



**Agriculture
and Markets**

INVITATION FOR BIDS

for

PURCHASE OF PORTABLE HORSE STALLS

IFB #0303

IFB Issued: December 14, 2023
Proposals Due: January 17, 2024

By:

State of New York
New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets
Division of New York State Fair
10B Airline Drive
Albany, NY 12235

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND MARKETS
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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. OVERVIEW

This Invitation for Bids (IFB) is issued by the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets (“AGM” or “the Department”) to invite qualified bidders (“Respondents”) to submit proposals for the purchase of portable horse stalls. The recipient of the contract award from this IFB (“Contractor”) shall deliver the portable horse stalls to the New York State Fairgrounds (“Fairgrounds”) by the dates specified in **Attachment 1 – Bid Form** (April 10, 2024 and July 10, 2024).

The Fairgrounds are located at 581 State Fair Boulevard, Syracuse (Town of Geddes, Onondaga County) New York. The property is a 375-acre site owned and operated by AGM which is home to the Great New York State Fair (“State Fair”), a multi-day event ending on Labor Day each year. The 2024 State Fair will be 13 days and will commence on Wednesday, August 21, 2024 and end on Monday, September 2, 2024.

1.2 IFB GOAL

The objective of this IFB is to obtain bids for the purchase of portable horse stalls.

1.3 PURCHASE ORDER

The Department intends to make an award within fifteen (15) days of the Bid Response due date. A Purchase Order (PO) will be issued. The award and PO will require approval from the Office of the State Comptroller of the State of New York (OSC) before it becomes effective.

1.4 IFB TIMELINE

The following timetable is established for this IFB and is subject to change. AGM may extend the due date for proposals by issuance of addenda to this IFB. Prior to submitting a proposal, respondents should check the New York State Contract Reporter website (<https://www.nyscr.ny.gov>) to confirm the issuance of addenda relating to the IFB schedule.

Publication in Contract Reporter:	December 14, 2023
Deadline for Submission of Written Questions:	January 4, 2024 by 3:00 p.m. (local time)
Last Update of answers or issuance of IFB Addendum http://www.agriculture.ny.gov/RFPS.html no later than:	January 8, 2024
Submission Deadline:	January 17, 2024 by 3:00 p.m. (local time)
Bid Opening:	January 18, 2024

2. DESCRIPTION OF WORK TO BE PERFORMED

2.1 PREMISES

The New York State Fairgrounds is a 375-acre site that is home to the annual Great New York State Fair (“State Fair”). The main mission and function of the State Fair is to hold an exposition (currently 13 days) ending on Labor Day each year, identifying, promoting and showcasing the agricultural practices, history, and traditions of the State. In addition to agricultural competitions, the State Fair also hosts a 15-

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acre Midway and free music venues that host multiple national and regional acts each day with the largest able to hold over 30,000 people. There are approximately 600 vendors including 175 food vendors. The State Fair attracted 932,699 people in 2023.

The Fairgrounds also operates year-round (“non-Fair”) offering several outstanding venues at the Fairgrounds. A wide variety of non-Fair events benefit from the Fairgrounds’ expansive buildings, open space, central location and convenient highway access. Current non-Fair events include equestrian competitions, RV rallies, consumer shows, community events and corporate and organization meetings.

2.2 PORTABLE HORSE STALL SPECIFICATIONS

The selected contractor shall provide the materials needed to assemble portable horse stalls at the New York State Fairgrounds. For reference, photos of some of the assembled portable horse stalls at the Fairgrounds are included in **Exhibit 1**.

A. General Requirements:

- No tools should be required for the assembly of the stalls.
- Contractor shall provide all starter posts necessary to fully assemble the portable horse stalls.
- Assembled horse stalls shall measure 9 feet long and 7 feet high with a 3” fork well on top of the frame to act as a secure point for transporting the stall with a forklift.
- Delivery: The price must include guaranteed delivery to the New York State Fairgrounds by the dates specified in **Attachment 1 – Bid Form** (April 10, 2024 and July 10, 2024). AGM will provide a forklift and operator for unloading the portable horse stalls onsite.
- Product Warranty: Contractor must warrant and represent that Products, components or parts specified and furnished by or through Contractor, whether specified and furnished individually or as a system, shall be substantially free from defects in material and workmanship and will conform to all requirements of this solicitation for the manufacturer’s standard commercial warranty period, if applicable, or for a minimum of one year from the date of acceptance, whichever is longer (the “Product warranty period”).

