COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

November 17, 2009

IN REPLY PLEASE
REFER TO FILE: AS-0

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS – ADDENDUM 1
LANDSCAPE AND GROUNDS MAINTENANCE SERVICES (2009-PA032)

Thank you for attending our optional Proposers' Conference for Landscape and Grounds Maintenance Services (2009-PA032) on Tuesday, November 10, 2009, and for your interest in the Request for Proposals (RFP). The following revisions have been made to the RFP.

1.   The following language has been added as Part I, Section I.S to the RFP:

S.   Defaulted Property Tax and Reduction Program

1.   The resultant Contract from this RFP will be subject to the requirements of the County's Defaulted Property Tax Reduction Program ("Defaulted Tax Program") (Los Angeles County Code, Chapter 2.206). The successful Contractors should carefully read the Defaulted Tax Program Ordinance, Exhibit F. Proposers should carefully read the pertinent Defaulted Tax Program provisions in Part II, Exhibit B, Service Contract General Requirements, Section 13, Compliance with County's Defaulted Property Tax Reduction Program. The Defaulted Tax Program applies to both Contractors and their Subcontractors.

2.   Proposers shall be required to certify that they are in full compliance with the provisions of the Defaulted Tax Program and shall maintain compliance during the term of any contract that may be awarded pursuant to this solicitation or shall certify that they are exempt from the Defaulted Tax Program by completing Certification of Compliance with The County's Defaulted Property Tax Reduction Program (Form PW-18). Failure to maintain compliance, or to timely cure defects, may be cause for termination of a contract or initiation of debarment proceedings against the non-compliant contractor (Los Angeles County Code, Chapter 2.202). <u>Proposals that fail to comply with the certification requirements of the Defaulted Tax Program will be considered non-responsive and excluded from further consideration.</u>

2.   **Attachment A, Form PW-18, Certification of Compliance with the County's Defaulted Property Tax Reduction Program, has been added to the RFP.**

3.   **Exhibit B has been revised to add Attachment B, which will become Section 13, Compliance with County's Defaulted Property Tax Reduction Program.**

4.   **Attachment C will be added to the RFP as Exhibit F, Defaulted Property Tax Reduction Program.**

The following is a response to a question:

1.   *Do you have a square footage for SAN GABRIEL VALLEY MEDIAN (7th ave.-Palm ave/Los Robles ave.), it's not in a bid package.*

     The area of 7th Avenue – Palm Avenue/Los Robles for the San Gabriel Valley Medians is about 13,220 square feet.

The deadline to submit proposals remains to be Monday, November 30, 2009 at 5:30 p.m.

If you have questions concerning the above information, please contact Ms. Melissa Saradpon at (626) 458-4077, Monday through Thursday, 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Very truly yours,

GAIL FARBER
Director of Public Works

GHAYANE ZAKARIAN, Chief
Administrative Services Division

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CERTIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE WITH THE COUNTY'S DEFAULTED PROPERTY TAX REDUCTION PROGRAM

The Proposer certifies that:

It is familiar with the terms of the County of Los Angeles Defaulted Property Tax Reduction Program, Los Angeles County Code Chapter 2.206; **AND**

To the best of its knowledge, after a reasonable inquiry, the Proposer/Bidder/Contractor is not in default, as that term is defined in Los Angeles County Code Section 2.206.020.E, on any Los Angeles County property tax obligation; **AND**

The Proposer/Bidder/Contractor agrees to comply with the County's Defaulted Property Tax Reduction Program during the term of any awarded contract.

-OR-

_____

I am exempt from the County of Los Angeles Defaulted Property Tax Reduction Program, pursuant to Los Angeles County Code Section 2.206.060, for the following reason:

_____

_____

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the information stated above is true and correct.

Print Name:	Title:
Signature:	Date:

SECTION 13

COMPLIANCE WITH COUNTY'S DEFAULTED PROPERTY TAX
REDUCTION PROGRAM

A.   <u>Defaulted Property Tax Reduction Program</u>

This Contract is subject to the provisions of County's ordinance entitled Defaulted Property Tax Reduction Program ("Defaulted Tax Program") as codified in Sections 2.206 of the Los Angeles County Code (Exhibit F).

