

# RFP NOTICE

Polk County, a political subdivision of the State of Florida, requests the submittal of proposals from vendors that are interested in providing professional engineering services for the Solid Waste Division as described herein. Sealed proposals must be received in the Procurement Division, prior to the due date and time listed below.

**RFP Number and Title:** 26-251, Solid Waste Professional Engineering Services

**Description:** Provide CCNA continuing contract services.

**Receiving Period:** Prior to 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, May 27, 2026

**Bid Opening:** Wednesday, May 27, 2026 at 2:00 p.m. or as soon as possible thereafter.

This form is for RFP registration only. Please scroll down for additional information.

**Special Instructions:** N/A

Questions regarding this RFP must be in writing and must be sent to Brad Howard, Sr. Procurement Analyst, via email at [bradhoward@polkfl.gov](mailto:bradhoward@polkfl.gov) or via fax at (863) 534-6789. All questions must be received no later than 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, May 14, 2026.

# RFP REGISTRATION

You **MUST** register using this form in order to receive notice of any addenda to these documents. Please fax the completed form to the Polk County Procurement Division as soon as possible. It is the vendor's responsibility to verify if addenda have been issued.

**RFP Number:** 26-251

**RFP Title:** Solid Waste Professional Engineering Services

This form is for RFP registration. Please scroll down for additional information.

This form is for bid registration only. Please scroll down for additional information.

Carefully complete this form and return it to the Procurement Division via e-mail to [procurement@polk-county.net](mailto:procurement@polk-county.net) or fax (863) 534-6789. You must submit one form for each solicitation that you are registering for.

Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

## PROPOSAL SUBMITTAL INSTRUCTIONS

Proposers must submit their proposal prior to 2:00 p.m. on the receiving date. Proposals must be submitted in a “sealed” parcel or electronically through Polk County’s secure website, Kiteworks. Proposals will be publicly opened at 2:00 p.m. on the receiving date.

### **Sealed Parcel Submittal:**

If you are submitting a sealed parcel proposal submit one (1) original marked ORIGINAL and five (5) copies marked COPY of the proposal in a sealed parcel to the Procurement Division. The parcel should be labeled “RFP #26-251, Solid Waste Professional Engineering Services” and marked with the proposer’s name and address. The Proposals may be mailed or delivered to:

**Polk County Procurement Division  
330 West Church Street, Room 150  
Bartow, FL 33830**

To assist with labeling the sealed parcel, please cut along the outer border and affix this label. Be sure to include the name of the company submitting the proposal where requested.

<b>Sealed Proposal. DO NOT OPEN</b>	
<b>RFP Number</b>	26-251
<b>RFP Title</b>	Solid Waste Professional Engineering Services
<b>Due Date/Time:</b>	May 27, 2026, prior to 2:00 pm
<b>Submitted by:</b>	
<b>Deliver To:</b>	Polk County Procurement Division 330 West Church Street, Room 150 Bartow, Florida 33830

Proposals may be mailed, express mailed or hand delivered. It is the Proposers responsibility to ensure their package is delivered to the Procurement Division prior to 2:00 p.m. on the Receiving date and time referenced above. Proposals delivered at 2:00 p.m. or later will not be accepted.

***Electronic Proposals Submittal:***

All prospective Proposers that are interested in submitting their proposals electronically can do so via the County's secure electronic submittal website, Kiteworks. Proposers must email [bradhoward@polkfl.gov](mailto:bradhoward@polkfl.gov) at least 48 hours prior to opening to receive a link to upload their submittal. Please only upload your documents as a PDF or Excel file for the Cost Tab, if applicable. Please use the name convention of your files as follow:

"RFP 26-251 Tab 1"

"RFP 26-251 Tab 2"

"RFP 26-251 Tab 3"

"RFP 26-251 Tab 4"

"RFP 26-251 Tab 5"

"RFP 26-251 Tab 6"

"RFP 26-251 Tab 7"

For more instructions, a video tutorial has been produced to further explain the electronic solicitation submittal process. It can be found by clicking here for RFP Submittals: [https://youtu.be/vkn\\_7AHgioE](https://youtu.be/vkn_7AHgioE). If you need assistance accessing this website due to ADA or any other reason, please email Brad Howard at [bradhoward@polkfl.gov](mailto:bradhoward@polkfl.gov).

Procurement recommends that Proposers submitting electronically double check the documents submitted into Kiteworks to ensure all requested tab information has been uploaded. Failure to upload the requested tab information may result in the proposal being deemed nonresponsive.

**POLK COUNTY**  
**Procurement Division**  
**Fran McAskill**  
**Procurement Director**  
**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL 26-251**  
**Solid Waste Professional Engineering Services**

**Sealed proposals will be received in the Procurement Division, Wednesday, May 27, 2026  
prior to 2:00 p.m.**

Attached are important instructions and specifications regarding responses to this Request for Proposal (the "RFP"). The failure of a responding proposer (a "Proposer") to follow these instructions could result in Proposer disqualification from consideration for a contract to be awarded pursuant to this RFP.

This document is issued by Polk County (the "County") which is the sole distributor of this RFP and all addenda and changes to the RFP documents. The County shall record its responses to inquiries and provide any supplemental instructions or additional documents pertaining to this RFP in the form of written addenda to the RFP. The County shall post all such addenda, together with any other information pertaining to this RFP, on the County's website at <https://www.polkfl.gov/business/procurement/>. It is the sole responsibility of each Proposer to review the website prior to submitting a responsive proposal (a "Proposal") to this RFP to ensure that the Proposer has obtained all available instructions, addenda, changes, supporting documents, and any other information pertaining to this RFP.

The County is not responsible for any solicitations issued through subscriber services, publications, or other sources not connected with the County and the Proposer should not rely on such sources for information regarding the RFP solicitation.

Questions regarding this RFP must be in writing and must be sent to Brad Howard, via email at [bradhoward@polkfl.gov](mailto:bradhoward@polkfl.gov) or via fax at (863) 534-6789. All questions must be received no later than 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, May 14, 2026.

Proposers and any prospective Proposers shall not contact, communicate with or discuss any matter relating in any way to this RFP with any member of the Polk County Board of County Commissioners or any employee of Polk County other than the County Procurement Director or the individual designated above. This prohibition begins with the issuance of the Request for Proposal and ends upon execution of a contract. Any such communication initiated by a Proposer or prospective proposer shall be grounds for disqualifying the offender from consideration for a contract to be awarded pursuant to this RFP and for contracts to be awarded pursuant to RFPs or Requests for Bid that the County may issue in the future.

A Proposer's responsive Proposal to this RFP may be mailed, express mailed, or hand delivered to:

**Polk County Procurement Division**  
**330 West Church Street, Room 150**  
**Bartow, Florida 33830**  
**(863)534-6757**

## **INTRODUCTION**

Polk County, a political subdivision of the State of Florida seeks professional engineering services for the County's Solid Waste Division, and as further defined in the Scope of Services below.

Polk County's Selection Process for consultants' services is in accordance with Section 287.055, Florida Statutes, the Consultants' Competitive Negotiations Act ("CCNA"). The Professional Services Selection Committee will review the qualifications of all submitting firms.

It is the intent of the County to select and negotiate a Master Consulting Agreement with one (1) or more firm(s).

The County will negotiate a fee schedule and or overall lump sum price as part of "Selection Process", Elevation Level 4 Contract Negotiations.

Services under this contract will be in compliance with Section 287.055 of the Florida Statutes referred to as the "Consultants' Competitive Negotiation Act" (CCNA). Polk County's Procurement Procedure's Manual outlines the Procedures for Contracting for Professional Services Covered by CCNA. These procedures outline the process used for the selection of a consulting firm awarded through this RFP process.

The Successful Proposer must register in our new Vendor Database if you have not already done so prior to award of this RFP. A purchase order cannot be issued to a vendor until they have registered. You may register by going to the following link: <https://www.polkfl.gov/business/procurement/vendor-information/>. Registered vendors will receive a User ID and Password to access their company information. All registered vendors must provide their owner gender, owner ethnicity, corporate status, and a minimum of one (1) commodity code to be considered registered. It is the responsibility of all vendors to update their vendor information. Only registered vendors will receive notifications of future RFP's.