B. Item 1: Front Panel Specifications

- **Quantity:** 239
- **Panel Dimensions:** 9’ L x 7’ H
- **Material and Construction:**
 - 14-gauge electro-galvanized frame
 - architectural grade powder coat finish in black
 - door opening of 48” with a swing door that is welded to the stall frame
 - 4 of the doors shall be left hand doors and 168 shall be right hand doors
 - a latch on the door shall allow the use of a padlock
 - the bars on the top 32 inches of the horse stall panel shall be vertical and set 2.25” apart; the diameter of the vertical bars shall be 1.5”
 - the bottom 51.75 inches of the horse stall panel shall be manufactured from high density polyethylene (“HDPE”) that is .24” thick.

C. Item 2: Back Panel Specifications

- **Quantity:** 139
- **Panel Dimensions:** 9’ L x 7’ H
- **Material and Construction:**
 - 14-gauge electro-galvanized frame
 - architectural grade powder coat finish in black

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- the bars on the top 32 inches of the horse stall panel shall be vertical and set 2.25” apart; the diameter of the vertical bars shall be 1.5”
- the bottom 51.75 inches of the horse stall panel shall be manufactured from high density polyethylene (“HDPE”) that is .25” thick.

D. Item 3: Side Panel Specifications

- **Quantity:** 265
- **Panel Dimensions:** 9’ L x 7’ H
- **Material and Construction:**
 - 14-gauge electro-galvanized frame
 - architectural grade powder coat finish in black
 - the bars on the top 32 inches of the horse stall panel shall be vertical and set 2.25” apart; the diameter of the vertical bars shall be 1.5”
 - the bottom 51.75 inches of the horse stall panel shall be manufactured from high density polyethylene (“HDPE”) that is .25” thick

3. PROPOSAL FORMAT, CONTENTS AND SUBMISSION

3.1 SUBMISSION TIMELINE

All required documents must be received by AGM no later than 3:00 p.m. (local time) on January 17, 2024, in order to be considered. AGM reserves the right to request any missing information from those items marked with an asterisk (*) on the Submission Documents Checklist. Bidder will have three (3) business days to provide any missing information requested by AGM for those items marked with an asterisk (*) on the Submission Documents Checklist. All remaining forms and documents required to be completed after notification of selection is made shall be submitted to AGM by the selected contractor prior to execution of the contract.

Any questions concerning this IFB must be received by 3:00 p.m. (local time) on January 4, 2024. Questions must be submitted in writing via email to Barbara Godfrey at Barbara.Godfrey@agriculture.ny.gov. Please list “IFB0303 – PURCHASE OF HORSE STALLS” in the subject line. Individual responses will not be provided. AGM will provide written responses to questions in the form of one or more addenda to the IFB, which will be published on the New York State Contract Reporter website (<https://www.nyscr.ny.gov>) on or before January 8, 2024. Such official addenda are the only authorized method used to communicate substantive information, including the clarification or modification of the timeline, terms, or other requirements of this IFB.

All bidders are responsible for keeping informed of any revisions to this invitation. All questions and answers shall be incorporated into the IFB, which will be part of the awarded contract. If you are unable to access the New York State Contract Reporter website, please contact Barbara Godfrey at Barbara.Godfrey@agriculture.ny.gov.

3.2 SUBMISSION METHOD

Facsimiles or e-mailed copies are not acceptable. Materials received after the deadline shall be returned unopened to the sender. See **Section 6.1**, Submission Documents, for information on completing a bid response.

Mail or hand-deliver a bid response in **one package containing the following two (2) separately labeled and sealed envelopes:**

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Envelope 1, titled “IFB#0303 Minimum Qualifications and Forms and Assurances.”

Original plus one (1) paper copy of (See **Section 6.1**, Submission Documents):

- Cover Sheet and Submission Documents Checklist
- Attachment 3 - Mandatory Contract Requirements Certification Form (Original Signatures)
- Attachment 4 - Non-Collusive Bidding Certification (Original Signatures)
- Attachment 5 - MacBride Nondiscrimination Certification Form (Original Signatures)
- Attachment 6 - Procurement Lobbying Law Forms (Original Signatures)
- Attachment 7 - Vendor Responsibility (Original Signatures)
- Attachment 8 – Vendor Assurance No Conflict of Interest (Original Signatures)
- Attachment 9 – Executive Order No. 177 (Original Signatures)
- Attachment 10 - Substitute Form W-9, if SFS Vendor ID needed (Original Signatures)
- Attachment 11 – Experience and References Form demonstrating proof of having met the Minimum Qualifications set forth in **Section 3.3** of this IFB.

