

**AGREEMENT BETWEEN HARRIS COUNTY AND  
ELEVATE STRATEGIES, LLC**

THE STATE OF TEXAS     §  
                                      §  
COUNTY OF HARRIS     §

This Agreement (“Agreement”) is made and entered into by and between Harris County (the “County”), a body corporate and politic under the laws of the State of Texas, acting by and through the Harris County Judge’s Office (the “Department”), and Elevate Strategies, LLC (“Contractor”), a Texas limited liability company. The County and Contractor are referred to herein collectively as the “Parties” and individually as a “Party.”

**1) GENERAL SCOPE OF SERVICES AND CONTRACTOR’S RESPONSIBILITIES**

- A) Contractor agrees to provide targeted vaccine community outreach services (the “Services”) to the County in accordance with Request for Proposal for Job No. 21/0042, attached hereto as Exhibit A, including all attachments (the “RFP”), and, more particularly, in accordance with the detailed Scope of Services (the “SOS”), attached hereto as Exhibit B.
- B) Contractor shall furnish all qualified personnel, materials, equipment, facilities, travel, overhead and incidentals necessary to provide the Services, as detailed further in the RFP and the SOS.
- C) Contractor warrants and represents that it is registered with the Texas Secretary of State to transact business in Texas, and is current on all state and local fees and taxes, including but not limited to Franchise Account Status in “good standing” with the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts.
- D) Contractor warrants and represents that neither it, nor any of its principals or other affiliated entities, owe any debts to Harris County, including, but not limited to delinquent taxes, court judgments, tickets, tolls, fees, or fines. Taxes are deemed delinquent on the date certain as specified by the Harris County Tax Office. For the purposes of this Agreement, a court judgment is not required for delinquent taxes to be considered a debt.
- E) Unless otherwise stated in this Agreement, words which have well-known technical or industry meanings are used in accordance with such recognized meaning.
- F) Contractor warrants and represents it will deliver the Services in compliance with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, ordinances, rules, and regulations relating to the Services.

**2) INDEPENDENT PARTIES**

- A) The Services performed by Contractor under this Agreement are performed by Contractor as an independent contractor. This Agreement is not intended to create and shall not constitute a partnership or joint venture between the Parties. Contractor shall have and retain the exclusive right of control over employment, firing, discipline, compensation, insurance, and benefits in accordance with the applicable laws of the State of Texas. Contractor has no authority to bind or otherwise obligate the County orally, in writing or by any act or omission. Nothing contained herein shall establish an agency, employee-employer relationship, partnership, joint enterprise, joint employer, or joint venture relationship by or between the County and Contractor.
- B) **IN THE EVENT THAT ANY STATE OR FEDERAL AGENCY, OR COURT OF COMPETENT JURISDICTION DETERMINES THAT CONTRACTOR IS NOT AN INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR, CONTRACTOR AGREES TO INDEMNIFY AND HOLD HARMLESS THE COUNTY FOR ANY AND ALL DAMAGES, PENALTIES, ASSESSMENTS, TAXES, OR EXPENSES THAT MAY BE INCURRED BY COUNTY AS A RESULT OF THIS DETERMINATION.**
- C) Contractor warrants that it will comply with all federal and state laws including but not limited to the Prompt Pay Act, in the payment of its workers.
- D) Contractor is solely responsible for the payment of wages and any applicable benefits to workers for Services performed for the County. Contractor shall be responsible for withholding federal and state income taxes, paying Federal Social Security taxes, maintaining unemployment insurance and maintaining workers' compensation insurance in an amount and under such terms as required by the applicable laws of the State of Texas.

**THE COUNTY'S PAYMENT IS TO THE CONTRACTOR. THE COUNTY SHALL HAVE NO LIABILITY, DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY, FOR PAYMENT TO CONTRACTOR'S WORKERS OR SUBCONTRACTORS. CONTRACTOR SHALL INDEMNIFY AND HOLD THE COUNTY HARMLESS FROM ANY AND ALL SUCH CLAIMS.**

- E) Contractor's workers are not entitled to any contributions by or benefits from the County for any pension plan, bonus plan or any other benefit plan. Contractor and the workers furnished by Contractor shall not be entitled to any fringe benefits or similar benefits afforded to employees of the County. The County is not liable for payment of any federal or state taxes and charges including, but not limited to, income withholding taxes, social security, unemployment, workers' compensation, and similar taxes and charges. This Article shall survive the expiration or termination of this Agreement.

- F) The County is not responsible to Contractor or Contractor's workers for payment of any overtime compensation or any additional payments pursuant to the Fair Labor Standards Act, 29 U.S.C. Section 207 9a(1), as amended; the Texas Pay Day Act; the Equal Pay Act; Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 42 U.S.C. Section 2000e, *et al.*, as amended; or any provisions of the *Texas Labor Code Ann.*, as amended.
- G) Neither Party shall have the authority to enter into contracts or agreements on behalf of the other Party.

### **3) TERM**

The Initial Term of this Agreement shall begin upon approval by Harris County Commissioners Court (the "Commencement Date") and remain in full force and effect for twelve (12) months unless earlier terminated in accordance with the terms of this Agreement. The County shall have the option, at its sole discretion, to renew this Agreement for no more than three (3) additional one-year terms (each a "Renewal Term").

### **4) CONTRACTOR'S COMPENSATION**

- A) Subject to the Limitation of Appropriation, the County agrees to pay Contractor in accordance with the BAFO attached as Exhibit C. This compensation includes all labor, equipment, materials, shipping costs, travel expenses, and incidentals necessary to provide the Services. Notwithstanding the foregoing, if mutually agreed upon by the Parties in writing, the specific cost for each activity in the BAFO can be adjusted to maximize the performance of the Services.
- B) Contractor shall not perform any Services until it receives a Purchase Order from the County. Any Services performed prior to the receipt of a Purchase Order shall be at the Contractor's sole expense.
- C) The Contractor understands and agrees that, in accordance with the Texas Constitution, the County is prohibited from paying Contractor in advance for any of the Services or Deliverables.

### **5) TERMS OF PAYMENT**

- A) Contractor shall submit an invoice upon the Department's acceptance of the equipment, product, or Services. Each invoice shall include a description of the equipment, product, or Service and the price for each. All invoices MUST be submitted by email to: [VENDORINVOICES@HCTX.NET](mailto:VENDORINVOICES@HCTX.NET) and by mail to: Harris County Auditor, Attn: Accounts Payable, 1001 Preston 8<sup>th</sup> floor, Houston, Texas 77002. The invoice shall be in a form acceptable to the County Auditor and, at a minimum, include such detail as may be requested by the County Auditor for verification purposes.

The invoices shall, at a minimum, include a description of the Services performed, the cost, and the total amount billed for the same. After receipt of an invoice, the County Auditor will forward it to the Department, which shall review and approve it with such modifications as may be deemed appropriate, and then return, with any modifications, to the County Auditor for payment. The County shall pay each invoice as approved by the County Auditor in accordance with the laws of the State of Texas. The County may exercise any and all rights to set off payment in the event of overpayment by the County and or funds owed to the County under this Agreement.

- B) The invoices shall, at a minimum, include a description of the Deliverable(s), the cost, and the total amount billed for the Deliverable(s). After receipt of an invoice, the Auditor will forward it to the Department, which shall review and approve it with such modifications as may be deemed appropriate, and then return, with any modifications, to the County Auditor for payment. The County shall pay each invoice as approved by the County Auditor in accordance with the laws of the State of Texas. The County may exercise any and all rights to set off payment in the event of overpayment by the County and or funds owed to the County under this Agreement.

#### **6) LIMITATION OF APPROPRIATION**

- A) Contractor understands and agrees, said understanding and agreement also being of the absolute essence of this Agreement, that the total maximum compensation that Contractor may become entitled to for the Services performed under this Agreement, and the total maximum sum that the County shall become liable to pay to Contractor under this Agreement, shall not under any conditions, circumstances, or interpretations thereof exceed the sum of Ten Million Nine Hundred Seventy-Three Thousand and No/100 Dollars (\$10,973,000.00). Notwithstanding anything to the contrary, or that may be construed to the contrary, the County's liability under the terms and provisions of this Agreement is limited to this sum.
- B) Contractor understands and agrees that the laws governing the letting of contracts for the County require the approval of the Harris County Auditor and his certification that funds are, or will be, available for the payment of the obligations created under the Agreement before such contracts become effective. Therefore, Contractor shall not proceed with any Services until such time that it receives a Purchase Order issued by the Harris County Purchasing Agent. Any Services performed by Contractor prior to its receipt of a Purchase Order are at Contractor's own expense.
- C) Contractor does understand and agree, said understanding and agreement also being of the absolute essence of this Agreement, that the total maximum compensation that Contractor may become entitled to hereunder, and the total maximum sum that the Contractor shall become liable to pay to Contractor hereunder, shall not under any conditions, circumstances, or interpretations thereof exceed the sum certified

by the Purchase Order. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary, or that may be construed to the contrary, the County's liability under the terms and provisions of this Agreement is limited to this sum. When all the funds so certified are expended, Contractor's sole and exclusive remedy shall be to terminate this Agreement. If the Services and charges to be provided for will equal or exceed the amount certified available, Contractor shall notify the County immediately.

- D) Contractor understands and agrees, said understanding and agreement being of the absolute essence of this Agreement, that with regard to any Renewal Term or extension of this Agreement, the County has not certified any funds for any renewal or extension period beyond the current fiscal year. Therefore, if the County exercises any renewal option, the renewal is subject to the future allocation and certification of funds for the renewal term, on the same terms and conditions of this Agreement.

## **7) TEXAS PUBLIC INFORMATION ACT**

- A) The Parties expressly acknowledge that this Agreement is subject to the Texas Public Information Act, Tex. Gov't Code Ann. §§ 552.001 *et seq.*, as amended (the "Act"). Contractor expressly understands and agrees that the County shall release any and all information necessary to comply with Texas law without the prior written consent of Contractor.
- B) It is expressly understood and agreed that the County, its officers and employees may request advice, decisions and opinions of the Attorney General of Texas ("Attorney General") in regard to the application of the Act to any software, or any part thereof, or other information or data furnished to the County, whether or not the same are available to the public. It is further understood that the County, its officers and employees shall have the right to rely on the advice, decisions, and opinions of the Attorney General, and that the County, its officers, and employees shall have no liability or obligations to Contractor for the disclosure to the public, or to any person or persons, of any software, or a part thereof, or other information or data furnished to the County in reliance on any advice, decision or opinion of the Attorney General.
- C) In the event the County receives a written request for information pursuant to the Act that affects Contractor's rights, title to, or interest in any information or data or a part thereof, furnished to the County by Contractor under this Agreement, then the County will promptly notify Contractor of such request. Contractor may, at its own option and expense, prepare comments and submit information directly to the Attorney General stating why the requested information is exempt from disclosure pursuant to the requirements of the Act. Contractor is solely responsible for submitting the memorandum brief and information to the Attorney General within the time period prescribed by the Act. Contractor is solely responsible for seeking any declaratory or injunctive relief regarding the disclosure of information that it deems confidential or privileged.

- D) **Electronic Mail Addresses.** Contractor affirmatively consents to the disclosure of its e-mail addresses that are provided to the County, including any agency or department of the County. This consent is intended to comply with the requirements of the Act, and shall survive termination of this Agreement. This consent shall apply to e-mail addresses provided by Contractor and agents acting on behalf of Contractor and shall apply to any e-mail address provided in any form for any reason whether related to this Agreement or otherwise.

**8) TERMINATION**

- A) **Termination for Convenience.** The County may, by written notice to Contractor, terminate this contract for convenience, in whole or in part, at any time by giving written notice to Contractor of such termination, and specifying the effective date thereof that shall be no less than ten (10) business days after the date such notice is given ("Notice of Termination for Convenience"). If the termination is for the convenience of the County, the County shall compensate Contractor for work or materials fully and adequately provided through the effective date of termination. No amount shall be paid for unperformed work or materials not provided, including anticipated profit. Contractor shall provide documentation deemed adequate by the County to show the work actually completed or materials provided by Contractor prior to the effective date of termination. This Agreement shall terminate on the effective date set forth in the Notice of Termination for Convenience; provided, that, such termination will not extinguish or reduce either Party's rights under the provisions of this Agreement that accrued prior to termination.
- B) **Termination for Cause.** If Contractor fails to perform pursuant to the terms of this Agreement, the County shall provide written notice to Contractor specifying in reasonable detail such default ("Notice of Default"). If Contractor does not cure such default within ten (10) business days following its receipt of the Notice of Default, the County may, by written notice to Contractor, terminate this Agreement for cause, in whole or in part, and specifying the effective date thereof ("Notice of Termination for Cause"). If the termination is for cause, Contractor shall be compensated for that portion of the work or materials provided which has been fully and adequately completed and accepted by the County as of the date the County provides the Notice of Termination for Cause. In such case, the County shall have the right to take whatever steps it deems necessary to complete the project and correct Contractor's deficiencies and charge the cost thereof to Contractor, who shall be liable for the full cost of the County's corrective action, including reasonable overhead and attorneys' fees.
- C) **Reimbursement; Damages.** The County shall be entitled to reimbursement for any compensation paid in excess of work rendered or materials provided and shall be entitled to withhold compensation for defective work or other damages caused by Contractor's performance of the work.

- D) Additional Termination Provisions. Upon receipt of a Notice of Termination, either for cause or for convenience, Contractor shall promptly discontinue the work unless the Notice directs to the contrary. Contractor shall deliver to the County and transfer title (if necessary) to all provided materials and completed work, and work in progress including drafts, documents, plans, forms, maps, products, graphics, computer programs and reports. The rights and remedies of the Parties provided in this Section are in addition to any other rights and remedies provided by law or under this Agreement. Contractor acknowledges the County's right to terminate this Agreement with or without cause as provided in this Section, and hereby waives any and all claims for damages that might arise from the County's termination of this Agreement. The County shall not be liable for any costs other than the charges or portions thereof which are specified herein. Contractor shall not be entitled to payment for unperformed work or materials not provided and shall not be entitled to damages or compensation for termination of work or supply of materials. If County terminates this Agreement for cause, and it is later determined that the termination for cause was wrongful, the termination shall automatically be converted to and treated as a termination for convenience. In such event, Contractor shall be entitled to receive only the amounts payable under this Section, and Contractor specifically waives any claim for any other amounts or damages, including, but not limited to, any claim for consequential damages or lost profits. The rights and remedies of the County provided in this Section shall not be exclusive and are in addition to any other rights and remedies provided by law, equity or under this contract including, but not limited to, the right to specific performance.
- E) *Force Majeure.* In the event that either Party is unable to perform any of its obligations under the Agreement or to enjoy any of the benefits because of natural disaster, pandemic, actions or decrees of governmental bodies or communications line failure not the fault of the affected party (referred to as a "*Force Majeure* Event"), the Party who has been so affected immediately agrees to give notice to the other Party and agrees to do everything possible to resume performance. Upon receipt of such notice, the Agreement is immediately suspended. If the period of nonperformance exceeds ten (10) calendar days from the receipt of notice of the *Force Majeure* Event, the Party whose ability to perform has not been so affected may terminate the Agreement immediately by giving written notice to the other Party.
- F) Copies of all completed or partially completed Documents (as defined in Section 17(A) below) shall be delivered to the County when this Agreement is terminated or completed.
- G) Agreement Transition. In the event the Agreement ends by either expiration or termination, Contractor shall assist in the transition until such time that a new contractor can be completely operational. Contractor acknowledges its responsibility to cooperate fully with the replacement contractor and the County to ensure a smooth and timely transition to the replacement contractor. Such transitional period shall not extend more than ninety (90) days beyond the

expiration/termination date of the Agreement, or any extension thereof. During any transition period, all other terms and conditions of the Agreement shall remain in full force and effect as originally written.

