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Field Code Changed

**GENERAL REQUIREMENTS:** Proposers are to submit proposals electronically, to be opened and evaluated in private. Lake County will only be accepting electronic proposals submissions. Complete your response to the Request for Proposal in accordance with the instructions for the RFP.

## SUBMITTING REQUESTS FOR PROPOSAL ELECTRONICALLY

Please follow the steps below to upload your electronic submission:

- 1. Go to www.lakecountypurchasingportal.com
- 2. Click on the Bid Number: 23018
- 3. Click on register for this bid
- 4. Enter your username and password
- 5. Under the Submittals section you will be able to upload your bid submittal
  - a. Click on the browse button
  - b. Navigate your computer and select the appropriate file
  - c. Multiple files can be uploaded, each file can be no more than 20 MB
  - d. Click on save submittals
  - e. Close the browser
- 6. Please follow the same process to submit a redacted copy that can be used to comply with the Illinois Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). Please refer to the FOIA statute, 5 ILCS 140/1 et seq., and specifically Section 7 therein, for an explanation of the information that may be redacted.

## ALL SUBMITTALS SHOULD BE LABELED ACCORDINGLY. Please make this label as part of the first page of submission:

RFP No. 23018	
Buyer: Stacy Davis-Wynn	Vendor Name:
Description: Strategic Outreach & Communication Plan for the Lake County Workforce Development Board	Vendor Address:
RFP Due Date*: January 17, 2023, by 11:00 am local time Lake County will only be accepting electronic submissions for this RFP.	

\*Please note: Responses are due at 11:00 am local time on Tuesday, January 17, 2023. Please allow sufficient time for any technical issues you may have and upload your RFP early. Please email Purchasing at <a href="mailto:purchasing@lakecountyil.gov">purchasing@lakecountyil.gov</a> to receive confirmation that we have successfully received your submission. Deadline for questions Tuesday, January 10, 2023 by 11:00 am local time.

#### Lake County, Illinois

#### Request for Proposals #23018

#### Strategic Outreach & Communication Plan for the Lake County Workforce Development Board

This Request for Proposal (RFP) is for the purpose of establishing a contract with a qualified Marketing and Communication professional group and/or individual ("Consultant") to provide consulting services for the development of a strategic outreach and communication plan for the Lake County Workforce Development Board.

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS:

Proposers are to submit electronic proposals, to be opened and evaluated in private. Submit one (1) complete electronic unprotected copy via the Lake County Purchasing Portal and one (1) redacted copy that can be used to comply with the Illinois Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). Please refer to the FOIA

explanation of the information that may be redacted.

SUBMISSION DATE & TIME: Tuesday, January 17, 2023, by no later than 11:00 am local time

Proposals received after the listed date and time specified will not be opened.

statute, 5 ILCS 140/1 et seq., and specifically Section 7 therein, for an

CONTACT / QUESTIONS: All contact and questions regarding the Request for Proposal shall be with the

Purchasing Division. Should the proposer require additional information about

this RFP, please submit questions on our website at

http://lakecountypurchasingportal.com by selecting the RFP number and

addendum link. Questions may also be submitted via email to

<u>purchasing@lakecountyil.gov</u>. All questions shall be submitted no less than

seven (7) days prior to the RFP opening date.

**CONTENTS:** The following sections, including this cover sheet, shall be considered integral of

this solicitation.

\*General Terms and Conditions

\*Insurance and Bonding Requirements

\*Special Terms and Conditions

\*General Information

\*Scope of Work

\*Submittal Requirements

\*Evaluation Criteria

\*Proposal Price Sheet

\*Addendum Acknowledgement

\*General Information Sheet

\*References

\*Sustainability Statement

\*Vendor Disclosure Statement

\*Vendor Certification

\*Attachments/Exhibits

If your RFP includes any exceptions, proposers must insert an "X" in the following box indicating a submission with exceptions and provide separately a submission with noted exceptions.

**NOTE TO PROPOSERS:** Any and all exceptions to these specifications MUST be clearly and completely indicated in the Proposer's response to the RFP. Failure to do so may lead the County to declare any such term non-negotiable. Proposer's desire to take exception to a non-negotiable term will not disqualify it from consideration for award.

#### 1. NEGOTIATIONS

Lake County reserves the right to negotiate specifications, terms and conditions, which may be appropriate to the accomplishment of the purpose of this Request for Proposal (RFP).

## 2. CONFIDENTIALITY

Proposals are subject to the Illinois Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) once an award or final selection is made. As such all Proposers responding are asked to submit one redacted copy of their proposal that can be used by the County to respond to any future FOIA requests for the proposal.

Please refer to the FOIA statute, 5 ILCS 140/1 et seq., and specifically Section 7 therein, for explanation of information that may be redacted. For example, information exempt from disclosure in response to a FOIA request includes but is not limited to: highly personal or objectionable information; trade secrets and commercial or financial information claimed as proprietary, privileged or confidential, the disclosure of which would cause your business competitive harm; valuable formulae, computer geographic systems, designs, drawings and research data when disclosure of the same would produce private gain or public loss; certain construction related technical documents; and information associated with automated data processing operations that, if disclosed, would jeopardize system or data security.

If no redacted copy is provided, the Lake County Purchasing Division reserves the right to determine what information should be redacted as proprietary, privileged or confidential in response to a FOIA request. A Proposer who fails to provide a redacted copy of its proposal waives its right to maintain any claims against Lake County, its agents or employees for disclosure of this information.

## 3. RESERVED RIGHTS

Lake County reserves the right, at any time and for any reason, to cancel this RFP or any portion thereof, to reject any or all proposals, or to accept an alternate proposal. The County reserves the right to waive any immaterial defect in any proposal. Unless otherwise specified by the Proposer, the County has ninety (90) days to accept. The County may seek clarification from a Proposer at any time. Proposer's failure to respond promptly is cause for rejection. The County may require submission of best and final offers.

## 4. INCURRED COSTS

Lake County will not be liable for any costs incurred by respondents in replying to this RFP.

#### 5. AWARD

Lake County reserves the right to award this contract based on the evaluation criteria set forth herein. Award shall be made by the Lake County Board to the responsible Proposer determined to be the most qualified and advantageous to the County. Lake County reserves the right to award this Contract in whole or in part if determined to be in the best interests of the County.

#### 6. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Should the Proposer require additional information about RFP, please submit questions on our website at <a href="http://lakecountypurchasingportal.com">http://lakecountypurchasingportal.com</a> by selecting RFP number and addendum link. Questions may also be submitted via email to <a href="mailto-purchasing@lakecountyil.gov">purchasing@lakecountyil.gov</a>. All questions shall be submitted no less than seven (7) days prior to RFP opening date. ANY and ALL changes to these specifications are valid only if they are included by written Addendum to all Proposers. No interpretation of the meaning of the plans, specifications or other contract documents will be made orally. Failure of any Proposer to receive any such addendum or interpretation shall not relieve the Proposer from obligation under this RFP as submitted. All addenda so issued shall become part of the RFP documents. Failure to request an interpretation constitutes a waiver to later claim that ambiguities or misunderstandings caused a Proposer to improperly submit a proposal.

#### 7. DISCUSSION OF PROPOSALS AND NEGOTIATION

Lake County may conduct discussions with any Proposer who submits a proposal. During the course of such discussions, the County shall not disclose any information derived from one proposal to any other Proposer. Lake County anticipates conducting negotiations with the successful Proposer. Your proposal should indicate any exceptions taken to this.

#### 8. EXCEPTIONS

Any and all exceptions taken by Proposer to the terms of this RFP are to be identified in writing and included in the list of submittals.

