions and employee facilities do not indicate discriminatory treatment of project site personnel.
- B. The Company will periodically evaluate the spread of wages paid within each classification to determine any evidence of discriminatory wage practice.
- C. The Company will periodically review selected personnel actions in depth to determine whether there is evidence of discrimination. Where evidence is found, the Company will promptly take corrective action. If the review indicates that the discrimination may extend beyond the actions reviewed, such corrective actions shall include all affected persons.
- D. The Company will promptly investigate all complaints of alleged discrimination made to the Company in connection with his obligations under this contract, will attempt to resolve such complaints, and will take appropriate corrective action within a reasonable time. If the investigation indicates that the discrimination may affect persons other than the complainant, such corrective action shall include such other persons. Upon completion of each investigation, the Company will inform every complainant of all of his avenues of appeal.
- E. The general contact provision entitled A(76) Affirmative Action Requirements is made part of this document by reference. In conjunction with this contract provision, only the job categories will change in order to be comparable with the job categories utilized by

the Company proposing to do business with the Connecticut Department of Transportation. The goals and timetables will remain the same throughout the contract provision.

7. Training and Promotion

- A. The Company will assist in locating, qualifying, and increasing the skills of minority group and women employees, and applicants for employment.
- B. Consistent with the Company's work force requirements and as permissible under Federal and State regulations, the Company shall make full use of training programs, i.e., apprenticeship, and on-the-job training programs for the geographical area of contact performance. Where feasible, 25 percent of apprentices of trainees in each occupation shall be in their first year of apprenticeship of training. In the event the Training Special Provision is provided under this contract, this subparagraph will be superseded.
- C. The Company will advise employees and applicants for employment of available training programs and entrance requirements for each.
- D. The Company will periodically review the training and promotion potential of minority group and women employees and will encourage eligible employees to apply for such training and promotion.

8. Unions

If the Company relies in whole or in part upon unions as a source of employees, it will use its best efforts to obtain the cooperation of such unions to increase opportunities for minority groups and women within the unions, and to effect referrals by such unions of minority and female employees. Actions by the Company either directly or through an association acting as agent will include the procedures set forth below:

- A. The Company will use its best efforts to develop, in cooperation with the unions, joint training programs aimed toward qualifying more minority group members and women for membership in the unions and increasing the skills of minority group employees and women so that they may qualify for higher paying employment.
- B. The Company will use its best efforts to incorporate an equal employment opportunity clause into each union agreement to the end that such union will be contractually bound to refer applicants without regard to their race, color, religion, sex, or national origin, etc.
- C. The Company is to obtain information as to the referral practices and policies of the labor union except that to the extent such information is within the exclusive possession of the labor union and such labor union refuses to furnish such information to the Company, the Company shall so certify to the Connecticut Department of Transportation and shall set forth what efforts have been made to obtain such information.
- D. In the event the union is unable to provide the Company with a reasonable flow of minority and women referrals within the time limit set forth in the collective bargaining agreement, the Company will, through independent recruitment efforts, fill the employment vacancies without regard to race, color, religion, sex or national origin, etc. making full efforts to obtain qualified and/or qualifiable minority group persons and

women. (The U.S. Department of Labor has held that there shall be no excuse that the union with which the Company has a collective bargaining agreement providing for exclusive referral failed to refer minority employees). In the event the union referral practice prevents the Company from meeting the obligations pursuant to Executive Order 11246, as amended, and these provisions, such Company shall immediately notify the Connecticut Department of Transportation.

9. Subcontracting

- A. The Company will use its best efforts to solicit Bids from and to utilize minority group subcontractors, or subcontractors with meaningful minority group and female representation among their employees. Companies shall obtain a list of applicable Disadvantaged Business Enterprise firms from the Division of Contract Compliance.
- B. The Company will use its best efforts to ensure subcontractor compliance with their equal employment opportunity obligations.
- C. The General Contract Provisions entitled "Minority Business Enterprises as Subcontractors" is made part of this document by reference and its requirements are applicable to all entities proposing to do business with the Connecticut Department of Transportation.

10. Records and Reports

For the duration of the project, the company will maintain records as are necessary to determine compliance with the Company's equal employment opportunity obligations and Affirmative Action requirements. Additionally, the company will submit all requested reports in the manner required by the contracting agency.