B.   <u>Contractor's Warranty of Compliance with County's Defaulted Property Tax Reduction Program</u>

Contractor acknowledges that County has established a goal of ensuring that all individuals and businesses that benefit financially from the County through any contract are current in paying their property tax obligations (secured and unsecured roll) in order to mitigate the economic burden otherwise imposed upon the County and its taxpayers.

Unless Contractor qualifies for an exemption or exclusion, Contractor warrants and certifies that to the best of its knowledge it is now in compliance, and during the term of this contract will maintain compliance, with Los Angeles County Code Chapter 2.206.

C.   <u>Termination for Breach of Warranty of · Compliance with County's Defaulted Property Tax Reduction Program</u>

Failure of Contractor to maintain compliance with the requirements set forth in Paragraph B, above, shall constitute default under this Contract. Without limiting the rights and remedies available to County under any other provision of this contract, failure of Contractor to cure such default within 10 days of notice shall be grounds upon which County may terminate this contract and/or pursue debarment of Contractor, pursuant to County Code Chapter 2.206.

Chapter 2.206 DEFAULTED PROPERTY TAX REDUCTION PROGRAM

2.206.010 Findings and declarations.
2.206.020 Definitions.
2.206.030 Applicability.
2.206.040 Required solicitation and contract language.
2.206.050 Administration and compliance certification.
2.206.060 Exclusions/Exemptions.
2.206.070 Enforcement and remedies.
2.206.080 Severability.

2.206.010 Findings and declarations.

The Board of Supervisors finds that significant revenues are lost each year as a result of taxpayers who fail to pay their tax obligations on time. The delinquencies impose an economic burden upon the County and its taxpayers. Therefore, the Board of Supervisors establishes the goal of ensuring that individuals and businesses that benefit financially from contracts with the County fulfill their property tax obligation. (Ord. No. 2009-0026 § 1 (part), 2009.)

2.206.020 Definitions.

The following definitions shall be applicable to this chapter:

A.   "Contractor" shall mean any person, firm, corporation, partnership, or combination thereof, which submits a bid or proposal or enters into a contract or agreement with the County.

B.   "County" shall mean the county of Los Angeles or any public entities for which the Board of Supervisors is the governing body.

C.   "County Property Taxes" shall mean any property tax obligation on the County's secured or unsecured roll; except for tax obligations on the secured roll with respect to property held by a Contractor in a trust or fiduciary capacity or otherwise not beneficially owned by the Contractor.

D.   "Department" shall mean the County department, entity, or organization responsible for the solicitation and/or administration of the contract.

E.   "Default" shall mean any property tax obligation on the secured roll that has been deemed defaulted by operation of law pursuant to California Revenue and Taxation Code section 3436; or any property tax obligation on the unsecured roll that remains unpaid on the applicable delinquency date pursuant to California Revenue and Taxation Code section 2922; except for any property

tax obligation dispute pending before the Assessment Appeals Board.

F.   "Solicitation" shall mean the County's process to obtain bids or proposals for goods and services.

G.   "Treasurer-Tax Collector" shall mean the Treasurer and Tax Collector of the County of Los Angeles. (Ord. No. 2009-0026 § 1 (part), 2009.)

2.206.030 Applicability.

This chapter shall apply to all solicitations issued 60 days after the effective date of the ordinance codified in this chapter. This chapter shall also apply to all new, renewed, extended, and/or amended contracts entered into 60 days after the effective date of the ordinance codified in this chapter. (Ord. No. 2009-0026 § 1 (part), 2009.)

2.206.040 Required solicitation and contract language.

All solicitations and all new, renewed, extended, and/or amended contracts shall contain language which:

A.   Requires any Contractor to keep County Property Taxes out of Default status at all times during the term of an awarded contract;

B.   Provides that the failure of the Contractor to comply with the provisions in this chapter may prevent the Contractor from being awarded a new contract and

C.   Provides that the failure of the Contractor to comply with the provisions in this chapter may constitute a material breach of an existing contract, and failure to cure the breach within 10 days of notice by the County by paying the outstanding County Property Tax or making payments in a manner agreed to and approved by the Treasurer-Tax Collector, may subject the contract to suspension and/or termination. (Ord. No. 2009-0026 § 1 (part), 2009.)

