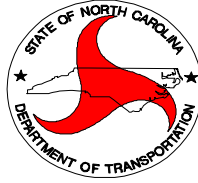


STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

DATE AND TIME OF BID OPENING: DECEMBER 3, 2021 AT 2:00 P.M.

BID PROPOSAL NO.: 54-CA-TE-12011864

WBS ELEMENT NO.: 40.1.2

COUNTIES: DIVISION 5 – WAKE AND DURHAM

ROUTE NO.: NC 540 AND NC 147 TOLL FACILITIES

TYPE OF WORK: FURNISH AND APPLY MULCH AS NEEDED

DATE OF AVAILABILITY: JANUARY 1, 2022

COMPLETION DATE: DECEMBER 31, 2022

PRE-QUALIFICATION MANDATORY

PROPOSAL
FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF
BID NO. 54-CA-TE-12011864 IN DIVISION 5 – WAKE AND DURHAM COUNTIES, NORTH CAROLINA
NOVEMBER 12, 2021
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION,
RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA

The Bidder has carefully examined the location of the proposed work to be known as BID NO 54-CA-TE-12011864; has carefully examined the plans and specifications, which are acknowledged to be part of the proposal, the special provisions, the proposal, the form of contract; and thoroughly understands the stipulations, requirements and provisions. The undersigned bidder agrees to bound upon his execution of the bid and subsequent award to him by the Department of Transportation in accordance with this proposal. The undersigned Bidder further agrees to provide all necessary machinery, tools, labor, and other means of construction; and to do all the work and to furnish all materials, except as otherwise noted, necessary to perform and complete the said contract in accordance with *the 2018 Standard Specifications for Roads and Structures* by the dates(s) specified in the Project Special Provisions and in accordance with the requirements of the Engineer, and at the unit or lump sum prices, as the case may be, for the various items given on the sheets contained herein.

The Bidder shall provide and furnish all the materials, machinery, implements, appliances and tools, and perform the work and required labor to construct and complete State Highway BID NO. 54-CA-TE-12011864 in Division 5 – Wake and Durham Counties, for the unit or lump sum prices, as the case may be, bid by the Bidder in his bid and according to the proposal, plans, and specifications prepared by said Department, which proposal, plans, and specifications show the details covering this project, and hereby become a part of this contract.

The published volume entitled *North Carolina Department of Transportation, Raleigh, Standard Specifications for Roads and Structures, January 2018* with all amendments and supplements thereto, is by reference incorporated into and made a part of this contract; that, except as herein modified, all the construction and work included in this contract is to be done in accordance with the specifications contained in said volume, and amendments and supplements thereto, under the direction of the Engineer.

If the proposal is accepted and the award is made, the contract is valid only when signed either by the Contract Officer or such other person as may be designated by the Secretary to sign for the Department of Transportation. The conditions and provisions herein cannot be changed except over the signature of the said Contract Officer or Division Engineer.

The quantities shown in the itemized proposal for the project are considered to be approximate only and are given as the basis for comparison of bids. The Department of Transportation may increase or decrease the quantity of any item or portion of the work as may be deemed necessary or expedient.

An increase or decrease in the quantity of an item will not be regarded as sufficient ground for an increase or decrease in the unit prices, nor in the time allowed for the completion of the work, except as provided for the contract.

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PROJECT SPECIAL PROVISIONS - GENERAL

GENERAL

This project is for Furnishing and Applying Mulch As Needed on plantings on NC 540 and NC 147 Toll Facilities in Division 5 – Wake and Durham Counties.

The published volume entitled **North Carolina Department of Transportation, Raleigh, Standard Specifications for Roads and Structures, January 2018** with all amendments and supplements thereto, is by reference incorporated into and made a part of this contract. Unless otherwise modified, all the work included in this contract is to be done in accordance with the specifications contained in said volume, and amendments and supplements thereto, under the direction of the Engineer.

All work and materials shall be in accordance with the provisions of the General Guidelines of this contract, the Project Special Provisions, the North Carolina Department of Transportation Standard Specifications for Roads and Structures 2018, the North Carolina Department of Transportation Roadway Standards Drawings, and the current edition of the Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD).

The Contractor shall keep himself fully informed of all Federal, State and local laws, ordinances, and regulations, and shall comply with the provisions of Section 107 of the Standard Specifications.

These manuals may be found at the following websites: <http://mutcd.fhwa.dot.gov/> and <https://connect.ncdot.gov/resources/specifications/pages/specifications-and-special-provisions.aspx>.

The quantities stated in the Bid Form are estimates and are not guaranteed.

PRE-QUALIFICATION

Any firm that wishes to perform work on this POC as either the prime contractor or as a subcontractor must be pre-qualified for the type work they wish to perform (including but not necessarily limited to NCDOT Work Code “001670 Landscape Planting”). Any Contractor identified as working outside their expertise may be considered in default of contract. Firms that wish to bid on these projects as the prime contractor must be pre-qualified as either a Bidder or POC Prime Contractor prior to submitting the bid. Firms that wish to perform as a subcontractor to the prime contractor must be pre-qualified prior to beginning work on the project.

Information regarding the requirements to become pre-qualified as a Bidder POC Prime Contractor, including the application to become pre-qualified, can be found at the following website:
<https://connect.ncdot.gov/business/Prequal/Pages/default.aspx>.

If unsure as to whether a firm is currently pre-qualified by NCDOT through Contractual Services Management, search the Directory of Transportation Firms at the following website: <https://apps.dot.state.nc.us/vendor/directory/>. Bids received from firms that are not pre-qualified as Bidders or POC Prime Contractors through NCDOT Contractual Services Management will not be opened.

Bidders must renew their pre-qualification or re-qualify each year. It is the bidder’s responsibility to ensure that their existing pre-qualification status does not lapse prior to bid opening (or beginning work as a subcontractor). **Advance notification of pending renewal dates is not guaranteed.**

CONTRACT TIME AND LIQUIDATED DAMAGES

The date of availability for this contract will be **January 1, 2022**.

The completion date for this contract is **December 31, 2022**.

Liquidated damages for this contract are **Six Hundred Dollars (\$600.00)** per calendar day.

TERM OF CONTRACT

This contract shall be effective for one (1) contract period. The contract period will last from the availability date to the completion date, as noted above.

At the sole option and discretion of the contracting agency, North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT), and upon written notification, this contract may be extended for two (2) additional periods, one (1) year each, unless a shorter time is mutually agreed upon by the parties, (maximum of three years total). Each line item bid price will be increased for each one (1) year extension by three (3) percent of the current price. No changes in the terms, conditions, etc. of this contract will be made when an extension to the contract is implemented. Including all renewals, the total contract expenditures shall not exceed the maximum purchase order value of \$5 million.

The Contractor will be notified within sixty (60) days before expiration of the contract if NCDOT chooses not to offer an extension. Upon receipt of notification, the Contractor must notify the Engineer in writing within thirty (30) days the contract completion date of his/her acceptance or rejection of this offer. Failure on the part of the Contractor to reply will be considered a rejection of the contract extension. NCDOT is under no obligation to renew this contract beyond its original one (1) year period.

INTERMEDIATE CONTRACT TIME NUMBER 1 AND LIQUIDATED DAMAGES

The Contractor shall not close or narrow a lane of traffic on any interstate or primary road at any time.

The liquidated damages are **Six Hundred Dollars (\$600.00)** per hour or portion thereof.

INTERMEDIATE CONTRACT TIME NUMBER 2 AND LIQUIDATED DAMAGES

The Contractor shall complete the required work of installing, maintaining, and removing the traffic control devices for lane closures and restoring traffic to the existing traffic pattern. The Contractor **shall not close or narrow a single lane of traffic or a shoulder on TOLL FACILITIES, including ramps, loops and y lines** during the following time restrictions or as directed by the Engineer:

TOLL FACILITIES

**MONDAY THRU FRIDAY 6:00 A.M. TO 9:00 A.M. NORTHBOUND LANE
MONDAY THRU FRIDAY 4:00 P.M. TO 7:00 P.M SOUTHBOUND LANE**

The Contractor shall not work within the roadway or associated right of way on **all roads**, detain and /or alter the traffic flow on or during holiday weekends, special events, or any other time when traffic is unusually heavy, including the following schedules:

HOLIDAY AND HOLIDAY WEEKEND WORK RESTRICTIONS:

1. For **unexpected occurrence** that creates unusually high traffic volumes, as directed by the Engineer.
2. For **New Year's Day**, between the hours of **6:00 a.m.** December 31st and **9:00 p.m.** January 2nd. If New Year's Day is on a Friday, Saturday, Sunday or Monday, then until **9:00 p.m.** the following Tuesday.
3. For **Martin Luther King, Jr. Day**, between the hours of **4:00 p.m.** Friday and **9:00 a.m.** Tuesday.
4. For **Easter**, between the hours of **6:00 a.m.** Thursday and **9:00 p.m.** Monday.
5. For **Memorial Day**, between the hours of **6:00 a.m.** Friday and **9:00 p.m.** Tuesday.

6. For **Independence Day**, between the hours of **6:00 a.m.** the day before Independence Day and **9:00 p.m.** the day after Independence Day.
 If **Independence Day** is on a Friday, Saturday, Sunday or Monday, then between the hours of **6:00 a.m.** the Thursday before Independence Day and **9:00 p.m.** the Tuesday after Independence Day.
7. For **Labor Day**, between the hours of **6:00 a.m.** Friday and **9:00 p.m.** Tuesday.
8. For **Veteran’s Day**, between the hours of **4:00 p.m.** the day before Veteran’s Day observance and **9:00 a.m.** the day after Veteran’s Day observance.
9. For **Thanksgiving Day**, between the hours of **6:00 a.m.** Tuesday and **9:00 p.m.** Monday.
10. For **Christmas**, between the hours of **6:00 a.m.** the Friday before the week of Christmas Day and **9:00 p.m.** the following Tuesday after the week of Christmas Day.
11. For events that are significant traffic generators from one (1) hour before the event to one (1) hour after the end of the event, as directed by the Engineer.

Holidays and holiday weekends shall include New Years, Easter, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving, and Christmas. The Contractor shall schedule his work so that work is not required during these periods, unless otherwise directed by the Engineer.

The time of availability for this intermediate contract work shall be the time the Contractor begins to install all traffic control devices for lane closures according to the time restrictions listed herein.

The completion time for this intermediate contract work shall be the time the Contractor is required to complete the removal of all traffic control devices for lane closures according to the time restrictions stated herein and place traffic in the existing pattern.

The Liquidated Damages for this contract are **One Thousand Dollars (1,000.00)** per fifteen (15) minutes or portion thereof that the Contractor operates outside of the work hours as stated above.

The liquidated damages for failing to place signs before commencement of operations is **Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$250.00)** per incident.

CONTRACT BID QUANTITIES

The quantities shown in the itemized proposal for the project are considered to be approximate only and are given as the basis for comparison of bids. The Department of Transportation may increase or decrease the quantity of any item or portion of the work as may be deemed necessary or expedient.

An increase or decrease in the quantity of any item will not be regarded as sufficient ground for an increase or decrease in the unit price, nor in the time allowed for the completion of the work, except as provided for the contract.

Contractor's pricing shall be based on the estimated quantity. The estimated amount is submitted to assist Contractors in the bidding process. Estimated quantity is not to be regarded as the actual requirement. The State shall not be obligated to purchase any specific quantity.

MULTI-YEAR MAINTENANCE CONTRACTS

This contract is a multi-year maintenance contract let pursuant to the provisions of N.C. General Statute §136-28.1. In accordance with N.C. General Statute §136-28.1, an award in a maintenance contract shall not exceed \$5,000,000 per year. This contract award is limited to \$5,000,000 per year. No payments in excess of this amount will be disbursed, in accordance with the Statute.

PROSECUTION OF WORK

The Contractor will be required to prosecute the work of each notification in a continuous and uninterrupted manner from the time he begins the work until completion and final acceptance of the work in the notification. The Contractor will not be permitted to suspend his operations except for reasons beyond his control or except where the Engineer has authorized a suspension of the Contractor's operations in writing.

In the event that the Contractor's operations are suspended in violation of the above provisions, the sum of \$600.00 will be charged the Contractor for each and every calendar day that such suspension takes place. The said amount is hereby agreed upon as liquidated damages due to a suspension of the work. Liquidated damages chargeable due to suspension of the work will be additional to any liquidated damages that may become chargeable due to failure to start or complete the work on time.

The Contractor shall pursue the work diligently with workmen in sufficient numbers, abilities, and supervision, and with equipment, materials, and methods of construction as may be required to complete the work described in the contract by the completion date and in accordance with Section 108 of the Standard Specifications.

It is the intent of the Department that the Contractor's crew complete the work required on a site before beginning work at another site.

The Contractor's vehicles and equipment shall not be parked within the State Highway System right of way overnight or at other times when work has been suspended unless approved by the Engineer, and in no case within 30 feet of the edge of pavement. The Engineer may designate specific locations for parking equipment.

The Contractor shall adhere to all applicable regulations and follow accepted safety procedures when working in the vicinity of utilities in order to insure the safety of construction personnel and the public.

The Contractor's operations are restricted to daylight hours. No work may be performed on Saturdays, Sundays and legal State holidays unless approved by the Engineer. Work shall only be performed when weather and visibility conditions allow safe operations. Allowable work hours typically take place Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. while working on high volume roads. High volume roads will be determined by the Engineer.

AWARD OF CONTRACT

“The North Carolina Department of Transportation, in accordance with the provisions of *Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964* (78 Stat. 252) and the Regulations of the Department of Transportation (*49 C.F.R., Part 21*), issued pursuant to such act, hereby notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively insure that the contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement will be awarded to the lowest responsible bidder without discrimination on the ground of race, color, or national origin”.

All eligible proposals will be evaluated and acceptance made of the bid judged in the discretion of the contracting agency to determine the lowest responsible bidder for the purpose intended. The Contracting Agency using its discretion, will determine whether a bidder is a “responsible” bidder. In determining whether a bidder is “responsible, the Contracting Agency will evaluate, the bid price, completeness and content of the bid, Bidder's experience, ability of the Bidder and staff to perform the services required, Bidder's past performance, references, and Bidder's financial stability. After opening bids and prior to award, the Contracting Agency may also seek additional information from any or all bidders regarding the bidder's proposal, qualifications, experience, and ability to perform the required work prior to determining whether a bidder is a “responsible” bidder. No changes in bid price or price negotiations will be allowed after bids are opened and prior to an award. After the Contracting Agencies evaluation, the award of the contract, if awarded, will be made to the lowest responsible bidder. The lowest responsible bidder will be notified that his bid has been accepted and that he has been awarded the contract. If a Bidder is awarded a contract, he/she will be expected to perform the work. Failure to perform may result in the Bidder being held in default of contract. In the event of default, the Department may, in its discretion, contact the next lowest responsible bidder to determine whether that next lowest responsible bidder is willing and able to complete the contract at its bid price.

All awards are final and are not subject to further review. Any formal complaints concerning awards should be made in writing to the Engineer.

