



8933 Interchange
Houston, Texas 77054
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**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP) 17-02
CONSTRUCTION MATERIAL TESTING SERVICES**

Harris County Housing Authority (“HCHA”) hereby solicits proposals from qualified construction material testing firms to provide all necessary and associated materials testing toward the completion of the development of Fenix Estates, a multi-family affordable housing community located at 3815 Gulf Freeway, Houston, TX 77003.

CONTACT PERSON: Samson Babalola, Harris County Housing Authority
samson.babalola@hchatexas.org

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: Thursday, April 13th @ 2PM CST

RFP# 17-02 will be posted on **Thursday, March 30th, 2017** and can be downloaded from HCHA's website www.hchatexas.org.

Prospective offerors desiring any explanations or interpretations of this solicitation must make a request in writing no later than **Friday, April 7th, 2017**. The request must be emailed to Samson Babalola at samson.babalola@hchatexas.org. All amendment(s) to this solicitation, if issued, will be posted on HCHA's website www.hchatexas.org. Responses to this RFP must be received no later than **Thursday, April 13th at 2PM CST**.

To access the set of drawings for the project go to the following link:

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/6uxiyodusum37o8/AADqDZYEnbcVfEyPWsqIrl-3Ua?dl=0>

Responses (1 original and 3 copies) must be enclosed in a sealed envelope and labeled as follows:

*Construction Material Testing Services for Fenix Estates
RFP # 17-02
Due Date & Time: Thursday, April 13th, 2017, 2:00 P.M. (CST)
Name of Company/Firm*

RFP submissions must be addressed to:
Samson Babalola
Harris County Housing Authority
8933 Interchange Drive, Houston, Texas 77054

HCHA reserves the right to reject any and all proposals.

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PART I — GENERAL INFORMATION

1.1 HCHA's Activities

Harris County Housing Authority (“HCHA”) is currently governed by the Housing Authorities Law, codified in the Texas Local Government Code. It is a unit of government and its functions are essential governmental functions. It operates and manages its housing developments to provide decent, safe, sanitary and affordable housing to low income families, the elderly, and the disabled, and implements various programs designed and funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (“HUD”). HCHA is a Public Housing Agency. The property of HCHA is used for essential public and governmental purposes. HCHA and its property are exempt from all taxes, including sales tax on all its purchases of supplies and services. HCHA enters into and executes contracts and other instruments that are necessary and convenient for the exercise of its powers. HCHA maintains contractual arrangements with HUD to manage and operate its Affordable Housing Development Program and administers the Housing Choice Voucher (HCV or Section 8) Program. HCHA programs are privately and federally funded. HCHA revenue is received from federal funds, administrative fees, development grants and rental income. HCHA, in partnership with the private sector, developed eight affordable housing developments. HCHA currently employs 35 regular full time staff, owns and manages over 1,038 affordable housing units and administers rental assistance for 3906 privately owned rental units through the Section 8 HCV programs. Total HCHA operating and development budget for the fiscal year 2016 is approximately \$4.6 million.

1.2 Introductions

In compliance with 24 CFR 85.36, Harris County Housing Authority (HCHA) hereby request proposals from qualified professional consulting firms to provide Construction Materials Testing Services.

1.3 Method of Solicitation

HCHA is soliciting competitive proposals from qualified persons or firms with a documented track record of providing the required services, preferably for public housing authorities or other agencies through a formal Request for Proposal (RFP) process. Proposals should demonstrate detailed plans on how the Respondent intends to provide the required service in a manner that will result in the successful and timely completion of the services. In addition, the proposal should demonstrate the Respondent's capacity and readiness to perform the Scope of Services immediately upon execution of a contract with HCHA. Finally, the proposal should include evidence of the Respondent's previous experience and qualifications relative to the provision of such services.

1.4 Obtain Copies of this Solicitation

RFP #17-02 will be posted on and can be downloaded from HCHA's website www.hchatexas.org, beginning March 30th, 2017.

PART II — SUPPLEMENTAL INSTRUCTIONS TO RESPONDENTS

2.1 Submission of Proposals

An original and three (3) copies (a total of 4) of the complete submission package must be received by the HCHA, Attn: Samson Babalola, Director of Real Estate by 2:00 P.M. on April 13th, 2017. The original and all copies of the submission package must be submitted in a sealed envelope and addressed to Samson Babalola, Director of Real Estate, Harris County Housing Authority, 8933 Interchange, Houston, Texas 77054. On the outside of the envelope should be the Respondent's name and address, phone number, the due date of April 13th, 2017 and the RFP title **Construction Material Testing Services RFP 17-02**. The submission package must be signed by an officer of the Respondent who is legally authorized to enter into a contractual relationship in the name of the Respondent. In the absence of a corporate seal, the submission package must be notarized by a Notary Public. HCHA will render its decision on or about April 19th, 2017.

2.2 Withdrawal of Proposal

Mistakes in Proposals: If a mistake in a proposal is suspected or alleged, the proposal may be corrected or withdrawn during any negotiations that are held. If negotiations are not held, or if best and final offers have been received, the Respondent may be permitted to correct a mistake in its proposal and the intended correct offer may be considered based on the conditions that follow:

- The mistake and the intended correct offer are clearly evident on the face of the proposal.
- The Respondent submits written evidence that clearly and convincingly demonstrates both the existing offer and such correction would not be contrary to the fair and equal treatment of other Respondents.
- Mistakes after award shall not be corrected unless HCHA's General Counsel makes a written determination that it would be disadvantageous to HCHA not to allow the mistake to be corrected. The approval or disapproval of requests of this nature shall be in writing by HCHA's General Counsel.

2.3 Conflict of Interest

Conflict of Interest The development team warrants that to the best of its knowledge and belief and except as otherwise disclosed, it does not have any organizational conflict of interest. Conflict of interest is defined as a situation in which the nature of work under this contract and the Respondent's organizational, financial, contractual or other interests are such that:

- Award of the contract may result in an unfair competitive advantage.
- The Respondent's objectivity in performing the contract work may be impaired. In the event the Respondent has an organizational conflict of interest as defined herein, the Respondent shall disclose such conflict of interest fully in the proposal submission.
- The Respondent agrees that if after award he or she discovers an organizational conflict of interest with respect to this contract, he or she shall make an immediate and full disclosure in writing to the Director of Real Estate which shall include a description of the action which the Respondent has taken or intends to take to eliminate or neutralize the conflict. HCHA may, however, terminate the contract if it is in its best interest.

- In the event the Respondent was aware of an organizational conflict of interest before the award of this contract and intentionally did not disclose the conflict to the Director of Real Estate, HCHA may terminate the contract for default.
- The provisions of this clause shall be included in all subcontracts and consulting agreements wherein the work to be performed is similar to the service provided by the Respondent. The Respondent shall include in such subcontracts and consulting agreements any necessary provisions to eliminate or neutralize conflicts of interest.
- No member of or delegate to the U.S. Congress or Commissioner shall be allowed to any share or part of this contract or to any benefit to arise. This provision shall be construed to extend to this contract if made with a corporation for its general benefit.
- No member, officer, or employee of HCHA, no member of the governing body of the locality in which the project is situated, no member of the governing body in which the HCHA was activate, and no other public official of such locality or localities who exercises any functions or responsibilities with respect to the project, shall, during his or her tenure, or for one year thereafter, have any interest, direct or indirect, in this contract or the proceeds thereof.
- HCHA reserves total discretion to determine the proper treatment of any conflict of interest disclosed under this provision.

2.4 Incurred Costs in Preparing Proposals

Respondent will be responsible for all costs incurred in preparing a response to this RFP. All material and documents submitted by prospective respondent will become the property of HCHA and will not be returned. Any consultant selected for further negotiations, as well as a consultant ultimately selected to enter into a contractual agreement with HCHA, will be responsible for all costs incurred by it during negotiations.

2.5 Contract Award

A contract shall be awarded in accordance with the terms and conditions of this RFP to the one or more Respondent(s) whose proposal(s) are most advantageous to HCHA considering price, technical and other factors as specified in this RFP. HCHA reserves the right to negotiate and award any element of this RFP, to reject any or all proposals or to waive any minor irregularities or technicalities in proposals received as the best interest of HCHA may require.

2.6 Reserved.

2.7 Addendum and Update Procedures for the RFP

During the period of advertisement for this RFP, HCHA may wish to amend, add to, or delete from, the contents of this RFP. In such situations, HCHA will issue an addendum to the RFP setting forth the nature of the modification(s). HCHA will post any addendum issued in relationship to this RFP on its website. Interested parties may download the addendum(s) from the HCHA's website at www.hchatexas.org. It shall be the responsibility of each Respondent to periodically check for and insure they have any/all additional addenda relative to this RFP.

2.8 Insurance

All forms that require a signature or initials must bear an original initial or signature. Offerors shall enforce and maintain throughout the term of the contract:

- Comprehensive General Liability Limits: \$1,000,000 combined single limit with HCHA named as additional insured
- Workers Compensation, as required by applicable law
- Automobile Liability Limits - \$1,000,000

2.9 Acceptance of Proposal

Proposals must be signed, sealed, and received in completed form by HCHA, no later than the proposal closing date and time. Proposals submitted after the designated closing date and time will not be accepted for any reason, and will be returned unopened to the originator.

HCHA reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals, to take exception to these RFP specifications or to waive any formalities. Respondents may be excluded from further considerations for failure to comply with the specifications of this RFP.

HCHA also reserves the right to reject the proposal of Respondents, who have previously failed to perform properly or to complete on time; a contract of similar nature or that is not in a position to perform the contract. Alternatively, who habitually without just cause neglected the payment of bills or disregarded its obligations to subcontractors, providers of materials, or employees.

2.10 Time for Reviewing Proposals

Proposals received prior to the closing date and time will be securely kept, unopened. No proposals received after the closing date and time will be considered. All proposals properly received will be evaluated by HCHA's Evaluation Committee appointed by the Director of Real Estate. The Evaluation Committee will analyze proposals and make a recommendation(s), to award or not to award a contract(s), to HCHA's Director of Real Estate and Board of Commissioners. It is anticipated that a decision will be rendered on or about April 19th, 2017.

2.11 Project Participation Clearance

The Respondents and all subcontractors' names or businesses must be cleared to participate in the Project through a search of the System of Award Management (SAM) and Office of Foreign Asset Control (OFAC) data bases.

2.12 Certification of Legal Entity

Prior to execution of the contract agreement, the Respondent shall certify that joint ventures, partnerships, team agreements, new corporations, or other entities that either exist or will be formally structured are, or will be, legal and binding under Texas State Law.

2.13 Best available Data

All information contained in this RFP is the best data available to HCHA at the time of the RFP was prepared. The information given in the RFP is not intended as representation having binding legal effect. This information is furnished for the convenience of Respondents and HCHA assume no liability for any errors or omissions.

2.14 Contacts with HCHA Staff, Board Members, and Residents

Beyond the above referenced written communications, Respondents and their representatives may not make any other form of contact with HCHA Staff, Board Members, or Residents. Any improper contact by or on behalf of Respondents may be grounds for disqualification.

