



County of Georgetown, South Carolina

129 Screven Street, Suite 239 · Georgetown, SC 29440-3641
Post Office Box 421270, Georgetown, SC 29442-4200
(843)545-3083 · Fax (843)545-3500 · purch@gtcounty.org

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS (RFQu)

BID NUMBER: 22-043

ISSUE DATE: Monday, July 25, 2022

OPENING DATE: Wednesday, August 10, 2022

OPENING TIME: 3:00 PM (ET)

Bid Opening Location: Georgetown County Courthouse, Suite #239, (Purchasing Conference Room)

Pre-Bid Conference/Site Inspection: [none]

PROCUREMENT FOR: Resiliency Study for Georgetown County Comprehensive Plan

All bids must be submitted electronically through the Purchasing Department's Vendor Registry webpage. Please click on the following link <http://www.georgetowncountysc.org/172/Purchasing> for instructions on how to submit bids electronically through this system. As always, emailed/faxed bids will not be accepted. Your bid must be submitted electronically through Georgetown County's Purchasing Vendor Registry page to ensure it remains sealed until the scheduled bid opening date and time.

Any scheduled bid openings will still be opened at the designated date and time as listed in the bid document or related addendum. However, at the time of this bid issuance, these bid openings may be conducted virtually, in-person, or by a hybrid method (both virtually and in person). See the timeline on page 3 for location and method specified. As always, bid openings will be accompanied by at least one witness and bid tabulation results will be posted online for the public's viewing after the bid opening.

Purchasing Contacts: **Nancy Silver**
Phone (843)545-3076
Fax: (843)545-3500
E-mail: nsilver@gtcounty.org

This solicitation does not commit Georgetown County to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the bid, or to procure or contract for goods or services. It is the responsibility of each bidder to see that they submit their bids on or before, the date and time specified for the bid opening. No bid will be accepted thereafter. Georgetown County reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any informalities and technicalities in the bid process.



Intent to Respond

REF: RFQu #22-043, Resiliency Study for Georgetown County Comprehensive Plan

If your company intends to respond to this solicitation, please complete and promptly return this form to assure that you can be included on the mailing list to receive all addenda regarding this project. We also encourage you to visit our website at <http://www.georgetowncountysc.org/purchasing/default.html> and register as a new vendor. If you are an existing vendor, please make sure your profile is up-to-date with a valid contact name and email address on file.

It is not necessary to return any other portion of the bid documents if you are not bidding.

Failure to return the Intent to Respond shall not be sufficient cause to rule a submittal as non-responsive; nor does the return of the form obligate an interested party to submit a response. Georgetown County's efforts to directly provide interested parties with addenda or additional information are provided as a courtesy only, and do not alleviate the respondent from their obligation to verify they have received and considered all addenda. All addenda are published and available on the county website at www.gtcounty.org select "Bid Opportunities" under Quick Links, then click on the "View Current Bid Solicitations" link.

Our firm **does** intend on responding to this solicitation.

Our firm **does not** intend on responding to this solicitation.

Company Name: _____

Address: _____

Contact Person: _____

Telephone: _____

FAX: _____

E-Mail: _____

How did you hear about this opportunity? _____

Reason if **not** responding: _____

Please return this completed form to Nancy Silver, Purchasing Officer

- by e-mail to purch@gtcounty.org
- or by FAX to (843)545-3500.

[End of Intent to Respond]

Time Line: Invitation for Bid #22-043

Item	Date	Time	Location*
Advertised Date of Issue:	Monday, July 25, 2022	n/a	n/a
Pre-Bid Conference/Site Inspection:	(none)	n/a	n/a
Deadline for Questions:	Wednesday, August 3, 2022	3:00PM ET	n/a
Bids Must be Received on/or Before:	Wednesday, August 10, 2022	3:00PM ET	Electronic
*Bid Opening & Tabulation:	Wednesday, August 10, 2022	3:00PM ET	Hybrid
Shortlisted Presentations/Interviews (Tentative):	Thursday, August 25, 2022	TBD	Hybrid

*At the time of this posting, bid openings may be performed virtually, in-person, or by a hybrid method, see above location for method specified. A virtual meeting link will be posted under the bid number before the bid opening time so that members of the public may attend the meeting virtually. Vendors may also now attend the meeting in person at the Georgetown County Historic Courthouse, Purchasing Conference Room, 129 Screven St., Suite 239, 29440.

RFQu #22-043 Resiliency Study for Georgetown County Comprehensive Plan Georgetown County, South Carolina

SECTION 1: GENERAL SCOPE

Overview:

Georgetown County, SC in conjunction with the South Carolina Office of Resilience (SCOR) seeks a study for the Resiliency Element of the Georgetown County Comprehensive Plan in Georgetown, South Carolina. The County intends to use a U.S. Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Community Development Block Grant-Mitigation (CDBG-MIT) grant to fund this study and develop a plan for the new Resiliency Element as part of the Comprehensive Planning Process found under SC Code of Ordinances, Chapter 29, Article 3, Section 6-29-510. Specifically, this plan should consider the impacts of flooding, high water, and natural hazards on individuals, communities, institutions, businesses, economic development, public infrastructure and facilities, and public health, safety and welfare. The Resiliency Element should include an inventory of existing resiliency conditions, promote resilient planning, design and development, and coordinate with adjacent and relevant jurisdictions and agencies as needed. This plan should be developed in coordination with other elements of the Georgetown County Comprehensive Plan and integrated into the goals and strategies of those elements to serve as a planning tool for the County over the next 5-10 years.

The purpose of this plan is to identify the hazards of the County and formulate ways that Georgetown can become more resilient towards these natural events in the future. The plan will identify and prioritize a list of goals and objectives to work on making a more sustainable population and landscape. The plan must meet the following criteria:

- Meet the following definition of a Mitigation Activity: Activities that increase resilience to disasters and reduce or eliminate the long-term risk of loss of life; injury, damage to and loss of property, and suffering and hardship, by lessening the impact of future flood (and all natural) events.