AUTHORITY OF THE ENGINEER

The Engineer for this project shall be the Division Engineer, Division Five, Division of Highways, North Carolina Department of Transportation, acting directly or through his duly authorized representatives. The Engineer will decide all questions which may arise as to the quality and acceptability of work performed and as to the rate of progress of the work; all questions which may arise as to the interpretation of the contract; and all questions as to the acceptable fulfillment of the contract on the part of the Contractor. His decision shall be final and he shall have executive authority to enforce and make effective such decisions and orders as the Contractor fails to carry out promptly.

BOND REQUIREMENTS

The provisions of Articles 102-10 and 103-7 of the 2018 Standard Specifications for Roads and Structures are waived for this project. No bonds required.

INSURANCE

The Contractor shall maintain all legally required insurance coverage, including without limitation, worker's compensation and vehicle liability, in the amounts required by law. Refer to Section 107-15 in the "*Standard Specifications for Roads and Structures, 2018*" for additional information.

SUBLETTING OF CONTRACT

If a Contractor desires to sublet any work, written consent must be given by the Engineer. The approval of any subcontract will not release the Contractor of liability under the contract, nor will the subcontractor or the second tier subcontractor have any claim against NCDOT by reason of the approval of the subcontract.

Subcontracting the application of pesticides will not be permitted in this contract.

PERFORMANCE OF WORK

The Contractor's attention is directed to the need for the timely performance of services provided for under this contract. The aesthetic appearance of the site and its reflection on the North Carolina Department of Transportation as well as the safety and convenience of the public is the essence of the service.

TEMPORARY SUSPENSION OF THE WORK

In accordance with Article 108-7 of the Standard Specifications, the Engineer will have the authority to suspend the work wholly or in part, any written order for such periods as he may deem necessary for any of the following reasons.

1. Conditions considered unfavorable for the suitable prosecution of the work, or
2. The Contractor's failure for correct conditions unsafe for workmen or the general public, or
3. The Contractor has not carried out orders given to him by the Engineer, or
4. The Contractor's failure to perform any provisions of the contract.

No extension of the completion date will be allowed for the above suspensions except as may be provided for in Article 108-10.

SAFETY AND ACCIDENT PROTECTION

In accordance with 107-21 of the Standard Specifications. The Contractor shall comply with all applicable Federal, State, and local laws, ordinances, and regulations governing safety, health, and sanitation, and shall provide all safeguards,

safety devices, and protective equipment, and shall take any other needed actions, on his own responsibility that are reasonably necessary to protect the life and health of employees on the job and the safety of the public, and to protect property in connection with the performance of the work covered by the contract.

INSPECTION

All work shall be subject to inspection by the engineer at any time. Routinely, the engineer will make periodic inspections of the completed work. It will be the responsibility of the Contractor to keep the engineer informed of his proposed work plan and to submit written reports of work accomplished on a frequency to be determined by the engineer.

SUPERVISION BY CONTRACTOR

The Contractor shall communicate in English; the on-site supervisor shall be English-speaking and fully understand the terms and conditions of this contract.

UTILITY CONFLICTS

The Contractor shall adhere to all applicable regulations and follow accepted safety procedures when working in the vicinity of utilities in order to insure the safety of construction personnel and the public.

Special care shall be used in working around or near existing utilities, protecting them when necessary to provide uninterrupted service. In the event that any utility service is interrupted, the Contractor shall notify the utility owner immediately and shall cooperate with the owner, or their representative, in the restoration of service in the shortest time possible. Existing fire hydrants shall be kept accessible to fire departments at all times.

PAYMENT AND RETAINAGE

All work or items necessary to complete this work, other than those listed on the Bid Form, will be considered incidental in nature and no further compensation will be made. Payments for work on this project will be approved for the amount of work successfully completed.

The Contractor may submit requests for partial payments on a monthly basis, or other interval as approved by the Engineer. Compensation for all pay items shall be in accordance with the Standard Specifications. The amount of partial payments will be based on the work accomplished and accepted by the last day of the approved pay period.

Requests for payment shall be made by Contractor's Invoice. All invoice items and unit costs shall correspond to contract pay items as they appear on the Purchase Order. The Engineer shall verify the quantities submitted on the invoice prior to payment. In the event of error or discrepancy in items or unit costs, the Department may return the invoice to the Contractor for correction. The invoice shall be completely and legibly filled out with all appropriate information and shall be signed by an authorized representative of the Contractor.

All requests for payment shall be submitted to the Triangle Expressway Maintenance Department.

**N.C. Department of Transportation
Triangle Expressway Maintenance Department
1579 Mail Service Center (Mail)
Raleigh, NC 27699-1579
1301 Blue Ridge Road (Delivery)
Raleigh, NC 27607**

Invoices must be electronically scanned and the image is transmitted to the Purchasing Unit to verify payment. To avoid confusion and delay of payments, each invoice should have a unique Invoice Number. In addition, the invoice should be

positively identified and associated with the Purchase Order including the Contract Number on the invoice.

Invoices shall not be processed for payment without the accompanying **FORM DBE-IS**. If there is no participation at the time of a planned pay request, enter “zero” or “no participation this period” and submit the form with the invoice.

EROSION CONTROL

The Contractor shall exercise every reasonable precaution throughout the life of the project to prevent erosion and siltation. In the event that the Contractor’s operations create erodible surfaces, the Contractor shall install appropriate erosion control devices as determined by the Engineer.

Erosion Control devices may include but shall not be limited to seeding and mulching, Silt Fence, Erosion Control Stone and Sediment Control Stone.

No direct payment shall be made for erosion control items or installation, as they shall be considered incidental to other contract items.

PROJECT SPECIAL PROVISIONS - ROADWAY

DESCRIPTION OF WORK

This project is for Furnishing and Applying Mulch As Needed on plantings on NC 540 and NC 147 Toll Facilities in Division 5 – Wake and Durham Counties. Not all areas will be mulched at the same time. As sections of brush and trimmings are removed from plantings by separate contract, then mulch will be applied.

Contractor will be mobilized for a minimum of three hundred (300) cubic yards and a maximum of one thousand (1,000) cubic yards of mulch. Contractor will be required to perform mulching as requested within thirty (30) days of notification.

Failure to complete requested work within thirty (30) days will result in Liquidated Damages of **Six Hundred Dollars (\$600.00)** for each and every calendar day that such suspension takes place.

The Contractor shall provide all materials, labor, equipment and traffic control necessary to satisfactorily complete all mulching as required by the contract, plans and specifications and all other work identified by the Engineer or his/her representative.

All Contractor's personnel, all subcontractors and their personnel, and any material suppliers and their personnel, must wear a reflective safety vest or outer garment meeting ANSI/ISEA 107-2004 Class 2 standards at all times while on the project.

Failure to comply with this provision will result in a fine of **One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00)** for each occurrence.

The Contractor shall furnish equipment of sufficient type, capacity, and quantity to safely and efficiently perform the work as specified in the Project Special Provisions. All vehicles used by the Contractor must be performance worthy by visual and operational inspection. All vehicles, including trailers, used should be properly equipped with lighting per Roadway Standard Drawing 1165.01 Sheet 1 of 1. Lights shall be mounted as high as possible on trailers to enhance visibility. The Contractor shall display the company name on each vehicle.

The safety of the public and the convenience of traffic shall be regarded as prime importance. The Contractor shall operate the equipment in a safe manner so as not to create a hazard to the traveling public. Crossing lanes of traffic and erratic driving will be strictly prohibited.

Operate equipment and conduct operations in the same direction as the flow of traffic. Do not cross medians with equipment, except at properly designated interchanges.

All equipment used shall be commercial grade and of sufficient size to complete tasks effectively and in a timely manner. All equipment shall be in good working order capable of being used as originally intended. All equipment shall conform to the prevailing Occupational Safety Health Act Standards. The Contractor shall operate the equipment in a safe manner so as not to create a hazard to the traveling public or risks that may cause injury, health or safety risks, or damage to assets. The equipment shall not be parked within the State Highway System right of way overnight or at other times when work has been suspended, unless approved by the Engineer.

This proposal is subject to the *2018 Standard Specifications for Roads and Structures*. Specifically, but not limited to, Section 1060 - Landscape Development Materials, and Section 1670 – Planting.

CONTRACTOR'S OPERATIONS

As part of the bid submittal package, the Contractor shall provide a complete listing of personnel, materials, and equipment with he proposes to use to fulfill the requirements of this contract.

If the Contractor plans to use mechanical means, he shall provide detailed information on mulch application blower truck(s)

that he plans to use including but not limited to the following for each piece of equipment: type, manufacturer name, model number and model year, capacity/volume, rate of application capability, time period available (beginning and ending dates the equipment will be available for use), and whether he owns, rents, or leases the equipment, or has any other arrangements.

The Department reserves the right to request an operation plan.

BARK MULCH (FURNISH AND APPLY)

The Contractor shall provide shredded hardwood mulching services in accordance with these specifications and as directed by the Engineer. The Engineer will identify the location(s) where the Contractor will provide shredded hardwood mulching services. The Engineer or his duly authorized representative will monitor the Contractor's operations on a periodic basis to assure compliance with proper procedures.

Bark Mulch

The Contractor shall provide the Triangle Expressway Maintenance Engineer with the following information including but not limited to: availability of shredded hardwood mulch, source(s) with contact information, quality, consistency, particle size, color, and percent "wood" content (defined as the interior hard fibrous celluletic xylem of trees). Mulch shall come from a single source unless otherwise approved by the Engineer.

The Contractor shall provide a sample of the shredded hardwood mulch he proposes to use for approval by the Triangle Expressway Maintenance Engineer prior to installation. Mulch shall be consistent in composition, medium to dark brown color, and free of metal, foreign debris, weeds, insects, or any other extraneous materials. No large pine bark nuggets will be permitted for use. All mulch shall be suitable for application by an approved blower truck. Mulch not meeting specifications shall be removed from the highway right-of-way at the Contractor's expense. The Contractor shall be responsible for furnishing a loader and operator for loading at stockpile locations and shall be responsible for clean-up of the stockpile area back to the original condition to the satisfaction of the Engineer.

Description of the Work

It is the intent of this contract that the Contractor can use mechanical means by using blower truck or blower trailer with a flexible hose application system for direct targeted application, or the Contractor can use bagged bark mulch that is manufactured in cubic feet bags. Both these methods of application can be applied to the various sites.

The Contractor shall apply mulch in landscaped beds and "tree ring" – type areas.

Application areas will often be adjacent to high volume traffic; the Contractor will be required to close the shoulder of the road as required by the "Traffic Control" provisions found elsewhere in this document.

The Contractor **may be** allowed to stockpile mulch on NCDOT right-of-way. If stockpiling is allowed, the stockpile location shall be approved by the Triangle Expressway Maintenance Engineer. Any damage caused by the Contractors operations during the stockpiling or removal of material shall be repaired by the Contractor to the satisfaction of the Triangle Expressway Maintenance Engineer at no cost to the Department.

The Contractor shall supply all supervision, labor, mulch, equipment, and traffic control necessary to comply with these specifications.

Application of Mulch

The Department shall furnish at least one (1) person to inspect work performance and to assist the Contractor in locating the sites that will receive mulch. The Contractor is not to begin work at any given location without notifying the Engineer and receiving specific approval to proceed. Notification shall be a minimum of 48 hours. A list of contact personnel and phone numbers of contract staff shall be provided upon award of contract. At all times, the Contractor shall have one person onsite that understands the terms and conditions of the contract and can effectively communicate with the Department

personnel.

At the discretion of the Engineer, mulch shall be applied at a depth not to exceed four (4) inches for new mulch areas and not to exceed two (2) inches of depth in areas with existing mulch. The Department will not be responsible for payment of mulch that has been excessively applied. If the Contractor applies too much mulch to an incorrect depth, all work will stop until the mulch is at the correct depth whether by mechanical or other means. The Contractor shall provide at all times a minimum of two (2) people to operate each blower/applicator and to apply the mulch, unless otherwise approved by the Engineer.

The Contractor shall be responsible for pickup of excessive mulch by hand tools or use a backpack blower at each individual site.

The Contractor shall conduct the operation in such a manner to prevent injury to desired species. Mulch shall be tapered and not placed against the tree or shrub trunk so as to cause insect damage to the trunk or to promote adventitious root development. Following mulching operations, Contractor shall lift any branches or leaves of desirable plants which have been covered with mulch. If the Contractor damages or significantly injures any of the established plant material on this project such as, but not limited to: (skinning, scraping, breaking or gouging of limbs or branches), the Contractor will be required to replace the plant at same size and height as the original species at his or her cost. Such damage or injuries shall be determined by the Engineer or his/her representative.

Measurement and Payment

The Contractor shall furnish an original delivery ticket to the Department for each load of mulch delivered and applied. Mulch amounts shall be verified and approved by the Engineer or his representative, whether by a properly functioning metering device, proof of number of mulch bags with cubic feet marked on the outside of the bag. The Department reserves the right to measure the dimensions of Contractor trucks used for hauling and/or applying mulch in order to verify volume quantities. The Contractor agrees to make such trucks available to the Department if measuring is desired. Delivery ticket(s) shall include cubic yards volume per each individual load, quantity and volume of bags, as well as purchase order number, date, and work site. NCDOT should check delivery tickets for discrepancies at the delivery site or as soon as possible and notify the Contractor immediately for any verification or measurement desired if discrepancies are noticed. Resolution of discrepancies will be a joint responsibility of the North Carolina Turnpike Authority Representative and the Contractor. Failure of the Contractor to properly notify or receive signed verification will result in forfeiture of Contractor’s right to collect on any mulch applied under such circumstances.

“Shredded Hardwood Mulch” will be measured and paid for as the cubic yards of mulch which has been placed as directed and accepted. The Contractor shall supply the supervision, labor, hardwood bark mulch, and equipment necessary to comply with these specifications. Contractor shall be responsible for traffic control and safety measures approved by the Triangle Expressway Maintenance Engineer prior to initiation of work.

Payment will be made under:

Pay Item	Unit
Shredded Hardwood Bark Mulch	CYD

All work or items necessary to complete the work other than those listed on the “Bid Proposal Form” will be considered incidental in nature and no additional compensation shall be made.

TOLL FACILITY PAYMENT

The Contractor will be responsible for paying applicable tolls. The Department will **not** directly reimburse the Contractor for tolls paid during performance of the work in this contract as the cost of same will be considered incidental to the work being paid for under those various item(s) that have been included.

TOLL TRAFFIC COORDINATION

The Contractor shall notify the NCTA and the Traffic Management Center (TMC) at least 24 hours in advance of any contract work activities. Notification by telephone will not be allowed. The Contractor shall notify the Traffic Management Center by email at ncta_tmc@ncdot.gov in advance of any work for this project. This notification allows the public to be notified via message boards and is for the safety of the Contractor and the traveling public.

The Contractor shall also keep the Triangle Expressway Maintenance Department notified of all activities on the toll facilities. The Triangle Expressway Maintenance Department can be reached at 919-814-6063.

