



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

MANAGEMENT CONSULTING SERVICES

The purpose of this Request for Proposals (RFP) is to solicit proposals and award two contracts to qualified Firms to provide Management Consulting Services to the New York State Division of the Budget (DOB or Division). The selected Primary and Secondary Management Consultants shall advise the Division on an as-needed basis in emergent consulting engagements. These engagements will focus on advising on and reviewing management, policy and fiscal issues relating to State programs, practices and initiatives.

This RFP also outlines the terms and conditions, and all applicable information required for submission of proposals. To prevent possible disqualification and to ensure compliance with the requirements of the RFP, Firms should pay strict attention to the proposal submission deadline and follow the format and instructions contained in this document.

Date	Event
Monday, December 2, 2024	Issuance of Request for Proposals
Thursday, December 12, 2024 by 12:00 PM ET	Firm Inquiries Due
Tuesday, December 17, 2024	Division’s Response to Firm Inquiries
Monday, December 30, 2024 by 12:00 PM ET	Proposal Submission Deadline
Week of January 20, 2025	Anticipated Finalist Interviews
January through February 2025	Proposal Evaluation and Selection
Early March 2025	Anticipated Contract Start Date

The Division reserves the right to change any of the dates stated in this RFP.

MWBE Goal: 15% MBE / 15% WBE

SDVOB Goal: Established in each Statement of Work

Anticipated Contract Term: 5 Years

The procurement is in a restricted period from the date this RFP is issued until the contract has been approved. All contacts/inquiries shall be made by email to the following address: Contracts@budget.ny.gov. Designated Contacts for this Procurement:

Director of Procurement: Michelle Heaslip
Contracts Officer: Roxanne West
Contracts Administrators: Heidi Tyler and Barbara Farley

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1	Scope	3
	1.1 Background - Division of the Budget	3
	1.2 Services Required.....	3
	1.3 Utilization of the Primary and Secondary Consultant	6
	1.4 Contract Term	7
	1.5 Minimum Firm Qualifications	7
2	Proposal Requirements	7
	2.1 Technical Proposal	8
	2.2 Cost Proposal	10
	2.3 Administrative Proposal.....	11
	2.4 Firm Inquiries/Revisions to this RFP	13
	2.5 Submission of a Complete Three-Part Proposal	13
	2.6 Proposal Ownership	14
3	Evaluation Process	14
	3.1 General Information.....	14
	3.2 Submission Review	14
	3.3 Evaluation and Scoring	14
4	Award of Contract/Debriefing	16
	4.1 Contract Award	16
	4.2 Debriefings.....	16
5	Contractual Requirements	17
6	Reservation of Rights	17
7	Freedom of Information Law	18
8	Ethics	19
	8.1 Ethics Requirements	19
	8.2 Vendor Responsibility Determination	19
	8.3 Public Officers Law.....	20
9	Minority- and Women-Owned Businesses (MWBE)	21
	9.1 MWBE Interest	21
	9.2 NYS Executive Law Article 15-A	21
10	Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Business Enterprises (SDVOB)	24
	APPENDICES/FORMS	28
	APPENDIX A: STANDARD CLAUSES FOR NEW YORK STATE CONTRACTS	28
	APPENDIX B: SAMPLE CONTRACT / POST AWARD FORMS	34
	FORM 1.1: COST PROPOSAL	67
	FORM 1.2: COST PROPOSAL FORM.....	69
	FORM 2: FIRM INFORMATION AND ATTESTATION	70
	FORM 3: NON-COLLUSIVE BIDDING CERTIFICATION.....	72
	FORM 4: FIRM ASSURANCES OF NO CONFLICT OF INTEREST OR DETRIMENTAL EFFECT.....	73
	FORM 5: MWBE AND EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES REQUIREMENTS.....	75
	FORM 6: MWBE DIVERSITY PRACTICES.....	84
	FORM 7: VENDOR RESPONSIBILITY QUESTIONNAIRE INSTRUCTIONS	88
	FORM 8: PROCUREMENT LOBBYING RESTRICTIONS	89
	FORM 9: DISCLOSURE OF PENDING OR PRIOR LAWSUITS, CONFLICTS OF INTEREST, OR INVESTIGATIONS OR DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS.....	91
	FORM 10: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION LAW REDACTION REQUEST	92
	FORM 11: EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 177 CERTIFICATION.....	93
	FORM 12: SEXUAL HARASSMENT PREVENTION CERTIFICATION.....	94
	FORM 13: EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 16 CERTIFICATION.....	95

1 Scope

1.1 Background - Division of the Budget

The New York State Division (DOB or Division) is responsible for assisting the Governor in the development of the Executive Budget and serves as the Governor's primary advisor on fiscal matters such as local government and public authority finances. DOB manages program and policy delivery outcomes and has oversight of agency performance, with an enhanced emphasis on governance. The synthesis of management and budget functions within DOB ensures that the policies, programs and projects contained in the Budget are delivered in a timely, cost-effective manner.

The Division is seeking to engage Firms that would serve as Primary and Secondary Management Consultants for the Division. The selected Firms shall advise the Division on management, policy and fiscal issues relating to State programs, practices, and initiatives. The selected Firms will assist the Division in advising on a variety of State programs and policies, new initiatives and options, assessing the fiscal impact of programs and initiatives, measuring State entity performance, identifying areas where public and private sector best practices could be incorporated, and ensuring desired program results are achieved. The length of the assignments will vary based on the needs of each particular project. There may be assignments that are limited to review, analysis and comments on a specific issue lasting only a few weeks. Other assignments may be longer term involving recommendations and high-level support.

1.2 Services Required

The Division is seeking two Firms to provide expert, experienced management consulting staff to support the Division: one to serve as the Primary Management Consultant (the highest composite scorer) and one to serve as the Secondary Management Consultant (the next highest composite scorer).

The Firms will provide management consulting services to support the policy areas of interest for the Division, which may include but are not limited to:

- Agriculture
- Criminal Justice
- Economic Development
- Education
- Energy
- Environment
- Health Care
- Human Services
- Information Technology
- Local Government
- Mental Hygiene
- Not-for-Profit Sector
- Public Finance
- Public Safety
- Transportation

Upon request, the Firms will be assigned projects to provide advice, assistance, guidance, or analysis that may involve some or all of the following services:

Program-Related Matters

- Assist Division staff in reviewing and evaluating programs, policy and/or initiatives in one or more State entities (e.g. agencies, public authorities, boards, commissions).

- Identify best practices, analytical techniques, change management, or strategy development for State programs or proposed initiatives.
- Review success, return on State investment, productivity, and/or cost-effectiveness of programs and initiatives.
- Provide technical assistance to the Division in program issues and the valuation of assets held by State entities.
- Assist the Division in developing business and high-level system requirements for State entities.
- Provide comprehensive coordination, project management services, and/or other oversight activities for proposed initiatives.

Financial Related Matters

- Analyze the fiscal impact of changes in proposed, or existing, State and local programs or policies, which may have an impact on the State Financial Plan.
- Assist Division staff in developing and/or monitoring financial indicators related to the use of resources and funds that flow through the State's accounts.
- Evaluate the long-term financial needs of the State by providing financial forecasting on existing programs, including alternatives that may be more efficient and cost-effective.
- Evaluate and advise the Division on general or specific budgetary and management issues that may arise. This may include Firm's interpretation of proposed management policies and its relation to State financing and the State's structure.
- Assist Division staff in reviewing and analyzing financial data for various State agencies/entities and other organizations.
- Provide comprehensive coordination, project management services and/or other oversight activities for proposed initiatives.

State Operations and Management

- Analyze State entity operations, policies and processes to measure performance, identify opportunities to improve service, and increase efficiency. This may include, but not be limited to:
 - Analyzing and documenting current policies and processes;
 - Performing best-practice research and benchmarking to other approaches at comparable entities;
 - Conducting workflow analyses; and
 - Designing accountability programs.
- Assess the functions performed by a State entity or group of entities to identify operational improvement opportunities. This may include, but not be limited to: examining statutory responsibilities, organizational structures, resources (budget, personnel, equipment, technology, facilities, and other assets), and workload.
- Assist in developing implementation plans, generating project cost estimates, and providing implementation and support services that may include, but not be limited to: program management support to facilitate project completion, including implementation steps; resource allocation; quality assurance; review of project

schedules; monitor and manage issues and risks; create key performance indicators and management performance reports; and develop detailed baseline analytics.

- Perform quality assurance reviews of existing operations, including the review of transactions between the Division and agencies, authorities and other parties with which the Division may work.
- Provide comprehensive coordination, project management services, and/or other oversight activities for proposed initiatives.

Management Issues, Changes and Federal Mandates/Statutes, Local Issues

- Advise the Division on public management matters, as appropriate, including modifications or conditions for which New York State would be affected. Identify ways to meet new mandates, changes or requirements.
- Assist in analyzing the cash flow and financial position of municipalities, public authorities and other State entities.
- Advise and support the State in organizing, capturing, monitoring, and reporting on streams of federal funding including, but not limited to grants.
- Provide comprehensive coordination, project management services and/or other oversight activities for proposed initiatives.

Services included are advisory and/or managerial in nature, as such, Information Technology (IT) consultant services including not limited to system design/development, software development, configuration, programing, prototyping, and independent validation and verification are excluded.

Statement of Work

In all cases, and at the onset of each engagement, the Firm and the Division will document in a statement of work (SOW) the required services to complete the engagement, work products/deliverables to be developed, if any, staff names and titles, term of service, costs, and payment structures, and MWBE/SDVOB subcontracting goals. The selected Firm will also be expected to maintain adequate and verifying documentation of its work and staff, work under the direction of the Division, and to satisfy all of its obligations under the SOW. It is the Division's expectation that any resources assigned to this contract will be used in the most efficient and cost-effective manner.

Upon approval of the contracts, selected Firms shall assign a staff member as a Contract Manager who will work with the Division on the creation and execution of each SOW. The selected Contract Manager shall have adequate authority, knowledge, and experience to facilitate the development the SOWs. SOWs should be fully agreed to and executed prior to commencement of work by the Firm. Any work performed by the Firm without an executed SOW is at risk and may not be subject to the terms of this Agreement and/or eligible for payment.

It is important to note that assignments under the contract will vary, may arise quickly and, in many cases, require intensive involvement of the Firm over a relatively short

period of time. Other engagements may involve work by the Firm over several months. The work and any work products or deliverables expected from the Firm may vary from engagement to engagement depending on the nature of the assignment.

Statement or Work Development Process

1. Upon notification to the Primary or Secondary Consultant of an engagement, the Division will meet with the Firm to outline the engagement requirements, expectation of skills and experience, goals, and any deliverables for the project.
2. The Firm will then create a proposed Project Charter and proposed Project Plan to be approved by the Division prior to any work commencing.
 - a. The Project Charter must include: Summary of project; names of all State and Firm stakeholders, including their roles and responsibilities; high-level requirements (scope, budget, key milestones, schedule, etc.); any identified high-level risks, assumptions, and exit criteria.
 - b. The Project Plan must include all relevant project processes necessary from initiation of the project, to project closeout, including the staffing plan with resumes for all identified staff.
3. Upon acceptance of the Firm's proposed Project Plan, proposed Project Charter, and approval of all proposed Firm staffing by the Division, the Division will work with the Firm's assigned Contract Manager to finalize a SOW to be executed for the project.
4. Upon mutual agreement and execution, the engagement shall commence.

Any work the Firm does to develop and execute the SOW shall be at no cost to the Division and shall not be listed as a deliverable of the project unless specifically requested by the Division. Accordingly, the time spent by of the Contract Manager on development of the SOW shall not be billable to the Division.

1.3 Utilization of the Primary and Secondary Consultant

The Primary consultant shall be given first opportunity to accept an assignment, unless in the case of a condition noted below. There is no commitment by the Division that the Secondary consultant will be requested to provide any services. The Division will award assignments to the Secondary consultant if one or more of the following conditions exist:

- A. The Primary consultant has an actual or potential conflict of interest that, in the sole determination of the Division, could prevent the consultant from satisfactorily or ethically performing the assignment;
- B. The Secondary consultant has a demonstrated expertise that, in the sole determination of the Division, is superior to that of the Primary consultant for purposes of a particular assignment;
- C. The Division determines that the Primary consultant cannot undertake or complete an assignment or make appropriate staff available within the timeframes and costs established by the Division for the assignment;
- D. The Division and the Primary consultant are unable to come to agreement on the requirements and/or cost to complete an assignment;

- E. The Primary consultant and the Division mutually agree that work on a specific project be performed by the Secondary consultant.

1.4 Contract Term

The term of the contract with the Firms selected is anticipated to be for five years. Notwithstanding the expiration of the contracts, the SOW may require the Contractor to work beyond that date through the completion of a specific project. In such event, the terms and conditions of the contract shall survive expiration of the contract term and apply through the completion of the project and acceptance by the State.

1.5 Minimum Firm Qualifications

In order to be considered for contract award, Firms must demonstrate that they meet the minimum qualifications set forth below. Satisfaction of this minimum qualification shall be documented as part of the Technical Proposal, as described in Section 2.1.C of this RFP. **Inability to meet the minimum qualifications set forth below will result in the rejection of a proposal as non-responsive.**

The Firm shall have completed a major project involving the services described in Section 1.2 of this RFP for a federal government agency or state comparable in spending as New York State or a major metropolitan city within such states. For this purpose, the Division considers states comparable to NYS to include California, Texas, Florida, Pennsylvania, Illinois, Ohio, Michigan, New Jersey, North Carolina, Washington, Georgia, and Massachusetts. In addition, the Division considers the major metropolitan cities within such states to be:

- New York City, NY
- Los Angeles, CA
- Chicago, IL
- Houston, TX
- Washington, DC
- Atlanta, GA
- Miami, FL
- Seattle, WA
- Philadelphia, PA.

2 Proposal Requirements

The Firm should submit a proposal which clearly and concisely provides all of the information requested. A complete proposal for this RFP comprises three (3) separate proposals: Technical, Cost, and Administrative.

- **Technical Proposal** – The purpose of the Technical Proposal is for the Firm to demonstrate their qualifications, competence and capacity to undertake the engagement described herein.

- **Cost Proposal** – The Cost Proposal is the fee the Firm will charge the Division for the services described in this RFP.
- **Administrative Proposal** – The Administrative Proposal contains standard requirements by which the Firm must agree to abide, information requested by the Division in connection with these requirements, and additional forms to be completed by the Firm.

2.1 Technical Proposal

The Technical Proposal should specifically detail the Firm’s experience and qualifications in providing the services sought by the Division. **Please note, in the Technical Proposal, Firms should not include any information related to their cost or the amount proposed for this RFP.**

Below is a listing of the technical information to be provided by the Firm. Firms must keep the Technical Proposal to a maximum of 25 pages (not including table of contents, resumes, and letters of reference). Material in excess of the page limit will not be considered. The State does not require nor desire any promotional material, which does not specifically address the response requirements of this RFP.

A. Table of Contents

The table of contents should clearly identify the location of all material within the proposal by section and page number.

B. Executive Summary

An Executive Summary highlighting significant aspects of the Technical Proposal.

C. Documentation Demonstrating Satisfaction of Minimum Qualifications:

In this section, the Firm should describe the project engagements they are putting forward to satisfy the Minimum Firm Qualifications defined in Section 1.5 of this RFP. To satisfy this requirement, Firms should briefly describe:

- 1) The scope and specific services and deliverables provided during the engagement(s)
- 2) The entity(s) for which the services and deliverables were provided
- 3) The total cost of the engagement(s)
- 4) The outcome of the engagement(s)

D. Firm Experience and Qualifications

In this section of the Technical Proposal, Firms should demonstrate relevant experience to enable the State to fully understand their capabilities and breadth of experience. Firms should provide as much detail as possible on past performance and

demonstrate familiarity and proficiency in successfully performing the work stated in this RFP.

1. Provide an overview of the Firm's experience related to the Scope of Services that demonstrates the Firm's capabilities and expertise. As part of this overview, Firms should also briefly demonstrate their ability to apply their expertise in strategy, operations, organization, and customer experience in each of the fifteen Policy Areas identified in Section 1.2.
2. Provide two detailed case studies of notable projects handled by your Firm for a Fortune 100 company, a state comparable to NYS as described in Section 1.5 of this RFP and/or a country or providence within that is equally comparable to NYS. The projects selected for the two case studies should be as follows:
 - One case study focused on either a major health care or transportation project.
 - One case study focused on a major project in one of the other Policy Areas identified in Section 1.2, at the Firm's choosing.

Each case study must be limited to 5 pages, provide sufficient detail to demonstrate the nature and extent of your Firm's expertise, and include the following:

- The problem that was presented to your Firm
- The approach taken by your Firm to solve the problem
- The strategic, operational, organizational, and customer experience impacts of the project
- Measurable key performance indicators used to demonstrate the project's success
- Names of the key staff assigned to each project, including their role, level of responsibility, and relevant experience
- A section describing lessons learned, including what went well, what did not go well and why, and what you would do differently.

E. Staff Experience and Qualifications

In this section of the Technical Proposal, please identify the core staff that you anticipate will be assigned to this contract. Firms should provide in depth detail and examples to support the knowledge and experience of their staff. It is the expectation of the Division that the core team assigned to the State will have limited turnover.

1. Core Staff

State the names of the staff members who would be assigned to the State's core team for this contract and include resumes for all core team members. Identify each team member using the titles described in Form 1 (Cost Proposal), even if

these titles are not consistent with the Firm's existing titles. Describe each team member's functional area of responsibility as it relates to the scope of services and the fifteen (15) Policy Areas identified in Section 1.2. Firms should describe each team member's qualifications and experience in supporting Senior Executives of Fortune 100 companies, federal government agencies, states or city as described in Section 1.5 of this RFP and/or countries or providence within that is equally comparable to NYS.

2. Other Proposed Staff

As specific projects are assigned under the resulting contracts, Firms will be required to access talent with the breadth of experience required to successfully support the State's needs. In this section, Firm's should demonstrate their ability to attract and assign well-qualified staff to the State's projects. In particular, Firm's should provide illustrative examples of the types of staff they can access throughout the contract term. Firms should ensure these examples clearly indicate their ability to provide high-caliber staff with the requisite qualifications and policy area expertise to provide the services outlined in Section 1.2 of this RFP as projects arise.

E. Reference Letters

Firms are asked to supply the Division with letters of reference for the following:

1. At least two (2) of the Firm's engagements described above.
2. One (1) letter of reference for the proposed lead Engagement Partner; and
3. One (1) letter of reference for the proposed lead Project Manager.

Reference letters should include the name, address and contact information of the Client. Client should include a brief description of the type and scope of services of the engagement, as well as the term and quality of work performed during the engagement. **Please note, current DOB employees cannot be identified as a reference.**

The Division may seek additional information from references regarding subjects that may include, but are not limited to, the quality of services provided, anticipated ability to perform the services required in this RFP, and the responsiveness of the Firm to the client during the project.

Considering the criteria, any missing letters of reference or the inability to contact a Firm or staff reference provided by a Firm will not be looked upon favorably and may result in a reduction of points.

2.2 Cost Proposal

Among the selection criteria is the fee the Firm will charge the Division for the services described in this RFP. The Cost Proposal is an integral component of a Firm's three-part submission. The Cost Proposal Form (Form 1) must be completed in its entirety according

to the instructions included in Form 1. **Proposals with a fee format different from the format indicated in Form 1 will be deemed non-responsive and the entire proposal will not be considered for evaluation or award.**

Compensation

The compensation structure for services under any resultant contract will be defined and described in a mutually agreed-upon SOW according to the needs of the individual project or engagement. Firms will be asked to provide a detailed breakdown of the proposed costs related to the scope for each individual project performed under the resulting contract. The rates included in the selected Firm's cost proposal and established in any resulting contract shall be used to determine individual project/engagement compensation amounts. When determining the compensation, rates in excess of the contract hourly rates are not allowed. In addition, any administrative work related to the creation of Statements of Work shall not be billable to the State. Selected Firms shall submit invoices according to the terms of the resulting contract and SOW.

Manner of Payment

Payment of the successful Firm will be based upon the fees stipulated in the SOW. The Division will compensate the successful Firm following submission of an approvable invoice according to the contract.

The State of New York is not liable for any costs incurred by a Firm in the preparation and/or production of any proposal, or for any work performed prior to the execution of a formal contract.

2.3 Administrative Proposal

The Administrative Proposal contains standard requirements by which the Firm must agree to abide, information requested by the Division in connection with these requirements, and additional forms to be completed by the Firm. Firms should complete and submit the administrative forms listed below:

- **Form 2:** The Firm Information and Attestation, which will be considered an integral part of the Proposal, should be signed and submitted with the Administrative Proposal. The Firm Information and Attestation should be signed by an individual authorized to contractually bind the Firm. A proposal with an unsigned Firm Information and Attestation page may be rejected. **Modified forms will not be accepted.**
- **Form 3:** Non-Collusive Bidding Certification. This form should be signed and submitted with the Administrative Proposal.
- **Form 4:** Firm Assurances of No Conflict of Interest or Detrimental Effect. This form must be signed by an authorized executive or legal representative and should be submitted with the Administrative Proposal. **Modified forms will not be accepted.**
- **Form 5:** Article 15-A Requirements. Complete and submit the following with the Administrative Proposal:
 - Form 5.1 – Workforce Composition Form.

- Form 5.2 – Firm’s intended Utilization Plan for MWBE subcontractor participation. The successful Firm will be required to formally submit the Utilization Plan within three days of notification of selection.
 - Form 5.3 – Notice of Intent to Participate.
 - Form 5.4 – Equal Employment Opportunity Policy Statement – If Firm, or any of its subcontractors, does not have an existing EEO policy statement, the Division may require the Firm or subcontractor to adopt the attached model statement.
 - Form 5.5 – Request for Waiver Form.
- **Form 6:** MWBE Diversity Practices. Complete and submit the following with the Administrative Proposal:
 - Form 6.1 – Responses to Diversity Practices Questionnaire, including documentation.
 - **Form 7:** A Vendor Responsibility Questionnaire should be certified and filed by the proposal submission deadline. The Vendor Responsibility determination is required for review and approval of the contract by the State Comptroller’s Office. Firms should file online with the New York State VendRep System, or submit a paper Questionnaire.

For any subcontract in excess of \$100,000, a Vendor Responsibility Questionnaire should be completed by the subcontractor and certified and filed by the proposal submission deadline. Subcontractor firms should file online with the New York State VendRep System, or submit a paper Questionnaire with the Firm’s proposal.

- **Form 8:** Procurement Lobbying Form should be completed and submitted with the Administrative Proposal confirming and certifying compliance with the Procurement Lobbying Law, including disclosure of any findings of non-responsibility. **Modified forms will not be accepted.**
- **Form 9:** Disclosure of Pending or Prior Lawsuits, Conflicts of Interest, or Investigations or Disciplinary Actions Form should be completed and submitted with the Administrative Proposal.
- **Form 10:** Freedom of Information Law Redaction Request form should be submitted with the Administrative Proposal. If there is specific information in a Firm’s proposal that a Firm claims to be proprietary and/or trade secret information that meets the definition set forth in Section 87(2)(d), the Firm should provide a letter in its Administrative Proposal outlining any specific concerns regarding disclosure under the New York State Freedom of Information Law (Article 6 of the Public Officers Law).
- **Form 11:** Executive Order No. 177 should be completed and submitted with the Administrative Proposal.
- **Form 12:** Sexual Harassment Prevention Certification. This form should be signed and submitted with the Administrative Proposal.