2.15 Licenses

The awarded individual/firm shall have and maintain all required/applicable licenses necessary to conduct business throughout Harris County and the State of Texas. All licenses must be kept up to date for the duration of this contract. Copies of all licenses must be in the Procurement/Contract Office prior to contract execution.

2.16 Respondent Responsibilities

Each Respondent is presumed by HCHA to have thoroughly studied this RFP and become familiar with the contents, locations, nature of requests, covered by the RFP. Any failure to understand completely any aspect of this RFP is the responsibility of the Respondent.

2.17 No Claim Against HCHA

The Respondent shall not obtain, by submitting a proposal in response to this RFP, any claim against HCHA or HCHA's property for reason of all or any part of any of the following: the selection process; the rejection of any or all offers; the acceptance of any offer; entering into any agreements or the failure to enter any agreements; any statement, representations, acts or omissions of HCHA or any person or entity acting on its behalf; the exercise of any discretion set forth in or concerning any of the foregoing; and any other matters arising out of the foregoing.

Part III — SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Listed below are the sections that must be included in Respondent's proposal. Each section must be clearly labeled using the bold-faced titles listed below. The required submission must be bound and each section tabbed.

3.1 Company Information

Please furnish a brief history of your company including how long you have been in business, major offices located in Harris County, State of Texas and/or major offices located in the United States.

3.2 Staffing and Qualifications

Provide information regarding staff experience and qualifications that demonstrates the Respondent's capacity to perform the required services. Include an organizational chart that illustrates Respondent's overall staffing approach for completing the required work. Include in the chart all key personnel, specialists, and consultants who will be assigned work under a contract potentially resulting from this RFP.

3.3 Relevant Experience and Past Performance

Identify similar or related work performed for public housing authorities or other agencies that have been completed to date, or is currently active. Include projects completed or currently underway by the responding entity and/or each major participant in the proposal. For each project identified provide the following:

- Project name and address
- Contact person, title, phone number, email, and address
- Detailed description of scope of work
- The client for whom the Respondent's services were performed
- The size of the project
- The services performed by the Respondent on the project
- The dollar value of the contract for the services
- The duration of the project including start and completion dates, or projected completion date if still active.
- A sample report for one of the projects listed within the response
- If the Respondent is a joint venture, or another entity formed solely for responding to this RFP, provide evidence of prior successful collaborations

3.4 References

Provide a list of clients, previous and current. This list must include the name and title of the contact person, with an address, email phone number, and fax number. A minimum of three references are required.

3.5 Respondent's Approach and Response to Scope of Service

- Provide a detailed narrative that demonstrates the approach intended for use by the Respondent.
- The Respondent should outline its anticipated approach for each element of work identified in the Scope of Services.
- The approach outlined should be consistent with the objectives and requirements set forth in the RFP, and should address how services will be immediately provided upon execution of a contract.
- Provide a narrative and bar graph type schedule indicating on how the work will proceed under the contract.

3.6 Proposal Cost

Respondents shall provide a proposed total cost along with a detailed itemized breakdown of total cost. Please show all expected expenditure, total cost must be all-inclusive.

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3.7 Required Certifications/Forms

Each proposal shall contain a copy of the following HUD forms, which may be downloaded from the HUD's web site: www.hud.gov.

- Form HUD SF-LLL Disclosure of Lobbying Activities
- Form HUD 50070 Certification for a Drug-Free Workplace
- Form HUD 50071 Certification of Payments to Influence Federal Transactions

In addition each proposal shall contain a copy of the following forms:

- EXHIBIT A: Conflict of Interest Questionnaire
- EXHIBIT B: M/WBE Participation
- EXHIBIT C: Affirmative Action for Handicapped Workers
- EXHIBIT D: Instructions to Offerors
- EXHIBIT E: Certifications and Representations of Offerors
- EXHIBIT F: Form of Non-Collusive Affidavit

Proposals should be written in a concise, straightforward and forth right manner. Superficial marketing statements and materials should be avoided.

3.8 Order of Submission

Please tab and submit documents/information in the following order:

- Company Information
- Staffing and Qualifications
- Relevant Experience and Past Performance
- Approach and Response to Scope of Service
- Three references (previous or current clients) include the name and title of the contact person, with an address, email, phone number
- Proposal Cost

Required HUD Forms:

- Instructions to Offerors -Non Construction Contracts (Form HUD 5369-B)
- Certifications and Representations of Offerors - Non-Construction Contracts (Form HUD 5369C)
- Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (form HUD SF-LLL)
- Certification for a Drug-Free Workplace (form HUD 50070)
- Certification of Payments to Influence Federal Transactions (form HUD 50071)
- EXHIBIT A: Conflict of Interest Questionnaire
- EXHIBIT B: M/WBE Participation
- EXHIBIT C: Affirmative Action for Handicapped Workers
- EXHIBIT D: Instructions to Offerors
- EXHIBIT E: Certifications and Representations of Offerors
- EXHIBIT F: Form of Non-Collusive Affidavit

The proposal should include a statement that the proposal constitutes a firm offer of pricing, which may be accepted at any time within one hundred-eighty (180) days from and after the date of proposal opening. In addition the name, address and telephone number of the person to answer questions or provide clarification concerning the offeror's proposal.

PART IV - SCOPE OF SERVICES

Fenix Estates, a multifamily affordable housing development, includes 200 units (0-bdr and 1-bdr) units to maybe developed in two phases. Phase I will consist of 110 units and Phase 2 will consist of 90 units located within three buildings. The project is located at 3815 Gulf Freeway, Houston, Texas 77003.

The architect/designer of record is Smith & Company Architects, Inc.

To access the set of drawings for the project go to the following link:

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/6uxiyodusum37o8/AADqDZYEnbcVfEyPWsqI-r-3Ua?dl=0>

Fenix Material Testing			
Description	Estimated Quantity	Unit Price	Total
1. Site Preparation, Filling, Backfilling	76 (hours)		
2. Utilities	164 (hours)		
3. Mechanical Soil Stabilization	36 hours		
4. Drilled Shaft Installation Monitoring	350 hours		
5. Concrete Testing	134 hours		
6. Mortar & Grout	8 hours		
7. Steel Reinforcement Monitoring	48 hours		

Please note that these are the minimum tests required for the project. Additional testing can be proposed if required or beneficial to the owner. A detailed list of testing requirements is included as EXHIBIT I

Testing and analysis for soil materials will be performed in accordance with ASTM C 131, ASTM D 698, ASTM D 4318, Tex-101-E under provision of Section 01454 Testing Laboratory Services

Reports should include but are not limited to the following:

- All testing reports must be signed and dated by a certified tester.
- Recommendations of corrections must be issued by a licensed professional structural/civil engineer registered in the State of Texas.

Contract Terms: The term of the contract is tied to the duration of construction which is expected to be approximately 72 weeks.

The units will be utilized to adjust the contract amount pursuant to actual quantities of tests taken.

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PART V - PROCUREMENT PROCESS

5.1 Proposal Evaluation/Contract Award

The evaluation process will be used to determine the firm that will be awarded the contract.

- During the evaluation process, technical proposals will be evaluated and scored by an evaluation committee appointed by the Director of Real Estate.
- Each member of the selection committee will score each proposal.
- Scoring will be based on predetermined Evaluation Criteria. The available
- Points associated with each area of consideration are shown below in Item 5.2.
- The results of the evaluation of both technical and cost proposals will be used to determine those proposals to be considered in the competitive range.
- Proposals will be considered acceptable if they have a minimum score of 70 points or above.
- Cost proposals will be considered acceptable if the proposed cost is clearly not excessive compared to the proposed costs of other Respondents with acceptable technical proposals.
- Respondents with acceptable technical and cost proposals may be requested to supply additional information to assist in completing the due diligence review. Failure to satisfactorily complete the due diligence review within the timeframe established by HCHA will result in disqualification of Respondents proposal.

Scoring will be based upon how well the proposal meets the criteria established in the RFP.

HCHA reserves the right to make no award, or decline to enter negotiations should it believe that no Respondent to this RFP would be capable of delivering the necessary level of service within an acceptable price range and/or the time period.

The Evaluation Committee will evaluate the merits of proposals received in accordance with the evaluation factors stated in the RFP and formulate a recommendation. However, while a numerical rating system may be used to assist the Evaluation Committee in selecting the competitive range (if necessary) and making an award recommendation decision, the award decision is ultimately a business decision that will reflect an integrated assessment of the relative merits of the proposal using the factors and their relative weights disclosed in the RFP. Furthermore, HCHA may from time to time hold interview sessions with selected respondent to further evaluate their abilities to execute the scope of services to be performed.

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5.2 Evaluation Criteria

Organizational Capacity

30 Points

- Respondent's organizational capacity will be evaluated through an assessment of the Respondent's staff, specialists', and consultants' experience and qualifications. In addition, the Respondent's ability to perform the work in a timely manner will be evaluated through a review of previous performance on similar projects, as well as current and projected capacity and workload.
- Maximum consideration will be given to those Respondents having staff with the greatest amount of experience in performing work as required herein, and who can demonstrate sufficient capacity to perform the work timely given current and projected workload.

Relevant Experience and Past Performance

25 Points

- Relevant experience and past performance will be evaluated through an assessment of previous, similarly related projects completed to date.
- Maximum consideration will be given to those Respondents, who demonstrate through their submittal, a documented track record of successfully completing projects of the same type required by this RFP.
- Maximum consideration will also be given to those Respondents who exhibit a successful track record of performing similar services for public housing authorities.

Respondent's Approach and Response to Scope of Service

25 Points

- The Respondent's approach and response to the Scope of Service will be evaluated through an assessment of the proposed approach for each element of work identified in the Scope of Service.
- Maximum consideration will be given to those Respondents, who demonstrate through their submittal, a clear and prudent plan for performing the required work within the established timeframe.

Proposal Cost

20 Points

- Provide hourly rate breakdown of all key staff that would be assigned to the project. Include any subcontracting arrangements and identify any reimbursable expenses.
- Maximum consideration will be given to those Respondents, who demonstrate through their submittals, the ability to perform the required work at minimum cost to HCHA.

Total Possible Points

100 Points

EXHIBIT A
Conflict of Interest Questionnaire

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

CONFLICT OF INTEREST QUESTIONNAIRE
For vendor doing business with local governmental entity

A complete copy of Chapter 176 of the Local Government Code may be found at <http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/Docs/LG/htm/LG.176.htm>. For easy reference, below are some of the sections cited on this form.

Local Government Code § 176.001(1-a): "Business relationship" means a connection between two or more parties based on commercial activity of one of the parties. The term does not include a connection based on:

- (A) a transaction that is subject to rate or fee regulation by a federal, state, or local governmental entity or an agency of a federal, state, or local governmental entity;
- (B) a transaction conducted at a price and subject to terms available to the public; or
- (C) a purchase or lease of goods or services from a person that is chartered by a state or federal agency and that is subject to regular examination by, and reporting to, that agency.