**9) NOTICE**

- A) Any notice required to be given under the provisions of this Agreement shall be in writing and shall be duly served when it shall have been delivered in person or deposited, enclosed in a wrapper with the proper postage prepaid thereon, and duly registered or certified, return receipt requested, in a United States Post Office, addressed to the County or Contractor at the following addresses. If mailed, any notice or communication shall be deemed to be received three (3) days after the date of deposit in the United States Mail. Unless otherwise provided in this Agreement, all notices shall be delivered to the following addresses:

To Contractor: Elevate Strategies, LLC  
216 Marshall Street, # 11  
Houston, TX 77006  
Attn: Felicity Pereyra

To the County: Harris County Judge's Office  
1001 Preston Street, Room 911  
Houston, Texas 77002  
Attn: Aaron Dunn

Copy To: Harris County Purchasing Agent  
1001 Preston, Suite 670  
Houston, Texas 77002  
Attn: Shawn Venables

- B) Either Party may designate a different address by giving the other Party ten (10) days written notice.

**10) COMPLIANCE AND STANDARDS**

- A) Contractor represents and warrants that it is capable and willing to provide the Services called for in the Agreement, and agrees to render the Services in accordance with the generally accepted standards applicable to the Services. Contractor shall use that degree of care and skill commensurate with the profession to comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, ordinances, rules, and regulations relating to the Services and Contractor's performance to be rendered hereunder. Contractor represents that Contractor and its personnel are fully qualified to perform the Services and provide the deliverables described in this Agreement.
- B) Contractor agrees to keep confidential the contents of all its discussions with



County officials. Contractor agrees to keep confidential the contents of all County records and all other information obtained during Contractor's performance of Services under this Agreement. Contractor shall not release any confidential information unless the County, in writing, authorizes Contractor to release specific information to any third parties.

- C) Contractor shall not access any information it is not authorized to receive, nor shall Contractor copy, recreate, or use any proprietary information or Documents obtained in connection with this Agreement other than for the performance of this Agreement. Contractor shall not divulge or otherwise make use of the trade secrets or other confidential information, procedures, or policies of any former employer, contractor, client, or customer in the performance of this Agreement. Neither shall Contractor copy, recreate, or use any proprietary information of any third party in the performance of Services under this Agreement except to the extent authorized by such third parties.
- D) Contractor warrants and represents that it is not in breach of any other contract, obligation or covenant that would affect Contractor's ability to perform hereunder and, as a result of entering into this Agreement, will not breach any such contract, obligation, or covenant.
- E) Contractor warrants and represents that it is registered with the Texas Secretary of State to transact business in Texas, and is current on all state and local fees and taxes, including but not limited to Franchise Account Status of "in good standing" with the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts.
- F) Contractor warrants and represents that neither it, nor any of its principals or other affiliated entities, owe any debts to Harris County, including, but not limited to delinquent taxes, court judgments, tickets, tolls, fees, or fines. Taxes are deemed delinquent on the date certain as specified by the Harris County Tax Office. For the purposes of this Agreement, a court judgment is not required for delinquent taxes to be considered a debt.
- G) Contractor shall verify that each subcontractor it retains to perform Services pursuant to this Agreement are in compliance with Sections D and E and F above. If Contractor uses subcontractors, as defined in the RFP, Contractor shall comply with the terms and conditions indicated in the RFP to subcontractor work. Contractor shall at all times be responsible for the performance of its subcontractors. No term or agreement of Contractor's agreement with any subcontractor shall alter the terms and conditions of this Agreement. Contractor shall remain responsible for the work of its subcontractors.
- H) Conflict of Interest: Contractor warrants and represents to the County that it does not have nor shall it knowingly acquire any interest that would conflict in any manner with the performance of its obligations under this Agreement. Furthermore, Contractor warrants that no company or person, other than a bona fide employee,

has been employed to solicit or secure this Agreement with County, and that Contractor has not paid or agreed to pay any company or person, other than a bona fide employee, any fee, commission, percentage, brokerage fee, gift, or any other consideration, contingent upon or resulting from the award or making of this Agreement. For breach or violation of this provision, the County shall have the right to terminate the Agreement without liability or in its discretion to deduct from the Agreement amount, or otherwise recover, the full amount of such fee, commission, brokerage fee, gift, or contingent fee.

- I) Lobbying: Contractor shall not use County funds to directly or indirectly pay any person for influencing or attempting to influence any public employee or official in connection with the awarding of any contract or the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment or modification of any contract. Pursuant to 31 U.S.C.A. § 1352 (2003), if at any time during the Agreement term funding to Contractor exceeds \$100,000.00, Contractor shall file with the County the Federal Standard Form LLL titled "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying."
- J) No Federal Exclusion: Contractor warrants and represents that it is not debarred, suspended, or otherwise excluded from or ineligible for participation in any Federal programs, including but not limited to the following: Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), Office of Inspector General (OIG) - List of Excluded Individuals & Entities (LEIE); U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) – Excluded Parties List System (EPLS); All States (50) Health & Human Services Commission Medicaid OIG Sanction List; Government Terrorist Watch List (OFAC / Patriot Act); Department of Commerce, Bureau of Industry and Security, Denied Persons List; and Department of Homeland Security, Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Most Wanted. Contractor must immediately notify the County of any such exclusion or suspension. Contractor warrants and represents that it is in good standing with all State and Federal agencies that have a contracting or regulatory relationship with the County. Contractor warrants and represents that no person who has an ownership or controlling interest in Contractor's business or who is an agent or managing employee of Contractor has been convicted of a criminal offense related to involvement in any federal program.
- K) County and its designee shall have the right to conduct examinations, studies and audits of the services, payments, and efficiencies provided under this Agreement and County may make such examinations, studies, and audits at any time whether before or after payment. Contractor shall cooperate with such examinations, studies, and audits and provide County with such records, data, documents, including all of Contractor's backup and support data for billings, and Contractor shall provide access to such records, data, documents and personnel as are requested by County or the County Auditor. All payments made by County are subject to re-evaluation and refund or withholding of future payments conditioned on the results of the audit. This section shall survive termination of this Agreement.
- L) Whistleblower Protection Act: Contractor understands and agrees that this

Agreement and employees working on this Agreement will be subject to the whistleblower rights and remedies in the pilot program on contractor employee whistleblower protections established at 41 U.S.C. 4712 by section 828 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2013 (Pub. L. 112-239) and FAR 3.908. Contractor shall inform its employees in writing, in the predominant language of the workforce, of employee whistleblower rights and protections under 41 U.S.C. 4712, as described in section 3.908 of the Federal Acquisition Regulation. Contractor shall insert the substance of this clause ("Whistleblower Protection Act"), in all subcontracts providing services under this Agreement.

- M) Prior to execution of the Agreement, Contractor shall, as an update, complete Form 1295 in accordance with Tex. Gov't Code Ann. § 2252.908 concerning "Interested Parties." Contractor warrants and represents that all the information on the form is complete and accurate.
- N) Contractor will comply with applicable Required Federal Clauses attached to the RFP and also attached hereto as Exhibit D.

#### **11) PUBLIC CONTACT**

Contact with the news media, citizens of Harris County, or governmental agencies shall be the responsibility of the County. Under no circumstances shall Contractor release any material or information developed in the performance of its Services without the express written permission of the County.

#### **12) INDEMNIFICATION**

**CONTRACTOR SHALL INDEMNIFY, DEFEND, AND HOLD HARMLESS THE COUNTY FROM AND AGAINST ALL CLAIMS AND LIABILITY DUE TO THE ACTIVITIES OF CONTRACTOR, OR ANOTHER ENTITY OVER WHICH CONTRACTOR EXERCISES CONTROL, PERFORMED UNDER THIS AGREEMENT AND WHICH RESULT FROM ANY NEGLIGENT ACT, ERROR, OR OMISSION; INTENTIONAL TORT; INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY INFRINGEMENT; OR FAILURE TO PAY A SUBCONTRACTOR OR SUPPLIER; COMMITTED BY CONTRACTOR OR ANOTHER ENTITY OVER WHICH CONTRACTOR EXERCISES CONTROL**

**CONTRACTOR SHALL ALSO INDEMNIFY, DEFEND, AND HOLD HARMLESS THE COUNTY FROM AND AGAINST ANY AND ALL EXPENSES, INCLUDING REASONABLE ATTORNEY'S FEES WHICH MIGHT BE INCURRED BY THE COUNTY, IN LITIGATION OR OTHERWISE RESISTING SAID CLAIMS OR LIABILITIES WHICH MIGHT BE IMPOSED ON THE COUNTY AS THE RESULT OF SUCH ACTIVITIES BY CONTRACTOR OR ANOTHER ENTITY OVER WHICH CONTRACTOR EXERCISES CONTROL.**

**CONTRACTOR SHALL INDEMNIFY, DEFEND, AND HOLD THE COUNTY HARMLESS FROM ANY AND ALL LIABILITY, EXPENSE, JUDGMENT, SUIT, CAUSE OF ACTION, OR DEMAND FOR PERSONAL INJURY, DEATH, OR DIRECT DAMAGE TO TANGIBLE PROPERTY WHICH MAY ACCRUE AGAINST THE COUNTY TO THE EXTENT IT IS CAUSED BY THE NEGLIGENCE OF CONTRACTOR OR ANOTHER ENTITY OVER WHICH CONTRACTOR EXERCISES CONTROL, WHILE PERFORMING SERVICES UNDER THIS AGREEMENT. COUNTY WILL GIVE CONTRACTOR PROMPT, WRITTEN NOTICE OF ANY SUCH CLAIM OR SUIT. COUNTY SHALL COOPERATE WITH CONTRACTOR IN ITS DEFENSE OR SETTLEMENT OF SUCH CLAIM OR SUIT.**

**IF A RESTRAINING ORDER OR TEMPORARY INJUNCTION IS GRANTED DUE TO ANY ACT, ERROR, OR OMISSION COMMITTED BY CONTRACTOR OR ANOTHER ENTITY OVER WHICH CONTRACTOR EXERCISES CONTROL, CONTRACTOR SHALL MAKE EVERY EFFORT, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO SECURING A SATISFACTORY BOND, TO OBTAIN THE SUSPENSION OF ANY SUCH RESTRAINING ORDER OR TEMPORARY INJUNCTION.**

**COUNTY RESERVES THE RIGHT, AT ITS OWN EXPENSE, TO BE INDEPENDENTLY REPRESENTED BY COUNSEL OF ITS OWN CHOICE IN CONNECTION WITH ANY SUCH SUIT OR PROCEEDING.**

**13) APPLICABLE LAW AND VENUE**

- A) The Agreement is subject to the state and federal laws, orders, rules, and regulations relating to the Agreement and funded by state or federal funds or of applicable conditions of participation in Medicaid or Medicare program(s).
- B) This Agreement is governed by the laws of the State of Texas.
- C) The forum for any action under or related to the Agreement is exclusively in a state or federal court of competent jurisdiction in Texas.
- D) The exclusive venue for any action under or related to the Agreement is in a state or federal court of competent jurisdiction in Houston, Harris County, Texas.
- E) In the event of any dispute arising out of or relating to this Agreement, the affected Party shall first notify the other Party, and the Parties shall attempt in good faith to resolve the matter within ten (10) days after the date of such notice is received by the other Party (the "Notice Date"). Any disputes not resolved by good faith discussions shall be referred to senior persons of each Party, who shall confer at a mutually acceptable time and an agreed location, within thirty (30) days after Notice Date and attempt to negotiate a settlement. If the dispute is not resolved at such meeting, either

Party may pursue its available legal rights and remedies after the passage of such thirty (30) day period.

**14) TAXES AND CHARGES**

- A) The County is a political subdivision under the laws of the State of Texas and claims exemption from sales and use taxes under Tex. Tax Code Ann. §151.309, as amended. The County agrees to provide exemption certificates to Contractor upon request.
- B) The County is neither liable for any personal property taxes, charges, or fees assessed against Contractor nor obligated to reimburse Contractor for any taxes, charges, or fees assessed against Contractor for the supplies provided or any Services rendered.

**15) NO PERSONAL LIABILITY; NO WAIVER OF IMMUNITY**

- A) Nothing in the Agreement is construed as creating any personal liability on the part of any officer, director, employee, or agent of any public body that may be a Party to the Agreement, and the Parties expressly agree that the execution of the Agreement does not create any personal liability on the part of any officer, director, employee, or agent of the County.
- B) The Parties agree that no provision of this Agreement extends the County's liability beyond the liability provided in the Texas Constitution and the laws of the State of Texas.
- C) Neither the execution of this Agreement nor any other conduct of either Party relating to this Agreement shall be considered a waiver by the County of any right, defense, or immunity under the Texas Constitution or the laws of the State of Texas.
- D) The County does not agree to binding arbitration, nor does the County waive its right to a jury trial.

**16) INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS**

- A) The Contractor shall, at all times during the term of this Agreement, maintain insurance coverage with not less than the type and requirements in this Article. Such insurance is to be provided at the sole cost of the Contractor. These requirements do not establish limits of the Contractor's liability.
  - i) All policies of insurance shall waive all rights of subrogation against the County, its officers, employees, and agents.
  - ii) Upon request, certified copies of original insurance policies shall be furnished to the County.

- iii) The County reserves the right to require additional insurance as it deems it necessary.

**B) Contractor shall maintain at a minimum:**

- i) Commercial General Liability Occurrence Form including, but not limited to, Premises and Operations, Products Liability Broad Form Property Damage, Contractual Liability, Personal and Advertising Injury Liability and where the exposure exists, coverage for watercraft, blasting collapse and explosions, blowout, cratering and underground damage.

One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000.00) each occurrence Limit Bodily Injury; Products-Completed/Operations Limit One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000.00); One Million Dollars Personal and Advertising Injury Limit (\$1,000,000.00); General Aggregate Two Million Dollars (\$2,000,000.00) per project; Umbrella/Excess Liability One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000.00) Each Occurrence, One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000.00) Aggregate.