LITTER

The project shall be policed at each visit and all waste, litter, and debris shall be removed and properly disposed of off-site. Contractors are encouraged to wherever possible to separate trash and recyclables such as glass, aluminum, and other products, and appropriately dispose of each material. The discarding of trash other than in acceptable trash containers will be considered littering and will not be tolerated on NC DOT projects. Litter pick-up will be considered incidental to maintenance work. No additional compensation will be made for litter pick-up.

PROTECTION AND RESTORATION OF PROPERTY

The Contractor shall be responsible for the protection from his activities of all public and private property on and adjacent to the work and shall use every reasonable precaution necessary to prevent damage or injury thereto. He shall use suitable precautions to prevent damage to pipes, conduits and other underground structures, and to poles, wires, cables and other overhead structures, and to plantings.

The Contractor shall conduct his operations so as to prevent damage to roadway delineators and signs. Should any essential sign (**YIELD, ONE WAY, WRONG WAY, etc.**) suffer any damage, the Engineer, or his representative, shall be notified within two hours of the aforesaid damage. Damage to **STOP** signs shall be repaired by the Contractor immediately and reported to the Engineer within two hours of the aforesaid damage. Such signs may be repaired or replaced by the Department at the Contractor's expense. Damage to other signs, delineators, etc. may be repaired or replaced by the Contractor subject to approval by the Engineer or they may be repaired or replaced by the Department at the Contractor's expense.

COOPERATION BETWEEN CONTRACTORS

The Department reserves the right at any time to contract for and perform other or additional work on or near the work covered by the contract. When separate or additional contracts are let within the limits of any one project, each Contractor shall conduct his work so as not to interfere with or hinder the progress or completion of the work being performed by other Contractors. Contractors working within the limits of the same project shall cooperate with each other. Each Contractor shall conduct his operations in such a manner as to avoid damaging any work being performed by others or which others have completed.

The Department will under no circumstances be liable for any claim for additional compensation due to acts of one Contractor holding up the work of another. The Department will under no circumstances be liable for any damages experienced by one Contractor as a result of the presence and operations of other Contractors working within the limits of the same project.

DAMAGES

The Contractor shall be held liable for all damage done, as a result of his operation or his Subcontractors, to fixed objects such as, but not limited to, fences, posts, roadway surfaces, shoulders, guardrail, drainage structure, signs, pavement markers, utilities, and all vegetation including turf, trees, shrubs, flower beds and desirable natural growth. Damage shall include among other things; skinning, scraping, breaking of tree limbs or gouging of trees or shrubs, and rutting, scalping or tearing turf.

Costs associated with damages caused by the Contractor to plant material will be assessed based on current cost to replace with like material of equal size or an equivalent combination. Such cost shall be deducted from the Contractor's monthly invoice. All turf damage repairs shall be made by the Contractor as herein specified. Seed shall meet purity and germination requirements as specified by the Engineer. Only friable topsoil shall be used to fill any depressions, ruts, etc., prior to seeding. All other property damage will be assessed for actual replacement costs including labor, materials, and equipment.

Cost associated with damages caused by the Contractor's operation shall be deducted from monthly invoice payments or the Contractor will be required to repair the damages at his cost as directed by the Engineer. This is in addition to any compensation reduction assessed as a result of poor or non-performance of duties outlined in this contract.

Contractor is responsible for any injury or damages received or sustained by any person, persons, or property by reason of any act of the Contractor, Subcontractor, its agents or employees, in the performance of the contract.

WORK ZONE SIGNING AND REQUIREMENTS

The work zone advance warning signs (see Roadway Standard Drawing No. 1101.01) and/or portable work zone signs (see Roadway Standard Drawing No. 1110.02) to be installed at the project limits shall be furnished and installed by the Contractor prior to beginning of work and shall be removed at the end of the work period.

The Contractor shall be responsible for maintenance of all general work zone warning signs. When application is completed in any given area, the Contractor shall relocate signs to the next work site as directed by the Engineer.

The Contractor shall utilize 48" x 48" "Work Zone Ahead" signs mounted at least five (5) feet from the ground. These signs shall be either composite, aluminum, or retroreflective roll up. Non-reflective mesh signs will not be accepted.

Additional Requirements:

- (A) WHEN PERSONNEL AND/OR EQUIPMENT ARE WORKING WITHIN FIFTEEN FEET (15') OF AN OPEN TRAVEL LANE, CLOSE THE NEAREST OPEN SHOULDER USING ROADWAY STANDARD DRAWING NO. 1101.04 UNLESS THE WORK AREA IS PROTECTED BY BARRIER OR GUARDRAIL OR A LANE CLOSURE IS INSTALLED.
- (B) WHEN PERSONNEL AND/OR EQUIPMENT ARE WORKING ON THE SHOULDER ADJACENT TO AN UNDIVIDED FACILITY AND WITHIN FIVE FEET (5') OF AN OPEN TRAVEL LANE, CLOSE THE NEAREST OPEN TRAVEL LANE USING ROADWAY STANDARD DRAWING NO. 1101.02 UNLESS THE WORK AREA IS PROTECTED BY BARRIER OR GUARDRAIL.

WHEN PERSONNEL AND/OR EQUIPMENT ARE WORKING ON THE SHOULDER ADJACENT TO A DIVIDED FACILITY AND WITHIN TEN FEET (10') OF AN OPEN TRAVEL LANE, CLOSE THE NEAREST OPEN TRAVEL LANE USING ROADWAY STANDARD DRAWING NO. 1101.02 UNLESS THE WORK AREA IS PROTECTED BY BARRIER OR GUARDRAIL.
- (C) WHEN PERSONNEL AND/OR EQUIPMENT ARE WORKING WITHIN A LANE OF TRAVEL OF AN UNDIVIDED OR DIVIDED FACILITY, CLOSE THE LANE ACCORDING TO THE TRAFFIC CONTROL PLANS, ROADWAY STANDARD DRAWINGS, OR AS DIRECTED BY THE ENGINEER. CONDUCT THE WORK SO THAT ALL PERSONNEL AND/OR EQUIPMENT REMAIN WITHIN THE CLOSED TRAVEL LANE.

No direct payment will be made for providing signing and traffic control item(s), as the cost of same will be considered incidental to the work being paid for under those various pay item(s) that have been included.

WORK ZONE INSTALLER:

Provide the service of at least one qualified work zone installer during the setup, installation, and removal of temporary traffic control within the highway right of way. The qualified work zone installer shall serve as crew leader and shall be on site and directing the installation and removal of temporary traffic control. If multiple temporary traffic control installations or removals are occurring simultaneously, then each shall have a qualified work zone installer.

The work zone installer shall be qualified by an NCDOT approved training agency in the safe and competent set up of temporary traffic control. For a complete listing of approved training agencies, see the Work Zone Safety Training webpage.

A work zone supervisor, in accordance with Article 1101-13 of the *Standard Specifications*, may fulfill the role of the work zone installer during the setup, installation, and removal of temporary traffic control within the highway right of way provided they are on site and directing the installation and removal of temporary traffic control.

All other individuals participating in the setup, installation, and removal of temporary traffic control within the highway right of way shall be certified as a qualified flagger in accordance with Article 1150-3 of the *Standard Specifications*, even if flagging is not being performed as part of the traffic control.

Provide the name and contact information of all qualified work zone installers to the Engineer prior to or at the preconstruction conference. Additionally, provide a qualification statement that all other individuals participating in the setup, installation, and removal of temporary traffic control are qualified flaggers that have been properly trained through an NCDOT approved training agency.

EQUIPMENT IDLING GUIDELINES:

Exercise reduced fuel consumption and reduced equipment emissions during the construction of all work associated with this contract. Employees engaged in the construction of this project should turn off vehicles when stopped for more than thirty (30) minutes and off-highway equipment should idle no longer than fifteen (15) consecutive minutes.

These guidelines for turning off vehicles and equipment when idling do not apply to:

1. Idling when queuing.
2. Idling to verify the vehicle is in safe operating condition.
3. Idling for testing, servicing, repairing or diagnostic purposes.
4. Idling necessary to accomplish work for which the vehicle was designed (such as operating a crane, mixing concrete, etc.).
5. Idling required to bring the machine system to operating temperature.
6. Emergency vehicles, utility company, construction, and maintenance vehicles where the engines must run to perform needed work.
7. Idling to ensure safe operation of the vehicle.
8. Idling when the propulsion engine is providing auxiliary power for other than heating or air conditioning. (such as hydraulic systems for pavers)
9. When specific traffic, safety, or emergency situations arise.
10. If the ambient temperature is less than 32 degrees Fahrenheit. Limited idling to provide for the safety of vehicle occupants (e.g. to run the heater).
11. If the ambient temperature is greater than 90 degrees Fahrenheit. Limited idling to provide for the safety of vehicle occupants of off-highway equipment (e.g. to run the air conditioning) no more than 30 minutes.
12. Diesel powered vehicles may idle for up to 30 minutes to minimize restart problems.

Any vehicle, truck, or equipment in which the primary source of fuel is natural gas or electricity is exempt from the idling limitations set forth in this special provision.

MINORITY BUSINESS ENTERPRISE AND WOMEN BUSINESS ENTERPRISE (DIVISIONS):

(10-16-07)(Rev. 8-17-21)

102-15(J)

SP1 G67

Description

The purpose of this Special Provision is to carry out the North Carolina Department of Transportation's policy of ensuring nondiscrimination in the award and administration of contracts financed in whole or in part with State funds.

Definitions

Additional MBE/WBE Subcontractors - Any MBE/WBE submitted at the time of bid that will not be used to meet the Combined MBE/WBE goal. No submittal of a Letter of Intent is required.

Combined MBE/WBE Goal: A portion of the total contract, expressed as a percentage that is to be performed by committed MBE/WBE subcontractors.

Committed MBE/WBE Subcontractor - Any MBE/WBE submitted at the time of bid that is being used to meet the Combined MBE / WBE goal by submission of a Letter of Intent. Or any MBE or WBE used as a replacement for a previously committed MBE or WBE firm.

Contract Goal Requirement - The approved participation at time of award, but not greater than the advertised Combined MBE/WBE contract goal.

Goal Confirmation Letter - Written documentation from the Department to the bidder confirming the Contractor's approved, committed participation along with a listing of the committed MBE and WBE firms.

Manufacturer - A firm that operates or maintains a factory or establishment that produces on the premises, the materials or supplies obtained by the Contractor.

MBE Participation (Anticipated) - A portion of the total contract, expressed as a percentage that is anticipated to be performed by committed MBE subcontractor(s).

Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) - A firm certified as a Disadvantaged Minority-Owned Business Enterprise through the North Carolina Unified Certification Program.

Regular Dealer - A firm that owns, operates, or maintains a store, warehouse, or other establishment in which the materials or supplies required for the performance of the contract are bought, kept in stock, and regularly sold to the public in the usual course of business. A regular dealer engages in, as its principal business and in its own name, the purchase and sale or lease of the products in question. A regular dealer in such bulk items as steel, cement, gravel, stone, and petroleum products need not keep such products in stock, if it owns and operates distribution equipment for the products. Brokers and packagers are not regarded as manufacturers or regular dealers within the meaning of this section.

Replacement / Substitution - A full or partial reduction in the amount of work subcontracted to a committed (or an approved substitute) MBE/WBE firm.

North Carolina Unified Certification Program (NCUCP) - A program that provides comprehensive services and information to applicants for MBE/WBE certification. The MBE/WBE program follows the same regulations as the federal Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) program in accordance with 49 CFR Part 26.

United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) - Federal agency responsible for issuing regulations (49 CFR Part 26) and official guidance for the DBE program.

WBE Participation (Anticipated) - A portion of the total contract, expressed as a percentage that is anticipated to be performed by committed WBE subcontractor(s).

Women Business Enterprise (WBE) - A firm certified as a Disadvantaged Women-Owned Business Enterprise through the North Carolina Unified Certification Program.

Forms and Websites Referenced in this Provision

Payment Tracking System - On-line system in which the Contractor enters the payments made to MBE and WBE subcontractors who have performed work on the project. <https://apps.dot.state.nc.us/Vendor/PaymentTracking/>

DBE-IS Subcontractor Payment Information - Form for reporting the payments made to all MBE/WBE firms working on the project. This form is for paper bid projects only.

<https://connect.ncdot.gov/business/Turnpike/Documents/Form%20DBE-IS%20Subcontractor%20Payment%20Information.pdf>

RF-1 MBE/WBE Replacement Request Form - Form for replacing a committed MBE or WBE.

<http://connect.ncdot.gov/projects/construction/Construction%20Forms/DBE%20MBE%20WBE%20Replacement%20Request%20Form.pdf>

SAF Subcontract Approval Form - Form required for approval to sublet the contract.

<http://connect.ncdot.gov/projects/construction/Construction%20Forms/Subcontract%20Approval%20Form%20Rev.%20012.zip>

JC-1 Joint Check Notification Form - Form and procedures for joint check notification. The form acts as a written joint

check agreement among the parties providing full and prompt disclosure of the expected use of joint checks.

<http://connect.ncdot.gov/projects/construction/Construction%20Forms/Joint%20Check%20Notification%20Form.pdf>

Letter of Intent - Form signed by the Contractor and the MBE/WBE subcontractor, manufacturer or regular dealer that affirms that a portion of said contract is going to be performed by the signed MBE/WBE for the estimated amount (based on quantities and unit prices) listed at the time of bid.

<http://connect.ncdot.gov/letting/LetCentral/Letter%20of%20Intent%20to%20Perform%20as%20a%20Subcontractor.pdf>

Listing of MBE and WBE Subcontractors Form - Form for entering MBE/WBE subcontractors on a project that will meet the Combined MBE/WBE goal. This form is for paper bids only.

[http://connect.ncdot.gov/municipalities/Bid%20Proposals%20for%20LGA%20Content/09%20MBE-WBE%20Subcontractors%20\(State\).docx](http://connect.ncdot.gov/municipalities/Bid%20Proposals%20for%20LGA%20Content/09%20MBE-WBE%20Subcontractors%20(State).docx)

Subcontractor Quote Comparison Sheet - Spreadsheet for showing all subcontractor quotes in the work areas where MBEs and WBEs quoted on the project. This sheet is submitted with good faith effort packages.

<http://connect.ncdot.gov/business/SmallBusiness/Documents/DBE%20Subcontractor%20Quote%20Comparison%20Example.xls>

Combined MBE/WBE Goal

The Combined MBE/WBE Goal for this project is **zero %**

The Combined Goal was established utilizing the following anticipated participation for Minority Business Enterprises and Women Business Enterprises:

(A) Minority Business Enterprises **zero %**

- (1) *If the anticipated MBE participation is more than zero*, the Contractor shall exercise all necessary and reasonable steps to ensure that MBEs participate in at least the percent of the contract as set forth above.
- (2) *If the anticipated MBE participation is zero*, the Contractor shall make an effort to recruit and use MBEs during the performance of the contract. Any MBE participation obtained shall be reported to the Department.