The final plan deliverable must have the highest level of credibility based upon data-driven, expert analysis. Therefore the County seeks an experienced firm or agency that is familiar with these types of projects and can work within the intent of the program. The selected firm or agency will provide comprehensive data analysis which will stand intense public scrutiny, and the final product must be easily defensible due to its intellectual rigor.

Background:

Localized flooding, and other hazards, have become prevalent throughout Georgetown County, especially in the past seven (7) years. This element is a piece of the overall Comprehensive Plan that will specifically address how the County responds and reacts towards hazardous situations and/or events. The County needs a resiliency element added to the County's existing Comprehensive Plan to address the issues that the coastal county faces; including but not limited to, hurricanes, sea level rise, king tides, severe thunderstorms, land subsidence, erosion, salt water intrusion, and now more than ever, viral pandemics. The Resiliency plan will help the County and its citizens realize the potential devastating effects that these hazards have on our natural environment, and ways we can help mitigate future threats while becoming a more resilient community.

SECTION 2: SPECIFICATIONS

Scope of Work and Deliverables:

1. Provide the scope of services and deliverables.
2. Utilize funds for activities in accordance with the description projects in the State of South Carolina's approved CDBG-MIT Action Plan.
3. Complete the following deliverables during the project Term:
 - a) Scoping Meeting
 - b) Document Review
 - c) Public Input and Documentation
 - d) GIS Mapping and Analysis
 - e) Risk Assessment of Hazards and Types of Probable Disasters in Georgetown County and its Surrounding Areas
 - f) Preparation of Final Draft
 - g) Final Report and Briefing
 - This includes, but is not limited to, ways in which the County can prepare, respond, recover, and mitigate from disasters and the associated challenges, and how the County can work with the three (3) incorporated communities to cultivate resilience.
 - h) Complete Project Closeout
4. Adhere to the following deadlines for the project. In the event that the firm or agency is unable to meet a deadline, the Awardee shall request an extension of such deadline from the SCOR and Georgetown County in writing no later than fifteen (15) business days prior to the deadline.

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Deadline</u>
Procurement	August 2022
Resilience Element of Comprehensive Plan	January 2023
Project Closeout	January 2024

5. Record Keeping: Maintain all records required by the Federal regulations specified in 24 CFR 570.506, which are pertinent to the activities to be funded in this project. Such records shall include but not be limited to:

- a) Records providing a full description of each activity undertaken.
- b) Records demonstrating that each activity undertaken meets one of the National Objectives of the CDBG-MIT program.
- c) Records required determining the eligibility of activities.
- d) Financial records as required by 24 CFR 570.502, and 24 CFR 84.21.28.
- e) Other records necessary to document compliance with Subpart K of 24 CFR Part 570.

6. Retention: Retain all financial records, supporting documents, statistical records, and all other records pertinent to the plan for a period of three (3) years. The retention period begins on the date of submission of the final performance and evaluation report to HUD.

7. Final Report: Provide the SCOR and Georgetown County with a final end-of-project report upon completion of the plan within 60 days of plan completion. This report must be received by the SCOR and Georgetown County prior to final reimbursement to the firm or agency.

RFQu SUBMITTAL REQUIREMENTS

A. General

Offeror shall provide one (1) electronic, reproducible original RFQu submittal in pdf format, clearly labeled with the firm’s name and the bid number. The RFQu response must be complete, clear and concise, not to exceed twenty (20) 8½" x 11" pages (may be fewer) and numbered at the bottom right hand corner of the page. The submittal shall use a minimum 12-point Times New Roman font. All sections shall be clearly labeled as listed below for ease of evaluation. The County’s Mandatory Bid Submission Forms included herein will not count towards the page limitation. All other pages will apply to the page limitation.

B. Content

Proposals submitted in response to this RFQu shall be in the following order and shall include:

1. Cover Letter

Include a 1-2 page cover letter with the following items:

- a) Legal name and address of company
- b) Legal form of company (partnership, corporation, joint venture, etc.). If joint venture, identify the members of the joint venture and provide all information required within this section for each member.

- c) Name, title, email, address and telephone number of the person to contact concerning the submittal.
- d) If different from item c) above, name, title, email, address and telephone number of the person(s) able to sign contracts & bind the RFQu submittal.
- e) Summarize key elements of your RFQu submittal.

2. Experience & References

Describe your firm's background and history, including number of years in business and the scope of service currently provided to clients. Describe your firm's experience in completing similar Work. Consultant shall list at least three (3) successful projects of a similar nature completed within the last ten years. Provide at least three (3) references (preferably governmental) listing names of clients and project managers, telephone numbers, the type of work performed, and the final value of those contracts. Projects currently being performed may be submitted for County's review.

3. Key Personnel

- a) Provide a discussion of your firm's staffing plan and level of personnel to be involved, their qualifications, experience, resumes, roles and responsibilities, and the name of the individual who will be the main project manager and responsible for coordination with the County.
- b) Identify proposed sub-consultants (if any) that will be retained to perform specified items of work listed in the "Scope of Services." Provide a list of the tasks, responsibilities, and qualifications of any sub-consultants proposed to be used. Indicate how firms are being utilized to ensure a strong understanding of local and state laws, ordinances, regulations, policies, and requirements. Indicate the role and responsibility of your firm as the prime consultant and all sub-consultants. The County's evaluation of the proposal will consider consultant's entire team. Once proposed, no changes in the team composition will be allowed without prior written approval of the County.

4. Methodology

Outline your firm's basic technical procedures and managerial approaches to accomplish the Work required by this contract. Describe your present workload capacity and your ability to meet the needs of the County of Georgetown. Include any limitations you would foresee in your firm's ability to handle the work, or work capacity limitations and how you might overcome them. Demonstrate your firm's ability to provide adequate staffing and project efficiency, within budget, and within provided time limitations.

5. Industry Experience

Describe your firm's experience working in the industry. The industry may be defined as the County's, other similar local agency's, and the State's policies, practices, design criteria and standards that will be drawn upon to accomplish the Work. The Consultant shall describe the involvement it has established for maintaining communication with clients' representatives. Describe your experience providing advice and services to Governmental/County management, staff, and policy-making boards. Include a statement describing why you are qualified to perform the work outlined in this RFQu.