Local Government Code § 176.003(a)(2)(A) and (B):

(a) A local government officer shall file a conflicts disclosure statement with respect to a vendor if:

(2) the vendor:

(A) has an employment or other business relationship with the local government officer or a family member of the officer that results in the officer or family member receiving taxable income, other than investment income, that exceeds \$2,500 during the 12-month period preceding the date that the officer becomes aware that

(i) a contract between the local governmental entity and vendor has been executed;

or

(ii) the local governmental entity is considering entering into a contract with the vendor;

(B) has given to the local government officer or a family member of the officer one or more gifts that have an aggregate value of more than \$100 in the 12-month period preceding the date the officer becomes aware that:

(i) a contract between the local governmental entity and vendor has been executed; or

(ii) the local governmental entity is considering entering into a contract with the vendor.

Local Government Code § 176.006(a) and (a-1)

(a) A vendor shall file a completed conflict of interest questionnaire if the vendor has a business relationship with a local governmental entity and:

(1) has an employment or other business relationship with a local government officer of that local governmental entity, or a family member of the officer, described by Section 176.003(a)(2)(A);

(2) has given a local government officer of that local governmental entity, or a family member of the officer, one or more gifts with the aggregate value specified by Section 176.003(a)(2)(B), excluding any gift described by Section 176.003(a-1); or

(3) has a family relationship with a local government officer of that local governmental entity.

(a-1) The completed conflict of interest questionnaire must be filed with the appropriate records administrator not later than the seventh business day after the later of:

(1) the date that the vendor:

(A) begins discussions or negotiations to enter into a contract with the local governmental entity; or

(B) submits to the local governmental entity an application, response to a request for proposals or bids, correspondence, or another writing related to a potential contract with the local governmental entity; or

(2) the date the vendor becomes aware:

(A) of an employment or other business relationship with a local government officer, or a family member of the officer, described by Subsection (a);

(B) that the vendor has given one or more gifts described by Subsection (a); or

(C) of a family relationship with a local government officer.

EXHIBIT B
M/WBE Participation Form

M/WBE PARTIPATION FORM

M/WBE PARTICIPATION: The consultant agrees to make its best efforts to subcontract with minority business enterprises and/or women business enterprises (herein called **M/WBE**) certified as such or recognized by **HCHA** as a certified **M/WBE**. Consultant shall make its best efforts to subcontract a sufficient dollar amount with **M/WBEs** to ensure that a minimum of 30 percent of the final contract dollars are expended on one or more **M/WBEs**. All adjustments that cause the contract price to increase will also increase the total amount that Consultant must make its best efforts to expend on **M/WBEs**.

USING BEST EFFORTS TO FULFILL M/WBE REQUIREMENT: In the event **HCHA** has a reasonable belief that Consultant will not use his/her/its best efforts to meet the 30 percent **M/WBE** participation goal, **HCHA** reserves the right to pull work from the contract. Best efforts may be established by showing that Consultant has contacted and solicited bids/quotes from subcontractors and worked with the **HCHA** to seek assistance in identifying **M/WBEs**.

FAILURE TO USE YOUR BEST EFFORTS TO COMPLY MAY CONSTITUTE BREACH OF CONTRACT AND SUBJECT THE CONTRACT TO TERMINATION.

NOTIFICATION OF M/WBE PARTICIPATION: Consultant agrees to promptly complete and return all **M/WBE** Confirmation of Participation and **M/WBE** Confirmation of Payment forms utilized by **HCHA** to confirm **M/WBE** subcontractor by submitting copies of checks made payable to the respective **M/WBE** subcontractor signed by the Contractor.

CONSULTANT

DATE

**SAMPLE FORMAT FOR RECORDKEEPING
ESTIMATED PROJECT WORK FORCE BREAKDOWN**

M/WBE PARTICIPATION

JOB CATEGORY	TOTAL ESTIMATED POSITIONS NEEDED FOR PROJECT	NO. POSITIONS OCCUPIED BY PERMANENT EMPLOYEES	NUMBER OF POSITIONS NOT OCCUPIED	NUMBER OF POSITIONS TO BE FILLED WITH M/WBE
OFFICER/SUPERVISOR				
PROFESSIONAL				
TECHNICAL				
OFFICE/CLERICAL				
SERVICE WORKERS				
TRAINEES				
CONTRACTS:				
OTHERS				

Company

Project Name

Person Completing Form

Date

EXHIBIT C
AFFIRMATIVE ACTION FOR DISABLED WORKERS

41 CFR 60-741.4

41 CFR 60-250.4

- (a) The Consultant will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of physical or mental handicap in regard to any position for which the employee or applicant for employment is qualified. The Consultant agrees to take affirmative action to employ, advance in employment, and otherwise treat qualified handicapped individuals without discrimination based upon their physical or mental handicap in all employment practices such as the following: employment, upgrading, demotion or transfer, recruitment, advertising, layoff or termination, rates of pay or other forms of compensation, and selection of training, including apprenticeship.
- (b) The Consultant agrees to comply with the rules, regulations, and relevant orders of the Secretary of Labor issued pursuant to the Act.
- (c) In the event of the Consultant's noncompliance with the requirements of this clause, actions for noncompliance may be taken in accordance with the rules, regulations, and relevant orders of the Secretary of Labor issued pursuant to the Act.
- (d) The Consultant agrees to post in conspicuous places, available to employees and applicants for employment, notice in a form to be prescribed by the Chief Development Officer, provided by or through the HCHA. Such notices shall state the Consultant's obligation under the law to take affirmative action to employ and advance in employment qualified handicapped employees and applicants for employment, and the rights of applicants and employees.
- (e) The Consultant will notify each labor union or representative of workers with which it has a collective bargaining agreement or other contract or other understanding, that the Consultant is bound by the terms of Section 503 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and is committed to take affirmative action to employ and advance in employment physically and mentally handicapped individuals.
- (f) The Consultant will include the provisions of this clause in every subcontract or purchase order of \$2,500 or more unless exempted by rules, regulations, or orders of the Secretary issued pursuant to Section 503 of the Act, so that such provisions will be binding upon each subcontract or vendor. The Consultant will take such action with request to any subcontract or purchase orders as the Director of the Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs may direct to enforce such provisions, including action for noncompliance.
- (g) The Consultant will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because he or she is a disabled veteran or veteran of the Vietnam Era in regard to any position for which the employee or applicant for employment is qualified.

The Consultant shall comply with the affirmative action clause prescribe in 41 C.F.R. Section 60-250.4(a) through (m) and the regulations contained in part 60-250.

EXHIBIT D
Instruction To Offerors HUD

Instructions to Offerors Non-Construction

U.S. Department of Housing
and Urban Development
Office of Public and Indian Housing



- 03291 -

1. Preparation of Offers

(a) Offerors are expected to examine the statement of work, the proposed contract terms and conditions, and all instructions. Failure to do so will be at the offeror's risk.

(b) Each offeror shall furnish the information required by the solicitation. The offeror shall sign the offer and print or type its name on the cover sheet and each continuation sheet on which it makes an entry. Erasures or other changes must be initialed by the person signing the offer. Offers signed by an agent shall be accompanied by evidence of that agent's authority, unless that evidence has been previously furnished to the HA.

(c) Offers for services other than those specified will not be considered.

2. Submission of Offers

(a) Offers and modifications thereof shall be submitted in sealed envelopes or packages (1) addressed to the office specified in the solicitation, and (2) showing the time specified for receipt, the solicitation number, and the name and address of the offeror.

(b) Telegraphic offers will not be considered unless authorized by the solicitation; however, offers may be modified by written or telegraphic notice.

(c) Facsimile offers, modifications or withdrawals will not be considered unless authorized by the solicitation.

3. Amendments to Solicitations

(a) If this solicitation is amended, then all terms and conditions which are not modified remain unchanged.

(b) Offerors shall acknowledge receipt of any amendments to this solicitation by

- (1) signing and returning the amendment;
- (2) identifying the amendment number and date in the space provided for this purpose on the form for submitting an offer,
- (3) letter or telegram, or
- (4) facsimile, if facsimile offers are authorized in the solicitation. The HA/HUD must receive the acknowledgment by the time specified for receipt of offers.

4. Explanation to Prospective Offerors

Any prospective offeror desiring an explanation or interpretation of the solicitation, statement of work, etc., must request it in writing soon enough to allow a reply to reach all prospective offerors before the submission of their offers. Oral explanations or instructions given before the award of the contract will not be binding. Any information given to a prospective offeror concerning a solicitation will be furnished promptly to all other prospective offerors as an amendment of the solicitation, if that information is necessary in submitting offers or if the lack of it would be prejudicial to any other prospective offerors.

5. Responsibility of Prospective Contractor

(a) The HA shall award a contract only to a responsible prospective contractor who is able to perform successfully under the terms and conditions of the proposed contract. To be determined responsible, a prospective contractor must -

- (1) Have adequate financial resources to perform the contract, or the ability to obtain them;

- (2) Have a satisfactory performance record;
- (3) Have a satisfactory record of integrity and business ethics;
- (4) Have a satisfactory record of compliance with public policy (e.g., Equal Employment Opportunity); and
- (5) Not have been suspended, debarred, or otherwise determined to be ineligible for award of contracts by the Department of Housing and Urban Development or any other agency of the U.S. Government. Current lists of ineligible contractors are available for inspection at the HA/HUD.

(b) Before an offer is considered for award, the offeror may be requested by the HA to submit a statement or other documentation regarding any of the foregoing requirements. Failure by the offeror to provide such additional information may render the offeror ineligible for award.

6. Late Submissions, Modifications, and Withdrawal of Offers

(a) Any offer received at the place designated in the solicitation after the exact time specified for receipt will not be considered unless it is received before award is made and it -

- (1) Was sent by registered or certified mail not later than the fifth calendar day before the date specified for receipt of offers (e.g., an offer submitted in response to a solicitation requiring receipt of offers by the 20th of the month must have been mailed by the 15th);
- (2) Was sent by mail, or if authorized by the solicitation, was sent by telegram or via facsimile, and it is determined by the HA/ HUD that the late receipt was due solely to mishandling by the HA/ HUD after receipt at the HA;
- (3) Was sent by U.S. Postal Service Express Mail Next Day Service - Post Office to Addressee, not later than 5:00 p.m. at the place of mailing two working days prior to the date specified for receipt of proposals. The term "working days" excludes weekends and U.S. Federal holidays; or
- (4) Is the only offer received.

(b) Any modification of an offer, except a modification resulting from the HA's request for "best and final" offer (if this solicitation is a request for proposals), is subject to the same conditions as in subparagraphs (a)(1), (2), and (3) of this provision.

(c) A modification resulting from the HA's request for "best and final" offer received after the time and date specified in the request will not be considered unless received before award and the late receipt is due solely to mishandling by the HA after receipt at the HA.

(d) The only acceptable evidence to establish the date of mailing of a late offer, modification, or withdrawal sent either by registered or certified mail is the U.S. or Canadian Postal Service postmark both on the envelope or wrapper and on the original receipt from the U.S. or Canadian Postal Service. Both postmarks must show a legible date or the offer, modification, or withdrawal shall be processed as if mailed late. "Postmark" means a printed, stamped, or otherwise placed impression (exclusive of a postage meter machine impression) that is readily identifiable without further action as having been supplied and affixed by employees of the U.S. or Canadian Postal Service on the date of mailing. Therefore, offerors should request the postal clerk to place a hand cancellation bull's-eye postmark on both the receipt and the envelope or wrapper.