The County shall be named as an “additional insured” on the commercial general liability policy and any separate policies, where applicable, covering the requirements of this Article.

- ii) Professional/Errors and Omissions Liability, One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000.00) Each Occurrence, One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000.00) Aggregate.
- iii) Workers’ Compensation (with Waiver of subrogation to the County) Employer’s Liability, including all states, U.S. Longshoremen, Harbor Workers and other endorsements, if applicable to the Project, and in accordance with Texas state law.
- iv) Automobile Liability Coverage: Combined single limit of One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000.00) Combined Liability Limits for Bodily Injury and Property Damage Combined. The County shall be named as an “additional insured” on the automobile policy.
- v) Proof of insurance with proof of waiver of subrogation and County designated as an “additional insured” must be returned attached to the signed Agreement as Exhibit E, which is attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference.

**17) OWNERSHIP OF DOCUMENTS; COPYRIGHT**

- A) Contractor agrees that for the purposes of assigning copyright ownership, any and

all completed or partially completed data, information, reports, programs, inventions, software, firmware, designs, preliminary layouts, record drawings, digital files, photographs, sketches, and all other electronic or hardcopy documents or documentation developed pursuant to the Services performed under this Agreement (the "Documents"), shall be the sole property of the County.

- B) Contractor represents that it has the right to assign and hereby assigns to the County all rights, title, copyright ownership and interest in any completed or partially completed data (including source codes), information, reports, programs, inventions, software, firmware, designs, preliminary layouts, record drawings, digital files, photographs, sketches, and all other electronic or hardcopy documents or documentation to be developed or has already been developed, created or invented pursuant to the Services performed under this Agreement or any other agreements that Contractor may currently have or had in the past, with the County.
- C) Within seven (7) days after its development, creation, or invention, Contractor agrees to deliver to the County, copies, in a form acceptable to the County, of any and all such Documents. Contractor may retain one set of reproducible copies of all Documents for the sole use of performing Services for the County. Contractor is expressly prohibited from selling, donating, licensing or otherwise marketing, or divulging to third parties, any Document, or using such Documents in the preparation of other work for any other client, without the express written permission of the County.
- D) For avoidance of doubt, and notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, (i) software owned or licensed by Contractor and/or its Subcontractors on or prior to the date hereof, including any improvements or developments hereafter made thereto, are not part of the "Documents" hereunder, and (ii) Contractor and, as applicable, Subcontractors shall retain all right, title, and interest in and to such software, as well as the ideas, know-how, concepts, presentations, report formats, work flows, algorithms, trade secrets, and other intellectual property embodied in or used in the Services, together with any developments or improvements made by Contractor and any general increase in the knowledge, skills, experience and expertise gained by Contractor in providing the Services to the County (collectively, "Intellectual Property"). If any part of the Services hereunder incorporates any such Intellectual Property, Contractor hereby grants the County and its successors a perpetual, irrevocable, worldwide, royalty-free, non-exclusive, right and license to exploit and exercise all such Intellectual Property for all County bona fide purposes.

## 18) AUDIT RIGHTS

- A) Audit Rights. The Contractor shall cooperate to the fullest extent with any and all federal, state, local, or County audits related to this Agreement. The Contractor's cooperation shall include, but not be limited to access to all books, records, contracts, spreadsheets, correspondence, and documents, in whatever form, that are

applicable to this Agreement and requested by any federal, state, local, or County entity that has rights or jurisdiction over any part of this Agreement or the funds applicable to this Agreement.

- B) Record Retention. The Contractor agrees to retain within the boundaries of Harris County, for six (6) years after the expiration of this Agreement, all books, records, contracts, spreadsheets, correspondence, and documents applicable to this Agreement. The Contractor will retain and make available, and insert the requisite clause in each applicable subcontract requiring its subcontractors to retain and make available, the books, records, contracts, spreadsheets, correspondence, and documents applicable to this Agreement.

**19) WAIVER OF BREACH**

Waiver by either Party of a breach or violation of any provision of the Agreement is not a waiver of any subsequent breach.

**20) SEVERABILITY**

If any provision or part of the Agreement or its application to any person, entity, or circumstance is ever held by any court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid for any reason, the remainder of the Agreement and the application of such provision or part of the Agreement to other persons, entities, or circumstances are not affected.

**21) SURVIVAL OF TERMS**

Any provision of this Agreement that, by its plain meaning, is intended to survive the expiration or earlier termination of this Agreement including, but not limited to the indemnification provision, shall survive such expiration or earlier termination. If an ambiguity exists as to survival, the provision shall be deemed to survive.

**22) CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION**

- A) This Agreement shall not be construed against or in favor of any Party hereto based upon the fact that the Party did or did not author this Agreement.
- B) The headings in this Agreement are for convenience or reference only and shall not control or affect the meaning or construction of this Agreement.
- C) When terms are used in the singular or plural, the meaning shall apply to both.
- D) When either the male or female gender is used, the meaning shall apply to both.
- E) With regard to the scope of Services hereunder, to the extent of any conflict or ambiguity between the RFP and the SOS, the SOS shall prevail.



**23) SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS**

- A) The County and Contractor bind themselves and their successors, executors, administrators, and assigns to the other Party of this Agreement and to the successors, executors, administrators, and assigns of such other Party, in respect to all covenants of this Agreement.
- B) Neither the County nor Contractor shall assign, sublet, or transfer its or his interest in this Agreement without written consent of the other, which will not be unreasonably withheld.

**24) NO THIRD-PARTY BENEFICIARIES**

- A) The County is not obligated or liable to any party other than Contractor for the performance of this Agreement.
- B) Nothing in the Agreement is intended or shall be deemed or construed to create any additional rights or remedies in any third party.
- C) Nothing contained in the Agreement shall be construed to or operate in any manner whatsoever to increase the rights of any third party, or the duties or responsibilities of County with respect to any third party.

**25) EFFECTIVE DATE**

The Effective Date of this Agreement will be the date the Agreement is approved by the Commissioners Court of Harris County.


**26) ENTIRE AGREEMENT; MODIFICATIONS**

- A) This instrument contains the entire Agreement between the Parties relating to the rights herein granted and obligations herein assumed.
- B) Any oral or written representations or modifications concerning this instrument shall not be effective excepting a subsequent written modification signed by both Parties.

**27) EXECUTION, MULTIPLE COUNTERPARTS**

This Agreement may be executed in several counterparts. Each counterpart is deemed an original. All counterparts together constitute one and the same instrument. Each Party warrants that the undersigned is a duly authorized representative with the power to execute this Agreement.

ELEVATE STRATEGIES, LLC

By:   
Name: FELICITY PEREYRA  
Title: FOUNDER  
Date: 07/27/2021

HARRIS COUNTY

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
LINA HIDALGO  
COUNTY JUDGE

APPROVED AS TO FORM:  
CHRISTIAN D. MENEFE  
COUNTY ATTORNEY

By: Manasi Tahiliani  
Manasi Tahiliani  
Assistant County Attorney  
C.A. File 21GEN1574

**EXHIBIT A**

**Request for Proposal for Job No. 21/0042**

**(follows behind)**

## EXHIBIT B

### Scope of Services (“SOS”)

#### 1: Mobilize | Month 1 - Month 4 (est)

##### Strategy, Management & Oversight

- finalize, deploy, and execute program schedule,
- hire Organizing Director,,
- oversee program budget, and identify strategic reallocation of paid media funds should new data support reallocation,
- oversee production of and deliver program weekly report of activities completed, in progress, and blocked,
- facilitate weekly briefings of Harris County Judge Lina Hidalgo and Harris County Public Health staff,
- oversee execution of data access agreements for consumer data purchase, and any other non-publicly available data acquired,
- oversee and provide strategic guidance on drafting of the inaugural monthly pulse survey instrument and monthly pulse survey instruments thereafter,
- oversee and provide strategic guidance on inaugural content experiment,
- oversee and provide strategic guidance on creative production process and launch of digital advertising experiments and campaign targeting a maximum of twenty (20) million impressions to likely unvaccinated adults across Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, and Google Search, within the first four (4) months of the contract,
- oversee and provide strategic guidance on direct mail production, including:
  - finalization of mail permit, and
  - production and print of a maximum of 780,000 pieces per round, targeting households of unvaccinated adults, of which there are six (6) rounds total throughout the first four (4) months of the contract,
- oversee and provide strategic guidance on drafting the following experimental scripts:
  - SMS/text messages, and
  - Patch-through calls
- oversee and provide strategic guidance on launching six (6) rounds of text messaging within the first four (4) months of the contract, targeting unvaccinated adults, with a maximum of 340,000 cell phones per round,
- oversee and provide strategic guidance on launching six (6) rounds of direct, targeted patch-through calls to unvaccinated adults within the first four(4) months of the contract to targeted residents, with a maximum of 460,000 phones per round,
- oversee and provide strategic guidance on drafting the following copy for the OutreachCircle application:
  - relational organizing text messages, and
  - relational organizing emails
- oversee and provide strategic guidance on canvassing program targeting households of unvaccinated adults,
- translate creative and other copy where necessary into the following languages:
  - Spanish,
  - Vietnamese, and
  - Mandarin

##### Analytics

- draft program schedule, including production schedules for clear expectations,
- draft weekly report of activities completed, in progress, and blocked,
- set up analytics environment (Civis Platform) for program staff,
  - Civis Platform is a cloud-based data analytics and data science platform that is both **HIPAA** and **SOC 2 Type II** compliant
- gather and integrate publicly available data,
- collaborate with County and program management staff to identify other data sources to increase precision

of future predictive models, including, where possible:

- ☐ Harris County Public Health person-level waitlist data, if available,
  - ☐ Harris County Public Health person-level vaccination data, if available,
  - ☐ DSHS person-level vaccination data, if available,
  - ☐ FEMA person-level vaccination data, if available,
  - ☐ other person-level sources not listed
- acquire and purchase consumer data, including the following:
  - ☐ cell phone numbers,
  - ☐ landline phone numbers, and
  - ☐ email addresses
- design and deploy program reporting dashboards,
- deploy automated segmentation scripts of the following targeting segments:
  - ☐ Mobilization
    - rank-ordered person-level digital audiences, where possible, tract-level where not possible
    - rank-ordered cell phone-level SMS audiences, where possible, tract-level where not possible
    - rank-ordered phone-level patch-through audiences, where possible, tract-level where not possible
    - rank-ordered USPS carrier routes,
    - rank-ordered geofences
  - ☐ Persuasion
    - rank-ordered person-level digital audiences, where possible, tract-level where not possible
    - rank-ordered cell phone-level SMS audiences, where possible, tract-level where not possible
    - rank-ordered phone-level patch-through audiences, where possible, tract-level where not possible
    - rank-ordered USPS carrier routes,
    - rank-ordered geofences
  - ☐ Mobilization/Persuasion hybrid
    - rank-ordered household-level canvassing audiences, where possible, tract-level where not possible
- draft first monthly pulse survey instrument,
- deploy monthly pulse surveys and produce survey toplines,
- train, test, and validate predictive models for use in targeting marketing and community engagement efforts,
- advise program staff on application of data science and reporting products,
- design SMS and patch-through script experiments,

## Marketing

- draft program schedule, including production schedules for clear expectations,
- draft weekly report of activities completed, in progress, and blocked,
- collaborate with data science program staff regarding rapid prototyping of initial creative concepts to deploy,
- design creative for initial campaign launch:
  - ☐ targeted digital advertising,
  - ☐ organic social, and
  - ☐ targeted direct mail
- collaborate with County to secure required access to the following social properties in preparation for launch of digital advertising:
  - ☐ County Judge Lina Hidalgo Facebook page,
  - ☐ County Judge Lina Hidalgo Instagram account,
  - ☐ Harris County Public Health Facebook page,
  - ☐ Harris County Public Health Instagram account, and
- manage the verification process of platforms for the aforementioned accounts,
- launch, monitor, and report out results of advertising campaigns via the following channels:
  - ☐ Google Search
  - ☐ YouTube
  - ☐ Facebook/Instagram
- collaborate with program applied analytics staff to regularly refresh targeting segments in digital advertising campaigns

## Organizing & Community Engagement

- draft program schedule, including production schedules for clear expectations,
- draft weekly report of activities completed, in progress, and blocked,
- hire five (5) Regional Organizing Leads,
- commence recruitment of fifty (50) canvassers for canvassing program targeting households of unvaccinated adults,
- commence weekly sufficient procurement of personal protective equipment (PPE) for fifty (50) canvassers,
- commence regular procurement of printed campaign literature at 130,000 pieces per print order which is sufficient for fifty (50) canvassers,
- collaborate with program analytics staff on messaging best practices and understanding demographics of targeted segments,
- oversee production schedule of launching SMS and patch-through campaigns,
- oversee and manage team of bilingual texters to ensure program's texting goals are met,
- collaborate with program analytics staff on messaging best practices and understanding demographics of targeted segments,
- draft SMS and patch-through scripts for review and approval,
- facilitate two-way communication with community partners such as non-profits and faith-based organizations to:
  - read feedback from the community into the program team, and
  - disseminate and share best practices derived from program surveys and experiments back out to community partners
- monitor communication from residents on digital advertising or organic social media

## 2: Long-term persuasion | Month 5 - Month 11 (est)

## Strategy, Management & Oversight

- execute program schedule in concert with program staff, identify and remove blockers where necessary,
- oversee program budget, and identify strategic reallocation of paid media funds should new data support reallocation,
- oversee production of and deliver program weekly report of activities completed, in progress, and blocked,
- facilitate weekly briefings of Harris County Judge Lina Hidalgo and Harris County Public Health staff,
- oversee and provide strategic guidance on canvassing program targeting households of unvaccinated adults,
- oversee and provide strategic guidance on potential revising monthly pulse survey instrument,
- oversee and provide strategic guidance on content experiments (maximum of four (4) throughout the contract term),
- oversee and provide strategic guidance on creative production process,
- oversee and provide strategic guidance on drafting the following copy:
  - relational organizing text messages, and
  - relational organizing emails
- translate creative and other copy where necessary into the following languages:
  - Spanish,
  - Vietnamese, and
  - Mandarin

## Analytics

- draft weekly report of activities completed, in progress, and blocked,
- deploy monthly pulse surveys and produce survey topline,
- train, test, and validate predictive models for use in targeting canvassing efforts,
- advise program staff on application of data science and reporting products,
- extract, transform, load (ETL) monthly consumer data file install with updated cell phone numbers, landline numbers, and email addresses for optimizing targeting segments,

- continue to gather and integrate external data sources,
- maintain program reporting dashboards,
- maintain automated segmentation scripts of the following targeting segments:
  - Mobilization/Persuasion hybrid
    - rank-ordered household-level canvassing audiences

### **Marketing**

- draft weekly report of activities completed, in progress, and blocked,
- collaborate with data science program staff regarding prototyping of additional organic social and/or canvassing literature creative concepts to deploy, if experimental or survey data suggest