Investigations

The County reserves the right to conduct appropriate investigations into the background, previous experience and training, financial affairs, and related matters of any firm or individual under consideration for a contract.

Said investigation may include, but is not limited to credit reports, submission of audited financial statements, and communication with principal clients relating to the ability of you or your firm to successfully perform the duties and responsibilities of the contract.

Evaluation & Selection

The Evaluation Committee shall score each proposal received based on the below evaluation matrix. The committee will then shortlist the top ranked firms to conduct discussions with. Final ranking and scoring will then be conducted of the shortlisted firms. The evaluation committee will then select the most responsive offeror(s) to begin negotiations.

Once a final determination has been made, a notice of intent to award letter will be mailed out to all respondents. The County of Georgetown is not required to furnish a statement of the reason(s) why a proposal was not deemed to be the most advantageous.

1) **Ranking of Criteria**

Consultants will be evaluated on the following criteria:

**Maximum
Points**

- | | | |
|----|---|------------------|
| A. | <u>Experience & References:</u> | <u>20 points</u> |
| | 1. Firms experience of work of similar scope & services. | |
| | 2. Past projects and client references (minimum of 5 requested). | |
| B. | <u>Key Personnel:</u> | <u>20 points</u> |
| | 1. Resumes of key personnel showing experience, education, and any certification/licensure. | |
| | 2. Staff's background in undertaking similar types of work. | |
| C. | <u>Methodology:</u> | <u>30 points</u> |
| | 1. Technical procedures and managerial approaches to accomplish the work. | |
| | 2. Firm's present workload capacity and ability to meet the County's needs. | |
| | 3. Firm's proposed project schedule. | |
| | 4. Firm's honesty regarding limitations and how they would overcome them. | |
| | 5. Adequate staffing of firm, efficiency of firm, and ability of firm to provide the services within budget and within any provided time limitations. | |
| D. | <u>Industry Experience:</u> | <u>30 points</u> |
| | 1. Firm's experience in the industry. | |
| | 2. Past experience with governmental and regulatory agencies. | |
| | 3. Submitting all RFQu requirements and in the requested format. | |

Maximum Total Points

100 points



Instructions for Bidders
RFQu #22-043
Resiliency Study for Georgetown County Comprehensive Plan

These are general instructions and conditions that accompany each bid package. If more specific instructions are given in the individual bid package, those instructions should prevail.

1. **Submission of Questions**

Questions must be submitted in writing via electronic mail, facsimile or postal mail to the Issuing Officer no later than the "Deadline for Questions" cutoff identified in the Bid Timeline on page three (3) in order to generate an official answer. All written questions will receive an official written response from the Georgetown County Purchasing Office (GCPO) and will become addenda to the solicitation.

GCPO reserves the right to reject or deny any requests made by the Consultant.

Impromptu, unwritten questions are permitted and verbal answers may be provided, but are only intended as general direction and will not represent the official GCPO position. The only official position of GCPO is that which is stated in writing and issued in the solicitation as addenda thereto.

No other means of communication, whether oral or written, shall be construed as a formal or official response/statement and may not be relied upon. SEND QUESTIONS TO:

Nancy Silver, Purchasing Officer
Post Office Box 421270, Georgetown, SC 29442-4200
Fax: (843) 545-3500
Email: nsilver@gtcounty.org

2. Sealed bids to provide **Resiliency Study for Georgetown County Comprehensive Plan** shall be received electronically through the County's Vendor Registry webpage until the cut-off time shown in the bid timeline on page three (3) of this document. Bids will then be promptly opened at the designated time by the Buyer. Bids that are not received prior to the stated opening date and time will be considered **NON RESPONSIVE**. An official authorized to bind the offer must sign all bids submitted.

3. **Inclement Weather/Closure of County Courthouse**

Due to the current COVID-19 situation, County offices at the time of this bid posting remain open but may be limited to the public. Bid openings at the time of this issuance are being conducted virtually or hybrid and may occur from an alternate secure and/or remote location as needed. A virtual meeting link will be posted under the bid number before the bid opening time so that members of the public may attend the meeting virtually.

4. This solicitation does not commit Georgetown County to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the bid, or to procure or contract for goods or services. It is the responsibility of each bidder to see that the Georgetown County Purchasing Office receives bids on, or before, the date and time specified for the bid opening. No bid will be accepted thereafter. The County assumes no responsibility for delivery of bids that are mailed. Georgetown County reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any informalities and technicalities in the bid process.

5. **NON EXCLUSIVITY**

Nothing herein is intended nor shall be construed as creating any exclusive arrangement with Contractor. Any resulting contract shall not restrict the County from acquiring similar, equal or like goods and/or

services from other entities or sources, when Staff determines internally that this resulting action is in the best interest of Georgetown County.

6. No Bidder may submit more than one bid. Multiple bids for different manufacturers but represented by the same firm will not be accepted. Bids offered directly from manufacturers shall indicate if a local dealer/representative will be involved.

7. Definitions:

- a) The terms “Company”, “Firm”, “Proposer”, “Offeror”, “Vendor” or “Bidder” refer to those parties who are submitting sealed responses for the work set forth in this document to the OWNER, as distinct from a sub-bidder who provides a bid to the Bidder.
- b) The term “Resiliency Study for Georgetown County Comprehensive Plan”, or “Services” refers to the **complete set of services** as specified in this document, in every aspect.
- c) The terms “Owner” and “County” refer to the County of Georgetown, South Carolina.
- d) Where the words “shall” or “must” are used, it signifies an absolute minimum function or capacity that, if not satisfied, may result in disqualification.
- e) Where the words “should”, “may”, or “is desirable” are used, it signifies desirable, but not mandatory functions or capacities. Bidders who are able to provide these functions or capacities may be evaluated more favorably than those who cannot.

8. Correction or Withdrawal of Bids; Cancellation of Awards

An offeror must submit in writing a request to either correct or withdraw a bid to the Procurement Officer. Each written request must document the fact that the offeror’s mistake is clearly an error that will cause him substantial loss.