- **Form 13:** Certification Under Executive Order No. 16 Prohibiting State Agencies and Authorities from Contracting with Businesses Conducting Business in Russia. This form should be signed and submitted with the Administrative Proposal

2.4 Firm Inquiries/Revisions to this RFP

Questions or requests for clarification regarding this RFP should be submitted via email, citing the RFP page and section, by **12:00 P.M. ET on Thursday, December 12, 2024** to contracts@budget.ny.gov. Questions will not be accepted orally and any question received after the deadline may not be answered. The comprehensive list of questions/requests for clarifications and the official responses will be posted to the Division's website and notice of such posting will be sent to all Firms who have been furnished this RFP by the Division.

In the event that it becomes necessary to clarify or revise this RFP, such clarification or revision will be made by addendum. Any addendum to this RFP will become part of this RFP and part of any contract awarded as a result of this RFP.

Further, if a Firm discovers any ambiguity, conflict, discrepancy, omission or other error in this RFP, immediately notify the contacts listed on the cover page of such error and request clarification or modification to the document. The Division shall make RFP modifications by addendum, provided that any such modifications would not materially benefit or disadvantage any particular Firm. Such clarification will be given by written notice to all parties who have been furnished an RFP by the Division.

If a Firm fails to notify the Division of a known error, or an error that reasonably should have been known, prior to the proposal submission deadline, the Firm shall assume the risk. If awarded the contract, the Firm shall not be entitled to additional compensation or time by reason of the error or its late correction.

There are no designated dates for the release of addenda. Therefore, interested Firms should check the Division's website on a daily basis from time of RFP issuance through bid opening. It is the sole responsibility of the Firm to be knowledgeable of all addenda related to this procurement.

All RFP addenda will be issued on the Division's website at the following address: www.budget.ny.gov/contract/index.html.

2.5 Submission of a Complete Three-Part Proposal

Firms must submit via email a searchable, electronic version of their proposal (A Proposal Checklist is located in Appendix C to assist Firms in compilation of proposals). **No hardcopy proposals will be accepted.** The email subject line should identify the RFP and be sent to contracts@budget.ny.gov by the deadline outlined below.

1. Proposals should be addressed to:
Michelle Heaslip
New York State Division of the Budget
State Capitol, Room 129

Albany, NY 12224

2. Submission of proposals in a manner other than as described in these instructions will not be accepted. ***Late proposals will not be considered for award.***
3. A complete package (Technical, Cost, and Administrative Proposals) must be received by **12:00 P.M. ET on Monday, December 30, 2024.**

2.6 Proposal Ownership

All proposals and accompanying documentation become the property of the State of New York and will not be returned. The Division reserves the right to use any portions of the Firm's proposal not specifically noted as proprietary.

3 Evaluation Process

3.1 General Information

The Division will evaluate each proposal based on the "Best Value" concept. This means that the proposal that "optimizes quality, cost, and efficiency among responsive and responsible Firms", shall be selected for award (State Finance Law, Article 11, § 163).

During the evaluation process, the Division may require clarifying information from a Firm. If specific sections of the written proposal require clarification, the Division will identify the section(s) and information requested in writing. The Firm should respond by the deadline stated in the correspondence. In addition, the Division may use the proposal, information obtained through any presentations, and the Division's own investigation of a Firm's qualifications, experience, ability or financial standing, and any other material or information submitted by the Firm in the course of evaluation and selection under this RFP. The State reserves the right to contact other sources not necessarily identified in the proposal to obtain information.

3.2 Submission Review

The Division's Contracts Office will examine all proposals that are received in a proper and timely manner to determine if they meet the proposal submission requirements, as described in Section 2 of this RFP. Proposals that are materially deficient in meeting the submission requirements or have omitted material documents, in the sole opinion of the Division, may be rejected. All proposals passing the submission review will be evaluated.

3.3 Evaluation and Scoring

Technical Evaluation (66 Points)

An Evaluation Panel will independently score each Technical Proposal that meets the submission requirements of this RFP. Evaluation Panel members will score Technical Proposals to identify Firms with the highest probability of satisfactorily providing the services described in Section 1.2 of this RFP. Evaluations will be based on the Firm's demonstration of its ability to provide the services required through its Technical Proposal.

Individual Panel member scores will be averaged to calculate a technical score for each responsive Firm.

MWBE Diversity Practices (4 Points)

MWBE Diversity Practices will be evaluated based upon the Firm's responses to the Questionnaire developed by the New York State Division of Minority and Women's Business Development and found in Form 6.1. This Questionnaire consists of eight (8) questions for Firms to answer. Some questions request supporting documentation to support certain answers. Additional scoring information for diversity practices can be found in Form 6.2.

Cost Evaluation (20 Points)

The Division's Contracts Office will examine the Cost Proposal (Form 1) and review it for responsiveness to cost requirements. If a Cost Proposal is found to be non-responsive, that proposal will be eliminated from consideration. All complete, responsive proposals will receive a cost score.

Cost proposals will be evaluated on a pre-determined formula using the information provided in Form 1. The maximum score (20 points) will be allocated to the proposal with the lowest cost according to this formula. All other proposals will receive a proportionate score to the proposal with the lowest cost, according to the following formula:

Cost points awarded = (20 potential points) X (Low Bid / Firm's Bid)

Finalists and Presentation (10 points)

An initial composite score for each responsive Firm will be calculated by adding the Technical Proposal points, MWBE Diversity Practices points, and Cost Proposal points. The Finalist Firms will be the Firms with the two highest initial composite scores and any Firms within 10 points of the second ranked Firm.

Finalists will be notified of the date, location, and time of their presentation. The presentation will be designed to allow finalists to demonstrate their ability to provide the required services. The proposed Engagement Partner and Project Manager, as well as other key personnel who would be responsible for providing the required services, should be present and participate in the interview.

Presentations will be 45 minutes in length followed by 15 minutes for questions and answers. Firms will be asked to present a case study about New York State that identifies opportunities and challenges on the horizon and provides some insight and specific recommendations on how the State might approach them. Further information with regard to the format of this stage of the evaluation may be provided to the Firm prior to the scheduled presentation. The presentation should highlight the Firms' ability to perform the services stated in section 1.2 in this RFP and fulfill the needs of the State. The presentations will not be an opportunity to cure material omissions in Firms' proposals and are not a substitute for a well-written proposal. Evaluations will be based on the Firm's

demonstration of its ability to provide the services required through its Presentation. Individual Panel member scores will be averaged to calculate a Presentation score for each Finalist Firm. **Firms will be prohibited from presenting on an existing State project or a potential project that stems from an existing project.**

In the event that there is only one or two Finalist Firm, the Division may choose to forego the interview at its discretion.

Final Composite Score

The Final Composite score for each responsive Firm will be calculated by adding the final Technical Proposal points, Diversity Practices points, and Cost Proposal points for each Firm. The Firm with the highest final composite score will be selected as the Primary Consultant. The Firm with the next highest final composite score will be selected as the Secondary Consultant.

4 Award of Contract/Debriefing

4.1 Contract Award

The Division expects to award two contracts as a result of this RFP. However, the Division reserves the right to not award a contract, at its sole discretion.

1. Notification of selection/non-selection will be sent to Firms by email.
2. Contract award is subject to approval of the Office of the Attorney General and the Office of the State Comptroller.
3. Upon contract award, public announcements or news releases pertaining to the contract shall not be made without the prior written consent of the Division.
4. Upon notification of selection, the following administrative forms will be required:
 - State Finance Law Section 163(4) (g) imposes certain reporting requirements on contractors doing business with New York State. Concerning these reporting requirements, the selected Firm agrees to complete and submit an initial planned employment data report. The selected Firm also agrees to submit an annual employment report by May 15 of each year of the contract.
 - A Sales Tax Certification is required for review and approval of the contract by the Comptroller's Office.
 - Proof of Workers' Compensation and Disability Insurance as required by Sections 57 and 220 of the New York State Workers' Compensation Law (WCL).

These forms can be reviewed in Appendix B (Sample Contract/Post Award Forms) of the RFP.

4.2 Debriefings

Unsuccessful Firms shall be notified upon the Division's selection of a Contractor. Consistent with New York State Finance Law §163, Firms may, within fifteen (15) calendar days of notification of selection/non-selection, request a debriefing to discuss the evaluation of their proposal.

5 Contractual Requirements

The written contract with the awarded Firm shall be a State contract that includes the "Standard Clauses for New York State Contracts", attached to this RFP as Appendix A. The entire Agreement shall consist of the documents, appendices and forms listed below. Conflicts between these documents shall be resolved in the following order of precedence:

1. Appendix A: Standard Clauses for NYS Contracts;
2. The Contract, including all exhibits, appendices, forms and attachments;
3. The RFP and any and all modifications and clarifications thereto; and
4. The Contractor's Proposal and any clarifications thereto.

The written contract will be modeled off of the attached sample contract presented in Appendix B. Firms offer their proposals accepting the terms and conditions of the sample contract.

6 Reservation of Rights

The Division reserves the right to:

- Reject any or all proposals received in response to the RFP;
- Withdraw the RFP at any time, at the Division's sole discretion;
- Accept a proposal and any subsequent proposal for the contract from someone other than the lowest cost Firm consistent with the criteria for the evaluation of proposals;
- Make an award under the RFP in whole or in part;
- Disqualify any Firm whose conduct and/or proposal fails to conform to the requirements of the RFP;
- Seek clarifications and revisions of proposals;
- Use proposal information obtained through site visits, management interviews and the State's investigation of a Firm's qualifications, experience, ability or financial standing, and any material or information submitted by the Firm in response to the agency's request for clarifying information in the course of evaluation and/or selection under the RFP;
- Prior to the bid opening, amend the RFP specifications to correct errors or oversights, or to supply additional information, as it becomes available;
- Prior to the bid opening, direct Firms to submit proposal modifications addressing subsequent RFP amendments;
- Change any of the scheduled dates;
- Eliminate any mandatory, non-material specifications that cannot be complied with by all of the prospective Firms;

- Waive any requirements that are not material;
- Negotiate with the successful Firm within the scope of the RFP in the best interests of the State;
- Conduct contract negotiations with the next responsible Firm, should the Division be unsuccessful in negotiating with the selected Firm;
- Utilize any and all ideas submitted in the proposals received;
- Request best and final offers; and
- Require clarification at any time during the procurement process and/or require correction of arithmetic or other apparent errors for the purpose of assuring a full and complete understanding of a Firm's proposal and/or to determine a Firm's compliance with the requirements of the solicitation.
- Negotiate with the next highest-rated, qualified Firm for purposes of executing a contract, if it is subsequently determined by the Division that the successful Firm is not responsible.

7 Freedom of Information Law

New York State's Freedom of Information Law (FOIL) (Public Officers Law, Article 6, Sections 84-90), available at: <https://www.dos.ny.gov/coog/foil2.html>, promotes the public's right to know the process of governmental decision-making and grants maximum public access to governmental records. All proposals submitted in response to this RFP may be subject to disclosure under FOIL.

However, pursuant to Section 87(2)(d) of FOIL, a State agency may deny access to those portions of proposals or portions of a successful Firm's contract which are "trade secrets" or submitted to an agency by a commercial enterprise or derived from information obtained from a commercial enterprise and which, if disclosed, would cause substantial injury to the competitive position of the subject enterprise.

Please note that all information that a Firm may claim as proprietary, copyrighted or rights-reserved is not necessarily protected from disclosure under FOIL.

If there is information in a Firm's proposal that a Firm claims meets the definition set forth in Section 87(2)(d), the Firm should indicate so on Form 10 and provide a letter in its Administrative Proposal outlining any specific concerns.

Failure to identify the information which a Firm believes should be protected by Section 87(2)(d) may result in such information being disclosed if a request is received.

It is a Firm's responsibility to consult an attorney with any questions the Firm may have about New York State's Freedom of Information Law. All work products described herein may also be subject to FOIL disclosure.

The State will not honor any attempt by a Firm either to designate its entire bid proposal as proprietary and/or to claim copyright protection for its entire proposal.

The selected Firm must provide to the Division all information, records, and other written material it produces, possesses, or relies upon if such material is the object of a legitimate request to the Division pursuant to the Freedom of Information Law.

8 Ethics

8.1 Ethics Requirements

The Firm and its subcontractors shall not engage any person who is, or has been at any time, in the employ of the State to perform services in violation of the provisions of the New York Public Officers Law, other laws applicable to the service of State employees, and the rules, regulations, opinions, guidelines or policies promulgated or issued by the New York State Commission on Ethics and Lobbying in Government, or its predecessors or successors (collectively, the "Ethics Requirements"). The Firm certifies that all of its employees and those of its Subcontractors who are former employees of the State and who are assigned to perform services under any resulting contract shall be assigned in accordance with all Ethics Requirements. During the Term, no person who is employed by the Firm or its subcontractors and who is disqualified from providing services under any resulting contract pursuant to any Ethics Requirements may share in any net revenues of the Firm or its subcontractors derived from any resulting contract. The Firm shall identify and provide the State with notice of those employees of the Firm and its subcontractors who are former employees of the State that are proposed to perform services under any resulting contract, and make sure that such employees comply with all applicable laws and prohibitions. The State may request that the Firm provide it with whatever information the State deems appropriate about each such person's engagement, work cooperatively with the State to solicit advice from the New York State Commission on Ethics and Lobbying in Government, or its predecessors or successors, and, if deemed appropriate by the State, instruct any such person to seek the opinion of the New York State Commission on Ethics and Lobbying in Government, or its predecessors or successors. The State shall have the right to withdraw or withhold approval of any Subcontractor if utilizing such Subcontractor for any work performed hereunder would be in conflict with any of the Ethics Requirements. The State shall have the right to terminate any resulting contract at any time if any work performed hereunder is in conflict with any of the Ethics Requirements.

8.2 Vendor Responsibility Determination

The Division will conduct a review of each prospective Firm's Vendor Responsibility Questionnaire (Form 7) to provide reasonable assurances that the Firm is responsible.

The Division will make a finding of responsibility or non-responsibility before making a contract award, considering any information that comes to its attention concerning the Vendor's responsibility.

If the Division identifies potentially negative information in its review, the Division will notify the Firm. If the Division makes a preliminary finding that the Firm is non-responsible, the Division will detail in writing to the Firm the reasons(s) for the preliminary determination and will provide an opportunity for the Firm to respond before the determination is finalized.

A Firm awarded a contract is required to update their responsibility determination if a material event occurs requiring an amendment. The awarded Firm is also required to update vendor responsibility questionnaires as new information becomes available.

The Firm awarded a contract shall at all times during the contract term remain responsible. During the term of this contract, any changes in the provided Questionnaire shall be disclosed to the Division, in writing, in a timely manner. Failure to make such disclosure may result in a determination of non-responsibility and termination of the contract. Furthermore, the awarded Firm agrees, if requested by the Division, to present evidence of its continuing legal authority to do business in New York State, its integrity, experience, ability, prior performance, and organizational and financial capacity.

The Division, in its sole discretion, reserves the right to suspend any or all activities under the contract, at any time, when it discovers information that calls into question the responsibility of the awarded Firm. In the event of such suspension, the awarded Firm will be given written notice outlining the particulars of such suspension. Upon issuance of such notice, the awarded Firm must comply with the terms of the suspension order. Contract activity may resume at such time as the Division issues a written notice authorizing a resumption of performance under the contract.

Upon written notice to the awarded Firm, and a reasonable opportunity to be heard by the appropriate Division officials or staff, the contract may be terminated by the Division at the Firm's expense where the Firm is determined by the Division to be non-responsible. In such event, the Division may complete contractual requirements in any manner it deems advisable and pursue available legal or equitable remedies for breach.

The Division reserves the right to terminate a contract for non-responsibility, including failure to disclose information.

This provision shall also apply to any proposed subcontractor performing services under the resulting contract in excess of \$100,000.

8.3 Public Officers Law

Contractors, consultants, vendors, and subcontractors may hire former State Agency or Authority employees. However, as a general rule and in accordance with New York Public Officers Law, former employees of the State Agency or Authority may neither appear nor practice before the State Agency or Authority, nor receive compensation for services rendered on a matter before the State Agency or Authority, for a period of two years following their separation from State Agency or Authority service. In addition, former State Agency or Authority employees are subject to a "lifetime bar" from appearing before the State Agency or Authority or receiving compensation for services regarding any transaction in which they personally participated or which was under their active consideration during their tenure with the State Agency or Authority.

9 Minority- and Women-Owned Businesses (MWBE)

9.1 MWBE Interest

New York State certified Minority- and Women-Owned Businesses (MWBE) may request that their firm's contact information be included on a list of MWBE firms interested in serving as a subcontractor for this procurement. The listing will be publicly posted on the Division's website for reference by the bidding community. A firm requesting inclusion on this list should send contact information and a copy of its certification to contracts@budget.ny.gov. Nothing prohibits an MWBE Vendor from submitting a proposal as a prime contractor.

9.2 NYS Executive Law Article 15-A

Pursuant to New York State Executive Law Article 15-A and Parts 140-145 of Title 5 of the New York Codes, Rules and Regulations ("NYCRR"), the Division is required to promote opportunities for the maximum feasible participation of New York State-certified Minority- and Women-owned Business Enterprises ("MWBEs") and the employment of minority group members and women in the performance of Division contracts.

Business Participation Opportunities for MWBEs

For purposes of this solicitation, the Division hereby establishes an overall goal of 30% for MWBE participation, 15% for New York State-certified Minority-owned Business Enterprises ("MBE") participation and 15% for New York State-certified Women-owned Business Enterprises ("WBE") participation (based on the current availability of qualified MBEs and WBEs). A Contractor ("Contractor") on any contract resulting from this procurement ("Contract") must document its good faith efforts to provide meaningful participation by MWBEs as subcontractors and suppliers in the performance of the Contract. To that end, by submitting a response to this RFP, the Firm agrees that the Division may withhold payment pursuant to any Contract awarded as a result of this RFP pending receipt of the required MWBE documentation. The directory of MWBEs can be viewed at: <https://ny.newnycontracts.com>. For guidance on how the Division will evaluate a Contractor's "good faith efforts," refer to 5 NYCRR§142.8.

The Firm understands that only sums paid to MWBEs for the performance of a commercially useful function, as that term is defined in 5 NYCRR § 140.1, may be applied towards the achievement of the applicable MWBE participation goal. The portion of a contract with an MWBE serving as a broker that shall be deemed to represent the commercially useful function performed by the MWBE shall be 25 percent of the total value of the contract.

In accordance with 5 NYCRR§142.13, the Firm further acknowledges that if it is found to have willfully and intentionally failed to comply with the MWBE participation goals set forth in the Contract resulting from this RFP and subsequent SOWs, such finding constitutes a breach of Contract and the Division may withhold payment as liquidated damages.

Such liquidated damages shall be calculated as an amount equaling the difference between: (1) all sums identified for payment to MWBEs had the Contractor achieved the contractual MWBE goals; and (2) all sums actually paid to MWBEs for work performed or materials supplies under the Contract.

By submitting a bid or proposal, a Firm agrees to demonstrate its good faith efforts to achieve the applicable MWBE participation goals as may be included in the SOW by submitting evidence thereof through the New York State Contract System (“NYSCS”), which can be viewed at <https://ny.newnycontracts.com>, provided, however, that a Firm may arrange to provide such evidence via a non-electronic method by contacting the Division’s Contract Office at contracts@budget.ny.gov.

Additionally, a Firm will be required to submit the following documents and information as evidence of compliance with the foregoing:

- A. An MWBE Utilization Plan with their bid or proposal. Any modifications or changes to an accepted MWBE Utilization Plan after the Contract award and during the term of the Contract must be reported on a revised MWBE Utilization Plan and submitted to the Division for review and approval.

The Division will review the submitted MWBE Utilization Plan and advise the Firm of the Division’s acceptance or issue a notice of deficiency within 30 days of receipt.

- B. If a notice of deficiency is issued, the Firm will be required to respond to the notice of deficiency within seven (7) business days of receipt by submitting to the NYS Division of the Budget, State Capitol, Room 129, Albany, NY 12224, contracts@budget.ny.gov, a written remedy in response to the notice of deficiency. If the written remedy that is submitted is not timely or is found by the Division to be inadequate, the Division shall notify the Firm and direct the Firm to submit, within five (5) business days, a request for a partial or total waiver of MWBE participation goals. Failure to file the waiver form in a timely manner may be grounds for disqualification of the bid or proposal.

The Division may disqualify a Firm as being non-responsive under the following circumstances:

1. If a Firm fails to submit an MWBE Utilization Plan;
2. If a Firm fails to submit a written remedy to a notice of deficiency;
3. If a Firm fails to submit a request for waiver; or
4. If the Division determines that the Firm has failed to document good faith efforts.

The successful Firm will be required to attempt to utilize, in good faith, any MBE or WBE identified within its MWBE Utilization Plan, during the performance of the Contract. Requests for a partial or total waiver of established goal requirements made subsequent to Contract Award may be made at any time during the term of the Contract to the Division, but must be made no later than prior to the submission of a request for final payment on the Contract.

The successful Firm will be required to submit a quarterly MWBE Contractor Compliance & Payment Report to the Division by the 10th day following each end of quarter over the term of the Contract documenting the progress made toward achievement of the MWBE goals of the Contract.

Equal Employment Opportunity Requirements

By submission of a bid or proposal in response to this solicitation, the Firm agrees with all of the terms and conditions of the Sample Contract (Appendix B) and the Standard Clauses for All New York State Contracts (Appendix A) including Clause 12 - Equal Employment Opportunities for Minorities and Women. The Firm is required to ensure that it and any subcontractors awarded a subcontract for the construction, demolition, replacement, major repair, renovation, planning or design of real property and improvements thereon (the "Work"), except where the Work is for the beneficial use of the Firm, shall undertake or continue programs to ensure that minority group members and women are afforded equal employment opportunities without discrimination because of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, gender identity or expression, age, disability or marital status. For these purposes, equal opportunity shall apply in the areas of recruitment, employment, job assignment, promotion, upgrading, demotion, transfer, layoff, termination, and rates of pay or other forms of compensation. This requirement does not apply to: (i) work, goods, or services unrelated to the Contract; or (ii) employment outside New York State.

The Firm will be required to submit a Minority and Women-owned Business Enterprise and Equal Employment Opportunity Policy Statement. If Firm, or any of its subcontractors, does not have an existing EEO policy statement the Division may require the Contractor or subcontractor to adopt the model statement (Form 5.4).

If awarded a Contract, Firm shall submit a Workforce Utilization Report and shall require each of its Subcontractors to submit a Workforce Utilization Report, in such format as shall be required by the Division on a quarterly basis during the term of the Contract.

Pursuant to Executive Order #162, contractors and subcontractors will also be required to report the gross wages paid to each of their employees for the work performed by such employees on the contract utilizing the Workforce Utilization Report on a quarterly basis.

Further, pursuant to Article 15 of the Executive Law (the "Human Rights Law"), all other State and Federal statutory and constitutional non-discrimination provisions, the Contractor and sub-contractors will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, creed (religion), color, sex, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, military status, age, disability, predisposing genetic characteristic, marital status or domestic violence victim status, and shall also follow the requirements of the Human Rights Law with regard to non-discrimination on the basis of prior criminal conviction and prior arrest.

Please Note: Failure to comply with the foregoing requirements may result in a finding of non-responsiveness, non-responsibility and/or a breach of the Contract,

leading to the withholding of funds, suspension or termination of the Contract or such other actions or enforcement proceedings as allowed by the Contract.

10 Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Business Enterprises (SDVOB)

NYS Veterans' Services Law Article 3

Article 3 of the New York State Veterans' Service Law provides for more meaningful participation in public procurement by certified Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Businesses ("SDVOBs"), thereby further integrating such businesses into New York State's economy. The Division recognizes the need to promote the employment of service-disabled veterans and to ensure that certified service-disabled veteran-owned businesses have opportunities for maximum feasible participation in the performance of Division contracts.

