

Texas
SHARE
Your Public Sector Solutions Center

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
For
PUBLIC SECTOR PROCUREMENT CONSULTING SERVICES
RFP # 2021-083

OCTOBER 2021

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REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
For
Public Sector Procurement Consulting Services
RFP # 2021-083

Sealed proposals will be accepted until **2:00 PM CT, Tuesday, November 23, 2021**, and then publicly opened and read aloud thereafter.

Legal Name of Proposing Firm

Contact Person Title

Telephone Number E-Mail Address

Street Address of Principal Place of Business City/State Zip

Complete Mailing Address City/State Zip

Acknowledgment of Addenda: #1 _____ #2 _____ #3 _____ #4 _____ #5 _____

By signing below, you hereby certify that the information contained in this proposal and any attachments is true and correct, and may be viewed as an accurate representation of proposed services to be provided by this organization. You agree that failure to submit all requested information may result in rejection of your company's proposal as non-responsive. You certify that no employee, board member, or agent of the North Central Texas Council of Governments has assisted in the preparation of this proposal. You acknowledge that you have read and understand the requirements and provisions of this solicitation and that the organization will comply with the regulations and other applicable local, state, and federal regulations and directives in the implementation of this contract. And furthermore that I certify that I am legally authorized to sign this offer and to submit it to the North Central Texas Council of Governments, on behalf of said offeror by authority of its governing body.

Authorized Signature

SECTION 1: OVERVIEW

The North Central Texas Council of Governments (“NCTCOG”) seeks proposals from individual consultants or experienced firm(s) with the background, experience, skills, and capability to produce high-quality public sector procurements on an as-needed basis.

1.0 PURPOSE

The desired deliverable of this RFP involves the submittal of proposals detailing how the proposer would deliver procurement consultancy services to the NCTCOG and to member communities of the SHARE Cooperative Purchasing Program. The purpose of this Request for Proposals (“RFP”) is to solicit responses that result in a contract with one or more qualified individual(s) or firm(s) that are familiar with providing any or all of these services.

Bid Item #1: The **primary intent** of this RFP (SHARE proposal) is to receive proposals for the selection of an individual(s) or firm(s) to provide procurement consultancy services to be hosted on the SHARE Cooperative Purchasing Program.

NOTE: Under the SHARE program, any public entity or non-profit can use the SHARE contract and its selected vendor(s) and pricing to pursue their own projects. Vendors awarded a contract under the SHARE Program may offer their services nationwide if they desire to do so. This offers a unique advertising advantage to vendors to promote their services, as the vendor’s prices are competitively bid under a cooperative contract.

SECTION 2: SHARE COOPERATIVE

2.0 NCTCOG OVERVIEW

The North Central Texas Council of Governments (hereafter NCTCOG) is a voluntary association of, by, and for local governments and was established to assist local governments in planning for common needs, cooperating for mutual benefit and coordinating for sound regional development.

NCTCOG serves a 16-county metropolitan region surrounding the cities of Dallas and Fort Worth. Currently the Council has 236 members, including 16 counties, 168 cities, 23 independent school districts, and 29 special districts. The area of the region is approximately 12,800 square miles, which is larger than nine states, and the population of the region is over 7.0 million, which is larger than 30 states.

NCTCOG's governing structure is as follows: each member government appoints a voting representative from their governing body. These voting representatives make up the General Assembly, which annually elects a 17-member Executive Board. The Board also includes one ex-officio non-voting member of the legislature. The Executive Board is supported by policy development, technical advisory, and study committees, as well as a professional staff.

2.1 SHARE PROGRAM EXPLANATION

NCTCOG intends to make the contract resulting from this procurement available to other governmental entities through its SHARE cooperative purchasing program. Vendors realize substantial efficiencies through their ability to respond to a SHARE solicitation that will increase their sales opportunities and reduce the need to repeatedly respond to public agency Requests for Proposals. From these efficiencies, vendors pay an administrative fee to SHARE calculated as a percentage of sales processed through the SHARE contracts awarded and held by the vendor. This administrative fee is not an added cost to SHARE participants. This administrative fee covers the costs of contract marketing and facilitation and offsets expenses incurred by SHARE.

2.2 CONTRACT MANAGEMENT AND REPORTING

The Contractor will be required to track and report to SHARE on activities relating to the Master Contract. The Contractor will be required to provide management reports to NCTCOG on a quarterly basis with the submission of the administrative fee outlined herein. Examples of management reports include, but are not limited to:

- Participating Entity's name; pricing option chosen; total fee charged. NCTCOG and vendor will agree to form and content of reports after award of contract.

2.3 ADMINISTRATIVE FEE

NCTCOG will utilize an administrative fee, in the form of a percent of cost that will apply to all contracts between awarded contractor and NCTCOG or participants resulting from this solicitation. The administrative fee will be remitted by the contractor to NCTCOG on a quarterly basis, along with required quarterly reporting. The remuneration fee for this program will be 2% of sales.

2.4 INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT

Other governmental entities may be extended the opportunity to purchase from contracts awarded by the NCTCOG, with the consent and agreement of the successful Vendor(s) and the NCTCOG. Such consent and agreement shall be conclusively inferred from lack of exception to this clause in Respondent's Response. However, all parties indicate their understanding and all parties hereby expressly agree that the NCTCOG is not an agent of, partner to or representative of those outside agencies or entities and that the NCTCOG is not obligated or liable for any action or debts that arise out of such independently negotiated interlocal or "piggyback" procurements.

SECTION 3: GENERAL INFORMATION

3.0 CONTRACT INTENT

NCTCOG intends to contract with one or more qualified vendor(s) based upon the qualifications of the respondent and the categories of services it is able to provide. However, NCTCOG anticipates exploring any viable alternative for providing these services and may decide, after reviewing Proposals submitted, not to enter into any agreement.

3.1 ADMINISTRATIVE GUIDANCE

The information provided herein is intended to assist respondents in the preparation of proposals necessary to properly respond to this solicitation. The solicitation is designed to provide interested respondents with sufficient basic information to submit proposals meeting minimum requirements but is not intended to limit a submission's content or to exclude any relevant or essential data there from. Respondents are at liberty and are encouraged to expand upon the specifications to give additional evidence of their ability to provide the services requested in this solicitation.

3.2 ADDENDA

Addendums to this solicitation will be emailed only to plan holders of record. Addendums will also be posted on www.publicpurchase.com. However, it is the vendor's responsibility to check for any addenda that may be issued for this solicitation. Please acknowledge receipt of addenda by checking the appropriate spaces on the cover sheet of this RFP.

3.3 PRE-PROPOSAL CONFERENCE

A non-mandatory Pre-Proposal Conference will be held at 2:00 p.m. CT, on **Thursday, November 4, 2021, via Microsoft Teams. Use the following Conference ID and Phone Number to join. Phone Number: (903) 508-4574 Conference ID: 498 287 482#**. The Pre-Proposal Conference will assist proposers in responding to this RFP. Responses to questions identified during the Pre-Proposal Conference will be posted on Public Purchase as soon as available after the Conference. Proposers are responsible for reviewing the website www.publicpurchase.com for any updates related to this RFP prior to the closing date.

3.4 QUESTIONS

Questions arising subsequent to the issuance of this solicitation should be submitted through www.publicpurchase.com prior to 5:00 PM, Tuesday, November 16, 2021. Questions received after this time may not be answered in a timely manner. Do not submit your questions in any other manner.

3.5 SOLICITATION SCHEDULE

The anticipated schedule for the RFP process is given below. All times indicated are Central Standard Time (CST). NCTCOG may change this schedule at any time through the addenda process.

The anticipated schedule is as follows:

RFP Issued	October 25, 2021	
Pre-Proposal Conference	November 4, 2021	2:00 PM CT
Inquiry Period Ends	November 16, 2021	5:00 PM CT
Proposal Due Date	November 23, 2021	2:00 PM CT
Executive Board Meeting	December 15, 2021	
Anticipated Start Date	January 4, 2021	

3.6 PROPOSAL SUBMISSION

In order to respond to this RFP, as well as receive notifications, updates, addenda, and other information regarding this solicitation, NCTCOG requires that Respondents be registered with www.PublicPurchase.com.

Registration with Public Purchase is free and allows Respondents to view all of the NCTCOG's active procurement solicitations.