## CONTRACT TERM

This contract shall be in effect for a one (1) year period beginning upon execution. Lake County reserves the right to renew this contract for four (4) additional one (1) year period(s), subject to acceptable performance by the contractor. At the end of any contract term, Lake County reserves the right to extend this contract for a period of sixty (60) days for the purpose of getting a new contract in place. For any year beyond the initial year, this contract is contingent upon the appropriation of sufficient funds; no charges shall be assessed for failure of the County to appropriate funds in future contract years.

#### 10. RESPONSIBILITY & DEFAULT

The Proposer shall be required to assume responsibility for all items listed in this RFP. The successful Proposer shall be considered the sole point of contact for purposes of this contract.

## 11. INTERPRETATION OR CORRECTION OF REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Proposers shall promptly notify the Purchasing Division of any ambiguity, inconsistency or error that they may discover upon examination of the RFP. Interpretation, correction and changes to the RFP will be made by addendum. Interpretation, corrections or changes made in any other manner will not be binding.

## 12. TAXES

The County is exempt from paying certain Illinois State Taxes.

## 13. TERMINATION

Lake County reserves the right to terminate this Agreement as set forth below.

#### a. Termination for Convenience:

Lake County reserves the right to terminate this Agreement, or any part of this Agreement, with or without cause, upon 30 days' written notice. In case of such termination, Consultant shall be entitled to receive payment from Lake County for work completed to the date of termination in accordance with the terms and conditions of this Agreement.

## b. Termination Due to Material Breach:

In the event that this Agreement is terminated due to the Consultant's material breach, Lake County shall be entitled to purchase substitute items or services elsewhere and charge Consultant with losses the County incurs, including attorney's fees and expenses, notwithstanding any damage limitations the parties may agree to elsewhere.

#### c. Termination Due to Lack of Appropriations:

If sufficient funds are not appropriated by the Lake County Board to continue the services under this Agreement, then Lake County may terminate this Agreement. Lake County agrees to give written notice of termination to Consultant at least 30 days prior to the end of the last fiscal year for which appropriations were made. Lake County shall remit payment for all work completed and approved or accepted by the County, to the date of termination. Termination under this subsection shall not entitle the Consultant to contractual damages of any kind.

Commented [DS1]: This contract shall be in effect for a one (1) year period beginning upon execution. Lake County reserves the right to renew this contract for four (4) additional one (1) year period(s), subject to acceptable performance by the contractor. At the end of any contract term, Lake County reserves the right to extend this contract for a period of sixty (60) days for the purpose of getting a new contract in place. For any year beyond the initial year, this contract is contingent on the appropriation of sufficient funds; no charges shall be assessed for failure of the County to appropriate funds in future contract years.

Commented [DS2R1]: Is this correct?

- d. Termination Due to Force Majeure Events:
- (1) If a Force Majeure Event prevents a party from complying with any one or more obligations under this agreement, that inability to comply will not constitute breach if that party uses reasonable efforts to perform those obligations, that party's inability to perform those obligations is not due to its failure to (A) take reasonable measures to protect itself against events or circumstances of the same type as that Force Majeure Event or (B) develop and maintain a reasonable contingency plan to respond to events or circumstances of the same type as that Force Majeure Event, and that party complies with its obligations under section 16(d)(3), below.
- (2) For purposes of this agreement, "Force Majeure Event" means, with respect to a party, any event or circumstance, whether or not foreseeable, that was not caused by that party and any consequences of that event or circumstance.
- (3) If a Force Majeure Event occurs, the noncomplying party shall promptly notify the other party of occurrence of that Force Majeure Event and may terminate the Agreement based on it, with an obligation to pay only for services performed prior to the Force Majeure Event.

#### 14. DEBARMENT AND SUSPENSION WITH LAKE COUNTY

The Lake County Purchasing Ordinance § 33.125 through 33.126 defines the County's Authority and Decision to Debar.

The Proposer certifies to the best of his or her knowledge and belief that the Proposer:

- A. Is not presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible or voluntarily excluded from covered transactions by any Federal department or agency.
- B. Has not within a 3-year period preceding this contract been convicted of or had a civil judgment rendered against it for commission of fraud or a criminal offense in connection with obtaining, attempting to obtain or performing a public (Federal, State, or local) transaction; violation of Federal or State antitrust statutes or commission of embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, making false statement, or receiving stolen property.
- C. Is not presently indicted or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by a governmental entity (Federal, State, or local) with commission of any of the offenses enumerated in paragraph (b) of this certification; and
- D. Has not, within a three-year period preceding this contract, had one or more public transactions (Federal, State, or local) terminated for cause or default.

Proposer agrees that, during the term of this Agreement, Bidder shall report to the County's contract administrator, within 10 days, any allegations to or findings by the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) or Illinois Labor Relations Board (ILRB) that Proposer has violated a statute or regulation regarding labor standards or relations. If an investigation by the County results in a final determination that the matter adversely affects Consultant's responsibilities under this Agreement, then the County may terminate this contract.

## 15. NON-DISCRIMINATION

The Proposer agrees to and shall comply with (1) the Equal Opportunity Employer provisions of Section 2000e of Chapter 21, Title 42 of the United States Code and Federal Executive Order Number 11246, as amended by Executive Order 11375, and (2) Chapter 33 of Title III of the Lake County Code of Ordinances (titled "Purchasing").

## 16. INDEMNIFICATION

The Proposer agrees to indemnify and defend Lake County (its employees, elected officials, executives, and agents) from all claims, actions, demands, judgments or liabilities, fines, penalties, and expenses, including without limitation reasonable legal fees and expert costs, arising out of this Agreement, and arising from the Consultant's (its employees', executives', and agents') actions, whether negligent, reckless, or intentional. Lake County shall provide notice to Consultant promptly of any such claim, suit, or proceeding, and will assist Consultant, at Consultant's expense, in defending any such claim, suit, or proceeding.

#### 17. ASSIGNMENT, ALTERATIONS AND MODIFICATIONS

Any Agreement entered into as a result of this RFP shall not be assigned, delegated, or modified without the express written consent of both parties. The Agreement supersedes all other agreements, oral or written, between the parties with respect to the subject matter of the Agreement.

If Lake County agrees that the Consultant may assign, delegate, or subcontract the work under the Agreement, Consultant shall remain contractually liable to Lake County unless otherwise agreed in writing.

#### 18. CHANGE ORDERS

In the event changes to the scope of the project or additional work become necessary or desired (a "Change"), the parties shall follow the procedures set forth in this Section to memorialize the change (a "Change Order"). A Change Order shall be effective only if documented in writing, dated, and signed by both parties, and expressly referencing this Agreement. The Change Order shall set forth in detail: (i) the Change requested, (ii) the reason for the proposed Change; (iii) the cost of the Change; and (iv) the Change's impact on the time for completing the project.

In the event either party desires a Change, the Project Manager for such party shall submit to the other party's Project Manager a proposed Change Order. If the receiving party does not accept the Change Order in writing within 10 business days, the receiving party shall be deemed to have rejected the Change Order. If the parties cannot reach agreement on a proposed Change, Contractor shall nevertheless continue to render performance under this Agreement in accordance with its (unchanged) terms and conditions.

Changes that involve or increase in the amounts payable by the County may require execution by the County Purchasing Agent. Some increases may also require approval by the County Board. In cases where the Purchasing Agent's signature is required, or where County Board approval is needed, the Change Order shall not be deemed rejected by County after 10 days if the County's Project Manager has indicated in writing within the 10-day period an intent to present the Change Order for appropriate signature or approval.

## 19. JURISDICTION, VENUE, CHOICE OF LAW AND PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS

This RFP and any contract resulting there from shall be governed by and construed according to the laws of the State of Illinois. Jurisdiction and venue shall be exclusively found in the 19<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit Court of Lake County Illinois.