### **Organizing & Community Engagement**

- draft weekly report of activities completed, in progress, and blocked,
- oversee and manage team of fifty (50) canvassers to ensure program's canvassing goals are met,
- continue weekly sufficient procurement of personal protective equipment (PPE) for fifty (50) canvassers,
- continue regular procurement of printed campaign literature at 130,000 pieces per print order which is sufficient for fifty (50) canvassers,
- collaborate with program analytics staff on messaging best practices and understanding demographics of targeted segments,
- facilitate two-way communication with community partners such as non-profits and faith-based organizations to:
  - read feedback from the community into the program team, and
  - disseminate and share best practices derived from program surveys and experiments back out to community partners
- monitor communication from residents on organic social media

## **3: Post-mortem | Month 12 (est)**

### **Strategy, Management & Oversight**

- oversee strategic production of post-mortem analysis and report
- review post-mortem findings with County Judge Lina Hidalgo and Harris County Public Health staff

### **Analytics**

- deploy final monthly pulse survey and produce survey topline,
- draft post-mortem analysis and report

### **Marketing**

- draft post-mortem analysis and report

### **Organizing & Community Engagement**

- offboard fifty (50) canvassers,
- draft post-mortem analysis and report

# EXHIBIT C

## Best and Final Offer (BAFO)

### Cost

#	Task	Activity	Cost
1	Community Outreach Strategy Management and Oversight		\$976,000.00
2	Vaccine Adoption Data - Analysis, Mapping, and Reporting		\$1,607,000.00
3	Support Vaccine Adoption Messaging and Marketing	Bilingual targeted digital advertising	\$586,000.00
		Bilingual USPS Every Door Direct Mail	\$1,619,500.00
		Other	\$244,000.00
4	Community-based Engagement	Bilingual SMS/peer to peer texting	\$285,500.00
		Bilingual patch-through calls	\$1,882,500.00
		Bilingual door to door canvassing	\$3,216,000.00
		Other	\$556,500.00
			\$10,973,000.00



## **EXHIBIT D**

### **Required Federal Clauses**

**(Follow Behind)**

## **FEDERAL REGULATIONS**

The Part 200 Uniform Requirements require that non-Federal entities' contracts contain the applicable provisions described in Appendix II to Part 200 — "Contract Provisions for Non-Federal Entity Contracts Under Federal Awards." Violations of law will be referred to the proper authority in the applicable jurisdiction. All Prime Contractors awarded contracts by Harris County which are federally funded, in whole or in part, are required to comply with the provisions below, if applicable. Additionally, Prime Contractors with Harris County are required to include the provisions below in any contracts executed with subcontractors performing the scope of work and shall pass these requirements on to its subcontractors and third-party contractors, as applicable. In addition to other provisions required by the relevant Federal agency, State of Texas, or Harris County, all contracts made by Harris County under the Federal award shall contain provisions covering the following, as applicable.

### **ACCESS TO RECORDS & RECORD RETENTION (2 CFR 200.336)**

Contractor must provide Harris County, the State of Texas, the Texas General Land Office (GLO), the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), the FEMA Administrator, the Inspectors General, the Comptroller General of the United States, and any other agency or any of their pass-through entities or authorized representatives access to any books, documents, papers, and records of the Contractor and its subcontractors which are directly pertinent to this contract/project for the purposes of making/responding to audits, examinations, excerpts, and transcriptions.

Contractor agrees to permit any of the foregoing parties to reproduce by any means whatsoever or to copy excerpts and transcriptions as reasonably needed.

Contractor agrees to provide the FEMA Administrator or his authorized representatives access to construction or other work sites pertaining to the work being completed under the contract. The right also includes timely and reasonable access to the Contractor's personnel for the purpose of interview and discussion related to such documents.

Contractor must keep records within Harris County or note in its submission that records will be available within the boundaries of Harris County to those representatives within twenty-four (24) hours of request by the County. Contractor must maintain all records pertaining to the project for seven (7) years after receiving final payment and after all other pending matters have been closed.

In compliance with the Disaster Recovery Act of 2018, the County and Contractor acknowledge and agree that no language in this contract is intended to prohibit audits or internal reviews by the FEMA Administrator or the Comptroller General of the United States.

### **ACCESSIBILITY (24 CFR 570.614) & SECTION 504 (29 U.S.C. Section 794 and 24 CFR Parts 8-9)**

Contractor shall comply with all federal, state and local laws and regulations which prohibit recipients of federal funding from discriminating against individuals with disabilities. Applicable laws and regulations with which Contractor shall comply shall include, but are not limited to, the following: Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. Section 794) (24 CFR Parts 8-9); Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990; the Architectural Barriers Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 4151-4157); the Uniform Federal Accessibility Standards (Appendix A to 24 CFR Part 40 and Appendix A to 41 CFR Part 101-19, subpart 101-19.6); the Americans with Disabilities Act (42 U.S.C. 12131; 47 U.S.C. 155, 201, 218, and 225); Texas Administrative Code, Title 10, Chapter 60, Subchapter (B) the Texas Architectural Barriers Act (TABAA); the Architectural Barriers (AB) Rules; and the Texas Accessibility Standards (TAS).

### **BYRD ANTI-LOBBYING AGREEMENT (2 CFR 200 APPENDIX II (J) AND 24 CFR 570.303)**

Pursuant to 31 U.S.C.A. § 1352 (2003), if at any time during the contract term funding to contract exceeds \$100,000.00, the Contractor shall file with the County the Federal Standard Form LLL titled "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying" as laid out in Appendix A to this Agreement.

Each tier certifies to the tier above that it will not and has not used Federal appropriated funds to pay any person or organization for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a member of Congress, officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a member of Congress in connection with obtaining any Federal contract, grant or any other award covered by 31 U.S.C. 1352. Each tier must also disclose any lobbying with non-Federal funds that takes place in connection with obtaining any Federal award. Such disclosures are forwarded from tier to tier up to the recipient who in turn will forward the certification(s) to the awarding agency.

#### **CIVIL RIGHTS ACT OF 1964 (Title VI 42 U.S.C. § 2000d)**

Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 109 of the Community Development Act of 1974, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. Section 794) (24 CFR Parts 8-9), and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12131; 47 U.S.C. 155, 201, 218, and 225), prohibits Contractors from excluding or denying individuals benefits or participation in this project on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, or disability. The provisions require that no person in the United States shall on the ground of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, or disability be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity funded in whole or in part with community development funds made available pursuant to these Acts.

For purposes of this Part "program or activity" is defined as any function conducted by an identifiable administrative unit of the recipient, or private Contractor receiving community development funds or loans from the recipient. "Funded in whole or in part with community development funds" means that community development funds in any amount in the form of grants or proceeds from HUD guaranteed loans have been transferred by the recipient or a subrecipient to an identifiable administrative unit and disbursed in a program or activity. A Contractor may not, under any program or activity to which the regulations of this Part may apply directly or through contractual or other arrangements, on the grounds of race, color, national origin, or sex:

- a. Deny any facilities, services, financial aid or other benefits provided under the program or activity;
- b. Provide any facilities, services, financial aid or other benefits, which are different, or are provided in a different form from that provided to others under the program or activity;
- c. Subject to segregated or separate treatment in any facility in, or in any matter of process related to receipt of any service or benefit under the program or activity;
- d. Restrict in any way access to, or in the enjoyment of any advantage or privilege enjoyed by others in connection with facilities, services, financial aid or other benefits under the program or activity;
- e. Treat an individual differently from others in determining whether the individual satisfies any admission, enrollment, eligibility, membership, or other requirement or condition which the individual must meet in order to be provided any facilities, services or other benefit provided under the program or activity; and
- f. Deny an opportunity to participate in a program or activity as an employee.

#### **CLEAN AIR ACT (2 CFR Appendix II to Part 200 (G))**

Contractor must comply with all provisions of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. § 7401 et seq.) and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1251 et seq.), as amended.

Contractor agrees to report each violation to the County and understands and agrees that the County will, in turn, report each violation as required to assure notification to the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and the appropriate Environmental Protection Agency Regional Office.

Contractor agrees to include these requirements in each subcontract exceeding \$150,000 financed in whole or in part with Federal assistance provided by FEMA.

Contractors securing a contract in excess of \$150,000.00 shall not expend such funds by making use of subcontracting with facilities included on the Environmental Protection Agency List of Violating Facilities as per Section 306 of the Clean Air Act, Section 508 of The Clean Water Act, Executive Order 11738, and Environmental Protection Agency Regulations 40 CFR.

#### **CONTRACT WORK HOURS AND SAFETY STANDARDS ACT (2 CFR Appendix II to Part 200 (E))**

Pursuant to 2 CFR 200 Appendix II (E), if at any time during the contract term funding to contract exceeds \$100,000, the Contractor must comply with the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act (40 U.S.C. 3701-3708). Where applicable, all contracts awarded in excess of \$100,000 that involve the employment of mechanics or laborers must include a provision for compliance with 40 U.S.C. 3702 and 3704, as supplemented by Department of Labor regulations (29 CFR Part 5). Under 40 U.S.C. 3702 of the Act, each contractor must be required to compute the wages of every mechanic and laborer on the basis of a standard work week of 40 hours. Work in excess of the standard work week is permissible provided that the worker is compensated at a rate of not less than one and a half times the basic rate of pay for all hours worked in excess of 40 hours in the work week. The requirements of 40 U.S.C. 3704 are applicable to construction work and provide that no laborer or mechanic must be required to work in surroundings or under working conditions which are unsanitary, hazardous or dangerous. Contractor agrees to comply with the following:

- (1) Overtime Requirements – No contractor or subcontractor contracting for any part of the contract work which may require or involve the employment of laborers or mechanics shall require or permit any such laborer or mechanic in any workweek in which he or she is employed on such work to work in excess of forty hours in such workweek unless such laborer or mechanic receives compensation at a rate not less than one and one-half times the basic rate of pay for all hours worked in excess of forty hours in such workweek.
- (2) Violation; liability for unpaid wages; liquidated damages. In the event of any violation of the clause set forth in paragraph (1) of this section the contractor and any subcontractor responsible therefore shall be liable for the unpaid wages. In addition, such contractor and subcontractor shall be liable to the United States (in the case of work done under contract for the District of Columbia or a territory, to such District or to such territory), for liquidated damages. Such liquidated damages shall be computed with respect to each individual laborer or mechanic, including watchmen and guards, employed in violation of the clause set forth in paragraph (1) of this section, in the sum of \$27 for each calendar day on which such individual was required or permitted to work in excess of the standard workweek of forty hours without payment of the overtime wages required by the clause set forth in paragraph (1) of this section.
- (3) Withholding for unpaid wages and liquidated damages. FEMA shall upon its own action or upon written request of an authorized representative of the Department of Labor withhold or cause to be withheld, from any moneys payable on account of work performed by the contractor or subcontractor under any such contract or any other Federal contract with the same prime contractor, or any other federally-assisted contract subject to the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act, which is held by the same prime contractor, such sums as may be determined to be necessary to satisfy any liabilities of such contractor or subcontractor for unpaid wages and liquidated damages as provided in the clause set forth in paragraph (2) of this section.
- (4) Subcontracts. The contractor or subcontractor shall insert in any subcontracts the clauses set forth in paragraph (1) through (4) of this section and also a clause requiring the subcontractors to include these clauses in any lower tier subcontracts. The prime contractor shall be responsible for compliance by any subcontractor or lower tier subcontractor with the clauses set forth in paragraphs (1) through (4) of this section.

#### **COPELAND "ANTI-KICKBACK" ACT (40 U.S.C. 3145)**

Contractor shall comply with 18 U.S.C. § 874, 40 U.S.C. § 3145, and the requirements of 29 C.F.R. pt. 3 as may be applicable, which are incorporated by reference into this contract.

Contractor or subcontractor shall insert in any subcontracts the clause above and such other clauses as FEMA may by appropriate instructions require, and also a clause requiring the subcontractors to include these clauses in any lower tier subcontracts. Contractor shall be responsible for the compliance by any subcontractor or lower tier subcontractor with all of these contract clauses.

A breach of the contract clauses above may be grounds for termination of the contract, and for debarment as a contractor and subcontractor as provided in 29 C.F.R. § 5.12.

#### **COST PLUS CONTRACTING PROHIBITED (2 CFR 200.323(D))**

Cost-plus-a-percentage-of-cost (CPPC) contracts are prohibited by 2 CFR 200.323(d). The cost plus a percentage of cost and percentage of construction cost methods of contracting must never be used, including in subcontracts and third-party contracts. A cost-plus contract is one that is structured to pay the contractor or subcontractor their actual costs incurred, plus a fixed percent for profit or overhead.

A cost-plus-a-percentage-of-cost (CPPC) contract is a contract containing some element that obligates Harris County or Contractor to pay a contractor or subcontractor an amount (in the form of either profit or cost), undetermined at the time the contract was made, to be incurred in the future, and based on a percentage of future costs. The inclusion of an overall contract ceiling price does not make these forms of contracts acceptable.

This type of contract is prohibited because there is no incentive for the contractor or subcontractor to keep its incurred costs low. Instead, there is a reverse incentive for the contractor or subcontractor to continue to incur additional costs in order to continue to drive the percentage of cost up. In other words, increased spending by the contractor will yield higher profits. This prohibition applies to all work, regardless of the circumstances, and applies to subcontracts of the contractor cases where the prime contract is a cost-reimbursement type contract or subject to price redetermination.

#### **DAVIS BACON AND RELATED ACTS (2 CFR 200 APPENDIX II (D))**

Pursuant to 2 CFR 200 Appendix II (D), for any contract in excess of \$2,000, Contractor must comply with the Davis Bacon and Related Acts, and the requirements shall be applicable to any labor or mechanic work completed in connection with this contract which fall under the Davis Bacon Act. Any Contractor awarded under this contract is required to comply with the Davis Bacon Act (40 U.S.C. 3141-3144, and 3146-3148) as supplemented by Department of Labor regulations (29 CFR part 5) and with the Copeland "Anti-Kickback" Act (18 U.S.C. 874; 40 U.S.C. 3145) as supplemented in Department of Labor regulations (29 CFR part 3). In accordance with the statute, Contractors are required to pay wages to laborers and mechanics at a rate not less than the prevailing wages specified in a wage determination made by the Secretary of Labor. In addition, contractors must be required to pay wages not less than once a week.

If Davis Bacon is applicable, Harris County will provide a copy of the current *Davis Bacon Wage Decision* with this solicitation. The decision to award a contract or subcontract shall be conditioned upon the acceptance of the wage determination. Contractor shall submit certified payroll of contractor and all subcontractors on a weekly basis in the format required by the County. At County's request, Contractor shall make available and shall require its subcontractors to make available, copies of cancelled checks and check stubs for comparisons by the County or its agents.