The landing page for this project is [found here](#). Otherwise, it is Public Purchase Bid Number 147675. Submission of proposals shall be made in English, in searchable PDF format, and must be uploaded via **Public Purchase** no later than 2:00 P.M. (Central Standard Time) – Tuesday, November 23, 2021.

It is the responsibility of the respondent(s) to ensure that the proposals are received at the web link as described above by the designated due date and time. NCTCOG assumes no responsibility for delays caused by postage, mail courier, email, package misdirection or any other form of delivery. Late proposals will be not be opened nor considered in the evaluation of the proposal. Proposals may be withdrawn at any time prior to the submittal deadline, but they may not be withdrawn after the official opening.

Proposals received will be publicly opened after the response submission deadline at NCTCOG offices. Persons wishing to attend the opening should notify the receptionist upon arrival. A staff member will escort attendees to the opening location prior to the opening. Only the names of the Contractor submitting the proposal will be read aloud. No other information will be disclosed at that time.

Proposal information is restricted and not publicly available until after award of a contract. All documents associated with the proposal submitted, unless the respondent indicates a portion of the proposal is proprietary, may be subject to public inspection in accordance with the Public Information Act. All information obtained in the course of this solicitation will become property of NCTCOG.

3.7 PUBLIC OPENING

The public opening for this RFP will be conducted at approximately 2:05 PM CT on Tuesday, November 23, 2021. The meeting will be held digitally via Microsoft Teams, and will be recorded for the RFP file. Please be advised that a large volume of proposals will result in delays in the decryption process. Access information and the meeting invite will be posted to Public Purchase on the week of November 22, 2021.

SECTION 4: EVALUATION AND AWARD

4.0 TIME FOR EVALUATION

Unless stated otherwise elsewhere in this Request for Proposals, all proposals of qualification submitted shall remain valid for a minimum of 90 calendar days after the due date to allow adequate time for evaluation and award.

4.1 EVALUATION PROCESS

All submissions in response to this solicitation will be evaluated in a manner consistent with the NCTCOG and all applicable rules and policies.

A proposal review committee will be assembled to perform the evaluations. In the initial phase of the evaluation process, the evaluation committee will review all proposals that have been received before the solicitation due date. Nonresponsive submissions (those not conforming to the solicitation requirements) will be eliminated. Each respondent bears sole responsibility for the items included or not included in the response submitted by that respondent. NCTCOG reserves the right to disqualify any submission that includes significant deviations or exceptions to the terms, conditions, and/or specifications in this solicitation.

4.2 BAFO AND CLARIFICATION REQUESTS

Once proposals have been submitted, the NCTCOG evaluates the proposals and determines which of those are determined to be reasonably qualified for award. Those so determined will be reviewed and scored. Clarification requests may be requested of firms where clarifying information is necessary to better understand meaning of any part of a bid submission. Best and final offers ("BAFO") for those reasonably qualified may be obtained by allowing the submission of a BAFO before the final decision is made to award a contract.

NCTCOG reserves the right to be the sole judge as to the overall acceptability of any submission or to judge the individual merits of specific provisions within competing offers.

4.3 ORAL PRESENTATIONS

NCTCOG reserves the right to require a presentation by the firm to supplement their written submission. These presentations will be scheduled, if required, after Proposals are received and prior to the award of the Contract.

4.4 AWARD OF THE CONTRACT

Upon completion of the evaluation process, NCTCOG may award the contracts to one or more respondent(s) whose submission is determined to be the most advantageous to NCTCOG.

4.5 PROPOSAL EVALUATION CRITERIA

The criteria to be used to evaluate submissions are as follows:

Criteria Factors	Proposal Section	Description	Points
Executive Summary	Tab B and Consideration of Tab A	Points will be awarded for required components of response for the sections identified, with 5% as a maximum total possible percentage points.	5%
Experience, References, Key Personnel	Tabs C and E	Points will be awarded for required components of response for the Respondent's past performance history, detailed experience, and reference sections identified, with 25% as a maximum total possible percentage points.	25%
Technical Proposal	Tab D	Points will be awarded for description of required components of project deliverables, and overall project plan in the Scope of Services, with 40% as the maximum total possible percentage points.	40%
Cost Proposal	Tab F	Points will be awarded based upon responses to Exhibits C & D and other requirements of Tab F, with 30% as a maximum total possible percentage points.	30%
HUB Status	Attachment IX	Additional score will be awarded in this section to Historically Underutilized Businesses, Minority, or Women-Owned or Disadvantages Business Enterprises (HUB).	5 points

SECTION 5: SPECIFICATIONS

5.0 SCOPE OF WORK

The **primary intent** of this RFP (SHARE proposal) is to receive proposals resulting in retainer of services and the selection of a vendor(s) to provide Public Procurement Consulting Services as part of the SHARE Cooperative Purchasing Program. Under the SHARE program, any public entity or non-profit can use the SHARE contract and its selected vendor(s) and pricing to pursue their own projects. Vendors awarded a contract under the SHARE Program may offer their products and services nationwide if they desire to do so. This offers a unique advertising advantage to vendors to promote their services, as the vendor's prices are competitively bid under a cooperative contract.

Typical tasks required for this consultancy are outlined below.

- Procurement Planning
- Coordinate and Facilitate Stakeholder Meetings
- Procurement Development
- Specification/Scope of Work Development
- Market Research
- Independent Cost Estimate
- Cost & Price Analysis
- Solicitation Document Development
- Evaluation Criteria Development
- Coordinate Evaluation Process
- Coordinate BAFO, and Oral Presentations Procedures
- Coordinate Selection Process
- Review Internal Controls
- Procurement Policy Development

Types of Procurements

- Request for Information (RFI)
- Request for Proposals (RFP)
- Invitation to Bid (ITB)
- Request for Statement of Qualifications (RFSQ)
- Request for Competitive Sealed Proposal (RFCSP)
- Request for Quote (RFQ)

For a comprehensive list of topics that the SHARE awarded contractor should be familiar with please reference **Exhibit B** of this document. For pricing submittal information, please reference **Exhibits C & D**.

All resulting products and/or data are owned by the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) and its member jurisdictions, and/or respective SHARE Entities.

Detailed, but focused responses are desired that demonstrate the Respondent's capabilities and how the Respondent would support SHARE Members in achieving their procurement objectives. Respondents are asked to provide examples of previous efforts and/or project history that attest to specific skillsets/range of knowledge for the tasks listed above. Any contract resultant of this RFP would be compensated for hours performed. Respondents are asked to identify all skillsets and individuals required for services identified within this RFP. For more information, please refer to **Exhibit B**.

To be under consideration for an award of a SHARE contract, you **do not** have to propose to service all Fifty (50) States of the United States of America, nor do you have to propose to service the entire State of Texas. The SHARE Cooperative Purchasing Program requests that respondents specify on the service area designation forms, and in their proposal, the service areas that they are willing and able to provide goods and services to. During the evaluation process, your responses to the service area designation forms **will not** be taken into consideration when determining the quality of your proposal.

Service area designation forms are found on **Exhibit A**. Depending on the services required by each SHARE entity, the requirements for physical in-office presence versus virtual presence of awarded vendor may vary.

Respondents should prepare a proposal that describes the services that they are proposing to provide. Proposals must demonstrate the respondent's capability to provide **all or part** of the requested services. A Respondent's proposal will be evaluated only for the services that they propose.

NCTCOG reserves the right to select the proposal or proposals offering the most advantageous combination, with price and other evaluation criteria considered. Respondent should answer all questions related to services on which Respondent wishes to propose.

5.1 QUALIFICATIONS

The following minimum qualifications must be present for a Respondent to be considered for award of a contract under this RFP. Respondents must provide documentation of applicable procurement professional related certifications e.g., Certified Professional Public Buyers (CPPB) and Certified Public Procurement Officers(CPPO) (or industry equivalent) in order to receive applicable points. A successful Respondent will have following minimum qualifications:

- Key personnel must have extensive progressive experience working in the Public Sector relating to acquisitions, procurement, purchasing, inventory management and/or supply chain logistics
- Experience managing large and complex project tasks which may include acquisition planning, RFP/ITB preparation, market research, cost and price analysis, evaluation of performance, contract termination, and contract closeout.
- Extensive knowledge of procurement planning and analysis, sourcing and solicitation, and contract development and management.
- Technical expertise in public sector procurement practices.
- Have demonstrated ability to work successfully with government including:
 - a. No previous record of default on a government contract; and No formal debarment or suspension from entering into contracts with a governmental agency or other notification of ineligibility or prohibition against bidding or proposing on government contracts.
- Proficiency in MS Office (Word, Excel, PowerPoint and Outlook).
- Effective oral and written communication skills.
- Bachelor's Degree or higher from an accredited college or university in a related field or five (5) years in the field in lieu of formal degree/certificate, etc.
- Ability to research and define multiple project scopes, schedules, and targets.
- Ability to provide expert advice and guidance to senior level staff members.