(e) The only acceptable evidence to establish the time of receipt at the HA is the time/date stamp of HA on the offer wrapper or other documentary evidence of receipt maintained by the HA.

(f) The only acceptable evidence to establish the date of mailing of a late offer, modification, or withdrawal sent by Express Mail Next Day Service-Post Office to Addressee is the date entered by the post office receiving clerk on the "Express Mail Next Day Service-Post Office to Addressee" label and the postmark on both the envelope or wrapper and on the original receipt from the U.S. Postal Service. "Postmark" has the same meaning as defined in paragraph (c) of this provision, excluding postmarks of the Canadian Postal Service. Therefore, offerors should request the postal clerk to place a legible hand cancellation bull's eye postmark on both the receipt and the envelope or wrapper.

(g) Notwithstanding paragraph (a) of this provision, a late modification of an otherwise successful offer that makes its terms more favorable to the HA will be considered at any time it is received and may be accepted.

(h) If this solicitation is a request for proposals, proposals may be withdrawn by written notice, or if authorized by this solicitation, by telegram (including mailgram) or facsimile machine transmission received at any time before award. Proposals may be withdrawn in person by a offeror or its authorized representative if the identity of the person requesting withdrawal is established and the person signs a receipt for the offer before award. If this solicitation is an invitation for bids, bids may be withdrawn at any time prior to bid opening.

7. Contract Award

(a) The HA will award a contract resulting from this solicitation to the responsible offeror whose offer conforming to the solicitation will be most advantageous to the HA, cost or price and other factors, specified elsewhere in this solicitation, considered.

(b) The HA may

- (1) reject any or all offers if such action is in the HA's interest,
- (2) accept other than the lowest offer,
- (3) waive formalities and minor irregularities in offers received, and (4) award more than one contract for all or part of the requirements stated.

(c) If this solicitation is a request for proposals, the HA may award a contract on the basis of initial offers received, without discussions. Therefore, each initial offer should contain the offeror's best terms from a cost or price and technical standpoint.

(d) A written award or acceptance of offer mailed or otherwise furnished to the successful offeror within the time for acceptance specified in the offer shall result in a binding contract without further action by either party. If this solicitation is a request for proposals, before the offer's specified expiration time, the HA may accept an offer, whether or not there are negotiations after its receipt, unless a written notice of withdrawal is received before award. Negotiations conducted after receipt of an offer do not constitute a rejection or counteroffer by the HA.

(e) Neither financial data submitted with an offer, nor representations concerning facilities or financing, will form a part of the resulting contract.

8. Service of Protest

Any protest against the award of a contract pursuant to this solicitation shall be served on the HA by obtaining written and dated acknowledgment of receipt from the HA at the address shown on the cover of this solicitation. The determination of the HA with regard to such protest or to proceed to award notwithstanding such protest shall be final unless appealed by the protestor.

9. Offer Submission

Offers shall be submitted as follows and shall be enclosed in a sealed envelope and addressed to the office specified in the solicitation. The proposal shall show the hour and date specified in the solicitation for receipt, the solicitation number, and the name and address of the offeror, on the face of the envelope.

It is very important that the offer be properly identified on the face of the envelope as set forth above in order to insure that the date and time of receipt is stamped on the face of the offer envelope. Receiving procedures are: date and time stamp those envelopes identified as proposals and deliver them immediately to the appropriate contracting official, and only date stamp those envelopes which do not contain identification of the contents and deliver them to the appropriate procuring activity only through the routine mail delivery procedure.

[Describe bid or proposal preparation instructions here:]

EXHIBIT E

Certifications and Representations of Offerors

Certifications and Representations of Offerors Non-Construction Contract

U.S. Department of Housing
and Urban Development
Office of Public and Indian Housing

OMB Approval No: 2577-0180 (exp. 7/30/98)

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 6 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information.

This form includes clauses required by OMB's common rule on bidding/offering procedures, implemented by HUD in 24 CFR 85.36, and those requirements set forth in Executive Order 11625 for small, minority, women-owned businesses, and certifications for independent price determination, and conflict of interest. The form is required for nonconstruction contracts awarded by Housing Agencies (HAs). The form is used by bidders/offerors to certify to the HA's Contracting Officer for contract compliance. If the form were not used, HAs would be unable to enforce their contracts. Responses to the collection of information are required to obtain a benefit or to retain a benefit. The information requested does not lend itself to confidentiality.

1. Contingent Fee Representation and Agreement

(a) The bidder/offeror represents and certifies as part of its bid/offer that, except for full-time bona fide employees working solely for the bidder/offeror, the bidder/offeror:

- (1) has, has not employed or retained any person or company to solicit or obtain this contract; and
- (2) has, has not paid or agreed to pay to any person or company employed or retained to solicit or obtain this contract any commission, percentage, brokerage, or other fee contingent upon or resulting from the award of this contract.

(b) If the answer to either (a)(1) or (a) (2) above is affirmative, the bidder/offeror shall make an immediate and full written disclosure to the PHA Contracting Officer.

(c) Any misrepresentation by the bidder/offeror shall give the PHA the right to (1) terminate the resultant contract; (2) at its discretion, to deduct from contract payments the amount of any commission, percentage, brokerage, or other contingent fee; or (3) take other remedy pursuant to the contract.

2. Small, Minority, Women-Owned Business Concern Representation

The bidder/offeror represents and certifies as part of its bid/offer that it:

- (a) is, is not a small business concern. "Small business concern," as used in this provision, means a concern, including its affiliates, that is independently owned and operated, not dominant in the field of operation in which it is bidding, and qualified as a small business under the criteria and size standards in 13 CFR 121.
- (b) is, is not a women-owned small business concern. "Women-owned," as used in this provision, means a small business that is at least 51 percent owned by a woman or women who are U.S. citizens and who also control and operate the business.
- (c) is, is not a minority enterprise which, pursuant to Executive Order 11625, is defined as a business which is at least 51 percent owned by one or more minority group members or, in the case of a publicly owned business, at least 51 percent of its voting stock is owned by one or more minority group members, and whose management and daily operations are controlled by one or more such individuals.

For the purpose of this definition, minority group members are:

(Check the block applicable to you)

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Black Americans | <input type="checkbox"/> Asian Pacific Americans |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic Americans | <input type="checkbox"/> Asian Indian Americans |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Native Americans | <input type="checkbox"/> Hasidic Jewish Americans |

3. Certificate of Independent Price Determination

(a) The bidder/offeror certifies that—

- (1) The prices in this bid/offer have been arrived at independently, without, for the purpose of restricting competition, any consultation, communication, or agreement with any other bidder/offeror or competitor relating to (i) those prices, (ii) the intention to submit a bid/offer, or (iii) the methods or factors used to calculate the prices offered;
- (2) The prices in this bid/offer have not been and will not be knowingly disclosed by the bidder/offeror, directly or indirectly, to any other bidder/offeror or competitor before bid opening (in the case of a sealed bid solicitation) or contract award (in the case of a negotiated solicitation) unless otherwise required by law; and
- (3) No attempt has been made or will be made by the bidder/offeror to induce any other concern to submit or not to submit a bid/offer for the purpose of restricting competition.

(b) Each signature on the bid/offer is considered to be a certification by the signatory that the signatory:

- (1) Is the person in the bidder/offeror's organization responsible for determining the prices being offered in this bid or proposal, and that the signatory has not participated and will not participate in any action contrary to subparagraphs (a)(1) through (a)(3) above; or
- (2) (i) Has been authorized, in writing, to act as agent for the following principals in certifying that those principals have not participated, and will not participate in any action contrary to subparagraphs (a)(1) through (a)(3) above (insert full name of person(s) in the bidder/offeror's organization responsible for determining the prices offered in this bid or proposal, and the title of his or her position in the bidder/offeror's organization);
(ii) As an authorized agent, does certify that the principals named in subdivision (b)(2)(i) above have not participated, and will not participate, in any action contrary to subparagraphs (a)(1) through (a)(3) above; and

(iii) As an agent, has not personally participated, and will not participate in any action contrary to subparagraphs (a)(1) through (a)(3) above.

(c) If the bidder/offeror deletes or modifies subparagraph (a)2 above, the bidder/offeror must furnish with its bid/offer a signed statement setting forth in detail the circumstances of the disclosure.

4. Organizational Conflicts of Interest Certification

(a) The Contractor warrants that to the best of its knowledge and belief and except as otherwise disclosed, it does not have any organizational conflict of interest which is defined as a situation in which the nature of work under a proposed contract and a prospective contractor's organizational, financial, contractual or other interest are such that:

- (i) Award of the contract may result in an unfair competitive advantage;
- (ii) The Contractor's objectivity in performing the contract work may be impaired; or
- (iii) That the Contractor has disclosed all relevant information and requested the HA to make a determination with respect to this Contract.

(b) The Contractor agrees that if after award he or she discovers an organizational conflict of interest with respect to this contract, he or she shall make an immediate and full disclosure in writing to the HA which shall include a description of the action which the Contractor has taken or intends to eliminate or neutralize the conflict. The HA may, however, terminate the Contract for the convenience of HA if it would be in the best interest of HA.

(c) In the event the Contractor was aware of an organizational conflict of interest before the award of this Contract and intentionally did not disclose the conflict to the HA, the HA may terminate the Contract for default.

(d) The Contractor shall require a disclosure or representation from subcontractors and consultants who may be in a position to influence the advice or assistance rendered to the HA and shall include any necessary provisions to eliminate or neutralize conflicts of interest in consultant agreements or subcontracts involving performance or work under this Contract.

5. Authorized Negotiators (RFPs only)

The offeror represents that the following persons are authorized to negotiate on its behalf with the PHA in connection with this request for proposals: (list names, titles, and telephone numbers of the authorized negotiators):

6. Conflict of Interest

In the absence of any actual or apparent conflict, the offeror, by submission of a proposal, hereby warrants that to the best of its knowledge and belief, no actual or apparent conflict of interest exists with regard to my possible performance of this procurement, as described in the clause in this solicitation titled "Organizational Conflict of Interest."

7. Offeror's Signature

The offeror hereby certifies that the information contained in these certifications and representations is accurate, complete, and current.

Signature & Date:

Typed or Printed Name:

Title:

EXHIBIT F
Form of Non-Collusive Affidavit

ATTACHMENT F

FORM OF NON-COLLUSIVE AFFIDAVIT

STATE OF TEXAS

COUNTY OF HARRIS

_____, being first duly sworn, deposes and says that he is
(a partner or officer of the firm of, etc.)

the party making the foregoing proposal or bid, that such proposal or bid is genuine and not collusive or sham; that said bidder has not colluded, conspired, connived or agreed, directly or indirectly, with any manner, directly or indirectly, sought by agreement or collusion, or communication or conference with any person to fix the bid price or affiant or of any other bidder, or to fix any overhead, profit, or cost element of said bid price, or of that of any other bidder, or to secure any advantage against **HARRIS COUNTY HOUSING AUTHORITY** or of any person interested in the proposed Contract; and that all statements in said proposal or bid are true.