## 20. CHANGE IN STATUS

The Proposer shall notify Lake County immediately of any change in its status resulting from any of the following: (a) Proposer is acquired by another party; (b) Proposer becomes insolvent; (c) Proposer, voluntary or by operation law, becomes subject to the provisions of any chapter of the Bankruptcy Act; (d) Proposer ceases to conduct its operations in normal course of business. Lake County shall have the option to terminate its Agreement with the Proposer immediately on written notice based on any such change in status.

## 21. DISPUTE RESOLUTION

All issues, claims, or disputes arising out of this Agreement shall be resolved in accordance with the Contract Disputes provision of the Lake County Purchasing Ordinance, § 33.097.

## 22. NON-ENFORCEMENT BY THE COUNTY

The Proposer shall not be excused from complying with any of the requirements of the Contract because of any failure on the part of the County, on any one or more occasions, to insist on the Proposer performance or to seek the Proposers compliance with any one or more of said terms or conditions.

## 23. PRECEDENCE

Where there appears to be variances or conflicts, the following order of precedence shall prevail Lake County General Terms & Conditions, Lake County Request for Proposal Terms Scope of Work, and the Proposal Response.

#### 24. PERSONAL EXAMINATION

Proposers are required to satisfy themselves, by personal examination of the site as to work involved and the difficulties likely to be encountered in the performance of work under this Agreement. No plea of ignorance of conditions that exist now or hereafter, or of any conditions of difficulties that may be encountered in the execution of the work under this Agreement will be accepted as an excuse for failure to or omission on the part of the Proposer to fulfill in every respect all the requirements and specifications, nor will same be accepted as a basis for any claim for extra compensation.

The Proposer is responsible to investigate and gather all relevant and pertinent information prior to submitting a proposal. By submitting a proposal, the Proposer affirms that they have performed all due diligence and are aware of all critical factors that may affect the provision of the services as described in the RFP. Such critical factors may include but are not limited to; location, space, utilities, scope of operations, and any other conditions, which may affect the Proposer operations. No allowance will be made for not being familiar with existing conditions to be encountered.

#### 25. PRICING

Pricing shall be included on Proposal Price Sheet. Please note, the price sheet must be completed and submitted with your response. Failure to complete and submit this form may cause you to be considered to be unresponsive to this RFP. A responsive Proposer is defined as a person who has submitted a proposal that conforms in all material respects to the requirements set forth in the Request for Proposal.

#### 26. JOINT PURCHASING

The purchase of goods and services pursuant to the terms of this Contract shall also be offered for purchases to be made by other governmental units, as authorized by the Governmental Joint Purchasing Act, 30 ILCS 525/0.01 et seq. (the "Act"). All purchases and payments made under the Act shall be made directly by and between each governmental unit and the successful Proposer. The Proposer agrees that Lake County shall not be responsible in any way for purchase orders or payments made by the other governmental units. The Proposer further agrees that all terms and conditions of this Contract shall continue in full force and effect as to the other governmental units during extended terms. The credit or liability of each governmental unit shall remain separate and distinct. Disputes between Proposers and governmental units shall be resolved between the immediate parties.

The Proposer and the other governmental units may negotiate such other and further terms and conditions to this Contract ("Other Terms") as individual projects may require. To be effective, other terms shall be reduced to writing and signed by a duly authorized representative of both the successful Proposer and the other governmental unit.

The Proposer shall provide the other governmental units with all required documentation set forth in the solicitation including but not limited to performance and payment bonds, Certificates of Insurance naming the respective governmental unit as an additional insured, and certified payrolls to the other governmental unit as required.

## 27. ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY PROGRAM

Lake County launched a **Buy Local. Build Local. Work Local.** initiative in 2013 to increase the outreach and procurement opportunities for businesses located within Lake County, including women-owned businesses and minority-owned business enterprises (L/W/MBE). The overarching objective is to maximize participation from these businesses in the County's procurement process, in accordance with applicable law. The County will take all necessary and reasonable steps to assure that business enterprises defined as L/W/MBE shall have a fair opportunity to participate in County contracts. As part of its Economic Opportunity Program (EOP) commitment, the County will make every effort to achieve the following objectives:

- (a) To ensure nondiscrimination in the award and administration of contracts;
- (b)To create a level playing field on which L/W/MBEs can compete fairly for contracts by providing any necessary training and assistance in bid preparation;
- (c) To ensure that the County's EOP is narrowly tailored in accordance with applicable law;
- (d)To establish a means for firms identifying themselves as L/W/MBEs to register for procurement opportunities and work cooperatively with contracted firms to report on measures that demonstrates the County's commitment to its EOP; and,

(e) To help remove barriers to the participation of L/W/MBEs through notification of contract opportunities.

Successful Proposers are encouraged to work with Workforce Development to post any and all opportunities for employment on County contracts. Lake County's Workforce Development mission is to foster and ensure the economic prosperity of the Lake County community by maximizing the potential of businesses and workers. As such, Workforce Development provides a key resource for job seekers and employers.

State law mandates an open and competitive procurement process and requires that publicly procured contracts be awarded with no demonstrated preference based on the proposer's 's location, race, and gender.

#### 28. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS FOR AWARDED CONTRACTS

All awarded vendors will identify and report the type of ownership— L/W/MBE, and/or not L/W/MBE for any work that they or their approved subcontractors will perform. In addition, Lake County requests that all awarded vendors provide an accounting of employees assigned throughout the term of the contract in regard to their home address and ethnicity. Lake County may use any data collected to report on potential of businesses and workers benefitting from County contracts.

## 29. LAKE COUNTY OWNERSHIP OF INFORMATION

All information pertaining to records, data collected, property, financial or other information acquired under the scope of this contract shall be strictly confidential and the sole property of Lake County. The Proposer shall return all information to Lake County upon termination, and/or request and shall not utilize any of the information for purposes outside of the scope of this contract or without express approval of Lake County. Upon County request, the Proposer must provide all Lake County data in a documented, standard format.

#### 30. JOINT VENTURES & SUCCESSFUL PROPOSER MERGERS, ACQUISITIONS, DIVESTITURES OR CHANGE IN STRATEGY

In the event a joint venture is proposed, each party to the joint venture must meet all applicable requirements of the RFP. The party submitting the response shall be considered the sole contact for issues relating to this RFP. In the event of a merger, acquisition, divestiture or change in strategy, the successful proposer will state its commitment to continue to provide services.

#### 31. OUT OF POCKET EXPENSES

All out-of-pocket expenses paid by the Proposer during the project will be incurred solely at the Proposer's expense.

## 32. INFORMATION SECURITY

In the process of performing services to Lake County the Proposer may come in contact with information deemed important and proprietary to Lake County. The Proposer agrees that any services performed for Lake County, whether on Lake County premises or not, will meet or exceed Lake County's information security policy and privacy standards. Lake County reserves the right to audit proposer's performance in meeting these standards.

## 33. INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR, LICENSURE OR CERTIFICATIONS, KEY PERSONNEL

- A. Independent Contractor Status. The parties intend that the Consultant will be an independent contractor.
- B. Licensure or Certifications. If required by law, the Consultant must at all times be and remain licensed or certified as a qualified provider of the services provided in this Agreement. Consultant shall submit copies of the required licenses or certifications upon the County's request. Consultant shall promptly notify County in writing of any citation Consultant receives from any licensing or certification authority, including all responses and correction plans.
- C. Where the parties have identified particular individuals as being critical to a project ("Key Employees"), then Consultant shall not replace Key Employees without the County's prior written consent, which shall not be unreasonably withheld. Should Key Employees be reassigned, become incapacitated, separate from the Consultant, or be otherwise unable to perform the functions assigned to them, Consultant shall (i) within 10 business days, temporarily replace the person with another properly qualified employee and (ii) within 30 calendar days, permanently replace the person.