- A. The number of minority and non-minority group members and women employed in each work classification on the project.
- B. The progress and efforts being made in cooperation with unions to increase employment opportunities for minorities and women (applicable only to Companies which rely on whole or in part on unions as a source of their work force).
- C. The progress and efforts being made in locating, hiring, training, qualifying, and upgrading minority and female employees, and
- D. The progress and efforts being made in securing the services of minority and female owned businesses.
 - (1) All such records must be retained for a period of three (3) years following completion of the contract work and shall be available at reasonable times and places for inspection by authorized representatives of the State Department of Transportation and the U.S. Department of Transportation including consultant firms.
 - (2) If on-the-job training is being required by the "Training Special Provision", the Company will be required to furnish a Monthly Training Report and Supplement Report (1409) for each trainee.

11. Affirmative Action Plan

- A. Contractors, subcontractors, Vendors, suppliers, and all other Companies with contracts, agreements or purchase orders completely state funded will submit an Affirmative Action Plan if the contract value is \$5,000 or over.
- B. Contractors, subcontractors, Vendors, suppliers, and all other Companies with federally assisted contracts, agreements, or purchase orders valued at \$10,000 or more will submit an Affirmative Action Plan.

Companies with contracts, agreements, or purchase orders with total dollar value <u>under</u> that which is stipulated in A and B above shall be exempt from the required submission of an Affirmative Action Plan unless otherwise directed by the Division of Contract Compliance.

EXHIBIT C – Procurement and Appeals Process

GHTD Procurement Procedures and Appeals Process

It is the policy of the Greater Hartford Transit District that it is responsible for resolving all Pre-Bid, Pre-Award and Post-Award Procurement Protest disputes arising out of third-party procurements using good administrative practices and sound business judgment. It is the District's intention that its procurement process provides for fair and open competition in compliance with federal and state laws and District Policies.

The District has established these pre-bid, pre-award, and post-award procurement protest policy and procedures so that all procurement protests/disputes are filed, processed and resolved in a manner consistent with the requirements of the Federal Transit Administration.

1. Pre-Bid

A pre-bid or solicitation phase protest is received prior to the bid opening or proposal due date. Pre-bid protests are those based on the content of the initial notice and/or solicitation published by the District requesting bids or proposals from vendors or other interested parties.

2. Pre-award

A pre-award protest is a protest against making an award and is received after receipt of proposals or bids, but before award of a contract.

3. Post-Award

A post-award protest is a protest received after award of a contract. A post-award protest must be received within 5 business days of the notification of the award. A post-award protest generally alleges a violation of applicable federal or state law and/or District policy or procedures relative to the seeking, evaluating and/or awarding of the contract. Each Proposer will be notified by first class mail of the decision of the District as to the selection of firm under this procurement. Included in that notification will be a proposed effective date of engagement which will be no less than 15 days following the date of notification of award.

It is the policy of the District not to proceed with the award phase of any procurement if there is a pending protest.

All Protests must be filed in writing to:

Douglas C. Holcomb, Executive Director Greater Hartford Transit District One Union Place Hartford, CT 06103

A Protest must be in writing and set forth the specific grounds of the dispute and shall be fully supported with technical data, test results, or other pertinent information related to the subject being protested. The Protest shall include the name and contact information of the Protester, solicitation number or description, and what remedy the Protester is seeking. The Protester is responsible for adhering to this regulation Greater Hartford Transit District, Douglas C. Holcomb, Executive Director or designee shall make a determination on the Protest generally within ten (10) working days from receipt of the Protest. The Decision of the Executive Director or Designee must be in writing and shall

include a response to each substantive issue raised in the Protest. The Executive Director's decision shall constitute the District's final administrative determination.

If the District postpones the date of Bid submission because of a Protest or Appeal of the solicitation specifications, addenda, dates or any other issue relating to the procurement, the District will notify, via addendum, all parties who are on record as having obtained a copy of the solicitation documents that a Protest/Appeal has been filed and the due date for Bid submission shall be postponed until the District has issued its final decision.

The Protester may withdraw its Protest or Appeal at any time before a final decision is issued.

A Protester must exhaust all administrative remedies with the District before pursuing a protest with the Federal Transit Administration (FTA). Reviews of protests by the FTA will be limited to (1) failure to have or to follow the District's protest procedures or failure to review a complaint or Protest or (2) violations of Federal law or regulation.