- a) Correction of awards : An offeror shall not be permitted to correct a bid mistake after bid opening that would cause such offeror to have the low bid unless the mistake in the judgment of the Procurement Officer is clearly evident from examining the bid document; for example, extension of unit prices or errors in addition.
- a. Cancellation of awards prior to performance: When it is determined after an award has been issued but before performance has begun that Georgetown County’s requirements for the goods or services have changed or have not been met, the award or contract may be canceled and either re-awarded or a new solicitation issued.

9. Faxed or E-mailed bids will not be accepted by Georgetown County. Electronic bid submissions must be submitted through the Georgetown County Purchasing Vendor Registry page to ensure they remain sealed until the scheduled bid opening date and time.

10. If you need any reasonable accommodation for any type of disability in order to participate in this procurement, please contact the purchasing office as soon as possible.

11. Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964: Georgetown County hereby gives public notice that it is the policy of the agency to assure full compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1987, Executive Order 12898 on Environmental Justice, and related statutes and regulations in all programs and activities. Title VI requires that no person in the United States of America shall, on the grounds of race, color, or national origin, be excluded from the participation in, be denied the

benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under any program or activity for which Georgetown County receives federal financial assistance. Any person who believes they have been aggrieved by an unlawful discriminatory practice under Title VI has a right to file a formal complaint with Georgetown County. Any such complaint must be in writing and filed with Georgetown County's Title VI Coordinator within one hundred and eighty (180) days following the date of the alleged discriminatory occurrence. For more information, or to obtain a Title VI Discriminatory Complaint Form, please see our website at <http://www.gtCounty.org/about/faqs.html>.

12. Any deviations from the specifications or modification of this bid and any extra or incidental work or reductions in work shall be set forth in writing and signed by both parties prior to making such change. Any increase or decrease in the bid price resulting from such change shall be included in writing.
13. Exceptions: The bidder shall list on a separate sheet of paper any variations from, or exceptions to, the conditions and specifications of this bid. This sheet shall be labeled "Exception(s) to Bid Conditions and Specifications," and shall be attached to the bid. When Proposers find instances where they must take exception with certain requirements or specifications of the bid, all exceptions shall be clearly identified. Written explanations shall include the scope of the exceptions, the ramifications of the exceptions for the County of Georgetown, and a description of the advantage to be gained or disadvantages to be incurred by the County as a result of these exceptions. If none, write "NONE".
14. Georgetown County reserves the right to reject any or all bids, and to waive as an informality any irregularities contained in any bid as may be deemed in the best interest of the County. Georgetown County further reserves the right to reject any bid submitted, at its sole option, that the vendor may not be able to meet the service requirements of the bid.
15. Publicity releases: contractor agrees not to refer to award of any resulting contract in commercial advertising in such a manner as to state or imply that the products or services provided are endorsed or preferred by the user.
16. Material Safety Data Sheets: The County of Georgetown will not receive any materials, products, or chemicals which may be hazardous to an employee's health unless accompanied by a Material Data Sheet when received.
17. Ownership of Copyright: All right, title and interest in all copyrightable materials which vendor shall create in the performance of its obligations hereunder shall be the property of the procurer. Vendor agrees to assign and hereby does assign any and all interest it has in and to such material to procurer. Vendor agrees, upon the request of procurer to execute all papers and perform all other such acts necessary to assist procurer to obtain and register copyrights on such materials. Where applicable, works of authorship created by the vendor in the performance of its obligations hereunder, shall be considered "works for hire" as defined in the U.S. Copyright Act.
18. Ownership of Documents: Any reports, studies, photographs, negatives or other documents prepared by vendor in the performance of its obligations shall be the exclusive property of the procurer and all such material shall be remitted to the procurer by the vendor upon completion, termination or cancellation of this order. Vendor shall not use, willingly allow or cause to have such material used for any purpose other than performance of its obligations under this order without the prior written consent of the procurer.
19. Affirmative Action: The contractor will take affirmative action in complying with all Federal and State requirements concerning fair employment and employment of the handicapped, and concerning the treatment of all employees, without regard or discrimination by reason of age, race, color, religion, sex, national origin

or physical handicap. The following are incorporated herein by reference: 41 C.F.R. 60-1.4, 60-250.4 and 60-741.4.

20. Inclusion and participation of disadvantaged, small, and local business entities is strongly encouraged, but minimum participation standards are not in effect for this project.
21. All Federally Funded Construction Contracts Over \$2,000:
 - a) Davis-Bacon Requirements. These contracts need to include a provision for compliance with the Davis-Bacon Act (40 USC 276a to a—7) and the Department of Labor implementing regulations (29 CFR Part 5). Under this Act, Contractors are required to include the contract provisions in Section 5.5 (a) of 29 CFR Part 5, and to pay wages to laborers and mechanics at a rate not less than the minimum wages specified in the wage determination made by the Secretary of Labor. In addition, Contractors shall be required to pay wages not less than the minimum wages specified in the wage determination made by the Secretary of Labor. In addition, Contractors shall be required to pay wages not less often than once a week. Current Wage Determination for Georgetown County in South Carolina is available on-line at:
https://beta.sam.gov/search?index=wd&keywords=Georgetown&sort=-relevance&wdType=dbra&page=1&date_filter_index=0&inactive_filter_values=false.
 - b) Contract Work Hours and Safety Standard Act Requirements. The contracts must include a provision for compliance with Sections 103 and 107 of the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act (40 USC 327-330) as supplemented by the Department of Labor regulations (29 CFR Part 5). Under Section 103 of the Act, each Contractor shall be required to compute the wages of every mechanic and laborer on the basis of a standard workweek of 40 hours. Work in excess of the standard workweek is permissible provided that the worker is compensated at a rate not less than one times the basic rate of pay for all hours worked in excess of 40 hours in the workweek. Section 107 of the Act is applicable to construction work and provides that no laborer of mechanic shall be required to work in surroundings or under working conditions which are unsanitary, hazardous, or dangerous to health and safety as determined under construction, safety and health standards promulgated by the Secretary of Labor. These requirements do not apply to the purchases of supplies, materials, or articles ordinarily available on the open market, or contracts for transportation or transmission of intelligence.
 - c) Copeland “Anti-Kickback” Act Requirements. All construction contracts over \$2,000.00 must include a provision for compliance with the Copeland “Anti-Kickback” Act (18 U.S.C. 874) as supplemented in Department of Labor regulations (29 CFR Part 3). This act provides that each Contractor shall be prohibited from inducing, by any means, persons employed in the construction, completion, or repaid of public work to give up any part of their compensation.
22. Bidders must clearly mark as "confidential" each part of their bid which they consider to be proprietary information that could be exempt from disclosure under section 30-4-40, Code of Laws of South Carolina 1976, as amended (Freedom of Information Act). If any part is designated as confidential, there must be attached to that part an explanation of how this information fits within one or more categories listed in section 30-4-40. The County reserves the right to determine whether this information should be exempt from disclosure and no legal action may be brought against the County or its agents for its determination in this regard.
23. **CERTIFICATION REGARDING DRUG-FREE WORKPLACE:**
The contractor certifies that the vendor(s) will provide a “drug-free workplace” as that term is defined in Section 44-107-30 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976, as amended, by the complying with the requirements set forth in title 44, Chapter 107.