Responses are desired that demonstrate the Respondent's Public Sector Procurement Experience with local, state, federal agencies, as well as their experience in planning/performing Public Sector Procurements.

5.2 CONTRACT TYPE

This is a "sealed proposal" based on not-to-exceed hourly labor rates for **all** staff that would be involved in Public Sector Procurement projects. All not-to-exceed hourly labor rates shall remain firm for the duration of the contract. Vendor may submit updated not-to-exceed hourly labor rates reflecting market-wide price increase that occur during the term of contract and shall provide upon request such supporting documentation as SHARE may require. In the event of price decreases, such price decreases shall be allowed for all not-to-exceed hourly labor rates. A copy of, or link to, the vendor's rate chart must be submitted with the Proposal.

By signing this Proposal, the Respondent certifies that the proposing entity has obtained, and will continue to maintain during the entire term of this contract, all permits, approvals, or licenses, necessary for lawful performance of its obligations under this contract.

5.3 CONTRACT TERM

Any contract resulting from this RFP shall be effective for **12 months** from the date of award with an option to renew for up to four (4) additional one (1) year terms, not to exceed (5) years in total. To exercise this option, the NCTCOG shall serve notice prior to contract maturation.

5.4 PRICING

Pricing for this RFP is to be submitted as either an individual consultant or as a consulting firm/organization. Respondents intending to propose as an individual consultant must complete **Exhibit C**. Respondents intending to propose as a consulting firm/organization must complete **Exhibit D**.

Respondents should furnish a proposal that specifies pricing for the services they propose, noting any discounts or exceptions from their standard pricelist.

For ease of review, PDF format is the preferred format for all documents submitted.

5.5 NEW SERVICES

New services may be added to the resulting Contract(s) during the term of the Contract by written amendment, to the extent that those Services are within the scope of this RFP and include, but will not be limited to, services which reflect new technology and improved functionality. All requests are subject to review and approval of the NCTCOG.

5.6 ALL OR NOTHING AWARD

“All or nothing” Proposals are not acceptable and will be rejected. Respondent must be willing to accept a partial award for any combination of the services proposed, and must be willing to share the business with any other successful Respondents. The NCTCOG may award contracts to multiple Respondents supplying comparable services, also known as a multiple award schedule, or award the contract to a single Respondent. The NCTCOG’s decision to make multiple awards or a single award will be based upon its sole discretion regarding the type of award that provides best value.

5.7 RFP SUBMITTAL REQUIREMENTS

Respondents are asked to provide at least three (3) examples of specific procurements, including the services that were being proposed or procured, their role in the procurement process, and any other information that will help SHARE understand the nature and scope of the procurement.

SECTION 6: GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

6.0 TERMS

- 6.01 **Sales Tax.** NCTCOG is exempt from Texas limited sales, federal excise and use tax, and does not pay tax on purchase, rental, or lease of tangible personal property for the organization's use. A tax exemption certificate will be issued upon request.
- 6.02 **Conditions.** NCTCOG reserves the right to accept or reject any and/or all submissions or to cancel this notice at any time.
- 6.02.1 A response to this solicitation does not commit NCTCOG to a purchase contract, or to pay any costs incurred in the preparation of such response.
- 6.02.2 Unless the respondent specifies in the proposals, NCTCOG may award the contract for any items/services or group of items/services in the solicitation and may increase or decrease the quantity specified.
- 6.02.3 NCTCOG reserves the right to hold and accept any proposals received by the submission deadline for a period of ninety (90) days after the deadline if a determination has not been made for an award.
- 6.02.4 NCTCOG reserves the right to negotiate the final terms of any and all purchase contracts with respondent(s) selected and such contracts negotiated as a result of this solicitation may be re-negotiated and/or amended in order to successfully meet the agency needs.
- 6.02.5 NCTCOG reserves the right to waive any defect in this procurement process or to make changes to this solicitation, as it deems necessary. NCTCOG will provide notifications of such changes to all respondents recorded in the official record (Distribution Log/Receipts Record) as having received or requested solicitation.
- 6.02.6 NCTCOG reserves the right to contact any individual, agencies, or employers listed in a submission, to contact others who may have experience and/or knowledge of the respondent's relevant performance and/or qualifications; and to request additional information from any and all respondents.
- 6.02.7 NCTCOG reserves the right to conduct a review of records, systems, procedures, etc., of any entity selected for funding. This may occur prior to, or subsequent to, the award of a purchase contract. Misrepresentation of the respondent's ability to perform as stated in the qualification submittals may result in cancellation of the purchase contract award.
- 6.02.8 NCTCOG reserves the right to withdraw or reduce the amount of an award, or to cancel any contract resulting from this procurement if adequate funding is not available.
- 6.02.9 Respondent shall not, under penalty of law, offer or provide any gratuities, favors, or anything of monetary value to any officer, member, employee, or agent of NCTCOG for the purpose of, or having the effect of, influencing favorable disposition toward their own submission or any other submitted hereunder.
- 6.02.10 No employee, officer, or agent of NCTCOG shall participate in the selection, award, or administration of a contract if a conflict of interest, real or apparent, exists.

- 6.02.11 Respondent shall not engage in any activity that will restrict or eliminate competition. Violation of this provision may cause the respondent's bid to be rejected. This does not preclude joint ventures or subcontracts.
- 6.02.12 All proposals submitted must be an original work product of the respondent. The copying, paraphrasing, or other use of substantial portions of the work product of others and submitted hereunder, as original work of the respondent is not permitted. Failure to adhere to this instruction may cause the proposal submission(s) to be rejected.
- 6.02.13 The only purpose of this solicitation is to ensure uniform information in the selection of proposals and procurement of services. This solicitation is not to be construed as a purchase contract, or as a commitment of any kind, nor does it commit NCTCOG to pay for costs incurred prior to the execution of a formal contract unless such costs are specifically authorized in writing by NCTCOG.
- 6.02.14 The contents of a successful proposal submission may become a contractual obligation, if selected for award of a contract. Failure of the respondent to accept this obligation may result in cancellation of the award. No plea of error or mistake shall be available to the successful respondent as a basis for release of proposed services at stated price/cost. Any damages accruing to NCTCOG as a result of the Respondent's failure to contract may be recovered from the respondent.
- 6.02.15 A contract with the selected respondent may be withheld at the sole discretion of NCTCOG if issues of contract compliance or questioned/disallowed costs exist, until such issues are satisfactorily resolved. Award of contract may be withdrawn by NCTCOG if resolution is not satisfactory to NCTCOG.
- 6.02.16 NCTCOG is the responsible authority for handling complaints or protests regarding the selection process. This includes, but is not limited to, disputes, claims, protest of award, source evaluation or other matters of a contractual nature. Respondent agrees, to the extent possible and not in contravention of any applicable State or Federal law or procedure established for dispute resolution, to attempt to resolve any dispute between them regarding this process informally through voluntary mediation, arbitration or any other local dispute mediation process, including but not limited to dispute resolution policies of NCTCOG, before resorting to litigation.

6.03 **House Bill 89 Certification**

If Respondent is required to make a certification pursuant to Section 2270.002 of the Texas Government Code, Respondent certifies that Respondent does not boycott Israel and will not boycott Israel during the term of the contract resulting from this solicitation. If Respondent does not make that certification, Respondent must indicate that in its Response and state why the certification is not required.

6.04 **Insurance Requirements.** At all times during the term of a contract resulting from this procurement, the contractor shall procure, pay for, and maintain, with approved insurance carriers, the minimum insurance coverage and limits required to do business in the state of Texas.