A Protest Appeal to FTA must be received within five (5) working days of the date of the final decision by the Greater Hartford Transit District is rendered. The appeal must be in writing and must include the name and address of the protestor, cite the District as the grantee, the number of the solicitation, a statement of the grounds for protest and any supporting documentation, including a copy of the local Protest filed with the District and a copy of the District's decision, if any. Protest appeals should be filed with:

Federal Transit Administration Region 1 Office, Kendall Square Attention: Procurement Appeal 55 Broadway, Suite 920 Cambridge, MA 02142-1093

Upon receipt of a notice that an appeal has been submitted to FTA prior to the award of a contract, the District will immediately contact the appropriate FTA official to determine if the Response Date should be postponed. If the Response Date is postponed, the District will contact all Proposers or firms who have been furnished a copy of the RFP that an appeal has been filed and that the Response Date is postponed until FTA has issued its decision. Appropriate addenda will be issued rescheduling the Response Date.

Any appeal to FTA may be withdrawn at any time before FTA has issued its decision.

FTA's decision on any appeal will be final. No further appeals will be considered by FTA.

EXHIBIT D: General Information Form

GENERAL INFORMATION FORM

Name of Organization:							
Organization's Address:							
Telephone Number:							
Years in Business:							
Years in business Providing Ma	rketing & Community Engage	ment Services:					
Organization is (check one):							
Corporation	Partnership _	Association					
Joint Venture	Sole Proprietorship _	Public Agency					
Quasi-Public Agency _	Other: (Explain):						
If the organization is a corporati	on indicate the following:						
Date of Incorporation:							
State of Incorporation:							
Vice-President's Name:							
Secretary's Name:							
If the organization is an individu		-					
Date of Organization:							
Name and address of all partners:							
N. ATTIM AND ON							
Name and Title of the Organization's Authorized Representatives:							
Contact for Questions about Pro	pposal:						
Office and a second sec	Denfermen						
Officer responsible for Contract	Performance:						
Acknowledgment of received A	ddenda No(s):						
Acknowledgment of received Addenda No(s):							

The undersigned, being cognizant of the pages, documents and attachments concerned herewith agrees to provide the District with the services described in the Request for Proposal dated October 10, 2024. The stated Proposal shall be firm for 120 days from the due date for this Proposal.

The Contractor hereby affirms that this Proposal is genuine, not a sham or collusive, and is not made in the interest of any person not therein named.

Authori	zed Sig	nature	:						
Title: _									
Date:		/	/						

PROPOSAL SUBMISSION PAGE FOR MARKETING AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SERVICES (for the Greater Hartford Transit District)

TO:	Greater Hartford Transit District
the Request and has d	by declares that he/she has carefully read and examined the Advertisement and ecided to provide services and systems in conformance to the specifications and FP and any addendum thereto at the price stated in the attached proposal and
	that we are fully licensed, insured and have the proper equipment, systems ne project as documented in this procurement document.
such services from an accordance with the to	rees and understands that in the event that the District is required to purchase other Vendor for any reason due to my company's failure to perform in erms and conditions of this contract, my company will be charged the total or(s) to perform the service, plus \$100.00 (per occurrence) to cover and costs.
damages, and not by the amount of the dar aforesaid. If the monic Contractor shall pay t	y agrees to pay the afore stated amounts as fixed, agreed and liquidated way of penalty, to the District and further authorizes the District to deduct mages from money due the Contractor under the Contract, computed as es due the Contractor are insufficient of no monies are due the Contractor, the the District the difference or the entire amount, whichever may be the case, endar days after receipt of a written demand by the Chief Financial Officer.
	ces shall this provision be interpreted or extended to mean a relinquishment of any other damages that the District may have against the Contractor for any ver.
Firm Name:	
Signature:	
Data	

SUBMITTED BY:

EXHIBIT E – Required Certifications

AFFIDAVIT

,	uthorized agent)	, being duly sw	orn, depose and say:
(insert name of a	uthorized agent)		
am the	of (insert title)		(the
	(insert title) .m authorized on behal		
am over 18 years o	f age and understand the	he obligations of an	oath.
There are no delinque from the Responden		property taxes due t	he State of Connecticut
The Respondent is c	urrent on all monetary	obligations due the	e State of Connecticut.
	nited States and, State		e laws, regulations and
ordinances of the Ur	nited States and, State		e laws, regulations and
(Insert name of comp	nited States and, State		e laws, regulations and
(Insert name of comp	nited States and, State		e laws, regulations and
(Insert name of compage) By: Name: Title: Subscribed and swor	pany) on to before me,	of Connecticut.	
(Insert name of compage) By: Name: Title:	pany) on to before me,	of Connecticut.	
(Insert name of compage) By: Name: Title: Subscribed and sworundersigned officer to	pany) on to before me,	of Connecticut.	
(Insert name of compage) By: Name: Title: Subscribed and sworundersigned officer to	pany) on to before me,	of Connecticut.	, the

CERTIFICATION OF ELIGIBILITY

<u></u>	hereby certifies that neither
	ame of Proposer) or its "principals" is included on the U.S. Comptroller General's Debarred Bidders List.
Sig	nature:
Fir	m:
The	e Proposer certifies to the best of its knowledge and belief that it and its principals
A.	Are not presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participating in this transaction by any Federal department or agency.
B.	Have not, within a three-year period preceding the date of this Proposal, been convicted of or had a civil judgment rendered against it for commission of fraud or a criminal offense in connection with obtaining, attempting to obtain, or performing a public (Federal, State or local) transaction or contract under a public transaction, violation of Federal or State anti-trust statues or commission of embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, making false statement, or receiving stolen property.
C.	Are not presently indicted for or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by a governmental entity (Federal, State or local) with commission of any of the offenses enumerated in Paragraph B of this Certification.
D.	Have not, within a three-year period preceding the date of this Proposal, had one or more public transactions (Federal, State or local) terminated for cause or default.
	here the Proposer is unable to certify to any of the statements in this certification, such Proposer shall lude an explanation in such regard with its Proposal.
TH AN	E UNDERSIGNED CERTIFIES OR AFFIRMS THE TRUTHFULNESS AND ACCURACY OF E CONTENTS OF THE STATEMENTS SUBMITTED ON OR WITH THIS CERTIFICATION ID UNDERSTANDS THAT THE PROVISIONS OF 31 U.S.C. SECTIONS 3801 ET SEQ. ARE PLICABLE THERETO.
(<mark>C</mark>	neck One)
	I DO CERTIFYI DO NOT CERTIFY
DA	TE:
SIC	GNATURE:
ТІТ	TLE:

CERTIFICATION OF NON-COLLUSION

The Undersigned certifies, under penalties of perjury:

That this Proposal has been made by the Proposer independently, and has been submitted without collusion, and without any agreement, understanding, or planned common course of action with any other vendor of materials, supplies, equipment, or services described in this procurement document, designed to limit independent bidding or competition;

That the contents of the proposal have not been communicated by the Proposer or its employees or agents to any person not an employee or agent of the Proposer or it's surety or any bond furnished with the proposal, and will not be communicated to any such person prior to the official awarding of this procurement.

That I have fully informed myself regarding the accuracy of the statement made in the certificate.

SIGNATURE:			
NAME:			
FIRM:			
DATE:			

CERTIFICATION OF RESTRICTIONS ON LOBBYING

I, _			, of		,
Na	me & Title			Name of Firm	
her	reby certify that:				
1.	undersigned, to a an agency, a men member of Cong any Federal gran agreement, and	ny person for influe mber of Congress, ress in connection nt, the making of	encing or a an officer with the a any Feden atinuation,	paid or will be paid, by or on attempting to influence an officer of or employee of Congress, or an awarding of any Federal contract, ral loan, the entering into of ar renewal, amendment, or modifureement.	or employee of employee of a the making of ny cooperative
2.	for making lobby an officer or emp with this federal of	ring contacts to an obloyee of Congress contract, grant, loar dard Form, "Disclo	officer or e s, or an em n or cooper	ands have been paid or will be paid employee of any agency, a member aployee of a member of Congress rative agreement, the undersigned in to Report Lobbying," in accor	er of Congress, in connection shall complete
3.	documents for all	l subawards at all ti	ers (includ	ge of this certification be include ling subcontracts, subgrants, and o d that all subrecipients shall certified	contracts under
4.	which reliance is into, and that sub transaction impor- to file the require	placed at the time the mission of this cer sed by Section 135	hat the tran tification is 2, Title 31 Il be subje	fication is a material representation is a concerned herewith was not a prerequisite for making or ental, U.S. Code as amended. Any potent to civil penalty of not less that	nade or entered ering into such erson who fails
5.	certification and	disclosure, if any.	In addition	lness and accuracy of each statem n, the undersigned understands an apply to this certification and disc	d agrees that
Ex	ecuted this	day of	,	20	
Ву		itle of Authorized	Official		
	Signature & I	ine of Aumonzea	Official		