In recognition of the service and sacrifices made by service-disabled veterans and in recognition of their economic activity in doing business in New York State, Firms are strongly encouraged and expected to consider SDVOBs in the fulfillment of the requirements of the Contract. Such participation may be as subcontractors or suppliers, as protégés, or in other partnering or supporting roles.

Contract Goals

- A. For each SOW, the Division may set overall goals for SDVOB participation. For purposes of providing meaningful participation by SDVOBs, the Contractor should reference the directory of New York State Certified SDVOBs found at: <https://ogs.ny.gov/veterans/>. Questions regarding compliance with SDVOB participation goals should be directed to the Division's Contracts Office at contracts@budget.ny.gov. Additionally, following Contract execution, Contractor is encouraged to contact the Office of General Services' Division of Service-Disabled Veterans' Business Development at 518-474-2015 or VeteransDevelopment@ogs.ny.gov to discuss additional methods of maximizing participation by SDVOBs on the Contract.
- B. Where SDVOB Contract Goals have been established in the SOW, the Contractor must document "good faith efforts" to provide meaningful participation by SDVOBs as subcontractors or suppliers in the performance of the Contract (see Required Good Faith Efforts clause below).

SDVOB Utilization Plan

- A. For each SOW where SDVOB Contract Goals have been established and in accordance with 9 NYCRR § 252.2(i), Contractors are required to submit a completed SDVOB Utilization Plan on Form SDVOB 100 with their response to a SOW.
- B. The Utilization Plan shall list the SDVOBs that the Firm intends to use to perform the Contract, a description of the work that the Firm intends the SDVOB to perform to meet the goals on the Contract, the estimated dollar amounts to be paid to an SDVOB,

or, if not known, an estimate of the percentage of Contract work the SDVOB will perform. By signing the Utilization Plan, the Firm acknowledges that making false representations or providing information that shows a lack of good faith as part of, or in conjunction with, the submission of a Utilization Plan is prohibited by law and may result in penalties including, but not limited to, termination of a contract for cause, loss of eligibility to submit future bids, and/or withholding of payments. Any modifications or changes to the agreed participation by SDVOBs after the Contract award and during the term of the Contract must be reported on a revised SDVOB Utilization Plan and submitted to the Division.

- C. The Division will review the submitted SDVOB Utilization Plan and advise the Contractor of the Division's acceptance or issue a notice of deficiency within 20 days of receipt.
- D. If a notice of deficiency is issued, the Contractor agrees that it shall respond to the notice of deficiency, within seven business days of receipt, by submitting to the Division a written remedy in response to the notice of deficiency. If the written remedy that is submitted is not timely or is found by the Division to be inadequate, the Division shall notify the Contractor and direct the Contractor to submit, within five business days of notification by the Division, a request for a partial or total waiver of SDVOB participation goals on Form SDVOB 200. Failure to file the waiver form in a timely manner may be grounds for disqualification of the bid or proposal.
- E. If awarded a Contract, Contractor certifies that it will follow the submitted SDVOB Utilization Plan for the performance of SDVOBs on the Contract pursuant to the prescribed SDVOB contract goals set forth in the SOW.
- F. Contractor further agrees that a failure to use SDVOBs as agreed in the Utilization Plan shall constitute a material breach of the terms of the Contract. Upon the occurrence of such a material breach, the Division shall be entitled to any remedy provided herein, including but not limited to, a finding of Contractor non-responsibility.

Request for Waiver

- A. Prior to submission of a request for a partial or total waiver, the Contractor shall contact the Division's Contracts Office (contracts@budget.ny.gov) for guidance.
- B. In accordance with 9 NYCRR § 252.2(m), a Contractor that is able to document good faith efforts to meet the goal requirements, as set forth in the Required Good Faith Efforts clause below, may submit a request for a partial or total waiver on Form SDVOB 200, accompanied by supporting documentation. A Contractor may submit the request for waiver at the same time it submits its SDVOB Utilization Plan. If a request for waiver is submitted with the SDVOB Utilization Plan and is not accepted by the Division at that time, the provisions of Paragraphs (C), (D) & (E) of the SDVOB Utilization Plan clause will apply. If the documentation included with the Contractor's waiver request is complete, the Division shall evaluate the request and issue a written notice of acceptance or denial within 20 days of receipt.

- C. Contractor shall attempt to utilize, in good faith, the SDVOBs identified within its SDVOB Utilization Plan, during the performance of the SOW. Requests for a partial or total waiver of established goal requirements made subsequent to Contract award may be made at any time during the term of the Contract to the Division, but must be made no later than prior to the submission of a request for final payment on the Contract.
- D. If the Division, upon review of the SDVOB Utilization Plan and Monthly SDVOB Compliance Report (SDVOB 101) determines that Contractor is failing or refusing to comply with the contract goals established in the SOW, and no waiver has been issued in regards to such non-compliance, the Division may issue a notice of deficiency to the Contractor. The Contractor must respond to the notice of deficiency within seven business days of receipt. Such response may include a request for partial or total waiver of SDVOB contract goals.

Waiver requests should be sent to the Division.

Required Good Faith Efforts

In accordance with 9 NYCRR § 252.2(n), Contractors must document their good faith efforts toward utilizing SDVOBs on the Contract. Evidence of required good faith efforts shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

1. Copies of solicitations to SDVOBs and any responses thereto.
2. Explanation of the specific reasons each SDVOB that responded to Contractors' solicitation was not selected.
3. Dates of any pre-bid, pre-award or other meetings attended by Contractor, if any, scheduled by the Division with certified SDVOBs whom the Division determined were capable of fulfilling the SDVOB goals set in the Contract.
4. Information describing the specific steps undertaken to reasonably structure the Contract scope of work for the purpose of subcontracting with, or obtaining supplies from, certified SDVOBs.
5. Other information deemed relevant to the waiver request.

Monthly SDVOB Contractor Compliance Report

In accordance with 9 NYCRR § 252.2(q), Contractor is required to report Monthly SDVOB Contractor Compliance to the Division during the term of the Contract for the preceding month's activity, documenting progress made towards achieving the Contract SDVOB goals. This information must be submitted using Form SDVOB 101 and should be completed by the Contractor and submitted to the Division, by the 10th day of each month during the term of the Contract, for the preceding month's activity to: contracts@budget.ny.gov.

Breach of Contract and Damages

In accordance with 9 NYCRR § 252.2(s), any Contractor found to have willfully and intentionally failed to comply with the SDVOB participation goals set forth in the Contract, shall be found to have breached the contract and Contractor shall pay damages as set forth therein.

APPENDICES/FORMS

APPENDIX A: STANDARD CLAUSES FOR NEW YORK STATE CONTRACTS

June 2023

The parties to the attached contract, license, lease, amendment or other agreement of any kind (hereinafter, “the contract” or “this contract”) agree to be bound by the following clauses which are hereby made a part of the contract (the word “Contractor” herein refers to any party other than the State, whether a contractor, licensor, licensee, lessor, lessee or any other party):

1. EXECUTORY CLAUSE. In accordance with Section 41 of the State Finance Law, the State shall have no liability under this contract to the Contractor or to anyone else beyond funds appropriated and available for this contract.

2. NON-ASSIGNMENT CLAUSE. In accordance with Section 138 of the State Finance Law, this contract may not be assigned by the Contractor or its right, title or interest therein assigned, transferred, conveyed, sublet or otherwise disposed of without the State’s previous written consent, and attempts to do so are null and void. Notwithstanding the foregoing, such prior written consent of an assignment of a contract let pursuant to Article XI of the State Finance Law may be waived at the discretion of the contracting agency and with the concurrence of the State Comptroller where the original contract was subject to the State Comptroller’s approval, where the assignment is due to a reorganization, merger or consolidation of the Contractor’s business entity or enterprise. The State retains its right to approve an assignment and to require that any Contractor demonstrate its responsibility to do business with the State. The Contractor may, however, assign its right to receive payments without the State’s prior written consent unless this contract concerns Certificates of Participation pursuant to Article 5-A of the State Finance Law.

3. COMPTROLLER’S APPROVAL. In accordance with Section 112 of the State Finance Law, if this contract exceeds \$50,000 (or \$75,000 for State University of New York or City University of New York contracts for goods, services, construction and printing, and \$150,000 for State University Health Care Facilities) or if this is an amendment for any amount to a contract which, as so amended, exceeds said statutory amount, or if, by this contract, the State agrees to give something other than money when the value or reasonably estimated value of such

consideration exceeds \$25,000, it shall not be valid, effective or binding upon the State until it has been approved by the State Comptroller and filed in his office. Comptroller’s approval of contracts let by the Office of General Services, either for itself or its customer agencies by the Office of General Services Business Services Center, is required when such contracts exceed \$85,000. Comptroller’s approval of contracts established as centralized contracts through the Office of General Services is required when such contracts exceed \$125,000, and when a purchase order or other procurement transaction issued under such centralized contract exceeds \$200,000.

4. WORKERS’ COMPENSATION BENEFITS. In accordance with Section 142 of the State Finance Law, this contract shall be void and of no force and effect unless the Contractor shall provide and maintain coverage during the life of this contract for the benefit of such employees as are required to be covered by the provisions of the Workers’ Compensation Law.

5. NON-DISCRIMINATION REQUIREMENTS. To the extent required by Article 15 of the Executive Law (also known as the Human Rights Law) and all other State and Federal statutory and constitutional non-discrimination provisions, the Contractor will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment, nor subject any individual to harassment, because of age, race, creed, color, national origin, citizenship or immigration status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, military status, sex, disability, predisposing genetic characteristics, familial status, marital status, or domestic violence victim status or because the individual has opposed any practices forbidden under the Human Rights Law or has filed a complaint, testified, or assisted in any proceeding under the Human Rights Law. Furthermore, in accordance with Section 220-e of the Labor Law, if this is a contract for the construction, alteration or repair of any public building or public work or for the manufacture, sale or distribution of materials, equipment or supplies, and to the extent that this contract shall be performed within the State of New York, Contractor agrees that neither it nor its subcontractors shall, by reason of race, creed, color, disability, sex, or national origin: (a) discriminate in hiring against any New York State citizen who is qualified and available to perform the work; or (b) discriminate against or intimidate any employee hired

for the performance of work under this contract. If this is a building service contract as defined in Section 230 of the Labor Law, then, in accordance with Section 239 thereof, Contractor agrees that neither it nor its subcontractors shall by reason of race, creed, color, national origin, age, sex or disability: (a) discriminate in hiring against any New York State citizen who is qualified and available to perform the work; or (b) discriminate against or intimidate any employee hired for the performance of work under this contract. Contractor is subject to fines of \$50.00 per person per day for any violation of Section 220-e or Section 239 as well as possible termination of this contract and forfeiture of all moneys due hereunder for a second or subsequent violation.

6. WAGE AND HOURS PROVISIONS. If this is a public work contract covered by Article 8 of the Labor Law or a building service contract covered by Article 9 thereof, neither Contractor's employees nor the employees of its subcontractors may be required or permitted to work more than the number of hours or days stated in said statutes, except as otherwise provided in the Labor Law and as set forth in prevailing wage and supplement schedules issued by the State Labor Department. Furthermore, Contractor and its subcontractors must pay at least the prevailing wage rate and pay or provide the prevailing supplements, including the premium rates for overtime pay, as determined by the State Labor Department in accordance with the Labor Law. Additionally, effective April 28, 2008, if this is a public work contract covered by Article 8 of the Labor Law, the Contractor understands and agrees that the filing of payrolls in a manner consistent with Subdivision 3-a of Section 220 of the Labor Law shall be a condition precedent to payment by the State of any State approved sums due and owing for work done upon the project.

7. NON-COLLUSIVE BIDDING CERTIFICATION. In accordance with Section 139-d of the State Finance Law, if this contract was awarded based upon the submission of bids, Contractor affirms, under penalty of perjury, that its bid was arrived at independently and without collusion aimed at restricting competition. Contractor further affirms that, at the time Contractor submitted its bid, an authorized and responsible person executed and delivered to the State a non-collusive bidding certification on Contractor's behalf.

8. INTERNATIONAL BOYCOTT PROHIBITION. In accordance with Section 220-f of the Labor Law and Section 139-h of the State Finance Law, if this contract exceeds \$5,000, the Contractor agrees, as a material condition of the contract, that

neither the Contractor nor any substantially owned or affiliated person, firm, partnership or corporation has participated, is participating, or shall participate in an international boycott in violation of the federal Export Administration Act of 1979 (50 USC App. Sections 2401 et seq.) or regulations thereunder. If such Contractor, or any of the aforesaid affiliates of Contractor, is convicted or is otherwise found to have violated said laws or regulations upon the final determination of the United States Commerce Department or any other appropriate agency of the United States subsequent to the contract's execution, such contract, amendment or modification thereto shall be rendered forfeit and void. The Contractor shall so notify the State Comptroller within five (5) business days of such conviction, determination or disposition of appeal (2 NYCRR § 105.4).

9. SET-OFF RIGHTS. The State shall have all of its common law, equitable and statutory rights of set-off. These rights shall include, but not be limited to, the State's option to withhold for the purposes of set-off any moneys due to the Contractor under this contract up to any amounts due and owing to the State with regard to this contract, any other contract with any State department or agency, including any contract for a term commencing prior to the term of this contract, plus any amounts due and owing to the State for any other reason including, without limitation, tax delinquencies, fee delinquencies or monetary penalties relative thereto. The State shall exercise its set-off rights in accordance with normal State practices including, in cases of set-off pursuant to an audit, the finalization of such audit by the State agency, its representatives, or the State Comptroller.

10. RECORDS. The Contractor shall establish and maintain complete and accurate books, records, documents, accounts and other evidence directly pertinent to performance under this contract (hereinafter, collectively, the "Records"). The Records must be kept for the balance of the calendar year in which they were made and for six (6) additional years thereafter. The State Comptroller, the Attorney General and any other person or entity authorized to conduct an examination, as well as the agency or agencies involved in this contract, shall have access to the Records during normal business hours at an office of the Contractor within the State of New York or, if no such office is available, at a mutually agreeable and reasonable venue within the State, for the term specified above for the purposes of inspection, auditing and copying. The State shall take reasonable steps to protect from public disclosure any of the Records which are exempt from disclosure under Section 87 of the Public Officers Law (the "Statute") provided that: (i) the Contractor shall timely inform

an appropriate State official, in writing, that said records should not be disclosed; and (ii) said records shall be sufficiently identified; and (iii) designation of said records as exempt under the Statute is reasonable. Nothing contained herein shall diminish, or in any way adversely affect, the State's right to discovery in any pending or future litigation.

11. IDENTIFYING INFORMATION AND PRIVACY NOTIFICATION.

(a) Identification Number(s). Every invoice or New York State Claim for Payment submitted to a New York State agency by a payee, for payment for the sale of goods or services or for transactions (e.g., leases, easements, licenses, etc.) related to real or personal property must include the payee's identification number. The number is any or all of the following: (i) the payee's Federal employer identification number, (ii) the payee's Federal social security number, and/or (iii) the payee's Vendor Identification Number assigned by the Statewide Financial System. Failure to include such number or numbers may delay payment. Where the payee does not have such number or numbers, the payee, on its invoice or Claim for Payment, must give the reason or reasons why the payee does not have such number or numbers.

(b) Privacy Notification. (1) The authority to request the above personal information from a seller of goods or services or a lessor of real or personal property, and the authority to maintain such information, is found in Section 5 of the State Tax Law. Disclosure of this information by the seller or lessor to the State is mandatory. The principal purpose for which the information is collected is to enable the State to identify individuals, businesses and others who have been delinquent in filing tax returns or may have understated their tax liabilities and to generally identify persons affected by the taxes administered by the Commissioner of Taxation and Finance. The information will be used for tax administration purposes and for any other purpose authorized by law. (2) The personal information is requested by the purchasing unit of the agency contracting to purchase the goods or services or lease the real or personal property covered by this contract or lease. The information is maintained in the Statewide Financial System by the Vendor Management Unit within the Bureau of State Expenditures, Office of the State Comptroller, 110 State Street, Albany, New York 12236.

12. EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR MINORITIES AND WOMEN.

In accordance with Section 312 of the Executive Law and 5 NYCRR Part 143, if this contract is: (i) a written agreement or purchase order instrument, providing for a total

expenditure in excess of \$25,000.00, whereby a contracting agency is committed to expend or does expend funds in return for labor, services, supplies, equipment, materials or any combination of the foregoing, to be performed for, or rendered or furnished to the contracting agency; or (ii) a written agreement in excess of \$100,000.00 whereby a contracting agency is committed to expend or does expend funds for the acquisition, construction, demolition, replacement, major repair or renovation of real property and improvements thereon; or (iii) a written agreement in excess of \$100,000.00 whereby the owner of a State assisted housing project is committed to expend or does expend funds for the acquisition, construction, demolition, replacement, major repair or renovation of real property and improvements thereon for such project, then the following shall apply and by signing this agreement the Contractor certifies and affirms that it is Contractor's equal employment opportunity policy that:

(a) The Contractor will not discriminate against employees or applicants for employment because of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, age, disability or marital status, shall make and document its conscientious and active efforts to employ and utilize minority group members and women in its work force on State contracts and will undertake or continue existing programs of affirmative action to ensure that minority group members and women are afforded equal employment opportunities without discrimination. Affirmative action shall mean recruitment, employment, job assignment, promotion, upgradings, demotion, transfer, layoff, or termination and rates of pay or other forms of compensation;

(b) at the request of the contracting agency, the Contractor shall request each employment agency, labor union, or authorized representative of workers with which it has a collective bargaining or other agreement or understanding, to furnish a written statement that such employment agency, labor union or representative will not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, age, disability or marital status and that such union or representative will affirmatively cooperate in the implementation of the Contractor's obligations herein; and

(c) the Contractor shall state, in all solicitations or advertisements for employees, that, in the performance of the State contract, all qualified applicants will be afforded equal employment opportunities without discrimination because of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, age, disability or marital status.

Contractor will include the provisions of “(a), (b) and (c)” above, in every subcontract over \$25,000.00 for the construction, demolition, replacement, major repair, renovation, planning or design of real property and improvements thereon (the “Work”) except where the Work is for the beneficial use of the Contractor. Section 312 does not apply to: (i) work, goods or services unrelated to this contract; or (ii) employment outside New York State. The State shall consider compliance by a contractor or subcontractor with the requirements of any federal law concerning equal employment opportunity which effectuates the purpose of this clause. The contracting agency shall determine whether the imposition of the requirements of the provisions hereof duplicate or conflict with any such federal law and if such duplication or conflict exists, the contracting agency shall waive the applicability of Section 312 to the extent of such duplication or conflict. Contractor will comply with all duly promulgated and lawful rules and regulations of the Department of Economic Development’s Division of Minority and Women’s Business Development pertaining hereto.

13. CONFLICTING TERMS. In the event of a conflict between the terms of the contract (including any and all attachments thereto and amendments thereof) and the terms of this Appendix A, the terms of this Appendix A shall control.

14. GOVERNING LAW. This contract shall be governed by the laws of the State of New York except where the Federal supremacy clause requires otherwise.

15. LATE PAYMENT. Timeliness of payment and any interest to be paid to Contractor for late payment shall be governed by Article 11-A of the State Finance Law to the extent required by law.

16. NO ARBITRATION. Disputes involving this contract, including the breach or alleged breach thereof, may not be submitted to binding arbitration (except where statutorily authorized), but must, instead, be heard in a court of competent jurisdiction of the State of New York.

17. SERVICE OF PROCESS. In addition to the methods of service allowed by the State Civil Practice Law & Rules (“CPLR”), Contractor hereby consents to service of process upon it by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested. Service hereunder shall be complete upon Contractor’s actual receipt of process or upon the State’s receipt of the return thereof by the United States Postal Service as refused or undeliverable. Contractor must promptly notify the State, in writing, of each and every change of address

to which service of process can be made. Service by the State to the last known address shall be sufficient. Contractor will have thirty (30) calendar days after service hereunder is complete in which to respond.

18. PROHIBITION ON PURCHASE OF TROPICAL HARDWOODS. The Contractor certifies and warrants that all wood products to be used under this contract award will be in accordance with, but not limited to, the specifications and provisions of Section 165 of the State Finance Law, (Use of Tropical Hardwoods) which prohibits purchase and use of tropical hardwoods, unless specifically exempted, by the State or any governmental agency or political subdivision or public benefit corporation. Qualification for an exemption under this law will be the responsibility of the contractor to establish to meet with the approval of the State.

In addition, when any portion of this contract involving the use of woods, whether supply or installation, is to be performed by any subcontractor, the prime Contractor will indicate and certify in the submitted bid proposal that the subcontractor has been informed and is in compliance with specifications and provisions regarding use of tropical hardwoods as detailed in § 165 State Finance Law. Any such use must meet with the approval of the State; otherwise, the bid may not be considered responsive. Under bidder certifications, proof of qualification for exemption will be the responsibility of the Contractor to meet with the approval of the State.

19. MACBRIDE FAIR EMPLOYMENT PRINCIPLES. In accordance with the MacBride Fair Employment Principles (Chapter 807 of the Laws of 1992), the Contractor hereby stipulates that the Contractor either (a) has no business operations in Northern Ireland, or (b) shall take lawful steps in good faith to conduct any business operations in Northern Ireland in accordance with the MacBride Fair Employment Principles (as described in Section 165 of the New York State Finance Law), and shall permit independent monitoring of compliance with such principles.

20. OMNIBUS PROCUREMENT ACT OF 1992. It is the policy of New York State to maximize opportunities for the participation of New York State business enterprises, including minority- and women-owned business enterprises as bidders, subcontractors and suppliers on its procurement contracts.

Information on the availability of New York State subcontractors and suppliers is available from:

NYS Department of Economic Development

Division for Small Business and Technology
Development
625 Broadway
Albany, New York 12245
Telephone: 518-292-5100

A directory of certified minority- and women-owned business enterprises is available from:

NYS Department of Economic Development
Division of Minority and Women's Business
Development
633 Third Avenue 33rd Floor
New York, NY 10017
646-846-7364
email: mwbebusinessdev@esd.ny.gov
<https://ny.newnycontracts.com/FrontEnd/searchcertifieddirectory.asp>

The Omnibus Procurement Act of 1992 (Chapter 844 of the Laws of 1992, codified in State Finance Law § 139-i and Public Authorities Law § 2879(3)(n)-(p)) requires that by signing this bid proposal or contract, as applicable, Contractors certify that whenever the total bid amount is greater than \$1 million:

(a) The Contractor has made reasonable efforts to encourage the participation of New York State Business Enterprises as suppliers and subcontractors, including certified minority- and women-owned business enterprises, on this project, and has retained the documentation of these efforts to be provided upon request to the State;

(b) The Contractor has complied with the Federal Equal Opportunity Act of 1972 (P.L. 92-261), as amended;

(c) The Contractor agrees to make reasonable efforts to provide notification to New York State residents of employment opportunities on this project through listing any such positions with the Job Service Division of the New York State Department of Labor, or providing such notification in such manner as is consistent with existing collective bargaining contracts or agreements. The Contractor agrees to document these efforts and to provide said documentation to the State upon request; and

(d) The Contractor acknowledges notice that the State may seek to obtain offset credits from foreign countries as a result of this contract and agrees to cooperate with the State in these efforts.

21. RECIPROCITY AND SANCTIONS PROVISIONS. Bidders are hereby notified that if their principal place of business is located in a country,

nation, province, state or political subdivision that penalizes New York State vendors, and if the goods or services they offer will be substantially produced or performed outside New York State, the Omnibus Procurement Act 1994 and 2000 amendments (Chapter 684 and Chapter 383, respectively, codified in State Finance Law § 165(6) and Public Authorities Law § 2879(5)) require that they be denied contracts which they would otherwise obtain. NOTE: As of May 2023, the list of discriminatory jurisdictions subject to this provision includes the states of South Carolina, Alaska, West Virginia, Wyoming, Louisiana and Hawaii.