Lake County shall have the right to request that Consultant replace Key Employees from the project by setting forth in writing the grounds for the request. Consultant shall have a reasonable time period in which to address the grounds or make a substitution.

#### 34. EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Contractor assures, with respect to operation of the WIOA-funded training or activity, that it will comply fully with the nondiscrimination and equal opportunity provisions in sec. 188 of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998; USDOL regulation 29 CFR part 38, as amended; USDOL regulations at 29 CFR parts 31 and 32, including the Nontraditional Employment for Women Act of 1991; Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as amended; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, as amended; the Age Discrimination Act of 1975 as amended; the Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1987; executive order 12250; Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967; Federal Equal Pay Act of 1963; ILLINOIS Equal Pay Act of 2003; U.S. department of labor regulations at 28 CFR part 42, subparts f & h; Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended Victims Economic Security and Safety Act; the Veterans' Priority Provisions of the "Jobs for Veterans Act", public law 107-288.

## 35. <u>INVOICES & PAYMENT</u>

- A. At the start of this Agreement, the County will issue a purchase order for the work and Proposer shall submit invoices detailing the products and services provided and identify the purchase order number on all invoices.
- B. Proposer shall maintain records showing the actual time its employees and agents devoted to the project, and the costs incurred. Proposer shall permit a representative from Lake County to inspect and audit all of Proposer's data and records for the work and services provided under this Agreement. Proposer shall make these records available at reasonable times during the Agreement period and for one year after the end of the Agreement.
- C. All payments shall be made in accordance with the Illinois Local Government Prompt Payment Act, which generally requires approval of a vendor's bill within 30 days of receiving the invoice for the services contained in it, and payment within an additional 30 days (50 ILCS 505/1 et seq.).

Lake County's fiscal year ends on November 30. Invoices for services the Proposer has rendered up until November 30 of each year must be received by Lake County on or before January 15 of the subsequent calendar year.

Other than the timeframe for payments related to the end of Lake County's fiscal year, as stated above, Lake County shall not be held financially liable for payment of any services rendered if the invoice for such services is not sent to the County within 90 days from the date the services were provided.

If this Agreement is terminated prior to its expected expiration date, the Proposer must submit all invoices to Lake County no later than 30 days after the effective date of the termination.

Payment for invoices received beyond the time periods in this subsection will be denied, absent an agreement to the contrary. Failure of the Proposer to invoice the County in the timeframes noted in this section shall constitute the Proposer's waiver of the Proposer's right to payment.

## 36. PRESS/NEWS RELEASES

Consultant may not issue any press or news releases regarding this Agreement without prior approval from Lake County. Consultant shall provide notice to Lake County's Chief Communications Officer if contacted by the media regarding the services set forth in this Agreement.

#### INSURANCE AND BONDING REQUIREMENTS

Strategic Outreach & Communication Plan for the Lake County Workforce Development Board

December 2022

The Contractor must obtain, for the Contract term and any extension of it, insurance issued by a company or companies qualified to do business in the State of Illinois with an A.M. Best Rating of at least A- VIII and provide the County with a Certificate of Insurance 15 days before the start of the project, and thereafter annually for contracts/ projects that will last more than one year. Insurance in the following types and amounts is necessary:

#### Commercial General Liability Insurance

In a broad form on an occurrence basis shall be maintained, to include, but not be limited to, coverage for property damage, bodily injury (including death), personal injury and advertising injury in the following coverage forms where exposure exists:

- Premises and Operations
- Independent Contractors
- Products/Completed Operations
- Liability assumed under an Insured Contract/ Contractual Liability
- Personal Injury and Advertising Injury

#### With limits of liability not less than:

- \$ 2,000,000 Each Occurrence
- \$ 1,000,000 Products-Completed Operations
- \$ 1,000,000 Personal and Advertising injury limit
- \$ 5,000,000 General aggregate; the CGL policy shall be endorsed to provide that the General Aggregate limit applies separately to each of the contractor's projects away from premises owned or rented to contractor.

#### Automobile Liability Insurance

Automobile liability insurance shall be maintained to respond to claims for damages because of bodily injury, death of a person, or property damage arising out of ownership, maintenance, or use of a motor vehicle. This policy shall be written to cover any auto whether owned, leased, hired, or borrowed.

The Contractor's auto liability insurance, as required above, shall be written with limits of insurance not less than the following:

\$ 1,000,000 Combined single Limit (Each Accident)

## Excess/ Umbrella Liability

The Contractor's Excess/ Umbrella liability insurance shall be written with the umbrella follow form and outline the underlying coverage; limits of insurance will be based on size of project:

\$ 2,000,000 per occurrence limit (minimum, and may be higher depending on the project)

## Workers Compensation (Coverage A) and Employers Liability (Coverage B)

Workers Compensation Insurance covering all liability of the Contractor arising under the Worker's Compensation Act and Worker's Occupational Disease Act at limits in accordance with the laws of the State of Illinois. Employers' Liability Insurance shall be maintained to respond to claims for damages because of bodily injury, occupational sickness, or disease or death of the Contractor's employees, with limits listed below:

## **Employers Liability**

- a) Each Accident \$1,000,000
- b) Disease-Policy Limit \$1,000,000
- c) Disease-Each Employee \$1,000,000

Such Insurance shall contain a waiver of subrogation in favor of Lake County.

#### Professional Liability - Errors and Omissions

The Engineers/Architects/Consultants and/or Software Developer for the plans of the project shall be written with limits of insurance not less than the following:

\$ 1,000,000 per claim per policy year

Coverage shall be provided for up to three (3) years after project completion. Policy is to be on a primary basis if other professional liability is carried.

## Cyber Liability

Cyber Liability Insurance for unauthorized release of Personally Identifiable Information (PII), protected Health Information (PHI) and confidential information of third parties and employees including Privacy Regulatory coverage for both legal defense and fines/penalties from a privacy breach for risks associated with e-business, internet, etc., with limits of insurance not less than the following:

\$ 1,000,000 per occurrence limit.

## **Liability Insurance Conditions**

Contractor agrees that with respect to the above required insurance:

- a) The CGL policy shall be endorsed for the general aggregate to apply on a "per Project" basis.
- b) The Contractor's insurance shall be primary & non-contributory over Lake County's insurance in the event of a claim.
- c) Contractor agrees that with respect to the above required insurance, Lake County shall be named as additional insured, including its agents, officers, and employees and volunteers and be provided with thirty (30) days' notice, in writing by endorsement, of cancellation or material change. A blanket additional insured ISO endorsement is preferred for Contractors who have multiple projects with the County.
- d) Lake County shall be provided with Certificates of Insurance and should include the appropriate corresponding ISO form endorsements evidencing the above required insurance, prior to commencement of this Contract and thereafter with certificates evidencing renewals or replacements of said policies of insurance at least thirty (30) days prior to the expiration of cancellation of any such policies. No manuscript endorsements will be accepted. Any hard copies of said Notices and Certificates of Insurance and Endorsements shall be provided to:

Lake County
Purchasing Division
18 N. County 9th Floor
Waukegan, Illinois 60085
Attn: RuthAnne Hall, Lake County Purchasing Agent

e) Electronic copies of Notices, Certificates of Insurance and Endorsements can be emailed to <u>Purchasing@lakecountyil.gov</u> in place of hard copies.

Failure to Comply: In the event the Contractor fails to obtain or maintain any insurance coverage required under this agreement, Lake County may purchase such insurance coverage and charge the expense to the Contractor.

#### SPECIAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Strategic Outreach & Communication Plan for the Lake County Workforce Development Board December 2022

Proposers are subject to the following conditions if the use of Federal Funds is applied to this procurement.

#### 1. DEBARMENT AND SUSPENSION

This contract is covered transaction for purposes of 2 C.F.R. pt. 180 and 2 C.F.R. pt. 3000. As such, the Proposer is required to verify that none of the Licensor's principals (defined at 2 C.F.R. § 180.995) or its affiliates (defined at 2 C.F.R. § 180.905) are excluded (defined at 2 C.F.R. § 180.940) or disgualified (defined at 2 C.F.R. § 180.935).

Proposer must comply with 2 C.F.R. pt. 180, subpart C and 2 C.F.R. pt. 3000, subpart C, and must include a requirement to comply with these regulations in any lower tier covered transaction in enters into.

This certification is a material representation of fact relied upon by Lake County. If it is later determined that the Proposer 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 Licensor, the Federal Government may pursue available remedies, including but not limited to suspension and/or debarment.

Proposer agrees to comply with the requirements of 2 C.F.R. pt. 180, subpart C and 2 C.F.R. pt. 3000 subpart C throughout the period of any contract that may arise. Licensor agrees to include a provision requiring such compliance in its lower tier covered transactions.

## 2. PROHIBITION ON CERTAIN TELECOMMUNICATIONS

The proposed equipment will not utilize covered telecommunications equipment or services as a substantial or essential component of any system, or as critical technology as part of any system. As described in Public Law 115-232, section 889, covered telecommunications equipment is telecommunications equipment produced by Huawei Technologies Company or ZTE Corporation (or any subsidiary or affiliate of such entities).

## 3. ACCESS TO RECORDS

Proposer agrees to provide Lake County, the FEMA Administrator, the Comptroller General of the United States, or any of their authorized representatives access to any books, documents, papers, and records of the Licensor which are directly pertinent to this contract for the purposes of making audits, examinations, excerpts, and transcriptions.

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

Proposer 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.

In compliance with the Disaster Recovery Act of 2018, Lake County and the Licensor 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.

## 4. DHS SEAL, LOGO AND FLAGS

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

## 5. COMPLIANCE WITH FEDERAL LAW, REGULATIONS, AND EXECUTIVE ORDERS

This is acknowledgement that FEMA financial assistance will be used to fund all or a portion of the contract. Proposer will comply with all applicable Federal law, regulations, executive orders, FEMA policies, procedures, and directives.

#### 6. NO OBLIGATION BY 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, Proposer, or any other party pertaining to any matter resulting from the contract.

#### 7. PROGRAM FRAUD AND FALSE OR FRADULENT STATEMENTS OR RELATED ACTS

Proposer acknowledges that 31 U.S.C. Chap. 38 (Administrative Remedies for False Claims and Statements) applies to the Proposer's actions pertaining to this contract.

## 8. BYRD ANTI-LOBBYING AMENDMENT (31 U.S.C. 1352)

Proposer s who apply or bid for an award of \$100,000 or more shall file the required certification. 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 shall 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.

## CLEAN AIR ACT (42 U.S.C. 7401-7671Q.) AND THE FEDERAL WATER POLLUTION CONTROL ACT (33 U.S.C. 1251-1387), AS AMENDED

Proposers who apply or bid for an award of \$150,000 or more shall comply with the following provisions:

#### i. Clean Air Act

- 1. The Proposer agrees to comply with all applicable standards, orders or regulations issued pursuant to the Clean Air Act, as amended, 42 U.S.C. § 7401 et seq.
- The Proposer agrees to report each violation to the LCHD and understands and agrees that the LCHD
  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.
- 3. The Proposer agrees to include these requirements in each subcontract exceeding \$150,000 financed in whole or in part with Federal assistance provided by FEMA.

#### ii. Federal Water Pollution Control Act

- The Proposer agrees to comply with all applicable standards, orders, or regulations issued pursuant to the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, as amended, 33 U.S.C. 1251 et seq.
- The Proposer agrees to report each violation to the LCHD and understands and agrees that the LCHD 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.
- 3. The Proposer agrees to include these requirements in each subcontract exceeding \$150,000 financed in whole or in part with Federal assistance provided by FEMA.

#### 1. INTENT

This Request for Proposal (RFP) is for the purpose of establishing a contract with a qualified Marketing and Communications professional group and/or individual ("Consultant") to provide ongoing professional services and support in the execution of the Lake County Workforce Development Board strategic outreach and communication plan.

#### 2. LAKE COUNTY, ILLINOIS

Lake County is located in northeast Illinois, between the Chicago and Milwaukee metropolitan areas. Lake County is home to about 703,000 residents. Lake County is committed to open government and transparency, and the County board's conservative fiscal policies have allowed the County to maintain fiscal stability and achieve AAA bond rating from Standard & Poor's and Moody's. Lake County is governed by a 19-member board and managed by a County Administrator.

## 3. BACKGROUND

The Lake County Workforce Development Board (Board) provides oversight and policy direction for workforce development programs in Lake County and the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Title I federal funds received by Lake County. The Board ensures WIOA funds are spent on local workforce development programs serving youth, adults, dislocated workers, jobseekers and industries. The Workforce Board ensures programs and services are accessible to all residents and businesses, funds are invested in addressing the talent and hiring needs of businesses and employers throughout Lake County, and DEI. The Board is committed to maintaining high fiduciary standards through the budgeting and oversight of these federal U.S. Department of Labor WIOA funds.

## 4. CURRENT STATE - PROJECT

The Lake County Workforce Development Board is in its second year of its formalized outreach and communications efforts, including a continued focus on leveraging the Board's new website, developing additional informational collateral, crafting messaging for media outlets, and expanding the reach of the social media channels and newsletter.

## 5. PROJECT TIMELINE

To ensure that Lake County is able to implement the proposed solution, the proposers should indicate their ability to meet the deadlines indicated below:

Event	Date
Release RFP	Wednesday, December 28, 2022
Deadline for RFP Inquiries for Clarification and	Tuesday, January 10, 2023 by 11:00 am
Posting of Responses	local time
Deadline for Proposal Submissions	Tuesday, January 17, 2023 by 11:00 am
	local time
Finalist Interviews	February 1, 2023 – February 3, 2023
Lake County Board Approval	March 14, 2023
Awarded Entity Begins Contract	March 15, 2023

<sup>\*</sup>This timeline may be subject to change.

#### 6. PROJECT STATUS

Personnel from the Proposer, Lake County, and other interested Lake County organizations will, as scheduled at a mutually agreed upon frequency, meet to discuss the scope of this project and the progress made by the Proposer in the performance of their obligations hereunder. When ad hoc meetings need to occur, Proposer and Lake County will make every effort to accommodate same.

## 7. PERFORMANCE LEVELS/MONITORING

Lake County staff will monitor performance levels based on progress reviews and milestone reports, as specified in the project plan created by the Proposer.

## 8. ACCOUNT REPRESENTATIVE

The Proposer shall assign an Account Representative who has a minimum of 5 years, successful experience in providing these services. The Account Representative, and his or her qualifications, shall be identified in the submittal of the RFP documents. The Account Representative shall be present for presentation of the proposal and must be assigned to Lake County throughout the Contract period.

## 9. WORK PRODUCT

All work product prepared by Proposer pursuant to a resulting Agreement, including, but not limited to, policies, reports, analysis, plans, designs, calculations, work drawings, studies, photographs, models, and recommendations shall be the property of Lake County. Proposer shall deliver the work product to Lake County upon completion of Proposer's work, or termination of the Agreement, whichever comes first. Proposer may retain copies of such work product for its records; however, Proposer may not use, print, share, disseminate, or publish any work product related to this Agreement without the consent of Lake County.