24. Certification of Non-Segregated Facilities

The federally-assisted construction contractor certifies that he does not maintain or provide, for his employees, any segregated facilities at any of his establishments and that he does not permit his employees to perform their services at any location, under his control, where segregated facilities are maintained. The federally-assisted construction contractor certifies that he will not maintain or provide, for his employees, segregated facilities at any of his establishments and that he will not permit his employees to perform their services at any location under his control where segregated facilities are maintained. The federally-assisted construction contractor agrees that a breach of this certification is a violation of the Equal Opportunity Clause in this Contract.

As used in this certification, the term "segregated facilities" means any waiting rooms, work areas, restrooms, and washrooms, 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 which are segregated on the basis of race, color, religion, or national origin because of habit, local custom, or any other reason. The federally assisted construction contractor agrees that (except where he has obtained identical certifications from proposed subcontractors for specific time periods) he will obtain identical certifications from proposed subcontractors prior to the award of subcontracts exceeding \$10,000 which are not exempt from the provisions of the Equal Opportunity Clause and that he will retain such certifications in his files.

25. Nothing herein is intended to exclude any responsible vendor, his product or service or in any way restrain or restrict competition. On the contrary, all responsible vendors are encouraged to bid and their bids are solicited.

26. Acknowledgement of Addenda

Each contractor is responsible to verify the number of total addenda issued prior to bid. **Failure to acknowledge all addenda may disqualify the bidder.** All addenda are posted by the County at the website located at www.georgetowncountysc.org, select "Bid Opportunities" from the Quick Links box, then "View Current Bid Solicitations". It is each proposer's responsibility to verify that all addenda have been received and acknowledged.

27. This Request for Qualifications is intended to convey the estimated requirements to provide **Resiliency Study for Georgetown County Comprehensive Plan** for the Georgetown County Public Services Department. The purpose is to establish a ranked list of qualified offerors' with whom the County may negotiate a Professional Services Contract with firm pricing and delivery. The right is reserved to extend the use of this contract to any County Department.

28. PRICE ESCALATION/DE-ESCALATION:

Prices are to remain firm for the first contract period. In subsequent terms, the contractor may request, in writing at least sixty (60) days in advance of the contract ending date, an increase/decrease. Should the County elect to exercise the option to renew the contract for additional year(s), the contract prices for the additional years shall not exceed the percentage increase/decrease of the "Services" category of the CPI-W SECTION OF THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX of the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics for the latest twelve month for which statistics are available. Should the price change be granted and the County elects to renew the contract, the purchase order will reflect the changes.

29. Bids must be made on Proposal or Bid Form furnished or will be rejected. Proposals shall be typewritten or written in ink on the form prepared by the County. The person signing the bid shall initial all corrections or erasures.

30. Insurance

The successful bidder shall procure, maintain, and provide proof of, insurance coverage for injuries to persons and/or property damage as may arise from or in conjunction with, the work performed on behalf of the County by the bidder, his agents, representatives, employees or subcontractors. Proof of coverage as contained herein shall be submitted fifteen (15) days prior to the commencement of work and such coverage shall be maintained by the bidder for the duration of the contract period; for occurrence policies.

a. General Liability

Coverage shall be as broad as: Comprehensive General Liability endorsed to include Broad Form, Commercial General Liability form including Products/Completed Operations.

1. Minimum Limits

General Liability:

- \$1,000,000 General Aggregate Limit
- \$1,000,000 Products & Completed Operations
- \$1,000,000 Personal and Advertising Injury
- \$1,000,000 Each Occurrence Limit
- \$50,000 Fire Damage Limit
- \$5,000 Medical Expense Limit

b. Automobile Liability

Coverage sufficient to cover all vehicles owned, used, or hired by the bidder, his agents, representatives, employees or subcontractors.

1. Minimum Limits

Automobile Liability:

- \$1,000,000 Combined Single Limit
- \$1,000,000 Each Occurrence Limit
- \$5,000 Medical Expense Limit

c. Workers' Compensation

Limits as required by the Workers' Compensation Act of SC. Employers Liability, \$1,000,000.

d. Owners' & Contractors' Protective Liability

Policy will be in name of County. Minimum limits required are \$1,000,000.

e. Professional Liability (a/k/a Errors and Omissions)

Minimum limits are \$1,000,000 per occurrence.

f. Coverage Provisions

1. All deductibles or self-insured retention shall appear on the certificate(s).
2. The County of Georgetown, its officers/ officials, employees, agents and volunteers shall be added as "additional insured" as their interests may appear. This provision does not apply to Professional Liability or Workers' Compensation/Employers' Liability.
3. The offeror's insurance shall be primary over any applicable insurance or self-insurance maintained by the County.
4. Shall provide 30 days written notice to the County before any cancellation, suspension, or void of coverage in whole or part, where such provision is reasonable.
5. All coverage for subcontractors of the bidder shall be subject to all of the requirements stated herein.