Such laborers and mechanics shall be paid the appropriate wage rate and fringe benefits on the wage determination for the classification of work actually performed, without regard to skill, except as provided in 29 CFR Part 5.5(a)(4). Laborers or mechanics performing work in more than one classification may be compensated at the rate specified for each classification for the time actually worked therein: Provided that the employer's payroll records

accurately set forth the time spent in each classification in which work is performed. The wage determination (including any additional classification and wage rates conformed under 29 CFR Part 5.5(a)(1)(ii)) and the Davis Bacon poster (WH-1321) shall be posted at all times by the contractor and its subcontractors at the site of the work in a prominent and accessible place where it can be easily seen by the workers.

Each payroll submitted shall be accompanied by a "Statement of Compliance," signed by the contractor or subcontractor or his or her agent who pays or supervises the payment of the persons employed under the contract and shall certify the following. The Statement of Compliance can be found on page 2 of the WH-347 form, and/or additional certifications of compliance may be required by Harris County. Any Statement of Compliance is subject to the penalties provided by 18 U.S.C. § 1001, namely, a fine, possible imprisonment of not more than 5 years, or both. Accordingly, the party signing the statement should have knowledge of the facts represented as true.

Contractor must include this provision in all contracts between itself and any subcontractors in connection with the services performed under this Contract. Harris County shall report all suspected or reported violations to the Federal awarding agency, as applicable.

#### **DEBARMENT / SUSPENSION AND VOLUNTARY EXCLUSION (2 CFR Appendix II to Part 200 (I))**

Pursuant to 2 CFR Appendix II to Part 200 (I), a Contract meeting the definition in 2 C.F.R. § 180.220 must not be made to parties listed on the System for Award Management (SAM) Exclusion lists, in accordance with the OMB guidelines at 2 CFR 180 that implement Executive Orders 12549 (3 CFR part 1986 Comp., p. 189) and 12689 (3 CFR part 1989 Comp., p. 235), "Debarment and Suspension." SAM Exclusions contains the names of parties debarred, suspended, or otherwise excluded by agencies, as well as parties declared ineligible under statutory or regulatory authority other than Executive Order 12549.

Pursuant to Executive Orders 12549 and 12689, a contract award shall not be made to parties listed on the government-wide exclusions in the System for Award Management (SAM), in accordance with the OMB guidelines at 2 CFR 180 that implement Executive Orders 12549 (3 CFR part 1986 Comp., p. 189) and 12689 (3 CFR part 1989 Comp., p. 235). SAM Exclusions contains the names of parties debarred, suspended, or otherwise excluded by agencies, as well as parties declared ineligible under statutory or regulatory authority other than Executive Order 12549. A contract award must not be made to parties listed in the SAM Exclusions. SAM exclusions can be accessed at [www.sam.gov](http://www.sam.gov).

Additionally, no contracts shall be awarded to any Contractor that has been debarred, suspended, or otherwise excluded from or ineligible for participation in any federal programs, including but not limited to the Department of Health and Human Work (DHHS), Office of Inspector General (OIG) - List of Excluded Individuals & Entities (LEIE); U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) – Excluded Parties List System (EPLS); All States (50) Health & Human Work Commission Medicaid OIG Sanction List; Government Terrorist Watch List (OFAC / Patriot Act); Department of Commerce, Bureau of Industry and Security, Denied Persons List; and Department of Homeland Security, Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Most Wanted.

This contract is a covered transaction for purposes of compliance with Title 2 C.F.R. parts 180 and 3000, and as such the Contractor is required to verify that none of the contractor, its principals (as defined at 2 C.F.R. § 180.995), or its affiliates (as defined at 2 C.F.R. § 180.905) are excluded (as defined at 2 C.F.R. § 180.940) or disqualified (as defined at 2 C.F.R. § 180.935). The Contractor must comply with 2 C.F.R. part 180, subpart C and 2 C.F.R. part 3000, subpart C and shall include this requirement and similar certification in all contracts between itself and any subcontractors in connection with the services performed under this Contract.

The Contractor confirms that it is eligible or otherwise not disqualified or prohibited from participation in federal or state assistance programs under Executive Order 12549, *Debarment and Suspension*. Additionally, the Contractor warrants that it is not debarred, suspended, or otherwise excluded from or ineligible for participation in any federal programs, including but not limited to the following: Department of Health and Human Work (DHHS), Office of Inspector General (OIG) - List of Excluded Individuals & Entities (LEIE); U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) – Excluded Parties List System (EPLS); All States (50) Health & Human Work Commission Medicaid OIG Sanction List; Government Terrorist Watch List (OFAC / Patriot Act); Department of Commerce, Bureau of

Industry and Security, Denied Persons List; and Department of Homeland Security, Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Most Wanted. Harris County reserves the right to verify any Offeror's status and document instances of debarment, suspension, or other ineligibility.

The Contractor shall verify that all subcontractors performing work under this Contract are not debarred, disqualified, or otherwise prohibited from participation in accordance with the requirements above. The Contractor further must notify Harris County in writing immediately if Contractor or its subcontractors are not in compliance with Executive Order 12549 during the term of this contract. Contractor shall include this provision in all contracts between itself and any subcontractors in connection with the services performed under this Contract.

Contractor must fill out the required Certification as laid out in Appendix B to this Agreement. This certification is a material representation of fact relied upon by the County. If it is later determined that Contractor did not comply with 2 C.F.R. pt. 180, subpart C and 2 C.F.R. pt. 3000, subpart C, in addition to remedies available to the County, the Federal Government may pursue available remedies, including but not limited to suspension and/or debarment.

Contractor agrees to comply with the requirements of 2 C.F.R. pt. 180, subpart C and 2 C.F.R. pt. 3000, subpart C while this offer is valid and throughout the period of any contract that may arise from this offer. Contractor further agrees to include a provision requiring such compliance in its lower tier covered transactions.

#### **ENERGY EFFICIENCY (42 U.S.C. 6201 and 2 CFR 200 APPENDIX II (H))**

Contractor must comply with the mandatory standards and policies relating to energy efficiency, which are contained in the state energy conservation plan issued in compliance with the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6201). Contractor must include this provision in all contracts between itself and any subcontractors in connection with the services performed under this Contract.

#### **EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY (41 CFR 60-1.4(b) and 2 CFR 200 APPENDIX II (C))**

Contractor must comply with, and incorporate or cause to be incorporated into any contract for construction work, or modification thereof, the Equal Employment Opportunity provisions as follows:

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

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

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

2. The contractor will, in all solicitations or advertisements for employees placed by or on behalf of the contractor, state that all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, or national origin.
3. The contractor will not discharge or in any other manner discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because such employee or applicant has inquired about, discussed, or disclosed the compensation of the employee or applicant or another employee or applicant. This provision shall not apply to instances in which an employee who has access to the compensation information of other employees or applicants as a part of such employee's essential job functions discloses the compensation of such other employees or applicants to individuals who do not otherwise have access to such information, unless such disclosure is in response to a formal complaint or charge, in furtherance of an investigation, proceeding,

hearing, or action, including an investigation conducted by the employer, or is consistent with the contractor's legal duty to furnish information.

4. The contractor will send to each labor union or representative of workers with which he has a collective bargaining agreement or other contract or understanding, a notice to be provided advising the said labor union or workers' representatives of the contractor's commitments under this section, and shall post copies of the notice in conspicuous places available to employees and applicants for employment.
5. The contractor will comply with all provisions of Executive Order 11246 of September 24, 1965, and of the rules, regulations, and relevant orders of the Secretary of Labor.
6. The contractor will furnish all information and reports required by Executive Order 11246 of September 24, 1965, and by rules, regulations, and orders of the Secretary of Labor, or pursuant thereto, and will permit access to his books, records, and accounts by the administering agency and the Secretary of Labor for purposes of investigation to ascertain compliance with such rules, regulations, and orders.
7. In the event of the contractor's noncompliance with the nondiscrimination clauses of this contract or with any of the said rules, regulations, or orders, this contract may be canceled, terminated, or suspended in whole or in part and the contractor may be declared ineligible for further Government contracts or federally assisted construction contracts in accordance with procedures authorized in Executive Order 11246 of September 24, 1965, and such other sanctions may be imposed and remedies invoked as provided in Executive Order 11246 of September 24, 1965, or by rule, regulation, or order of the Secretary of Labor, or as otherwise provided by law.
8. The contractor will include the portion of the sentence immediately preceding paragraph (1) and the provisions of paragraphs (1) through (8) in every subcontract or purchase order unless exempted by rules, regulations, or orders of the Secretary of Labor issued pursuant to section 204 of Executive Order 11246 of September 24, 1965, so that such provisions will be binding upon each subcontractor or vendor. The contractor will take such action with respect to any subcontract or purchase order as the administering agency may direct as a means of enforcing such provisions, including sanctions for noncompliance:

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

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

The applicant agrees that it will assist and cooperate actively with the administering agency and the Secretary of Labor in obtaining the compliance of contractors and subcontractors with the equal opportunity clause and the rules, regulations, and relevant orders of the Secretary of Labor, that it will furnish the administering agency and the Secretary of Labor such information as they may require for the supervision of such compliance, and that it will otherwise assist the administering agency in the discharge of the agency's primary responsibility for securing compliance.

The applicant further agrees that it will refrain from entering into any contract or contract modification subject to Executive Order 11246 of September 24, 1965, with a contractor debarred from, or who has not demonstrated eligibility for, Government contracts and federally assisted construction contracts pursuant to the Executive Order and will carry out such sanctions and penalties for violation of the equal opportunity clause as may be imposed upon contractors and subcontractors by the administering agency or the Secretary of Labor pursuant to Part II, Subpart D of the Executive Order. In addition, the applicant agrees that if it fails or refuses to comply with these undertakings, the administering agency may take any or all of the following actions: Cancel, terminate, or suspend in whole or in part this grant (contract, loan, insurance, guarantee); refrain from extending any further assistance to the applicant under the program with respect to which the failure or refund occurred until satisfactory assurance of



future compliance has been received from such applicant; and refer the case to the Department of Justice for appropriate legal proceedings.

Contractor must include the equal opportunity clause in each of its nonexempt subcontracts, and to require all non-exempt subcontractors to include the equal opportunity clause in each of its nonexempt subcontracts.

#### **EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY FOR WORKERS WITH DISABILITIES (48 CFR 52.222-36)**

During the performance of this contract, the Contractor must comply with required Equal Employment Opportunity for Workers with Disabilities provisions.

Contractor shall include the following equal opportunity clause in each of its covered Government contracts or subcontracts (and modifications, renewals, or extensions thereof if not included in the original contract):

- a. Equal opportunity clause. The Contractor shall abide by the requirements of the equal opportunity clause at 41 CFR 60-741.5(a), as of March 24, 2014. This clause prohibits discrimination against qualified individuals on the basis of disability, and requires affirmative action by the Contractor to employ and advance in employment qualified individuals with disabilities.
- b. Subcontracts. The Contractor shall include the terms of this clause in every subcontract or purchase order in excess of \$15,000 unless exempted by rules, regulations, or orders of the Secretary, so that such provisions will be binding upon each subcontractor or vendor. The Contractor shall act as specified by the Director, Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs of the U.S. Department of Labor, to enforce the terms, including action for noncompliance. Such necessary changes in language may be made as shall be appropriate to identify properly the parties and their undertakings.

#### **EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY FOR VEVRAA PROTECTED VETERANS (41 CFR 60.300)**

Harris County is an equal opportunity employer of protected veterans. During the performance of this contract, the Contractor must comply with required Equal Employment Opportunity for VEVRAA Protected Veterans provisions.

Contractor shall include the following equal opportunity clause in each of its covered Government contracts or subcontracts (and modifications, renewals, or extensions thereof if not included in the original contract):

- a. The definitions set forth in 41 CFR 60-300.2 apply to the terms used throughout this Clause, and they are incorporated herein by reference.
- b. The contractor shall not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because he or she is a disabled veteran, recently separated veteran, active duty wartime or campaign badge veteran, or Armed Forces service medal veteran (hereinafter collectively referred to as "protected veteran(s)") in regard to any position for which the employee or applicant for employment is qualified. The contractor agrees to take affirmative action to employ, advance in employment and otherwise treat qualified individuals without discrimination based on their status as a protected veteran in all employment practices, including the following:
  - i. Recruitment, advertising, and job application procedures.
  - ii. Hiring, upgrading, promotion, award of tenure, demotion, transfer, layoff, termination, right of return from layoff and rehiring.
  - iii. Rates of pay or any other form of compensation and changes in compensation.
  - iv. Job assignments, job classifications, organizational structures, position descriptions, lines of progression, and seniority lists.

- v. Leaves of absence, sick leave, or any other leave.
  - vi. Fringe benefits available by virtue of employment, whether or not administered by the contractor.
  - vii. Selection and financial support for training, including apprenticeship, and on-the-job training under 38 U.S.C. 3687, professional meetings, conferences, and other related activities, and selection for leaves of absence to pursue training.
  - viii. Activities sponsored by the contractor including social or recreational programs.
  - ix. Any other term, condition, or privilege of employment.
- c. The contractor shall immediately list all employment openings which exist at the time of the execution of this contract and those which occur during the performance of this contract, including those not generated by this contract and including those occurring at an establishment of the contractor other than the one where the contract is being performed, but excluding those of independently operated corporate affiliates, with the appropriate employment service delivery system where the opening occurs. Listing employment openings with the state workforce agency job bank or with the local employment service delivery system where the opening occurs will satisfy the requirement to list jobs with the appropriate employment service delivery system. In order to satisfy the listing requirement described herein, contractors must provide information about the job vacancy in any manner and format permitted by the appropriate employment service delivery system which will allow that system to provide priority referral of veterans protected by VEVRAA for that job vacancy. Providing information on employment openings to a privately run job service or exchange will satisfy the contractor's listing obligation if the privately run job service or exchange provides the information to the appropriate employment service delivery system in any manner and format that the employment service delivery system permits which will allow that system to provide priority referral of protected veterans.
- d. Listing of employment openings with the appropriate employment service delivery system pursuant to this clause shall be made at least concurrently with the use of any other recruitment source or effort and shall involve the normal obligations which attach to the placing of a bona fide job order, including the acceptance of referrals of veterans and nonveterans. The listing of employment openings does not require the hiring of any particular job applicants or from any particular group of job applicants, and nothing herein is intended to relieve the contractor from any requirements in Executive orders or regulations regarding nondiscrimination in employment.
- e. Whenever a contractor, other than a state or local governmental contractor, becomes contractually bound to the listing provisions in paragraphs 2 and 3 of this clause, it shall advise the employment service delivery system in each state where it has establishments that: (a) It is a Federal contractor, so that the employment service delivery systems are able to identify them as such; and (b) it desires priority referrals from the state of protected veterans for job openings at all locations within the state. The contractor shall also provide to the employment service delivery system the name and location of each hiring location within the state and the contact information for the contractor official responsible for hiring at each location. The "contractor official" may be a chief hiring official, a Human Resources contact, a senior management contact, or any other manager for the contractor that can verify the information set forth in the job listing and receive priority referrals from employment service delivery systems. In the event that the contractor uses any external job search organizations to assist in its hiring, the contractor shall also provide to the employment service delivery system the contact information for the job search organization(s). The disclosures required by this paragraph shall be made simultaneously with the contractor's first job listing at each employment service delivery system location after the effective date of this final rule. Should any of the information in the disclosures change since it was last reported to the employment service delivery system location, the contractor shall provide updated information simultaneously with its next job listing. As long as the contractor is contractually bound to these provisions and has so advised the employment service delivery system, there is no need to advise the employment service delivery system of subsequent contracts. The contractor may advise the employment service delivery system when it is no longer bound by this contract clause.