Envelope 2, titled “IFB#0303 Bid Form/Cost Proposal – Do Not Open.”

Original plus one (1) paper copy of (See **Section 6.1**, Submission Documents):

- Attachment 1 - Bid Form (Original Signatures)
- Attachment 2 - Subcontracting Form

Place the two (2) envelopes described above into one package and mail or hand-deliver to:

New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets
Fiscal Management
581 State Boulevard
Syracuse, NY 13209
ATTN: Barbara Godfrey (IFB#0303)

3.3 MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

Bidders are advised that AGM’s intent is to ensure that only qualified, responsive and responsible Contractors enter into a contract to provide portable horse stalls at the New York State Fairgrounds. AGM considers the following qualifications a pre-requisite in order to be considered a qualified Bidder for the purposes of this solicitation.

Experience and References. The Bidder must:

Provide the name, address, phone number and email of at least two (2) clients that purchased at least twenty-five (25) portable horse stalls from Bidder within the last thirty-six (36) months preceding submission of this bid similar to those outlined in Section 2.2. of this IFB. Note that the Department will contact the references to verify the information provided; the Bidder is solely responsible for the availability of the submitted references. Please provide the above information using **Attachment 11 – Experience and References Form** of the Submission Documents.

3.4 MANDATORY CONTRACT REQUIREMENTS

Each bidder must certify that:

- 1) No other obligation or engagement, contractual or otherwise, will impact the selected Contractor’s ability to provide and deliver portable horse stalls to the New York State Fairgrounds by the dates

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specified in **Attachment 1 – Bid Form** (April 10, 2024 and July 10, 2024) in accordance with the specifications set forth in **Section 2.2** of the IFB.

- 2) **Product Warranty:** The selected Contractor warrants and represents that Products, components or parts specified and furnished by or through Contractor, whether specified and furnished individually or as a system, shall be substantially free from defects in material and workmanship and will conform to all requirements of this solicitation for the manufacturer’s standard commercial warranty period, if applicable, or for a minimum of one year from the date of acceptance, whichever is longer (the “Product warranty period”).
- 3) The selected Contractor will have full control of the personnel, materials, equipment and services provided and assumes total responsibility for financial loss, accident, injury, or death that may occur as a result of the services provided. The selected Contractor will indemnify and hold harmless the State of New York, the Department, its officers and employees, from all claims, demands, damages, expenses, liability or obligation for damages, loss or injury to, or of, any person or property arising out of the acts of the selected contractor, its agents, servants, employees, and those acting for or on its behalf. Such indemnity shall not be limited by reasons of any insurance coverage provided.
- 4) The selected Contractor will obtain and maintain the insurance policies that meet the requirements set forth in **Exhibit 2** of this IFB.
- 5) The selected Contractor agrees to comply with “Appendix A, Standard Clauses for New York State Contracts,” a copy of which is attached to this IFB as **Exhibit 3**.

3.5 **BID FORM/COST PROPOSAL**

All bids must be submitted on **Attachment 1 - Bid Form** included in the Submission Documents. The Bid Form must not be altered in any way. Please refer to **Section 3.2**, Submission Method for information on how to package your proposal. All unit prices shall be inclusive of all costs and profit (including but not limited to: Direct & Indirect Costs, Payroll, Fringe Benefits, Supplies and Materials, Equipment, Overhead and Profit, and guaranteed delivery to the New York State Fairgrounds by the dates specified in **Attachment 1 – Bid Form** (April 10, 2024 and July 10, 2024). Unit prices shall be multiplied by the quantities on the Bid Form.

4. **EVALUATION**

4.1 **CONSIDERATION**

For a bidder to be eligible for consideration, it must meet the Minimum Qualifications. For the bid response to be evaluated, the bidder must certify that it will meet the Mandatory Contract Requirements.

4.2 **DETERMINATION OF BID AWARD**

The award will be made to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder with the lowest total bid on the Bid Form. In the event of a tie for the lowest total bid, the winner will be determined by a coin toss.