6. All deductibles or self-insured retention shall appear on the certificate(s) and shall be subject to approval by the County. At the option of the County, either; the insurer shall reduce or eliminate such deductible or self-insured retention; or the bidder shall be required to procure a bond guaranteeing payment of losses and related claims expenses.
7. Failure to comply with any reporting provisions of the policy(s) shall not affect coverage provided the County, its officers/officials, agents, employees and volunteers.
8. The insurer shall agree to waive all rights of subrogation against the County, its' officers/officials, agents, employees or volunteers for any act, omission or condition of premises which the parties may be held liable by reason of negligence.
9. The bidder shall furnish the County certificates of insurance including endorsements affecting coverage. The certificates are to be signed by a person authorized by the insurance company(s) to bind coverage on its' behalf, if executed by a broker, notarized copy of authorization to bind, or certify coverage must be attached.
10. All insurance shall be placed with insurers maintaining an A.M. Best rating of no less than an A:VII. If A.M. Best rating is less than A:VII, approval must be received from County's Risk Officer.

31. Workman's Compensation Coverage

Georgetown County, SC will require each contractor and service Consultant to maintain on file with the purchasing officer, a current Certificate of Insurance showing limits as required by the Workers' Compensation Act of SC: Employers Liability, \$1,000,000.

The law also recognizes "statutory employees." These are employees who work for a subcontractor who may be working for a business or another contractor. Employers should inquire whether or not a subcontractor working for them has workers' compensation insurance, regardless of the number of employees employed by the subcontractor. If the subcontractor does not, the subcontractor's injured employees would be covered under the employer's workers' compensation insurance. If the subcontractor does not carry workers' compensation insurance, then the owner or the principal contractor would be liable just as if the subcontractor's employee was one of their employees.

For answers to additional questions, visit the SC Worker's Compensation Commission website, at:

<http://www.wcc.sc.gov/Pages/FrequentlyAskedQuestions.aspx#emp1>

32. Hold Harmless Clause

The Contractor shall, during the term of the contract including any warranty period, indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the County, its officials, employees, agents, and representatives thereof from all suits, actions, or claims of any kind, including attorney's fees, brought on account of any personal injuries, damages, or violations of rights, sustained by any person or property in consequence of any neglect in safeguarding contract work or on account of any act or omission by the contractor or his employees, or from any claims or amounts arising from violation of any law, bylaw, ordinance, regulation or decree. The vendor agrees that this clause shall include claims involving infringement of patent or copyright.

33. Condition of Items

All items shall be new, in first class condition, including containers suitable for shipment and storage, unless otherwise indicated herein. Verbal agreements to the contrary will not be recognized.

34. Workmanship and Inspection

All work under this contract shall be performed in a skillful and workmanlike manner. The County may, in writing, require the Contractor to remove any employee from work that the County deems incompetent or careless.

Further, the County may, from time to time, make inspections of the work performed under this contract. Any inspection by the County does not relieve the Contractor from any responsibility regarding defects or other failures to meet the contract requirements.

35. Invoicing and Payment

The Contractor shall submit invoices on a frequency to be determined, as agreed upon by the County, for each payment requested. Such invoice shall also include a detailed breakdown of all charges. All such invoices will be paid within thirty (30) days unless any items thereon are questioned, in which event payment will be withheld pending verification of the amount claimed and the validity of the claim. The firm shall provide complete cooperation during any such investigation. All invoices shall be forwarded to the following address:

County of Georgetown
Accounts Payable, Finance Dept.
P.O. Box 421270
Georgetown, SC 29442-4200

An IRS W-9 form must be on file with the Purchasing Office before any payment will be issued.

36. South Carolina Sales Tax

The County of Georgetown, SC is not exempt and pays the appropriate SC sales tax on all applicable purchases.

37. Assignment of Contract

This contract may not be assigned in whole or part without the written consent of the Purchasing Officer.

38. Termination

Subject to the provisions below, the contract may be terminated by the County upon sixty (60) days advance written notice to the other party; but if any work or service hereunder is in progress, but not completed as of the date of termination, then this contract may be extended upon written approval of the County until said work or services are completed and accepted.

a. Termination for Convenience

In the event that this contract is terminated or canceled upon request and for the convenience of the County, without the required sixty (60) days advance written notice, then the County shall negotiate reasonable termination costs, if applicable.

b. Termination for Cause

Termination by the County for cause, default or negligence on the part of the contractor shall be excluded from the foregoing provision; termination costs, if any, shall not apply. The sixty (60) days advance notice requirement is waived in the event of Termination for Cause.

c. Non-Appropriation:

It is understood and agreed by the parties that in the event funds are not appropriated in the current fiscal year or any subsequent fiscal years, this contract will become null and void and the County will only be required to pay for services completed to the satisfaction of the County.

39. Default

In case of default by the contractor, for any reason whatsoever, the County may procure the goods or services from another source and hold the contractor responsible for any resulting excess cost and may seek other remedies under law

40. Severability

In the event that any provision shall be adjudged or decreed to be invalid, such ruling shall not invalidate the entire Agreement but shall pertain only to the provision in question and the remaining provisions shall continue to be valid, binding and in full force and effect.

41. Applicable Laws

This Agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of South Carolina, U.S.A.

42. Claims and Disputes:

All claims, disputes and other matters in question between parties arising out of, or relating to, this Agreement, or the breach thereof, shall be decided in the Circuit Court of the Fifteenth Judicial circuit in Georgetown County, South Carolina. By executing this Agreement, all parties specifically consent to venue and jurisdiction in Georgetown County, South Carolina and waive any right to contest jurisdiction and venue in said Court.

43. Rights of County

The County reserves the right to reject all or any part of any bid, waive informalities and award the contract to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder to best serve the interest of the County.

44. Notice of Award

A *Notice of Intent to Award* will be mailed to all respondents.

45. Protest

Bidders may refer to Sections 2-67, 2-73, and 2-74 of Ordinance #20-32, also known as the Georgetown County, South Carolina Purchasing Policy to determine their remedies concerning this competitive process. The failure to be awarded a bid shall not be valid grounds for protest.