- f. The provisions of paragraphs 2 and 3 of this clause do not apply to the listing of employment openings which occur and are filled outside of the 50 states, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Guam, the Virgin Islands, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Wake Island, and the Trust Territories of the Pacific Islands.
- g. As used in this clause:
- i. All employment openings includes all positions except executive and senior management, those positions that will be filled from within the contractor's organization, and positions lasting three days or less. This term includes full-time employment, temporary employment of more than three days' duration, and part-time employment.
  - ii. Executive and senior management means: (1) Any employee (a) compensated on a salary basis at a rate of not less than \$455 per week (or \$380 per week, if employed in American Samoa by employers other than the Federal Government), exclusive of board, lodging or other facilities; (b) whose primary duty is management of the enterprise in which the employee is employed or of a customarily recognized department or subdivision thereof; (c) who customarily and regularly directs the work of two or more other employees; and (d) who has the authority to hire or fire other employees or whose suggestions and recommendations as to the hiring, firing, advancement, promotion or any other change of status of other employees are given particular weight; or (2) any employee who owns at least a bona fide 20-percent equity interest in the enterprise in which the employee is employed, regardless of whether the business is a corporate or other type of organization, and who is actively engaged in its management.
  - iii. Positions that will be filled from within the contractor's organization means employment openings for which no consideration will be given to persons outside the contractor's organization (including any affiliates, subsidiaries, and parent companies) and includes any openings which the contractor proposes to fill from regularly established "recall" lists. The exception does not apply to a particular opening once an employer decides to consider applicants outside of his or her own organization.
- h. The contractor shall comply with the rules, regulations, and relevant orders of the Secretary of Labor issued pursuant to the Act.
- i. In the event of the contractor'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.
- j. The contractor agrees to post in conspicuous places, available to employees and applicants for employment, notices in a form to be prescribed by the Director, Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs, provided by or through the contracting officer. Such notices shall state the rights of applicants and employees as well as the contractor's obligation under the law to take affirmative action to employ and advance in employment qualified employees and applicants who are protected veterans. The contractor must ensure that applicants or employees who are disabled veterans are provided the notice in a form that is accessible and understandable to the disabled veteran (e.g., providing Braille or large print versions of the notice, posting the notice for visual accessibility to persons in wheelchairs, providing the notice electronically or on computer disc, or other versions). With respect to employees who do not work at a physical location of the contractor, a contractor will satisfy its posting obligations by posting such notices in an electronic format, provided that the contractor provides computers that can access the electronic posting to such employees, or the contractor has actual knowledge that such employees otherwise are able to access the electronically posted notices. Electronic notices for employees must be posted in a conspicuous location and format on the company's intranet or sent by electronic mail to employees. An electronic posting must be used by the contractor to notify job applicants of their rights if the contractor utilizes an electronic application process. Such electronic applicant notice must be conspicuously stored with, or as part of, the electronic application.
- k. The contractor will notify each labor organization or representative of workers with which it has a collective bargaining agreement or other contract understanding that the contractor is bound by the terms of VEVRAA,

and is committed to take affirmative action to employ and advance in employment, and shall not discriminate against, protected veterans.

- l. The contractor will include the provisions of this clause in every subcontract or purchase order of \$100,000 or more, unless exempted by the rules, regulations, or orders of the Secretary issued pursuant to VEVRAA so that such provisions will be binding upon each subcontractor or vendor. The contractor will take such action with respect to any subcontract or purchase order as the Director, Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs, may direct to enforce such provisions, including action for noncompliance.
- m. The contractor must, in all solicitations or advertisements for employees placed by or on behalf of the contractor, state that all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to their protected veteran status.
- n. The Contractor shall forfeit as a penalty to the County who administers the subject Project receiving Federal assistance, Sixty Dollars (\$60.00) for each worker, employed for each calendar day, or a portion thereof, such worker is paid less than the said stipulated rates for any work done under this Project, by him/her or by any contractor under him/her.
- o. All contractors shall keep, or cause to be kept, an accurate record showing the names of all workers, also the actual per diem wages paid to each of such workers.

#### **FAIR LABOR STANDARDS ACT**

Contractor must comply the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 (29 U.S.C. Section 201 et seq.) as now or hereafter amended, which regulates wage, hour and other employment practices that govern the use of funds provided and the employment of personnel under this contract. The Contractor warrants that it will pay all its workers all monies earned by its workers including, but not limited to regular wages, any overtime compensation, or any additional payments pursuant to the Fair Labor Standards Act, 29 United States Code (U.S.C.) Section 207 9a(1), as amended; the Texas Pay Day Act; the Equal Pay Act; Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 42 U.S.C. Section 2000, et al., as amended; or any provisions of the Texas Labor Code Ann., as amended.

#### **FLOOD DISASTER PROTECTION ACT OF 1973 (24 CFR 570.605)**

Contractor must comply with the provisions in 24 CFR 570.605, Section 202(a) of the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 (42 U.S.C. 4106), and the regulations in 44 CFR Parts 59-79.

#### **GREEN BUILDING STANDARDS**

At a minimum, Contractors must comply with local codes and any applicable national building codes for any work involving rehabilitation or construction, including design. When a contract is funded, in whole or in part, by HUD funding, Contractors must comply with applicable Green Building standards to the maximum extent feasible. Green Building standards may apply to single-family properties, multifamily properties, or both and may include, but are not limited to best practices defined under LEED, Enterprise Green Communities, or NAHB National Green Building Standards and may include specific measures for water conservation, energy efficiency, and indoor air quality. Offeror must comply with the following standards, as applicable:

2009 ICC International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) ASHRAE 90.1-2007, which sets minimum energy standards for buildings except low-rise residential buildings ASHRAE 62.1-2010 and 62.2-2010, which set minimum standards for ventilation for indoor air quality for common areas in mid- and high-rise buildings, and low-rise residential buildings, respectively.

New or replacement residential housing, when funded by CDBG-DR grants, must adhere to Green Building standards, including Energy Star Certified Homes or Energy Star for Multifamily High Rise and other applicable green building requirements.

Moderate residential housing rehabilitation, when funded by CDBG-DR grants, must comply with the Community Planning & Development (CPD) Retrofit Checklist and provide Energy Star appliances, Water Sense or FEMP products if replaced.

New or replacement residential housing, when funded by CDBG-DR grants, must adhere to Green Building standards, including Energy Star Certified Homes or Energy Star for Multifamily High Rise and other applicable green building requirements.

#### **HOLD HARMLESS AGREEMENT**

Contractor shall indemnify, defend, and hold harmless Harris County and shall procure and maintain insurance coverage as required by the Agreement.

#### **OBLIGATION OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT**

The Federal Government is not a party to this contract and is not subject to any obligations or liabilities to the non-Federal entity, contractor, or any other party pertaining to any matter resulting from the contract.

#### **LEAD-BASED PAINT (24 CFR 570.608)**

Contractor must comply with the provisions found in 24 CFR 570.608, the Lead-Based Paint Poisoning Prevention Act (42 U.S.C. 4821-4846), the Residential Lead Based Paint Hazard Reduction Act of 1992 (U.S.C. 4851-4856, and 24 CFR Part 35, subparts A, B, J, K, and R. This Article 2(f) is to be included in all subcontracts, for work in connection with this Contract, which relate to residential structures.

#### **NON-COLLUSION (The Sherman Act)**

Contractor must comply with the requirements of The Sherman Act, which prohibit collusion. Collusion occurs when two persons or representatives of an entity or organization make an agreement to deceive or mislead another. Such agreements are usually secretive and involve fraud or gaining an unfair advantage over a third party, competitors, consumers or others with whom they are negotiating. The collusion, therefore, makes the bargaining process inherently unfair. Collusion can involve promises of future benefits, price or wage fixing, kickbacks, or misrepresenting the independence of the relationship between the colluding parties.

The Sherman Act prohibits any agreement among competitors to fix prices, rig bids, or engage in other anticompetitive activity. Collusion, bid rigging, or other anticompetitive activity is considered a felony.

Contractor shall not in any way, directly or indirectly:

- a. Collude, conspire, or agree with any other person, firm, corporation, Offeror or potential Offeror to the amount of this Offer or the terms or conditions of this Offer.
- b. Pay or agree to pay any other person, firm, corporation Offeror or potential Offeror any money or anything of value in return for assistance in procuring or attempting to procure a contract or in return for establishing the prices in the attached Offer or the Offer of any other Offeror.
- c. Assemble in coordination with any other organization in an attempt to fix the price of the work.

Contractors are expected to report any suspected fraud, collusion, or impropriety from the inception of solicitation through the end of the contract term.

#### **NON-SEGREGATED FACILITIES**

“Prohibition of Segregated Facilities”

- a. Segregated facilities means any waiting rooms, work areas, rest rooms and wash rooms, restaurants and other eating areas, time clocks, locker rooms and other storage or dressing areas, parking lots, drinking fountains, recreation or entertainment areas, transportation, and housing facilities provided for employees, that are segregated by explicit directive or are in fact segregated on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, or national origin because of written or oral policies or employee custom. The term does not include separate or single-user rest rooms or necessary dressing or sleeping areas provided to assure privacy between the sexes.

Sexual orientation has the meaning given by the Department of Labor's Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs, and is found at [www.dol.gov/ofccp/LGBT/LGBT\\_FAQs.html](http://www.dol.gov/ofccp/LGBT/LGBT_FAQs.html).

- b. The Contractor agrees that it does not and will not maintain or provide for its employees any segregated facilities at any of its establishments, and that it does not and will not permit its employees to perform their services at any location under its control where segregated facilities are maintained. The Contractor agrees that a breach of this clause is a violation of the Equal Opportunity clause in this contract.
- c. The Contractor shall include this clause in every subcontract and purchase order that is subject to the Equal Opportunity clause of this contract.

#### **PARTICIPATION BY MINORITY & WOMEN-OWNED BUSINESS ENTERPRISES (2 CFR 200.321)**

Contractor must comply with the Minority and Women-owned Business Enterprise participation requirements under 2 CFR 200.321. Contractors must take all affirmative steps necessary to subcontract with Minority and Women-owned Business Enterprises (MWBEs) to assure that MWBEs are used when possible. These affirmative steps shall include:

- A. Placing qualified small and minority businesses and women's business enterprises on solicitation lists;
- B. Assuring that small and minority businesses, and women's business enterprises are solicited whenever they are potential sources;
- C. Dividing total requirements, when economically feasible, into smaller tasks or quantities to permit maximum participation by small and minority businesses, and women's business enterprises;
- D. Establishing delivery schedules, where the requirement permits, which encourage participation by small and minority businesses, and women's business enterprises; and
- E. Using the services and assistance, as appropriate, of such organizations as the Small Business Administration and the Minority Business Development Agency of the Department of Commerce.

The State of Texas maintains a Historically Underutilized Business Program, which identifies any business at least 51 percent owned by an Asian Pacific American, Black American, Hispanic American, Native American, American woman and/or Service Disabled Veteran, who reside in Texas and actively participate in the control, operations and management of the entity's affairs as a Historically Underutilized Business (also considered MWBE). Contractors who wish to check the status of a firm may visit <https://comptroller.texas.gov/purchasing/vendor/hub/>.

Offerors are required to facilitate Minority & Women-Owned Business Enterprise participation and must describe their MWBE Utilization Plan as part of their Offer. The MWBE Utilization Plan should include Offeror's subcontracting and hiring plans, as well as a list of the MWBE or HUB firms Offeror intends to utilize to perform the contract. Offerors are encouraged to utilize MWBEs / HUB firms as subcontractors, subconsultants, or suppliers in order to comply with the requirements and may check for firms who perform relevant work by searching <https://comptroller.texas.gov/purchasing/vendor/hub/>. Offerors must include the certification or documentation that it, or its subcontractors, is HUB-certified by the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts or the local MWBE office in their jurisdiction.

Contractor must facilitate Minority & Women-Owned Business Enterprise participation and take all affirmative steps to utilize MWBEs / HUB firms as subcontractors, subconsultants, or suppliers throughout the life of the Contract. Failure to include a MWBE Utilization Plan may deem Statement of Qualifications non-responsive.

## **POTENTIAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

Pursuant to 2 CFR 200.112, Contractor must comply with disclosure requirements in accordance with Texas Local Government Code, Chapter 176. Contractor shall not use funds to directly or indirectly pay any person for influencing or attempting to influence any public employee or official in connection with the awarding of any contract or the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment or modification of any contract. By law, the *Conflict of Interest Questionnaire* (provided by the Texas Ethics Commission at [www.ethics.state.tx.us](http://www.ethics.state.tx.us)) must be filed with the records administrator of the local governmental entity not later than the 7th business day after the date the Contractor becomes aware of facts that require the statement to be filed.

This law requires persons desiring to do business with the County to disclose any gifts valued in excess of \$250 given to any County Official or the County Official's family member, or employment of any County Official or the County Official's family member during the preceding twelve (12) month period. The disclosure questionnaire must be filed with the Harris County Clerk. Refer to Texas Local Government Code, Chapter 176 for the details of this law.

An outside consultant or contractor is prohibited from submitting a Statement of Qualifications for services on a Harris County project of which the consultant or contractor was a designer or other previous contributor, or was an affiliate, subsidiary, joint venturer or was in any other manner associated by ownership to any party that was a designer or other previous contributor. If such a consultant or contractor submits a prohibited Statement of Qualifications, that response shall be disqualified on the basis of conflict of interest, no matter when the conflict is discovered by Harris County.

## **PREVAILING WAGES (2 CFR 200 APPENDIX II (D) and TGC 2258)**

Pursuant to 2 CFR 200 Appendix II (D), Contractor must comply with Texas Government Code (TGC) 2258, Prevailing Wage Rates. Accordingly, Contractor must submit a certified payroll records as required, and compensate any worker employed on a public works project not less than as applicable. As noted under "Davis Bacon and Related Acts", when required by Federal program legislation, construction contracts in excess of \$2,000 awarded by Harris County shall require compliance with the Davis-Bacon Act (40 U.S.C. 3141-3144, and 3146-3148) as supplemented by Department of Labor regulations (29 CFR Part 5, "Labor Standards Provisions Applicable to Contracts Covering Federally Financed and Assisted Construction"). In accordance with the statute, Contractor must pay wages to laborers and mechanics at a rate not less than the local prevailing wages, or Davis Bacon wages, as applicable. If both Texas prevailing wages and Davis Bacon provide rates for a particular class, Contractors must pay the greater wage rate. In addition, Contractor must pay wages not less than once a week.