22. COMPLIANCE WITH BREACH NOTIFICATION AND DATA SECURITY LAWS. Contractor shall comply with the provisions of the New York State Information Security Breach and Notification Act (General Business Law §§ 899-aa and 899-bb and State Technology Law § 208).

23. COMPLIANCE WITH CONSULTANT DISCLOSURE LAW. If this is a contract for consulting services, defined for purposes of this requirement to include analysis, evaluation, research, training, data processing, computer programming, engineering, environmental, health, and mental health services, accounting, auditing, paralegal, legal or similar services, then, in accordance with Section 163 (4)(g) of the State Finance Law (as amended by Chapter 10 of the Laws of 2006), the Contractor shall timely, accurately and properly comply with the requirement to submit an annual employment report for the contract to the agency that awarded the contract, the Department of Civil Service and the State Comptroller.

24. PROCUREMENT LOBBYING. To the extent this agreement is a "procurement contract" as defined by State Finance Law §§ 139-j and 139-k, by signing this agreement the contractor certifies and affirms that all disclosures made in accordance with State Finance Law §§ 139-j and 139-k are complete, true and accurate. In the event such certification is found to be intentionally false or intentionally incomplete, the State may terminate the agreement by providing written notification to the Contractor in accordance with the terms of the agreement.

25. CERTIFICATION OF REGISTRATION TO COLLECT SALES AND COMPENSATING USE TAX BY CERTAIN STATE CONTRACTORS, AFFILIATES AND SUBCONTRACTORS.

To the extent this agreement is a contract as defined by Tax Law § 5-a, if the contractor fails to make the certification required by Tax Law § 5-a or if during the term of the contract, the Department of Taxation and

Finance or the covered agency, as defined by Tax Law § 5-a, discovers that the certification, made under penalty of perjury, is false, then such failure to file or false certification shall be a material breach of this contract and this contract may be terminated, by providing written notification to the Contractor in accordance with the terms of the agreement, if the covered agency determines that such action is in the best interest of the State.

26. IRAN DIVESTMENT ACT. By entering into this Agreement, Contractor certifies in accordance with State Finance Law § 165-a that it is not on the “Entities Determined to be Non-Responsive Bidders/Offerers pursuant to the New York State Iran Divestment Act of 2012” (“Prohibited Entities List”) posted at: <https://ogs.ny.gov/iran-divestment-act-2012>

Contractor further certifies that it will not utilize on this Contract any subcontractor that is identified on the Prohibited Entities List. Contractor agrees that should it seek to renew or extend this Contract, it must provide the same certification at the time the Contract is renewed or extended. Contractor also agrees that any proposed Assignee of this Contract will be required to certify that it is not on the Prohibited Entities List before the contract assignment will be approved by the State.

During the term of the Contract, should the state agency receive information that a person (as defined in State Finance Law § 165-a) is in violation of the

above-referenced certifications, the state agency will review such information and offer the person an opportunity to respond. If the person fails to demonstrate that it has ceased its engagement in the investment activity which is in violation of the Act within 90 days after the determination of such violation, then the state agency shall take such action as may be appropriate and provided for by law, rule, or contract, including, but not limited to, imposing sanctions, seeking compliance, recovering damages, or declaring the Contractor in default.

The state agency reserves the right to reject any bid, request for assignment, renewal or extension for an entity that appears on the Prohibited Entities List prior to the award, assignment, renewal or extension of a contract, and to pursue a responsibility review with respect to any entity that is awarded a contract and appears on the Prohibited Entities list after contract award.

27. ADMISSIBILITY OF REPRODUCTION OF CONTRACT. Notwithstanding the best evidence rule or any other legal principle or rule of evidence to the contrary, the Contractor acknowledges and agrees that it waives any and all objections to the admissibility into evidence at any court proceeding or to the use at any examination before trial of an electronic reproduction of this contract, in the form approved by the State Comptroller, if such approval was required, regardless of whether the original of said contract is in existence.

APPENDIX B: SAMPLE CONTRACT / POST AWARD FORMS

CONTRACT NO. _____

**THE NEW YORK STATE DIVISION OF THE BUDGET
AND**

**_____
FOR MANAGEMENT CONSULTING SERVICES
FOR THE PERIOD
[START DATE] THROUGH [END DATE]**

THIS IS AN AGREEMENT (the "AGREEMENT") by and between the NEW YORK STATE DIVISION OF THE BUDGET (hereinafter referred to as the "DIVISION"), and _____ (hereinafter referred to as "_____" or "CONTRACTOR"), with offices located at _____.

WITNESSETH

WHEREAS, the DIVISION works to promote the best use of New York State ("STATE") resources, to ensure the financial integrity of the STATE, and to assist the Governor in managing STATE fiscal matters; and

WHEREAS, the DIVISION requires the services of a management consulting firm to advise the DIVISION on an as-needed basis in emergent engagements that focus on the review of management, policy and fiscal issues relating to State programs, practices and initiatives; and

WHEREAS, to assist the DIVISION, a Request for Proposals ("RFP") for Management Consulting Services was issued on December 2, 2024, a copy of which is incorporated hereto as Appendix B; and

WHEREAS, after an evaluation of the proposals submitted for the performance of such work, the DIVISION has determined that _____ is a responsible and qualified firm to serve as Primary Management Consultant based upon its Proposal dated December 30, 2024, a copy of which is incorporated hereto as Appendix C; and

WHEREAS, the CONTRACTOR is willing to serve as a management consultant to the DIVISION, as outlined in the RFP and herein;

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the terms and conditions of this AGREEMENT, it is hereby mutually agreed upon by and between the DIVISION and the CONTRACTOR (each individually a "PARTY" and collectively "PARTIES"), as follows:

I. SERVICES

A. The DIVISION does hereby engage the services of _____ to provide Management Consulting Services consistent with Section 1 of the RFP. Upon request, the

CONTRACTOR will be asked to provide advice, assistance, guidance, or analysis that may involve some or all of the following services:

Program-Related Matters

- Assist DIVISION staff in reviewing and evaluating programs, policy and/or initiatives in one or more State entities (e.g. agencies, public authorities, boards, commissions).
- Identify best practices, analytical techniques, change management, or strategy development for State programs or proposed initiatives.
- Review success, return on State investment, productivity, and/or cost-effectiveness of programs and initiatives.
- Provide technical assistance to the DIVISION in program issues and the valuation of assets held by State entities.
- Assist the DIVISION in developing business and high-level system requirements for State entities.
- Provide comprehensive coordination, project management services, and/or other oversight activities for proposed initiatives.

Financial Related Matters

- Analyze the fiscal impact of changes in proposed, or existing, State and local programs or policies, which may have an impact on the State Financial Plan.
- Assist DIVISION staff in developing and/or monitoring financial indicators related to the use of resources and funds that flow through the State's accounts.
- Evaluate the long-term financial needs of the State by providing financial forecasting on existing programs, including alternatives that may be more efficient and cost-effective.
- Evaluate and advise the DIVISION on general or specific budgetary and management issues that may arise. This may include Firm's interpretation of proposed management policies and its relation to State financing and the State's structure.
- Assist DIVISION staff in reviewing and analyzing financial data for various State agencies/entities and other organizations.
- Provide comprehensive coordination, project management services and/or other oversight activities for proposed initiatives.

State Operations and Management

- Analyze State entity operations, policies and processes to measure performance, identify opportunities to improve service, and increase efficiency. This may include, but not be limited to:
 - Analyzing and documenting current policies and processes;
 - Performing best-practice research and benchmarking to other approaches at comparable entities;
 - Conducting workflow analyses; and
 - Designing accountability programs.

- Assess the functions performed by a State entity or group of entities to identify operational improvement opportunities. This may include, but not be limited to: examining statutory responsibilities, organizational structures, resources (budget, personnel, equipment, technology, facilities, and other assets), and workload.
- Assist in developing implementation plans, generating project cost estimates, and providing implementation and support services that may include, but not be limited to: program management support to facilitate project completion, including implementation steps; resource allocation; quality assurance; review of project schedules; monitor and manage issues and risks; create key performance indicators and management performance reports; and develop detailed baseline analytics.
- Perform quality assurance reviews of existing operations, including the review of transactions between the DIVISION and agencies, authorities and other parties with which the DIVISION may work.
- Provide comprehensive coordination, project management services, and/or other oversight activities for proposed initiatives.

Management Issues, Changes and Federal Mandates/Statutes, Local Issues

- Advise the DIVISION on public management matters, as appropriate, including modifications or conditions for which New York State would be affected. Identify ways to meet new mandates, changes or requirements.
- Assist in analyzing the cash flow and financial position of municipalities, public authorities and other State entities.
- Advise and support the State in organizing, capturing, monitoring, and reporting on streams of federal funding including, but not limited to grants.
- Provide comprehensive coordination, project management services and/or other oversight activities for proposed initiatives.

Services included are advisory and/or managerial in nature, as such, Information Technology (IT) consultant services including not limited to system design/development, software development, configuration, programing, prototyping, and independent validation and verification are excluded.

Statement of Work

In all cases, and at the onset of each engagement, the Firm and the Division will document in a statement of work (SOW) the required services to complete the engagement, work products/deliverables to be developed, if any, staff names and titles, term of service, costs, and payment structures, and MWBE/SDVOB subcontracting goals. The selected Firm will also be expected to maintain adequate and verifying documentation of its work and staff, work under the direction of the Division, and to satisfy all of its obligations under the SOW. It is the Division's expectation that any resources assigned to this contract will be used in the most efficient and cost-effective manner.

Upon approval of the contracts, selected Firms shall assign a staff member as a Contract Manager who will work with the Division on the creation and execution of

each SOW. The selected Contract Manager shall have adequate authority, knowledge, and experience to facilitate the development the SOWs. SOWs should be fully agreed to and executed prior to commencement of work by the Firm. Any work performed by the Firm without an executed SOW is at risk and may not be subject to the terms of this Agreement and/or eligible for payment.

It is important to note that assignments under the contract will vary, may arise quickly and, in many cases, require intensive involvement of the Firm over a relatively short period of time. Other engagements may involve work by the Firm over several months. The work and any work products or deliverables expected from the Firm may vary from engagement to engagement depending on the nature of the assignment.

Statement or Work Development Process

1. Upon notification to the Primary or Secondary Consultant of an engagement, the Division will meet with the Firm to outline the engagement requirements, expectation of skills and experience, goals, and any deliverables for the project.
2. The Firm will then create a proposed Project Charter and proposed Project Plan to be approved by the Division prior to any work commencing.
 - a. The Project Charter must include: Summary of project; names of all State and Firm stakeholders, including their roles and responsibilities; high-level requirements (scope, budget, key milestones, schedule, etc.); any identified high-level risks, assumptions, and exit criteria.
 - b. The Project Plan must include all relevant project processes necessary from initiation of the project, to project closeout, including the staffing plan with resumes for all identified staff.
3. Upon acceptance of the Firm's proposed Project Plan, proposed Project Charter, and approval of all proposed Firm staffing by the Division, the Division will work with the Firm's assigned Contract Manager to finalize a SOW to be executed for the project
4. Upon mutual agreement and execution, the engagement shall commence.

Any work the Firm does to develop and execute the SOW shall be at no cost to the Division and shall not be listed as a deliverable of the project unless specifically requested by the Division . Accordingly, the time spent by of the Contract Manager on development of the SOW shall not be billable to the Division.

- B. The CONTRACTOR agrees to perform and furnish the services and/or deliverables required in connection herewith in accordance with all conditions, covenants and representations contained in this AGREEMENT.
- C. Deliverable Acceptance: The DIVISION will be responsible for review and acceptance of the Services and/or Deliverables. Acceptance of the Services and/or Deliverables shall be in accordance with the following:
 1. Notification: The CONTRACTOR will submit to the DIVISION written notification indicating the Services and/or Deliverables that were completed, a

summary of each of the completed Services and/or Deliverables, and a copy of the completed Deliverable(s) ("Notification"), if necessary.

2. Acceptance Criteria: The acceptance criteria for the Services and/or Deliverables shall be its substantial conformance to the requirements and descriptions set forth in any SOW ("Acceptance Criteria").
3. Acceptance: The DIVISION shall have a twenty (20) business day acceptance period, unless otherwise mutually agreed to by the DIVISION and CONTRACTOR, to approve Services and/or Deliverables that conform in all material respects to the Acceptance Criteria. The acceptance period shall begin upon transmittal by CONTRACTOR to the DIVISION of a written Notification that the Services and/or Deliverables have been completed and are ready for approval, and shall be counted from and include the first working day following the delivery of the Notification to the DIVISION. The DIVISION shall provide CONTRACTOR (i) with written approval of the Services and/or Deliverables or (ii) with a written statement which identifies in reasonable detail, with references to the applicable Acceptance Criteria, all of the deficiencies preventing approval ("Deficiencies"). All Services and/or Deliverables shall require the written approval by the DIVISION that such Services and/or Deliverables conform in all material respects with the Acceptance Criteria.

CONTRACTOR shall have ten (10) business days (or such other period mutually agreed to by the DIVISION and CONTRACTOR) to complete all such corrective actions or changes in order for such Services and/or Deliverables to conform in all material respects with the Acceptance Criteria. The count of such business days shall begin on the first business day following CONTRACTOR's receipt of the written statement of Deficiencies and/or required corrective actions identified by the DIVISION.

The DIVISION shall have twenty (20) business days to review the revised Services and/or Deliverables (or such other period mutually agreed to by the DIVISION and CONTRACTOR) and to notify CONTRACTOR in writing of acceptance or rejection in accordance with the foregoing provisions of this Section. If the DIVISION has not approved the Services and/or Deliverables after correction by CONTRACTOR, the CONTRACTOR and the DIVISION may mutually agree to further steps to correct outstanding material deficiencies. However, in no event shall the total time allocated for review, correction and re-review of material Deficiencies in Services and/or Deliverables, exceed ninety (90) days.

The DIVISION shall have final sign-off responsibility on all Services and/or Deliverables. Services and/or Deliverables may be provided concurrently to the DIVISION for review and acceptance in accordance with this Section.

- D. Utilization of the Primary and Secondary consultant: The Primary consultant shall be given first opportunity to accept an assignment, unless in the case of a condition noted below. There is no commitment by the DIVISION that the Secondary consultant will be requested to provide any services. The DIVISION

will award assignments to the Secondary consultant if one or more of the following conditions exist:

1. The Primary consultant has an actual or potential conflict of interest that, in the sole determination of the DIVISION, could prevent the consultant from satisfactorily or ethically performing the assignment;
2. The Secondary consultant has a demonstrated expertise that, in the sole determination of the DIVISION, is superior to that of the Primary consultant for purposes of a particular assignment;
3. The DIVISION determines that the Primary consultant cannot undertake or complete an assignment or make appropriate staff available within the timeframes and costs established by the DIVISION for the assignment;
4. The DIVISION and the Primary consultant are unable to come to agreement on the requirements and/or cost to complete an assignment;
5. The Primary consultant and the DIVISION mutually agree that work on a specific project be performed by the Secondary consultant.

II. TERM

_____ agrees to perform the aforesaid services for a five-year period beginning _____ and ending _____.

Notwithstanding the expiration of this AGREEMENT, a SOW may require the CONTRACTOR to work beyond that date through the completion of a specific project, in which event the terms and conditions of this AGREEMENT shall survive expiration of the AGREEMENT term and apply through completion of project and acceptance by the STATE.

III. COMPENSATION

A. _____'s rates for services rendered under this AGREEMENT shall not exceed the hourly rates as shown below:

Title	Hourly Rate				
	Contract Year 1 2025-26	Contract Year 2 2026-27	Contract Year 3 2027-28	Contract Year 4 2028-29	Contract Year 5 2029-30
Engagement Partner					
Subject Matter Expert					
Project Manager					
Senior Business Analyst					
Business Analyst					
Junior Business Analyst					

The above rates shall apply to all hourly compensation paid under this AGREEMENT. The hourly rates are inclusive of personnel, travel, postage, reproduction and all other expenses related to the engagement.

- B. Payment under this AGREEMENT shall not exceed \$_____ for the contract term.
- C. CONTRACTOR will be compensated only for services that are performed in accordance with a mutually agreed upon SOW as described in Section I of this AGREEMENT.
- D. Billings for services rendered shall be submitted to the DIVISION as specified in the SOW.
- E. The CONTRACTOR acknowledges that it will not receive payment on any invoices submitted under this AGREEMENT unless or until it complies with the State Comptroller's electronic payment procedures.
- F. Fees shall become payable by the STATE upon receipt of an invoice in accordance with this section. Properly invoiced fees not paid within 30 days of receipt of the invoice and services will be paid with interest in accordance with Article 11-A of New York State Finance Law. Any and all such invoices shall contain a detailed itemization of requested compensation which shall, at the minimum include:
 - 1. The number assigned to this AGREEMENT (_____), the CONTRACTOR's New York State Vendor Identification Number, an invoice number, and invoice date;
 - 2. Name(s) and title(s) (as identified in this section) of the CONTRACTOR staff providing services;
 - 3. Name(s) of DIVISION employees, or their designee(s), requesting the services and directly involved;
 - 4. Specific identification of the services and/deliverables provided;
 - 5. Amounts to be compensated as defined in the SOW; and
 - 6. Dates upon which the services were performed.

All invoices should be submitted electronically to the DIVISION at financeoffice@budget.ny.gov.

- G. The CONTRACTOR shall not be reimbursed for the preparation of invoices or billing statements or for the time spent correcting any error in previously submitted invoices or billing statements.

IV. RELATIONSHIP OF PARTIES

The relationship of the CONTRACTOR to the DIVISION shall be that of an independent contractor. In accordance with such status as an independent contractor, the CONTRACTOR covenants and agrees to act consistent with such status: to neither hold itself out as, nor claim to be, an officer or employee of the DIVISION or the STATE by reason hereof; and not to, by reason hereof, make any claim, demand, or application to or for any right or privilege applicable to an officer or employee of the DIVISION or the

STATE, including but not limited to Workers' Compensation coverage, unemployment insurance benefits, Social Security coverage, or retirement membership credit.

V. STAFF

- A. The CONTRACTOR shall assign _____ as the Engagement Partner _____ as the Project Manager, and the other personnel referenced in its proposal, but is not limited in its utilization of other personnel for its duties hereunder, subject to the approval of the DIVISION.
- B. CONTRACTOR staff assigned to work on this project shall be subject to approval by the DIVISION. It is highly desirable that staff assigned to work on a project continue to work on the project until completion. The DIVISION reserves the right to require security clearance and criminal history checks of the CONTRACTOR and/or staff.
- C. The CONTRACTOR specifically represents and agrees that its members, officers, employees, agents, consultants, shareholders, and subcontractors have and shall possess the experience, knowledge, and character necessary to qualify them individually for the particular duties performed hereunder. All employees of the CONTRACTOR, or of its subcontractors, who shall perform the services under this AGREEMENT, shall possess the necessary qualifications, training, licenses, and permits as may be required within the jurisdiction where the services specified are to be provided or performed, and shall be legally entitled to work in such jurisdiction. All persons, corporations, or other legal entities that perform services under this AGREEMENT on behalf of CONTRACTOR shall, in performing the services, comply with all applicable Federal and STATE laws concerning employment in the United States.
- D. This AGREEMENT is intended to secure the professional services of the CONTRACTOR because of its ability and shall not be assigned, conveyed, transferred, or disposed of by the CONTRACTOR.
- E. The CONTRACTOR shall be fully responsible for performance of work by and conduct of its staff and subcontractor's staff. The DIVISION reserves the right to request removal of any CONTRACTOR staff or subcontractor staff if, in the DIVISION's sole discretion, such staff is not performing in accordance with the AGREEMENT.
- F. The CONTRACTOR shall notify the DIVISION immediately of any proposed changes in staff. The DIVISION has an absolute right and discretion to approve or disapprove any proposed changes in staff. The DIVISION, in each instance, will be provided with a summary of experience of the proposed substitute and an opportunity to interview that person, prior to giving its approval or disapproval; approval shall not be unreasonably withheld. The replacement staff must have the skills, experience and expertise that is comparable to or better than that of the person they will replace and will be provided at the same or lower hourly rate.

G. The CONTRACTOR and its staff must comply with the requirements of Sections 73 and 74 of the Public Officers Law, other STATE codes, rules, regulations and executive orders establishing ethical standards for the conduct of business with the STATE. Failure to comply with these requirements may result in termination of the AGREEMENT and/or other civil or criminal proceedings as required by law.

VI. SUBCONTRACTING

The CONTRACTOR agrees not to subcontract any of its services, unless as indicated in its proposal, without the prior written approval of the DIVISION. Approval shall not be unreasonably withheld upon receipt of written request to subcontract.

The CONTRACTOR may arrange for a portion/s of its responsibilities under this AGREEMENT to be subcontracted to qualified, responsible subcontractors, subject to approval of the DIVISION. If the CONTRACTOR determines to subcontract a portion of the services, the subcontractors must be clearly identified and the nature and extent of its involvement in and/or proposed performance under this AGREEMENT must be fully explained by the CONTRACTOR to the DIVISION. The CONTRACTOR retains ultimate responsibility for all services performed under the AGREEMENT.

All subcontracts shall be in writing and shall contain provisions, which are functionally identical to, and consistent with, the provisions of this AGREEMENT including, but not limited to, the body of this AGREEMENT, Appendix A – Standard Clauses for New York State Contracts dated January 2014, and Appendix B – Request for Proposals dated December 2, 2024. Unless waived in writing by the DIVISION, all subcontracts between the CONTRACTOR and subcontractors shall expressly name the STATE, through the DIVISION, as the sole intended third party beneficiary of such subcontract. The DIVISION reserves the right to review and approve or reject any subcontract, as well as any amendment to said subcontract(s), and this right shall not make the DIVISION or the STATE a party to any subcontract or create any right, claim, or interest in the subcontractor or proposed subcontractor against the DIVISION.

The DIVISION reserves the right, at any time during the term of the AGREEMENT, to verify that the written subcontract between the CONTRACTOR and subcontractors is in compliance with all of the provisions of this Section and any subcontract provisions contained in this AGREEMENT.

The CONTRACTOR shall give the DIVISION immediate notice in writing of the initiation of any legal action or suit which relates in any way to a subcontract with a subcontractor or which may affect the performance of the CONTRACTOR's duties under the AGREEMENT. Any subcontract shall not relieve the CONTRACTOR in any way of any responsibility, duty and/or obligation of the AGREEMENT.

VII. RESERVATIONS

The DIVISION reserves the right to employ other consultants and contractors in connection with its responsibilities and functions. In that event, the CONTRACTOR will, as directed by the DIVISION, cooperate and work in harmony with such consultants and contractors.

VIII. DIVISION REPRESENTATIVES

- A. The DIVISION, with the commencement of this AGREEMENT, designates as its representative, Michelle Heaslip, or her designee(s).
- B. Such representatives shall request, oversee, supervise and accept performance of services performed by the CONTRACTOR and shall receive any required submissions. Whenever an agreement action is to be taken or approval for services is to be given by the DIVISION such action or approval may be given only by such representative(s) designated pursuant to this Section.
- C. All Notices under this AGREEMENT shall be directed to the representatives identified in this Section, or their designee(s).
- D. The DIVISION may, on written notice, designate other individuals as its representatives.