All services must be performed in accordance with applicable Federal, State and Local regulations.

## **BACKGROUND, PURPOSE AND SCOPE**

### **Background & Purpose:**

The Solid Waste Division's mission is excellent service to residents, protect the environment, and reduce operating costs through effective use of resources. Polk County has three permitted landfills: the North Central Landfill (NCLF), the Southeast Landfill (SELF) and the Northeast Landfill (NELF). The NELF and the SELF are closed. The pre-Subtitle D Tri-City Landfill is inactive. Integrated waste management occurs at the NCLF for the management of approximately 3,000 tons/day. This facility manages Class I waste, household hazardous waste, white goods, waste tires, yard trash and provides citizens services. The Household Hazardous Waste Collection Facility processes collected materials for recycling, and environmentally safe off-site disposal. The Small Quantity Generator program monitors businesses within the County.

Solid Waste Division facilities are constructed, operated, maintained and monitored under requirements and permits issued by State and Federal regulatory agencies: Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) divisions of Waste Management (including Solid Waste Section and Waste Cleanup Section), Air Resource Management, Water Resource Management, (including National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Multi-Sector General Permit (MSGP), and Industrial Wastewater), Environmental Resource Permit (ERP) Program and Mining and Minerals Regulation); Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD); U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) wetlands regulation; and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) divisions of Air Quality and Climate Change.

Polk County's ordinance provides universal garbage collection in unincorporated Polk County. Collection services are contracted to provide collection of household waste once a week and yard waste once a week. Property owners are assessed an annual collection and disposal fee. Additional information can be obtained through the County's website located at [www.polk-county.net](http://www.polk-county.net).

### **SCOPE OF SERVICES**

All work must be performed in accordance with applicable Federal (ACOE and EPA), State (FDEP and SWFWMD) and Local regulations.

The scope of services shall include, but is not limited to, the civil engineering, solid waste, geotechnical, geoenvironmental and hydrogeological engineering work described below. Services typically span all phases of project implementation: planning, conceptual or preliminary design, final design, permitting, bidding, construction, and operation. The scope also includes, but is not limited to: conceptual studies, feasibility studies, preliminary assessments; cost estimates; bidding, construction administration and management, operation support services; design of solid waste management and related systems/facilities; construction observation; GIS support; hydraulic and water quality modeling; permitting of new or existing facilities for

construction and operation; assistance with information requests by regulatory agencies; water, wastewater and groundwater monitoring; hydrogeologic and surface water modeling; evaluation of technical and water quality data as required by federal, state and/or local regulations; preparation of appropriate documents, reports or maps as related to design, permitting and regulatory information requests; land surveying and geotechnical services; well construction and abandonment-related engineering services; well head protection, water quality and environmental assessments; technical assistance for preparation of public information; feasibility studies for developing, improving and maintaining solid waste management and related facilities; implementation of compliance projects or preparation of reports; and other solid waste-related professional engineering and consulting services.

**Civil Engineering Applications** – Firms or their subconsultants must demonstrate qualifications and specific experience in one or more of the following listed areas.

- *General Civil* – This service includes permitting design and construction of access roads, stormwater drainage and pumping.
- *Structural design* for civil engineered projects including drainage structures, maintenance buildings, and structures for liquid storage.
- Wastewater and/or leachate, treatment and pumping.
- *Electrical, Instrumentation and Controls* – This service applies to projects requiring electrical power, control, and instrumentation and may be completed using subcontract services.
- *Environmental Resource Permitting* – This service includes wetland delineation, wetland mitigation, wildlife assessments, stormwater management system permitting, design and construction, and environmental permitting through local, state, and federal agencies.

**Solid Waste Engineering Applications** - Firms must demonstrate qualifications and specific experience in three or more of the following listed areas.

**Solid Waste Master Planning** – This service may include public surveys, trend projections, future estimates, and presentations to the Board and to the public. The Firm must demonstrate experience and expertise in maximizing the economic value and community benefits of owning and operating solid waste facilities.

**Landfill Design, Permitting, and Construction Services** – Work includes preparation of feasibility studies, engineering design plans, engineering calculations, construction documents, bid documents, bid review and analysis, responses to bid questions, pre-bid meetings, pre-construction meetings, construction management, construction inspection, construction progress meetings, as-built surveys, final certifications and review pay requests, operational plans, closure plans, long term care plans, and monitoring plans in accordance with all Federal, State and Local regulations for solid

waste management facilities. Experience with innovative technologies including bioreactors, leachate management and treatment systems, landfill mining, and landfill construction techniques are beneficial. Significant and innovative solid waste research and development projects completed by the Firm should be specifically listed in the responses.

**Closure Design, Permitting, and Construction Services** – Prepare closure plans, long term care plans, designs and permit applications in accordance with all Federal, State and Local regulations for Class I, Class III and Construction and Demolition Debris (C&DD) landfills and other solid waste facilities. Work may include characterization of in-place landfill waste, studies of potential contaminant fate, and design of remediation systems. Innovative research and development experience is beneficial. Services may also include land reclamation and remediation. Experience with innovative projects should be specifically listed.

**Leachate Collection and Disposal** – This work includes the design, permitting, and construction management of leachate collection, pumping, storage, bioreactor, treatment, and disposal systems. The Firm should demonstrate expertise and experience with leachate management in order to compare potential alternative methods for collection and disposal. Experience with innovative projects should be specifically listed.

**Landfill Gas Collection and Control** – This work includes the design, permitting, and construction management of gas monitoring and gas collection systems. The work may include landfill gas beneficial use project(s). The Firm should demonstrate expertise and experience with Title V regulations, greenhouse gas regulations, carbon and renewable energy credits, and renewable energy. Experience with innovative projects should be specifically listed.

**Lining and Cover Systems** – This work includes the design, permitting, and construction management of geomembrane, geosynthetic, clay, and composite lining systems, leachate collection and leak detection systems, and stormwater management covers (temporary geomembrane liners and other materials). The Firm should demonstrate expertise and experience with lining systems used to contain solid waste and the leachate and landfill gas emitted from solid waste landfills. Expertise and experience with double geomembrane systems is required. Expertise in estimating and comparing total installation and operating costs for innovative design projects is required. Experience with innovative projects should be specifically listed.

**Landfill Operation Support** – Services include preparation of operating plans and fill sequence drawings, design of access roads (within the active landfill), computation of compaction density and landfill life projections, management and updates of CADD files, analysis of requests for special waste disposal, alternate daily covers, and minimization of leachate generation. Work may include evaluation of and

recommendation on both on-site and off-site soils for landfill cover and construction projects and borrow site development.

**Household Hazardous Waste Collection Services** – These services may include facility design, permitting and construction, alternative collection efforts, volume estimates and projections, and permanent disposal plans. The Firm should demonstrate knowledge and experience with collection, testing, repacking, transportation, and disposal regulations for household hazardous wastes including used motor oil, paints, household and yard chemicals, batteries and electronics. The work may include contract writing and contract negotiations to support the household hazardous waste program.

**Recycling Facilities** – These services may include all items associated with recycling efforts including feasibility studies, waste composition studies, volume generation and reduction, equipment selection, design, bidding, and implementation of projects and systems. The Firm should demonstrate expertise and experience with current recycling information, strategies and limitations for significantly increasing recycling rates, and trends. Experience with innovative projects should be specifically listed.

**Infrastructure Ancillary to Solid Waste Facilities** – This service may include retrofit modifications or new design to access roads, site buffer enhancements, surface water management systems, operational plans, leachate and gas management systems, data management, equipment maintenance plans and other services related to the landfill infrastructure. The Firm should demonstrate expertise and experience in retrofitting existing landfills and ancillary systems to meet changes or projected changes in operating conditions or regulatory requirements.