6.05 **Indemnification.** Contractor shall defend, indemnify, and hold harmless NCTCOG, NCTCOG's affiliates, and any of their respective directors, officers, employees, agents, subcontractors, successors, and assigns from any and all suits, actions, claims, demands, judgments, liabilities, losses, damages, costs, and expenses (including reasonable attorneys' fees and court costs) (collectively, "Losses") arising out of or relating to: (i) Services performed and carried out pursuant to the contract; (ii) breach of any obligation, warranty, or representation in the contract, (iii) the negligence or willful misconduct of contractor and/or its employees or subcontractors; or (iv) any infringement, misappropriation, or violation by contractor and/or its employees or subcontractors of any right of a third party; provided, however, that contractor shall have no obligation to defend, indemnify, or hold harmless to the extent any losses are the result of NCTCOG's gross negligence or willful misconduct.

6.06 **Force Majeure.** It is expressly understood and agreed by both parties that, if the performance of any

provision of a contract resulting from this procurement is delayed by force majeure, defined as reason of war, civil commotion, act of God, governmental restriction, regulation or interference, fire, explosion, hurricane, flood, failure of transportation, court injunction, or any circumstances which are reasonably beyond the control of the party obligated or permitted under the terms of the contract to do or perform the same, regardless of whether any such circumstance is similar to any of those enumerated herein, the party so obligated or permitted shall be excused from doing or performing the same during such period of delay, so that the period of time applicable to such requirement shall be extended for a period of time equal to the period of time such party was delayed. Each party must inform the other in writing within a reasonable time of the existence of such force majeure.

- 6.07 **Form 1295.** The Texas Legislature has adopted House Bill 1295. In summary, the law states that a governmental entity or state agency may not enter into certain contracts with a business entity unless the business entity submits a disclosure of interested parties (Form 1295) to our agency prior to the award of certain contracts. The disclosure of interested parties must be completed electronically and submitted through the Texas Ethics Commission website. If the requirement applies to the contract resulting from this RFP, NCTCOG will notify the vendor that the disclosure is required and will provide a specific contract number for inclusion in the submittal. For more information about the process, please visit the following website: https://www.ethics.state.tx.us/whatsnew/FAQ_Form1295.html.
- 6.08 **Equal Employment Opportunity.** Contractor shall not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, religion, color, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, or national origin. Contractor shall take affirmative actions to ensure that applicants are employed, and that employees are treated, during their employment, without regard to their race, religion, color, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, or national origin. Such actions 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.
- 6.09 **Davis-Bacon Act.** Contractor agrees to comply with all applicable provisions of 40 USC § 3141 – 3148.
- 6.10 **Contract Work Hours and Selection Standards.** Contractor agrees to comply with all applicable provisions of 40 USC § 3701 – 3708 to the extent this agreement indicates any employment of mechanics or laborers.
- 6.11 **Rights to Invention Made Under Contract or Agreement.** Contractor agrees to comply with all applicable provisions of 37 CFR Part 401.
- 6.12 **Clean Air Act, Federal Water Pollution Control Act, and Energy Policy Conservation Act.** Contractor agrees to comply with all applicable provisions of the Clean Air Act under 42 USC § 7401 – 7671, the Energy Federal Water Pollution Control Act 33 USC § 1251 – 1387, and the Energy Policy Conservation Act under 42 USC § 6201.
- 6.13 **Debarment and Suspension (Executive Orders 12549 and 12689).** A contract award (see 2 CFR 180.220) must not be made to parties listed on the governmentwide exclusions in the System for Award Management (SAM), in accordance with the OMB guidelines at 2 CFR 180 that implement Executive Orders 12549 (3 CFR part 1986 Comp., p. 189) and 12689 (3 CFR part 1989 Comp., p. 235), “Debarment and Suspension.” SAM Exclusions contains the names of parties debarred, suspended, or otherwise excluded by agencies, as well as parties declared ineligible under statutory or regulatory authority other than Executive Order 12549.
- 6.14 **Procurement of Recovered Materials.** Contractor agrees to comply with all applicable provisions of 2 CFR §200.322.
- 6.15 **Restrictions on Lobbying.** Contractor is prohibited from using monies for lobbying purposes; Contractor shall comply with the special provision “Restrictions on Lobbying,” which is included as Attachment V of the RFP. Contractor shall include a statement of compliance with the Lobbying Certification and

Disclosure of Lobbying Activities in applicable procurement solicitations. Lobbying Certification and Disclosure of Lobbying Activities shall be completed by subcontractors and included in subcontractor contracts, as applicable.

6.16 **Drug-Free Workplace.** Contractor shall provide a drug free workplace in compliance with the Drug Free Work Place Act of 1988.

6.17 **Texas Corporate Franchise Tax Certification.** Pursuant to Article 2.45, Texas Business Corporation Act, state agencies may not contract with for profit corporations that are delinquent in making state franchise tax payments.

6.18 **Civil Rights Compliance**

Compliance with Regulations: Contractor will comply with the Acts and the Regulations relative to Nondiscrimination in Federally-assisted programs of the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT), the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), as they may be amended from time to time, which are herein incorporated by reference and made part of this agreement.

Nondiscrimination: Contractor, with regard to the work performed by it during the contract, will not discriminate on the grounds of race, color, sex, or national origin in the selection and retention of subcontractors, including procurement of materials and leases of equipment. Contractor will not participate directly or indirectly in the discrimination prohibited by the Acts and the Regulations, including employment practices when the contract covers any activity, project, or program set forth in Appendix B of 45 CFR Part 21.

Solicitations for Subcontracts, Including Procurement of Materials and Equipment: In all solicitations either by competitive bidding or negotiation made by Contractor for work to be performed under a subcontract, including procurement of materials or leases of equipment, each potential subcontractor or supplier will be notified by Contractor of obligations under this contract and the Acts and Regulations relative to Nondiscrimination on the grounds of race, color, sex, or national origin.

Information and Reports: Contractor will provide all information and reports required by the Acts, the Regulations, and directives issued pursuant thereto, and will permit access to its books, records, accounts, other sources of information, and facilities as may be determined by the State or the FHWA to be pertinent to ascertain compliance with such Acts, Regulations or directives. Where any information required of Contractor is in the exclusive possession of another who fails or refuses to furnish this information, Contractor will so certify to NCTCOG, the Texas Department of Transportation (“the State”) or the Federal Highway Administration, as appropriate, and will set forth what efforts it has made to obtain the information.

Sanctions for Noncompliance: In the event of Contractor’s noncompliance with the Nondiscrimination provisions of this Agreement, Contractor will impose such sanctions as it the State or the FHWA may determine to be appropriate, including, but not limited to: withholding of payments to the Contractor under this Agreement until the Contractor compiles and/or cancelling, terminating or suspension of this Agreement, in whole or in part.

Incorporation of Provisions: Contractor will include the provisions of the paragraphs listed above, in this section 9.13, in every subcontract, including procurement of materials and leases of equipment, unless exempt by the Acts, the Regulations and directives issued pursuant thereto. Contractor will take such action with respect to any subcontract or procurement as NCTCOG, the State, or the FHWA may direct as a means of enforcing such provisions including sanctions for noncompliance. Provided, that if Contractor becomes involved in, or is threatened with, litigation with a subcontractor or supplier because of such direction, Contractor may request the State to enter into such litigation to protect the interests of the State. In addition, Contractor may request the United States to enter into such litigation to protect the interests of the United States.