IX. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

- A. The CONTRACTOR has provided a form (Firm Assurance of No Conflict of Interest or Detrimental Effect), signed by an authorized executive or legal representative attesting that the CONTRACTOR's performance of the services does not and will not create a conflict of interest with, nor position the CONTRACTOR to breach any other contract currently in force with the STATE, that the CONTRACTOR will not act in any manner that is detrimental to any STATE project on which the CONTRACTOR is rendering services.
- B. The CONTRACTOR hereby reaffirms the attestations made in its proposal and covenants and represents that there is and shall be no actual or potential conflict of interest that could prevent the CONTRACTOR's satisfactory or ethical performance of duties required to be performed pursuant to the terms of this AGREEMENT. The CONTRACTOR shall have a duty to notify the DIVISION immediately of any such actual or potential conflicts of interest.
- C. In conjunction with any subcontract under this AGREEMENT, the CONTRACTOR shall obtain and deliver to the DIVISION, prior to entering into a subcontract, a Firm Assurance of No Conflict of Interest or Detrimental Effect form, signed by an authorized executive or legal representative of the subcontractor. The CONTRACTOR shall also require in any subcontracting agreement that the subcontractor, in conjunction with any further subcontracting agreement, obtain and deliver to the DIVISION a signed and completed Firm Assurance of No Conflict of Interest or Detrimental Effect form for each of its subcontractors prior to entering into a subcontract.
- D. The DIVISION and the CONTRACTOR recognize that conflicts may occur in the future because the CONTRACTOR may have existing, or establish new, relationships. The DIVISION will review the nature of any relationships and reserves the right to terminate this AGREEMENT for any reason, or for cause, if, in the judgment of the DIVISION, a real or potential conflict of interest cannot be cured.

X. PUBLIC OFFICERS LAW

Contractors, consultants, vendors, and subcontractors may hire former State Agency or Authority employees. However, as a general rule and in accordance with New York Public Officers Law, former employees of the State Agency or Authority may neither appear nor practice before the State Agency or Authority, nor receive compensation for services rendered on a matter before the State Agency or Authority, for a period of two years following their separation from State Agency or Authority service. In addition, former State Agency or Authority employees are subject to a “lifetime bar” from appearing before the State Agency or Authority or receiving compensation for services regarding any transaction in which they personally participated or which was under their active consideration during their tenure with the State Agency or Authority.

XI. ETHICS REQUIREMENTS

The CONTRACTOR and its subcontractors shall not engage any person who is, or has been at any time, in the employ of the STATE to perform services in violation of the provisions of the New York Public Officers Law, other laws applicable to the service of STATE employees, and the rules, regulations, opinions, guidelines or policies promulgated or issued by the New York State Ethics and Lobbying in Government, or its predecessors or successors (collectively, the “Ethics Requirements”). The CONTRACTOR certifies that all of its employees and those of its subcontractors who are former employees of the STATE and who are assigned to perform services under this AGREEMENT shall be assigned in accordance with all Ethics Requirements. During the term, no person who is employed by the CONTRACTOR or its subcontractors and who is disqualified from providing services under this AGREEMENT pursuant to any Ethics Requirements may share in any net revenues of the CONTRACTOR or its subcontractors derived from this AGREEMENT. The CONTRACTOR shall identify and provide the STATE with notice of those employees of the CONTRACTOR and its subcontractors who are former employees of the STATE that will be assigned to perform services under this AGREEMENT, and make sure that such employees comply with all applicable laws and prohibitions. The STATE may request that the CONTRACTOR provide it with whatever information the STATE deems appropriate about each such person’s engagement, work cooperatively with the STATE to solicit advice from the New York State Ethics and Lobbying in Government, or its predecessors or successors, and, if deemed appropriate by the STATE, instruct any such person to seek the opinion of the New York State Ethics and Lobbying in Government, or its predecessors or successors. The STATE shall have the right to withdraw or withhold approval of any subcontractor if utilizing such subcontractor for any work performed hereunder would be in conflict with any of the Ethics Requirements. The STATE shall have the right to terminate this AGREEMENT at any time if any work performed hereunder is in conflict with any of the Ethics Requirements.

XII. WARRANTIES

The CONTRACTOR warrants that it will perform services in good faith and in a professional manner and that the services will conform in all material respects to the description of such services set forth herein. The warranties expressly set forth in this

AGREEMENT are in lieu of all other warranties, expressed or implied including, but not limited to, the implied warranties of merchantability and fitness for a particular purpose.

The CONTRACTOR warrants that its services shall be performed in accordance with applicable professional standards and that the CONTRACTOR shall correct, at no charge to the DIVISION or the STATE, services which fail to meet applicable professional standards and which result in obvious or patent errors in the progression of its work.

XIII. PERFORMANCE MONITORING

The CONTRACTOR's performance will be assessed by the DIVISION according to the achievement of CONTRACTOR's contractual obligations in a timely and professional manner, as set forth herein. The DIVISION will utilize progress reports and periodic meetings to ensure that the project is carried out on a timely basis and results in effective recommendations and work products.

XIV. INDEMNIFICATION AND LIABILITY

- A. The CONTRACTOR shall be fully liable without monetary limitation for any act or omission of the CONTRACTOR, its employees, subcontractors and agents, and shall fully indemnify and hold harmless the STATE from suits, actions, damages and costs of every name and description relating to personal injury and damage to real or tangible personal property or intellectual property caused by fault or negligence of CONTRACTOR, its employees, subcontractors or agents arising from the CONTRACTOR's performance of the AGREEMENT, provided, however, that the CONTRACTOR shall not be obligated to indemnify the STATE for that portion of any claim, loss or damage arising hereunder due to the negligent act or failure to act by the STATE or the acts of third parties, other than those provided by the CONTRACTOR to perform under the AGREEMENT. In connection with the foregoing, the STATE shall give the CONTRACTOR: (i) prompt written notice of any action, claim or threat of suit, (ii) the opportunity to take over, settle or defend such action, claim or suit at the CONTRACTOR's sole expense, and (iii) assistance in the defense of any such action at the expense of the CONTRACTOR.
- B. Except as otherwise set forth as being without monetary limitation in the indemnification paragraph above, the limit of liability shall be as follows: CONTRACTOR liability for any damages arising out of, or related to the AGREEMENT, whether in contract, tort or otherwise, shall in no case exceed: (i) an amount equal to two (2) times the amount paid to the CONTRACTOR for work performed under this AGREEMENT, or (ii) one million dollars (\$1,000,000), whichever is greater.
- C. Notwithstanding the above, the CONTRACTOR and the DIVISION/STATE shall not be liable for any consequential, indirect or special damages of any kind which may result from such performance, including, without limitation, damages resulting from loss of use or loss of profit by the DIVISION/STATE, the CONTRACTOR, or by others. CONTRACTOR shall not be liable for any missed or lost revenue associated with, or related to, the services provided pursuant to this contract.

XV. REPORTS AND FINDINGS

Any and all reports and findings rendered to the DIVISION by the CONTRACTOR shall be the exclusive property of the DIVISION and subject to its exclusive use and control. The CONTRACTOR hereby waives any and all rights to such reports and findings and the control thereof.

XVI. OWNERSHIP

CONTRACTOR will retain all rights, title and interest in and to all materials developed by it prior to the effective date of this AGREEMENT and/or developed outside of CONTRACTOR's obligations hereunder.

XVII. CONFIDENTIALITY

- A. CONTRACTOR agrees that it will not use confidential or proprietary information disclosed to CONTRACTOR in connection with the services ("Confidential Information") for any purpose other than in connection with the services. The CONTRACTOR is fully responsible for its staff, its subcontractor(s) and any subcontractor's staff with regard to Confidential Information.
- B. Information which falls into any of the following categories shall not be considered Confidential Information:
 - 1. information that is previously rightfully known to the CONTRACTOR without restriction on disclosure;
 - 2. information that becomes, from no breach of this AGREEMENT on the part of the CONTRACTOR, generally known in the relevant industry, or is otherwise publicly available; and
 - 3. information that is independently developed by CONTRACTOR without use of the confidential information.
- C. Except as specifically permitted in this AGREEMENT, CONTRACTOR shall not, at any time, in any fashion, form or manner, divulge, disclose, communicate or use, any Confidential Information other than in connection with the services or as otherwise provided herein.
- D. CONTRACTOR may disclose Confidential Information if such information is required to be disclosed by CONTRACTOR by any law, rule, regulation, judicial or administrative process or applicable professional standards, provided that, to the extent permitted by applicable law or regulation, the CONTRACTOR notifies the DIVISION prior to any such required disclosure.
- E. CONTRACTOR agrees not to issue any press releases, give or make any presentations, or give to any print, electronic or other news media information regarding the services without the express advance written approval of DIVISION.
- F. CONTRACTOR agrees that, as between the PARTIES, all Confidential Information in its possession is at all times the sole property of the STATE.

- G. Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, CONTRACTOR shall have the right to retain one copy of the Confidential Information and any summaries, analyses, notes or extracts prepared by CONTRACTOR which are based on or contain portions of the Confidential Information evidencing its services for the STATE as required by law, regulation, professional standards or reasonable business practice.
- H. CONTRACTOR shall retain all Confidential Information in confidence, exercising the same standard of care used by CONTRACTOR to protect its own confidential and proprietary information, to prevent the disclosure of Confidential Information to any third party. CONTRACTOR shall not use Confidential Information for any purpose other than in furtherance of its professional services for the DIVISION.
- I. CONTRACTOR understands that if it breaches, or threatens to breach this AGREEMENT, the DIVISION shall have the right to seek all equitable and legal rights (including the right to seek injunctive relief) to prevent such breach and/or to be fully compensated (including reasonable legal fees) for losses or damages resulting from such breach. CONTRACTOR acknowledges that compensation for damages may not be sufficient and that injunctive relief to prevent or limit any breach of confidentiality may be the only viable remedy to fully protect the confidential or proprietary information identified in this AGREEMENT.

XVIII. RECORDS ACCESS

DIVISION staff, others authorized by the DIVISION such as representatives of the Federal government, or other STATE agencies authorized by STATE law, shall have access to and the right to examine the books, documents, work papers, documentation of charges, or other records of the CONTRACTOR, including any and all subcontractors, involved in transactions relating to this AGREEMENT during the contract period and for a period of six years after final payment for said services.

XIX. WORK PAPER RETENTION AND AVAILABILITY

- A. The work papers to be prepared by the CONTRACTOR during the AGREEMENT will be retained by the CONTRACTOR although copies thereof and access to them will be made available, upon request, to the DIVISION, representatives of the Federal government and STATE agencies when authorized by the DIVISION, and other STATE agencies authorized by existing law, for a period of six (6) years following the date of the final payment under the contract. All such requests, and their disposition, shall be authorized by the DIVISION.
- B. The CONTRACTOR agrees to make personnel available to explain fully all data, materials, and work papers developed during the engagement for a period of six (6) years following the date of the final payment under the AGREEMENT.

XX. DISPUTES AND DISSATISFACTION/CONFLICT RESOLUTION

- A. In the event the DIVISION is dissatisfied with the CONTRACTOR's performance of the services provided under the AGREEMENT, including but not limited to a breach of the AGREEMENT on the part of the CONTRACTOR, the DIVISION shall notify the

CONTRACTOR of the dispute in writing. In the event the CONTRACTOR has any disputes with the DIVISION, the CONTRACTOR shall notify the DIVISION in writing. Such notification in both cases shall hereinafter be referred to as "Notice of Conflict", or in the case of contract breach, "Notice of Default".

- B. If either the DIVISION or the CONTRACTOR notifies the other of such dispute or dissatisfaction, the PARTY receiving the notification shall then make good faith efforts to amicably resolve the problem or settle the dispute, including meeting with the notifying PARTY's representatives to diligently attempt to reach a mutually satisfactory result.
- C. In the event of a dispute, both PARTIES will continue to fulfill their performance obligations under the AGREEMENT.
- D. Nothing shall limit either PARTY's ability to pursue all legal remedies. If the PARTIES are unable to amicably resolve the dispute after the steps described above, then either PARTY may seek legal or equitable relief in a court of competent jurisdiction in the State of New York.

XXI. TERMINATION

- A. The DIVISION reserves the right to terminate the services of the CONTRACTOR, in whole or in part, upon thirty (30) days written notice for any reason, or immediately for cause. Upon notice of termination, the CONTRACTOR shall stop work immediately and complete only those specific assignments, if any, subsequently approved by the DIVISION. In the event of termination other than for cause, the CONTRACTOR shall be entitled to compensation for services performed through the date of termination that are accepted by the DIVISION, and for any subsequent services that are accepted by the DIVISION, rendered in connection with any successor consultants and contractors, including transfer of records, briefing and any other services deemed necessary or desirable by the DIVISION. The CONTRACTOR agrees to cooperate to the fullest respect with any successor consultants and contractors.
- B. After receipt of the notice of termination, the CONTRACTOR shall exercise all reasonable diligence to accomplish the cancellation or diversion of its outstanding commitments covering personal services and extending beyond the date of such termination to the extent that they relate to the performance of any work terminated by the notice.
- C. The CONTRACTOR shall submit its termination claim to the DIVISION promptly after receipt of a notice of termination, but in no event later than 30 days from the effective date thereof, unless one or more extensions in writing are granted by the DIVISION upon written request of the CONTRACTOR within such 30-day period or authorized extension thereof. Upon failure of the CONTRACTOR to submit a termination claim within the time allowed, the DIVISION may determine, on the basis of available information, the amount, if any, due to the CONTRACTOR by reason of termination, and shall thereupon pay to the CONTRACTOR the amount so determined.

- D. If the termination for cause results from unsatisfactory performance by the CONTRACTOR, the value of the work performed by the CONTRACTOR prior to termination shall be established by the DIVISION.
- E. The CONTRACTOR agrees to transfer title to the DIVISION, and to deliver in the manner, at the time, and to the extent, if any, directed by the DIVISION, such information and work products for which the CONTRACTOR produced and received compensation by the DIVISION.
- F. In addition, non-compliance with the procurement laws as noted in Section XXIII of this AGREEMENT will lead to contract termination.

XXII. FORCE MAJEURE

Neither PARTY will be liable for losses, defaults, or damages under this AGREEMENT which result from delays in performing, or an inability to perform, all or any of the obligations or responsibilities imposed upon it pursuant to the terms and conditions of this AGREEMENT, due to or because of acts of God, the public enemy, acts of government, earthquakes, floods, civil strife, fire or any other cause beyond the reasonable control of the PARTY that was so delayed or so unable to perform, provided that such PARTY was not negligent and shall have used reasonable efforts to avoid and overcome such cause. Such PARTY will resume full performance of such obligations and responsibilities promptly upon removal of any such cause.

XXIII. COMPLIANCE WITH PROCUREMENT LAWS

- A. By execution of this AGREEMENT, the CONTRACTOR certifies that information provided to the STATE with respect to the Vendor Responsibility Questionnaire, Procurement Lobbying Certifications, Contractor Disclosure Form A and Section 5-a of the Tax Law (Forms ST-220-TD and ST-220-CA) is complete, true and accurate.
- B. The CONTRACTOR hereby acknowledges that the Vendor Responsibility Questionnaire and certification are made part of its proposal and thereby this AGREEMENT and that any misrepresentation of fact in the Questionnaire and attachments, or in any CONTRACTOR responsibility information that may be requested by the DIVISION, may result in termination of this AGREEMENT.

The CONTRACTOR shall at all times during the contract term remain responsible. During the term of this AGREEMENT, any changes in the provided Questionnaire shall be disclosed to the DIVISION, in writing, in a timely manner. Failure to make such disclosure may result in a determination of non-responsibility and termination of this AGREEMENT. Furthermore, the CONTRACTOR agrees, if requested by the DIVISION, to present evidence of its continuing legal authority to do business in New York State, its integrity, experience, ability, prior performance, and organizational and financial capacity.

The DIVISION, in its sole discretion, reserves the right to suspend any or all activities under this AGREEMENT, at any time, when it discovers information that calls into question the responsibility of the CONTRACTOR. In the event of such suspension,

the CONTRACTOR will be given written notice outlining the particulars of such suspension. Upon issuance of such notice, the CONTRACTOR must comply with the terms of the suspension order. Contract activity may resume at such time as the DIVISION issues a written notice authorizing a resumption of performance under this AGREEMENT.

Upon written notice to the CONTRACTOR, and a reasonable opportunity to be heard by the appropriate DIVISION officials or staff, this AGREEMENT may be terminated by the DIVISION at the CONTRACTOR's expense where the CONTRACTOR is determined by the DIVISION to be non-responsible. In such event, the DIVISION may complete contractual requirements in any manner it deems advisable and pursue available legal or equitable remedies for breach.

- C. CONTRACTOR hereby acknowledges that State Finance Law Section 163(4)(g) imposes certain reporting requirements on the contractor doing business with the STATE. In furtherance of these reporting requirements, the CONTRACTOR agrees to complete and submit an initial planned employment data report and an annual employment report (Forms A and B respectively). Complete instructions and forms may also be accessed at: <http://www.osc.state.ny.us/agencies/guide/MyWebHelp/Content/XI/18/C.htm>.

XXIV. REQUIREMENTS AND PROCEDURES FOR M/WBE PARTICIPATION

A. General Provisions

1. The DIVISION is required to implement the provisions of New York State Executive Law Article 15-A and 5 NYCRR Parts 140-145 ("MWBE Regulations") for all STATE contracts as defined therein, with a value (1) in excess of \$25,000 for labor, services, equipment, materials, or any combination of the foregoing or (2) in excess of \$100,000 for real property renovations and construction.
2. The CONTRACTOR agrees, in addition to any other nondiscrimination provision of the AGREEMENT and at no additional cost to the DIVISION, to fully comply and cooperate with the DIVISION in the implementation of New York State Executive Law Article 15-A and the regulations promulgated thereunder. These requirements include equal employment opportunities for minority group members and women ("EEO") and contracting opportunities for certified minority- and women-owned business enterprises ("MWBE"). The CONTRACTOR's demonstration of "good faith efforts" pursuant to 5 NYCRR §142.8 shall be a part of these requirements. These provisions shall be deemed supplementary to, and not in lieu of, the nondiscrimination provisions required by New York State Executive Law Article 15 (the "Human Rights Law") or other applicable federal, state or local laws.
3. Failure to comply with all of the requirements herein may result in a finding of non-responsiveness, non-responsibility and/or a breach of contract, leading to the assessment of liquidated damages pursuant to Section XXIV.G of this AGREEMENT and such other remedies are available to the DIVISION pursuant to this AGREEMENT and applicable law.

B. Contract Goals

1. For purposes of this AGREEMENT, the Division hereby establishes an overall goal of 30% for MWBE participation, 15% for New York State-certified Minority-owned Business Enterprise (“MBE”) participation and 15% for New York State-certified Women-owned Business Enterprise (“WBE”) participation (collectively, “MWBE Contract Goals”) based on the current availability of MBEs and WBEs.
2. For purposes of providing meaningful participation by MWBEs in this AGREEMENT and achieving the MWBE Contract Goals, the CONTRACTOR should reference the directory of New York State certified MBWEs found at the following internet address: <https://ny.newnycontracts.com>.

Additionally, the CONTRACTOR is encouraged to contact the Division of Minority and Women Business Development at (212) 803-2414 to discuss additional methods of maximizing participation by MWBEs on this AGREEMENT.

3. The CONTRACTOR understands that only sums paid to MWBEs for the performance of a commercially useful function, as that term is defined in 5 NYCRR § 140.1, may be applied towards the achievement of the applicable MWBE participation goal. The portion of a contract with an MWBE serving as a broker that shall be deemed to represent the commercially useful function performed by the MWBE shall be 25 percent of the total value of the contract.
4. The CONTRACTOR must document “good faith efforts”, to provide meaningful participation by MWBEs as subcontractors or suppliers in the performance of the AGREEMENT. Such documentation shall include, but not necessarily be limited to:
 - a. Evidence of outreach to MWBEs;
 - b. Any responses by MWBEs to the CONTRACTOR’s outreach;
 - c. Copies of advertisements for participation by MWBEs in appropriate general circulation, trade, and minority or women-oriented publications;
 - d. The dates of attendance at any pre-bid, pre-award, or other meetings, if any, scheduled by the DIVISION with MWBEs; and,
 - e. Information describing specific steps undertaken by the CONTRACTOR to reasonably structure the contract scope of work to maximize opportunities for MWBE participation.

C. Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO)

1. The CONTRACTOR agrees to be bound by the provisions of Article 15-A of the Executive Law and the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder pertaining to equal employment opportunities for minority group members and women shall apply to the AGREEMENT.
2. In performing the AGREEMENT, the CONTRACTOR shall:
 - a. Ensure that each CONTRACTOR and each subcontractor performing work on this AGREEMENT shall undertake or continue existing EEO programs to ensure

that minority group members and women are afforded equal employment opportunities without discrimination because of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, age, disability or marital status. For these purposes, EEO shall apply in the areas of recruitment, employment, job assignment, promotion, upgrading, demotion, transfer, layoff, or termination and rates of pay or other forms of compensation.

- b. The CONTRACTOR shall submit an EEO policy statement to the DIVISION within seventy-two (72) hours after the date of the notice by the DIVISION to award the AGREEMENT to the CONTRACTOR.
- c. If the CONTRACTOR, or any of its subcontractors, does not have an existing EEO policy statement, the DIVISION may require the CONTRACTOR or subcontractor to adopt a model statement (see Form 5.4 Equal Employment Opportunity Policy Statement).
- d. The CONTRACTOR's EEO policy statement shall include the following language:
 - 1) The CONTRACTOR will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, or marital status, will undertake or continue existing EEO programs to ensure that minority group members and women are afforded equal employment opportunities without discrimination, and shall make and document its conscientious and active efforts to employ and utilize minority group members and women in its work force.
 - 2) The CONTRACTOR shall state in all solicitations or advertisements for employees that, in the performance of the AGREEMENT, all qualified applicants will be afforded equal employment opportunities without discrimination because of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, age, disability or marital status.
 - 3) The CONTRACTOR shall request each employment agency, labor union, or authorized representative of workers with which it has a collective bargaining or other agreement or understanding, to furnish a written statement that such employment agency, labor union, or representative will not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, national origin, sex age, disability or marital status and that such union or representative will affirmatively cooperate in the implementation of the CONTRACTOR's obligations herein.
 - 4) The CONTRACTOR will include the provisions of Subdivisions (1) through (3) of this Subsection D and Paragraph "5" of this Section C, which provides for relevant provisions of the Human Rights Law, in every subcontract in such a manner that the requirements of the subdivisions will be binding upon each subcontractor as to work in connection with the AGREEMENT.

3. Staffing Plan

To ensure compliance with this section, the CONTRACTOR shall submit a staffing plan to document the composition of the proposed workforce to be utilized in the performance of the AGREEMENT by the specified categories listed, including ethnic background, gender, and Federal occupational categories. The CONTRACTOR shall complete the staffing plan form and submit it within a reasonable time, as directed by the DIVISION.

4. Workforce Employment Utilization Report (“Workforce Report”)

- a. The CONTRACTOR shall submit a Workforce Report and shall require each of its subcontractors to submit a Workforce Report, in such form as shall be required by the DIVISION on a QUARTERLY basis during the term of the AGREEMENT.
- b. Separate forms shall be completed by the CONTRACTOR and any subcontractors.
- c. Pursuant to Executive Order #162, contractors and subcontractors are also required to report the gross wages paid to each of their employees for the work performed by such employees on the contract on a quarterly basis.

5. The CONTRACTOR shall comply with the provisions of the Human Rights Law, and all other STATE and Federal statutory and constitutional non-discrimination provisions. The CONTRACTOR and its subcontractors shall not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, creed (religion), color, sex, national origin, sexual orientation, military status, age, disability, predisposing genetic characteristic, marital status or domestic violence victim status, and shall also follow the requirements of the Human Rights Law with regard to non-discrimination on the basis of prior criminal conviction and prior arrest.