**Environmental Monitoring and Evaluation** – Prepare and permit monitoring plans. Develop and implement corrective action and/or remediation plans. Evaluate data of semi-annual, annual, biennial or other frequency reporting for ground water and surface water quality, leachate, gas migration, gas collection and control, soil and air monitoring as required by regulatory agencies. The Firm should demonstrate expertise and experience in the reduction of monitoring and maintenance activities for landfill long-term care approved by FDEP. Projects may include wetland delineation, wetland mitigation design, and permitting.

**Financial and Collection Services** – This may include solid waste collection rate studies and negotiations, preparation of closure and long-term care financial assurance cost estimates and supporting information, generation studies, composition studies, full cost accounting, assessment studies, disposal rate studies, and evaluation of new weighing and scale data management systems.

**Geotechnical, Geoenvironmental and Hydrogeological Engineering Applications -** Firms (or proposed sub-consultants) must demonstrate qualifications and specific experience in two or more of the following listed areas.

Qualified Firms selected by this Request for Proposal may provide the Geotechnical and Geoenvironmental Engineering services in-house, or through a sub-consultant identified in the RFP submittal. Firms shall be experienced in field sampling, testing, soil borings, laboratory testing of materials, planning and establishing the scope of services and in interpreting and evaluating data. The following areas of service may be needed in support of Solid Waste services during planning, design, construction and operations.

**Geotechnical Design** – Slope and bearing capacity failure analysis using computerized software, reduction of field data, consolidation and differential settlement analysis, and material classification and testing using ASTM and FDOT approved methods. Evaluate potential sources of borrow material, including testing, volume quantification, and feasibility of removal, transport, and use. Evaluate existing, historic and potential sinkhole formation.

**Geotechnical Investigation** – Planning and implementation of drilling and sample gathering using mechanical drilling and hand methods, ground penetrating radar and other electronic techniques. Field and laboratory analyses and classification of samples using ASTM, AASHTO, and FDOT Standards.

**Hydrogeological Design** – Estimates of groundwater elevations, volumes, migration, and diffusion using computerized models. Recovery and treatment of groundwater using conventional and non-conventional methods such as stripping columns, aeration lagoons, and in-situ remediation.

**Hydrogeological Investigation** – Planning and implementation of hydrogeological sampling using conventional drilling to place piezometers and monitoring wells. Collection of water samples from wells and surface water bodies for evaluation and testing.

**Contamination Evaluation** – Plan, permit, and implement corrective action and/or remediation plans. Collect samples, complete field testing, and evaluate data for submission of semi-annual, annual, biennial or other frequency ground and surface waters quality and leachate monitoring reports as required by FDEP, ACOE, EPA, and SWFWMD.

**Material Testing and Evaluation** - Field and laboratory testing of soil and road construction materials for permeability, strength, compressive response. Tests include but are not limited to sieve analysis, tri-axial stress-strain, proctor evaluation, and consolidation.

The County shall request the services on an as-needed basis. There is no guarantee that any or all of the services described in this agreement will be assigned during the term of this agreement. Further, the Consultant is providing these services on a nonexclusive basis. The County, at its option, may elect to have any of the services set forth herein performed by other consultants or County staff.

## **AGREEMENT**

The Master Consulting Agreement will be for five (5) years unless otherwise terminated in accordance with the resulting master service agreement.

## **EVALUATION CRITERIA**

Proposals should not contain information in excess of that requested, must be concise, and must specifically address the issues of this RFP. Unnecessarily elaborate brochures or other presentations beyond those sufficient to present a complete and effective response to this RFP are not desired and may be construed as an indication of the Proposer's lack of cost consciousness. Elaborate artwork, expensive visual aids, and other presentation aids are neither necessary nor desired unless specifically requested. The Proposal responses shall be contained within a three-ring binder (original and each copy in separate binders). For the purposes of this RFP, one page equals a single sided page. It is requested that the responses be in the same order as the selection and evaluation procedures. The submittals should include the following:

### **Tab 1 Executive Summary**

(Items a-c: Maximum of two (2) pages)

- a) Name, company name, address, telephone number, and email address.
- b) State the number of years in business, as the same company/firm.
- c) State the number of full time employees.
- d) Provide documentation showing proper incorporation by the Secretary of State.
- e) Provide a copy of the firm's applicable certification(s) from the State of Florida allowing them to provide the services as outlined in the Scope of Service as well as compliance with F.S. 287.055

### **Tab 2 Approach to the Project (30 points)**

(Maximum of four (4) pages)

- a) Describe in detail the components of how your firm proposes to manage assigned project(s), based upon the scope of services. Please identify the services your firm provides which make you qualified to perform the required services.
- b) Describe how the firm plans to maintain the project team and manage the project team members' time in order to ensure sufficient time to complete a project.
- c) Describe the firm's Quality Assurance and Quality Control program as it pertains to engineering services.

### **Tab 3 Experience, Expertise, Personnel and Technical Resources (45 points)**

- Identify a minimum of five (5) and a maximum of eight (8) projects in which the proposer has performed within the past five (5) years as the prime proposer which best illustrates the experience of the firm and current staff as related to the desired services. At least three (3) of the projects identified should be projects performed for public entities in Florida. (Maximum of one (1) page only per project).

- For each project please provide:
  - a) Name and location of the project;
  - b) Size and cost of the project;
  - c) Project representative name, address, phone number, and email address
  - d) Date project was completed or is anticipated to be completed, if completed provide the actual completion date;
  - e) The nature of the firm's responsibility on the project;
  - f) List of change orders, including dollar amount, which were the result of unforeseen circumstances or design errors/oversights; and
  - g) List of any time extensions created by item f above.
- Provide an organizational chart of the team highlighting the key individuals who will work on this contract.
- Provide brief resumes of the firm's key personnel to be assigned to the master service agreement including, but not limited to, the items in the list below (One (1) page maximum per resume):
  - a) Name and current position held by the person
  - b) Name, title and project assignment
  - c) Experience:
    - 1) Types of projects.
    - 2) Size of projects (dollar value of project).
    - 3) What were their specific project involvements?
- Identify any sub-consultants that may be involved throughout the duration of the agreement. For each sub consultant identified please provide:
  - A brief description of their experience outlining their qualifications to perform the intended services
  - A brief resume for each key personnel that will be assigned to perform the intended services

**Tab 4 Is the Firm a “Polk County Entity”? (5 Points)**

- There will be a maximum of five (5) points allocated for this Tab. If the Proposer is a Polk County Entity, then five (5) points will be allocated. If the Proposer is not a Polk County Entity but is utilizing one or more sub-consultants that are a Polk County Entity to assist in performing the scope of work then the Proposal will be allocated one (1) point for each sub-consultant which is a Polk County Entity up to a maximum of five (5) points. The Polk County Entity sub-consultant(s) must have been identified under Tab 3, Experience, Expertise, Personnel and Technical Resources in order to qualify for point allocation.
- Provide documentation of the Proposers' or sub-consultant's headquarters and local offices, if any, and the amount of time the firm has been located at each such local office. Please also indicate the number of employees at the local office.

- Proposers or sub-consultants will be allocated points if they meet the following Polk County Government definition of Polk County Entity.
  - The term “Polk County Entity” means any business having a physical location within the boundaries of Polk County, Florida, at which employees are located and business activity is managed and controlled on a day to day basis. Additionally, the business must have been located within the boundaries of Polk County for a minimum of 12 months prior to the date the applicable solicitation is issued. This requirement may be evidenced through a recorded deed, an executed lease agreement, or other form of written documentation acceptable to the County. The County shall have the right, but not the obligation, to verify the foregoing requirements.
- In the event a Proposer lists one or more sub-consultants in Tab 4 which is a Polk County Entity and receives point(s) as a result, and after the Proposer is awarded the project, if successful, it is determined that the listed sub-consultant does not assist in the performance of the scope of work (and is not replaced with an alternative sub-consultant which is a Polk County Entity), then the Proposer acknowledges and agrees that it may be suspended or debarred by the Procurement Director for failure to comply with the conditions, specifications or terms of a proposal or contract with the County or for committing a fraud or misrepresentation in connection with a proposal or contract with the County, in accordance with the Polk County Purchasing Ordinance and Procedures Manual.