Signature of Bidder, if Bidder is an Individual

Signature of Bidder, if Bidder is a Partnership

Signature of Officer, if Bidder is a Corporation

Subscribed and sworn to before me this _____ day of _____, 2016

Notary Public

My Commission expires:

EXHIBIT G
Section 3 Policy

Harris County Housing Authority
Section 3 Policy

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The purpose of Section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968, as amended by Section 915 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1992, is to "ensure that employment and other economic opportunities generated by certain HUD financial assistance shall, to the greatest extent feasible, and consistent with existing Federal, State and local laws and regulations, be directed toward low-and very low income persons, particularly those who are recipients of government assistance for housing, and to business concerns which provide economic opportunities to low-and very low-income persons." The 1992 Act sets forth:

- The types of HUD financial assistance, activities, and recipients subject to the requirements of Section 3;
- The specific individuals and business concerns who are the intended beneficiaries of the economic opportunities generated from HUD-assisted activities; and
- The order of priority in which these individuals and business concerns should be recruited and solicited for the employment and other economic opportunities generated from HUD-assisted activities.

The Harris Housing Authority's Section 3 Policy is expressed in this statement, the goal statement, and the preference tiers. Implementation procedures may be amended periodically to insure that the policy requirements are being met or to bring about efficiencies in the implementation of the program based on the practice and experience of running the program.

*Note that supply and delivery contracts are exempted from these Section 3 Policy requirements.

HARRIS COUNTY HOUSING AUTHORITY PREFERENCE TIERS

Harris County Housing Authority's preference is to ensure that as many housing authority residents as possible are employed. In an effort to further that goal, the Authority has created the following preference tier structure. Vendors are asked to comply with Section 3 by first considering Category I, hiring at the site where work is being performed. If the vendor demonstrates to the Authority's satisfaction the inability to hire at the site, the Authority's next preference is for the vendor to hire residents from other Authority properties and/or programs (Category II). If the vendor cannot meet its Section 3 goal in this manner and needs to move to other categories, the vendor must document this inability to comply with the preference.

I. Preference for Section 3 Residents in Training and Employment Opportunities

Category I Train/hire residents from the site where the work is being performed

Category II Train/hire residents of other housing developments and/or programs managed by the housing authority that is expending the covered assistance

Category III Train/hire participants in a HUD Youthbuild-like program being carried out in the metropolitan area or Non-metropolitan County in which the covered assistance is expended

Category IV Train/hire other Section 3 residents

II. Preference for Section 3 Business Concerns in Contracting Opportunities

Category I Businesses

Business concerns that are 51 percent or more owned by residents of the housing development or developments for which the Section 3 covered assistance is expended and whose full-time permanent workforce includes 30 percent of these persons as employees (or 30% of persons who were Section 3 residents within 3 years of their first employment)

Category II Businesses

Business concerns that are 51 percent or more owned by residents of other housing developments or developments managed by the housing authority that is expending the Section 3 covered assistance and whose full-time, permanent workforce includes 30 percent of these persons as employees (or 30% of persons who were Section 3 residents within 3 years of their first employment)

Category III Businesses

Business concerns that are 51 percent or more owned by residents of the housing development or developments for which the Section 3 covered assistance is expended

Category IV Businesses

Business concerns that are 51 percent or more owned by residents of other housing developments or developments managed by the housing authority that is expending the Section 3 covered assistance

Category V Businesses

HUD Youthbuild-like programs being carried out in the metropolitan area in which the Section 3 covered assistance is expended

Category VI Businesses

Business concerns that are 51 percent or more owned by Section 3 residents and:

- i. whose permanent, full-time workforce includes no less than 30 percent Section 3 residents; or
- ii. that subcontract 20 percent or more of the total amount of the contract (including modifications) and subcontracts 25 percent of the subcontracted amount to Section 3 business concerns

Category VII Businesses

Business concerns that are 51 percent or more owned by Section 3 residents

NOTE: For contracts or purchase orders \$100,000 or less, other economic opportunities can be identified without regard for the Harris County Housing Authority's preference requirements.

SECTION 3 COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS

Hiring

A. Background

1. The Section 3 regulations provide that recipients, their contractors, and any subcontractors demonstrate compliance by employing Section 3 residents as 5% of the aggregate number of new hires.

2. The Section 3 Regulations, at CFR Part 135, require that in affordable housing programs, compliance efforts shall be directed to provide training and employment opportunities to Section 3 residents in accordance with the HCHA preference tier structure.
3. If a new hire is needed and a Section 3 resident is identified, that Section 3 resident will be required to submit evidence of Section 3 status to the recipient, contractor or subcontractor.
4. The Harris County Housing Authority requires a preference for hiring from the development where work is being performed. However, the Harris County Housing Authority will not require a vendor to hire from the development at the site if:
 - a. A pre-identified list of Section 3 residents from a job site contains no persons qualified to perform the work. Qualified residents from other developments shall then be considered.
 - b. The vendor's workforce is adequate to do the job and no new hiring is needed. In the event that no new hires are needed, vendors must pursue other avenues of compliance as set forth in the Harris County Housing Authority's preference tier structure.

B. Compliance

1. As part of each bid or proposal submitted, the respondent must document their workforce by position. Such information will be re-verified at the commencement of the contract.
2. Vendors will be required to submit documentation in the form of payroll forms submitted weekly that clearly identify the Section 3 hires. The vendor must comply with the Section 3 requirement throughout the life of the contract. Harris County Housing will periodically audit this information. Failure to comply with the weekly submittal of payroll shall result in the delay of payment.
3. Harris County Housing Authority residents by virtue of their income are Section 3 residents. Contractors employing Harris County Housing Authority residents must retain documentation that demonstrates any Harris County Housing Authority residents hired to meet Section 3 employment goals are:
 - a. identified on the lease of household, that is lease compliant; and
 - b. able to provide to the contractor or subcontractor the client number for the household where Harris County Housing Authority residency is claimed. This client number must appear on the certified payrolls submitted by the vendor to verify a Section 3 hire.
4. Non-Harris County Housing Authority households claiming Section 3 status must be prepared to submit evidence of income and residency in Harris County at the time of hire. As part of the Section 3 compliance process, vendors will be required to document that employees hired meet the residency and income requirements.

Contracting

A. Background

1. The Section 3 Regulations, at 24 CFR Part 135, provide that the Harris County Housing Authority, its contractors and subcontractors may demonstrate compliance by awarding contracts to Section 3 business concerns or to vendors who contract with such firms.
2. Harris County Housing Authority's contracting goals require that Section 3 firms receive at least:
 - a. 10 percent of the total dollar of all Section 3 covered contracts for building trades work for maintenance, repair, modernization or development of public or Indian housing; or
 - b. 10 percent of the total dollar amount of all Section 3 covered contracts for building trades work arising in connection with housing rehabilitation, housing construction and other public construction; and
 - c. 3 percent of the total dollar amount of all other Section 3 covered contracts.
3. Goals apply to the entire amount of Section 3 covered assistance awarded to a recipient in any federal fiscal year (FFY), October 1- September 30. Correspondingly, Harris County Housing Authority's goals shall apply to the total dollar amount of each contract or purchase order.

4. Recipients that award contracts to contractors that will provide training or hiring, must ensure that contractors provide training, employment and contracting opportunities to Section 3 residents and Section 3 business concerns.
5. Efforts shall be directed to award contracts to Section 3 business concerns according to HCHA preference categories.

B. Compliance

1. Business concerns claiming Section 3 status based on ownership and workforce or workforce only (as applicable) must meet that status at the time the bid or proposal is submitted to the Harris County Housing Authority.
2. Anyone claiming to be a Section 3 resident or business concern shall be required, as set forth by procedure, to provide evidence of such status.
3. Pursuant to 24 CFR 135.36 (c) any firm, prime or subcontractor claiming Section 3 status must demonstrate to the Authority's satisfaction that the business concern is responsible and has the ability to complete the work under the terms and conditions of the proposed contract. In evaluating firms under this provision the Authority will examine:
 - a. the work history and prior performance of the firm;
 - b. the requirements of the job versus the skills evidenced by the firm through its owners, officers, principals, and key staff;
 - c. technical and logistical capacity to complete the work considering contracts already awarded to the firm by the Authority or others;
 - d. bonding capacity and ability to obtain required insurance (with allowances for disadvantaged or startup firms);
 - e. evidence of past sanctions imposed by the Authority or others; and
 - f. evidence that the firm, its principals, associates, partners, subcontractors or others have not acted or colluded in order to circumvent the compliance process by structuring contractual or other relationships or engaging in practices designed to comply with Section 3 only to obtain the preference without regard to the work requirements of the job.
4. A business concern need not hire to be considered a Section 3 business provided that:
 - a. the business concern is 51 % or more owned by a Section 3 resident; or
 - b. the business concern's workforce consists of sufficient numbers of Section 3 residents to qualify the vendor as a Section 3 business (30% or more of the full-time workforce consists of Section 3 residents, or persons who were Section 3 residents within 3 years of first employment); or
 - c. the business concern subcontracts 20% or more of the total amount of the contract (including modifications) and in turn subcontracts 25% of the subcontracted amount to Section 3 business concerns (25% of 20%); or
5. After award of a contract, if a business concern must hire to maintain the Section 3 workforce percentage, new hiring efforts must be made in accordance with the Harris County Housing Authority preference tier for hiring (Category I).
6. If a business concern claims Section 3 status by virtue of workforce composition, documentation of the 30% workforce requirement must be submitted to the Authority as part of the response to the bid, quote, or proposal. Further, the firm must maintain the Section 3 workforce percentage throughout the life of the contract. Workforce composition is subject to audit.
7. A business concern (including joint-ventures) seeking to qualify for a Section 3 preference shall certify and submit evidence that they are entitled to the applicable Section 3 preference and that they are a Section 3 business concern as defined in 24 CFR, Part 135 and by the Harris County Housing Authority pursuant to this policy. Prime or subcontractors must submit documentation (including workforce composition data) as part of any bid, quote, or proposal submitted to the Harris County Housing Authority. Additional documentation is required for joint-ventures.