D. MWBE Utilization Plan

1. The CONTRACTOR represents and warrants that the CONTRACTOR has submitted an MWBE Utilization Plan, through the New York State Contract System (“NYSCS”), which can be viewed at <https://ny.newnycontracts.com>, provided, however, that the CONTRACTOR may arrange to provide such evidence via a non-electronic method to the DIVISION, either prior to, or at the time of, the execution of the AGREEMENT.
2. The CONTRACTOR agrees to use such MWBE Utilization Plan for the performance of MWBEs on this AGREEMENT pursuant to the prescribed MWBE goals set forth in Section XXIV.B.1.
3. The CONTRACTOR further agrees that failure to submit and/or adhere to such MWBE Utilization Plan shall constitute a material breach of the terms of this AGREEMENT. Upon the occurrence of such a material breach, the DIVISION shall be entitled to any remedy provided herein, including but not limited to, a finding that the CONTRACTOR is non-responsive.

E. Waivers

1. For waiver requests, the CONTRACTOR should use the NYSCS, provided, however, that CONTRACTOR may arrange to provide such evidence via a non-electronic method to the DIVISION.
2. If the CONTRACTOR, after making good faith efforts, is unable to comply with MWBE goals, the CONTRACTOR may submit a Request for Waiver documenting good faith efforts by the CONTRACTOR to meet such goals. If the documentation included with the waiver request is complete, the DIVISION shall evaluate the request and issue a written notice of approval or denial within twenty (20) business days of receipt.
3. If the DIVISION, upon review of the MWBE Utilization Plan and updated QUARTERLY MWBE Contractor Compliance Reports determines that the CONTRACTOR is failing or refusing to comply with the MWBE Contract Goals and no waiver has been issued in regards to such non-compliance, the DIVISION may issue a notice of deficiency to the CONTRACTOR. The CONTRACTOR must respond to the notice of deficiency within seven (7) business days of receipt. Such response may include a request for partial or total waiver of MWBE Contract Goals.

F. Quarterly MWBE Contractor Compliance Report

The CONTRACTOR is required to submit a quarterly MWBE Contractor Compliance Report through the NYSCS, provided, however, that the CONTRACTOR may arrange to provide such report via a non-electronic method to the DIVISION by the 10th day following the end of each quarter during the term of this AGREEMENT documenting the progress made towards achievement of the MWBE goals of this AGREEMENT.

G. Liquidated Damages - MWBE Participation

1. Where the DIVISION determines that the CONTRACTOR is not in compliance with the requirements of this AGREEMENT and the CONTRACTOR refuses to comply with such requirements, or if the CONTRACTOR is found to have willfully and intentionally failed to comply with the MWBE participation goals, the CONTRACTOR shall be obligated to pay to the DIVISION liquidated damages.
2. Such liquidated damages shall be calculated as an amount equaling the difference between:
 - a. All sums identified for payment to MWBEs had the CONTRACTOR achieved the contractual MWBE goals; and
 - b. All sums actually paid to MWBEs for work performed or materials supplied under the AGREEMENT.
3. In the event a determination has been made which requires the payment of liquidated damages and such identified sums have not been withheld by the DIVISION, the CONTRACTOR shall pay such liquidated damages to the DIVISION within sixty (60) days after they are assessed. Provided, however, that if the

CONTRACTOR has filed a complaint with the Director of the Division of Minority and Women's Business Development pursuant to 5 NYCRR § 142.12, liquidated damages shall be payable only in the event of a determination adverse to the CONTRACTOR following the complaint process.

XXV. PARTICIPATION OPPORTUNITIES FOR NEW YORK STATE CERTIFIED SERVICE-DISABLED VETERAN OWNED BUSINESSES

A. General Provisions

Article 3 of the New York State Veteran's Services Law provides for more meaningful participation in public procurement by certified Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Businesses ("SDVOBs"), thereby further integrating such businesses into New York State's economy. The DIVISION recognizes the need to promote the employment of service-disabled veterans and to ensure that certified service-disabled veteran-owned businesses have opportunities for maximum feasible participation in the performance of DIVISION contracts.

In recognition of the service and sacrifices made by service-disabled veterans and in recognition of their economic activity in doing business in New York State, CONTRACTORS are strongly encouraged and expected to consider SDVOBs in the fulfillment of the requirements of the AGREEMENT. Such participation may be as subcontractors or suppliers, as protégés, or in other partnering or supporting roles.

B. Contract Goals

SDVOB participation goals shall be established in each SOW based on the current availability of qualified SDVOBs. For purposes of providing meaningful participation by SDVOBs, the CONTRACTOR should reference the directory of New York State Certified SDVOBs found at: <https://sdves.ogs.ny.gov/business-search>. Questions regarding compliance with SDVOB participation goals should be directed to the Division's Contracts Office at contracts@budget.ny.gov.

Additionally, CONTRACTOR is encouraged to contact the Office of General Services' Division of Service-Disabled Veterans' Business Development at 518-474-2015 or VeteransDevelopment@ogs.ny.gov to discuss methods of maximizing participation by SDVOBs on the AGREEMENT.

Where contract goals have been established in the SOW, the CONTRACTOR must document "good faith efforts" to provide meaningful participation by SDVOBs as subcontractors or suppliers in the performance of any SOW under the AGREEMENT (see Required Good Faith Efforts clause below).

SDVOB Utilization Plan

- A. For each SOW where SDVOB contract goals have been established and in accordance with 9 NYCRR § 252.2(i), CONTRACTOR will be required to submit a completed SDVOB Utilization Plan on Form SDVOB 100.

- B. The Utilization Plan shall list the SDVOBs that the CONTRACTOR intends to use to perform the services in the SOW, a description of the work that the CONTRACTOR intends the SDVOB to perform to meet the goals in the SOW, the estimated dollar amounts to be paid to an SDVOB, or, if not known, an estimate of the percentage of Contract work the SDVOB will perform. By signing the Utilization Plan, the CONTRACTOR acknowledges that making false representations or providing information that shows a lack of good faith as part of, or in conjunction with, the submission of a Utilization Plan is prohibited by law and may result in penalties including, but not limited to, termination of a contract for cause, loss of eligibility to submit future bids, and/or withholding of payments. Any modifications or changes to the agreed participation by SDVOBs for each SOW during the term of the AGREEMENT must be reported on a revised SDVOB Utilization Plan and submitted to the DIVISION.
- C. The DIVISION will review the submitted SDVOB Utilization Plan and advise the CONTRACTOR of DIVISION acceptance or issue a notice of deficiency within 20 days of receipt.
- D. If a notice of deficiency is issued, CONTRACTOR agrees that it shall respond to the notice of deficiency, within seven business days of receipt, by submitting to the DIVISION a written remedy in response to the notice of deficiency. If the written remedy that is submitted is not timely or is found by the DIVISION to be inadequate, the DIVISION shall notify the CONTRACTOR and direct the CONTRACTOR to submit, within five business days of notification by the DIVISION, a request for a partial or total waiver of SDVOB participation goals on Form SDVOB 200. Failure to file the waiver form in a timely manner may be grounds for disqualification of the bid or proposal.
- E. For each SOW under the AGREEMENT, CONTRACTOR certifies that it will follow the submitted SDVOB Utilization Plan for the performance of SDVOBs on the SOW pursuant to the prescribed SDVOB contract goals set forth in the SOW.
- F. CONTRACTOR further agrees that a failure to use SDVOBs as agreed in the Utilization Plan shall constitute a material breach of the terms of the AGREEMENT. Upon the occurrence of such a material breach, the DIVISION shall be entitled to any remedy provided herein, including but not limited to, a finding of CONTRACTOR non-responsibility.

Request for Waiver

- A. Prior to submission of a request for a partial or total waiver, the CONTRACTOR shall contact the Division's Contracts Office (contracts@budget.ny.gov) for guidance.
- B. In accordance with 9 NYCRR § 252.2(m), a CONTRACTOR that is able to document good faith efforts to meet the goal requirements, as set forth in the Required Good Faith Efforts clause below, may submit a request for a partial or total waiver on Form SDVOB 200, accompanied by supporting documentation. A CONTRACTOR may submit the request for waiver at the same time it submits its SDVOB Utilization Plan. If a request for waiver is submitted with the SDVOB Utilization Plan and is not

accepted by the Division at that time, the provisions of Paragraphs (C), (D) & (E) of the SDVOB Utilization Plan clause will apply. If the documentation included with the CONTRACTOR's waiver request is complete, the Division shall evaluate the request and issue a written notice of acceptance or denial within 20 days of receipt.

- C. CONTRACTOR shall attempt to utilize, in good faith, the SDVOBs identified within its SDVOB Utilization Plan, during the performance of the SOW. Requests for a partial or total waiver of established goal requirements made subsequent to Contract award may be made at any time during the term of the AGREEMENT to the DIVISION, but must be made no later than prior to the submission of a request for final payment on the AGREEMENT.
- D. If the Division, upon review of the SDVOB Utilization Plan and Monthly SDVOB Compliance Report (SDVOB 101) determines that CONTRACTOR is failing or refusing to comply with the contract goals established in the SOW, and no waiver has been issued in regards to such non-compliance, the Division may issue a notice of deficiency to the CONTRACTOR. The CONTRACTOR must respond to the notice of deficiency within seven business days of receipt. Such response may include a request for partial or total waiver of SDVOB contract goals.
- E. Waiver requests should be sent to the DIVISION.

Required Good Faith Efforts

In accordance with 9 NYCRR § 252.2(n), CONTRACTOR must document their good faith efforts toward utilizing SDVOBs on any SOW under the AGREEMENT. Evidence of required good faith efforts shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

1. Copies of solicitations to SDVOBs and any responses thereto.
2. Explanation of the specific reasons each SDVOB that responded to CONTRACTOR's solicitation was not selected.
3. Dates of any pre-bid, pre-award or other meetings attended by CONTRACTOR, if any, scheduled by the DIVISION with certified SDVOBs whom the DIVISION determined were capable of fulfilling the SDVOB goals set in the SOW under the AGREEMENT.
4. Information describing the specific steps undertaken to reasonably structure the SOW under the AGREEMENT for the purpose of subcontracting with, or obtaining supplies from, certified SDVOBs.
5. Other information deemed relevant to the waiver request.

Monthly SDVOB CONTRACTOR Compliance Report

In accordance with 9 NYCRR § 252.2(q), CONTRACTOR is required to report Monthly SDVOB Contractor Compliance to the DIVISION during the term of the AGREEMENT for the preceding month's activity, documenting progress made towards achieving the SDVOB goals established under each SOW. This information must be submitted using

form SDVOB 101 and should be completed by the CONTRACTOR and submitted to the DIVISION by the 10th day of the month during the term of the AGREEMENT for the preceding month's activity to the Division's Contracts Office at contracts@budget.ny.gov.

Breach of Contract and Damages

In accordance with 9 NYCRR § 252.2(s), any CONTRACTOR found to have willfully and intentionally failed to comply with the SDVOB participation goals set forth in the SOW under the AGREEMENT, shall be found to have breached the AGREEMENT and CONTRACTOR shall pay damages as set forth therein.

XXVI. WAIVER, MODIFICATION, EXECUTION, OR SEVERABILITY

No waiver or modification of the AGREEMENT or any covenant, condition, or limitation herein contained shall be valid unless in writing and executed by the PARTIES hereto, and no evidence of any waiver or modification shall be offered or received in evidence in any action between the PARTIES hereto arising out of or affecting the AGREEMENT, or the rights or obligations of any PARTY hereunder, unless such waiver or modification is in writing, duly executed as aforesaid, and the PARTIES further agree that the provisions of the paragraph may not be waived except as herein set forth.

In the event that any provision of the AGREEMENT shall be declared void, voidable, illegal or invalid for any reason, such provision shall be of no force and effect only to the extent that it is so declared void, voidable, illegal or invalid. All of the provisions of the AGREEMENT not specifically found to be so deficient shall remain in full force and effect.

XXVII. CONDITIONS PRECEDENT

This AGREEMENT and any subsequent amendments to this AGREEMENT shall not be deemed executed, valid or binding unless and until approved in writing by the Offices of the Attorney General and State Comptroller.

XXVIII. USE BY OTHER STATE AGENCIES, PUBLIC AUTHORITIES OR ENTITIES

The DIVISION shall have the option to extend the terms and conditions related to the scope of services covered by this AGREEMENT to any other STATE agency, public authority or entities in New York.

XXIX. ADDITIONAL SERVICES

The DIVISION may, at any time, by written notice, request changes or additions to work or services within the general scope of this AGREEMENT (not to include professional services requiring licenses or specialized expertise such as engineering, architectural, and environmental consulting, abatement, treatment, and testing work) for unanticipated needs. If any such change or addition causes an increase or decrease in the cost of, or in the time required for, performance of this AGREEMENT, an equitable adjustment shall be agreed upon by the PARTIES and made in the price using the billing rates set forth in the AGREEMENT, and the CONTRACTOR shall be notified in writing

accordingly. A change to the scope of the AGREEMENT would be subject to the approval of the Office of the State Comptroller and Office of the Attorney General.

XXX. ENTIRE AGREEMENT

This AGREEMENT and the Appendices identified in this section (“Appendices”) constitute the entire AGREEMENT between the PARTIES hereto and no statement, promise, condition, understanding, inducement or representation, oral or written, expressed or implied, which is not contained herein shall be binding or valid. This AGREEMENT shall not be changed, modified or altered in any manner except by an instrument in writing executed by the PARTIES hereto. The Appendices are hereby made a part of this AGREEMENT as if fully set forth at length herein. In the event of any discrepancy, disagreement or ambiguity among the following documents, they shall be given preference in the following order to interpret and to resolve such discrepancy, disagreement or ambiguity:

- A. Appendix A – Standard Clauses for New York State Contracts dated June 2023;
- B. This AGREEMENT as it appears prior to the signature page incorporated herein;
- C. Appendix B – Request for Proposals dated December 2, 2024 including any amendments thereto; and
- D. Appendix C – CONTRACTOR’s Proposal in response to the RFP and any clarifications thereto.

XXXI. EXECUTORY CLAUSE

This AGREEMENT shall be deemed executory only to the extent of moneys annually appropriated and available for this purpose, and no liability on account thereof shall be incurred by the DIVISION beyond the amount appropriated. It is understood that neither this assignment nor any representation by any public employee or officer creates any legal or moral obligation to request to appropriate, or make available, moneys for the purpose of the AGREEMENT.

C _____

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, each of the PARTIES hereto has caused this AGREEMENT to be executed by its duly authorized officers on the day and year stated below.

Agency Certification

In addition to the acceptance of this AGREEMENT, I also certify that original copies of this signature page will be attached to all other exact copies of this contract.

Approved by:

By: _____

Name: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____

**NEW YORK STATE
DIVISION OF THE BUDGET**

By: _____

Name: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____

**Attorney General:
LETITIA JAMES**

By: _____

Date: _____

**State Comptroller:
THOMAS P. DINAPOLI**

By: _____

Date: _____

CORPORATE ACKNOWLEDGMENT FORM

The acknowledgment must be fully and properly executed by an authorized person. By signing you certify your express authority to sign on behalf of yourself, your company, or other entity and that all information provided is complete, true and accurate.

INDIVIDUAL, CORPORATION, PARTNERSHIP, OR LLC ACKNOWLEDGMENT

STATE OF _____ }
 : SS.:
COUNTY OF _____ }

On the ____ day of _____ in the year 20 ____, before me personally appeared _____, known to me to be the person who executed the foregoing instrument, who, being duly sworn by me did depose and say that he resides at _____,

Town of _____,
County of _____, State of _____; and
further that:

[Check One]

If an individual: he executed the foregoing instrument in his/her name and on his/her own behalf.

If a corporation: he is the _____ of _____, the corporation described in said instrument; that, by authority of the Board of Directors of said corporation, he is authorized to execute the foregoing instrument on behalf of the corporation for purposes set forth therein; and that, pursuant to that authority, he executed the foregoing instrument in the name of and on behalf of said corporation as the act and deed of said corporation.

If a partnership: he is the _____ of _____, the partnership described in said instrument; that, by the terms of said partnership, he is authorized to execute the foregoing instrument on behalf of the partnership for purposes set forth therein; and that, pursuant to that authority, he executed the foregoing instrument in the name of and on behalf of said partnership as the act and deed of said partnership.

If a limited liability company: he is a duly authorized member of _____, LLC, the limited liability company described in said instrument; that he is authorized to execute the foregoing instrument on behalf of the limited liability company for purposes set forth therein; and that, pursuant to that authority, he executed the foregoing instrument in the name of and on behalf of said limited liability company as the act and deed of said limited liability company.

Notary Public
Registration No. _____

State of: _____

POST AWARD FORMS:

CONTRACTOR DISCLOSURE FORMS SALES TAX CERTIFICATION INSTRUCTIONS COMPLIANCE WITH NYS WORKERS' COMPENSATION LAW

CONTRACTOR DISCLOSURE FORMS

Chapter 10 of the Laws of 2006 amended the Civil Service Law and the State Finance Law, relative to maintaining certain information concerning contract employees working under State agency service and consulting contracts. State agency consultant contracts are defined as "contracts entered into by a state agency for analysis, evaluation, research, training, data processing, computer programming, engineering, environmental health and mental health services, accounting, auditing, paralegal, legal, or similar services" ("covered consultant contract" or "covered consultant services"). The amendments also require that certain contract employee information be provided to the state agency awarding such contracts, the Office of the State Comptroller (OSC), Division of the Budget and the Department of Civil Service (CS).

To meet these new requirements, the selected Firm agrees to complete:

Form A – Contractor's Planned Employment Form. The successful Contractor must complete this form upon notification of **selection by the Division**.

Form B – Contractor's Annual Employment Report. Throughout the term of the Contract by May 15th of each year the Contractor agrees to report the following information to the Division. For each covered consultant contract in effect at any time between the preceding April 1st through March 31st fiscal year or for the period of time such contract was in effect during such prior State fiscal year Contractor reports the:

1. Total number of employees employed to provide the consultant services, by employment category.
2. Total number of hours worked by such employees.
3. Total compensation paid to all employees that performed consultant services under such Contract.*

*NOTE: The information to be reported is applicable only to those employees who are directly providing services or directly performing covered consultant services. However, such information shall also be provided relative to employees of Subcontractors who perform any part of the service contract or any part of the covered consultant contract. This information does not have to be collected and reported in circumstances where there is ancillary involvement of an employee in a clerical, support, organizational or other administrative capacity.

Contractor agrees to simultaneously report such information to the Department of Civil Service and the Office of the State Comptroller as designated below:

Department of Civil Service
Alfred E. Smith State Office Building
Albany, NY 12239

Office of the State Comptroller
Bureau of Contracts
110 State St., 11th Floor
Albany, New York
Attn: Consultant Reporting

Contractor is advised herein and understands that this information is available for public inspection and copying pursuant to §87 of the New York State Public Officers Law (Freedom of Information Law). In the event individual employee names or social security numbers are set forth on a document, the State agency making such disclosure is obligated to redact both the name and social security number prior to disclosure.

Further information regarding the Contractor Consultant Law requirements and report Forms A and B is available in the Office of the State Comptroller's Guide to Finance Operations, Chapter XI, Section 18.C: <http://www.osc.state.ny.us/agencies/guide/MyWebHelp>.

SALES TAX CERTIFICATION INSTRUCTIONS

The Tax Law was amended to require contractors with State agencies to certify to the Department of Taxation and Finance (DTF) that they, their affiliates, their subcontractors and the affiliates of their subcontractors have a valid certificate of authority to collect New York State and local sales and compensating use taxes. Tax Law Section 5-a applies to all contracts in excess of **\$100,000** for the purchase by a covered agency of commodities or services, awarded pursuant to Article XI of the State Finance Law.

The successful Contractor must complete Contractor Certification Form ST-220-CA upon notification of selection by the Division. This certification to the procuring agency, also made under penalty of perjury, states that the requisite (ST-220-TD) certification has been made to DTF and, to the best of the Contractor's knowledge, that the requisite (ST-220-TD) certification is correct and complete.

If Contractor has any questions regarding either forms, ST-220-CA or ST-220-TD, the New York State Comptroller's Guide to Financial Operations will provide background information and the forms (<http://www.osc.state.ny.us/agencies/guide/MyWebHelp/#XI/18/D.htm?Highlight=st-220>).

Contractors can refer to the Department of Taxation and Finance website, or the NYS Tax Law, Section 5-a, *Contractor Affiliate, Subcontractor, and Subcontractor Affiliate Sales and Compensating Use Tax Registration* for additional information and guidance.

COMPLIANCE WITH NYS WORKERS' COMPENSATION LAW

Sections 57 and 220 of the New York State Workers' Compensation Law (WCL) provide that the Division of the Budget shall not enter into any contract unless proof of workers' compensation and disability benefits insurance coverage is produced. Prior to entering into a contract with the Division, successful Firms will be required to verify, on forms authorized by the New York State Workers' Compensation Board, that they are properly insured or are otherwise in compliance with the insurance provisions of the WCL. The forms used to demonstrate compliance with the WCL are indicated below.

Please Note: *The insurance provider of the successful contractor must submit this insurance verification information upon notification of selection by the Division. Any questions relating to either workers' compensation or disability benefits coverage should be directed to the State of New York Workers' Compensation Board, Bureau of Compliance at (518) 486-6307. Failure to comply with the requirements of this appendix will be grounds for disqualification of an otherwise successful bid.*

Workers' Compensation Requirements under WCL § 57:

To comply with coverage provisions of the WCL, Contractor must:

- A) Be legally exempt from obtaining workers' compensation insurance coverage; OR
- B) Obtain such coverage from insurance carriers; OR
- C) Be a Board-approved self-insured employee or participate in an authorized group self-insurance plan.

To verify compliance with the above, the DIVISION must receive one of the following properly executed Workers' Compensation Board forms from the Contractor, the Contractor's insurance carrier or the Workers' Compensation Board, depending on which form is appropriate:

- 1) CE-200, Certificate of Attestation of Exemption from NYS Workers' Compensation and/or Disability Benefits Coverage. This form is completed electronically on the Board's website and printed out, http://www.wcb.ny.gov/content/ebiz/wc_db_exemptions/wc_db_exemptions.jsp; OR
- 2) C-105.2 – Certificate of Workers' Compensation Insurance. The Contractor's insurance carrier sends this form to the DIVISION. PLEASE NOTE: The State Insurance Fund provides its own version of this form, the U-26.3; OR
- 3) SI-12 – Certificate of Workers' Compensation Self-Insurance. The Contractor contacts the Board's Self-Insurance Office at 518-402-0247 to obtain this form; OR

- 4) GSI-105.2 – Certificate of Participation in Worker’s Compensation Group Self-Insurance. Contractor’s Group Self-Insurance Administrator sends this form to the DIVISION.

Disability Benefits Requirements under WCL § 220(8):

To comply with the coverage provisions of the WCL regarding disability benefits, Contractor may:

- A) Be legally exempt from obtaining disability benefits insurance coverage; OR
- B) Obtain such coverage from insurance carriers; OR
- C) Be a Board-approved self-insured employer.

To verify compliance with the above, the DIVISION must receive one of the following properly executed Workers’ Compensation Board forms from the Contractor, the Contractor’s insurance carrier or the Workers’ Compensation Board, depending on which form is appropriate:

- 1) CE-200, Certificate of Attestation of Exemption from NYS Workers’ Compensation and/or Disability Benefits Coverage. This form is completed electronically on the Board’s website and printed out, http://www.wcb.ny.gov/content/ebiz/wc_db_exemptions/wc_db_exemptions.jsp; **OR**
- 2) DB-120.1 – Certificate of Disability Benefits Insurance. The business’s insurance carrier sends this form to the DIVISION; **OR**
- 3) DB-155 – Certificate of Disability Benefits Self-Insurance. The Contractor contacts the Board’s Self-Insurance Office at 518-402-0247 to obtain this form.