(B) Women Business Enterprises **zero %**

- (1) *If the anticipated WBE participation is more than zero*, the Contractor shall exercise all necessary and reasonable steps to ensure that WBEs participate in at least the percent of the contract as set forth above.
- (2) *If the anticipated WBE participation is zero*, the Contractor shall make an effort to recruit and use WBEs during the performance of the contract. Any WBE participation obtained shall be reported to the Department.

The Bidder is required to submit only participation to meet the Combined MBE/WBE Goal. The Combined Goal may be met by submitting all MBE participation, all WBE participation, or a combination of MBE and WBE participation.

Directory of Transportation Firms (Directory)

Real-time information is available about firms doing business with the Department and firms that are certified through NCUCP in the Directory of Transportation Firms. Only firms identified in the Directory as MBE and WBE certified shall be used to meet the Combined MBE / WBE goal. The Directory can be found at the following link.

<https://www.ebs.nc.gov/VendorDirectory/default.html>

The listing of an individual firm in the directory shall not be construed as an endorsement of the firm's capability to perform certain work.

Listing of MBE/WBE Subcontractors

At the time of bid, bidders shall submit all MBE and WBE participation that they anticipate to use during the life of the contract. Only those identified to meet the Combined MBE/WBE goal will be considered committed, even though the listing shall include both committed MBE/WBE subcontractors and additional MBE/WBE subcontractors. Any additional MBE/WBE subcontractor participation above the goal will follow the banking guidelines found elsewhere in this provision. All other additional MBE/WBE subcontractor participation submitted at the time of bid will be used toward the Department's overall race-neutral goals. Only those firms with current MBE and WBE certification at the time of bid opening will be acceptable for listing in the bidder's submittal of MBE and WBE participation. The Contractor shall indicate the following required information:

(A) Electronic Bids

Bidders shall submit a listing of MBE and WBE participation in the appropriate section of the electronic submittal file.

- (1) Submit the names and addresses of MBE and WBE firms identified to participate in the contract. If the bidder uses the updated listing of MBE and WBE firms shown in the electronic submittal file, the bidder may use the dropdown menu to access the name and address of the firms.

- (2) Submit the contract line numbers of work to be performed by each MBE and WBE firm. When no figures or firms are entered, the bidder will be considered to have no MBE or WBE participation.
 - (3) The bidder shall be responsible for ensuring that the MBE and WBE are certified at the time of bid by checking the Directory of Transportation Firms. If the firm is not certified at the time of the bid-letting, that MBE's or WBE's participation will not count towards achieving the Combined MBE/WBE goal.
- (B) Paper Bids
- (1) *If the Combined MBE/ WBE goal is more than zero,*
 - (a) Bidders, at the time the bid proposal is submitted, shall submit a listing of MBE/WBE participation, including the names and addresses on *Listing of MBE and WBE Subcontractors* contained elsewhere in the contract documents in order for the bid to be considered responsive. Bidders shall indicate the total dollar value of the MBE and WBE participation for the contract.
 - (b) If bidders have no MBE or WBE participation, they shall indicate this on the *Listing of MBE and WBE Subcontractors* by entering the word "None" or the number "0." This form shall be completed in its entirety. **Blank forms will not be deemed to represent zero participation.** Bids submitted that do not have MBE and WBE participation indicated on the appropriate form will not be read publicly during the opening of bids. The Department will not consider these bids for award and the proposal will be rejected.
 - (c) The bidder shall be responsible for ensuring that the MBE/WBE is certified at the time of bid by checking the Directory of Transportation Firms. If the firm is not certified at the time of the bid-letting, that MBE's or WBE's participation will not count towards achieving the Combined MBE/WBE goal.
 - (2) *If the Combined MBE/WBE Goal is zero,* entries on the *Listing of MBE and WBE Subcontractors* are not required for the zero goal, however any MBE or WBE participation that is achieved during the project shall be reported in accordance with requirements contained elsewhere in the special provision.

MBE or WBE Prime Contractor

When a certified MBE or WBE firm bids on a contract that contains a Combined MBE/WBE Goal, the firm is responsible for meeting the goal or making good faith efforts to meet the goal, just like any other bidder. In most cases, a MBE or WBE bidder on a contract will meet the Combined MBE/WBE goal by virtue of the work it performs on the contract with its own forces. However, all the work that is performed by the MBE or WBE bidder and any other similarly certified subcontractors will count toward the goal. The MBE or WBE bidder shall list itself along with any MBE or WBE subcontractors, if any, in order to receive credit toward the goals.

MBE/WBE prime contractors shall also follow Sections A or B listed under *Listing of MBE/WBE Subcontractors* just as a non-MBE/WBE bidder would.

Written Documentation – Letter of Intent

The bidder shall submit written documentation for each MBE/WBE that will be used to meet the Combined MBE/WBE goal of the contract, indicating the bidder's commitment to use the MBE/WBE in the contract. This documentation shall be submitted on the Department's form titled *Letter of Intent*.

The documentation shall be received in the office of the Engineer no later than 2:00 p.m. of the fifth calendar day following opening of bids, unless the fifth day falls on Saturday, Sunday or an official state holiday. In that situation, it is due in the office of the Engineer no later than 10:00 a.m. on the next official state business day.

If the bidder fails to submit the Letter of Intent from each committed MBE and WBE to be used toward the Combined MBE/WBE goal, or if the form is incomplete (i.e. both signatures are not present), the MBE/WBE participation will not count toward meeting the Combined MBE/WBE goal. If the lack of this participation drops the commitment below the Combined MBE/WBE goal, the Contractor shall submit evidence of good faith efforts for the goal not met, completed in its entirety, to the Engineer no later than 2:00 p.m. of the eighth calendar day following opening of bids, unless the eighth day falls on Saturday, Sunday or an official state holiday. In that situation, it is due in the office of the Engineer no later than 10:00 a.m. on the next official state business day.

Banking MBE/WBE Credit

If the committed MBE/WBE participation submitted exceeds the algebraic sum of the Combined MBE/WBE goal by \$1,000 or more, the excess will be placed on deposit by the Department for future use by the bidder. Separate accounts will be maintained for MBE and WBE participation and these may accumulate for a period not to exceed 24 months. When the apparent lowest responsive bidder fails to submit sufficient participation by MBE and WBE firms to meet the advertised goal, as part of the good faith effort, the Department will consider allowing the bidder to withdraw funds to meet the Combined MBE/WBE goal as long as there are adequate funds available from the bidder's MBE and WBE bank

accounts.

Submission of Good Faith Effort

If the bidder fails to meet or exceed the Combined MBE/WBE goal, the apparent lowest responsive bidder shall submit to the Department documentation of adequate good faith efforts made to reach that specific goal.

One complete set and **two** copies of this information shall be received in the office of the Engineer no later than 2:00 p.m. of the fifth calendar day following opening of bids, unless the fifth day falls on Saturday, Sunday or an official state holiday. In that situation, it is due in the office of the Engineer no later than 10:00 a.m. on the next official state business day.

Note: Where the information submitted includes repetitious solicitation letters, it will be acceptable to submit a representative letter along with a distribution list of the firms that were solicited. Documentation of MBE/WBE quotations shall be a part of the good faith effort submittal. This documentation may include written subcontractor quotations, telephone log notations of verbal quotations, or other types of quotation documentation.

Consideration of Good Faith Effort for Projects with a Combined MBE/WBE Goal More Than Zero

Adequate good faith efforts mean that the bidder took all necessary and reasonable steps to achieve the goal which, by their scope, intensity, and appropriateness, could reasonably be expected to obtain sufficient MBE/WBE participation. Adequate good faith efforts also mean that the bidder actively and aggressively sought MBE/WBE participation. Mere *pro forma* efforts are not considered good faith efforts.

The Department will consider the quality, quantity, and intensity of the different kinds of efforts a bidder has made.

Listed below are examples of the types of actions a bidder will take in making a good faith effort to meet the goals and are not intended to be exclusive or exhaustive, nor is it intended to be a mandatory checklist.

- (A) Soliciting through all reasonable and available means (e.g. attendance at pre-bid meetings, advertising, written notices, use of verifiable electronic means through the use of the NCDOT Directory of Transportation Firms) the interest of all certified MBEs/WBEs that are also prequalified subcontractors. The bidder must solicit this interest within at least 10 days prior to bid opening to allow the MBEs/WBEs to respond to the solicitation. Solicitation shall provide the opportunity to MBEs/WBEs within the Division and surrounding Divisions where the project is located. The bidder must determine with certainty if the MBEs/WBEs are interested by taking appropriate steps to follow up initial solicitations.
- (B) Selecting portions of the work to be performed by MBEs/WBEs in order to increase the likelihood that the Combined MBE/WBE goal will be achieved.
 - (1) Where appropriate, break out contract work items into economically feasible units to facilitate MBE/WBE participation, even when the prime contractor might otherwise prefer to perform these work items with its own forces.
 - (2) Negotiate with subcontractors to assume part of the responsibility to meet the advertised goal when the work to be sublet includes potential for MBE/WBE participation (2nd and 3rd tier subcontractors).
- (C) Providing interested certified MBEs/WBEs that are also prequalified subcontractors with adequate information about the plans, specifications, and requirements of the contract in a timely manner to assist them in responding to a solicitation.
- (D)
 - (1) Negotiating in good faith with interested MBEs/WBEs. It is the bidder's responsibility to make a portion of the work available to MBE/WBE subcontractors and suppliers and to select those portions of the work or material needs consistent with the available MBE/WBE subcontractors and suppliers, so as to facilitate MBE/WBE participation. Evidence of such negotiation includes the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of MBEs/WBEs that were considered; a description of the information provided regarding the plans and specifications for the work selected for subcontracting; and evidence as to why additional agreements could not be reached for MBEs/WBEs to perform the work.
 - (2) A bidder using good business judgment would consider a number of factors in negotiating with subcontractors, including MBE/WBE subcontractors, and would take a firm's price and capabilities as well as the advertised goal into consideration. However, the fact that there may be some additional costs involved in finding and using MBEs/WBEs is not in itself sufficient reason for a bidder's failure to meet the advertised goal, as long as such costs are reasonable. Also, the ability or desire of a prime contractor to perform the work of a contract with its own organization does not relieve the bidder of the responsibility to make good faith efforts. Bidding contractors are not, however, required to accept higher quotes from MBEs/WBEs if the price difference is excessive or unreasonable.
- (E) Not rejecting MBEs/WBEs as being unqualified without sound reasons based on a thorough investigation of their

capabilities. The bidder's standing within its industry, membership in specific groups, organizations, or associates and political or social affiliations (for example, union vs. non-union employee status) are not legitimate causes for the rejection or non-solicitation of bids in the bidder's efforts to meet the project goal.

- (F) Making efforts to assist interested MBEs/WBEs in obtaining bonding, lines of credit, or insurance as required by the recipient or bidder.
- (G) Making efforts to assist interested MBEs/WBEs in obtaining necessary equipment, supplies, materials, or related assistance or services.
- (H) Effectively using the services of available minority/women community organizations; minority/women contractors' groups; Federal, State, and local minority/women business assistance offices; and other organizations as allowed on a case-by-case basis to provide assistance in the recruitment and placement of MBEs/WBEs. Contact within 7 days from the bid opening the Business Opportunity and Work Force Development Unit at BOWD@ncdot.gov to give notification of the bidder's inability to get MBE or WBE quotes.
- (I) Any other evidence that the bidder submits which shows that the bidder has made reasonable good faith efforts to meet the advertised goal.

In addition, the Department may take into account the following:

- (1) Whether the bidder's documentation reflects a clear and realistic plan for achieving the Combined MBE/WBE goal.
- (2) The bidders' past performance in meeting the contract goal.
- (3) The performance of other bidders in meeting the advertised goal. For example, when the apparent successful bidder fails to meet the goal, but others meet it, you may reasonably raise the question of whether, with additional reasonable efforts the apparent successful bidder could have met the goal. If the apparent successful bidder fails to meet the advertised goal, but meets or exceeds the average MBE and WBE participation obtained by other bidders, the Department may view this, in conjunction with other factors, as evidence of the apparent successful bidder having made a good faith effort.

If the Department does not award the contract to the apparent lowest responsive bidder, the Department reserves the right to award the contract to the next lowest responsive bidder that can satisfy to the Department that the Combined MBE/WBE goal can be met or that an adequate good faith effort has been made to meet the advertised goal.

Non-Good Faith Appeal

The Engineer will notify the contractor verbally and in writing of non-good faith. A contractor may appeal a determination of non-good faith made by the Goal Compliance Committee. If a contractor wishes to appeal the determination made by the Committee, they shall provide written notification to the Engineer. The appeal shall be made within 2 business days of notification of the determination of non-good faith.

Counting MBE/WBE Participation Toward Meeting the Combined MBE/WBE Goal

- (A) Participation
The total dollar value of the participation by a committed MBE/WBE will be counted toward the contract goal requirements. The total dollar value of participation by a committed MBE/WBE will be based upon the value of work actually performed by the MBE/WBE and the actual payments to MBE/WBE firms by the Contractor.
- (B) Joint Checks
Prior notification of joint check use shall be required when counting MBE/WBE participation for services or purchases that involves the use of a joint check. Notification shall be through submission of Form JC-1 (*Joint Check Notification Form*) and the use of joint checks shall be in accordance with the Department's Joint Check Procedures.
- (C) Subcontracts (Non-Trucking)
A MBE/WBE may enter into subcontracts. Work that a MBE subcontracts to another MBE firm may be counted toward the anticipated MBE participation. The same holds for work that a WBE subcontracts to another WBE firm. Work that a MBE/WBE subcontracts to a non-MBE/WBE firm does not count toward the contract goal requirement. It should be noted that every effort shall be made by MBE and WBE contractors to subcontract to the same certification (i.e., MBEs to MBEs and WBEs to WBEs), in order to fulfill the MBE or WBE participation breakdown. This, however, may not always be possible due to the limitation of firms in the area. If the MBE or WBE firm shows a good faith effort has been made to reach out to similarly certified firms and there is no interest or availability, and they can get assistance from other certified firms, the Engineer will not hold the prime responsible for meeting the individual MBE or WBE breakdown. If a MBE or WBE contractor or subcontractor subcontracts a significantly greater portion of the work of the contract than would be expected on the basis of standard industry practices, it shall be presumed that the MBE or WBE is not performing

a commercially useful function.

(D) Joint Venture

When a MBE or WBE performs as a participant in a joint venture, the Contractor may count toward its contract goal requirement a portion of the total value of participation with the MBE or WBE in the joint venture, that portion of the total dollar value being a distinct clearly defined portion of work that the MBE or WBE performs with its forces.

(E) Suppliers

A contractor may count toward its MBE /WBE requirement 60 percent of its expenditures for materials and supplies required to complete the contract and obtained from a MBE or WBE regular dealer and 100 percent of such expenditures from a MBE or WBE manufacturer.