#### SCOPE OF WORK

Strategic Outreach & Communication Plan for the Lake County Workforce Development Board December 2022

This Request for Proposal (RFP) is for the purpose of establishing a contract with a qualified Marketing and Communications professional group and/or individual ("Consultant") to provide consulting services to continue our efforts in facilitating the current strategic outreach and communications plan for the Lake County Workforce Development Board.

Requested Services include, but are not limited to:

- Facilitate the current outreach and communications plan for the organization that will:
  - o Increase awareness of the Workforce Board and the mission of the Board
  - o Ongoing outreach and education of the Board that includes messaging, design, tone, and personality
  - o Increase awareness through positive stories and successful partnerships
  - Continue to improve the process that streamlines communications through creative development to execution including but not limited to online, print, periodic reports, and newsletters
  - Increase awareness of services and resources for individual job seekers and businesses throughout Lake County
- Work with and support the Workforce Development Board staff in all outreach and communications:
  - Social Media Content Creation, Graphics, Posting to Platforms Includes an average of two posts per week to each of the following platforms: <u>LinkedIn</u>, <u>Twitter</u>, and <u>Facebook</u>. Consultant will create the content, develop any applicable graphics, post the content to each platform, and monitor any generated engagements.
  - Advertising LinkedIn Digital Ads Include a single online/digital "follower ad" designed to spread awareness about LCWDB to employers and businessowners throughout Lake County. The follower ad runs continuously each month on LinkedIn.
  - E-Newsletter Content Creation, Graphics, Distribution Includes one electronic newsletter per month.
     Consultant will create the content, develop any applicable graphics, and distribute the approved newsletter to LCWDB's subscriber list via Constant Contact. Examples of the Board's newsletter can be found here: Monthly Newsletter Lake County Workforce Development Board.
  - Website Maintenance Existing Page Edits, New Page Creation to support continuous improvement of the
    existing website. The Board's website can be found here: <a href="Home-Lake County Workforce Development">Home-Lake County Workforce Development</a>
    Board.
  - Website Fees Domains, Hosting, SSL Includes ongoing domain registration for four domain names owned by LCWDB, hosting of the LakeCountyWorkforce.org website, and secure encryption of the website via a Secure Sockets Layer (SSL).
  - Graphic Design Creation of New Collateral Pieces Complete the design, layout, and final edits to an
    annual report, press releases (minimum of four per year), annual report (one per year), and additional
    outreach collateral pieces as needed (e.g., brochure, flyer, one-pager, etc.).

**Commented [DS3]:** Marketing sound better than Outreach. But willing to change if you insist

**Commented [DS4]:** Would you like this statement removed from this RFP?

#### SUBMITTAL REQUIREMENTS

Strategic Outreach & Communication Plan for the Lake County Workforce Development Board

December 2022

## **DETAILED SUBMITTAL REQUIREMENTS**

Proposals should be prepared as simple as possible and provide a straightforward, concise description of the proposed products and services to satisfy the requirements of the RFP. Attention should be given to accuracy, completeness, relevance and clarity of content. The proposal should be organized into the following major sections:

- A. Introduction Material and Executive Summary
- B. Company Background
- C. Scope of Services
- D. Implementation Plan
- E. Client References
- F. Exceptions to the RFP
- G. Price Proposal / Value added services (attached)
- H. Sustainability Statement
- I. Vendor Disclosure Statement (attached)
- J. Vendor Certification Form (attached)
- K. Addendum Acknowledgement (attached)

#### A. Introduction Material and Executive Summary

The introductory material must include a title page with the RFP number, subject, name of the Proposer, address, telephone number, e-mail address, the date, a letter of transmittal and a table of contents. The executive summary should be limited to a brief narrative summarizing the proposal.

## B. Company Background

In this section provide information about the company so that the County can evaluate the Proposer's stability and ability to support the commitments set forth in the response to this RFP. Information in this section should contain the following information in addition to the General Information Sheet that is also included as an exhibit to this RFP:

- 1. Company name and location of the corporate headquarters and of the nearest office to Lake County.
- 2. The number of years the company has been in business and the number of years the company has been providing services to the public sector.
- Include information on the company's customer base, such as the number of public sector clients the company serves, the number of local government clients, and the number of public sector clients in the state.
- ${\bf 4.} \quad \text{Identify if the company serves other industries.}$
- 5. Include a brief summary of the company's organizational characteristics such as the number of employees, their backgrounds, whether the company is privately held, publicly traded, or if it is a subsidiary to a parent company.
- 6. Describe any other business affiliations (e.g., subsidiaries, joint ventures, "soft dollar" arrangements with brokers).
- 7. Identify the individuals who will be the account representative for Lake County, including office locations, telephone numbers and email addresses.

## C. Scope of Services

This section of the proposal should include a general discussion of the Proposer's overall understanding of the project and the scope of work. For each task that is identified in the scope of services outlined in the specifications, please identify your firm's approach and response to address the desired service outlined.

#### D. Implementation Plan

This section should describe the Proposer's plan. Proposers should assume that the County will contribute all necessary effort to ensure success in the project.

- 1. Provide methodology for implementation. Methodology should include estimated timeframe, overview of deliverables, assumptions and assumed responsibilities and roles of the County and proposed project team.
- 2. Proposer shall provide a 12-month project timeline.
- 3. Provide project team resumes for key members of the implementation team expected to be on the County's project.
- 4. Proposer shall indicate the ability to have all services implemented and fully operational within twelve months of the start of the contract.

#### E. Client References

The County considers references to be an important factor in its decision to award a contract. Proposers should supply references that will be available to speak with the County. Three references should be provided that provided similar type of work completed in the past two to years. A reference sheet is included as a submittal as part of this RFP document.

#### F. Exceptions to the RFP

All requested information to this RFP must be supplied as this document and subsequent proposals submitted help form the basis for a contract with the selected proposer. Proposers may take exception to certain requirements in this RFP. All exceptions shall be clearly identified in this section and written explanation shall include the scope of the exceptions, the ramifications of the exceptions for the County and the descriptions of the advantages or disadvantages to the County as a result of the exception. The County, at its sole discretion, may reject any exceptions or specifications within the proposal.

#### G. Price Proposal

The price proposal cost sheeting included as part of this proposal shall be completed and returned with your response. Any additional services identified by the proposer shall be delineated separately for the County to consider

## **Value Added Services**

Please include any value-added services your firm provides in your submittal.

## H. Sustainability Statement

Lake County is committed to green and sustainable practices and good environmental stewardship. Consequently, Proposers are asked to provide a Statement of Sustainability to demonstrate that they are also incorporating sustainability into their firms' practices. A Sustainability Statement form is included as part of the RFP. Proposers are asked to provide a clear description of your firm's sustainable practices, policies, or procedures in the following areas: waste minimization, energy efficiency, water efficiency, staff and education.

## I. Vendor Disclosure Statement

This disclosure statement is being filed in accordance with the Lake County Ethics Ordinance and Lake County Purchasing Ordinance. October 2019 the Lake County Board revised our Vendor Disclosure Statement Policy, which require vendors to disclose any familial relationships between a Lake County elected official, department director, deputy director, manager and owners, principals or officers of the vendor's company as well as campaign contributions to County elected officials.

## J. Vendor Certification Form

This certification form is information that Lake County is collecting for reporting purposes only and will not be used in vendor selection.

## K. Addendum Acknowledgment

Any and all changes to the specifications and terms and conditions of this RFP are valid only if they are included by addendum issued by Lake County Purchasing. Proposers shall acknowledge addenda by signing the enclosed

Addendum Acknowledgement form. It is the Proposer's responsibility to check for addendums, posted on the website at <a href="http://lakecountypurchasingportal.com">http://lakecountypurchasingportal.com</a> prior to the submittal due date. No notification will be sent when addendums are posted unless there is an addendum within three business days of the submittal due date.