6.19 **Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Program Requirements**

Contractor shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, or sex in the award and performance of any U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT)-assisted contract or in the administration of its DBE program or the requirements of 49 CFR Part 26. Contractor shall take all necessary and reasonable steps under 49 CFR Part 26 to ensure non-discrimination in award and administration of DOT-assisted contracts. Each sub-award or sub-contract must include the following assurance: *The Contractor, sub-recipient, or sub-contractor shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, or sex in the performance of this Agreement. The Contractor shall carry out applicable requirements of 49 CFR 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 agreement, which may result in the termination of this agreement or such other remedy as the recipient deems appropriate.*

6.20 **Pertinent Non-Discrimination Authorities**

During the performance of this Agreement, Contractor, for itself, its assignees, and successors in interest agree to comply with the following nondiscrimination statutes and authorities; including but not limited to:

- a. Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. § 2000d et seq., 78 stat. 252), (prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin); and 49 CFR Part 21.
- b. The Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970, (42 U.S.C. § 4601), (prohibits unfair treatment of persons displaced or whose property has been acquired because of Federal or Federal-aid programs and projects).
- c. Federal-Aid Highway Act of 1973, (23 U.S.C. § 324 et seq.), as amended, (prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex).
- d. Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, (29 U.S.C. § 794 et seq.) as amended, (prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability); and 49 CFR Part 27.
- e. The Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended, (49 U.S.C. § 6101 et seq.), (prohibits discrimination on the basis of age).
- f. Airport and Airway Improvement Act of 1982, (49 U.S.C. Chapter 471, Section 47123), as amended, (prohibits discrimination based on race, creed, color, national origin, or sex).
- g. The Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1987, (PL 100-209), (Broadened the scope, coverage and applicability of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, The Age Discrimination Act of 1975 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, by expanding the definition of the terms “programs or activities” to include all of the programs or activities of the Federal-aid recipients, subrecipients and contractors, whether such programs or activities are Federally funded or not).
- h. Titles II and III of the Americans with Disabilities Act, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability in the operation of public entities, public and private transportation systems, places of public accommodation, and certain testing entities (42 U.S.C. §§ 12131-12189) as implemented by Department of Transportation regulations at 49 C.F.R. parts 37 and 38.
- i. The Federal Aviation Administration’s Nondiscrimination statute (49 U.S.C. § 47123) (prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, and sex).
- j. Executive Order 12898, Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations, which ensures nondiscrimination against minority populations by discouraging programs, policies, and activities with disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects on minority and low-income populations.
- k. Executive Order 13166, Improving Access to Services for Persons with Limited English Proficiency, and resulting agency guidance, national origin discrimination includes discrimination because of limited English proficiency (LEP). To ensure compliance with Title VI, the parties must take reasonable steps to ensure that LEP persons have meaningful access to the programs (70 Fed. Reg. at 74087 to 74100).
- i. Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, as amended, which prohibits the parties from discriminating because of sex in education programs or activities (20 U.S.C. 1681 et seq.).

6.21 **Ineligibility to Receive State Grants or Loans, or Receive Payment on State Contracts**

In accordance with Section 231.006 of the Texas Family Code, a child support obligor who is more than thirty (30) days delinquent in paying child support and a business entity in which the obligor is a sole proprietor, partner, shareholder, or owner with an ownership interest of at least twenty-five (25) percent

is not eligible to:

- a. Receive payments from state funds under a contract to provide property, materials or services; or
- b. Receive a state-funded grant or loan

- 6.22 **Prohibition on Certain Telecommunications and Video Surveillance Services or Equipment**
Pursuant to Public Law 115-232, Section 889, and 2 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 200, including §200.216 and §200.471, NCTCOG is prohibited from using federal funds to procure, contract with entities who use, or extend contracts with entities who use certain telecommunications and video surveillance equipment or services provided by certain Chinese controlled entities.

Proposers shall certify its compliance with these requirements as part of their proposal response by completing the certifications included with the RFP document "Attachments" section. Failure to submit the required certification statement may be grounds for finding the proposal nonresponsive.

SECTION 7: HOW TO SUBMIT YOUR PROPOSAL

7.0 INSTRUCTIONS FOR RESPONDENTS

Please provide a written response regarding ability to meet each requirement as outlined in the Scope of Work (Section 5.0). Include any additional pertinent information on how your proposed solution meets each requirement. Provide any pertinent additional functionality and/or services not outlined in the Scope of Work that you wish to offer.

Important Note: Your proposal must consist of your responses to Tabs A-G and completed Attachments I-IX

Tabs

Tab A COVER SHEET. The cover to your proposal will consist of:

1. The completed page 1 of this solicitation document.
2. A brief statement of the respondent's understanding of the work to be done and a summary of its qualifications.

Tab B EXECUTIVE SUMMARY. An executive summary will briefly describe the individual or firm's approach and clearly indicate any options or alternatives being proposed. It should also indicate any major requirements that cannot be met by the individual or firm.

Tab C KEY PERSONNEL. If applicable in providing services under this contract, identify all **managers, supervisors, and other team members** who will be involved in the management of the delivery of goods or services under this RFP. Identify any subcontractors or third-party services that are utilized in the performance of fulfilling this RFP. In addition to email and phone contact information for each, provide a general explanation of how the team will interface with NCTCOG and Participating Entities' project management and team personnel.

Tab D TECHNICAL PROPOSAL. This section should constitute the major portion of the submittal and must contain a narrative in specific response to items identified below and to all to the specifications outlined in **Section 5 – Specifications and Exhibit B.**

- What is your experience in the industry?
- Can you provide references for procurement projects similar to ours?
- How do you find and select vendors to be notified of solicitations?
- What services do you provide throughout the process?
- How will you involve our team and business in the RFP process?
- How will you manage and secure NCTCOG and client data?

Failure to provide written response to items indicated in this section will be interpreted by NCTCOG as an *inability* by the firm to provide the requested product, service or function. NCTCOG encourages vendors to be creative when developing their proposals for the requested goods and or service(s). Designate specific contact person(s) for the following phases: (1) bid process (2) contracting process (3) contract administration (primary point of contact for receiving orders from Participating Entities).

Tab E REFERENCES. Include at least three recent references for customers (preferably public agencies) for whom you have provided similar services. Please include the organization's name, address, contact person, phone number, and email address for each reference. NCTCOG reserves the right to contact or visit any of the Respondent's current and/or past customers to evaluate the level of performance and customer satisfaction.

Tab F PROPOSAL PRICING. Respondents should furnish a cost proposal for the service they propose. For more information, please refer to **Exhibit C if Respondent is proposing as an individual consultant**

and Exhibit D if Respondent is proposing as a firm/organization. Please provide the current hourly rates for all staff that would be involved in the services that you intend to provide in your proposal.

Tab G REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS. Please include signed copies of ALL ATTACHMENTS (beginning with ATTACHMENT I) appended to the back of this solicitation document. All attachments must be submitted with the proposal, or the proposal may be disqualified as nonresponsive. IF AN ATTACHMENT DOES NOT APPLY, PLEASE MARK AS "NOT APPLICABLE" AND SUBMIT WITH THE PROPOSAL.

REQUIRED ATTACHMENT CHECKLIST

Please utilize this checklist to ensure that all required attachments are included with your proposal. IF AN ATTACHMENT DOES NOT APPLY, PLEASE MARK AS “**NOT APPLICABLE**” AND SUBMIT WITH THE PROPOSAL. FAILURE TO SUBMIT **ALL REQUIRED DOCUMENTS** MAY NEGATIVELY IMPACT YOUR EVALUATION SCORE.

- Page 1 - Cover Sheet
- Page 19 - Attachment I: Instructions for Proposals Compliance and Submittal
- Page 20 - Attachment II: Certification of Offeror
- Page 21 - Attachment III: Certification Regarding Debarment
- Page 22 - Attachment IV: Restrictions on Lobbying
- Page 24 - Attachment V: Drug-Free Workplace Certification
- Page 25 - Attachment VI: Certification Regarding Disclosure of Conflict of Interest
- Page 27 - Attachment VII: Certification of Fair Business Practices
- Page 28 - Attachment VIII: Certification of Good Standing Texas Corporate Franchise Tax Certification
- Page 29 - Attachment IX: Historically Underutilized Businesses, Minority Or Women-Owned Or Disadvantaged Business Enterprises
- Page 30 - Attachment X: Prohibited Telecommunications And Video Surveillance Services Or Equipment Certification
- Page 31 - Exhibit A: Service Area Designation Forms
- Page 34 - Exhibit B: Description of Desired Services for Proposed Pricing
- Page 36 – Exhibit C: Pricing Proposal (Individual)
- Page 37 - Exhibit D: Pricing Proposal (Firm/Organization)
- Respondent recognizes that all proposals must be submitted electronically through Public Purchase by the RFP due date and time. All other forms of submissions will be deemed nonresponsive and will not be opened or considered.

**ATTACHMENT I:
INSTRUCTIONS FOR PROPOSALS COMPLIANCE AND SUBMITTAL**

Compliance with the Solicitation

Submissions must be in strict compliance with this solicitation. Failure to comply with all provisions of the solicitation may result in disqualification.

Acknowledgment of Insurance Requirements

By signing its submission, Offeror acknowledges that it has read and understands the insurance requirements for the submission. Offeror also understands that the evidence of required insurance may be requested to be submitted within ten (10) working days following notification of its offer being accepted; otherwise, NCTCOG may rescind its acceptance of the Offeror's proposals. The insurance requirements are outlined in Section 6.04.