46. Debarment

By submitting a bid, the offeror certifies to the best of its knowledge and belief, that it and its principals, sub-contractors and assigns are not presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from covered transactions by any Federal, State or local department or agency. A copy of the County's debarment procedure in accordance with Section 2-68 of Ordinance #20-32, also known as the Georgetown County, South Carolina Purchasing Policy is available upon request.

47. Firm Pricing for County Acceptance

Bid price must be firm for County acceptance for 90 days from bid opening date. "Discount from list," bids are not acceptable unless specifically requested.

48. Use of Brand Names (If Appropriate)

Unless otherwise stated in an Invitation for Bid, the name of a certain brand, make or manufacturer does not restrict bidders to the specific brand, make or manufacturer named; it conveys the general style, type, character, and quality of the article desired, and any article which the County in its sole discretion determines to be the equal of that specified, considering quality, workmanship, economy of operation, and suitability for the purpose intended, shall be accepted. Any catalog, brand name or manufacturer's reference used in bid invitation is descriptive - NOT restrictive - it is to indicate type and quality desired. Bids on brands of like nature and quality will be considered. If bidding on other than reference or specifications, bid must show manufacturer, brand or trade name, catalog number, etc. of article offered. If other than brand(s) specified is

offered, illustrations and complete description must be submitted with bid. Samples may be required. If bidder makes no other bid and takes no exception to specifications or reference data, he will be required to furnish brand names, numbers, etc., as specified. Bidders must certify that item(s) bid upon meet and/or exceed specifications.

49. Delivery After Receipt of Order (ARO)

Bid must show the number of days required to place material in using agency's receiving room under normal conditions. Failure to state delivery time obligates bidder to complete delivery in fourteen (14) calendar days. Unrealistically short or long delivery promised may cause bid to be disregarded. Consistent failure to meet delivery promises without valid reason may cause removal from bid list. Delivery shall be made during normal working hours only, 9 to 5, unless prior approval has been obtained from the County.

50. Permits

The successful Offeror must be responsible for obtaining all necessary city, county, and state permits/licenses and must comply with all local codes and ordinances. Copies of such permits/licenses shall be made available to the County upon request. Building contractors working within Georgetown County must also secure a Contractor's License from the Building Department. Work within the Georgetown City Limits may require a City Business License. For additional information, please review the "Forms and Fees" section of the Building Department web page at the link below:

<http://www.gtcounty.org/176/Building-Department>.

51. Environmental Management:

Vendor/Supplier/Contractor will be responsible for complying with all federal, state and local environmental regulations relating to transportation, handling, storage, spillage and any other aspect of providing the services specified herein, as applicable.

52. Bid Tabulation Results

Vendors wishing to view the bid tabulation results may visit the Georgetown County, SC web-site at: <http://www.georgetowncountysc.org>. Select "Bid Opportunities" from the Quick Links box, then click on the "Expired" tab and double click the link under the individual bid listing.

53. The Bidder hereby certifies that he or she has carefully examined all of the Documents for the project, has carefully and thoroughly reviewed this Request for Bid/Quotation, has inspected the location of the project (if applicable), and understands the nature and scope of the work to be done; and that this Bid is based upon the terms, specifications, requirements, and conditions of the Request for Bid/ Documents. The Bidder further agrees that the performance time specified is a reasonable time, having carefully considered the nature and scope of the project as aforesaid.

54. Any attempt by the vendor to influence the opinion of County Staff or County Council by discussion, promotion, advertising, misrepresentation of the submittal or purchasing process or any procedure to promote their offer will constitute a violation of the vendor submittal conditions and will cause the vendor's submittal to be declared null and void.

55. Apparent omission of a detailed description concerning any point, shall be regarded as meaning the best commercial practice is to prevail and that only material and workmanship of the finest quality are to be used.

56. Response Clarification

Georgetown County reserves the right to request additional written or oral information from Bidders in order to obtain clarification of their Responses.

57. Due to the funding anticipated for use under this agreement, the County's Local Vendor Preference has been waived.

58. Vendor Checklist

The items indicated below must be returned as a part of the Bid Submission package:

- RFQu Submittal [20-pages maximum]
- Non-Collusion Affidavit/Oath
- Mandatory Bid Submittal Form
- Mandatory Exceptions Page
- Addendum Acknowledgement (if applicable)

The successful proposer will be required to provide a Certificate of Insurance naming Georgetown County, SC as an additional insured and a signed IRS Form W-9. This must be on file with the Purchasing Department prior to any services being performed and must be on file within fifteen (15) days of written notification of award.

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Non-Collusion Affidavit/Oath
RFQu #22-043, Resiliency Study for Georgetown County Comprehensive Plan
MANDATORY BID SUBMITTAL FORM

COUNTY OF: _____)

STATE OF: _____)

_____ being first duly sworn, has made oath that they are the
(Print/Type Name of Person Authorized to Bind Company)

_____ of _____
(Print/Type Title-i.e. Owner, President, etc.) (Print/Type Company Name)

the party making the foregoing proposal that such proposal is genuine and not collusive or sham; that said Offeror has not colluded, conspired, connived, or agreed directly or indirectly, with any Offeror or person, to put in a sham Proposal, or that such other person shall refrain from submitting a proposal and has not in any manner, directly or indirectly sought by agreement or collusion, or communication or conference, with any person, to fix the proposal price of affiant or any other Offeror, or to secure any advantage against Owner or any person interested in the proposed Contract; and that all statements in said Proposal are true; and further, that such Offeror has not, directly or indirectly submitted this proposal, or the contents thereof, or divulged information or data relative to any association or to any member or agent thereof.

Signature of Offeror: _____

Sworn to and subscribed before me this _____ day of _____, 2022.

Official Signature of Notary: _____

Notary's Printed or Typed Name: _____

My Commission Expires: _____

Affix Notary Seal Below:



MANDATORY BID SUBMITTAL FORM
RFQu #22-043
Resiliency Study for Georgetown County Comprehensive Plan

The undersigned, on behalf of the vendor, certifies that: (1) this bid is made without previous understanding, agreement or connection with any person, firm or corporation making a bid on the same project; (2) is in all respects fair and without collusion or fraud;(3) the person whose signature appears below is legally empowered to bind the firm in whose name the bid is entered (4) they have read the complete Request for Bid and understands all provisions: (5) if accepted by the County, this bid is guaranteed as written and amended and will be implemented as stated; and (6) mistakes in writing of the submitted bid will be their responsibility.