8. Firms that claim Section 3 business status by subcontracting (25% of 20%) of the total contract) to other Section 3 businesses must require that the subcontractor(s) provide ownership or workforce documentation as applicable. The prime contractors must keep such records on file and available for review by the Authority. Such documentation must also be submitted as part of any bid, quote or proposal.
9. Subcontractors identified by any prime contractor claiming Section 3 status per item 6 must be a Section 3 business by ownership and/or workforce as defined in this policy. Subcontractors used by prime contractors to comply with item 6 cannot claim Section 3 status by further subcontracting.
10. Section 3 Joint-Ventures - to meet Section 3 contracting goals the Authority is permitted to contract with an association of firms as least one of which meets the Authority's definition of a Section 3 business concern. A definition of a joint venture is provided in the definition section of this policy. Compliance requirements for joint-ventures are discussed below.
11. Joint-Ventures are subject to the following documentation requirements:
 - a. The joint-venture agreement must be in writing and must be submitted as part of the response to any bid or proposal solicited by the Harris County Housing Authority. In order for the Authority to evaluate the "adequacy" and "capacity", the agreement must describe in sufficient detail the area(s) of work assigned to each member of the joint-venture.
 - b. The joint-venture agreement must reference a completed and fully executed joint-venture certification, as provided by the Authority, which must also be attached to the joint-venture agreement as an exhibit.
 - c. The Harris County Housing Authority requires that the Section 3 joint-venture partner is a bona-fide Section 3 business; therefore, the joint-venture shall provide documentation that shows that the Section 3 partner meets the ownership and workforce, or workforce requirements established in this policy. Section 3 joint-venture partners cannot use subcontracting to establish their status as a Section 3 business concern.
 - d. Section 3 requires that the joint-venture partner be responsible for a clearly defined portion of the work. Proposals or bids must specify the labor hours assigned to and the compensation to be received by the Section 3 joint-venture firm.
 - e. Section 3 firms in the joint-venture must be qualified to perform the scope of work and have the capacity to complete the work assigned under the joint-venture agreement (see item b above).

Bid or Proposal Evaluation

- A. Vendors who fail to address Section 3 requirements will be deemed nonresponsive. This means that in the proposal or bid documents submitted to the Harris County Housing Authority, the Contractor's Affidavit and Compliance commitment must be completed including applicable attachments and supporting documentation to support claims of compliance by hiring, contracting, or other economic opportunities.
- B. After written notice from the Harris County Housing Authority specifying the defects in the Section 3 information, vendors will be given no more than 5 business days to complete the form and provide all required documents. Failure to respond within the 5 days will result in the Authority declaring the bidder or respondent non-responsive. The contract or bid will then be awarded to the next lowest bidder or to the respondent with the next highest score. Where the selection is a qualifications-based procurement, the Harris County Housing Authority will award to the firm that is the next highest ranked.

DEFINITIONS

NEW HIRES- Persons selected to fill full-time, temporary or seasonal employment opportunities.

RESIDENT OWNED BUSINESS (ROB)- A ROB is a business concern owned or controlled by affordable housing residents, that is: (a) at least 51 % owned by one or more affordable housing residents; and (b) whose management and daily business operations are controlled by one or more such individuals. For the purpose of Section 3 compliance, a ROB must also meet the Housing Authority's definitions of a Section 3 business concern as described below.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES GENERATED BY SECTION 3 COVERED ASSISTANCE- All employment opportunities generated by the expenditure of Section 3 covered PIH assistance (i.e. operating assistance, development assistance, and modernization assistance) and with respect to Section 3 covered housing and community development assistance, all employment opportunities arising in connection with Section 3 covered projects, including management and administrative jobs (including architectural, engineering, or related professional services and jobs directly related to administrative support of these activities) connected with the Section 3 covered project.

RECIPIENT- Any entity which receives Section 3 covered assistance, directly from HUD or from another recipient and includes, but is not limited to, any State, unit of local government, PHA, IHA, Indian Tribe, or other public body, public or private nonprofit organization, private agency or institution, mortgagor, developer, limited dividend sponsor, builder, property manager, community housing development organization, resident management corporation, resident council, or cooperative association. Recipient also includes any successor, assignee, or transferee of any such entity, but does not include any ultimate beneficiary under the HUD program to which Section 3 applies and does not include contractors.

SECTION 3- Section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968, as amended (12 U.S.C. 1701u).

SECTION 3 BUSINESS CONCERN- As defined by the Harris County Housing Authority, a Section 3 business concern is one:

- A. That is fifty-one (51 %) or more owned by Section 3 residents; or
- B. Whose full-time employees includes persons, at least 30 percent of whom are current Section 3 residents, or were Section 3 residents within three (3) years of the date of first employment with the business concern; or
- C. That provides evidence of a commitment to: (1) subcontract 25 percent or more of the total amount of the contract (including any modification); and (2) in turn subcontracts in excess of 25 percent of the amount from (1) to Section 3 business concerns as defined in A or B (25% of 20%).

Example: If the contract amount is \$1,000,000, vendor must subcontract at least 20% or \$200,000. Of the \$200,000, 25% or \$50,000 must go to Section 3 business concern(s) as defined in A or B.

SECTION 3 CLAUSE- The contract provisions and sanction set forth in 24 CFR 135.8.

SECTION 3 COVERED ACTIVITY- Any activity that is funded by Section 3 covered assistance including Affordable housing assistance.

SECTION 3 COVERED ASSISTANCE- There are no dollar amount thresholds for PIH (Public and Indian Housing) funded Section 3 covered activities. Section 3 applies to all contractors and

subcontractors performing work in connection with the following assistance regardless of the amount of the contract or subcontract:

- Public and Indian housing development assistance provided pursuant to Section 5 of the 1937 Act;
- Public and Indian housing operating assistance provided pursuant to Section 9 of the 1937 Act;
- Public and Indian housing modernization assistance provided pursuant to Section 14 of the 1937 Act;
- Section 8 assistance for work arising in connection with; housing rehabilitation, housing construction, or other public construction projects.

SECTION 3 COVERED CONTRACT- A contract or subcontract (including a professional service contract) awarded by a recipient or contractor for work generated by the expenditure of Section 3 covered assistance or for work arising in connection with a Section 3 covered project. "Section 3 covered contracts" do not include contracts for the purchase of supplies and materials except, whenever a contract for materials includes the installation of the materials, the contract constitutes a "Section 3 covered contract."

SECTION 3 COVERED PROJECT- The construction, reconstruction, conversion, or rehabilitation of housing (including reduction and abatement of lead-based paint hazards), other public construction which includes buildings or improvements (regardless of ownership) assisted with housing or community development assistance.

SECTION 3 JOINT VENTURE- An association of business concerns, one of which qualifies as a Section 3 business concern, formed by written joint venture agreement to engage in and carry out a specific business venture for which purpose the business concerns combine their efforts, resources, and skills for joint profit, but not necessarily on a continuing or permanent basis for conducting business generally, and for which the Section 3 business concern:

- Is responsible for a clearly defined portion of the work to be performed and holds management responsibilities in the joint venture; and
- Performs at least 25% of the work and is contractually entitled to compensation proportional to its work.

SECTION 3 RESIDENT-

- A. An affordable housing resident or
- B. An individual who resides in Harris County and who meets the following criteria:
 - i. Low-income persons-families (or single persons) whose incomes do not exceed 80 per centum of the median income for the area.
 - ii. Very low-income persons-families (or single persons) whose incomes do not exceed 50 per centum of the median income for the area.

EXHIBIT H
Ethics Policy

HARRIS COUNTY HOUSING AUTHORITY

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Effective: August 15, 2012
Last Revised: August 5, 2015

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A. PURPOSE

As a county housing authority and public corporation, the Harris County Housing Authority ("Authority") is obligated to achieve and maintain certain standards of ethics under state law and under its Annual Contributions Contract ("ACC") with the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development ("HUD"). To achieve the highest standard of ethics and propriety, the Board of Commissioners adopted and established an Ethics Policy on August 15, 2012, to describe in a single document the various obligations of the Authority prescribed by federal and state law, and its contractual obligations with HUD. The purpose of the Ethics Policy is to maintain the reputation and goodwill of the Authority in Harris County and the state of Texas by ensuring that the public and other governmental entities have confidence in the integrity, independence, and impartiality of the commissioners, officers, employees, and other contractors of the Authority.

B. ENFORCEMENT

The board of commissioners shall recommend to any commissioner appropriate action to remediate or resolve any conflict or violation or shall refer to the Harris County Attorney's Office the facts and issues regarding any unresolved conflict or violation by a

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commissioner that could constitute inefficiency, neglect of duty, or misconduct in office that might justify removal of the commissioner from office. The board of commissioners shall direct the executive director to remediate or resolve any conflict or violation involving an Authority employee. The executive director may take appropriate action to remedy or resolve an employee conflict or violation, including disciplinary action under the Employee Handbook.

C. ETHICS POLICY

All commissioners and employees shall abide by the provisions of Texas State law and the HUD ACC contained in the Sources of Law and Policy section below. To the extent allowed by federal or state law or the HUD ACC, the following rules shall further regulate the conduct of commissioners and employees to avoid the appearance or risk of impropriety:

Economic Benefit

A commissioner or employee shall not take any official action that he or she knows is likely to affect the economic interest of the commissioner or employee or their immediate family; an outside client or customer; a household member; the outside employer or a parent, child or spouse; a business entity or its affiliate of the commissioner or employee or their immediate family; a person or business entity from whom the commissioner or employee, or a spouse, has, within the previous 12 months, solicited, received and not rejected, or accepted an offer of employment, or with whom the commissioner or employee, or a spouse, has engaged in negotiations pertaining to business opportunities. Any commissioner or employee shall disclose such a relationship or interest and refrain from participation in any discussion or official action in the affected matter. A commissioner who is required to refrain from participation or action under this Section shall not be counted as "absent" for purposes of making a quorum under Article III, Section 7 of the Authority's Bylaws, because of the commissioner's refrainment.

Unfair Participation

A commissioner or employee may not use his or her official position to unfairly advance or impede private interests, or to grant or secure, or attempt to grant or secure, for any person, including himself or herself, any form of special consideration, treatment, exemption, or advantage beyond that which is lawfully available to other persons. A commissioner or employee shall not acquire an interest in, or acquire an interest affected by, any contract, transaction, decision or other matter, if the commissioner or employee knows that the interest will be affected by the impending official action by the Authority. A commissioner or employee may not enter into any agreement or understanding with any person that official action by the commissioner or employee will be rewarded or reciprocated by the other person. A commissioner or employee shall not appoint or employ, or vote to appoint or employ, any relative within the third degree of consanguinity or second degree of affinity to any office or position within the Authority. No commissioner or employee shall supervise a relative in the third degree of consanguinity or second degree of affinity. If an employee, because of marriage,

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promotion, reorganization, or otherwise, is placed into the line of supervision of a proscribed relative, one of the employees must be reassigned or other arrangements made for supervision. Any commissioner or employee shall disclose such a relationship or interest and refrain from participation in any discussion or official action in the affected matter.

Gifts

A commissioner or employee, and second degree relatives or outside business associates, shall not solicit, accept, or agree to accept any gift to benefit for himself or herself or an interested business entity that reasonably tends to influence or reward official conduct or that the commissioner or employee knows is being offered with the intent to influence or reward official conduct. A commissioner or employee shall not solicit any gift or benefit but may accept or agree to accept a non-cash gift of nominal value and meals in an individual expense of \$50 or less at any occurrence from any individual or business entity doing or seeking to do business with the Authority. However, except as provided in the sentence immediately below, such gifts may not in aggregate exceed \$250 during any 12-month period. Gifts of reasonable value related to a special occasion and the relationship between the donor and recipient, reasonable public awards, or rewards for meritorious service or professional achievement, scholarships and fellowships, admissions to events in his or her official capacity or a spouse's position, and solicitations for civic or charitable causes are excluded from this rule.

Confidential Information

A commissioner or employee shall not use his or her official position to obtain official information about any person or entity for any purpose other than in the performance of official duties. A commissioner or employee shall not intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly disclose any confidential information concerning the property, operations, policies, affairs, or tenants of the Authority excepted as permitted by the Texas Public Information Law or applicable federal law or regulation.