Name of Organization/Contractor(s):

Signature of Authorized Representative:

Date: _____

**ATTACHMENT II:
CERTIFICATIONS OF OFFEROR**

Name of Organization/Contractor(s):

Signature of Authorized Representative:

Date: _____

**ATTACHMENT III:
CERTIFICATION REGARDING DEBARMENT, SUSPENSION AND OTHER RESPONSIBILITY MATTERS**

This certification is required by the Federal Regulations Implementing Executive Order 12549, Debarment and Suspension, 45 CFR Part 93, Government-wide Debarment and Suspension, for the Department of Agriculture (7 CFR Part 3017), Department of Labor (29 CFR Part 98), Department of Education (34 CFR Parts 85, 668, 682), Department of Health and Human Services (45 CFR Part 76).

The undersigned certifies, to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, that both it and its principals:

1. Are not presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction by any federal department or agency;
2. Have not within a three-year period preceding this contract been convicted of or had a civil judgment rendered against them 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 antitrust statutes or commission of embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification, or destruction of records, making false Proposals, or receiving stolen property;
3. Are not presently indicated for or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by a government entity with commission of any of the offense enumerated in Paragraph (2) of this certification; and,
4. Have not within a three-year period preceding this contract had one or more public transactions terminated for cause or default.

Where the prospective recipient of federal assistance funds is unable to certify to any of the qualifications in this certification, such prospective recipient shall attach an explanation to this certification form.

Name of Organization/Contractor(s):

Signature of Authorized Representative:

Date: _____

ATTACHMENT IV: RESTRICTIONS ON LOBBYING

Section 319 of Public Law 101-121 prohibits recipients of federal contracts, grants, and loans exceeding \$100,000 at any tier under a federal contract from using appropriated funds for lobbying the Executive or Legislative Branches of the federal government in connection with a specific contract, grant, or loan. Section 319 also requires each person who requests or receives a federal contract or grant in excess of \$100,000 to disclose lobbying.

No appropriated funds may be expended by the recipient of a federal contract, loan, or cooperative agreement to pay any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any federal executive department or agency as well as any independent regulatory commission or government corporation, 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.

As a recipient of a federal grant exceeding \$100,000, NCTCOG requires its subcontractors of that grant to file a certification, set forth in Appendix B.1, that neither the agency nor its employees have made, or will make, any payment prohibited by the preceding paragraph.

Subcontractors are also required to file with NCTCOG a disclosure form, set forth in Appendix B.2, if the subcontractor or its employees have made or have agreed to make any payment using nonappropriated funds (to include profits from any federal action), which would be prohibited if paid for with appropriated funds.

**LOBBYING CERTIFICATION
FOR CONTRACTS, GRANTS, LOANS, AND COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS**

The undersigned certifies, to the best of his or her knowledge or belief, that:

1. No federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to 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 officer or employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any federal contract, the making of any federal loan, the entering into of any cooperative Contract, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative contract; and
2. If any funds other than federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to 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 this federal contract, grant, loan, and or cooperative contract, the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form – LLL, “Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying”, in accordance with the instructions.
3. The undersigned shall require that the language of this certification be included in the award documents for all sub-awards at all tiers and that all sub-recipients shall certify accordingly.

Name of Organization/Contractor(s):

Signature of Authorized Representative:

Date: _____

**ATTACHMENT V:
DRUG-FREE WORKPLACE CERTIFICATION**

The _____ (company name) will provide a Drug Free Work Place in compliance with the Drug Free Work Place Act of 1988. The unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession or use of a controlled substance is prohibited on the premises of the _____ (company name) or any of its facilities. Any employee who violates this prohibition will be subject to disciplinary action up to and including termination. All employees, as a condition of employment, will comply with this policy.

CERTIFICATION REGARDING DRUG-FREE WORKPLACE

This certification is required by the Federal Regulations Implementing Sections 5151-5160 of the Drug-Free Workplace Act, 41 U.S.C. 701, for the Department of Agriculture (7 CFR Part 3017), Department of Labor (29 CFR Part 98), Department of Education (34 CFR Parts 85, 668 and 682), Department of Health and Human Services (45 CFR Part 76).

The undersigned subcontractor certifies it will provide a drug-free workplace by:

Publishing a policy Proposal notifying employees that the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession or use of a controlled substance is prohibited in the workplace and specifying the consequences of any such action by an employee;

Establishing an ongoing drug-free awareness program to inform employees of the dangers of drug abuse in the workplace, the subcontractor's policy of maintaining a drug-free workplace, the availability of counseling, rehabilitation and employee assistance programs, and the penalties that may be imposed on employees for drug violations in the workplace;

Providing each employee with a copy of the subcontractor's policy Proposal;

Notifying the employees in the subcontractor's policy Proposal that as a condition of employment under this subcontract, employees shall abide by the terms of the policy Proposal and notifying the subcontractor in writing within five days after any conviction for a violation by the employee of a criminal drug abuse statute in the workplace;

Notifying the Board within ten (10) days of the subcontractor's receipt of a notice of a conviction of any employee; and,

Taking appropriate personnel action against an employee convicted of violating a criminal drug statute or requires such employee to participate in a drug abuse assistance or rehabilitation program.

Name of Organization/Contractor(s):

Signature of Authorized Representative:

Date: _____

**ATTACHMENT VI:
CERTIFICATION REGARDING DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

The undersigned certifies that, to the best of his or her knowledge or belief, that:

“No employee of the contractor, no member of the contractor’s governing board or body, and no person who exercises any functions or responsibilities in the review or approval of the undertaking or carrying out of this contract shall participate in any decision relating to this contract which affects his/her personal pecuniary interest.

Executives and employees of contractor shall be particularly aware of the varying degrees of influence that can be exerted by personal friends and associates and, in administering the contract, shall exercise due diligence to avoid situations which give rise to an assertion that favorable treatment is being granted to friends and associates. When it is in the public interest for the contractor to conduct business with a friend or associate of an executive or employee of the contractor, an elected official in the area or a member of the North Central Texas Council of Governments, a permanent record of the transaction shall be retained.

Any executive or employee of the contractor, an elected official in the area or a member of the NCTCOG, shall not solicit or accept money or any other consideration from a third person, for the performance of an act reimbursed in whole or part by contractor or Department. Supplies, tools, materials, equipment or services purchased with contract funds shall be used solely for purposes allowed under this contract. No member of the NCTCOG shall cast a vote on the provision of services by that member (or any organization which that member represents) or vote on any matter which would provide a direct or indirect financial benefit to the member or any business or organization which the member directly represents”.

No officer, employee or paid consultant of the contractor is a member of the NCTCOG.

No officer, manager or paid consultant of the contractor is married to a member of the NCTCOG.

No member of NCTCOG directly owns, controls or has interest in the contractor.

The contractor has disclosed any interest, fact, or circumstance that does or may present a potential conflict of interest.

No member of the NCTCOG receives compensation from the contractor for lobbying activities as defined in Chapter 305 of the Texas Government Code.

Should the contractor fail to abide by the foregoing covenants and affirmations regarding conflict of interest, the contractor shall not be entitled to the recovery of any costs or expenses incurred in relation to the contract and shall immediately refund to the North Central Texas Council of Governments any fees or expenses that may have been paid under this contract and shall further be liable for any other costs incurred or damages sustained by the NCTCOG as it relates to this contract.

Name of Organization/Contractor(s):

Signature of Authorized Representative:

Date: _____

CONFLICT OF INTEREST QUESTIONNAIRE

For vendor doing business with local governmental entity

FORM CIQ

This questionnaire reflects changes made to the law by H.B. 23, 84th Leg., Regular Session.

This questionnaire is being filed in accordance with Chapter 176, Local Government Code, by a vendor who has a business relationship as defined by Section 176.001(1-a) with a local governmental entity and the vendor meets requirements under Section 176.006(a).

By law this questionnaire must be filed with the records administrator of the local governmental entity not later than the 7th business day after the date the vendor becomes aware of facts that require the statement to be filed. See Section 176.006(a-1), Local Government Code.

A vendor commits an offense if the vendor knowingly violates Section 176.006, Local Government Code. An offense under this section is a misdemeanor.

OFFICE USE ONLY

Date Received

1 Name of vendor who has a business relationship with local governmental entity.

2 Check this box if you are filing an update to a previously filed questionnaire. (The law requires that you file an updated completed questionnaire with the appropriate filing authority not later than the 7th business day after the date on which you became aware that the originally filed questionnaire was incomplete or inaccurate.)