ELIGIBLE CONTRACTORS CERTIFICATE

I,	, of,
Name & Title	Name of Firm
hereby certify that it IS / IS N Federal Procurement and Non	OT (circle one) included on the List of Parties Excluded from Procurement Programs.
SIGNATURE:	
NAME:	
FIRM:	
TITLE:	
DATE: /	/

CERTIFICATION FOR DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS ENTERPRISE

It is the policy of the U.S. Department of Transportation that disadvantaged business enterprises as defined in 49 CFR Part 26 shall have the maximum opportunity to participate in the performance of contracts financed in whole or in part with State and/or Federal funds under this agreement.

The supplier or Contractor agrees to ensure that disadvantaged business enterprises as defined above have the maximum opportunity to participate in the performance of contracts and subcontracts financed in whole or in part with Federal funds provided under this agreement. In this regard all recipients or contractors shall take necessary and reasonable steps in accordance with 49 CFR Part 26 to ensure that disadvantaged business enterprises have the maximum opportunity to compete and perform contracts. Recipients and their contractors shall not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, national origin, age or sex in the award of federal assisted contracts.

The District's DBE goal	18 7.9%. There is no DBE contra	<u>ct goal for this contract.</u>					
[] Contractor will meet the DBE goal for this contract. Proposer is certified according to requirements of DOT 49 CFR Part 26 as a DBE eligible for participation in DOT assisted contracts, and will be performing percent (%) of the contract work.							
subcontract with the DI of the total dollar amou	BE(s) listed below which will be p	Fawarded this contract, proposer will erforming a total of percent (%) ted below is certified according to DOT assisted contracts.					
DBE Name and Address	Description of Work	Percent of Dollar Amount of Total Contract Work					
(Attach additional sheet	rs)						
		s committed to a minimum of% DBE demonstrating good faint efforts using the					
SIGNATURE:							
NAME:							
FIRM:							

Any contractor and/or sub-contractor utilized to meet the DBE Participation requirements must be certified through the <u>State of Connecticut Department of Transportation's</u> Unified Certification Program (UCP.)

DATE:

DBE GOOD FAITH EFFORTS DOCUMENTATION FORM ANNUAL DBE GOAL: 7.9% (There is no DBE contract goal for this contract)

If Contractor has indicated on the DBE Participation Form that it does not meet the DBE goal, proposer must submit this form with its DBE Participation Form as documentation of its good faith efforts to meet the goal. Failure to submit this form with its proposer may render this proposal non-responsive. The Greater Hartford Transit District may require that proposer provide additional substantiation of good faith efforts.

Date:	Area of Expertise:	
Name:	Company Name:	
Response:		
Date:	Area of Expertise:	
Name:	Company Name:	
Response:		
Name:	Area of Expertise: Company Name:	
Name:	Area of Expertise: Company Name:	
Date:	Area of Expertise:	
	Company Name:	
Response:		

DBE LETTER OF INTENT

(a separate form is to be submitted for each DBE firm)

Name of bidder/offeror	's firm:	
Address:		
City:	State: Zip:	
Name of DBE firm:		
Address:		
City:	State:Zip:	
Telephone:		
Description of work to	be performed by DBE firm:	
	ommitted to utilizing the above-named DBE firm for the dollar value of this work is \$	e work described
estimated dollar value a trades.	firm affirms that it will perform the portion of the cont as stated above and that the firm is DBE certified to per	form the specific
Ву	Date:	
(Signature)		
(Title)		

If the bidder/offeror does not receive award of the prime contract, any and all representations in this Letter of Intent and Affirmation shall be null and void.