Representation of Private Interests

A commissioner or employee shall not represent any person, group, or entity before the Authority's board of commissioners or before staff having policy-making or decision-making responsibility. A commissioner or employee shall not assert the prestige of the commissioner's or employee's position for the purpose of advancing private interests or state, or imply that he or she is able to influence Authority action on any basis other than the merits.

Outside Employment

A commissioner or employee shall not solicit, accept, or engage in concurrent outside employment which could be reasonably expected to impair independence of judgment in or faithful performance of official duties. A commissioner or employee shall not provide services to an outside employer related to the commissioner or employee's official duties. A commissioner or employee shall disclose any outside employment to the Authority board of commissioners upon initial appointment and annually thereafter.

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Authority Property and Resources

A commissioner or employee shall not use, request, or permit the use of Authority facilities, personnel, vehicles, equipment, tools, supplies, property, or resources for personal, private, or political activities or purposes.

Political Activity

A commissioner or employee shall not induce or attempt to induce any commissioner or employee to participate in a partisan election campaign, contribute to a candidate or political action committee, or engage in any other political activity relating to a particular party, candidate, or issue, or to refrain from engaging in any lawful political activity. A commissioner or employee may encourage another to vote generally. A commissioner or employee shall not accept any compensation for services in any political activity related to any federal, state or local election for a candidate or issue.

Third-Party Actions

A commissioner or employee shall not assist or induce, or attempt to assist or induce, any person to violate any provision in the Ethics Policy. A commissioner or employee shall not circumvent the Ethics Policy through the acts of another person.

Interest in Contracts

A commissioner or employee shall not have a private or personal financial interest in any contract with the Authority or in the sale to the Authority of any land, materials, supplies, or service. A private or personal financial interest arises when a party to the contract or sale involves the commissioner or employee, or a parent, child or spouse, or a business entity in which the commissioner or employee, or a parent, child or spouse, owns 10% of the voting stock or shares, or of the fair market value of the business entity, or a business entity that is a subcontractor on an Authority contract, a partner, or a parent, or subsidiary business entity.

Disclosure, Determination, and Resolution of Conflicts and Violations

A commissioner or employee shall disclose any known conflicts of interest, proscribed relationships, or apparent or potential violations of the laws, HUD's ACC, or Ethics Policy to the board of commissioners and executive director upon initial appointment or employment and annually upon the beginning of each fiscal year. The Authority's counsel shall prepare disclosure forms, and amendments as necessary or reasonable for approval of the board of commissioners. The board of commissioners shall submit all disclosure forms to Authority counsel for review. Authority counsel shall determine whether there is any actual or potential conflict or violation of the laws, HUD's ACC, or Ethics Policy, and recommend action by the board of commissioners or executive director to resolve any conflict or violation.

Interpretation

Actions subject to the Ethics Policy shall be opined by the counsel to the Authority based on the known facts and issues and reported to the board of commissioners and executive

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director with recommended resolution of a conflict or violation of the law or general rules.

Annual Trainings

Commissioners are required to attend annual program and Board of Commissioners training to review the requirements of this Ethics Policy and their other responsibilities as Commissioners for Harris County Housing Authority.

D. SOURCES OF LAW AND POLICY

Certain Texas laws govern the ethics of commissioners and employees of housing authorities. The Ethics Policy will be amended automatically to incorporate any legislative amendments to these statutes that become law.

Texas Housing Authorities Law

The Texas Housing Authorities Law, Tex. Local Government Code, Chapter 392, includes two provisions regarding conflicts of interest affecting commissioners and employees:

Sec. 392.042. Interested Commissioners.

- (a) In this section, "housing project" includes, in addition to the works or undertakings described by Subdivision (6) of Section 392.002:
- (1) a work or undertaking implemented for a reason described by Subdivision (6) of Section 392.002 that is financed in any way by public funds or tax-exempt revenue bonds; or
 - (2) a building over which the housing authority has jurisdiction and of which a part is reserved for occupancy by persons who receive income or rental supplements from a governmental entity.
- (b) Except as provided by Subsection (c), a commissioner of an authority may not have dealings with a housing project for pecuniary gain and may not own, acquire, or control a direct or indirect interest in a:
- (1) housing project;
 - (2) property included or planned to be included in a housing project;
 - (3) contract or proposed contract for the sale of land to be used for a housing project;
 - (4) contract or proposed contract for the construction of a housing project; or
 - (5) contract or proposed contract for the sale of materials or services to be furnished or used in connection with a housing project.
- (c) A commissioner may:
- (1) manage a housing project;
 - (2) own, acquire, or control a management company that renders management services to a housing project;
 - (3) continue to own or control an interest in a housing project held by the commissioner before the commissioner's term of office began; or

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- (4) own, acquire, or control an interest in, or have dealings with, a housing project over which the commissioner's housing authority does not have jurisdiction.
- (d) If a commissioner manages, owns, acquires, or controls a direct or indirect interest in property included or planned to be included in a housing project or has any other dealings for pecuniary gain with a housing project, the commissioner shall immediately disclose the interest or dealings to the authority in writing. The disclosure shall be entered in the minutes of the authority. The failure to disclose the interest constitutes misconduct of office.
- (e) A commissioner who knowingly or intentionally violates Subsection (b) or (d) commits an offense. An offense under this subsection is a felony of the third degree.
- (f) A person finally convicted under Subsection (e) is ineligible for future employment with the state, a political subdivision of the state, or a public corporation formed under the authority of the state or a political subdivision of the state.

§ 392.043. Interested Employees

- (a) Except as provided by Subsection (b), (c), or (f), an employee of an authority may not have dealings with a housing project for pecuniary gain and may not own, acquire, or control a direct or indirect interest in a:
- (1) housing project;
 - (2) property included or planned to be included in a housing project;
 - (3) contract or proposed contract for the sale of land to be used for a housing project;
 - (4) contract or proposed contract for the construction of a housing project; or
 - (5) contract or proposed contract for the sale of materials or services to be furnished or used in connection with a housing project.
- (b) An employee may not have any dealings with a housing project for pecuniary gain except in the performance of duties as an employee of the housing authority.
- (c) Except as otherwise permitted by this chapter or another law, an employee of an authority may not be employed by or otherwise contract to provide services to another authority unless the first authority gives its written consent to the employment or contract. An employee of an authority who is employed by or who contracts to provide services to another authority under this subsection does not violate Subsection (a) or (b).
- (d) An employee who knowingly or intentionally violates Subsection (a) or (c) commits an offense. An offense under this subsection is a felony of the third degree.
- (e) A person finally convicted under Subsection (d) is ineligible for future employment with the state, a political subdivision of the state, or a public corporation formed under the authority of the state or a political subdivision of the state.
- (f) An employee of an authority may be a party to or otherwise participate in a contract or agreement for assistance under a housing program, including a contract or agreement for public housing, Section 8 housing assistance, low-interest home loans, lease-purchase assistance, or down payment assistance, to the same extent as a member of the public if the employee qualifies for assistance under the program.
- (g) In this section, "Section 8 housing assistance" means housing assistance provided under Section 8, United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. Section 1437f).

Local Public Official Conflict of Interest

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The Texas Government Code, Chapter 171, establishes conflict of interest boundaries for local public officials. Those applicable to housing authority commissioners and officers are included below:

§ 171.001. Definitions

In this chapter:

- (1) "Local public official" means a member of the governing body or another officer, whether elected, appointed, paid, or unpaid, of any district (including a school district), county, municipality, precinct, central appraisal district, transit authority or district, or other local governmental entity who exercises responsibilities beyond those that are advisory in nature.
- (2) "Business entity" means a sole proprietorship, partnership, firm, corporation, holding company, joint-stock company, receivership, trust, or any other entity recognized by law.

§ 171.002. Substantial Interest in Business Entity

- (a) For purposes of this chapter, a person has a substantial interest in a business entity if:
 - (1) the person owns 10 percent or more of the voting stock or shares of the business entity or owns either 10 percent or more or \$15,000 or more of the fair market value of the business entity; or
 - (2) funds received by the person from the business entity exceed 10 percent of the person's gross income for the previous year.
- (b) A person has a substantial interest in real property if the interest is an equitable or legal ownership with a fair market value of \$2,500 or more.
- (c) A local public official is considered to have a substantial interest under this section if a person related to the official in the first degree by consanguinity or affinity, as determined under Chapter 573, Government Code, has a substantial interest under this section.

§ 171.003. Prohibited Acts; Penalty

- (a) A local public official commits an offense if the official knowingly:
 - (1) violates Section 171.004;
 - (2) acts as surety for a business entity that has work, business, or a contract with the governmental entity; or
 - (3) acts as surety on any official bond required of an officer of the governmental entity.
- (b) An offense under this section is a Class A misdemeanor.

§ 171.004. Affidavit and Abstention From Voting Required

- (a) If a local public official has a substantial interest in a business entity or in real property, the official shall file, before a vote or decision on any matter involving the business entity or the real property, an affidavit stating the nature and extent of the interest and shall abstain from further participation in the matter if:
 - (1) in the case of a substantial interest in a business entity the action on the matter will have a special economic effect on the business entity that is distinguishable from the effect on the public; or

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(2) in the case of a substantial interest in real property, it is reasonably foreseeable that an action on the matter will have a special economic effect on the value of the property, distinguishable from its effect on the public.

- (b) The affidavit must be filed with the official record keeper of the governmental entity.
- (c) If a local public official is required to file and does file an affidavit under Subsection (a), the official is not required to abstain from further participation in the matter requiring the affidavit if a majority of the members of the governmental entity of which the official is a member is composed of persons who are likewise required to file and who do file affidavits of similar interests on the same official action.

§ 171.005. Voting on Budget

- (a) The governing body of a governmental entity shall take a separate vote on any budget item specifically dedicated to a contract with a business entity in which a member of the governing body has a substantial interest.
- (b) Except as provided by Section 171.004(c), the affected member may not participate in that separate vote. The member may vote on a final budget if:
- (1) the member has complied with this chapter; and
 - (2) the matter in which the member is concerned has been resolved.

§ 171.006. Effect of Violation of Chapter

The finding by a court of a violation under this chapter does not render an action of the governing body voidable unless the measure that was the subject of an action involving a conflict of interest would not have passed the governing body without the vote of the person who violated the chapter.

§ 171.007. Common Law Preempted; Cumulative of Municipal Provisions

- (a) This chapter preempts the common law of conflict of interests as applied to local public officials.
- (b) This chapter is cumulative of municipal charter provisions and municipal ordinances defining and prohibiting conflicts of interests.

§ 171.009. Service on Board of Corporation for No Compensation

It shall be lawful for a local public official to serve as a member of the board of directors of private, nonprofit corporations when such officials receive no compensation or other remuneration from the nonprofit corporation or other nonprofit entity.