3 Name of local government officer about whom the information is being disclosed.

Name of Officer

4 Describe each employment or other business relationship with the local government officer, or a family member of the officer, as described by Section 176.003(a)(2)(A). Also describe any family relationship with the local government officer. Complete subparts A and B for each employment or business relationship described. Attach additional pages to this Form CIQ as necessary.

A. Is the local government officer or a family member of the officer receiving or likely to receive taxable income, other than investment income, from the vendor?

Yes No

B. Is the vendor receiving or likely to receive taxable income, other than investment income, from or at the direction of the local government officer or a family member of the officer AND the taxable income is not received from the local governmental entity?

Yes No

5 Describe each employment or business relationship that the vendor named in Section 1 maintains with a corporation or other business entity with respect to which the local government officer serves as an officer or director, or holds an ownership interest of one percent or more.

6 Check this box if the vendor has given the local government officer or a family member of the officer one or more gifts as described in Section 176.003(a)(2)(B), excluding gifts described in Section 176.003(a-1).

7

Signature of vendor doing business with the governmental entity

Date

**ATTACHMENT VII:
CERTIFICATION OF FAIR BUSINESS PRACTICES**

That the submitter has not been found guilty of unfair business practices in a judicial or state agency administrative proceeding during the preceding year. The submitter further affirms that no officer of the submitter has served as an officer of any company found guilty of unfair business practices in a judicial or state agency administrative during the preceding year.

Name of Organization/Contractor(s):

Signature of Authorized Representative:

Date: _____

**ATTACHMENT VIII:
CERTIFICATION OF GOOD STANDING
TEXAS CORPORATE FRANCHISE TAX CERTIFICATION**

Pursuant to Article 2.45, Texas Business Corporation Act, state agencies may not contract with for profit corporations that are delinquent in making state franchise tax payments. The following certification that the corporation entering into this offer is current in its franchise taxes must be signed by the individual authorized on Form 2031, Corporate Board of Directors Resolution, to sign the contract for the corporation.

The undersigned authorized representative of the corporation making the offer herein certified that the following indicated Proposal is true and correct and that the undersigned understands that making a false Proposal is a material breach of contract and is grounds for contract cancellation.

Indicate the certification that applies to your corporation:

_____ The Corporation is a for-profit corporation and certifies that it is not delinquent in its franchise tax payments to the State of Texas.

_____ The Corporation is a non-profit corporation or is otherwise not subject to payment of franchise taxes to the State of Texas.

- Type of Business (if not corporation):
- Sole Proprietor
 - Partnership
 - Other

Pursuant to Article 2.45, Texas Business Corporation Act, the North Central Texas Council of Governments reserves the right to request information regarding state franchise tax payments.

(Printed/Typed Name and Title of Authorized Representative)

Signature

Date: _____

**ATTACHMENT IX:
HISTORICALLY UNDERUTILIZED BUSINESSES, MINORITY OR WOMEN-OWNED OR DISADVANTAGED
BUSINESS ENTERPRISES**

Historically Underutilized Businesses (HUBs), minority or women-owned or disadvantaged businesses enterprises (M/W/DBE) are encouraged to participate in the solicitation process. Representatives from HUB companies should identify themselves and submit a copy of their certification.

NCTCOG recognizes the certifications of both the State of Texas Program and the North Central Texas Regional Certification Agency. Companies seeking information concerning HUB certification are urged to contact:

State of Texas HUB Program
Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts
Lyndon B. Johnson State Office Building
111 East 17th Street
Austin, Texas 78774
(512) 463-6958
<http://www.window.state.tx.us/procurement/prog/hub/>

Local businesses seeking M/W/DBE certification should contact:

North Central Texas Regional Certification Agency
624 Six Flags Drive, Suite 100
Arlington, TX 76011
(817) 640-0606
<http://www.nctrca.org/certification.html>

Submitter must include a copy of its minority certification documentation as part of this solicitation.

If your company is already certified, attach a copy of your certification to this form and return with your proposal.

Indicate all that apply:

_____ Minority-Owned Business Enterprise

_____ Women-Owned Business Enterprise

_____ Disadvantaged Business Enterprise

ATTEST TO Attachments of Certification:

Authorized Signature

Typed Name

Date

Subscribed and sworn to before me this _____ day of _____ (month), 20__ in

_____ (city), _____ (county), _____ (state).

SEAL

Notary Public in and for _____ (County),
State of _____ Commission expires: _____

**ATTACHMENT X:
PROHIBITED TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND VIDEO SURVEILLANCE SERVICES OR EQUIPMENT
CERTIFICATION**

This RFP and any resulting Contract is subject to the Public Law 115-232, Section 889, and 2 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 200, including §200.216 and §200.471, for prohibition on certain telecommunications and video surveillance or equipment.

Public Law 115-232, Section 889, identifies that restricted telecommunications and video surveillance equipment or services (e.g. phones, internet, video surveillance, cloud servers) include the following:

- A) Telecommunications equipment that is produced by Huawei Technologies Company or ZTE Corporation (or any subsidiary or affiliates of such entities).
- B) Video surveillance and telecommunications equipment produced by Hytera Communications Corporations, Hangzhou Hikvision Digital Technology Company, or Dahua Technology Company (or any subsidiary or affiliates of such entities).
- C) Telecommunications or video surveillance services used by such entities or using such equipment.
- D) Telecommunications or video surveillance equipment or services produced or provided by an entity that the Secretary of Defense, Director of the National Intelligence, or the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation reasonably believes to be an entity owned or controlled by the government of a covered foreign country.

The entity identified below, through its authorized representative, hereby certifies that no funds under this RFP or any resulting Contract will be obligated or expended to procure or obtain telecommunication or video surveillance services or equipment or systems that use covered telecommunications equipment or services as a substantial or essential component of any system, or as a critical technology as part of any system prohibited by 2 CFR §200.216 and §200.471, or applicable provisions in Public Law 115-232 Section 889.

The Respondent hereby certifies that it does comply with the requirements of 2 CFR §200.216 and §200.471, or applicable regulations in Public Law 115-232 Section 889.

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED
PERSON:

NAME OF AUTHORIZED PERSON:

NAME OF COMPANY:

DATE:

-OR-

The Respondent hereby certifies that it cannot comply with the requirements of 2 CFR §200.216 and §200.471, or applicable regulations in Public Law 115-232 Section 889.

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED PERSON:

NAME OF AUTHORIZED PERSON:

NAME OF COMPANY:

DATE:

EXHIBIT A
Service Area Designation Forms

RFP 2021-083	Texas Service Area Designation or Identification		
Proposer Name:			
Notes:	Indicate in the appropriate box whether you are proposing to service the entire State of Texas		
	Will service the entire State of Texas	Will not service the entire State of Texas	
	If you are not proposing to service the entire State of Texas, designate on the form below the regions that you are proposing to provide goods and/or services to. By designating a region or regions, you are certifying that you are willing and able to provide the proposed goods and services.		
Item	Region	Metropolitan Statistical Areas	Designated Service Area
1.	North Central Texas	16 counties in the Dallas-Fort Worth Metropolitan area	
2.	High Plains	Amarillo Lubbock	
3.	Northwest	Abilene Wichita Falls	
4.	Upper East	Longview Texarkana, TX-AR Metro Area Tyler	
5.	Southeast	Beaumont-Port Arthur	
6.	Gulf Coast	Houston-The Woodlands-Sugar Land	
7.	Central Texas	College Station-Bryan Killeen-Temple Waco	
8.	Capital Texas	Austin-Round Rock	
9.	Alamo	San Antonio-New Braunfels Victoria	
10.	South Texas	Brownsville-Harlingen Corpus Christi Laredo McAllen-Edinburg-Mission	
11.	West Texas	Midland Odessa San Angelo	
12.	Upper Rio Grande	El Paso	