5. **CONSIDERATIONS RELATED TO THIS PROCUREMENT**

5.1 **DEPARTMENT’S RESERVATION OF RIGHTS**

The Department reserves the right to:

- Reject any or all proposals received with respect to this invitation;
- Withdraw the IFB at any time, at AGM’s sole discretion or otherwise decline to award a contract from this invitation;
- Make an award in whole or in part;
- Require clarification from any bidder to assure a full understanding of the responsiveness to the requirements of the invitation;

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- Disqualify any bidder whose conduct and/or bid response fails to conform to the requirements of the IFB;
- Use information obtained through site visits, management interviews and the State's investigation of a bidder's qualifications, experience, ability or financial standing, and any material or information submitted by the bidder in response to AGM's request for clarifying information in the course of evaluation and/or selection under the IFB;
- Waive or modify minor irregularities in bids received;
- Request additional information from bidders as deemed necessary to more fully evaluate bids or to obtain omitted required forms. Bidders will have three (3) business days to respond to the request;
- Prior to the bid opening, amend this solicitation after its release, with appropriate written notice posted in the contract reporter to correct errors or oversights, or to supply additional information, as it becomes available;
- Prior to the bid opening, direct bidders to submit bid response modifications addressing subsequent IFB amendments;
- Change any of the scheduled dates;
- Eliminate any minimum or mandatory non-material specifications that cannot be complied with by all of the bidders;
- Waive any requirements that are not material;
- Make mathematical corrections in the event a mathematical error is discovered in computing the cost proposal (e.g., error in formula in excel spreadsheet);
- Conduct contract negotiations with the next responsible bidder, should AGM be unsuccessful in negotiating with the selected bidder; and
- Unless otherwise specified in the solicitation, every offer is firm and not revocable until the contract start date.

5.2 SUBCONTRACTING

The Contractor may arrange for a portion/s of its responsibilities under this Agreement to be subcontracted to qualified, responsible subcontractors, subject to the prior written approval of the Department. If the Contractor determines to subcontract a portion of the services, the subcontractors must be clearly identified and the nature and extent of its involvement in and/or proposed performance under this Agreement must be fully explained by the Contractor to the Department. As part of this explanation, the subcontractor must submit to the Department a completed Vendor Assurance of No Conflict of Interest or Detrimental Effect form, as required by the Contractor prior to execution of this Agreement.

The Contractor retains ultimate responsibility for all services performed under the Agreement. All subcontracts shall be in writing and shall contain provisions, which are functionally identical to, and consistent with, the provisions of this Agreement including, but not limited to, the body of the Agreement, **Appendix A** – Standard Clauses for New York State Contracts, and required proof of insurance.

Unless waived in writing by the Department, all subcontracts between the Contractor and subcontractors shall expressly name the State, through the Department, as the sole intended third party beneficiary of such subcontract. The Department reserves the right to review and approve or reject any subcontract, as well as any amendment to said subcontract(s), and this right shall not make the Department or the State a party to any subcontract or create any right, claim, or interest in the subcontractor or proposed subcontractor against the Department.

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

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

All subcontractors shall be required to complete and submit a Vendor Responsibility Questionnaire for subcontracts valued at \$100,000 or more over the term of the contract, or a Contractor Information Checklist for subcontracts valued at less than \$100,000 over the term of the contract, unless the subcontractor is an entity that is exempt from reporting by OSC (exempt entities can be found online at http://www.osc.state.ny.us/vendrep/resources_docreq_agency.htm).

5.4 CONTRACTOR REQUIREMENTS AND PROCEDURES FOR PARTICIPATION BY NEW YORK STATE-CERTIFIED MINORITY AND WOMEN-OWNED BUSINESS ENTERPRISES AND EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR MINORITY GROUP MEMBERS AND WOMEN

NEW YORK STATE LAW

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

Business Participation Opportunities for MWBEs

For purposes of this solicitation, the Department hereby establishes an overall goal of zero (0) percent for MWBE participation, zero (0) percent for New York State-certified Minority-owned Business Enterprise ("MBE") participation and zero (0) percent for New York State-certified Women-owned Business Enterprise ("WBE") participation (based on the current availability of MBEs and WBEs). A contractor ("Contractor") on any contract resulting from this procurement ("Contract") must document its good faith efforts to provide meaningful participation by MWBEs as subcontractors and suppliers in the performance of the Contract. To that end, by submitting a response to this Invitation for Bids (IFB), the respondent agrees that the Department may withhold payment pursuant to any Contract awarded as a result of this IFB pending receipt of the required MWBE documentation. The directory of MWBEs can be viewed at: <https://ny.newnycontracts.com>. For guidance on how the Department will evaluate a Contractor's "good faith efforts," refer to 5 NYCRR § 142.8.