Texas Nepotism Law

The Texas Nepotism Law, Texas Government Code, Chapter 573, limits the relationships of a public official to employees and candidates for public positions:

§ 573.001. Definitions

In this chapter:

- (1) "Candidate" has the meaning assigned by Section 251.001, Election Code.
- (2) "Position" includes an office, clerkship, employment, or duty.
- (3) "Public official" means:

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- (A) an officer of this state or of a district, county, municipality, precinct, school district, or other political subdivision of this state;
- (B) an officer or member of a board of this state or of a district, county, municipality, school district, or other political subdivision of this state; or
- (C) a judge of a court created by or under a statute of this state.

§ 573.002. Degrees of Relationship

Except as provided by Section 573.043, this chapter applies to relationships within the third degree by consanguinity or within the second degree by affinity.

SUBCHAPTER B. RELATIONSHIPS BY CONSANGUINITY OR BY AFFINITY

§ 573.021. Method of Computing Degree of Relationship

The degree of a relationship is computed by the civil law method.

§ 573.022. Determination of Consanguinity

- (a) Two individuals are related to each other by consanguinity if:
 - (1) one is a descendant of the other; or
 - (2) they share a common ancestor.
- (b) An adopted child is considered to be a child of the adoptive parent for this purpose.

§ 573.023. Computation of Degree of Consanguinity

- (a) The degree of relationship by consanguinity between an individual and the individual's descendant is determined by the number of generations that separate them. A parent and child are related in the first degree, a grandparent and grandchild in the second degree, a great-grandparent and great-grandchild in the third degree and so on.
- (b) If an individual and the individual's relative are related by consanguinity, but neither is descended from the other, the degree of relationship is determined by adding:
 - (1) the number of generations between the individual and the nearest common ancestor of the individual and the individual's relative; and
 - (2) the number of generations between the relative and the nearest common ancestor.
- (c) An individual's relatives within the third degree by consanguinity are the individual's:
 - (1) parent or child (relatives in the first degree);
 - (2) brother, sister, grandparent, or grandchild (relatives in the second degree); and
 - (3) great-grandparent, great-grandchild, aunt who is a sister of a parent of the individual, uncle who is a brother of a parent of the individual, nephew who is a child of a brother or sister of the individual, or niece who is a child of a brother or sister of the individual (relatives in the third degree).

§ 573.024. Determination of Affinity

- (a) Two individuals are related to each other by affinity if:
 - (1) they are married to each other; or
 - (2) the spouse of one of the individuals is related by consanguinity to the other individual.

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(b) The ending of a marriage by divorce or the death of a spouse ends relationships by affinity created by that marriage unless a child of that marriage is living, in which case the marriage is considered to continue as long as a child of that marriage lives.

(c) Subsection (b) applies to a member of the board of trustees of or an officer of a school district only until the youngest child of the marriage reaches the age of 21 years.

§ 573.025. Computation of Degree of Affinity

(a) A husband and wife are related to each other in the first degree by affinity. For other relationships by affinity, the degree of relationship is the same as the degree of the underlying relationship by consanguinity. For example: if two individuals are related to each other in the second degree by consanguinity, the spouse of one of the individuals is related to the other individual in the second degree by affinity.

(b) An individual's relatives within the third degree by affinity are:

- (1) anyone related by consanguinity to the individual's spouse in one of the ways named in Section 573.023(c); and
- (2) the spouse of anyone related to the individual by consanguinity in one of the ways named in Section 573.023(c).

SUBCHAPTER C. NEPOTISM PROHIBITIONS

§ 573.041. Prohibition Applicable to Public Official

A public official may not appoint, confirm the appointment of, or vote for the appointment or confirmation of the appointment of an individual to a position that is to be directly or indirectly compensated from public funds or fees of office if:

- (1) the individual is related to the public official within a degree described by Section 573.002; or
- (2) the public official holds the appointment or confirmation authority as a member of a state or local board, the legislature, or a court and the individual is related to another member of that board, legislature, or court within a degree described by Section 573.002.

§ 573.062. Continuous Employment

(a) A nepotism prohibition prescribed by Section 573.041 or by a municipal charter or ordinance does not apply to an appointment, confirmation of an appointment, or vote for an appointment or confirmation of an appointment of an individual to a position if:

- (1) the individual is employed in the position immediately before the election or appointment of the public official to whom the individual is related in a prohibited degree; and
- (2) that prior employment of the individual is continuous for at least:
 - (A) 30 days, if the public official is appointed;
 - (B) six months, if the public official is elected at an election other than the general election for state and county officers; or
 - (C) one year, if the public official is elected at the general election for state and county officers.

(b) If, under Subsection (a), an individual continues in a position, the public official to whom the individual is related in a prohibited degree may not participate in any

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deliberation or voting on the appointment, reappointment, confirmation of the appointment or reappointment, employment, reemployment, change in status, compensation, or dismissal of the individual if that action applies only to the individual and is not taken regarding a bona fide class or category of employees.

SUBCHAPTER E. ENFORCEMENT

§ 573.081. Removal In General

(a) An individual who violates Subchapter C or Section 573.062(b) shall be removed from the individual's position. The removal must be made in accordance with the removal provisions in the constitution of this state, if applicable. If a provision of the constitution does not govern the removal, the removal must be by a quo warranto proceeding.

(b) A removal from a position shall be made immediately and summarily by the original appointing authority if a criminal conviction against the appointee for a violation of Subchapter C or Section 573.062(b) becomes final. If the removal is not made within 30 days after the date the conviction becomes final, the individual holding the position may be removed under Subsection (a).

§ 573.082. Removal by Quo Warranto Proceeding

(a) A quo warranto proceeding under this chapter must be brought by the attorney general in a district court in Travis County or in a district court of the county in which the defendant resides.

(b) The district or county attorney of the county in which a suit is filed under this section shall assist the attorney general at the attorney general's discretion.

§ 573.083. Withholding Payment of Compensation

A public official may not approve an account or draw or authorize the drawing of a warrant or order to pay the compensation of an ineligible individual if the official knows the individual is ineligible.

§ 573.084. Criminal Penalty

(a) An individual commits an offense involving official misconduct if the individual violates Subchapter C or Section 573.062(b) or 573.083.

(b) An offense under this section is a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not less than \$100 or more than \$1,000.

HUD Annual Contributions Contract

The Annual Contributions Contract (Form HUD-53012A) (ACC) between HUD and the Housing Authority prohibits certain interests involving commissioners and employees:

Section 19 – Conflict of Interest

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(A)(1) In addition to any other applicable conflict of interest requirements, neither the Authority nor any of its contractors or their contractors may enter into any contract, subcontract, or arrangement in connection with a project under this ACC in which any of the following classes of people has an interest, direct or indirect, during his or her tenure or for one year thereafter:

(i) Any present or former member or officer of the governing body of the HA, or any member of the officer's immediate family. There shall be excepted from this prohibition any present or former tenant commissioner who does not serve on the governing body of a resident corporation, and who otherwise does not occupy a policymaking position with the resident corporation, the Authority or a business entity.

(ii) Any employee of the Authority who formulates policy or who influences decisions with respect to the project(s), or any member of the employee's immediate family, or the employee's partner.

(iii) Any public official, member of the local governing body, or State or local legislator, or any member of such individual's immediate family, who exercises functions or responsibilities with respect to the project(s) or the HA.

(2) Any member of these classes of persons must disclose the member's interest or prospective interest to the Authority and HUD.

(3) The requirements of this subsection (A)(1) may be waived by HUD for good cause, if permitted under State and local law. No person for whom a waiver is requested may exercise responsibilities or functions with respect to the contract to which the waiver pertains.

(4) The provisions of this subsection (A) shall not apply to the General Depository Agreement entered into with an institution regulated by a Federal agency, or to utility service for which rates are fixed or controlled by a State or local agency.

(5) Nothing in this section shall prohibit a tenant of the Authority from serving on the governing body of the HA.

(B)(1) The Authority may not hire an employee in connection with a project under this ACC if the prospective employee is an immediate family member of any person belonging to one of the following classes:

(i) Any present or former member or officer of the governing body of the HA. There shall be excepted from this prohibition any former tenant commissioner who does not serve on the governing body of a resident corporation, and who otherwise does not occupy a policymaking position with the HA.

(ii) Any employee of the Authority who formulates policy or who influences decisions with respect to the project(s).

(iii) Any public official, member of the local governing body, or State or local legislator, who exercises functions or responsibilities with respect to the project(s) or the HA.

(2) The prohibition referred to in subsection (B)(1) shall remain in effect throughout the class member's tenure and for one year thereafter.

(3) The class member shall disclose to the Authority and HUD the member's familial relationship to the prospective employee.

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(4) The requirements of this subsection (B)(1) may be waived by the Authority Board of Commissioners for good cause, provided such waiver is permitted by State and local law.

(C) [applies only to an Indian Housing Authority]

(D) For purposes of this section, the term “immediate family member” means the spouse, mother, father, brother, sister, or child of a covered class member (whether related as a full blood relative, or as a “half” or “step” relative, e.g., a half-brother of stepchild).

EXHIBIT I
Material Testing Requirements

FENIX MATERIAL TESTING

Site Preparation, Filling, Backfilling, Utilities:

- Soil compaction (fill under-slab, utility backfill)
- Standard test method for density of soil in Place by sand-Cone method ASTM D-1556
- Nuclear methods (shallow depths) water content of soil and soil-aggregate in place
- Standard test methods for density of soil and rock in place by ASTM D-2922
- Liquid limit, plastic limit, and plasticity index of soils ASTM D-4318

Soil Stabilization / Lime Stabilized Subgrade:

- Tests and analysis of soil materials in accordance with ASTM D-4318
- Compaction testing in accordance with ASTM D-2922

Foundation Inspection and Monitoring:

- Drilled piers, drilled shafts, auger cast in place piles, spread footings, driven piles
- Concrete inspection and monitoring:
- Slump test
- Compressive strength test
- Steel reinforcement monitoring

Asphalt Tests:

- Test in accordance with TX DOT Tex-126-E, TX DOT Tex-204-F, TX DOT Tex-208-F, and TX DOT Tex-227-F
- Determine in-place density in accordance with TX DOT Tex-207-F and Tex-227-F

Gypsum Cementitious Underlayment:

- Compressive strength of gypsum concrete ASTM-C472M
- Slump test for underlayment mix
- Humidity in concrete floor slab ASTM-F2170
- Standard test method for installation of thick poured gypsum concrete and preparation of surface to receive resilient flooring ASTM-F2419

Masonry:

- Clay masonry unit test: For each type of unit required, per ASTM-C67
- Concrete masonry unit test: For each type of unit required, per ASTM-C140
- Mortar test (property specification): For each mix required, per ASTM-C780
- Grout test (compressive strength): For each mix required, per ASTM-C1019
- Test mortar and grout in accordance with Section 01110
- Testing of Mortar Mix: In accordance with ASTM C780, Annex A4, for mortar aggregate ratio and ASTM-C780, Annex A5, for mortar water content

Structure Steel:

Test for shop-welded shear connections according to AWS D1.1 for stud welding.

Shop-bolted connections will be tested and inspected according to RCSC's "Specification for Structural Joints Using ASTM A 325 or A 490 Bolts."

(All offerors are to review the plans and specifications thoroughly to include all tests required, or needed)