RFP 2021-083	Nationwide Service Area Designation or Identification Form		
Proposer Name:			
Notes:	Indicate in the appropriate box whether you are proposing to provide service to all Fifty (50) States.		
	Will service all Fifty (50) States	Will not service Fifty (50) States	
	<p>If you are not proposing to service to all Fifty (50) States, then designate on the form below the States that you will provide service to. By designating a State or States, you are certifying that you are willing and able to provide the proposed goods and services in those States.</p> <p>If you are only proposing to service a specific region, metropolitan statistical area (MSA), or city in a State, then indicate as such in the appropriate column box.</p>		
Item	State	Region/MSA/City	Designated as a Service Area
1.	Alabama		
2.	Alaska		
3.	Arizona		
4.	Arkansas		
5.	California		
6.	Colorado		
7.	Connecticut		
8.	Delaware		
9.	Florida		
10.	Georgia		
11.	Hawaii		
12.	Idaho		
13.	Illinois		
14.	Indiana		
15.	Iowa		
16.	Kansas		
17.	Kentucky		
18.	Louisiana		
19.	Maine		

20.	Maryland		
21.	Massachusetts		
22.	Michigan		
23.	Minnesota		
24.	Mississippi		
25.	Missouri		
26.	Montana		
27.	Nebraska		
28.	Nevada		
29.	New Hampshire		
30.	New Jersey		
31.	New Mexico		
32.	New York		
33.	North Carolina		
34.	North Dakota		
35.	Ohio		
36.	Oregon		
37.	Oklahoma		
38.	Pennsylvania		
39.	Rhode Island		
40.	South Carolina		
41.	South Dakota		
42.	Tennessee		
43.	Texas		
44.	Utah		
45.	Vermont		
46.	Virginia		
47.	Washington		
48.	West Virginia		
49.	Wisconsin		
50.	Wyoming		

EXHIBIT B Description of Deliverable Topics

The Respondent should provide a response as to how the individual or firm would supplement existing procurement personnel to assist SHARE Members in procuring desired goods and/or services. A quality response will detail the individual's or firm's capabilities and knowledge related to the following procurement areas that could constitute services desired by a Public Sector Procurement Consultant.

The following selection is **not all-encompassing**, and knowledge and experience related to additional procurement areas are desired.

A. Competitive Procurement Process:

- Procurement Need Identification / Procurement Data Collection
- Procurement Method Selection
- Procurement Schedule Development/Procurement Planning
- Solicitation Document Development
- Solicitation Document Issuance
- Bid/Proposal Evaluation
- Negotiations (if applicable)
- Contract Formation & Award

B. Request for Proposal (RFP): The method used to solicit proposals from potential providers (proposers) for goods and services. Price is usually not a primary evaluation factor. Provides for the negotiation of all terms, including price, prior to contract award. May include a provision for the negotiation of best and final offers.

C. Request for Information (RFI): A non-binding method whereby a jurisdiction publishes via newspaper, Internet, or direct mail its need for input from interested parties for an upcoming solicitation. A procurement practice used to obtain comments, feedback, or reactions from potential responders (suppliers, contractors) prior to the issuing of a solicitation. Generally, price or cost is not required. Feedback may include best practices, industry standards, technology issues, etc.

D. Request for Statement of Qualifications (RFSQ): The method used by a procurement entity to obtain statements of the qualifications of potential responders (development teams or consultants) to gauge potential competition in the marketplace, prior to issuing the solicitation.

E. Market Research: Collecting and analyzing information about capabilities within the market to satisfy agency needs. The results of market research are used to arrive at the most suitable approach to acquiring, distributing, and supporting goods and services.

F. Specification Development: Assist in the development and preparation of effective, concise, and open technical requirements for the material, product, or service to be procured. There are several types of specifications that are commonly used. The names may vary by the source describing them, but the following are the most commonly used terms. A single specification may be a combination of two or more of these types.

- Design specifications
- Performance specifications
- Combination specifications
- Brand name specifications
- Brand name or equal specifications
- Qualified products list specifications
- Standard specifications

G. Statutory Interpretation and Compliance:

- Interlocal Cooperation Act, Texas Government Code Chapter 791
- Purchasing and Contracting Authority of Municipalities, Texas Local Government Code Chapter 252.
- Contracting and Delivery Procedures for Construction Projects, Texas Government Code Chapter 2269
- General Rules and Procedures, Texas Government Code Chapter 2155
- Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards, 2 CFR Part 200
- All applicable State and Federal Procurement Regulations

H. Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Programs

I. Procurement of Goods and Services with Federal Grants

J. Procurement of Construction Related Services

K. Competitive Solicitation Process Exemptions:

- State Procurement Exemptions
- Federal Procurement Exemptions

L. Cooperative Procurement (Purchasing): The action taken when two or more entities combine their requirements to obtain advantages of volume purchases, including administrative savings and other benefits. 2. A variety of arrangements, whereby two or more public procurement entities purchase from the same supplier or multiple suppliers using a single Invitation for Bids (IFB) or Request for Proposals (RFP). 3. Cooperative procurement efforts may result in contracts that other entities may “piggyback.”

- **Common Cooperative Purchasing Programs:**

- BuyBoard National Purchasing Cooperative
- The Interlocal Purchasing System (TIPS)
- Sourcewell
- OMNIA Partners, Inc.
- Choice Partners National Purchasing Cooperative
- Houston-Galveston Area Council (H-GAC) Cooperative Purchasing Program
- State of Texas Cooperative Purchasing Program (Texas SmartBuy)
- General Services Administration (GSA) Cooperative Purchasing Program

M. Public Procurement Negotiation: A process of planning, reviewing, analyzing, and conferring used by two or more parties to reach a mutually acceptable agreement in a contracting relationship.

EXHIBIT C
Pricing Proposal (Individual Consultant)

The Respondent shall furnish a unit rate for its services. Please provide a unit rate for services described in the Scope of Work and attach it to your submission. Include any other cost categories that should be considered within the “other” category. Attach extra sheets, as necessary. Respondents are encouraged to offer additional Public Sector Procurement Consulting functions and services as options for retainer under this solicitation. All rates should be presented as fully loaded hourly rates.

Pricing Format Request Example Individual Consultant		Procurement No.:	NCT 2021-083
Respondent Name:			
Notes:	1. This pricing sheet is an EXAMPLE of how pricing should be submitted for RFP 2021-083 2. Please provide hourly rate for Public Sector Procurement Consulting Services 3. Detail any additional information necessary. 4. Proposers are encouraged to offer additional Public Sector Procurement Consulting functions or services to be offered as fully loaded hourly rates. Additional services that you can provide should be included with this response.		
Public Sector Procurement Consulting Services Rate Chart - SHARE Cooperative Purchasing Program			
Item	Description	Offered Price	
1	Individual Consultant	Specify Rate (Hourly)	
2	Other, Miscellaneous, Etc.	Specify Rate (Hourly, Daily, Weekly)	
3	Other, Miscellaneous, Etc.	Specify Rate (Hourly, Daily, Weekly)	
Contractor shall provide additional Public Sector Procurement Consulting goods or services at hourly rate:			%

EXHIBIT D
Pricing Proposal (Firm/Organization)

Respondents are to provide a rate chart for the labor categories/ skill sets outlined below. All rates should be presented as fully loaded hourly rates. Include any other cost categories that should be considered within the “other” category. Attach extra sheets, as necessary. Respondents are encouraged to offer additional Public Sector Procurement Consulting functions and services as options for retainer under this solicitation.

Pricing Format Request Example		Procurement No.:	NCT 2021-083
Respondent Name:			
Notes:	1. This pricing sheet is an EXAMPLE of how pricing should be submitted for RFP 2021-083 2. Please provide hourly rates for all staff that would be involved in Procurement related projects. 3. Use as many lines as needed. 4. Detail any additional information necessary. 5. Proposers are encouraged to offer additional Public Sector Procurement Consulting functions or services to be offered as a catalog option. Please provide any additional options with 'list less' or 'cost plus percentages for pricing. A copy of any catalog services your firm can provide should be included with this response.		
Public Sector Procurement Consulting Services Rate Chart - SHARE Cooperative Purchasing Program			
Item	Description	Offered Price	
1	Position Title	Specify Rate (Hourly)	
2	Position Title	Specify Rate (Hourly)	
3	Position Title	Specify Rate (Hourly)	
4	Position Title	Specify Rate (Hourly)	
5	Position Title	Specify Rate (Hourly)	
6	Position Title	Specify Rate (Hourly)	
7	Other, Miscellaneous, Etc.	Specify Rate (Hourly, Daily, Weekly)	
8	Other, Miscellaneous, Etc.	Specify Rate (Hourly, Daily, Weekly)	
Contractor shall provide additional Public Sector Procurement Consulting goods or services at cost plus:			%