**Tab 5 Is the Firm a “Certified Woman or Minority Business Enterprise” (5 Points)**

- Polk County Board of County Commissioners has a long standing commitment to encouraging the utilization of Women and Minority Businesses that do business with the County as vendors. To that end we encourage all of our prime and professional services vendors to utilize W/MBE vendors where at all possible, irrespective of a company’s certification status. Please explain how the submitting firm will encourage minority participation in the project. (Limit response to one page)
- There will be a maximum of five (5) points allocated for this tab. If the Proposer is a Woman or Minority owned business then five (5) points will be allocated. If the Proposer is not a Woman or Minority owned business but is utilizing one or more sub-consultants that are a Women or Minority owned business to assist in performing the scope of work, then the Proposal will be allocated one (1) point for each sub-consultant which meets the County’s certification criteria of Women or Minority owned, up to a maximum of five (5) points. The Woman or Minority owned business sub-consultant(s) must have been identified under Tab 3, Experience, Expertise, Personnel and Technical Resources in order to qualify for point allocation.
- Proposers or sub-consultants will be allocated points if they are a certified W/MBE as evidenced by providing the documentation described below.

- If the Proposer or sub-consultant has a certified W/MBE status, provide documentation of the firms' certified W/MBE status as defined by the Florida Small and Minority Business Act and as defined in Polk County's Purchasing Procedures. Polk County's Purchasing Procedures recognize the following to meet the requirement of a certified W/MBE status:
  - Valid W/MBE Certification from one of the following
    - Florida Minority Supplier Development Council
    - Women Business Enterprise National Council
    - The State of Florida Office of Supplier Diversity
    - Florida Department of Transportation
    - U. S. Small Business Administration
    - Federal Aviation Authority
    - Other Florida governmental agencies

Certifications from other governmental agencies will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

- In the event a Proposer lists one or more sub-consultants in Tab 5 which is a Women or Minority owned business and receives point(s) as a result, and after the Proposer is awarded the project, if successful, it is determined that the listed sub-consultant does not assist in the performance of the scope of work (and is not replaced with an alternative sub-consultant which is a Women or Minority owned business), then the Proposer acknowledges and agrees that it may be suspended or debarred by the Procurement Director for failure to comply with the conditions, specifications or terms of a proposal or contract with the County or for committing a fraud or misrepresentation in connection with a proposal or contract with the County, in accordance with the Polk County Purchasing Ordinance and Procedures Manual.

**Tab 6 Interactions with County and Regulatory Agency Staff (5 Points)**

- Provide documentation supporting the specialized qualifications of the proposed staff in terms of meeting this scope of service. Qualifications should highlight experience with regulatory agencies, identifying specific agencies and the items being addressed, including construction permitting, solid waste permitting, storm water permitting, consent orders, consultation, governing regulations; and other related activities. Describe the firm's ability to work with Solid Waste or other Division staff in order to successfully fulfill the scope of service. Demonstrate the firm's knowledge of permitting process, as well as local regulatory agencies, including, but not limited to SWFWMD, FDEP, Polk County Land Development and the Polk County Health Department, if applicable. (Limit response to one (1) page)

**Tab 7 Surveys of Past Performance (10 Points)**

- Provide reference surveys from past clients for the projects identified under Tab 3.

- Completed surveys. (See Exhibit 1) Procurement will take the average of all surveys and score as follows:
  - Average Score between 9-10 (10 Points)
  - Average Score between 7-8 (8 Points)
  - Average Score between 5-6 (6 Points)
  - Average Score between 3-4 (4 Points)
  - Average Score between 1-2 (2 Points)
  - Average Score of 0 (0 Points)

**BID OPENING**

Proposers may attend the Bid Opening in person or via conference call by dialing (646) 558-8656 and enter Meeting ID: 327 647 2818. A listing of all proposers will be posted to Procurement’s website as soon as possible after bid opening.

**Selection Process**

Proposals will be evaluated in accordance with this section and all applicable County procurement policies and procedures.

The County shall appoint a selection committee (the “Selection Committee”) that will be responsible for evaluating and scoring/ranking the Proposals in accordance with this Section.

The County will use a competitive selection process based on the Elevation Levels described in this Section. At Elevation Levels 2 and 3, the Selection Committee will score and/or rank the Proposals as applicable.

Selection of a final Proposal will be based upon the following steps and factors:

**Elevation Level 1 (Procurement Requirements Assessment):**

- The County Procurement Division shall review all Proposals for conformance with RFP guidelines and detailed submittal requirements. At the County’s discretion, non-conforming Proposals may be eliminated from further consideration and conforming Proposals shall be elevated to Elevation Level 2. Procurement will distribute Proposals and evaluation criteria to the Selection Committee.
- Procurement will also ensure all firms meet the requirement of certification as outlined in Florida Statute 287.055(3)(c).
- The Selection Committee may convene to review questions that arise during individual member review of submitted Proposals before Elevation Level 2 to allow for questions, clarifications, explanations, or other discussion to be held before the review of Proposals is completed.

**Elevation Level 2 (Scoring)**

- Procurement shall score each Proposal on the following evaluation criteria:
 

Local (Tab 4)	5 points
W/MBE Certification (Tab 5)	5 points

<u>Surveys of Past Performance (Tab 7)</u>	<u>10 points</u>
<b>Subtotal Points</b>	<b>20 points</b>

by the process stated under each corresponding Tab description as set forth on Pages 13-16.

- Each Selection Committee member shall score each Proposal on the following evaluation criteria:

Approach to the Project (Tab 2)	30 points
Experience, Expertise, Personnel & Technical Resources (Tab 3)	45 points
<u>Interaction w/ County &amp; Regulatory Agencies (Tab 6)</u>	<u>5 points</u>
<b>Subtotal Points</b>	<b>80 points</b>

by the following process:

- 1) Each Selection Committee member shall determine which of the following descriptions applies to each of the foregoing evaluation criteria:
  - EXCELLENT (1.0): Of the highest or finest quality; exceptional; superior; superb; exquisite; peerless.  
The Proposer provided information for a given criteria that satisfied the requirements and described specifically how and what will be accomplished in such a manner that exhibited an exceptional and superior degree of understanding, skill, and competency, both qualitatively and quantitatively. The facts included in the narrative (including all supporting documentation, diagrams, drawings, charts, etc.) demonstrate the Proposer's ability to perform and deliver far beyond expectation.
  - VERY GOOD (0.8): To a high degree; better than or above competent and/or skillful.  
The Proposer provided information for a given criteria that satisfied the requirements and described specifically how and what will be accomplished in such a manner that exhibited a very high degree of understanding, skill, and competency, both qualitatively and quantitatively. The facts included in the narrative (including all supporting documentation, diagrams, drawings, charts, etc.) demonstrate the Proposer's ability to perform and deliver beyond expectation.
  - GOOD (0.6): Having positive or desirable qualities; competent; skilled; above average.  
The Proposer provided information for a given criteria that satisfied the requirements and described specifically how and what will be accomplished in such a manner that exhibited a skillful and above-average degree of understanding, skill, and competency, both qualitatively and quantitatively. The facts included in the narrative (including all supporting documentation, diagrams, drawings, charts, and schedules,

etc.) demonstrate the Proposer's ability to perform and deliver at the expected level.

- FAIR (0.4): Average; moderate; mediocre; adequate; sufficient; satisfactory; standard.

The Proposer provided information for a given criteria that satisfied the requirements and described sufficiently how and what will be accomplished in a manner that exhibited an adequate and average degree of understanding, skill, and competency, both qualitatively and quantitatively. The facts included in the narrative (including all supporting documentation, diagrams, drawings, charts, and schedules, etc.) demonstrate the Proposer's ability to perform and deliver at a level slightly below expectation.

- POOR (0.2): Inadequate; lacking; inferior in quality; of little or less merit; substandard; marginal.