EXHIBIT F – State of CT Certifications

CONNECTICUT REQUIRED CERTIFICATIONS

All contract certifications required by the State of Connecticut must be included with your proposal. The instructions and affidavits forms are available at the State of Connecticut, Office of Policy and Management Internet site at:

https://portal.ct.gov/OPM/Fin-PSA/Forms/Ethics-Forms

Check this State of Connecticut Internet site immediately before you submit your proposal in case of any recent changes to the State's contractual requirements. It is the responsibility of the proposer to ensure that any and all up-to-date contract certification forms are properly filled out and submitted with your proposal.

REQUIREMENTS OF THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT

The Agreement between the District and the Connecticut Department of Transportation has specific provisions that are passed on to all third-party contractors including, but not limited to, Civil Rights, Nondiscrimination, Affirmative Action/Equal Employment Opportunities, Disadvantaged Business Enterprise, Governors' Executive Orders, Code of Ethics, and all applicable federal regulations. These provisions and all applicable appendices of the Agreement are herein incorporated by reference and made a part of this contract.

Signed:	
Authorized Corporate Official	
Date.	

SMALL/MINORITY BUSINESS ENTERPRISE (SBE/MBE) CERTIFICATION

To be eligible for the State of Connecticut's SBE certification a company must meet the legal definition of a small business or that of a minority owned firm:

SMALL BUSINESS ENTERPRISE (SBE):

Been doing business under the same ownership or management and has maintained its principal place of business in Connecticut for at least one year immediately prior to the date of application; Gross revenues not exceeding \$15,000,000 during its most recent fiscal year; and, 51% ownership held by a person(s) who exercises the operational authority over daily affairs of the business and has the power to direct policies and management and receives beneficial interests of the business.

MINORITY BUSINESS ENTERPRISE (MBE):

A small business (must meet the above-stated SBE criteria) with at least 51% ownership by one or more minority person(s) who exercises operational authority over daily affairs of the business, has the power to direct management and policies, and receives the beneficial interests of the business. A minority is a person(s) who is American Indian, Asian, Black, Hispanic, has origins in the Iberian Peninsula, a woman, or an individual with a disability.

of all flidividual with a disability.	
Yes; My Company is certified Certification.	d by the State of Connecticut as a SBE; attach a copy of the SBE
No; My Company is not cer	tified by the State of Connecticut as a SBE.
SBE Certification	
,	s that District has established a contract goal of zero percent (0%) t does have an annual SBE goal of 25 %.
Firm Name:	
Signature:	
Title:	
Date:	

NOTE: This form is to be submitted with the Proposal. Please attach the names and addresses of any and all SBE eligible subcontractors who will perform work on this project, and the approximate dollar amounts to be paid to them. If there is no participation, then this must be indicated on the form; the form executed and returned with this Proposal.

SBE LETTER OF INTENT

Name of bidder/offeror's firm:			_
Address:			_
Address:City:	State:	Zip:	_
Name of DBE firm:			
Address:			_
City:		Zip:	<u></u>
Telephone:			
Description of work to be perforn	ned by SBE firm:		
			
- <u></u>			
The bidder/offeror is committed to	o utilizing the above	e-named SBE fir	rm for the work described above
The estimated dollar value of this			in for the work described above.
Affirmation			
			f the contract for the estimated dollar
value as stated above and that the	firm is SBE certifie	ed to perform the	e specific trades.
Ву	Date:		
(Signature)			
(Title)			

If the bidder/offeror does not receive award of the prime contract, any and all representations in this Letter of Intent and Affirmation shall be null and void.