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

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

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

By submitting a bid or proposal, a respondent agrees to demonstrate its good faith efforts to achieve the applicable MWBE participation goals by submitting evidence thereof through the New York State Contract System (“NYSCS”), which can be viewed at <https://ny.newnycontracts.com>, provided, however, that a respondent may arrange to provide such evidence via a non-electronic method by contacting the Department’s MWBE Liaison at 518-457-4619 or mwbe@agriculture.ny.gov. All MWBE Forms and Instructions are included in the Submission Documents.

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

- A. An MWBE Utilization Plan with their bid or proposal. Any modifications or changes to an accepted MWBE Utilization Plan after the Contract award and during the term of the Contract must be reported on a revised MWBE Utilization Plan and submitted to the Department for review and approval. The Department will review the submitted MWBE Utilization Plan and advise the respondent of the Department acceptance or issue a notice of deficiency within 30 days of receipt.
- B. If a notice of deficiency is issued, the respondent will be required to respond to the notice of deficiency within seven (7) business days of receipt by submitting to the Department, a written remedy in response to the notice of deficiency. If the written remedy that is submitted is not timely or is found by the Department to be inadequate, the Department shall notify the respondent and direct the respondent to submit, within five (5) business days, a request for a partial or total waiver of MWBE participation goals. Failure to file the waiver form in a timely manner may be grounds for disqualification of the bid or proposal.

The Department may disqualify a respondent as being non-responsive under the following circumstances:

- A. If a respondent fails to submit an MWBE Utilization Plan;
- B. If a respondent fails to submit a written remedy to a notice of deficiency;
- C. If a respondent fails to submit a request for waiver; or
- D. If the Department determines that the respondent has failed to document good faith efforts.

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

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

Equal Employment Opportunity Requirements

By submission of a bid or proposal in response to this solicitation, the respondent agrees with all of the terms and conditions of **Appendix A** – Standard Clauses for All New York State Contracts including

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

The respondent will be required to submit a Minority and Women-owned Business Enterprise and Equal Employment Opportunity Policy Statement, (See Submission Documents, Form MWBE EE01), to the Department with its bid or proposal.

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

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

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

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

Article 17-B of the New York State Executive Law provides for more meaningful participation in public procurement by certified Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Businesses ("SDVOBs"), thereby further integrating such businesses into New York State's economy. AGM recognizes the need to promote the employment of service-disabled veterans and to ensure that certified service-disabled veteran-owned businesses have opportunities for maximum feasible participation in the performance of AGM contracts.

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

For purposes of this procurement, AGM conducted a comprehensive search and determined that the Contract does not offer sufficient opportunities to set specific goals for participation by SDVOBs as subcontractors, service providers, and suppliers to Contractor. Nevertheless, Bidder/Contractor is encouraged to make good faith efforts to promote and assist in the participation of SDVOBs on the Contract for the provision of services and materials. The directory of New York State Certified SDVOBs can be viewed at: <https://ogs.ny.gov/veterans/Bidder/Contractor> is encouraged to contact the Office of

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General Services' Division of Service-Disabled Veteran's Business Development at 518-474-2015 or VeteransDevelopment@ogs.ny.gov to discuss methods of maximizing participation by SDVOBs on the Contract.

5.6 NOTIFICATION OF AWARD

The Department will notify the selected bidder in writing. Unsuccessful bidders will be notified in writing by the Department within ten business days after the award.

5.7 DEBRIEFING PROCEDURES

Pursuant to section 163(9)(c) of the State Finance Law, any unsuccessful Bidder may request a debriefing regarding the reasons that the Bid submitted by the Bidder was not selected for award. Requests for a debriefing must be made within fifteen (15) calendar days of notification by the AGM that the Bid submitted by the Bidder was not selected for award. Requests should be submitted in writing to a designated contact identified in the Solicitation.

5.8 BID PROTEST PROCEDURES

Bidders who receive a notice of non-award may protest the award decision subject to the following:

1. The protest must be in writing and must contain specific factual and/or legal allegations setting forth the basis on which the protesting party challenges the contract award by the Department
2. The protest must be filed within ten (10) business days of a debriefing, or ten (10) business days of receipt of the notice of non-award, whichever is later. The protest letter must be filed with Barbara Godfrey at:

NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets
Fiscal Management
581 State Fair Blvd.
Syracuse, NY 13209
Or via email: Barbara.Godfrey@agriculture.ny.gov