The Proposer provided information for a given criteria that did not satisfy the requirements and described in an inadequate manner how and what will be accomplished. The information provided simply reiterated a requirement, contained inaccurate statements or references, lacked adequate information, or was of inferior quality. The facts included in the narrative (including all supporting documentation, diagrams, drawings, charts, and schedules, etc.) demonstrate the Proposer's ability to perform and deliver at a substandard and inferior level.

- UNACCEPTABLE (0.0):

The Proposer failed to provide any information for a given criteria, provided information that could not be understood, or did not provide the information for a given category as requested.

- 2) After a Selection Committee member has determined the description applicable for each evaluation criterion, the total points available for such criterion shall be multiplied by the factor associated with the applicable description to produce the number of points allocated for that evaluation criterion. For example, a Selection Committee member classifies the "Experience and Expertise" criterion (which shall be worth 25 points for the purpose of this example) as "Very Good" (which is a description factor multiplier of 0.8). The points that Selection Committee member allocated for that evaluation criterion would be 20, calculated as follows: 25 available points x 0.8 applicable description factor multiplier = 20 points.
- 3) A Selection Committee member's total score for each Proposal shall equal the sum of the total points allocated for each evaluation criteria.
- 4) When all Selection Committee members have completed their Proposal evaluations, the individual Selection Committee member's total scores for each Proposal will be added together to produce a final score for each Proposal.
- 5) Procurement will confirm the calculations for the final score for each Proposal. Then, Procurement shall publish a rank-ordered listing of the Proposals to the

Selection Committee with the Proposal receiving the highest point as the highest-ranked Proposal.

- 6) In accordance with Section 287.055(4)(a), Florida Statutes, if there are three (3) or more Proposers in Elevation Level 2, the Selection Committee must elevate no fewer than the three highest scored of such Proposers to Elevation Level 3 for interviews. If there are only two Proposers in Elevation Level 2, the Selection Committee must elevate those two Proposers to Elevation Level 3 for interviews. If there is only one Proposer in Elevation Level 2, then the Selection Committee may collectively decide if they would like to elevate the Proposer to Elevation Level 3 for interviews or if they would like to recommend the Board authorize staff to enter into Contract Negotiations with the Proposer. In the latter case, after Board approval to authorize staff to negotiate a contract, the Proposer will then be elevated to Elevation Level 4 for contract negotiations.

### **Elevation Level 3 (Proposer Interviews)**

The Selection Committee are required to conduct interviews of the Proposers that it has elevated from Elevation Level 2 to Elevation Level 3.

During an interview, elevated Proposers may be requested to make a presentation focusing on their qualifications, approach to the project and the ability to furnish the required services. The Selection Committee members will have an opportunity to inquire about any aspect of the RFP and the Proposer's Proposal. After all elevated Proposer interviews, each Selection Committee member will individually rank the Proposers in numerical order beginning at number 1 for the Proposer deemed to be the most highly qualified to perform the required services. In accordance with Section 287.055(4)(b), Florida Statutes, in determining whether a Proposer is qualified, each Selection Committee member shall consider such factors as:

- Ability of Personnel
- Whether a Proposer is a certified minority business enterprise
- Past performance
- Willingness to meet time and budget requirements
- Location
- Recent, current, and projected workloads
- Volume of work previously awarded to each Proposer by the County

Procurement shall receive and compile each Selection Committee member's ranking of each Proposer and then publish a rank-ordered listing of Proposers to the Selection Committee, based on the combined average rankings given each Proposer. The Selection Committee members will then collectively decide if they would like to recommend the Board authorize staff to enter into Contract Negotiations with all Proposers elevated to Proposer Interviews, starting with the highest-ranked Proposer(s). After Board approval to authorize staff to negotiate a contract, said Proposer(s) will then be elevated to Elevation Level 4 for contract negotiations.

**Elevation Level 4 (Contract Negotiations)**

If a Proposer is elevated to this level, the User Division, with the assistance of Procurement and the County Attorney's Office, shall negotiate an Agreement with the elevated Proposer(s) in accordance with Section 287.055(5), Florida Statutes.

If after negotiating for a reasonable time period the parties cannot agree on a contract, the County shall, in its sole discretion, terminate further contract negotiations with that Proposer(s). Procurement shall notify the Selection Committee that contract negotiations with the elevated Proposer(s) have terminated. The Selection Committee shall then determine whether to recommend to the Board to approve contract negotiations with the next-highest-ranked Proposer, and so on. If the Selection Committee decides not to recommend contract negotiations with the next-highest-ranked Proposer, or if the County determines there is no other Proposer with whom the County can successfully negotiate a contract, then the RFP Selection Process shall terminate.

After contract negotiations with a Proposer(s) are successfully completed pursuant to Elevation Level 4, the Selection Committee shall recommend to the Board of County Commissioners that it selects such Proposer(s) to provide the services as outlined in the Agreement. The Board of County Commissioners shall make the final decision whether to enter into an Agreement with a Proposer(s).

## GENERAL CONDITIONS

### CONTACT

After the issuance of any Request for Proposal, prospective proposers shall not contact, communicate with or discuss any matter relating in any way to the Request for Proposal with the Board of County Commissioners, and any employee of Polk County, other than the Procurement Director or as directed in the cover page of the Request for Proposal. This prohibition begins with the issuance of any Request for Proposal and ends upon completion execution of a contract. Such communications initiated by a proposer shall be grounds for disqualifying the offending proposer from consideration for award of the proposal and/or any future proposal.

### INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS

The selected firm, if any, shall maintain, at all times, the following minimum levels of insurance and; shall, without in any way altering their liability, obtain, pay for and maintain insurance for the coverages and amounts of coverage not less than those set forth below. Provide to the County original Certificates of Insurance satisfactory to the County to evidence such coverage before any work commences. Polk County, a political subdivision of the State of Florida, shall be an additional named insured on all policies related to the project; excluding workers' compensation and professional liability. The Workers' Compensation and General Liability policies shall contain a waiver of subrogation in favor of Polk County. All insurance coverage shall be written with a company having an A.M. Best Rating of at least the "A" category and size category of VIII. The firm's self-insured retention or deductible per line of coverage shall not exceed \$25,000 without the permission of the County. In the event of any failure by the firm to comply with the provisions; the County may, at its option, on notice to the firm suspend the project for cause until there is full compliance. Alternatively, the County may purchase such insurance at the firm's expense, provided that the County shall have no obligation to do so and if the County shall do so, the firm shall not be relieved of or excused from the obligation to obtain and maintain such insurance amounts and coverages.

**Worker's Compensation and Employer's Liability Insurance** providing statutory benefits, including those that may be required by any applicable federal statute:

Admitted in Florida	Yes
Employer's Liability	\$100,000
All States Endorsement	Statutory
Voluntary Compensation	Statutory

**Commercial General Liability Insurance.** \$1,000,000 combined single limit of liability for bodily injuries, death, and property damage, and personal injury resulting from any one occurrence, including the following coverages:

- Premises and Operations and Products/Completed Operations; Broad Form Commercial General Liability Endorsement to include blanket contractual liability (specifically covering, but not limited to, the contractual obligations assumed by the Firm); Personal Injury (with employment and contractual exclusions deleted) and Broad Form Property Damage coverages.
- Independent Contractors; Policy must include Separation of Insureds Clause.

**Comprehensive Automobile Liability Insurance.** \$1,000,000 combined single limit of liability for bodily injuries, death, and property damage, and personal injury resulting from any one occurrence, including all owned, hired and non-owned vehicles.

**Professional Liability Insurance.** \$2,000,000 for design errors and omissions, inclusive of defense costs. Selected firm shall be required to provide continuing Professional Liability Insurance to cover the project for a period of two (2) years after the projects are completed.