(F) Manufacturers and Regular Dealers

A contractor may count toward its MBE /WBE requirement the following expenditures to MBE/WBE firms that are not manufacturers or regular dealers:

- (1) The fees or commissions charged by a MBE/WBE firm for providing a *bona fide* service, such as professional, technical, consultant, or managerial services, or for providing bonds or insurance specifically required for the performance of a DOT-assisted contract, provided the fees or commissions are determined to be reasonable and not excessive as compared with fees and commissions customarily allowed for similar services.
- (2) With respect to materials or supplies purchased from a MBE/WBE, which is neither a manufacturer nor a regular dealer, count the entire amount of fees or commissions charged for assistance in the procurement of the materials and supplies, or fees or transportation charges for the delivery of materials or supplies required on a job site (but not the cost of the materials and supplies themselves), provided the fees are determined to be reasonable and not excessive as compared with fees customarily allowed for similar services.

Commercially Useful Function

(A) MBE/WBE Utilization

The Contractor may count toward its contract goal requirement only expenditures to MBEs and WBEs that perform a commercially useful function in the work of a contract. A MBE/WBE performs a commercially useful function when it is responsible for execution of the work of the contract and is carrying out its responsibilities by actually performing, managing, and supervising the work involved. To perform a commercially useful function, the MBE/WBE shall also be responsible with respect to materials and supplies used on the contract, for negotiating price, determining quality and quantity, ordering the material and installing (where applicable) and paying for the material itself. To determine whether a MBE/WBE is performing a commercially useful function, the Department will evaluate the amount of work subcontracted, industry practices, whether the amount the firm is to be paid under the contract is commensurate with the work it is actually performing and the MBE/WBE credit claimed for its performance of the work, and any other relevant factors. If it is determined that a MBE or WBE is not performing a Commercially Useful Function, the contractor may present evidence to rebut this presumption to the Department.

(B) MBE/WBE Utilization in Trucking

The following factors will be used to determine if a MBE or WBE trucking firm is performing a commercially useful function:

- (1) The MBE/WBE shall be responsible for the management and supervision of the entire trucking operation for which it is responsible on a particular contract, and there shall not be a contrived arrangement for the purpose of meeting the Combined MBE/WBE goal.
- (2) The MBE/WBE shall itself own and operate at least one fully licensed, insured, and operational truck used on the contract.
- (3) The MBE/WBE receives credit for the total value of the transportation services it provides on the contract using trucks it owns, insures, and operates using drivers it employs.
- (4) The MBE may subcontract the work to another MBE firm, including an owner-operator who is certified as a MBE. The same holds true that a WBE may subcontract the work to another WBE firm, including an owner-operator who is certified as a WBE. When this occurs, the MBE or WBE who subcontracts work receives credit for the total value of the transportation services the subcontracted MBE or WBE provides on the contract. It should be noted that every effort shall be made by MBE and WBE contractors to subcontract to the same certification (i.e., MBEs to MBEs and WBEs to

WBEs), in order to fulfill the participation breakdown. This, however, may not always be possible due to the limitation of firms in the area. If the MBE or WBE firm shows a good faith effort has been made to reach out to similarly certified transportation service providers and there is no interest or availability, and they can get assistance from other certified providers, the Engineer will not hold the prime responsible for meeting the individual MBE or WBE participation breakdown.

- (5) The MBE/WBE may also subcontract the work to a non-MBE/WBE firm, including from an owner-operator. The MBE/WBE who subcontracts the work to a non-MBE/WBE is entitled to credit for the total value of transportation services provided by the non-MBE/WBE subcontractor not to exceed the value of transportation services provided by MBE/WBE-owned trucks on the contract. Additional participation by non-MBE/WBE subcontractors receives credit only for the fee or commission it receives as a result of the subcontract arrangement. The value of services performed under subcontract agreements between the MBE/WBE and the Contractor will not count towards the MBE/WBE contract requirement.
- (6) A MBE/WBE may lease truck(s) from an established equipment leasing business open to the general public. The lease must indicate that the MBE/WBE has exclusive use of and control over the truck. This requirement does not preclude the leased truck from working for others during the term of the lease with the consent of the MBE/WBE, so long as the lease gives the MBE/WBE absolute priority for use of the leased truck. This type of lease may count toward the MBE/WBE's credit as long as the driver is under the MBE/WBE's payroll.
- (7) Subcontracted/leased trucks shall display clearly on the dashboard the name of the MBE/WBE that they are subcontracted/leased to and their own company name if it is not identified on the truck itself. Magnetic door signs are not permitted.

MBE/WBE Replacement

When a Contractor has relied on a commitment to a MBE or WBE subcontractor (or an approved substitute MBE or WBE subcontractor) to meet all or part of a contract goal requirement, the contractor shall not terminate the MBE/WBE subcontractor for convenience. This includes, but is not limited to, instances in which the Contractor seeks to perform the work of the terminated subcontractor with another MBE/WBE subcontractor, a non-MBE/WBE subcontractor, or with the Contractor's own forces or those of an affiliate.

The Contractor must give notice in writing both by certified mail and email to the MBE/WBE subcontractor, with a copy to the Engineer of its intent to request to terminate and/or substitute, and the reason for the request. The Contractor must give the MBE/WBE subcontractor five (5) business days to respond to the Contractor's Notice of Intent to Request Termination and/or Substitution. If the MBE/WBE subcontractor objects to the intended termination/substitution, the MBE/WBE, within five (5) business days must advise the Contractor and the Department of the reasons why the action should not be approved. The five-day notice period shall begin on the next business day after written notice is provided to the MBE/WBE subcontractor.

A committed MBE/WBE subcontractor may only be terminated after receiving the Department's written approval based upon a finding of good cause for the proposed termination and/or substitution. For purposes of this section, good cause shall include the following circumstances:

- (a) The listed MBE/WBE subcontractor fails or refuses to execute a written contract;
- (b) The listed MBE/WBE subcontractor fails or refuses to perform the work of its subcontract in a way consistent with normal industry standards. Provided, however, that good cause does not exist if the failure or refusal of the MBE/WBE subcontractor to perform its work on the subcontract results from the bad faith or discriminatory action of the prime contractor;
- (c) The listed MBE/WBE subcontractor fails or refuses to meet the prime contractor's reasonable, nondiscriminatory bond requirements;
- (d) The listed MBE/WBE subcontractor becomes bankrupt, insolvent, or exhibits credit unworthiness;
- (e) The listed MBE/WBE subcontractor is ineligible to work on public works projects because of suspension and debarment proceedings pursuant to 2 CFR Parts 180, 215 and 1,200 or applicable state law;
- (f) The listed MBE/WBE subcontractor is not a responsible contractor;
- (g) The listed MBE/WBE voluntarily withdraws from the project and provides written notice of withdrawal;
- (h) The listed MBE/WBE is ineligible to receive MBE/WBE credit for the type of work required;
- (i) A MBE/WBE owner dies or becomes disabled with the result that the listed MBE/WBE contractor is unable to complete its work on the contract;
- (j) Other documented good cause that compels the termination of the MBE/WBE subcontractor. Provided, that good cause does not exist if the prime contractor seeks to terminate a MBE/WBE it relied upon to obtain the contract so

that the prime contractor can self-perform the work for which the MBE/WBE contractor was engaged or so that the prime contractor can substitute another MBE/WBE or non-MBE/WBE contractor after contract award.

The Contractor shall comply with the following for replacement of a committed MBE/WBE:

(A) Performance Related Replacement

When a committed MBE/WBE is terminated for good cause as stated above, an additional MBE/WBE that was submitted at the time of bid may be used to fulfill the MBE/WBE commitment to meet the Combined MBE/WBE Goal. A good faith effort will only be required for removing a committed MBE/WBE if there were no additional MBE/WBEs submitted at the time of bid to cover the same amount of work as the MBE/WBE that was terminated.

If a replacement MBE/WBE is not found that can perform at least the same amount of work as the terminated MBE/WBE, the Contractor shall submit a good faith effort documenting the steps taken. Such documentation shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

- (1) Copies of written notification to MBE/WBEs that their interest is solicited in contracting the work defaulted by the previous MBE/WBE or in subcontracting other items of work in the contract.
- (2) Efforts to negotiate with MBE/WBEs for specific subbids including, at a minimum:
 - (a) The names, addresses, and telephone numbers of MBE/WBEs who were contacted.
 - (b) A description of the information provided to MBE/WBEs regarding the plans and specifications for portions of the work to be performed.
- (3) A list of reasons why MBE/WBE quotes were not accepted.
- (4) Efforts made to assist the MBE/WBEs contacted, if needed, in obtaining bonding or insurance required by the Contractor.

(B) Decertification Replacement

- (1) When a committed MBE/WBE is decertified by the Department after the SAF (*Subcontract Approval Form*) has been received by the Department, the Department will not require the Contractor to solicit replacement MBE/WBE participation equal to the remaining work to be performed by the decertified firm. The participation equal to the remaining work performed by the decertified firm will count toward the contract goal requirement.
- (2) When a committed MBE/WBE is decertified prior to the Department receiving the SAF (*Subcontract Approval Form*) for the named MBE/WBE firm, the Contractor shall take all necessary and reasonable steps to replace the MBE/WBE subcontractor with another MBE/WBE subcontractor to perform at least the same amount of work to meet the Combined MBE/WBE goal requirement. If a MBE/WBE firm is not found to do the same amount of work, a good faith effort must be submitted to NCDOT (see A herein for required documentation).
- (3) Exception: If the MBE/WBE's ineligibility is caused solely by its having exceeded the size standard during the performance of the contract, the Department will not require the Contractor to solicit replacement MBE/WBE participation equal to the remaining work to be performed by the decertified firm. The participation equal to the remaining work performed by the decertified firm will count toward the contract goal requirement and overall goal.

All requests for replacement of a committed MBE/WBE firm shall be submitted to the Engineer for approval on Form RF-1 (*DBE Replacement Request*). If the Contractor fails to follow this procedure, the Contractor may be disqualified from further bidding for a period of up to 6 months.

Changes in the Work

When the Engineer makes changes that result in the reduction or elimination of work to be performed by a committed MBE/WBE, the Contractor will not be required to seek additional participation. When the Engineer makes changes that result in additional work to be performed by a MBE/WBE based upon the Contractor's commitment, the MBE/WBE shall participate in additional work to the same extent as the MBE/WBE participated in the original contract work.

When the Engineer makes changes that result in extra work, which has more than a minimal impact on the contract amount, the Contractor shall seek additional participation by MBEs/WBEs unless otherwise approved by the Engineer.

When the Engineer makes changes that result in an alteration of plans or details of construction, and a portion or all of the work had been expected to be performed by a committed MBE/WBE, the Contractor shall seek participation by MBEs/WBEs unless otherwise approved by the Engineer.

When the Contractor requests changes in the work that result in the reduction or elimination of work that the Contractor committed to be performed by a MBE/WBE, the Contractor shall seek additional participation by MBEs/WBEs equal to the reduced MBE/WBE participation caused by the changes.

Reports and Documentation

A SAF (*Subcontract Approval Form*) shall be submitted for all work which is to be performed by a MBE/WBE subcontractor. The Department reserves the right to require copies of actual subcontract agreements involving MBE/WBE subcontractors.

When using transportation services to meet the contract commitment, the Contractor shall submit a proposed trucking plan in addition to the SAF. The plan shall be submitted prior to beginning construction on the project. The plan shall include the names of all trucking firms proposed for use, their certification type(s), the number of trucks owned by the firm, as well as the individual truck identification numbers, and the line item(s) being performed.

Within 30 calendar days of entering into an agreement with a MBE/WBE for materials, supplies or services, not otherwise documented by the SAF as specified above, the Contractor shall furnish the Engineer a copy of the agreement. The documentation shall also indicate the percentage (60% or 100%) of expenditures claimed for MBE/WBE credit.

Reporting Minority and Women Business Enterprise Participation

The Contractor shall provide the Engineer with an accounting of payments made to all MBE and WBE firms, including material suppliers and contractors at all levels (prime, subcontractor, or second tier subcontractor). This accounting shall be furnished to the Engineer for any given month by the end of the following month. Failure to submit this information accordingly may result in the following action:

- (A) Withholding of money due in the next partial pay estimate; or
- (B) Removal of an approved contractor from the prequalified bidders' list or the removal of other entities from the approved subcontractors list.

While each contractor (prime, subcontractor, 2nd tier subcontractor) is responsible for accurate accounting of payments to MBEs/WBEs, it shall be the prime contractor's responsibility to report all monthly and final payment information in the correct reporting manner.

Failure on the part of the Contractor to submit the required information in the time frame specified may result in the disqualification of that contractor and any affiliate companies from further bidding until the required information is submitted.

Failure on the part of any subcontractor to submit the required information in the time frame specified may result in the disqualification of that contractor and any affiliate companies from being approved for further work on future projects until the required information is submitted.

Contractors reporting transportation services provided by non-MBE/WBE lessees shall evaluate the value of services provided during the month of the reporting period only.

At any time, the Engineer can request written verification of subcontractor payments.

The Contractor shall report the accounting of payments through the Department's DBE Payment Tracking System.

Failure to Meet Contract Requirements

Failure to meet contract requirements in accordance with Subarticle 102-15(J) of the *2018 Standard Specifications* may be cause to disqualify the Contractor.

STANDARD SPECIAL PROVISIONS**TITLE VI AND NONDISCRIMINATION:**

Revise the *2018 Standard Specifications* as follows:

Replace Article 103-4(B) with the following:

The North Carolina Department of Transportation is committed to carrying out the U.S. Department of Transportation's policy of ensuring nondiscrimination in the award and administration of contracts.

The provisions of this section related to United States Department of Transportation (US DOT) Order 1050.2A, Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) part 21, 23 United States Code (U.S.C.) 140 and 23 CFR part 200 (or 49 CFR 303, 49 U.S.C. 5332 or 49 U.S.C. 47123) are applicable to all North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) contracts and to all related subcontracts, material supply, engineering, architectural and other service contracts, regardless of dollar amount. Any Federal provision that is specifically required not specifically set forth is hereby incorporated by reference.

(1) Title VI Assurances (USDOT Order 1050.2A, Appendix A)

During the performance of this contract, the contractor, for itself, its assignees, and successors in interest (hereinafter

referred to as the "contractor") agrees as follows:

(a) Compliance with Regulations

The contractor (hereinafter includes consultants) shall comply with the Acts and the Regulations relative to Nondiscrimination in Federally-assisted programs of the U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), as they may be amended from time to time, which are herein incorporated by reference and made a part of this contract.

(b) Nondiscrimination

The contractor, with regard to the work performed by it during the contract, shall not discriminate on the grounds of race, color, or national origin in the selection and retention of subcontractors, including procurements of materials and leases of equipment. The contractor shall not participate directly or indirectly in the discrimination prohibited by the Acts and the Regulations, including employment practices when the contract covers any activity, project, or program set forth in Appendix B of 49 CFR Part 21.

(c) Solicitations for Subcontractors, Including Procurements of Materials and Equipment

In all solicitations, either by competitive bidding, or negotiation made by the contractor for work to be performed under a subcontract, including procurements of materials, or leases of equipment, each potential subcontractor or supplier shall be notified by the contractor of the contractor's obligations under this contract and the Acts and the Regulations relative to Nondiscrimination on the grounds of race, color, or national origin.