#### **EVALUATION CRITERIA**

Strategic Outreach & Communication Plan for the Lake County Workforce Development Board

December 2022

The County will conduct a comprehensive, fair, and impartial evaluation of proposals received in response to this procurement effort. All proposals will be evaluated by how well the proposal satisfies the described/stated needs, rather than how exactly the proposal matches the strictest interpretation of the terminology and design concepts stated herein. Newly emerging technologies, additional features, and the ability of the proposed solutions to adapt will be a consideration. Submitted proposals will be reviewed to determine whether the provider meets the following minimum procurement requirements:

#### **Evaluation Organization**

- a. An Evaluation Committee will be established to score and evaluate the submitted proposals.
- b. The Evaluation Committee may include members from Lake County's departments who have experience with these services. The Committee will be responsible for the proposal evaluation (including corporate reference checks).

The Evaluation Committee shall evaluate, in a fair and impartial manner, all proposals submitted in response to this RFP on the following criteria:

- 1. Qualifications and Experience 35 pts
- 2. Understanding and ability to meet and/or exceed the scope of services 35pts
- 3. Project Budget 20 pts
- 4. Completeness of proposal and responses for required information 10 pts

## TOTAL: 100 pts

## Short List

The evaluation factors will be used to assist the evaluation committee in determining a short list. Proposers will be notified by the County if they have been selected for the short list. Please note, Lake County reserves the right to not short list all Proposers if it is not in the best interest of the County.

## Interview

Lake County reserves the right, as part of the evaluation process, to ask for additional materials, interview, or schedule site visits to any locations serviced by Proposers. Site visits may be scheduled or unscheduled as determined by the County. If applicable, the County shall contact Proposers to arrange an interview.

## **Additional Investigations**

The County reserves the right to make such additional investigations as it deems necessary to establish the competence and financial stability of any firm submitting a proposal.

#### **Best and Final Offer**

The County reserves the right to request a Best and Final Offer (BAFO) if additional information or modified terms are necessary for the Evaluation Committee to complete its evaluation and ranking. A BAFO will not be used solely to reduce pricing. If a BAFO is requested, all short-listed proposers, or if the short list process is not used, all qualified Proposers will be provided an opportunity to submit a modified Response. Only one BAFO request will be issued by the County. The information received from the BAFO will be used by the Evaluation Committee to reevaluate and re-rank the Proposers.

## Intent to Negotiate

The County reserves the right to invite the most qualified Proposer to negotiate final terms and conditions, finalize scope clarification and confirm final pricing and payment terms. The information received from the negotiation shall be found in the final contract document. If the parties are unable to negotiate a satisfactory contract the negotiations will be terminated. The County reserves the right to either begin negotiations with the qualified Proposer that is next preferred or non-award the request for proposal.

## PROPOSAL PRICE SHEET

Strategic Outreach & Communication Plan for the Lake County Workforce Development Board

December 2022

The price proposal shall include a total price as a fixed fee for all services delineated in this RFP. The proposer will consider all costs (labor, overhead, administration, profit, travel, etc.) associated with providing the services listed in this RFP. Any hourly rates for services that may not be included shall be provided with the corresponding service and rate. All additional services beyond the initial scope of the project, identified by the Proposer as beneficial to the County, shall be delineated separately for the County to consider.

Please delineate services and price as proposed to meet the requirements of the RFP.

PROPOSED PRICE FOR ALL SERVICES	TOTAL PRICE
LISTED IN THE SCOPE OF SERVICES OF	
THIS RFP	

Please delineate Position Title and any services that are options but not included in the original scope of the RFP.

POSITION TITLE	HOURLY RATE	# OF HOURS



## Addendum Acknowledgement RFP #23018

The undersigned acknowledges receipt of the following addendum(s):

ADDENDUM #	SIGNATURE

I have examined and carefully prepared the submittal documentation in detail before submitting my response to Lake County.

Submittal Number:	23018
Company Name:	
Authorized Representative:	Signature  Print
Date:	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •

It is the vendor's responsibility to check for addendums, posted on the website at <a href="http://lakecountypurchasingportal.com">http://lakecountypurchasingportal.com</a> prior to the submittal due date. No notification will be sent when addendums are posted unless there is an addendum within three business days of the submittal due date.

If the submittal has already been received by Lake County, vendors are required to acknowledge receipt of addendum via email to <a href="mailto:purchasing@lakecountyil.gov">purchasing@lakecountyil.gov</a> prior to the due date.

Submittals that do not acknowledge addendums may be rejected.

All responses are to be submitted in a sealed envelope. Envelopes are to be clearly marked with required submittal information.

GENERAL INFORMATION SHEET		December 2022
AUTHORIZED NEGOTIAT	ORS:	
Name:	Phone #	Email Address:
Name:	Phone #	Email Address:
BUSINESS ORGANIZATIO	N: (check one only)	
Sole Proprietor:	An individual whose signature is affi	xed to this proposal.
Partnership: Statached sheet.	ate full names, titles, and addresse	es of all responsible principals and/or partners on
Corporation: Sta	te of incorporation:	
Non-profit Corpo	pration	
501c3 U.S. Inte	rnal Revenue Code	
		rtifies that it is not barred from responding on this E-4 of the Illinois Criminal Code of 1961, as amended.
Business Name		
Signature	Print	or Type Name
Title		

## REFERENCES

Strategic Outreach & Communication Plan for the Lake County Workforce Development Board December 2022

List below other similar size clients for who you have provided similar services. Please include the email address for each reference.

Agency Name:	
Address	
City, State, Zip Code	
Telephone Number	
E-Mail	
Contact Person	
Dates of Service	
# Of Employees	
Agency Name:	
Address	
City, State, Zip Code	
Telephone Number	
E-Mail	
Contact Person	
Dates of Service	
# Of Employees	
Agency Name:	
Address	
City, State, Zip Code	
Telephone Number	
E-Mail	
Contact Person	
Dates of Service	
# Of Employees	
# Of Employees	
Agency Name:	
Address	
City, State, Zip Code	
Telephone Number	
E-Mail	
Contact Person	
Dates of Service	
# Of Employees	

## SUSTAINABILITY STATEMENT

The County of Lake has a responsibility to balance fiscal, environmental, and social considerations into its operational decision-making process. The County's commitment to green and sustainable practices and good environmental stewardship was memorialized by the Lake County Board in the County's 2013 Strategic Plan where sustainability is listed as a value and a goal. This was further strengthened in September 2020 by adopting a Net Zero Emissions goal through Joint Resolution. Therefore, we shall promote environmentally preferable purchasing, whenever practical, by procuring goods or services that lessen the destructive effects on the environment and the health and well-being of all citizens.

Consideration of the practices adopted by our contracted firms is key to magnifying the impact of the County's sustainability measures. Proposers are requested to provide a Statement of Sustainability demonstrating the methods they have incorporated into their firms. Sustainability may be one of the scoring criteria included the evaluation rubric for the award of this contract.

## **INSTRUCTIONS**

Please provide a narrative outlining any policies or practices implemented by your firm to reduce your carbon footprint. Your response should include, but need not be limited to:

- A copy of your firm's sustainability policy, awards, and accolades.
- Practices such as waste minimization, energy/water efficiency, methods instituted to reduce pollution, green products utilized, staff education, community involvement and volunteerism.
  - Specifically include the percentage of your firm's energy that comes from renewable sources and percentage of your fleet that is non-emitting.
- Sustainable approaches your firm may have for this specific project.
- Cost variances to incorporate a more sustainable approach to this project and any calculated life cycle costs.