### **INDEMNIFICATION**

To the maximum extent permitted by law, the Consultant shall indemnify, protect and hold the County, and its officers, employees and agents, harmless from and against any and all, claims, actions, causes of action, liabilities, penalties, forfeitures, damages, losses, and expenses whatsoever (including, without limitation, reasonable attorneys' fees, costs, and expenses incurred during negotiation, through litigation and all appeals therefrom) including, without limitation, those pertaining to the death of or injury to any person, or damage to any property, to the extent arising out of or resulting from (i) the failure of Consultant to comply with applicable laws, rules or regulations, (ii) the breach by Consultant of its obligations under this Agreement, (iii) any claim for trademark, patent, or copyright infringement arising out of the scope of Consultant's performance or nonperformance of this Agreement, or (iv) the negligent acts, errors or omissions, or intentional or willful misconduct, of Consultant or any persons or entities employed or utilized by Consultant in the performance of this Agreement. The obligations imposed by this Section shall survive the expiration or earlier termination of the Agreement.

### **PUBLIC ENTITY CRIMES STATEMENT**

The Consultant declares and warrants that neither the Consultant nor any of the Consultant's affiliates, as that term is defined in Section 287.133, Florida Statutes, are subject to the restrictions in Section 287.133, Florida Statutes, regarding the commission of a public entity crime. If during the term of this Agreement, the Consultant or any affiliate is convicted of a public entity crime or is otherwise prohibited from performing work for or transacting business with the County pursuant to Section 287.133, Florida Statutes, then the Consultant shall be in material default of this Agreement, and in such case, the County shall have the rights and remedies as provided herein.

## **EQUAL OPPORTUNITY/AFFIRMATIVE ACTION**

The County is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer. The County is committed to equal opportunity employment effort; and expects firms that do business with the County to have a vigorous affirmative action program.

## **WOMEN/MINORITY BUSINESS ENTERPRISE OUTREACH**

The County hereby notifies all Proposers that W/MBEs are to be afforded a full opportunity to participate in any request for proposal by the County and will not be subject to discrimination on the basis of race, color, sex or national origin.

## **AFFIRMATION**

By submitting their proposal, the Proposer affirms that the proposal is genuine and not made in the interest of or on behalf of any undisclosed person, firm or corporation and is not submitted in conformity with any agreement or rules of any group, association, organization or corporation; the Proposer has not directly or indirectly induced or solicited any other person to submit a false or sham proposal; the Proposer has not solicited or induced any person, firm or corporation to refrain from submitting a proposal; and the Proposer has not sought by collusion to obtain for him/herself any advantage over other persons or over the County.

## **DEVELOPMENT COSTS**

Neither the County nor its representative(s) shall be liable for any expenses incurred in connection with preparation of a response to the RFP. Proposers should prepare their proposals simply and economically, providing a straightforward and concise description of the proposer's ability to meet the requirements of the RFP.

## **ADDENDA**

The County may record its responses to inquiries and any supplemental instructions in the form of written addenda. The addenda will be posted on the County's website at <https://www.polk-county.net/procurement-bids>. It is the sole responsibility of the proposers to check the website to ensure that all available information has been received prior to submitting a proposal.

## **CODE OF ETHICS**

If any proposer violates or is a party to a violation of the code of ethics of Polk County or the State of Florida, with respect to this proposal, such proposer may be disqualified from performing the work described in this proposal or from furnishing the goods or services for which the proposal is submitted and shall be further disqualified from bidding on any future proposals for work, goods, or services for the County.

## **DRUG FREE WORKPLACE**

Preference shall be given to businesses with Drug Free Workplace (DFW) programs. Whenever two or more proposals, which are equal with respect to price, quality and service, are received by the County for the procurement of commodities or contractual services, a proposal received from a business that has provided a statement that it is a DFW shall be given preference in the award process.

## **APPLICABLE LAWS AND COURTS**

This RFP and any resulting agreements shall be governed in all respects by the laws of the State of Florida and any litigation with respect thereto shall be brought only in the courts of Polk County, Florida or the United States District Court, Middle District of Florida, located in Hillsborough County, Florida. The proposer shall comply with all applicable federal, state and local laws and regulations.

## **CONTRACTUAL MATTERS**

A contract will be executed between the County and the successful Proposer(s).

All contracts are subject to final approval of the Polk County Board of County Commissioners. Persons or firms who incur expenses or change position in anticipation of a contract prior to the Board's approval do so at their own risk.

## **PROPOSAL ACCEPTANCE PERIOD**

A proposal shall be binding upon the offeror and irrevocable by it for one hundred and twenty (120) calendar days following the proposal opening date. Any proposal in which offeror shortens the acceptance period may be rejected.

## **ADDITION/DELETION**

The County reserves the right to add to or delete any item from this proposal or resulting agreements when deemed to be in the best interest of the County.

## **PROPRIETARY INFORMATION**

In accordance with Chapter 119 of the Florida Statutes (Public Records Law), and except as may be provided by other applicable State and Federal Law, all proposers should be aware that Request for Proposals and the responses thereto are in the public domain. However, the proposers are required to identify specifically any information contained in their proposals which they consider confidential and/or proprietary and which they believe to be exempt from disclosure, citing specifically the applicable exempting law. Proposers should provide a redacted copy of proposal with submittal or must provide within thirty (30) days from the Proposal due date.

All proposals received from proposers in response to this Request for Proposal will become the property of the County and will not be returned to the proposers. In the event of contract award, all documentation produced as part of the contract will become the exclusive property of the County.

## **REVIEW OF PROPOSAL FILES**

In accordance with Chapter 119.071 of the Florida Statutes, the responses received for this Request for Proposal are exempt from review for thirty (30) days after the Bid Opening Date or at Recommendation of Award, whichever event occurs first.

Should the RFP be cancelled and re-solicited for any reason, proposal responses shall remain exempt from disclosure for a period not to exceed twelve (12) months or at Recommendation of Award of the subsequent solicitation.

**RFP PROTEST:** Any proposer desiring to file a protest, with respect to a recommended award of any RFP, shall do so by filing a written protest. The written protest must be in the possession of the Procurement Division within three (3) working days of the Notice of Recommended Award mailing date. All proposers who submitted a proposal will be sent a Notice of Recommended Award, unless only one proposal was received.

A copy of the protest procedures may be obtained from the Polk County Procurement Division or can be downloaded from the County's website at <https://www.polk-county.net/procurement/protest-procedures>.

**FAILURE TO FOLLOW PROTEST PROCEDURE REQUIREMENTS WITHIN THE TIME FRAMES PRESCRIBED HEREIN AS ESTABLISHED BY POLK COUNTY, FLORIDA, SHALL CONSTITUTE A WAIVER OF THE PROPOSER'S RIGHT TO PROTEST AND ANY RESULTING CLAIM.**

**UNAUTHORIZED ALIEN(S)** The Consultant agrees that unauthorized aliens shall not be employed nor utilized in the performance of the requirements of this solicitation. The County shall consider the employment or utilization of unauthorized aliens a violation of Section 274A(e) of the Immigration and Naturalization Act (8 U.S.C. 1324a). Such violation shall be cause for unilateral termination of this Agreement by the County. As part of the response to this solicitation, the successful consultant will complete and submit the form "AFFIDAVIT CERTIFICATION IMMIGRATION LAWS."

**EMPLOYMENT ELIGIBILITY VERIFICATION (E-Verify)**

A. Unless otherwise defined herein, terms used in this Section which are defined in Section 448.095, Florida Statutes, as may be amended from time to time, shall have the meaning ascribed in said statute.

B. Pursuant to Section 448.095(5), Florida Statutes, the contractor hereto, and any subcontractor thereof, must register with and use the E-Verify system to verify the work authorization status of all new employees of the contractor or subcontractor. The contractor acknowledges and agrees that (i) the County and the contractor may not enter into this Agreement, and the contractor may not enter into any subcontracts hereunder, unless each party to this Agreement, and each party to any subcontracts hereunder, registers with and uses the E-Verify system; and (ii) use of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's E-Verify System and compliance with all other terms of this Certification and Section 448.095, Fla. Stat., is an express condition of this Agreement, and the County may treat a failure to comply as a material breach of this Agreement.