(d) Information and Reports

The contractor shall provide all information and reports required by the Acts, the Regulations, and directives issued pursuant thereto and shall permit access to its books, records, accounts, other sources of information, and its facilities as may be determined by the Recipient or the FHWA to be pertinent to ascertain compliance with such Acts, Regulations, and instructions. Where any information required of a contractor is in the exclusive possession of another who fails or refuses to furnish the information, the contractor shall so certify to the Recipient or the FHWA, as appropriate, and shall set forth what efforts it has made to obtain the information.

(e) Sanctions for Noncompliance:

In the event of a contractor's noncompliance with the Non-discrimination provisions of this contract, the Recipient will impose such contract sanctions as it and/or the FHWA may determine to be appropriate, including, but not limited to:

- (i) Withholding payments to the contractor under the contract until the contractor complies; and/or
- (ii) Cancelling, terminating, or suspending a contract, in whole or in part.

(f) Incorporation of Provisions

The contractor shall include the provisions of paragraphs one through six in every subcontract, including procurements of materials and leases of equipment, unless exempt by the Acts, the Regulations and directives issued pursuant thereto. The contractor shall take action with respect to any subcontract or procurement as the Recipient or the FHWA may direct as a means of enforcing such provisions including sanctions for noncompliance. Provided, that if the contractor becomes involved in, or is threatened with litigation by a subcontractor, or supplier because of such direction, the contractor may request the Recipient to enter into any litigation to protect the interests of the Recipient. In addition, the contractor may request the United States to enter into the litigation to protect the interests of the United States.

(2) Title VI Nondiscrimination Program (23 CFR 200.5(p))

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) has assured the USDOT that, as a condition to receiving federal financial assistance, NCDOT will comply with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and all requirements imposed by Title 49 CFR part 21 and related nondiscrimination authorities to ensure that no person shall, on the ground of race, color, national origin, limited English proficiency, sex, age, or disability (including religion/creed or income-level, where applicable), be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any programs, activities, or services conducted or funded by NCDOT. Contractors and other organizations under contract or agreement with NCDOT must also comply with Title VI and related authorities, therefore:

- (a) During the performance of this contract or agreement, contractors (e.g., subcontractors, consultants, vendors, prime contractors) are responsible for complying with NCDOT's Title VI Program. Contractors are not required to prepare or submit Title VI Programs. To comply with this section, the prime contractor shall:

1. Post NCDOT's Notice of Nondiscrimination and the Contractor's own Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) Policy in conspicuous locations accessible to all employees, applicants and subcontractors on the jobsite.
 2. Physically incorporate the required Title VI clauses into all subcontracts on federally-assisted and state-funded NCDOT projects, and ensure inclusion by subcontractors into all lower-tier subcontracts.
 3. Required Solicitation Language. The Contractor shall include the following notification in all solicitations for bids and requests for work or material, regardless of funding source:
 "The North Carolina Department of Transportation, in accordance with the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (78 Stat. 252, 42 US.C. §§ 2000d to 2000d-4) and the Regulations, hereby notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively ensure that any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, disadvantaged business enterprises will be afforded full and fair opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, or national origin in consideration for an award. In accordance with other related nondiscrimination authorities, bidders and contractors will also not be discriminated against on the grounds of sex, age, disability, low-income level, creed/religion, or limited English proficiency in consideration for an award."
 4. Physically incorporate the FHWA-1273, in its entirety, into all subcontracts and subsequent lower tier subcontracts on Federal-aid highway construction contracts only.
 5. Provide language assistance services (i.e., written translation and oral interpretation), free of charge, to LEP employees and applicants. Contact NCDOT OCR for further assistance, if needed.
 6. For assistance with these Title VI requirements, contact the NCDOT Title VI Nondiscrimination Program at 1-800-522-0453.
- (b) Subrecipients (e.g. cities, counties, LGAs, planning organizations) may be required to prepare and submit a Title VI Plan to NCDOT, including Title VI Assurances and/or agreements. Subrecipients must also ensure compliance by their contractors and subrecipients with Title VI. (23 CFR 200.9(b)(7))
- (c) If reviewed or investigated by NCDOT, the contractor or subrecipient agrees to take affirmative action to correct any deficiencies found within a reasonable time period, not to exceed 90 calendar days, unless additional time is granted by NCDOT. (23 CFR 200.9(b)(15))
- (d) The Contractor is responsible for notifying subcontractors of NCDOT's External Discrimination Complaints Process.
1. Applicability
 Title VI and related laws protect participants and beneficiaries (e.g., members of the public and contractors) from discrimination by NCDOT employees, subrecipients and contractors, regardless of funding source.
 2. Eligibility
 Any person—or class of persons—who believes he/she has been subjected to discrimination based on race, color, national origin, Limited English Proficiency (LEP), sex, age, or disability (and religion in the context of employment, aviation, or transit) may file a written complaint. The law also prohibits intimidation or retaliation of any sort.
 3. Time Limits and Filing Options
 Complaints may be filed by the affected individual(s) or a representative and must be filed no later than 180 calendar days after the following:
 - (i) The date of the alleged act of discrimination; or
 - (ii) The date when the person(s) became aware of the alleged discrimination; or
 - (iii) Where there has been a continuing course of conduct, the date on which that conduct was discontinued or the latest instance of the conduct.
 Title VI and related discrimination complaints may be submitted to the following entities:
 - North Carolina Department of Transportation, Office of Civil Rights, Title VI Program, 1511 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1511; toll free 1-800-522-0453
 - Federal Highway Administration, North Carolina Division Office, 310 New Bern Avenue, Suite 410, Raleigh, NC 27601, 919-747-7010
 - US Department of Transportation, Departmental Office of Civil Rights, External Civil Rights Programs Division, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE, Washington, DC 20590; 202-366-4070
 4. Format for Complaints

Complaints must be in writing and signed by the complainant(s) or a representative, and include the complainant’s name, address, and telephone number. Complaints received by fax or e-mail will be acknowledged and processed. Allegations received by telephone will be reduced to writing and provided to the complainant for confirmation or revision before processing. Complaints will be accepted in other languages, including Braille.

5. Discrimination Complaint Form

Contact NCDOT Civil Rights to receive a full copy of the Discrimination Complaint Form and procedures.

6. Complaint Basis

Allegations must be based on issues involving race, color, national origin (LEP), sex, age, disability, or religion (in the context of employment, aviation or transit). “Basis” refers to the complainant’s membership in a protected group category.

**TABLE 103-1
COMPLAINT BASIS**

Protected Categories	Definition	Examples	Applicable Nondiscrimination Authorities
Race and Ethnicity	An individual belonging to one of the accepted racial groups; or the perception, based usually on physical characteristics that a person is a member of a racial group	Black/African American, Hispanic/Latino, Asian, American Indian/Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, White	Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; 49 CFR Part 21; 23 CFR 200; 49 U.S.C. 5332(b); 49 U.S.C. 47123. <i>(Executive Order 13166)</i>
Color	Color of skin, including shade of skin within a racial group	Black, White, brown, yellow, etc.	
National Origin <i>(Limited English Proficiency)</i>	Place of birth. Citizenship is not a factor. <i>(Discrimination based on language or a person’s accent is also covered)</i>	Mexican, Cuban, Japanese, Vietnamese, Chinese	
Sex	Gender. The sex of an individual. <i>Note: Sex under this program does not include sexual orientation.</i>	Women and Men	1973 Federal-Aid Highway Act; 49 U.S.C. 5332(b); 49 U.S.C. 47123.
Age	Persons of any age	21-year-old person	Age Discrimination Act of 1975 49 U.S.C. 5332(b); 49 U.S.C. 47123.
Disability	Physical or mental impairment, permanent or temporary, or perceived.	Blind, alcoholic, para-amputee, epileptic, diabetic, arthritic	Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973; Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990

<p>Religion (in the context of employment) <i>(Religion/ Creed in all aspects of any aviation or transit-related construction)</i></p>	<p>An individual belonging to a religious group; or the perception, based on distinguishable characteristics that a person is a member of a religious group. In practice, actions taken as a result of the moral and ethical beliefs as to what is right and wrong, which are sincerely held with the strength of traditional religious views. Note: Does not have to be associated with a recognized religious group or church; if an individual sincerely holds to the belief, it is a protected religious practice.</p>	<p>Muslim, Christian, Sikh, Hindu, etc.</p>	<p>Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; 23 CFR 230; FHWA-1273 Required Contract Provisions. (49 U.S.C. 5332(b); 49 U.S.C. 47123)</p>
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(3) Pertinent Nondiscrimination Authorities

During the performance of this contract, the contractor, for itself, its assignees, and successors in interest agrees to comply with the following non-discrimination statutes and authorities, including, but not limited to:

- Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. § 2000d et seq., 78 stat. 252), (prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin); and 49 CFR Part 21.
- The Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970, (42 U.S.C. § 4601), (prohibits unfair treatment of persons displaced or whose property has been acquired because of Federal or Federal-aid programs and projects);
- Federal-Aid Highway Act of 1973, (23 U.S.C. § 324 et seq.), (prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex);
- Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, (29 U.S.C. § 794 et seq.), as amended, (prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability) and 49 CFR Part 27;
- The Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended, (42 U.S.C. § 6101 et seq.), (prohibits discrimination on the basis of age);
- Airport and Airway Improvement Act of 1982, (49 USC § 471, Section 47123), as amended, (prohibits discrimination based on race, creed, color, national origin, or sex);
- (g) The Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1987, (PL 100-209), (Broadened the scope, coverage and applicability of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, The Age Discrimination Act of 1975 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, by expanding the definition of the terms "programs or activities" to include all of the programs or activities of the Federal-aid recipients, sub-recipients and contractors, whether such programs or activities are Federally funded or not);
- (h) Titles II and III of the Americans with Disabilities Act, which prohibit discrimination on the basis of disability in the operation of public entities, public and private transportation systems, places of public accommodation, and certain testing entities (42 U.S.C. §§ 12131-12189) as implemented by Department of Transportation regulations at 49 C.F.R. parts 37 and 38;
- (i) The Federal Aviation Administration's Nondiscrimination statute (49 U.S.C. § 47123) (prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, and sex);
- (j) Executive Order 12898, Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations, which ensures Nondiscrimination against minority populations by discouraging programs, policies, and activities with disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects on minority and low-income populations;
- (k) Executive Order 13166, Improving Access to Services for Persons with Limited English Proficiency, and resulting agency guidance, national origin discrimination includes discrimination because of Limited English proficiency (LEP). To ensure compliance with Title VI, you must take reasonable steps to ensure that LEP persons have meaningful access to your programs (70 Fed. Reg. at 74087 to 74100);
- (l) Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, as amended, which prohibits you from discriminating because of sex in education programs or activities (20 U.S.C. 1681 et seq).
- (m) Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. § 2000e et seq., Pub. L. 88-352), (prohibits employment

discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, or national origin).

(4) Additional Title VI Assurances

***The following Title VI Assurances (Appendices B, C and D) shall apply, as applicable*

(a) Clauses for Deeds Transferring United States Property (1050.2A, Appendix B)

The following clauses will be included in deeds effecting or recording the transfer of real property, structures, or improvements thereon, or granting interest therein from the United States pursuant to the provisions of Assurance 4.

NOW, THEREFORE, the U.S. Department of Transportation as authorized by law and upon the condition that the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) will accept title to the lands and maintain the project constructed thereon in accordance with the North Carolina General Assembly, the Regulations for the Administration of the Federal-Aid Highway Program, and the policies and procedures prescribed by the Federal Highway Administration of the U.S. Department of Transportation in accordance and in compliance with all requirements imposed by Title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, U.S. Department of Transportation, Subtitle A, Office of the Secretary, Part 21, Nondiscrimination in Federally-assisted programs of the U.S Department of Transportation pertaining to and effectuating the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (78 Stat. 252; 42 U.S.C. § 2000d to 2000d-4), does hereby remise, release, quitclaim and convey unto the NCDOT all the right, title and interest of the U.S. Department of Transportation in and to said lands described in Exhibit A attached hereto and made a part hereof.

(HABENDUM CLAUSE)

TO HAVE AND TO HOLD said lands and interests therein unto the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) and its successors forever, subject, however, to the covenants, conditions, restrictions and reservations herein contained as follows, which will remain in effect for the period during which the real property or structures are used for a purpose for which Federal financial assistance is extended or for another purpose involving the provision of similar services or benefits and will be binding on the NCDOT, its successors and assigns.

The NCDOT, in consideration of the conveyance of said lands and interests in lands, does hereby covenant and agree as a covenant running with the land for itself, its successors and assigns, that (1) no person will on the grounds of race, color, or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination with regard to any facility located wholly or in part on, over, or under such lands hereby conveyed [,] [and]* (2) that the NCDOT will use the lands and interests in lands and interests in lands so conveyed, in compliance with all requirements imposed by or pursuant to Title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, U.S. Department of Transportation, Subtitle A, Office of the Secretary, Part 21, Non-discrimination in Federally-assisted programs of the U.S. Department of Transportation, Effectuation of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and as said Regulations and Acts may be amended [,] and (3) that in the event of breach of any of the above-mentioned nondiscrimination conditions, the Department will have a right to enter or re-enter said lands and facilities on said land, and that above described land and facilities will thereon revert to and vest in and become the absolute property of the U.S. Department of Transportation and its assigns as such interest existed prior to this instruction].*

(*Reverter clause and related language to be used only when it is determined that such a clause is necessary in order to make clear the purpose of Title VI.)

(b) Clauses for Transfer of Real Property Acquired or Improved Under the Activity, Facility, or Program (1050.2A, Appendix C)

The following clauses will be included in deeds, licenses, leases, permits, or similar instruments entered into by the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) pursuant to the provisions of Assurance 7(a):

1. The (grantee, lessee, permittee, etc. as appropriate) for himself/herself, his/her heirs, personal representatives, successors in interest, and assigns, as a part of the consideration hereof, does hereby covenant and agree [in the case of deeds and leases add "as a covenant running with the land"] that:
 - (i) In the event facilities are constructed, maintained, or otherwise operated on the property described in this (deed, license, lease, permit, etc.) for a purpose for which a U.S. Department of Transportation activity, facility, or program is extended or for another purpose involving the provision of similar services or benefits, the (grantee, licensee, lessee, permittee, etc.) will maintain and operate such facilities and services in compliance with all requirements imposed by the Acts and Regulations (as may be amended) such that no person on the grounds of race, color, or national origin, will be excluded from participation in, denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination in the use of said facilities.

2. With respect to licenses, leases, permits, etc., in the event of breach of any of the above Nondiscrimination covenants, the NCDOT will have the right to terminate the (lease, license, permit, etc.) and to enter, re-enter, and repossess said lands and facilities thereon, and hold the same as if the (lease, license, permit, etc.) had never been made or issued. *
3. With respect to a deed, in the event of breach of any of the above Nondiscrimination covenants, the NCDOT will have the right to enter or re-enter the lands and facilities thereon, and the above described lands and facilities will there upon revert to and vest in and become the absolute property of the NCDOT and its assigns. *

(*Reverter clause and related language to be used only when it is determined that such a clause is necessary to make clear the purpose of Title VI.)