In compliance with Section 2258 of the Texas Government Code, Contractor and any subcontractor hired by Contractor for the construction of any project, shall pay not less than the rates set forth in the Schedule of Prevailing Wages attached and incorporated by reference. In submitting a Statement of Qualifications, Contractor warrants that it and its subcontractors shall comply with all requirements and worker ratios per the applicable Schedule of Prevailing Wages and Texas state law.

Contractor must submit certified payroll of contractor and all subcontractors on a weekly basis. At County's request, Contractor must make available and shall require its subcontractors to make available, copies of cancelled checks and check stubs for comparisons by the County or its agents. Regardless of whether Davis Bacon or Texas Prevailing Wages apply, the County reserves the right for its agents to visit the project site and to interview contractor, its subcontractors and employees of each on any date or time, as often as desired during the construction period, without prior notification.

Harris County will ascertain if proper wage rates are being paid to the employees as required. In the event of a discrepancy between the work performed and the wages paid, the County shall document same and notify Contractor. If, for any length of time and as determined by Harris County, discrepancies appear between the certified payrolls and the actual wage paid, the County shall require check stubs to be attached to each weekly certified payroll.

Pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 2258.051, the County reserves the right to withhold any monies due Contractor until such discrepancy is resolved and the necessary adjustment made. The Contractor shall forfeit as a penalty, in accordance with Texas Government Code Section 2258.023(b), to the County or entity who administers the subject Project receiving Federal assistance, Sixty Dollars (\$60.00) for each worker, employed for each calendar day, or a portion thereof, such worker is paid less than the said stipulated rates for any work done under this Project, by him/her or by any contractor/subcontractor under him/her.

All contractor/subcontractor shall keep, or cause to be kept, an accurate record showing the names of all workers, also the actual per diem wages paid to each of such workers. Contractor shall impose these same obligations upon its Subcontractors. Contractor understands that with weekly or monthly certified payrolls, contractor is responsible for any and all penalties that shall accrue during the month, regardless of the fact that any error could not be discovered by the Contract Compliance Officer until the following certified payroll.

#### **PROCUREMENT OF RECOVERED MATERIALS (2 CFR 200.322)**

In the performance of this Agreement, Contractor shall make maximum use of products containing recovered materials that are EPA-designated items unless the product cannot be acquired—

- Competitively within a timeframe providing for compliance with the contract performance schedule;
- Meeting contract performance requirements; or
- At a reasonable price.

Information about this requirement, along with the list of EPA-designated items, is available at EPA's Comprehensive Procurement Guidelines web site, <https://www.epa.gov/smm/comprehensive-procurement-guideline-cpg-program>.

Contractor also agrees to comply with all other applicable requirements of Section 6002 of the Solid Waste Disposal Act.

#### **PROGRAM FRAUD AND FALSE OR FRAUDULENT STATEMENTS OR RELATED ACTS**

Contractor must comply with 31 U.S.C. Chapter 38, *Administrative Remedies for False Claims and Statements*, which shall apply to the activities and actions of the Contractor and its subcontractors pertaining to any matter resulting from the contract.

#### **RESTRICTIONS ON PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND PUBLIC WORKS PROJECTS CERTIFICATION**

- a. Definitions. The definitions pertaining to this provision are those that are set forth on the clause entitled "Restrictions on Public Works Projects." (Set out under "Contract Clauses" below.)
- b. Certification. Except as provided in paragraph (C) of this provision, by submission of its Statement of Qualifications, Offeror certifies that it:
  - i. Is not a Contractor of a foreign country included on the list of countries that discriminate against U.S. firms published by the Office of the United States Trade Representative (USTR) (see paragraph (H) of this provision);
  - ii. Has not or will not enter into any subcontract with a subcontractor of a foreign country included on the list of countries that discriminate against U.S. firms published by the USTR, and



- iii. Will not provide any product of a country included on the list of foreign countries that discriminate against the U.S. firms published by the USTR.
- c. Inability to certify. An Offeror unable to certify in accordance with paragraph (b) of this provision shall submit with its offer a written explanation fully describing the reasons for its inability to make the certification.
- d. Applicability of 18 U.S.C. 1001. This certification is paragraph (B) of this provision concerns a matter within the jurisdiction of an agency of the United States, and the making of a false, fictitious, or fraudulent certification may render the maker subject to prosecution under Title 18 U.S.C. 1001.
- e. Notice. Offeror shall provide written notice to the Contracting Officer if, at any time before the contract award, Offeror learns that its certification was erroneous when submitted or has become erroneous by reason of changed circumstances.
- f. Restrictions on contract award. Unless a waiver to these restrictions is granted by the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, no contract will be awarded to an Offeror (1) who is owned or controlled by a citizen or national of a foreign country included on the list of foreign countries that discriminate against U.S. firms published by the USTR, (2) whose subcontractors are owned or controlled by citizens or national of a foreign country on the USTR list or, (3) who incorporates any product of a foreign country on the USTR list in the public works project.
- g. USTR List. The USTR published an initial list in the Federal Register on December 30, 1987 (53 FR 49244), which identified one country-Japan. The USTR can add countries to the list, and remove countries from it, in accordance with section 109 (C) of PUB. L. 100-202.

#### **RESTRICTIONS ON PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND PUBLIC WORKS PROJECTS**

- a. Definitions. "Component", as used in this clause, means those articles, materials, and supplies incorporated directly into the product. "Contractor or subcontractor of a foreign country," as used in this clause, means any Contractor or subcontractor that is a citizen or national of a foreign country or is controlled directly or indirectly by citizens or nationals of a foreign country. A contractor or subcontractor shall be considered to be a citizen or national of a foreign country, or controlled directly or indirectly by citizens or nationals of a foreign country:
  - i. If 50 percent or more of the Contractor or subcontractor is owned by a citizen or a national of the foreign country;
  - ii. If the title to 50 percent or more of the stock of the Contractor or subcontractor is held subject to trust or fiduciary obligation in favor of citizens or nationals of the foreign country.
  - iii. If 50 percent or more of the voting power in the Contractor or subcontractor is vested in or exercisable on behalf of a citizen or national of the foreign country;
  - iv. In the case of a partnership, if any general partner is a citizen of the foreign country;
  - v. In the case of a corporation. If its presidents or other chief executive officer or the chairman of its board of directors is a citizen of the foreign country or the majority of any number of its directors necessary to constitute a quorum are citizens of the foreign country or the corporation is organized under the laws of the foreign country or any subdivision, territory, or possession thereof; or
  - vi. In case of a contractor or subcontractor who is a joint venture, if any participant firm is a citizen or national of a foreign country or meets any of the criteria in subparagraphs (A) 1 through 5 of this clause. "Product", as used in this clause, means construction materials, i.e.

articles, materials and supplies brought to the construction site for incorporation into the public works project, including permanently affixed equipment, instruments, utilities, electronic or other devices, but not including vehicles or construction equipment. In determining the origin of a product, Harris County will consider a product as produce in a foreign country if it has been assembled or manufactured in the foreign country, or if the cost of the components mined, produced, or manufactured in the foreign country exceed 50 percent of the cost of all its components.

- b. **Restrictions.** The Contractor shall not (1) knowingly enter into any subcontract under this contract with a subcontractor of a foreign country included on the list of countries that discriminate against U.S. firms published by the United States Trade Representative (see paragraph (C) of this clause, or (2) supply any product under this contract of a country included on the list of foreign countries that discriminate against U.S. firms published by the USTR.
- c. **USTR List.** The USTR published an initial list in the Federal Register on December 30, 1987 (53 FR 49244), which identified one country-Japan. The USTR can add other countries to the list, or remove countries from it, in accordance with section 109 (C) of PUB. L. 100-102.
- d. **Certification.** The Contractor may rely upon the certification of a prospective subcontractor that it is not a subcontractor of a foreign country included on the list of countries that discriminate against U.S. firms published by the USTR and that products supplied by such subcontractor for use on the Federal public works project under this contract are not products of a foreign country included on the list of foreign countries that discriminate against U.S. firms published by the USTR, unless such Contractor has knowledge that the certification is erroneous.
- e. **Subcontractors.** The Contractor shall incorporate this clause, modified only for the purpose of properly identifying the parties, in all subcontracts. This paragraph (E) shall also be incorporated in all subcontracts.

#### **RIGHTS TO INVENTIONS (2 CFR Appendix II to Part 200 (F))**

Any discovery or invention that arises during the course of the contract shall be reported to Harris County. This clause requires the Contractor to disclose promptly inventions to the County (within 2 months) after the inventor discloses it in writing to Contractor personnel responsible for patent matters. The awarding agency shall determine how rights in the invention/discovery shall be allocated consistent with "Government Patent Policy" and Title 37 C.F.R. § 401.

If the Federal award meets the definition of "funding agreement" under 37 C.F.R. §401.2(a) and the recipient or subrecipient wishes to enter into a contract with a small business firm or nonprofit organization regarding the substitution of parties, assignment or performance of experimental, developmental, or research work under that "funding agreement," the recipient or subrecipient must comply with the requirements of Title 37 C.F.R. §401, "Rights to Inventions Made by Nonprofit Organizations and Small Business Firms Under Government Grants, Contracts and Cooperative Agreements," and any implementing regulations issued by the awarding agency.

#### **SECTION 109 OF THE HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 1974 (24 CFR 570.602)**

Section 109 of the Act requires that no person in the United States shall on the grounds of race, color, national origin, religion, or sex be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance made available pursuant to the Act. Section 109 also directs that the prohibitions against discrimination on the basis of age under the Age Discrimination Act and the prohibitions against discrimination on the basis of disability under Section 504 shall apply to programs or activities receiving Federal financial assistance under Title I programs. The policies and procedures necessary to ensure enforcement of section 109 are codified in 24 CFR part 6.

### **SECTION 3 ACT OF 1968 (12 U.S.C. 1701u and 24 CFR Part 135)**

For any HUD-funded contract with a value in excess of \$100,000, Contractor and subcontractors must comply with the Section 3 Act of 1968. The purpose of Section 3 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 to 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. Section 3 is triggered when the normal completion of construction and rehabilitation projects creates the need for new employment, contracting, or training opportunities.

For any Section 3 Covered Contracts, Contractor and subcontractors must comply with all provisions of the Section 3 Act of 1968, contained under 24 CFR 135. Contractor and subcontractors must include the Section 3 Clause in its entirety, in every subcontract subject to compliance with regulations in 24 CFR 135.

Contractor and subcontractors must assure that to the greatest extent feasible, contracts for work to be performed in connection with the project are awarded to Section 3 Business Concerns. Contractor and subcontractors must post all new hire opportunities with the local Workforce Solutions Center and/or Work- in-Texas, in accordance with 24 CFR 135. The minimum numeric goals for Section 3 utilization are:

- 30 percent of total number of new hires are Section 3 Residents (i.e. 1 out of 3 new hires);
- 10 percent of all awarded construction contracts are awarded to Section 3 Business Concerns;
- 3 percent of all awarded non-construction contracts are awarded to Section 3 Business Concerns.

#### **12 U.S.C. 1701u and 24 CFR Part 135:**

- A. The work to be performed under this contract is subject to the requirements of section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968, as amended, 12 U.S.C. 1701u (section 3). The purpose of section 3 is to ensure that employment and other economic opportunities generated by HUD assistance or HUD-assisted projects covered by section 3, shall, to the greatest extent feasible, be directed to low- and very low-income persons, particularly persons who are recipients of HUD assistance for housing.
- B. The parties to this contract agree to comply with HUD's regulations in 24 CFR part 135, which implement section 3. As evidenced by their execution of this contract, the parties to this contract certify that they are under no contractual or other impediment that would prevent them from complying with the part 135 regulations.
- C. The contractor agrees to send to each labor organization or representative of workers with which the contractor has a collective bargaining agreement or other understanding, if any, a notice advising the labor organization or workers' representative of the contractor's commitments under this section 3 clause, and will post copies of the notice in conspicuous places at the work site where both employees and applicants for training and employment positions can see the notice. The notice shall describe the section 3 preference, shall set forth minimum number and job titles subject to hire, availability of apprenticeship and training positions, the qualifications for each; and the name and location of the person(s) taking applications for each of the positions; and the anticipated date the work shall begin.
- D. The contractor agrees to include this section 3 clause in every subcontract subject to compliance with regulations in 24 CFR part 135, and agrees to take appropriate action, as provided in an applicable provision of the subcontract or in this section 3 clause, upon a finding that the subcontractor is in violation of the regulations in 24 CFR part 135. The contractor will not subcontract with any subcontractor where the contractor has notice or knowledge that the subcontractor has been found in violation of the regulations in 24 CFR part 135.

- E. The contractor will certify that any vacant employment positions, including training positions, that are filled (1) after the contractor is selected but before the contract is executed, and (2) with persons other than those to whom the regulations of 24 CFR part 135 require employment opportunities to be directed, were not filled to circumvent the contractor's obligations under 24 CFR part 135.
- F. Noncompliance with HUD's regulations in 24 CFR part 135 may result in sanctions, termination of this contract for default, and debarment or suspension from future HUD assisted contracts.
- G. With respect to work performed in connection with section 3 covered Indian housing assistance, section 7(b) of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 450e) also applies to the work to be performed under this contract. Section 7(b) requires that to the greatest extent feasible (i) preference and opportunities for training and employment shall be given to Indians, and (ii) preference in the award of contracts and sub contracts shall be given to Indian organizations and Indian-owned Economic Enterprises. Parties to this contract that are subject to the provisions of section 3 and section 7(b) agree to comply with section 3 to the maximum extent feasible, but not in derogation of compliance with section 7(b).

#### **TRANSACTIONS WITH TERRORIST ORGANIZATIONS PROHIBITED (Texas Government Code 2252.152)**

Pursuant to Chapter 2252, Texas Government Code, Contractor shall certify that, at the time of execution of this Contract, neither the Contractor, nor any wholly owned subsidiary, majority-owned subsidiary, parent company or affiliate of the same (1) engages in business with Iran, Sudan, or any foreign terrorist organization as described in Chapters 806 or 807 of the Texas Government Code, or Subchapter F of Chapter 2252 of the Texas Government Code, or (2) is a company listed by the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts under Sections 806.051, 807.051, or 2252.153 of the Texas Government Code.