**APPENDIX C: PROPOSAL CHECKLIST
Management Consulting Services RFP**

Firm Name

Date

Technical Proposal

- | | | | | | |
|----|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|-------|----|-------|
| 1. | Did the Firm provide an electronic version of the Technical Proposal? | Yes | _____ | No | _____ |
| 2. | Does the proposal contain all components of the Technical Proposal, as stated below? | Yes | _____ | No | _____ |
| A. | Table of Contents | Yes | _____ | No | _____ |
| B. | Executive Summary | Yes | _____ | No | _____ |
| C. | Documentation of Minimum Qualifications | Yes | _____ | No | _____ |
| D. | Firm Experience and Qualifications | Yes | _____ | No | _____ |
| | • Summary of technical expertise and capabilities and ability to apply expertise in fifteen (15) Policy Areas | Yes | _____ | No | _____ |
| | • Provide two (2) cases studies in the following areas (no more than 5 pages per case study) | Yes | _____ | No | _____ |
| | • Case study focused on a major health care or transportation project | Yes | _____ | No | _____ |
| | • Case study focused on a major project in one of other Policy Areas | Yes | _____ | No | _____ |
| E. | Staff Experience and Qualifications | | | | |
| | • Identify core staff, provide a description of each member's functional area of responsibility and qualifications and experience of staff | Yes | _____ | No | _____ |
| | • Summary of access to talent | Yes | _____ | No | _____ |
| | • Staff resumes | Yes | _____ | No | _____ |
| F. | Reference Letters | | | | |
| | • At least two (2) letters of reference for Firm's engagements, and one (1) letter of reference each for Engagement Partner and Project Manager | Yes | _____ | No | _____ |
| 3. | Excluding table of contents, staff resumes, and letters of reference, is the Technical Proposal 25 pages or fewer? | Yes | _____ | No | _____ |

Cost Proposal

- | | | | | | |
|----|------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|-------|----|-------|
| 1. | Did the Firm provide an electronic version of the Cost Proposal? | Yes | _____ | No | _____ |
| 2. | Did the Firm complete and sign Form 1 Cost Proposal Form? | Yes | _____ | No | _____ |

Administrative Proposal

- | | | | | | |
|----|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|-------|----|-------|
| 1. | Did the Firm provide an electronic version of the Administrative Proposal? | Yes | _____ | No | _____ |
| 2. | Did the Firm submit signed copies of: | | | | |
| | • Form 2: Firm Information and Attestation | Yes | _____ | No | _____ |
| | • Form 3: Non-Collusive Bidding Certification | Yes | _____ | No | _____ |

- Form 4: Firm Assurances of No Conflict of Interest or Detrimental Effect Yes _____ No _____
- Form 5: MWBE and Equal Employment Opportunities Requirements, Forms 5.1, 5.2, 5.3 and 5.4 Yes _____ No _____
- Form 6: Response to the Diversity Practices Questionnaire, with supporting documentation Yes _____ No _____
- Form 7: Vendor Responsibility Questionnaire (hardcopy or submitted electronically in the State's VendRep system) for the Firm and any subcontractor anticipated to receive a subcontract in excess of \$100,000 Yes _____ No _____
- Form 8: Procurement Lobbying Form Yes _____ No _____
- Form 9: Disclosure of Pending or Prior Lawsuits, Conflicts of Interest, or Investigations or Disciplinary Actions Yes _____ No _____
- Form 10: Freedom of Information Law Redaction Request Yes _____ No _____
- Form 11: Executive Order No. 177 Certification Yes _____ No _____
- Form 12: Sexual Harassment Prevention Certification Yes _____ No _____
- Form 13: Executive Order No. 16 Certification Yes _____ No _____

FORM 1.1: COST PROPOSAL

Management Consulting Services RFP

Please submit an electronic copy as part of your proposal, to the addressee noted in Section 2.5 (Submission of a Complete Three-Part Proposal).

The Cost Proposal is an integral component of a Firm's three-part submission. Firms should take particular care to ensure the Cost Proposal is completed fully and in complete accordance with the instructions. Firms are advised to submit questions about or requests for clarification of the Cost Proposal by **Thursday December 12, 2024**, the due date for submission of Firm Inquiries.

The Cost Proposal Form must be completed in its entirety according to the following instructions:

- **The Cost Proposal must include a not-to-exceed hourly rate (U.S. dollars) for each title described below and each Contract Year listed in Form 1.2. Do not leave blanks or enter a zero dollar amount for any rate.**
- Firms are required to use the titles provided, even if these titles are not consistent with the Firm's existing titles.
- **The Cost Proposal should include only one rate for each title in each contract year.**
- Each person proposed to perform services in response to this RFP should be listed next to the corresponding title provided on the Form.
- Hourly fees must include reproduction, travel, postage and any other expenses related to these services.
- The Cost Proposal Form must be signed by an individual authorized to bind the bidding Firm contractually.
- **Please note, if the information requested on Form 1.2 is not complete, the Division may not be able to calculate a cost score, and the proposal may be rejected as non-responsive.**

Description of Titles

The following represents the general descriptions for the staffing categories to be utilized in the Firm's proposal.

Qualifications of Engagement Partner

The Engagement Partner will serve as the Firm's engagement manager. Individuals named to this title must have significant direct experience in providing management consulting services to a government entity, including but not limited to those services specifically outlined in Section 1.2 of the RFP. This individual must also be available to meet with Division staff in Albany, NY.

Qualifications of Subject Matter Expert:

The Subject Matter Expert must have expert level experience in providing management consulting services in specific subject matters, including but not limited to those outlined in Section 1.2, relevant the needs of the Division. The Subject Matter Expert must have at least five years of experience in their area of specialty with a minimum of two years experience in public sector projects.

Qualifications of Project Manager:

The Project Manager will be responsible for developing a project work plan and a schedule for deliverables, coordinating and delegating the assignments for consultant staff, and serving as the point of contact for the Division regarding new issues, project status, meetings, and deliverables. The Project Manager must have at least five years of experience in management consulting work, with a minimum of two years experience in public sector projects.

Qualifications of Senior Business Analyst:

The Senior Business Analyst working under the Project Manager will be responsible for the analysis of management consulting issues on which the Division seeks advice or guidance. These issues include, but are not limited to those outlined in Section 1.2 of the RFP. The Senior Business Analyst must have at least three years experience in management consulting work, with a minimum of one year in public sector projects.

Qualifications of the Business Analyst:

The Business Analyst, working under the Project Manager and with the Senior Business Analyst, will serve in a capacity similar to that of the Senior Business Analyst. The Business Analyst must have at least two years experience in management consulting work (public sector experience preferred).

Qualifications of the Junior Business Analyst:

The Business Analyst will assist in the completion of day-to-day project activities under the supervision of the Senior Business Analyst or Business Analyst. The Analyst should possess a Bachelor's degree and some experience in management consulting work (public sector experience preferred).

FORM 1.2 – COST PROPOSAL FORM
NYS Division of the Budget
Request for Proposals: Management Consulting Services

Firm Name: _____

Fee Schedule

Job Title	Name (s)	Contract Year 1 2025-26	Contract Year 2 2026-27	Contract Year 3 2027-28	Contract Year 4 2028-29	Contract Year 5 2029-30
Engagement Partner						
Subject Matter Expert						
Project Manager						
Senior Business Analyst						
Business Analyst						
Junior Business Analyst						

Authorized Signatory for the Firm

Name (print or type)

Title

Date

FORM 2: FIRM INFORMATION AND ATTESTATION

PLEASE SUBMIT WITH ADMINISTRATIVE PROPOSAL

Please Note: A "No" response to questions three through seven (3-7) may be grounds for disqualification from this procurement.

RFP Name: <u>Management Consulting Services</u>				
Proposal Date: <u>December 30, 2024 @ 12:00 PM ET</u>				
1	Information Regarding the Firm's Firm:	Name: _____ Address: _____ City, State, Zip Code: _____ Telephone Number: _____ Taxpayer ID: _____ NYS Vendor ID: _____		
2	Primary Contact Concerning this Proposal:	Name: _____ Title: _____ Address: _____ City, State, Zip Code: _____ Telephone Number: _____ Email address: _____		
3	Irrevocable Offer:	The rates quoted are an irrevocable offer that is good through the execution of a contract.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
4	Willingness to Perform All Services:	The Firm is willing to, and capable of performing all of the deliverables and services described in this RFP.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
5	Firm Guarantees:	The Firm certifies it can and will provide and make available, at a minimum, all services set forth in the RFP.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
6	Firm Warranties:	1. Firm warrants that it is willing and able to comply with New York laws with respect to foreign (non-New York) corporations. 2. Firm warrants that it is willing and able to obtain an errors and omissions insurance policy providing a prudent amount of coverage for the willful or negligent acts, or omissions of any officers, employees or agents thereof. 3. Firm warrants that it will not delegate or subcontract its responsibilities under an agreement without the written permission of the Division. 4. Firm warrants that all information provided by it in connection with this proposal is true and accurate.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
7	RFP and Contractual Requirements:	1. The Firm agrees to be bound by the Contractual Requirements found in Section 5 of the RFP. 2. The Firm has read Section 6, Reservation of Rights, and agrees that the rights and prerogatives as detailed in that Section are retained by the Division of the Budget. 3. The Firm has read, understands, and accepts the provisions of Appendix A, Standard Clauses for NYS	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No

		<p align="center">Contracts, and Appendix B, Sample Contract, without change or amendment.</p>		
<p>8</p>	<p>By my signature on this Firm Information and Attestation, I certify that I am authorized to bind the Firm contractually and that the above information is true and accurate.</p> <hr/> <p>Typed or Printed Name of Authorized Representative of the Firm</p> <hr/> <p>Title/Position of Authorized Representative of the Firm</p> <hr/> <p>Signature</p> <hr/> <p>Date</p>			

FORM 3: NON-COLLUSIVE BIDDING CERTIFICATION

In accordance with New York State Finance Law, § 139-d, by submitting its bid, each Firm and each person signing on behalf of any other Firm certifies, and in the case of a joint bid, each party thereto certifies as to its own organization, under penalty of perjury, that to the best of his or her knowledge and belief:

- 1) The prices of this bid have been arrived at independently, without collusion, consultation, communication, or agreement, for the purposes of restricting competition, as to any matter relating to such prices with any other Firm or with any competitor;
- 2) Unless otherwise required by law, the prices which have been quoted in this bid have not been knowingly disclosed by the Firm and will not knowingly be disclosed by the Firm prior to opening, directly or indirectly, to any other Firm or to any competitor; and
- 3) No attempt has been made or will be made by the Firm to induce any other person, partnership or corporation to submit or not to submit a bid for the purpose of restricting competition.

Name: _____ Title: _____

Signature: _____

Joint or combined bids by Companies or Firms must be certified on behalf of each participant.

Legal name of Person, Firm or Corporation

Name: _____

Title: _____

Legal name of Person, Firm or Corporation

Name: _____

Title: _____

FORM 4: FIRM ASSURANCES OF NO CONFLICT OF INTEREST OR DETRIMENTAL EFFECT

The Firm offering to provide services pursuant to this RFP, as a contractor, joint venture contractor, or subcontractor, or consultant, attests that its performance of the services outlined in this RFP does not and will not create a conflict of interest with nor position the Firm to breach any other contract currently in force with the State of New York.

Furthermore, the Firm attests that it will not act in any manner that is detrimental to any State project on which the Firm is rendering services. Specifically, the Firm attests that:

- a. The fulfillment of obligations by the Firm, as proposed in the response, does not violate any existing contracts or agreements between the Firm and the State;
- b. The fulfillment of obligations by the Firm, as proposed in the response, does not and will not create any conflict of interest, or perception thereof, with any current role or responsibility that the Firm has with regard to any existing contracts or agreements between the Firm and the State;
- c. The fulfillment of obligations by the Firm, as proposed in the response, does not and will not compromise the Firm's ability to carry out its obligations under any existing contracts between the Firm and the State;
- d. The fulfillment of any other contractual obligations that the Firm has with the State will not affect or influence its ability to perform under any contract with the State resulting from this RFP;
- e. During the negotiation and execution of any contract resulting from this RFP, the Firm will not knowingly take any action or make any decision which creates a potential for conflict of interest or might cause a detrimental impact to the State as a whole including, but not limited to, any action or decision to divert resources from one State project to another;
- f. In fulfilling obligations under each of its State contracts, including any contract which results from this RFP, the Firm will act in accordance with the terms of each of its State contracts and will not knowingly take any action or make any decision which might cause a detrimental impact to the State as a whole including, but not limited to, any action or decision to divert resources from one State project to another;
- g. No former officer or employee of the State who is now employed by the Firm, nor any former officer or employee of the Firm who is now employed by the State, has played a role with regard to the administration of this contract procurement in a manner that may violate section 73(8)(a) of the State Ethics Law; and
- h. The Firm has not and shall not offer to any employee, member or director of the State any gift, whether in the form of money, service, loan, travel, entertainment, hospitality, thing or promise, or in any other form, under circumstances in which it could reasonably be inferred that the gift was intended to influence said employee, member or director, or could reasonably be expected to influence said employee, member or

director, in the performance of the official duty of said employee, member or director or was intended as a reward for any official action on the part of said employee, member or director.

Firms responding to this Request for Proposals should note that the Division recognizes that conflicts may occur in the future because a Firm may have existing or new relationships. The Division will review the nature of any such new relationship and reserves the right to terminate the contract for cause if, in its judgment, a real or potential conflict of interest cannot be cured.

Firm Name: _____

Name, Title: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

This form must be signed by an authorized executive or legal representative.

**FORM 5: MWBE AND EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES REQUIREMENTS
CONTRACTOR REQUIREMENTS AND PROCEDURES FOR PARTICIPATION BY
NEW YORK STATE EXECUTIVE LAW, ARTICLE 15-A (PARTICIPATION BY
MINORITY GROUP MEMBERS AND WOMEN WITH RESPECT TO STATE
CONTRACTS)**

By submitting a bid or proposal, a Firm will be required to submit the following documents and information as evidence of compliance with the requirements and procedures established in Section 9 of this RFP:

- A. Firm agrees to submit with the bid a Workforce Composition Plan (Form 5.1) identifying the anticipated work force to be utilized on the Contract and if awarded a Contract, will, upon request, submit to the Division, a workforce utilization report identifying the workforce actually utilized on the Contract if known.
- B. Firms are required to submit an MWBE Utilization Plan (Form 5.2) and Notice of Intent to Participate (Form 5.3) with their bid or proposal. Any modifications or changes to the MWBE Utilization Plan after the Contract award and during the term of the Contract must be reported on a revised MWBE Utilization Plan and submitted to the Division.
- C. The Division will review the submitted MWBE Utilization Plan and advise the Firm of the Division's acceptance or issue a notice of deficiency within 30 days of receipt.
- D. If a notice of deficiency is issued, Firm agrees that it shall respond to the notice of deficiency within seven (7) business days of receipt by submitting to the Division, a written remedy in response to the notice of deficiency. If the written remedy that is submitted is not timely or is found by the Division to be inadequate, the Division shall notify the Firm and direct the Firm to submit, within five (5) business days, a request for a partial or total waiver of MWBE participation goals on the Request for Waiver form. Failure to file the waiver form in a timely manner may be grounds for disqualification of the bid or proposal.
- E. The Division may disqualify a Firm as being non-responsive under the following circumstances:
 - 1. If a Firm fails to submit a MWBE Utilization Plan;
 - 2. If a Firm fails to submit a written remedy to a notice of deficiency;
 - 3. If a Firm fails to submit a request for waiver; or
 - 4. If Division determines that the Firm has failed to document good faith efforts.
- F. Firms are required to submit a Minority- and Women-owned Business Enterprise and Equal Employment Opportunity Policy Statement, Form 5.4, to the Division with its bid or proposal. If Firm, or any of its subcontractors, does not have an EEO Policy, the Division may require the Contractor or subcontractor to adopt the attached model statement.

Please Note: Failure to comply with the requirements may result in a finding of non-responsiveness, non-responsibility and/or a breach of the Contract, leading to the withholding of funds, suspension or termination of the Contract or such other actions of enforcement proceedings as allowed by the Contract.

Attachments:

- Form 5.1 – Workforce Composition Form
- Form 5.2 – Firm’s intended Utilization Plan for MWBE subcontractor participation. The successful Firm will be required to formally submit the Utilization Plan within three days of notification of selection.
- Form 5.3 – Notice of Intent to Participate
- Form 5.4 –Equal Employment Opportunity Policy Statement - If Firm, or any of its subcontractors, does not have an existing EEO policy statement, the Division may require the Firm or subcontractor to adopt the attached model statement.
- Form 5.5 – Request for Waiver Form

FORM 5.1: WORKFORCE COMPOSITION FORM

INSTRUCTIONS: All Firms submitting responses to this procurement must complete and submit this Workforce Composition Form as part of their proposal. Firms should include only the staff that will provide services under this procurement.																				
Firm Name:												Federal Identification No.:								
Address:												Procurement No.:								
City, State, Zip Code:																				
Description of Work:																				
Enter the total number of incumbents by race, sex, and ethnic group status in each of the EEO – Job Categories identified. See below for information regarding race/ethnicity identification and protected class group members.																				
EEO – JOB CATEGORY	TOTAL	MALE (M)	FEMALE (F)	WHITE		BLACK		HISPANIC		ASIAN		NATIVE AMERICAN		DISABLED		VETERAN				
				M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F					
Officials/Administrators																				
Professionals																				
Technicians																				
Sales Workers																				
Office/Clerical																				
Craft Workers																				
Laborers																				
Service Workers																				
_____												_____								
PREPARED BY (Signature)												Date								
_____												_____								
PRINTED OR TYPED NAME AND TITLE OF PREPARER												TELEPHONE NO.			EMAIL ADDRESS					

CLASS DEFINITIONS

Hispanic – All persons of Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Central or South American, or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race.

American Indian or Alaskan Native – All persons having origins in any of the original peoples of North America, and who maintain cultural identification through tribal affiliation or community recognition.

Vietnam Era Veteran – A veteran who served at any time between and including January 1, 1963 and May 7, 1975.

Black (Not of Hispanic origin) – All persons having origins in any of the Black racial groups of Africa.

Asian or Pacific Islander – All persons having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, the Indian Subcontinent, or the Pacific Islands. This area includes, for example, China, India, Japan, Korea, the Philippine Islands, and Samoa.

Disabled Individual – Any person having a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activity, has a record of such an impairment; or is regarded as having such an impairment.

FORM 5.2: MWBE UTILIZATION PLAN

INSTRUCTIONS: All Firms submitting responses to this procurement must complete this MWBE Utilization Plan and submit it as part of their proposal. The Plan must contain a detailed description of the services to be provided by each Minority and/or Woman-Owned Business Enterprise (MWBE) identified by the Firm.

Firm Name:	Federal Identification No.:
Address:	Procurement No.:
City, State, Zip Code:	MWBE Goals: MBE: 15% WBE: 15%

1. MWBE Subcontractors/Suppliers Name, Address, Email Address, Telephone No.	2. Classification	3. Federal ID No.	4. Detailed Description of Work (Attach additional sheets, if necessary.)	5. Dollar Value of Subcontracts/Supplies
A.	NYS ESD Certified <input type="checkbox"/> MBE <input type="checkbox"/> WBE			
B.	NYS ESD Certified <input type="checkbox"/> MBE <input type="checkbox"/> WBE			

6. WAIVER REQUESTED: MBE: YES NO If YES, submit Attachment A-5.5. WBE: YES NO If YES, submit Attachment A-5.5.

PREPARED BY (Signature): _____	TELEPHONE NO.:	EMAIL ADDRESS:
NAME AND TITLE OF PREPARER (Print or Type): _____		
DATE: _____ Firm's Certification Status: <input type="checkbox"/> MBE <input type="checkbox"/> WBE		

<p>SUBMISSION OF THIS FORM CONSTITUTES THE FIRM'S ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND AGREEMENT TO COMPLY WITH THE MWBE REQUIREMENTS SET FORTH UNDER NYS EXECUTIVE LAW, ARTICLE 15-A. FAILURE TO SUBMIT COMPLETE AND ACCURATE INFORMATION MAY RESULT IN NONCOMPLIANCE AND/OR PROPOSAL DISQUALIFICATION.</p>	*****FOR DOB USE ONLY*****	
	REVIEWED BY:	DATE:
	UTILIZATION PLAN APPROVED: <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO Date: _____	
	MBE CERTIFIED: <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO WBE CERTIFIED: <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO WAIVER GRANTED: <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO Total Waiver <input type="checkbox"/> Partial Waiver <input type="checkbox"/> NOTICE OF DEFICIENCY ISSUED: <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO Date: _____	

**FORM 5.3: MWBE SUBCONTRACTORS AND SUPPLIERS NOTICE OF INTENT TO PARTICIPATE
NEW YORK STATE DIVISION OF THE BUDGET**

INSTRUCTIONS: A separate Notice of Intent to Participate must be completed by each MWBE identified on the MWBE Utilization Plan (Form 4.3). Parts A & C must be completed by the Firm and Part B must be completed by MBE and/or WBE subcontractors/suppliers. Signed and completed form(s) must be returned as part of your proposal.

PART A

Firm Name: _____ Federal Identification No.: _____
 Address: _____ Telephone No.: _____
 City, State, Zip Code: _____ Email Address: _____

PART B

THE UNDERSIGNED INTENDS TO PROVIDE SERVICES OR SUPPLIES IN CONNECTION WITH THE ABOVE PROCUREMENT:

Name of MWBE: _____ Federal Identification No.: _____

 Address: _____ Telephone No.: _____

 City, State, Zip Code: _____ Email Address: _____

DESCRIPTION OF SERVICES OR SUPPLIES:

DESIGNATION: MBE Subcontractor WBE Subcontractor MBE Supplier WBE Supplier

PART C

WAIVER Requested: MBE: YES NO If YES, submit Attachment A-5.5. WBE: YES NO If YES, submit Attachment A-5.5.

THE QUALIFICATION OF THE UNDERSIGNED AS A MBE AND/OR WBE IS CONFIRMED (CHECK ONE):

- The undersigned is a certified MWBE by the New York State Division of Minority and Woman-Owned Business Development (MWBD) (copy of certifying letter attached).
- The undersigned has applied to New York State's Division of Minority and Woman-Owned Business Development (MWBD) for MWBE certification.

THE UNDERSIGNED IS PREPARED TO PROVIDE SERVICES OR SUPPLIES AS DESCRIBED ABOVE AND WILL ENTER INTO A FORMAL AGREEMENT WITH THE FIRM CONDITIONED UPON THE FIRM'S EXECUTION OF A CONTRACT WITH THE DIVISION OF THE BUDGET.

The estimated dollar amount of the agreement is: \$ _____

 Signature of Authorized Representative of MWBE Firm

Date: _____

 Printed or Typed Name and Title of Authorized Representative of MWBE Firm

**FORM 5.4: MINORITY AND WOMEN-OWNED BUSINESS ENTERPRISES –
EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY POLICY STATEMENT**

M/WBE AND EEO POLICY STATEMENT

I, _____, the (awardee/contractor) _____ agree to adopt the following policies with respect to the project being developed or services rendered at _____

M/WBE

EEO

This organization will and will cause its contractors and subcontractors to take good faith actions to achieve the M/WBE contract participations goals set by the State for that area in which the State-funded project is located, by taking the following steps:

- (1) Actively and affirmatively solicit bids for contracts and subcontracts from qualified State certified MBEs or WBEs, including solicitations to M/WBE contractor associations.
- (2) Request a list of State-certified M/WBEs from AGENCY and solicit bids from them directly.
- (3) Ensure that plans, specifications, request for proposals and other documents used to secure bids will be made available in sufficient time for review by prospective M/WBEs.
- (4) Where feasible, divide the work into smaller portions to enhanced participations by M/WBEs and encourage the formation of joint venture and other partnerships among M/WBE contractors to enhance their participation.
- (5) Document and maintain records of bid solicitation, including those to M/WBEs and the results thereof. The Contractor will also maintain records of actions that its subcontractors have taken toward meeting M/WBE contract participation goals.
- (6) Ensure that progress payments to M/WBEs are made on a timely basis so that undue financial hardship is avoided, and that bonding and other credit requirements are waived or appropriate alternatives developed to encourage M/WBE participation.