(c) Clauses for Construction/Use/Access to Real Property Acquired Under the Activity, Facility or Program (1050.2A, Appendix D)

The following clauses will be included in deeds, licenses, permits, or similar instruments/ agreements entered into by the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) pursuant to the provisions of Assurance 7(b):

1. The (grantee, licensee, permittee, etc., as appropriate) for himself/herself, his/her heirs, personal representatives, successors in interest, and assigns, as a part of the consideration hereof, does hereby covenant and agree (in the case of deeds and leases add, "as a covenant running with the land") that (1) no person on the ground of race, color, or national origin, will be excluded from participation in, denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination in the use of said facilities, (2) that in the construction of any improvements on, over, or under such land, and the furnishing of services thereon, no person on the ground of race, color, or national origin, will be excluded from participation in, denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subjected to discrimination, (3) that the (grantee, licensee, lessee, permittee, etc.) will use the premises in compliance with all other requirements imposed by or pursuant to the Acts and Regulations, as amended, set forth in this Assurance.
2. With respect to (licenses, leases, permits, etc.), in the event of breach of any of the above Non-discrimination covenants, the NCDOT will have the right to terminate the (license, permit, etc., as appropriate) and to enter or re-enter and repossess said land and the facilities thereon, and hold the same as if said (license, permit, etc., as appropriate) had never been made or issued. *
3. With respect to deeds, in the event of breach of any of the above Nondiscrimination covenants, the NCDOT will there upon revert to and vest in and become the absolute property of the NCDOT and its assigns. *

(*Reverter clause and related language to be used only when it is determined that such a clause is necessary to make clear the purpose of Title VI.)

AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS – TERMINATION OF CONTRACTS

(5-20-08)

Z-2

General Statute 143C-6-11. (h) Highway Appropriation is hereby incorporated verbatim in this contract as follows:

(h) Amounts Encumbered. – Transportation project appropriations may be encumbered in the amount of allotments made to the Department of Transportation by the Director for the estimated payments for transportation project contract work to be performed in the appropriation fiscal year. The allotments shall be multiyear allotments and shall be based on estimated revenues and shall be subject to the maximum contract authority contained in *General Statute 143C-6-11(c)*. Payment for transportation project work performed pursuant to contract in any fiscal year other than the current fiscal year is subject to appropriations by the General Assembly. Transportation project contracts shall contain a schedule of estimated completion progress, and any acceleration of this progress shall be subject to the approval of the Department of Transportation provided funds are available. The State reserves the right to terminate or suspend any transportation project contract, and any transportation project contract shall be so terminated or suspended if funds will not be available for payment of the work to be performed during that fiscal year pursuant to the contract. In the event of termination of any contract, the contractor shall be given a written notice of termination at least 60 days before completion of scheduled work for which funds are available. In the event of termination, the contractor shall be paid for the work already performed in accordance with the contract specifications.

Payment will be made on any contract terminated pursuant to the special provision in accordance with Subarticle 108-13(E)

of the *2018 Standard Specifications*.

WAGES AND CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT

In accordance with 107-22 of the Standard Specifications. The Contractor's attention is directed to the provisions and requirements of any and all public statutes which regulate hours or conditions of employment on public work. Such provisions and requirements that are appropriate, in accordance with the intent of the particular law, act, or statute, will be applicable to all work performed by the Contractor with his own organization and with the assistance of workmen under his immediate superintendence, and to all work performed by subcontract. It will be the responsibility of the Contractor to ascertain the appropriate application of such provisions and requirements to the work.

MINIMUM WAGES

Federal: The Fair Labor Standards Act provides that with certain exceptions every employer shall pay wages at the rate of not less than SEVEN DOLLARS AND TWENTY FIVE CENTS (\$7.25) per hour.

State: The North Carolina Minimum Wage Act provides that every employer shall pay to each of his employees, wages at a rate of not less than SEVEN DOLLARS AND TWENTY FIVE CENTS (\$7.25) per hour.

The minimum wage paid to all skilled labor employed on this contract shall be SEVEN DOLLARS AND TWENTY FIVE CENTS (\$7.25) per hour.

The minimum wage paid to all intermediate labor employed on this contract shall be SEVEN DOLLARS AND TWENTY FIVE CENTS (\$7.25) per hour.

The minimum wage paid to all unskilled labor on this contract shall be SEVEN DOLLARS AND TWENTY FIVE CENTS (\$7.25) per hour.

This determination of the intent of the application of this act to the contract on this project is the responsibility of the Contractor.

The Contractor shall have no claim against the Department of Transportation for any changes in the minimum wage laws, State or Federal. It is the responsibility of the Contractor to keep fully informed of all Federal and State laws affecting the contract.

PLANT AND PEST QUARANTINES

(Imported Fire Ant, Gypsy Moth, Witchweed, Emerald Ash Borer, Guava Root Knot Nematode, And Other Noxious Weeds)

Within Quarantined Area

This project may be within a county regulated for plant and/or pests. If the project or any part of the Contractor's operations is located within a quarantined area, thoroughly clean all equipment prior to moving out of the quarantined area. Comply with federal/state regulations by obtaining a certificate or limited permit for any regulated article moving from the quarantined area.

Originating in a Quarantined County

Obtain a certificate or limited permit issued by the N.C. Department of Agriculture/United States Department of Agriculture. Have the certificate or limited permit accompany the article when it arrives at the project site.

Contact

Contact the N.C. Department of Agriculture/United States Department of Agriculture at 1-800-206-9333, 919-707-3730, or <https://www.ncagr.gov/plantindustry/Plant/quaran/table2.htm> to determine those

specific project sites located in the quarantined area or for any regulated article used on this project originating in a quarantined county.

Regulated Articles Include

1. Soil, sand, gravel, compost, peat, humus, muck, and decomposed manure, separately or with other articles. This includes movement of articles listed above that may be associated with cut/waste, ditch pulling, and shoulder cutting.
2. Plants with roots including grass sod.
3. Plant crowns and roots.
4. Bulbs, corms, rhizomes, and tubers of ornamental plants.
5. Hay, straw, fodder, and plant litter of any kind.
6. Clearing and grubbing debris.
7. Used agricultural cultivating and harvesting equipment.
8. Used earth-moving equipment.
9. Any other products, articles, or means of conveyance, of any character, if determined by an inspector to present a hazard of spreading imported fire ant, gypsy moth, witchweed, emerald ash borer, guava root knot nematode, or other noxious weeds.

NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

BID PROPOSALS

As stated under “AWARD OF CONTRACT” above, the Engineer will evaluate the Bidder's proposal to determine the responsibility of the bid and insure compliance with contract. The Engineer, using his/her discretion, will determine whether a bidder is “responsible” and capable of performing the required work. The Bidder should demonstrate an understanding of the requirements of the contract, and that the requirements have been addressed in his bid to the satisfaction of the Engineer.

PLEASE READ ALL INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY BEFORE PREPARING AND SUBMITTING YOUR BID.

INSTRUCTIONS TO BIDDERS FOR TRADITIONAL PAPER BIDS

All paper bid submittal documents shall be prepared and submitted in accordance with Article 102-8 of the Standard Specifications and the following listed requirements. Failure to comply with any requirement may cause the bid to be considered irregular and may be grounds for rejection of the bid. At least one (1) original of the Bid Submittal Package and all signed addenda; shall be submitted as the Bidder’s proposal. **For the benefit and convenience of the Department, please submit two (2) additional copies of the Bid Package.** The Department reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to waive any deficiencies or irregularities in the submission of bid documents.

1. The attached Bid Submittal Package (pages 1 through 15) furnished by the Department shall be used. The bid shall be submitted on the same proposal that has been furnished to the bidder by the Department. Copies of previous proposals shall be rejected.
2. All entries including signatures shall be written in ink or typed.
3. The Bidder shall submit a unit price for the item listed in the Contract Bid Form and shall be written in figures. Unit price shall be rounded off by the Bidder to contain no more than TWO (2) decimal places.
4. An Amount Bid shall be entered in the Contract Bid Form for the item that a Unit Price has been entered. The Amount Bid for the item shall be determined by multiplying the Unit Price by the quantity for that item, and shall be written in figures in the Amount Bid column in the Contract Bid Sheet.
5. Changes to any entry shall be made by marking through the entry in ink and making the correct entry adjacent thereto in ink. A representative of the Bidder shall initial the change in ink. Do not use correction fluid, correction tape or similar product to make corrections.
6. The bid shall be properly executed on the included **Execution of Bid – Non-collusion Affidavit, Debarment Certification and Gift Ban Certification** form. All bids shall show the following information:
 - a. Name of corporation, partnership, limited liability company, joint venture, individual or firm, submitting bid.
Corporations that have a corporate seal should include it on the bid.
 - b. Name of individual or representative submitting bid and position or title held on behalf of the bidder.
 - c. Name, signature, and position or title of witness.
7. The bid shall not contain any unauthorized additions, deletions, or conditional bids.
8. The Bidder shall not add any provision reserving the right to accept or reject an award, or to enter into a contract pursuant to an award.
9. The Bid Submittal Package shall be placed in a sealed envelope and shall be delivered to and received in the DOT Purchasing Section at the Transportation Building Complex at 1 South Wilmington Street, Room 334B, Raleigh, NC 27601 by 2:00 pm on December 3, 2021.

10. The sealed bid should display the following statement on the front of the sealed envelope:

**QUOTATION FOR PROPOSAL NO. 54-CA-TE-12011864, MULCH
TO BE OPENED AT 2:00 PM ON DECEMBER 3, 2021.
ATTN: CHRISTIAN ANDRESEN
NAME OF BIDDER**

11. If not delivered in person, but shipped, the sealed envelope should be placed in another sealed envelope and the outer envelope should be addressed as follows:

**Proposal No. 54-CA-TE-12011864
Attention: Christian Andresen
N.C. Department of Transportation
Purchasing Section
1 South Wilmington Street, Room 334B
Raleigh, N.C. 27601**

NOTE: THIS IS NOT A MAILING ADDRESS. THIS IS A STREET DELIVERY ADDRESS.

BIDS NOT DELIVERED IN PERSON MUST BE SHIPPED.

MAILED PROPOSALS WILL NOT BE DELIVERED AND WILL BE RETURNED.

Failure to address proposals correctly could result in delayed delivery service.

DELIVERY OF BIDS

The entire Bid Submittal Package shall be placed in a sealed envelope and received by the Department of Transportation's Purchasing Section prior to 2:00 PM, December 3, 2021.

The Department of Transportation's Purchasing Section is located in the Transportation Building Complex at 1 South Wilmington Street, Room 334B, Raleigh, NC 27601.

Bids hand delivered must be stamped received prior to 2:00 PM, December 3, 2021. Proposals arriving after this date and time shall not be considered under any circumstances. To contact Purchasing by phone for directions, etc. the number is 919-707-2620.

OPENING OF BIDS

Bids subject to the conditions made a part hereof will be received until 2:00 pm on December 3, 2021 and then publicly opened for furnishing the services as described herein.

Opening of bids is to be in the NCDOT Transportation Building Complex located at 1 South Wilmington Street, Raleigh 27601

NOTE: Parking at the Transportation Building Complex is limited. Arrive early!

NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
BID SUBMITTAL PACKAGE

RFP No. 54-CA-TE-12011864

November 12, 2021

Various sites in Division 5 – Wake and Durham Counties

Furnish and Apply Mulch As Needed

Bidder/Offeror: _____

ATTENTION

Federal Employer Identification Number or alternate identification number (e.g., Social Security Number) is used for internal processing, including bid tabulation.

Enter ID number here: _____

Pursuant to N.C.G.S. 132-2.10(b) this identification number shall not be released to the public. This page is segregated for ease of redaction pursuant to a valid public records request.

This page will be removed and shredded, or otherwise kept confidential,
before the procurement file is made available for public inspection.

NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

BID PROPOSAL NO.: 54-CA-TE-12011864
WBS ELEMENT NOS.: 40.1.2
COUNTIES: DIVISION 5 – WAKE AND DURHAM COUNTIES
ROUTE NO.: NC 540 AND NC 147 TOLL FACILITIES
TYPE OF WORK: FURNISH AND APPLY MULCH AS NEEDED

CONTRACTOR CONTACT INFORMATION

Contractor: _____

Address: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Fax Number: _____

Name of individual authorized to answer questions concerning the information contained herein:

Name: _____

Telephone Number(s): _____

Email Address: _____

By submission of a bid package the bidder agrees that they shall provide sufficient labor, labor hours, supervision, materials, equipment and supplies to complete all requirements as listed in this contract to an acceptable level as determined in the discretion of the Engineer.

This entire bid submittal package (pages 1 through 15) is to be returned as the Contractor's bid and received by the Department of Transportation's Purchasing Section prior to 2:00 PM, December 3, 2021.

Failure to complete the bid submittal documents will be cause for rejection of the Contractor's bid.

Deliver To:

**Proposal No. 54-CA-TE-12011864
Attention: Christian Andresen
N.C. Department of Transportation
Purchasing Section
1 South Wilmington Street, Room 334B
Raleigh, N.C. 27601**

**NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
CONTRACT BID FORM**

BID PROPOSAL NO.: 54-CA-TE-12011864
WBS ELEMENT NOS.: 40.1.2
COUNTIES: DIVISION 5 – WAKE AND DURHAM COUNTIES
ROUTE NO.: NC 540 AND NC 147 TOLL FACILITIES
TYPE OF WORK: FURNISH AND APPLY MULCH AS NEEDED

ITEM	SEC	DESCRIPTION	QTY	UNIT	UNIT PRICE	AMOUNT BID
1	SP	Shredded Hardwood Mulch	4,000	CYD	\$	\$
TOTAL BID FOR PROJECT: \$						

CONTRACTOR _____
 ADDRESS _____
 PHONE _____ Federal ID _____
 CONTRACTORS LICENSE NUMBER _____

THIS SECTION TO BE COMPLETED BY NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

This bid has been reviewed in accordance with Article 103-1 of the Standard Specifications for Roads and Structures 2018.

Reviewed by _____ *(date)* _____

Accepted by NCDOT _____ *(date)* _____
Procurement Specialist III

List of MB & WB Subcontractors

Firm Name and Address	Circle One	Item No.	Item Description	* Agreed upon Unit Price	** Dollar Volume of Item
Name Address	MBE WBE				
Name Address	MBE WBE				
Name Address	MBE WBE				
Name Address	MBE WBE				
Name Address	MBE WBE				
Name Address	MBE WBE				

* The Dollar Volume shown in this column shall be the Actual Price Agreed Upon by the Prime Contractor and the MBE/WBE subcontractor, and these prices will be used to determine the percentage of the MBE/WBE participation in the contract.