## **VENDOR DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Vendor Name:		
Address:		
Contact Person:	Contact Phone #	
Bid/RFP/SOI/Contract/Renewal:	<b>#23018</b> ; Strategic Outreach & Communication Plan for the LCWDB	

Vendors wishing to contract with Lake County for goods and services in an amount greater than \$30,000 shall submit this form in advance of award. This disclosure statement is not required for utility companies regulated by the Illinois Commerce Commission or local units of government. Vendors shall disclose:

- A familial relationship <u>between</u> a Lake County elected official, department director, deputy director and manager <u>and</u> owners, principals, executives, officers, account managers or other similar managerial positions of the vendor's company. Familial relationship is defined as a spouse (including civil partner), child, stepchild, parent, stepparent, grandparent, in-laws (including parent, grandparent, sibling, or child), relatives and non-relatives living in the same residence, and offspring born to any aforementioned person.
- All political campaign contributions made by the vendor or an owner, principal, executive, officer, account
  manager, or other similar managerial position of the vendor to any county board member, county board
  chair, or countywide elected official within the last five years.

If there is nothing to report in a section, please state none in the appropriate space.

#### **FAMILIAL RELATIONSHIPS**

List names and departments/agencies of Lake County employees or public officials with whom owners, principals, or officers of the vendor's company have a familial relationship and the nature of the relationship. Attach additional pages as necessary. (Provide all names or state none in the space below. Do not leave blank.)

Name and Department/Agency of Lake County	
Employee/Public Official	Familial Relationship

## **CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS**

List campaign contributions that have been made within the last five years that exceed \$150 annually. Attach additional pages as necessary. (Provide all names or state none in the space below. Do not leave blank.)

Recipient	Donor	Description (e.g., cash, type of item, in-kind service, etc.)	Amount/Value	Date Made

Continuing disclosure is required if information changes. This Vendor Disclosure Statement form is available at <a href="https://www.lakecountyil.gov">www.lakecountyil.gov</a>.

The full text of the County's Ethics and Procurement policies and ordinances are available at <a href="www.lakecountyil.gov">www.lakecountyil.gov</a>.

I hereby acknowledge that the information above is accurate and complete, that I am an authorized signer on behalf of the vendor, that I have read and understand these disclosure requirements, and that I agree to update this information if there are any related changes by submitting a new Vendor Disclosure Statement.

Authorized Signature:	Title:	
Printed Name:	Date:	

Vendors must insert "x" in the following box indicating exception and provide a brief narrative for exception.



# **VENDOR CERTIFICATION FORM**

Bid/RFP/SOI Number:	23018			
Vendor Name:				
Address:				
Primary Contact Name:				
Primary Contact Email Address:				
Primary Contact Phone Number:				
Project Manager Name:				
Project Manager Email Address:				
Project Manager Phone Number:		N b of		
# Years in Business:		Number of Employees:		
Annual Sales:	\$	Dunn & Bradstreet #:		
Vendor Certification Statement: information is collected for rep certification. (Definitions are inclu	orting purposes only and	not vendor selection. Plea Vendor Certification Form).	ase include a copy of	
		. , , ,		
	certifies as a Women Busine	. , ,		
Contractor	Contractor certifies as a Veteran-Owned (VBE) Business Enterprise			
Contractor	Contractor certifies as a Persons with Disabilities Owned Business Enterprise (PDBE)			
Contractor	certifies as a Service-Disable	d Veteran-Owned (SDVBE) E	Business Enterprise	
Contractor	certifies as a Business Enterp	orise Program (BEP)		
Contractor	certifies as a Small Disadvan	taged Businesses (SDB)		
Contractor	certifies as a Veteran-Owned	d Small Business (VOSB)		
Local Busin	ess			
None				
Other (Specify)				
Certification Number:				
Certified by				
(Agency):				
I certify that this information is accinformation on behalf of my compa	•	wledge and that I am autho	rized to provide this	
Signature, Title	· 	Name, Title		



## **Vendor Certification Definitions**

#### • Minority-owned business (MBE)

A business concern which is at least 51% owned by one or more minority persons, or in the case of a corporation, at least 51% of the stock in which is owned by one or more minority persons; and the management and daily business operations of which are controlled by one or more of the minority individuals who own it.

#### Woman-owned business (WBE)

A business which is at least 51% owned by one or more women, or, in the case of a corporation, at least 51% of the stock in which is owned by one or more women; and the management and daily business operations of which are controlled by one or more of the women who own it.

#### • Veteran-owned Business Enterprise (VBE)

A small business (i) that is at least 51 percent owned, controlled and managed by one or more Eligible Veterans or in the case of a corporation, at least 51 percent or more of the stock of which is owned, controlled and managed by one or more Eligible Veterans.

- Eligible Veteran means a person who (i) has been either a member of the armed forces of the United States or, while
  a citizen of the United States, was a member of the armed forces of allies of the United States in time of hostilities
  with a foreign country and (ii) has served under one or more of the following conditions: (a) the veteran served a total
  of at least 6 months; (b) the veteran served for the duration of hostilities regardless of the length of the engagement;
  (c) the veteran was discharged on the basis of hardship; or (d) the veteran was released from active duty because of
  a service connected disability and was discharged under honorable conditions.
- Armed Forces of the United States means the United States Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, or service in active duty as defined under 38 U.S.C. Section 101. Service in the Merchant Marine that constitutes active duty under Section 401 of federal Public Act 95-202 shall also be considered service in the armed forces for purposes of this Division.

#### Persons with Disabilities Owned Business Enterprise (PDBE)

A small business (i) that is at least 51 percent owned. controlled and managed by one or more Persons with a Disability; or in the case of a corporation, at least 51 percent or more of the stock of which is owned, controlled, and managed by one or more Persons with a Disability.

Disability or Disabled means, with respect to an individual, a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits
one or more of the major life activities of the individual, a record of physical or mental impairment that substantially
limits one or more of the major life activities of the individual or being regarded as an individual with a physical or
mental impairment that substantially limits one or more of the major life activities of the individual.

#### Service-Disabled Veteran-owned Business Enterprise (SDVBE)

A small business (i) that is at least 51 percent owned, controlled, and managed by one or more qualified service-disabled veterans or in the case of a corporation, at least 51 percent or more of the stock of which is owned, controlled and managed by one or more Service-Disabled Veterans.

- Service-Disabled Veteran means an Eligible Veteran who has been found to have 10 percent or more serviceconnected disability by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs or the United States Department of Defense.
- Service-connected disability means a disability incurred in the line of duty in the active military, naval or air service
  as described in 38 U.S.C. 101(16).

#### BEP – Business Enterprise Program

Business Enterprise Program (BEP) BEP assists businesses owned by minorities, women, and people with disabilities gain access to the State of Illinois procurement process. BEP certification with the State of Illinois can also open the door to opportunities with other public and private entities which are looking for diverse suppliers.

#### • Small Disadvantaged Businesses (SDB)

A Small Disadvantaged Business (SDB) is a small business owned and controlled by socially and economically disadvantaged individuals as defined by Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) 19.001

## • Veteran-Owned Small Business (VOSB)

A Veteran-Owned Small Business (VOSB) is a small business that is at least 51 percent owned by one or more veterans; or, if a publicly owned business, at least 51 percent of the stock is owned by one or more veterans. Also, one or more veterans control management and daily business operations of the firm.

#### Local business

Lake County launched a Buy Local. Build Local. Work Local initiative in 2013 to increase the outreach and procurement opportunities for businesses located within Lake County, including women-owned businesses and minority-owned business

enterprises (L/W/MBE). The overarching objective is to maximize participation from these businesses in the County's procurement process, in accordance with applicable law.