C. By entering into this Agreement, the contractor becomes obligated to comply with the provisions of Section 448.095, Fla. Stat., "Employment Eligibility," as amended from time to time. This includes but is not limited to utilization of the E-Verify System to verify the work authorization status of all newly hired employees, and requiring all subcontractors to provide an affidavit attesting that the subcontractor does not employ, contract with, or subcontract with, an unauthorized alien. The contractor shall maintain a copy of such affidavit for the duration of this Agreement. Failure to comply will lead to termination of this Agreement, or if a subcontractor knowingly

violates the statute or Section 448.09(1), Fla. Stat., the subcontract must be terminated immediately. If this Agreement is terminated pursuant to Section 448.095, Fla. Stat., such termination is not a breach of contract and may not be considered as such. Any challenge to termination under this provision must be filed in the Tenth Judicial Circuit Court of Florida no later than 20 calendar days after the date of termination. If this Agreement is terminated for a violation of Section 448.095, Fla. Stat., by the contractor, the contractor may not be awarded a public contract for a period of 1 year after the date of termination. The contractor shall be liable for any additional costs incurred by the County as a result of the termination of this Agreement. Nothing in this Section shall be construed to allow intentional discrimination of any class protected by law.

## **LIMITATIONS**

This request does not commit Polk County to award a contract. Proposers will assume all costs incurred in the preparation of their response to this RFP. The County reserves the right to: 1) accept or reject qualifications and/or proposals in part or in whole; 2) request additional qualification information; 3) limit and determine the actual contract services to be included in a contract; 4) obtain information for use in evaluating submittals from any source and 5) reject all submittals.

**ATTORNEY'S FEES AND COSTS:** Each party shall be responsible for its own legal and attorney's fees, costs and expenses incurred in connection with any dispute or any litigation arising out of, or relating to this Agreement, including attorney's fees, costs and expenses incurred for any appellate or bankruptcy proceedings.

**Prohibition Against Considering Vendor Interests:** In accordance with Section 287.05701, Florida Statutes, the County may not (i) request documentation of or consider a Vendor's social, political, or ideological interests when determining if the Vendor is a responsible vendor; or (ii) give preference to a Vendor based on the Vendor's social, political, or ideological interests.

## **PUBLIC RECORD LAWS**

(a) The Consultant acknowledges the County's obligations under Article I, Section 24, of the Florida Constitution and under Chapter 119, Florida Statutes, to release public records to members of the public upon request and comply in the handling of the materials created under this Agreement. The Consultant further acknowledges that the constitutional and statutory provisions control over the terms of this Agreement. In association with its performance pursuant to this Agreement, the Consultant shall not release or otherwise disclose the content of any documents or information that is specifically exempt from disclosure pursuant to all applicable laws.

(b) Without in any manner limiting the generality of the foregoing, to the extent applicable, the Consultant acknowledges its obligations to comply with Section 119.0701, Florida Statutes, with regard to public records, and shall:

(1) keep and maintain public records required by the County to perform the services required under this Agreement;

(2) upon request from the County's Custodian of Public Records or his/her designee, provide the County with a copy of the requested records or allow the records to be inspected or copied within a reasonable time at a cost that does not exceed the cost provided in Chapter 119, Florida Statutes, or as otherwise provided by law;

(3) ensure that public records that are exempt or confidential and exempt from public records disclosure requirements are not disclosed except as authorized by law for the duration of the term of this Agreement and following completion of this Agreement if the Consultant does not transfer the records to the County; and

(4) upon completion of this Agreement, transfer, at no cost, to the County all public records in possession of the Consultant or keep and maintain public records required by the County to perform the service. If the Consultant transfers all public records to the County upon completion of this Agreement, the Consultant shall destroy any duplicate public records that are exempt or confidential and exempt from public records disclosure requirements. If the Consultant keeps and maintains public records upon completion of this Agreement, the Consultant shall meet all applicable requirements for retaining public records. All records stored electronically must be provided to the County, upon request from the County's Custodian of Public Records, in a format that is compatible with the information technology systems of the County.

**(c) IF THE CONSULTANT HAS QUESTIONS REGARDING THE APPLICATION OF CHAPTER 119, FLORIDA STATUTES, TO THE CONSULTANT'S DUTY TO PROVIDE PUBLIC RECORDS RELATING TO THIS AGREEMENT, CONTACT THE COUNTY'S CUSTODIAN OF PUBLIC RECORDS AT:**

**RECORDS MANAGEMENT LIAISON OFFICER**

**POLK COUNTY**

**330 WEST CHURCH ST**

**BARTOW, FL 33830**

**TELEPHONE: (863) 534-7670**

**EMAIL: RMLO@POLK-COUNTY.NET**

**Scrutinized Companies and Business Operations Certification; Termination.**

**A. Certification(s).**

- i. By its execution of this Agreement, the Vendor hereby certifies to the County that the Vendor is not on the Scrutinized Companies that Boycott Israel List, created pursuant to Section 215.4725, Florida Statutes, nor is the Vendor engaged in a boycott of Israel, nor was the Vendor on such List or engaged in such a boycott at the time it submitted its bid, proposal, quote, or other form of offer, as applicable, to the County with respect to this Agreement.
- ii. Additionally, if the value of the goods or services acquired under this Agreement are greater than or equal to One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000), then the Vendor further certifies to the County as follows:

- a) the Vendor is not on the Scrutinized Companies with Activities in Sudan List, created pursuant to Section 215.473, Florida Statutes; and
  - b) the Vendor is not on the Scrutinized Companies with Activities in the Iran Petroleum Energy Sector List, created pursuant to Section 215.473, Florida Statutes; and
  - c) the Vendor is not engaged in business operations (as that term is defined in Florida Statutes, Section 287.135) in Cuba or Syria; and
  - d) the Vendor was not on any of the Lists referenced in this subsection A(ii), nor engaged in business operations in Cuba or Syria when it submitted its proposal to the County concerning the subject of this Agreement.
- iii. The Vendor hereby acknowledges that it is fully aware of the penalties that may be imposed upon the Vendor for submitting a false certification to the County regarding the foregoing matters.
- B. Termination. In addition to any other termination rights stated herein, the County may immediately terminate this Agreement upon the occurrence of any of the following events:
- i. The Vendor is found to have submitted a false certification to the County with respect to any of the matters set forth in subsection A(i) above, or the Vendor is found to have been placed on the Scrutinized Companies that Boycott Israel List or is engaged in a boycott of Israel.
  - ii. The Vendor is found to have submitted a false certification to the County with respect to any of the matters set forth in subsection A(ii) above, or the Vendor is found to have been placed on the Scrutinized Companies with Activities in Sudan List, or the Scrutinized Companies with Activities in the Iran Petroleum Energy Sector List, or has been engaged in business operations in Cuba or Syria, and the value of the goods or services acquired under this Agreement are greater than or equal to One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000).

## Proposers Incorporation Information

(Submittal Page)

The following section should be completed by all bidders and submitted with their bid submittal:

Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_

DBA/Fictitious Name (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

TIN #: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

County: \_\_\_\_\_

Note: Company name must match legal name assigned to the TIN number. A current W9 should be submitted with your bid submittal.

Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Organization (select one type)

- Sole Proprietorship
- Partnership
- Non-Profit
- Sub Chapter
- Joint Venture
- Corporation
- LLC
- LLP
- Publicly Traded
- Employee Owned

State of Incorporation: \_\_\_\_\_

The Successful vendor must complete and submit this form prior to award. The Successful vendor must invoice using the company name listed above.

# EXHIBIT 1

## DETAILED INSTRUCTIONS ON HOW TO PREPARE AND SEND PERFORMANCE SURVEYS

The objective of this process is to identify the past performance of the Consultant submitting a proposal package. This is accomplished by sending survey forms to past customers. The customers should return the forms directly to the Consultant. The Consultant is to include all surveys in their proposal package.

### **Sending the Survey**

The surveys shall be sent to all clients for whom the Consultant has identified under Tab 3. Surveys should correlate to all projects identified under Tab 3.

If more surveys are included, then Procurement will only use those identified under Tab 3.