	Request for Proposal:	
	<u>Proposer</u> :	
	<u>District</u> :	Greater Hartford Transit District
	Submission Date:	, 2024
require	ntract or agreement with Propos	utes §4-252. Notice: The District shall not award or enter inter if Proposer fails to make and comply with the representation seneral Statutes §4-252. Proposer hereby represents, warrants and
	Proposer, who participate substator (C) any agent of Proposal of preparing bids, proposals or neg state agency or quasi-public agent who participates substantially is contract or the negotiation or as	nade by: (A) Proposer, (B) any Principals and Key Personnel of antially in preparing bids, proposals or negotiating state contracts or Principals and Key Personnel, who participate substantially is obtaining state contracts to (i) any public official or employee of an ency or of the District soliciting bids or proposals for a contract on preparation of bid solicitations or requests for proposals for ware of a contract, or (ii) any public official or state employee of public agency who has supervisory or appointing authority over a gency or the District;
	and Key Personnel, knows of a providing for any other Principa	nd Key Personnel of Proposer or agent of Proposer or Principal ny action by Proposer to circumvent such prohibition on Gifts bals and Key Personnel, officials, employees or agents of Propose polic official or state employee or employee of the District; and
	(3) Proposer is subperson.	omitting bids or proposals without fraud or collusion with an
	capitalized terms used in this part. S. §4-250 and §4-252.	agraph and not defined herein have the meanings ascribed theret
that con awarde	er hereby represents, warrants an mplies with, and will remain in cod in connection with the Request	General Statutes §4a-60 & Connecticut General Statutes §4a-60 d certifies to the District that the Proposer has a policy in place ompliance with throughout the term of any contract or agreement for Proposal, the nondiscrimination agreements and warranties so a-60(a)(1) and §4a-60a(a)(1), as amended.
underst here:	•	Proposer confirms, acknowledges and demonstrates the h in Connecticut General Statutes §4a-60 & §4a-60a by initialin
	Print Name:	Initials:

The District shall not award or enter into any contract or agreement with Proposer if Proposer has not included the nondiscrimination affirmation provision in the contract and otherwise complied with the requirements set forth in Connecticut General Statutes §4a-60 & §4-60a.

Campaign Financing Contributions; Connecticut General Statutes §9-612(f) & (g). Proposer has delivered to the District a completed SEEC Form 10 Notice in accordance with Connecticut General Statutes §9-612(g)(1), a copy of which can be obtained at the following internet link: https://seec.ct.gov/Portal/data/forms/ContrForms/seec form 10 final.pdf

Proposer hereby represents, warrants and certifies to the District:

- (1) that Proposer has received a copy of the written notice advising state contractors and prospective state contractors of the contribution and solicitation prohibitions set forth in Connecticut General Statutes §9-612(f)(2)(A) & (B);
- that Proposer has not made any contributions to, or solicited any contributions on behalf of, any party committee, exploratory committee, candidate for state-wide office for the General Assembly, or political committee authorized to make contributions to or expenditures to or for, the benefit of such candidates, in the previous four years, that were determined by the State Elections Enforcement Commission to be violation of Connecticut General Statutes §9-612(f)(2)(A) & (B) without mitigating circumstances having been found to exist concerning such violation: and
- (3) Proposer's chief executive officer or authorized signatory of this Request for Proposal submission has completed and delivered to the District the State of Connecticut Campaign Contribution Certification in accordance with Connecticut General Statutes §9-612, set forth on Schedule E-1 attached hereto and made a part hereof.

Notice: The District shall not enter into any contract or agreement with Proposer if Proposer fails to make and comply with the representation requirements set forth in Connecticut General Statutes *§9-612.*

Occupational Safety & Health; Connecticut General Statutes §31-57b. Proposer hereby represents, warrants and certifies to the District that Proposer is not in violation of, is in compliance with, and will remain in compliance with the requirements set forth in Connecticut General Statutes §31-57b throughout the terms of any contract or agreement awarded in connection with the Request for Proposal.

Notice: All representations, warranties and disclosures contained above are sworn as true to the best knowledge and belief of the below authorized signatory and any false statements made herein are punishable under the penalty for false statement as provided for in §53a-157b of the Connecticut General Statutes.

PROPOSER:

	[ENTITY NAME]	
	By: Name: Title:	
Sworn and subscribed before me on this	is day of,	2024.
	Notary Public/Commissioner of the Sup	erior Cou

EXHIBIT G – Cost Proposal Form

COST PROPOSAL FORM GHTD REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS #03-025 **COMMUNITY & MARKETING ENGAGEMENT SERVICES** (for the Greater Hartford Transit District)

COMMUNITY & MARKETING ENGAGEMENT SERVICES

	2024/25	Hourly 1 2025/26	Rates by 1 2026/27	Fiscal Yea	ar 2028/29
Project Team (List Individual and Rate)	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Project Team (East marvidua and Rate)					
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Other Expenses (provide detailed information)					
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Minimum Hours of Engagement					
Incremental Billing Rate (after minimum time)	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Travel	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Materials (provide detailed information)					
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
DATE:					
	Company	y Name			
BY:					-
Signature	Address				
Typed Name	City, Stat	te, ZIP			-
Title	Area Coo	le, Telepho	one		