** Dollar Volume of MBE/WBE Subcontractor Percentage of Total Contract Bid Price:

**** Dollar Volume of MBE Subcontractor** \$ _____

MBE Percentage of Total Contract Bid Price _____ %

**** Dollar Volume of WBE Subcontractor** \$ _____

WBE Percentage of Total Contract Bid Price _____ %

If firm is a Material Supplier Only, show Dollar Volume as 60% of Agreed Upon Amount from Letter of Intent.

If firm is a Manufacturer, show Dollar Volume as 100% of Agreed Upon Amount from Letter of Intent.

List of Equipment

LINE ITEM	QTY	DESCRIPTION	YEAR MODEL
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			
11			
12			
13			
14			
15			

NOTE: CONTRACTOR MAY USE ADDITIONAL SHEETS AS NECESSARY

CONTRACTOR'S WORK EXPERIENCE AND REFERENCES

Bidders shall supply a minimum of three (3) references covering work experience on a contract basis, related to landscape maintenance services. These references are to include private commercial firms, governmental agencies (federal, state, county, city, etc.), and any other references related to landscape maintenance services which this business or its supervisors, managers, owners or other persons with supervisory responsibility for performance of this contract have had within the last three (3) years, or longer if necessary to attain the required number of references. The references are one factor that will be used by the Engineer to determine whether a bidder is “responsible” and capable or able to perform the work necessary under the contract. ALL REFERENCE CONTACT INFORMATION SHOULD BE CURRENT.

1. Agency or Firm Name: _____
Physical Address: _____
Mailing Address: _____
Contact Person: _____ Telephone(s): _____
Email address: _____

2. Agency or Firm Name: _____
Physical Address: _____
Mailing Address: _____
Contact Person: _____ Telephone(s): _____
Email address: _____

3. Agency or Firm Name: _____
Physical Address: _____
Mailing Address: _____
Contact Person: _____ Telephone(s): _____
Email address: _____

EXECUTION OF BID

NON-COLLUSION, DEBARMENT AND GIFT BAN CERTIFICATION

CORPORATION

The bidder being duly sworn, solemnly swears (or affirms) that neither he, nor any official, agent or employee has entered into any agreement, participated in any collusion, or otherwise taken any action which is in restraint of free competitive bidding in connection with any bid or contract, that the bidder has not been convicted of violating *N.C.G.S. §133-24* within the last three years, and that the bidder intends to do the work with his own bona fide employees or subcontractors and will not bid for the benefit of another contractor.

By submitting this non-collusion, debarment and gift ban certification, the Contractor is attesting his status under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States in accordance with the Debarment Certification attached, provided that the Debarment Certification also includes any required statements concerning exceptions that are applicable.

N.C.G.S. §133-32 and Executive Order 24 prohibit the offer to, or acceptance by, any State Employee of any gift from anyone with a contract with the State, or from any person seeking to do business with the State. By execution of any response in this procurement, you attest, for your entire organization and its employees or agents, that you are not aware that any such gift has been offered, accepted, or promised by any employees of your organization.

SIGNATURE OF CONTRACTOR

_____ Full name of Corporation

_____ Address as Prequalified

Attest _____
Secretary/Assistant Secretary
Select appropriate title

By _____
President/Vice President/Assistant Vice President
Select appropriate title

_____ Print or type Signer's name

_____ Print or type Signer's name

CORPORATE SEAL

EXECUTION OF BID

NON-COLLUSION, DEBARMENT AND GIFT BAN CERTIFICATION

PARTNERSHIP

The person executing the bid, on behalf of the Bidder, being duly sworn, solemnly swears (or affirms) that neither he, nor any official, agent or employee of the bidder has entered into any agreement, participated in any collusion, or otherwise taken any action which is in restraint of free competitive bidding in connection with any bid or contract, that the bidder has not been convicted of violating *N.C.G.S. § 133-24* within the last three years, and that the Bidder intends to do the work with its own bonafide employees or subcontractors and is not bidding for the benefit of another contractor.

In addition, execution of this bid in the proper manner also constitutes the Bidder's certification of status under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States in accordance with the Debarment Certification attached, provided that the Debarment Certification also includes any required statements concerning exceptions that are applicable.

N.C.G.S. § 133-32 and Executive Order 24 prohibit the offer to, or acceptance by, any State Employee of any gift from anyone with a contract with the State, or from any person seeking to do business with the State. By execution of any response in this procurement, you attest, for your entire organization and its employees or agents, that you are not aware that any such gift has been offered, accepted, or promised by any employees of your organization.

SIGNATURE OF CONTRACTOR

_____ Full Name of Partnership

_____ Address as Prequalified

_____ By _____
Signature of Witness Signature of Partner

_____ Print or type Signer's name

_____ Print or type Signer's name

EXECUTION OF BID

NON-COLLUSION, DEBARMENT AND GIFT BAN CERTIFICATION

LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

The person executing the bid, on behalf of the Bidder, being duly sworn, solemnly swears (or affirms) that neither he, nor any official, agent or employee of the bidder has entered into any agreement, participated in any collusion, or otherwise taken any action which is in restraint of free competitive bidding in connection with any bid or contract, that the bidder has not been convicted of violating *N.C.G.S. § 133-24* within the last three years, and that the Bidder intends to do the work with its own bonafide employees or subcontractors and is not bidding for the benefit of another contractor.

In addition, execution of this bid in the proper manner also constitutes the Bidder's certification of status under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States in accordance with the Debarment Certification attached, provided that the Debarment Certification also includes any required statements concerning exceptions that are applicable.

N.C.G.S. § 133-32 and Executive Order 24 prohibit the offer to, or acceptance by, any State Employee of any gift from anyone with a contract with the State, or from any person seeking to do business with the State. By execution of any response in this procurement, you attest, for your entire organization and its employees or agents, that you are not aware that any such gift has been offered, accepted, or promised by any employees of your organization.

SIGNATURE OF CONTRACTOR

Full Name of Firm

Address as Prequalified

Signature of Witness

Signature of Member/Manager/Authorized Agent
Select appropriate title

Print or type Signer's name

Print or type Signer's Name

**EXECUTION OF BID
NON-COLLUSION, DEBARMENT AND GIFT BAN CERTIFICATION
JOINT VENTURE (2) or (3)**

The person executing the bid, on behalf of the Bidder, being duly sworn, solemnly swears (or affirms) that neither he, nor any official, agent or employee of the bidder has entered into any agreement, participated in any collusion, or otherwise taken any action which is in restraint of free competitive bidding in connection with any bid or contract, that the bidder has not been convicted of violating *N.C.G.S. § 133-24* within the last three years, and that the Bidder intends to do the work with its own bonafide employees or subcontractors and is not bidding for the benefit of another contractor.

In addition, execution of this bid in the proper manner also constitutes the Bidder's certification of status under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States in accordance with the Debarment Certification attached, provided that the Debarment Certification also includes any required statements concerning exceptions that are applicable.

N.C.G.S. § 133-32 and Executive Order 24 prohibit the offer to, or acceptance by, any State Employee of any gift from anyone with a contract with the State, or from any person seeking to do business with the State. By execution of any response in this procurement, you attest, for your entire organization and its employees or agents, that you are not aware that any such gift has been offered, accepted, or promised by any employees of your organization.

SIGNATURE OF CONTRACTOR

Instructions: **2 Joint Venturers** Fill in lines (1), (2) and (3) and execute. **3 Joint Venturers** Fill in lines (1), (2), (3) and (4) and execute. On Line (1), fill in the name of the Joint Venture Company. On Line (2), fill in the name of one of the joint venturers and execute below in the appropriate manner. On Line (3), print or type the name of the other joint venturer and execute below in the appropriate manner. On Line (4), fill in the name of the third joint venturer, if applicable and execute below in the appropriate manner.

(1) _____
 Name of Joint Venture

(2) _____
 Name of Contractor

_____ Address as Prequalified

Signature of Witness or Attest By Signature of Contractor

Print or type Signer's name Print or type Signer's name

If Corporation, affix Corporate Seal and

(3) _____
 Name of Contractor

_____ Address as Prequalified

Signature of Witness or Attest By Signature of Contractor

Print or type Signer's name Print or type Signer's name

If Corporation, affix Corporate Seal and

(4) _____
 Name of Contractor (*for 3 Joint Venture only*)

_____ Address as Prequalified

Signature of Witness or Attest By Signature of Contractor

Print or type Signer's name Print or type Signer's name

If Corporation, affix Corporate Seal

**EXECUTION OF BID
NON-COLLUSION, DEBARMENT AND GIFT BAN CERTIFICATION**

INDIVIDUAL DOING BUSINESS UNDER A FIRM NAME

The person executing the bid, on behalf of the Bidder, being duly sworn, solemnly swears (or affirms) that neither he, nor any official, agent or employee of the bidder has entered into any agreement, participated in any collusion, or otherwise taken any action which is in restraint of free competitive bidding in connection with any bid or contract, that the bidder has not been convicted of violating *N.C.G.S. § 133-24* within the last three years, and that the Bidder intends to do the work with its own bonafide employees or subcontractors and is not bidding for the benefit of another contractor.

In addition, execution of this bid in the proper manner also constitutes the Bidder's certification of status under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States in accordance with the Debarment Certification attached, provided that the Debarment Certification also includes any required statements concerning exceptions that are applicable.

N.C.G.S. § 133-32 and Executive Order 24 prohibit the offer to, or acceptance by, any State Employee of any gift from anyone with a contract with the State, or from any person seeking to do business with the State. By execution of any response in this procurement, you attest, for your entire organization and its employees or agents, that you are not aware that any such gift has been offered, accepted, or promised by any employees of your organization.

SIGNATURE OF CONTRACTOR

Name of Contractor

Individual name

Trading and doing business as

Full name of Firm

Address as Prequalified

Signature of Witness

Signature of Contractor, Individually

Print or type Signer's name

Print or type Signer's name

EXECUTION OF BID

NON-COLLUSION, DEBARMENT AND GIFT BAN CERTIFICATION

INDIVIDUAL DOING BUSINESS IN HIS OWN NAME

The person executing the bid, on behalf of the Bidder, being duly sworn, solemnly swears (or affirms) that neither he, nor any official, agent or employee of the bidder has entered into any agreement, participated in any collusion, or otherwise taken any action which is in restraint of free competitive bidding in connection with any bid or contract, that the bidder has not been convicted of violating *N.C.G.S. § 133-24* within the last three years, and that the Bidder intends to do the work with its own bonafide employees or subcontractors and is not bidding for the benefit of another contractor.

In addition, execution of this bid in the proper manner also constitutes the Bidder's certification of status under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States in accordance with the Debarment Certification attached, provided that the Debarment Certification also includes any required statements concerning exceptions that are applicable.

N.C.G.S. § 133-32 and Executive Order 24 prohibit the offer to, or acceptance by, any State Employee of any gift from anyone with a contract with the State, or from any person seeking to do business with the State. By execution of any response in this procurement, you attest, for your entire organization and its employees or agents, that you are not aware that any such gift has been offered, accepted, or promised by any employees of your organization.

SIGNATURE OF CONTRACTOR

Name of Contractor _____
Print or type Individual name

Address as Prequalified

Signature of Contractor, Individually

Print or type Signer's Name

Signature of Witness

Print or type Signer's name

DEBARMENT CERTIFICATION

Conditions for certification:

1. The prequalified bidder shall provide immediate written notice to the Department if at any time the bidder learns that his certification was erroneous when he submitted his debarment certification or explanation filed with the Department, or has become erroneous because of changed circumstances.
2. The terms *covered transaction*, *debarred*, *suspended*, *ineligible*, *lower tier covered transaction*, *participant*, *person*, *primary covered transaction*, *principal*, *proposal*, and *voluntarily excluded*, as used in this provision, have the meanings set out in the Definitions and Coverage sections of the rules implementing Executive Order 12549. A copy of the Federal Rules requiring this certification and detailing the definitions and coverages may be obtained from the Contract Officer of the Department.
3. The prequalified bidder agrees by submitting this form, that he will not knowingly enter into any lower tier covered transaction with a person who is debarred, suspended, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in NCDOT contracts, unless authorized by the Department.
4. For Federal Aid projects, the prequalified bidder further agrees that by submitting this form he will include the Federal-Aid Provision titled *Required Contract Provisions Federal-Aid Construction Contract (Form FHWA PR 1273)* provided by the Department, without subsequent modification, in all lower tier covered transactions.
5. The prequalified bidder may rely upon a certification of a participant in a lower tier covered transaction that he is not debarred, suspended, ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from the covered transaction, unless he knows that the certification is erroneous. The bidder may decide the method and frequency by which he will determine the eligibility of his subcontractors.
6. Nothing contained in the foregoing shall be construed to require establishment of a system of records in order to render in good faith the certification required by this provision. The knowledge and information of a participant is not required to exceed that which is normally possessed by a prudent person in the ordinary course of business dealings.
7. Except as authorized in paragraph 6 herein, the Department may terminate any contract if the bidder knowingly enters into a lower tier covered transaction with a person who is suspended, debarred, ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction, in addition to other remedies available by the Federal Government.

DEBARMENT CERTIFICATION

The prequalified bidder certifies to the best of his knowledge and belief, that he and his principals:

- a. Are not presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from covered transactions by any Federal department or agency;
- b. Have not within a three-year period preceding this proposal been convicted of or had a civil judgment rendered against them for commission of fraud or a criminal offense in connection with obtaining, attempting to obtain, or performing a public (Federal, State or local) transaction or contract under a public transaction; violation of Federal or State antitrust statutes or commission of embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records; making false statements; or receiving stolen property;
- c. Are not presently indicted for or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by a governmental entity (Federal, State or local) with commission of any of the offenses enumerated in paragraph b. of this certification; and
- d. Have not within a three-year period preceding this proposal had one or more public transactions (Federal, State or local) terminated for cause or default.
- e. Will submit a revised Debarment Certification immediately if his status changes and will show in his bid proposal an explanation for the change in status.

If the prequalified bidder cannot certify that he is not debarred, he shall provide an explanation with this submittal. An explanation will not necessarily result in denial of participation in a contract.

Failure to submit a non-collusion affidavit and debarment certification will result in the prequalified bidder's bid being considered non-responsive.

Check here if an explanation is attached to this certification.

BID SUBMITTAL PACKAGE CHECKLIST

This checklist has been provided to assist you in completing your Bid Submittal Package. Review this list and verify that all necessary items have been completed.

Check Box	Page Number	Description
	1	Cover Sheet.
	2	Contractor’s Information.
	3	Contract Bid Form.
	4	Listing of MBE/WBE Subcontractors. Bidders with no MBE/WBE participation must so indicate this on the form by entering the word or number zero.
	5	Listing of Equipment
	6	Contractor’s Work Experience and References, with a minimum of three (3) references included.
	7	Execution of Bid Non-Collusion Affidavit, Debarment Certification and Gift Ban Certification, executed.
	15	Bid Submittal Package Checklist
		Addendum, if applicable.
		Submit original and two (2) duplicate copies.

**YOU MUST BE PRE-QUALIFIED TO BID AS A BIDDER OR POC PRIME CONTRACTOR!
SEE PROJECT SPECIAL PROVISIONS FOR FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS.**

End of bid submittal package!