#### **TERMINATION FOR CAUSE & CONVENIENCE (2 CFR Appendix II to Part 200 (A) and (B))**

Pursuant to 2 CFR Appendix II to Part 200 (A), Contracts for more than the simplified acquisition threshold currently set at \$150,000, which is the inflation adjusted amount determined by the Civilian Agency Acquisition Council and the Defense Acquisition Regulations Council (Councils) as authorized by 41 U.S.C. 1908, shall address administrative, contractual, or legal remedies in instances where contractors violate or breach contract terms, and provide for such sanctions and penalties as appropriate.

Pursuant to 2 CFR Appendix II to Part 200 (B), all contracts in excess of \$10,000 shall address termination for cause and for convenience by the non-Federal entity including the manner by which it will be effected and the basis for settlement. Harris County shall have the right to terminate this contract for cause and convenience.

In the event of a failure by Contractor to satisfactorily perform the services specified herein and/or a default by Contractor in abiding by the other terms and conditions of this Contract, Harris County may terminate the Contract on written notice to Contractor and Contractor shall be liable for all damages, costs, and expenses (including attorney fees) incurred by County related to this default. Such termination is in addition to and not in lieu of any other remedies that Harris County may have in law or equity. Administrative remedies for non-performance, violation or breach of contract terms, or termination of contract for default may include suspension and debarment. Harris County may assess liquidated damages for failure to meet completion deadlines, contract breaches, or performance failures of the Contractor or its Subcontractors.

Contractor shall be provided the opportunity to cure certain performance failures or instances of default as described in the contract documents. The legal dispute resolution process as applicable under the Texas Civil Practice and Remedies Code shall include, but is not limited to, Texas and Civil Practice and Remedies Section 38 – Attorney's Fees, Texas Civil Practice and Remedies Section 41 – Damages, and Texas Civil Practice and Remedies Section 154 – General Provisions. Harris County and Contractor(s) should attempt to resolve any claim for breach of contract made by Contractor, to the extent it is applicable to the Contract and not preempted by other law. Except as otherwise provided by law, nothing herein is a waiver by the County or the State of Texas of the right to seek redress in a court of law.

## **VERIFICATION NOT TO BOYCOTT ISRAEL**

As required by Texas Government Code Chapter 2270, Contractor verifies that it does not boycott Israel and will not boycott Israel through the term of this Contract. For purposes of this verification, "boycott Israel" means refusing to deal with, terminating business activities with, or otherwise taking any action that is intended to penalize, inflict economic harm on, or limit commercial relations specifically with Israel, or with a person or entity doing business in Israel or in an Israeli-controlled territory, but does not include an action made for ordinary business purposes.

## **VENDORS/CONTRACTORS OWING TAXES OR OTHER DEBTS**

Pursuant to Texas Local Government Code 262.0276, if, during the performance of this contract, Contractor's taxes become delinquent or Contractor becomes otherwise indebted to Harris County, Harris County reserves the right to provide notice to the Auditor or Treasurer pursuant to Texas Local Government Code 154.045.

Whether or not a Contractor's taxes are delinquent will be determined by an independent review of the Tax Office records. Contractors are encouraged to visit the Tax Office website at [www.hctax.net](http://www.hctax.net), set up a portfolio of their accounts and make their own initial determination of the status of their tax accounts. Contractors who believe a delinquency is reflected in error must contact the Tax Office to correct any errors or discrepancies prior to submitting their Statement of Qualifications in order to ensure that their Qualifications will be considered. Furthermore, if, during the performance of this contract, a Contractor's taxes become delinquent or a vendor becomes otherwise indebted to Harris County, Harris County reserves the right to provide notice to the Auditor or Treasurer pursuant to Texas Local Government Code §154.045. This policy is effective for all responses due on or after November 1, 2009.

## **WHISTLEBLOWER PROTECTION ACT**

Contractor, subcontractors, and employees working on this Project shall be subject 41 U.S. Code § 4712, which requires that an employee of a contractor, subcontractor, grantee, or sub grantee or personal services contractor may not be discharged, demoted, or otherwise discriminated against as a reprisal for disclosing information that the employee reasonably believes is evidence of gross mismanagement of a Federal contract or grant, a gross waste of Federal funds, an abuse of authority relating to a Federal contract or grant, a substantial and specific danger to public health or safety, or a violation of law, rule, or regulation related to a Federal contract (including the competition for or negotiation of a contract) or grant.

The Contractor shall inform its employees and subcontractors in writing, in the predominant language of the workforce, of employee whistleblower rights and protections under 41 U.S.C. 4712, as described in section 3.908 of the Federal Acquisition Regulation. The Contractor shall insert the substance of this clause, including this paragraph, in all subcontracts providing services for this Project.

## **DHS SEAL, LOGO, AND FLAGS**

The contractor shall not use the DHS seal(s), logos, crests, or reproductions of flags or likenesses of DHS agency officials without specific FEMA pre- approval.

## **COMPLIANCE WITH FED. LAW, REGULATIONS, & EOS**

This is an acknowledgement that FEMA financial assistance may be used to fund the contract only. The contractor will comply will all applicable federal law, regulations, executive orders, FEMA policies, procedures, and directives.

## **DOMESTIC PREFERENCE REQUIREMENTS**

- A. As appropriate and to the extent consistent with law, Vendor should, to the greatest extent practicable, provide a preference for the purchase, acquisition, or use of goods, products, or materials produced in the United States (including but not limited to iron, aluminum, steel, cement, and other manufactured products). The requirements of this paragraph must be included in all subcontracts and purchase orders for work or products under this Addendum. For purposes of this paragraph:
- 1) “Produced in the United States” means, for iron and steel products, that all manufacturing processes, from the initial melting stage through the application of coatings, occurred in the United States.
  - 2) “Manufactured products” means items and construction materials composed in whole or in part of non-ferrous metals such as aluminum; plastics and polymer-based products such as polyvinyl chloride pipe; aggregates such as concrete; glass, including optical fiber; and lumber.

## **PROHIBITION ON CERTAIN TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND VIDEO SURVEILLANCE SERVICES OR EQUIPMENT**

- A. As used in this paragraph, the terms backhaul; covered foreign country; covered telecommunications equipment or services; interconnection arrangements; roaming; substantial or essential component; and telecommunications equipment or services have the meaning as defined in FEMA Policy, #405-143-1 Prohibitions on Expending FEMA Award Funds for Covered Telecommunications Equipment or Services as used in this paragraph—
- B. Prohibitions
- 1) Section 889(b) of the John S. McCain National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2019, Pub. L. No. 115-232, and 2 C.F.R. § 200.216 prohibit the head of an executive agency on or after Aug. 13, 2020, from obligating or expending grant, cooperative agreement, loan, or loan guarantee funds on certain telecommunications products or from certain entities for national security reasons.
  - 2) Unless an exception in this paragraph applies, Vendor and its Subcontractors may not use grant, cooperative agreement, loan, or loan guarantee funds from FEMA to:
    - i. Procure or obtain any equipment, system, or service that uses covered telecommunications equipment or services as a substantial or essential component of any system, or as critical technology of any system;
    - ii. Enter into, extend, or renew a contract to procure or obtain any equipment, system, or service that uses covered telecommunications equipment or services as a substantial or essential component of any system, or as critical technology of any system;
    - iii. Enter into, extend, or renew contracts with entities that use covered telecommunications equipment or services as a substantial or essential component of any system, or as critical technology as part of any system; or
    - iv. Provide, as part of its performance of this Purchase Order or Addendum, any equipment, system, or service that uses covered telecommunications equipment or services as a substantial or essential component of any system, or as critical technology as part of any system.
- C. Exceptions
- 1) This paragraph does not prohibit Vendor from providing—
    - i. A service that connects to the facilities of a third-party, such as backhaul, roaming, or interconnection arrangements; or
    - ii. Telecommunications equipment that cannot route or redirect user data traffic or permit visibility into any user data or packets that such equipment transmits or otherwise handles.
  - 2) By necessary implication and regulation, the prohibitions also do not apply to:
    - i. Covered telecommunications equipment or services that:
      - Are not used as a substantial or essential component of any system; and
      - Are not used as critical technology of any system.

- Other telecommunications equipment or services that are not considered covered telecommunications equipment or services.

**D. Reporting requirement**

- 1) In the event Vendor identifies covered telecommunications equipment or services used as a substantial or essential component of any system, or as critical technology as part of any system, during performance of the Services set forth in this Addendum, or Vendor is notified of such by a Subcontractor at any tier or by any other source, Vendor shall report the information in the manner stated below to the recipient or subrecipient, unless elsewhere in this Addendum are established procedures for reporting the information.
- 2) Vendor shall report the following information pursuant to this paragraph:
  - i. Within one business day from the date of such identification or notification: The Contract number; the order number(s), if applicable; supplier name; supplier unique entity identifier (if known); supplier Commercial and Government Entity (CAGE) code (if known); brand; model number (original equipment manufacturer number, manufacturer part number, or wholesaler number); item description; and any readily available information about mitigation actions undertaken or recommended.
  - ii. Within 10 business days of submitting the information above: Any further available information about mitigation actions undertaken or recommended. In addition, Vendor shall describe the efforts it undertook to prevent use or submission of covered telecommunications equipment or services, and any additional efforts that will be incorporated to prevent future use or submission of covered telecommunications equipment or services.

**E. Subcontracts.** The Contractor shall insert the substance of this clause, including this paragraph (E), in all subcontracts and other contractual instruments.

**EXHIBIT E**  
**Certificate of ACORD**  
**(Follows Behind)**





# CERTIFICATE OF LIABILITY INSURANCE

DATE (MM/DD/YYYY)  
06/07/2021

THIS CERTIFICATE IS ISSUED AS A MATTER OF INFORMATION ONLY AND CONFERS NO RIGHTS UPON THE CERTIFICATE HOLDER. THIS CERTIFICATE DOES NOT AFFIRMATIVELY OR NEGATIVELY AMEND, EXTEND OR ALTER THE COVERAGE AFFORDED BY THE POLICIES BELOW. THIS CERTIFICATE OF INSURANCE DOES NOT CONSTITUTE A CONTRACT BETWEEN THE ISSUING INSURER(S), AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE OR PRODUCER, AND THE CERTIFICATE HOLDER.

IMPORTANT: If the certificate holder is an ADDITIONAL INSURED, the policy(ies) must have ADDITIONAL INSURED provisions or be endorsed. If SUBROGATION IS WAIVED, subject to the terms and conditions of the policy, certain policies may require an endorsement. A statement on this certificate does not confer rights to the certificate holder in lieu of such endorsement(s).

<b>PRODUCER</b>  LUIS LOPEZ AGENCY 6450 LOUETTA RD STE 150 SPRING TX 77379		<b>CONTACT</b> NAME: ELIZABETH LOPEZ  PHONE (A/C, NO, EXT): 832-559-3849  FAX (A/C, NO): 818-221-1173  E-MAIL ADDRESS: ELOPEZ@LOPEZADVISORS.COM	
<b>INSURED</b>  ELEVATE STRATEGIES LLC 216 MARSHALL ST #11 HOUSTON TX 77006		<b>INSURER(S) AFFORDING COVERAGE</b> INSURER A: HISCOX INSURANCE INSURER B: PROGRESSIVE INSURANCE INSURER C: TEXAS MUTUAL INSURANCE INSURER D: INSURER E: INSURER F:	

## COVERAGES

CERTIFICATE NUMBER:

REVISION NUMBER:

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT THE POLICIES OF INSURANCE LISTED BELOW HAVE BEEN ISSUED TO THE INSURED NAME ABOVE FOR THE POLICY PERIOD INDICATED. NOTWITHSTANDING ANY REQUIREMENT, TERM OR CONDITION OF ANY CONTRACT OR OTHER DOCUMENT WITH RESPECT TO WHICH THIS CERTIFICATE MAY BE ISSUED OR MAY PERTAIN, THE INSURANCE AFFORDED BY THE POLICIES DESCRIBED HEREIN IS SUBJECT TO ALL THE TERMS, EXCLUSIONS AND CONDITIONS OF SUCH POLICIES. LIMITS SHOWN MAY HAVE BEEN REDUCED BY PAID CLAIMS.

INSR LTR	TYPE OF INSURANCE	ADDL INSD	SUBR WVD	POLICY NUMBER	POLICY EFF (MM/DD/YYYY)	POLICY EXP (MM/DD/YYYY)	LIMITS	
A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL GENERAL LIABILITY  <input type="checkbox"/> CLAIMS MADE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUR  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIMARY & NON CONTRIBUTOR GEN'L AGGREGATE LIMIT APPLIES PER: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLICY <input type="checkbox"/> PROJECT <input type="checkbox"/> LOC OTHER:	Y	Y	UDC-4859341-CGL-21	08/03/2021	06/03/2022	EACH OCCURRENCE \$ 2,000,000 DAMAGE TO RENTED PREMISES (Ea Occurrence) \$ 100,000 MED EXP (Any one person) \$ 5,000 PERSONAL & ADV INJURY \$ 2,000,000 GENERAL AGGREGATE \$ 2,000,000 PRODUCTS - COMP/OP AGG \$ 2,000,000	
	B	AUTOMOBILE LIABILITY  <input type="checkbox"/> ANY AUTO <input type="checkbox"/> OWNED AUTOS ONLY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SCHEDULED AUTOS <input type="checkbox"/> HIRED AUTOS ONLY <input type="checkbox"/> NON-OWNED AUTOS ONLY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UM/UIM <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PIP			03770894-0	06/04/2021	06/04/2022	COMBINED SINGLE LIMIT (Ea accident) \$ 1,000,000 BODILY INJURY (Per person) \$ BODILY INJURY (Per accident) \$ PROPERTY DAMAGE (Per accident) \$
		UMBRELLA LIAB <input type="checkbox"/> OCCUR EXCESS LIAB <input type="checkbox"/> CLAIMS-MADE DED <input type="checkbox"/> RETENTION \$						EACH OCCURRENCE \$ AGGREGATE \$
		C	WORKERS COMPENSATION AND EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY ANY PROPRIETOR / PARTNER / EXECUTIVE OFFICER / MEMBER EXCLUDED? (Mandatory in NH) <input type="checkbox"/> Y/N If yes, describe under DESCRIPTION OF OPERATIONS below	N/A	Y	0002063233	06/04/2021	06/04/2022
A	PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY	Y	Y	UDC-4859341-EO-21	06/03/2021	06/03/2022	EACH CLAIM \$ 2,000,000 AGGREGATE \$ 2,000,000	

DESCRIPTION OF OPERATIONS/LOCATIONS/VEHICLES (ACORD 101, Additional Remarks Schedule, may be attached if more space is required)

## CERTIFICATE HOLDER

HARRIS COUNTY  
1001 PRESTON RD  
HOUSTON TX 77002

## CANCELLATION

SHOULD ANY OF THE ABOVE DESCRIBED POLICIES BE CANCELLED BEFORE THE EXPIRATION DATE THEREOF, NOTICE WILL BE DELIVERED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE POLICY PROVISIONS.  
AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE*Elizabeth Lopez*