- (a) This organization will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, age, disability or marital status, will undertake or continue existing programs of affirmative action to ensure that minority group members are afforded equal employment opportunities without discrimination, and shall make and document its conscientious and active efforts to employ and utilize minority group members and women in its work force on state contracts.
- (b) This organization shall state in all solicitation or advertisements for employees that in the performance of the State contract all qualified applicants will be afforded equal employment opportunities without discrimination because of race, creed, color, national origin, sex disability or marital status.
- (c) At the request of the contracting agency, this organization shall request each employment agency, labor union, or authorized representative will not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, age, disability or marital status and that such union or representative will affirmatively cooperate in the implementation of this organization's obligations herein.
- (d) The Contractor shall comply with the provisions of the Human Rights Law, all other State and Federal statutory and constitutional non-discrimination provisions. The Contractor and subcontractors shall not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, creed (religion), color, sex, national origin, sexual orientation, military status, age, disability, predisposing genetic characteristic, marital status or domestic violence victim status, and shall also follow the requirements of the Human Rights Law with regard to non-discrimination on the basis of prior criminal conviction and prior arrest.
- (e) This organization will include the provisions of sections (a) through (d) of this agreement in every subcontract in such a manner that the requirements of the subdivisions will be binding upon each subcontractor as to work in connection with the State contract.

Agreed to this _____ day of _____, 2____ - _____

By: _____

Print: _____ Title: _____

_____ is designated as the Minority Business Enterprise Liaison
(Name of Designated Liaison)

responsible for administering the Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprises- Equal Employment Opportunity (M/WBE-EEO) program.

M/WBE Contract Goals

_____percent Minority and Women’s Business Enterprise Participation

_____percent Minority Business Enterprise Participation

_____percent Women’s Business Enterprise Participation

(Authorized Representative)

Title: _____

Date: _____

ATTACHMENT A-5.5: REQUEST FOR WAIVER FORM

INSTRUCTIONS: SEE PAGE 2 OF THIS ATTACHMENT FOR REQUIREMENTS AND DOCUMENT SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS.		
Firm Name:	Federal Identification No.:	
Address:	Procurement No.:	
City, State, Zip Code:	MWBE Subcontract Goals: MBE: 15% WBE: 15%	
By submitting this form and the required information, the company certifies that every Good Faith Effort has been taken to promote MWBE participation pursuant to the MWBE requirements set forth under this procurement.		
Firm is requesting a: <input type="checkbox"/> Total <input type="checkbox"/> Partial <input type="checkbox"/> Certification <input type="checkbox"/> Conditional		
1. <input type="checkbox"/> MBE Waiver – A waiver of the MBE Goal for this procurement is requested. 2. <input type="checkbox"/> WBE Waiver – A waiver of the WBE Goal for this procurement is requested. 3. <input type="checkbox"/> ESD Certification Waiver – A waiver of the requirement that the MBE/WBE be certified by Empire State Development (ESD). (Check here if MBE/WBE is NOT ESD certified.) 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Conditional Waiver – (Attach separate sheet outlining special conditions or extenuating circumstances.)		
_____	_____	
Prepared By (Signature)	Date	
_____	_____	_____
Printed or Typed Name and Title of Preparer	Telephone Number	Email Address
***** FOR DIVISION USE ONLY *****		
SUBMISSION OF THIS FORM CONSTITUTES THE FIRM'S ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND AGREEMENT TO COMPLY WITH THE MWBE REQUIREMENTS SET FORTH UNDER NYS EXECUTIVE LAW, ARTICLE 15-A. FAILURE TO SUBMIT COMPLETE AND ACCURATE INFORMATION MAY RESULT IN NONCOMPLIANCE AND/OR PROPOSAL DISQUALIFICATION.	REVIEWED BY:	DATE:
	MWBE Certified: <input type="checkbox"/> MWBE Not Certified: <input type="checkbox"/>	
	Waiver Granted: <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> Total Waiver <input type="checkbox"/> Partial Waiver <input type="checkbox"/> ESD Certification Waiver <input type="checkbox"/> *Conditional <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Deficiency	
	*Comments:	

MWBE REQUIREMENTS AND WAIVER SUBMISSION

When completing the Request for Waiver Form please check all boxes that apply. To be considered, the Request for Waiver Form must be accompanied by documentation for items 1 – 10, as listed below. Copies of the following information and all relevant supporting documentation must be submitted along with the request:

1. A statement setting forth your basis for requesting a partial or total waiver.
2. The names of general circulation, trade association, and MWBE-oriented publications in which you solicited MWBEs for the purposes of complying with your participation goals.
3. A list identifying the date(s) that all solicitations for MWBE participation were published in any of the above publications.
4. A list of all MWBEs appearing in the NYS Directory of Certified Firms that were solicited for purposes of complying with your MWBE participation levels.
5. Copies of notices, dates of contact, letters, and other correspondence as proof that solicitations were made in writing and copies of such solicitations, or a sample copy of the solicitation if an identical solicitation was made to all MWBEs.
6. Provide copies of responses made by MWBEs to your solicitations.
7. Provide a description of any contract documents, plans, or specifications made available to MWBEs for purposes of soliciting their bids and the date and manner in which these documents were made available.
8. Provide documentation of any negotiations between you, the Contractor, and the MWBEs undertaken for purposes of complying with your MWBE participation goals.
9. Provide any other information you deem relevant which may help us in evaluating your request for a waiver.
10. Provide the name, title, address, telephone number, and email address of contractor's representative authorized to discuss this waiver request.

Note: Unless a Total Waiver has been granted, Firms will be required to submit all reports and documents pursuant to the provisions set forth in the procurement and/or contract, as deemed appropriate by the Division, to determine MWBE compliance. In cases where the Division grants a full or partial waiver of MWBE participation goals, the waiver request will be posted to the Division's website.

FORM 6: MWBE DIVERSITY PRACTICES

Pursuant to New York State Executive Law §313-a, and 5 NYCRR §142.3, all agencies and authorities must evaluate the diversity practices of Firms to best value procurements expected to exceed \$250,000, whenever practical, feasible and appropriate. Evaluating diversity practices of Firms as part of the procurement process provides contractors with an incentive to develop mutually beneficial relationships with New York State certified MWBEs outside of the context of state contracting. These relationships help to build the capacity of MWBEs, and enhance their ability to perform ever increasing roles in state contracting.

Diversity practices are intended to be applied on procurements in which agency personnel exercise their subjective judgment in selecting one or more successful contractors on the basis of best value, not on procurements that are awarded based on lowest price.

For this procurement, the Division has determined, pursuant to New York State Executive Law Article 15-A, that the assessment of the diversity practices of Firms to this solicitation is practical, feasible and appropriate.

Accordingly, Firms are required to submit responses, including documentation, to the Diversity Practices Questionnaire, Form 6.1, to the Division as part of its Administrative Proposal. The questionnaire consists of eight (8) questions for Firms to answer. Please note that some questions request supporting documentation to support certain answers. A scoring rubric for the Diversity Practices Questionnaire can be found in Form 6.2

Attachments:

- Form 6.1 – Diversity Practices Questionnaire
- Form 6.2 – Diversity Practices Scoring Matrix

FORM 6.1: DIVERSITY PRACTICES QUESTIONNAIRE

I, _____, as _____ (title) of _____ firm or company (hereafter referred to as the company), swear and/or affirm under penalty of perjury that the answers submitted to the following questions are complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge:

1. Does your company have a Chief Diversity Officer or other individual who is tasked with supplier diversity initiatives? Yes or No

If Yes, provide the name, title, description of duties, and evidence of initiatives performed by this individual or individuals. No points will be awarded if the response simply identifies an individual or individuals.

2. What percentage of your company's gross revenues (from your prior fiscal year) was paid to New York State certified minority and/or women-owned business enterprises as subcontractors, suppliers, joint-venturers, partners or other similar arrangement for the provision of goods or services to your company's clients or customers?

3. What percentage of your company's overhead (i.e., those expenditures that are not directly related to the provision of goods or services to your company's clients or customers) or non-contract-related expenses (from your prior fiscal year) was paid to New York State certified minority- and women-owned business enterprises as suppliers/contractors?¹

4. Does your company provide technical training² to minority- and women-owned business enterprises? Yes or No

If Yes, provide a description of such training which should include, but not be limited to, the date the program was initiated, the names and the number of minority- and women-owned business enterprises participating in such training, the number of years such training has been offered and the number of hours per year for which such training occurs.

5. Is your company participating in a government approved minority- and women-owned business enterprise mentor-protégé program?

If Yes, identify the governmental mentoring program in which your company participates and provide government-generated evidence, such as an agreement or acceptance letter, demonstrating the extent of your company's commitment to the governmental mentoring program. Government-generated documentation supporting your company's participation in a mentoring program must be provided to receive points.

6. Does your company include specific quantitative goals for the utilization of minority- and women-owned business enterprises in its non-government procurements? Yes or No

If Yes, provide a description of such non-government procurements (including time period, goal, scope and dollar amount) and indicate the percentage of the goals that were attained.

¹ Do not include onsite project overhead.

² Technical training is the process of teaching employees how to more accurately and thoroughly perform the technical components of their jobs. Training can include technology applications, products, sales and service tactics, and more. Technical skills are job-specific as opposed to soft skills, which are transferable.

7. Does your company have a formal minority- and women-owned business enterprise supplier diversity program? Yes or No
If Yes, provide documentation of program activities and a copy of policy or program materials.

8. Does your company plan to enter into partnering or subcontracting agreements with New York State certified minority and women-owned business enterprises if selected as the successful respondent?
Yes or No
If Yes, complete the attached Utilization Plan

All information provided in connection with the questionnaire is subject to audit and any fraudulent statements are subject to criminal prosecution and debarment.

Signature of
Owner/Official _____

Printed Name of
Signatory _____

Title _____

Name of Business _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

STATE OF _____
COUNTY OF _____) ss:

On the _____ day of _____, 201_, before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for the State of _____, personally appeared _____, personally known to me or proved to me on the basis of satisfactory evidence to be the individual whose name is subscribed to this certification and said person executed this instrument.

Notary Public

FORM 6.2: DIVERSITY PRACTICES SCORING MATRIX

Question #1 CDO or other person tasked with function					Yes	No	Total
					5 pts	0 pts	
Question #2 Percentage of prior yr. revenues that involved M/WBEs as subs or JVs/partners	20%+	15-19%	10-14%	5-9%	1-4%	0%	
	20 pts	14 pts	10 pts	6 pts	2 pts	0pts	
Question #3 Percentage of overhead expenses paid to M/WBEs	20%+	15-19%	10-14%	5-9%	1-4%	0%	
	16 pts	10 pts	7 pts	4 pts	1 pts	0pts	
Question 4 M/WBE Training			Robust	Moderate	Minimum	None	
			16 pts	8 pts	4 pts	0 pts	
Question #5 M/WBE Mentoring			Robust	Moderate	Minimum	None	
			12 pts	8 pts	4 pts	0 pts	
Question #6 Written M/WBE goals included in the Company's procurements			Robust	Moderate	Minimum	No	
			20 pts	12 pts	6 pts	0 pts	
Question #7 Formal Supplier Diversity Program			Robust	Moderate	Minimum	No	
			6 pts	4 pts	2 pts	0 pts	
Question #8 Utilization Plan			Robust	Moderate	Minimum	No	
			5 pts	3 pts	1 pts	0 pts	
				Total Diversity Score (Max 100 pts)			
				Weighted Score (Max 4 pts.)			

FORM 7: VENDOR RESPONSIBILITY QUESTIONNAIRE INSTRUCTIONS

A contracting agency is required to conduct a review of a prospective contractor (and each subcontractor whose anticipated fees for the project are estimated to be over \$100,000) to provide reasonable assurances that the vendor is responsible. The Division of the Budget recommends that vendors file the required Vendor Responsibility Questionnaire online via the New York State VendRep System. To enroll in and use the New York State VendRep System, see the VendRep System Instructions available at <http://www.osc.state.ny.us/vendrep/index.htm>.

Vendors must provide their New York State Vendor Identification Number when enrolling. To request assignment of a Vendor ID or for VendRep System assistance, contact the Office of the State Comptroller's Help Desk at 866-370-4672 or 518-408-4672 or by email at ITServiceDesk@osc.state.ny.us.

Vendors opting to complete and submit a paper questionnaire can obtain the appropriate questionnaire from the VendRep website <http://www.osc.state.ny.us/vendrep/> or may contact the Division of the Budget or the Office of the State Comptroller's Help Desk for a copy of the paper form.

This questionnaire is designed to provide information to assist a contracting agency in assessing a vendor's responsibility prior to entering into a contract with the vendor. Vendor responsibility is determined by a review of each Firm or Firm's authorization to do business in New York, business integrity, financial and organizational capacity, and performance history.

Contractors (and subcontractors) must answer every question in the questionnaire and where appropriate additional information may be required for the questionnaire to be complete and accurate. The completed questionnaire and responses will become part of the procurement record.

It is imperative that the person completing the vendor responsibility questionnaire be knowledgeable about the proposing contractor's business and operations as the questionnaire information must be attested to by an owner or officer of the vendor.

Vendor Responsibility Questionnaire Requirement:

The Firm has (Please check the appropriate box):

Certified and filed the Vendor Responsibility Questionnaire on-line via the New York State VendRep System; **OR**

Included a properly executed paper copy of the Vendor Responsibility Questionnaire with the Administrative Proposal.

FORM 8: PROCUREMENT LOBBYING RESTRICTIONS

Pursuant to State Finance Law §§139-j and 139-k, certain restrictions are placed on contact with state agencies during the procurement process. The term “Contact” is defined by statute and refers to those oral, written or electronic communications that a reasonable person would infer are attempts to influence the governmental procurement. In addition to obtaining the required identifying information, the state agency must inquire and record whether the person or organization that made the contact was the Offerer or was retained, employed or designated on behalf of the Offerer to appear before or contact the Governmental Entity.

The “Restricted Period” is the period of time commencing with the earliest date of written notice, advertisement or solicitation of a request for proposal, invitation for bids, or solicitation of proposals, or any other method for soliciting a response from Offerers intending to result in a Procurement Contract with a State agency and, ending with the final contract award and approval by, where applicable, the Office of the State Comptroller.

New York State employees are also required to obtain certain information when contacted during the restricted period and make a determination of the responsibility of the Offerer pursuant to these two statutes. Certain findings of non-responsibility can result in rejection for contract award and in the event of two findings within a 4 year period; the Offerer is debarred from obtaining governmental procurement contracts. Further information about these requirements can be found at: <https://ogs.ny.gov/acpl>.

Any Firm responding to the solicitation must complete the form found below and submit it to the State agency.

Questions regarding this form may be directed to the Designated Contacts for this solicitation:

Director of Procurement:	Michelle Heaslip
Contracts Officer	Roxanne West
Contracts Administrator:	Heidi Tyler, Barbara Farley

PROCUREMENT LOBBYING FORM

1. Offerer/ Firm certifies that it understands and agrees to comply with the procedures of the NYS Division of the Budget relative to permissible contacts as required by State Finance Law Section 139-j (3) and Section 139-j (6) (b).

2. **CONTRACTOR DISCLOSURE OF PRIOR NON-RESPONSIBILITY DETERMINATIONS**
Pursuant to Procurement Lobbying Law (SFL §139-j)

(a) Has any Governmental Entity made a finding of non-responsibility regarding the individual or entity seeking to enter into the Procurement Contract in the previous four years?
 Yes No

If yes, please answer the following question:

(b) Was the basis for the finding of non-responsibility due to a violation of State Finance Law §139-j?
 Yes No

If "Yes" was the basis for the finding of non-responsibility due to the intentional provision of false or incomplete information to a governmental entity?

Yes No

If "Yes", please provide details regarding the finding of non-responsibility:

Governmental Entity: _____
Date of Finding of Non-Responsibility: _____
Basis of Finding of Non-Responsibility (attach additional sheets as necessary)

3. Has any governmental entity terminated or withheld a procurement contract with the above-named individual or entity due to the intentional provision of false or incomplete information?
 Yes No

If yes, provide details:

Governmental Entity: _____
Date of Termination or Withholding of Contract: _____
Basis of Termination or Withholding: (add additional pages if necessary)

4. Offerer/ Firm certifies that all information provided to the Division of the Budget, with respect to State Finance Law Section 139-k is complete, true and accurate.

Name of Offerer's Firm/Company: _____

Offerer's Business Address: _____

Offerer's signature: _____ **Date:** _____

I understand that my signature represents that I am signing and responding to all certifications listed above.

Print Name: _____

Title of Person signing this form: _____

FORM 9: DISCLOSURE OF PENDING OR PRIOR LAWSUITS, CONFLICTS OF INTEREST, OR INVESTIGATIONS OR DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS

Disclosure of Pending or Prior Lawsuits, Conflicts of Interest, or Investigations or Disciplinary Actions must be documented and submitted with the Administrative Proposal. Please include the following information:

- A. Firms must provide a list of any legal proceedings or investigations concerning the Firm over the last five (5) years, if any, including the nature and outcome of any lawsuit if litigation is complete. Firms must also specifically note any prior or pending lawsuit(s) or litigation between the Firm and any New York State department, agency, board, or commission, if any. The nature of the lawsuit and its outcome, if litigation is complete, should be described briefly below.

*Does the Firm have any information pertaining to the above that must be disclosed? **If Yes, the Firm must disclose the requisite information as part of the Firm's Administrative Proposal.***

Yes _____ No _____

- B. Disclose any existing or contemplated relationship with any other person or entity, including relationships with any member, shareholders of 5% or more, parent, subsidiary, or affiliated firm, which would constitute an actual or potential conflict of interest or appearance of impropriety, relating to other clients/customers of the Firm or former officers and employees of the Agencies and their Affiliates, in connection with your rendering services enumerated in this RFP. If a conflict does or might exist, please describe how your Firm would eliminate or prevent it. Indicate what procedures will be followed to detect, notify the Agencies of, and resolve any such conflicts.

*Does the Firm have any information pertaining to the above that must be disclosed? **If Yes, the Firm must disclose the requisite information as part of the Firm's Administrative Proposal.***

Yes _____ No _____

- C. The Firm must disclose whether it, or any of its members, shareholders of 5% or more, parents, affiliates, or subsidiaries, have been the subject of any investigation or disciplinary action by the New York State Commission on Public Integrity or its predecessor State entities (collectively, "Commission"), and if so, a brief description must be included indicating how any matter before the Commission was resolved or whether it remains unresolved.

*Does the Firm have any information pertaining to the above that must be disclosed? **If Yes, the Firm must disclose the requisite information as part of the Firm's Administrative Proposal.***

Yes _____ No _____

Firm Name: _____

Name, Title: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

FORM 10: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION LAW REDACTION REQUEST

The Firm should indicate below if there is specific information in a Firm’s proposal that a Firm claims to be proprietary and/or trade secret information that meets the definition set forth in Section 87(2)(d), the Firm should provide a letter in its Administrative Proposal outlining any specific concerns regarding disclosure under the New York State Freedom of Information Law (Article 6 of the Public Officers Law).

Is the Firm submitting a Freedom of Information Law Redaction request? If Yes, Firm should include the specific details of its request as part of the Firm’s Administrative Proposal.

Yes _____ No _____

Firm Name: _____

Name, Title: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

FORM 11: EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 177 CERTIFICATION

The New York State Human Rights Law, Article 15 of the Executive Law, prohibits discrimination and harassment based on age, race, creed, color, national origin, sex, pregnancy or pregnancy-related conditions, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, marital status, familial status, domestic violence victim status, prior arrest or conviction record, military status or predisposing genetic characteristics.

The Human Rights Law may also require reasonable accommodation for persons with disabilities and pregnancy-related conditions. A reasonable accommodation is an adjustment to a job or work environment that enables a person with a disability to perform the essential functions of a job in a reasonable manner. The Human Rights Law may also require reasonable accommodation in employment on the basis of Sabbath observance or religious practices.

Generally, the Human Rights Law applies to:

- employers of four or more people, employment agencies, labor organizations and apprenticeship training programs in all instances of discrimination or harassment;
- employers with fewer than four employees in all cases involving sexual harassment; and,
- any employer of domestic workers in cases involving sexual harassment or harassment based on gender, race, religion or national origin.

In accordance with Executive Order No. 177, the Firm hereby certifies that it does not have institutional policies or practices that fail to address the harassment and discrimination of individuals on the basis of their age, race, creed, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, marital status, military status, or other protected status under the Human Rights Law.

Executive Order No. 177 and this certification do not affect institutional policies or practices that are protected by existing law, including but not limited to the First Amendment of the United States Constitution, Article 1, Section 3 of the New York State Constitution, and Section 296(11) of the New York State Human Rights Law.

Firm Name: _____

Name, Title: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

FORM 12: SEXUAL HARASSMENT PREVENTION CERTIFICATION

State Finance Law §139-I requires firms on state procurements to certify that they have a written policy addressing sexual harassment prevention in the workplace and provide annual sexual harassment training to all its employees.

By submission of this bid, each firm and each person signing on behalf of any firm certifies, and in the case of a joint bid each party thereto certifies its own organization, under penalty of perjury, that the firm has and has implemented a written policy addressing sexual harassment prevention in the workplace and provides annual sexual harassment prevention training to all of its employees. Such policy shall, at a minimum, meet the requirements of section two hundred one-g of the labor law.

The Firm's signature below certifies its compliance with State Finance Law §139-I.

Firm Name: _____

Name, Title: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

FORM 13: CERTIFICATION UNDER EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 16 PROHIBITING STATE AGENCIES AND AUTHORITIES FROM CONTRACTING WITH BUSINESSES CONDUCTING BUSINESS IN RUSSIA

Executive Order No. 16 provides that “all Affected State Entities are directed to refrain from entering into any new contract or renewing any existing contract with an entity conducting business operations in Russia.” The complete text of Executive Order No. 16 can be found [here](#).

The Executive Order remains in effect while sanctions imposed by the federal government are in effect. Accordingly, Firms who may be excluded from award because of current business operations in Russia are nevertheless encouraged to respond to solicitations to preserve their contracting opportunities in case the sanctions are lifted during a solicitation or even after award in the case of some solicitations.

As defined in Executive Order No. 16, an “entity conducting business operations in Russia” means an institution or company, wherever located, conducting any commercial activity in Russia or transacting business with the Russian Government or with commercial entities headquartered in Russia or with their principal place of business in Russia in the form of contracting, sales, purchasing, investment, or any business partnership.

Is Firm an entity conducting business operations in Russia, as defined above? Please answer by checking one of the following boxes:

- No, Vendor does not conduct business operations in Russia within the meaning of Executive Order No. 16.
- 2.a. Yes, Vendor conducts business operations in Russia within the meaning of Executive Order No. 16 but has taken steps to wind down business operations in Russia or is in the process of winding down business operations in Russia. (Please provide a detailed description of the wind down process and a schedule for completion.)
- 2.b. Yes, Vendor conducts business operations in Russia within the meaning of Executive Order No. 16 but only to the extent necessary to provide vital health and safety services within Russia or to comply with federal law, regulations, executive orders, or directives. (Please provide a detailed description of the services being provided or the relevant laws, regulations, etc.)
- 3. Yes, Vendor conducts business operations in Russia within the meaning of Executive Order No. 16

The undersigned certifies under penalties of perjury that they are knowledgeable about the Firm’s business and operations and that the answer provided herein is true to the best of their knowledge and belief.

Firm Name: _____

Name, Title: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____