1. The Consultant shall complete the following information for each customer that a survey will be sent

CLIENT NAME	Name of the company that the work was performed for (i.e. Hillsborough County).
FIRST NAME	First name of the person who will answer customer satisfaction questions.
LAST NAME	Last name of the person who will answer customer satisfaction questions.
PHONE NUMBER	Current phone number for the reference (including area code).
EMAIL ADDRESS	Current email address for the reference.
PROJECT NAME	Name of the project (Professional Engineering Services for Hillsborough County Fire Station), Etc.
COST OF SERVICES	Cost of services (\$3,000,000)
DATE COMPLETE	Date when the services were completed. (i.e. 5/31/2022)

2. The Consultant is responsible for verifying that their information is accurate prior to submission for references.

3. The survey must contain different services/projects. You cannot have multiple people evaluating the same job. However, one person may evaluate several different jobs.

4. The past projects can be either completed or on-going.

5. The past client/owner must evaluate and complete the survey.

## **Preparing the Surveys**

1. The Consultant is responsible for sending out a performance survey to the clients that have been identified under Tab 3. The survey can be found on the next page.
2. The Consultant should enter the past clients' contact information, and project information on each survey form for each reference. The Consultant should also enter their name as the Consultant being surveyed.
3. The Consultant is responsible for ensuring all references/surveys are included in their submittal under Tab 7.
4. Polk County Procurement may contact the reference for additional information or to clarify survey data. If the reference cannot be contacted, there will be no credit given for that reference.

**Survey Questionnaire – Polk County**  
**RFP 26-251, Solid Waste Professional Engineering Services**

To: \_\_\_\_\_ (Name of Person completing survey)  
 \_\_\_\_\_ (Name of Client Company/Consultant)  
 Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Subject: Past Performance Survey of Similar work:  
 Project name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name of Vendor being surveyed: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Cost of Services: Original Cost: \_\_\_\_\_ Ending Cost: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Contract Start Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Contract End Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Rate each of the criteria on a scale of 1 to 10, with 10 representing that you were very satisfied (and would hire the Consultant /individual again) and 1 representing that you were very unsatisfied (and would never hire the Consultant /individual again). Please rate each of the criteria to the best of your knowledge. If you do not have sufficient knowledge of past performance in a particular area, leave it blank.**

NO	CRITERIA	UNIT	SCORE
1	Ability to manage cost	(1-10)	
2	Ability to maintain project schedule (complete on time/early)	(1-10)	
3	Quality of workmanship	(1-10)	
4	Professionalism and ability to manage	(1-10)	
5	Close out process	(1-10)	
6	Ability to communicate with Client's staff	(1-10)	
7	Ability to resolve issues promptly	(1-10)	
8	Ability to follow protocol	(1-10)	
9	Ability to maintain proper documentation	(1-10)	
10	Appropriate application of technology	(1-10)	
11	Overall Client satisfaction and comfort level in hiring	(1-10)	
12	Ability to offer solid recommendations	(1-10)	
13	Ability to facilitate consensus and commitment to the plan of action among staff	(1-10)	

Printed Name of Evaluator \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Evaluator: \_\_\_\_\_

Please fax or email the completed survey to: \_\_\_\_\_

**AFFIDAVIT CERTIFICATION IMMIGRATION LAWS**

SOLICITATION NO.: RFP 26-251, Solid Waste Professional Engineering Services

POLK COUNTY WILL NOT INTENTIONALLY AWARD COUNTY CONTRACTS TO ANY CONSULTANT WHO KNOWINGLY EMPLOYS UNAUTHORIZED ALIEN WORKERS, CONSTITUTING A VIOLATION OF THE EMPLOYMENT PROVISIONS CONTAINED IN 8 U.S.C. SECTION 1324 a(e) {SECTION 274A(e) OF THE IMMIGRATION AND NATIONALITY ACT ("INA").

POLK COUNTY MAY CONSIDER THE EMPLOYMENT BY ANY CONSULTANT OF UNAUTHORIZED ALIENS A VIOLATION OF SECTION 274A(e) OF THE INA. SUCH VIOLATION BY THE RECIPIENT OF THE EMPLOYMENT PROVISIONS CONTAINED IN SECTION 274A(e) OF THE INA SHALL BE GROUNDS FOR UNILATERAL CANCELLATION OF THE CONTRACT BY POLK COUNTY.

BIDDER ATTESTS THAT THEY ARE FULLY COMPLIANT WITH ALL APPLICABLE IMMIGRATION LAWS (SPECIFICALLY TO THE 1986 IMMIGRATION ACT AND SUBSEQUENT AMENDMENTS).

Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

State of: \_\_\_\_\_

County of: \_\_\_\_\_

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me by means of  physical presence or  online notarization, this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_, by \_\_\_\_\_ (name) as \_\_\_\_\_ (title of officer) of \_\_\_\_\_ (entity name), on behalf of the company, who  is personally known to me or  has produced \_\_\_\_\_ as identification.

Notary Public Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name of Notary Public: \_\_\_\_\_

Notary Commission Number and Expiration: \_\_\_\_\_

(AFFIX NOTARY SEAL)

**EMPLOYMENT ELIGIBILITY VERIFICATION (E-VERIFY) CERTIFICATION**

(Florida Statutes, Section 448.095)

PROJECT NAME: RFP 26-251, Solid Waste Professional Engineering Services

The undersigned, as an authorized officer of the contractor identified below (the “Contractor”), having full knowledge of the statements contained herein, hereby certifies to Polk County, a political subdivision of the State of Florida (the “County”), by and on behalf of the Contractor in accordance with the requirements of Section 448.095, Florida Statutes, as related to the contract entered into by and between the Contractor and the County on or about the date hereof, whereby the Contractor will provide labor, supplies, or services to the County in exchange for salary, wages, or other remuneration (the “Contract”), as follows:

1. Unless otherwise defined herein, terms used in this Certification which are defined in Section 448.095, Florida Statutes, as may be amended from time to time, shall have the meaning ascribed in said statute.

2. Pursuant to Section 448.095(5), Florida Statutes, the Contractor, and any subcontractor under the Contract, must register with and use the E-Verify system to verify the work authorization status of all new employees of the Contractor or subcontractor. The Contractor acknowledges and agrees that (i) the County and the Contractor may not enter into the Contract, and the Contractor may not enter into any subcontracts thereunder, unless each party to the Contract, and each party to any subcontracts thereunder, registers with and uses the E-Verify system; and (ii) use of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security’s E-Verify System and compliance with all other terms of this Certification and Section 448.095, Fla. Stat., is an express condition of the Contract, and the County may treat a failure to comply as a material breach of the Contract.

3. By entering into the Contract, the Contractor becomes obligated to comply with the provisions of Section 448.095, Fla. Stat., "Employment Eligibility," as amended from time to time. This includes but is not limited to utilization of the E-Verify System to verify the work authorization status of all newly hired employees, and requiring all subcontractors to provide an affidavit attesting that the subcontractor does not employ, contract with, or subcontract with, an unauthorized alien. The Contractor shall maintain a copy of such affidavit for the duration of the Contract. Failure to comply will lead to termination of the Contract, or if a subcontractor knowingly violates the statute or Section 448.09(1), Fla. Stat., the subcontract must be terminated immediately. If the Contract is terminated pursuant to Section 448.095, Fla. Stat., such termination is not a breach of contract and may not be considered as such. Any challenge to termination under this provision must be filed in the Tenth Judicial Circuit Court of Florida no later than 20 calendar days after the date of termination. If the Contract is terminated for a violation of Section 448.095, Fla. Stat., by the Contractor, the Contractor may not be awarded a public contract for a period of 1 year after the date of termination. The Contractor shall be liable for any additional costs incurred by the County as a result of the termination of the Contract. Nothing in this Certification shall be construed to allow intentional discrimination of any class protected by law.

Executed this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_.

**ATTEST:**

**CONTRACTOR:**

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
PRINTED NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
Its: \_\_\_\_\_

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
PRINTED NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
Its: \_\_\_\_\_