1. Name of Company submitting RFQu: _____

2. Contact Address: _____

3. Contact Person _____

4. Telephone Number _____ Fax Number _____

5. E-Mail address _____

6. Remittance Address: _____

7. Accounting Contact _____

8. Telephone Number _____ Fax Number _____

9. E-Mail address _____

10. List three (3) customer references (preferably government) for similar size and scope of services:

Entity Name:	
Contact:	
Title:	
Street:	
City, State & Zip:	
Primary Telephone:	

Primary FAX:	
E-Mail Address:	
Brief Explanation of Relationship:	

Entity Name:	
Contact:	
Title:	
Street:	
City, State & Zip:	
Primary Telephone:	
Primary FAX:	
E-Mail Address:	
Brief Explanation of Relationship:	

Entity Name:	
Contact:	
Title:	
Street:	
City, State & Zip:	
Primary Telephone:	
Primary FAX:	
E-Mail Address:	
Brief Explanation of Relationship:	

11. Suspension and Debarment

Federal guidelines require grant recipients to obtain sufficient assurance that vendors are not suspended or debarred from participating in federal programs when contracts exceed \$25,000. By signing below you verify that no party to this agreement is excluded from receiving Federal contracts, certain subcontracts, and certain Federal financial and nonfinancial assistance and benefits, pursuant to the provisions of 31 U.S.C. 6101, note, E.O. 12549, E.O. 12689, 48 CFR 9.404, and each agency's codification of the Common Rule for Non-procurement suspension and debarment. [See <https://www.epls.gov/> for additional information.]

12. If the bid is accepted, the required Contract must be executed within fifteen (15) days of written notice of formal award of Contract.

13. Will you honor the submitted prices and terms for purchase by other departments within Georgetown County and/or by other government entities who participate in cooperative purchasing with Georgetown County, South Carolina?

Yes No

14. Acceptance of Invitation for Bid Content: The contents of the successful IFB/RFP/RFQ are included as if fully reproduced herein. Therefore, the selected contractor must be prepared to be bound by his/her proposal as submitted.

15. RENEWAL OF CONTRACT

The continuation of the terms, conditions, and provisions of any resulting contract beyond the fiscal year is subject to approval and ratification by the Georgetown County Council and appropriation by them of the necessary money to fund said contract for each succeeding year.

16. CERTIFICATION REGARDING DRUG-FREE WORKPLACE:

The undersigned certifies that the vendor listed below will provide a “drug-free workplace” as that term is defined in Section 44-107-30 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976, as amended, by the complying with the requirements set forth in title 44, Chapter 107.

Yes No

17. Any attempt by the vendor to influence the opinion of County Staff or County Council by discussion, promotion, advertising, misrepresentation of the submittal or purchasing process or any procedure to promote their offer will constitute a violation of the vendor submittal conditions and will cause the vendor’s submittal to be declared null and void.

18. The lowest or any proposal will not necessarily be accepted and the County reserves the right to award any portion thereof. I/We, the undersigned, hereby confirm that all the above noted documents for Bid/Request for Qualifications No. 22-043 were received.

19. MINORITY PARTICIPATION [INFORMATION ONLY]

(a) Is the bidder a South Carolina Certified Minority Business?

Yes No

(b) Is the bidder a Minority Business certified by another governmental entity?

Yes No

If so, please list the certifying governmental entity: _____

(c) Will any of the work under this contract be performed by a SC certified Minority Business as a subcontractor?

Yes No

If so, what percentage of the total value of the contract will be performed by a SC certified Minority Business as a subcontractor? _____%

(d) Will any of the work under this contract be performed by a minority business certified by another governmental entity as a subcontractor?

Yes No

If so, what percentage of the total value of the contract will be performed by a minority business certified by another governmental entity as a subcontractor?
_____%

(e) If a certified Minority Business is participating in this contract, please indicate all categories for which the Business is certified:

- Traditional minority
- Traditional minority, but female
- Women (Caucasian females)
- Hispanic minorities
- DOT referral (Traditional minority)
- DOT referral (Caucasian female)
- Temporary certification
- SBA 8 (a) certification referral
- Other minorities (Native American, Asian, etc.)

(If more than one minority contractor will be utilized in the performance of this contract, please provide the information above for each minority business.)

20. **ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION: Non-Construction (NOV. 2008):** (An overview is available at www.procurement.sc.gov) By signing your offer, you certify that you will comply with the applicable requirements of Title 8, Chapter 14 of the South Carolina Code of Laws and agree to provide to the State upon request any documentation required to establish either: (a) that Title 8, Chapter 14 is inapplicable to you and your subcontractors or sub-subcontractors; or (b) that you and your subcontractors or sub-subcontractors are in compliance with Title 8, Chapter 14. Pursuant to Section 8-14-60, "A person who knowingly makes or files any false, fictitious, or fraudulent document, statement, or report pursuant to this chapter is guilty of a felony, and, upon

conviction, must be fined within the discretion of the court or imprisoned for not more than five years, or both." You agree to include in any contracts with your subcontractors language requiring your subcontractors to (a) comply with the applicable requirements of Title 8, Chapter 14, and (b) include in their contracts with the sub-subcontractors language requiring the sub-subcontractors to comply with the applicable requirements of Title 8, Chapter 14. [07-7B097-1]

21.

INFORMATION ONLY:

- Our company accepts VISA government procurement cards.
If yes, list any upcharge for P-Card Payment? _____
- Our company does not accept VISA government procurement cards.

22. Printed Name of person binding bid _____

23. Signature (X) _____

24. Date _____

NOTE: THE ENTIRE SOLICITATION PACKET NEED NOT BE RETURNED. Thank you.



EXCEPTIONS PAGE

MANDATORY BID SUBMISSION FORM

List any areas where you cannot or will not comply with the specifications or terms contained within the bid documentation. If none, write "NONE".