2.206.050 Administration and compliance certification.

A.   The Treasurer-Tax Collector shall be responsible for the administration of this chapter. The Treasurer-Tax Collector shall, with the assistance of the Chief Executive Officer, Director of Internal Services, and County Counsel, issue written instructions on the implementation and ongoing administration of this chapter. Such instructions may provide for the delegation of functions to other departments.

B. Contractor shall be required to certify, at the time of submitting any bid or proposal to the County, or entering into any new contract, or renewal, extension or amendment of an existing contract with the County, that it is in compliance with this chapter is not in Default on any County Property Taxes or is current in payments due under any approved payment arrangement (Ord. No. 2009-0026 § 1 (part), 2009.)

2.206.060 Exclusions/Exemptions.

A. This chapter shall not apply to the following contracts:

1. Chief Executive Office delegated authority agreements under $50,000;

2. A contract where federal or state law or a condition of a federal or state program mandates the use of a particular contractor;

3. A purchase made through a state or federal contract;

4. A contract where state or federal monies are used to fund service related programs, including but not limited to voucher programs, foster care, or other social programs that provide immediate direct assistance;

5. Purchase orders under a master agreement, where the Contractor was certified at the time the master agreement was entered into and at any subsequent renewal, extension and/or amendment to the master agreement

6. Purchase orders issued by Internal Services Department under $100,000 that is not the result of a competitive bidding process.

7. Program agreements that utilize Board of Supervisors' discretionary funds;

8. National contracts established for the purchase of equipment and supplies for and by the National Association of Counties, U.S. Communities Government Purchasing Alliance, or any similar related group purchasing organization;

9. A monopoly purchase that is exclusive and proprietary to a specific manufacturer, distributor, reseller, and must match and inter-member with existing supplies, equipment or systems maintained by the county pursuant to the Los Angeles Purchasing Policy and Procedures Manual, section P-3700 or a successor provision;

10. A revolving fund (petty cash) purchase pursuant to the Los Angeles County Fiscal Manual, section 4.6.0 or a successor provision;

11. A purchase card purchase pursuant to the Los Angeles County Purchasing Policy and Procedures Manual, section P-2810 or a successor provision;

12. A non-agreement purchase worth a value of less than $5,000 pursuant to the Los Angeles County Purchasing Policy and Procedures Manual, section A-0300 or a successor provision; or

13. A bona fide emergency purchase pursuant to the Los Angeles County Purchasing Policy and Procedures Manual section P-0900 or a successor provision;

14. Other contracts for mission critical goods and/or services where the Board of Supervisors determines that an exemption is justified.

B. Other laws. This chapter shall not be interpreted or applied to any Contractor in a manner inconsistent with the laws of the United States or California. (Ord. No. 2009-0026 § 1 (part), 2009.)

2.206.070 Enforcement and remedies.

A. The information furnished by each Contractor certifying that it is in compliance with this chapter shall be under penalty of perjury.

B. No Contractor shall willfully and knowingly make a false statement certifying compliance with this chapter for the purpose of obtaining or retaining a County contract.

C. For Contractor's violation of any provision of this chapter, the County department head responsible for administering the contract may do one or more of the following:

1. Recommend to the Board of Supervisors the termination of the contract; and/or,

2. Pursuant to chapter 2.202, seek the debarment of the contractor; and/or,

3. Recommend to the Board of Supervisors that an exemption is justified pursuant to Section 2.206.060.A.14 of this chapter or payment deferral as provided pursuant to the California Revenue and Taxation Code. (Ord. No. 2009-0026 § 1 (part), 2009.)

2.206.080 Severability.

If any provision of this chapter is found invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remaining provisions shall remain in full force and effect. (Ord. No. 2009-0026 § 1 (part), 2009.)

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