3. Fiscal Management will convene a review team that will include at least one staff member from each of the Department's Counsel's Office, Fiscal Office and the appropriate Program Division. The review team will review and consider the merits of the protest and will decide whether the protest is approved or denied. Counsel's Office will provide the bidder with written notification of the review team's decision within fourteen (14) business days of receipt of the protest. The original protest and decision will be filed with OSC when the contract procurement record is submitted for approval and, and Fiscal Management will advise OSC that a protest was filed.
4. Fiscal Management in consultation with Counsel's Office may summarily deny a protest that fails to contain specific factual or legal allegations, or where the protest only raises issues of law that have already been decided by the courts. An unsuccessful bidder may also protest the award by filing a protest, in writing, with the Office of the State Comptroller, Bureau of Contracts, 110 State Street, 11th Floor, Albany, New York 12236. More information on the Office of the State Comptroller's (OSC) Contract Award Protest Procedures can be found in OSC's Guide to Financial Operations (GFO), Chapter XI.17, available on the internet at <http://www.osc.state.ny.us/agencies/guide/MyWebHelp/>.

5.9 NEW YORK LAW

The provisions of New York law shall apply to the contract and to all claims, actions and other proceedings arising out of the contract.

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5.10 REQUIRED APPROVALS

Any contract award resulting from this solicitation will be subject to the approval of the Office of the Attorney General of the State of New York and the Office of the State Comptroller of the State of New York.

5.11 VENDOR RESPONSIBILITY AND NYS VENDOR ID

Prime Contractors:

State law requires that the award of state contracts be made to responsible vendors. Before an award is made to a not-for-profit entity, a for-profit entity, a private college or university or a public entity not exempted by the Office of the State Comptroller, the Department must make an affirmative responsibility determination. The factors to be considered include: legal authority to do business in New York State; integrity; capacity- both organizational and financial; and previous performance. Before an award of \$100,000 or greater can be made to a covered entity, the entity will be required to complete and submit a Vendor Responsibility Questionnaire. Public Authorities, BOCES, public colleges and universities are some of the exempt entities. For a complete list, see:

http://www.osc.state.ny.us/vendrep/resources_docreq_agency.htm

All bidders must fully and accurately complete the Vendor Responsibility Questionnaire (hereinafter the "Questionnaire"). All bidders acknowledge that the Department's execution of the Contract will be contingent upon the Department's determination that the bidder is responsible, and that the Department will be relying upon the bidder's responses to the Questionnaire in making that determination. If it is found by the Department that a bidder's responses to the Questionnaire were intentionally false or intentionally incomplete, the Department may terminate the contract by providing ten (10) days written notification to the contractor. In no case shall such termination of the contract by the Department be deemed a breach thereof, nor shall the Department be liable for any damages for lost profits or otherwise, which may be sustained by the contractor as a result of such termination.

NOTE: Bidders are encouraged to file the Vendor Responsibility Questionnaire online via the New York State VendRep System. To enroll in and use the New York State VendRep System, see the VendRep System Instructions available at <https://www.osc.state.ny.us/state-vendors/vendrep/vendrep-system> or go directly to the VendRep System online at <https://onlineservices.osc.state.ny.us/Enrollment/login?0>.

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

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

Contractors awarded a contract valued at less than \$100,000 over the term of the Agreement shall complete and submit a Contractor Information Checklist.

Subcontractors:

For vendors using subcontractors, all subcontractors shall be required to complete and submit a Vendor Responsibility Questionnaire for subcontracts valued at \$100,000 or more over the term of the contract, or a Contractor Information Checklist for subcontracts valued at less than \$100,000 over the term of the

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contract, unless the subcontractor is an entity that is exempt from reporting by OSC (exempt entities can be found online at http://www.osc.state.ny.us/vendrep/resources_docreq_agency.htm).

NOTE: Bidders must acknowledge their method of filing their questionnaire by checking the appropriate box on the Response Sheet for Bids (Submission Documents).

5.12 COST LIABILITY

The State of New York, the Department and the Division of the New York State Fair assume no responsibility or liability for the costs incurred by the Bidders in preparing and submitting their bids in response to this solicitation.

5.13 FREEDOM OF INFORMATION

The selected contractor's bid response and any contract resulting from this solicitation are subject to the provisions of Article 6 of New York State Public Officers Law, the Freedom of Information Law (NY FOIL). It is the responsibility of the Bidder to designate which components of the bid response are proprietary business information to be withheld from disclosure. A bidder may not designate its entire bid response as confidential, proprietary or copyrighted.

5.14 PROCUREMENT LOBBYING LAW

Pursuant to State Finance Law Sections 139-j and 139-k, this solicitation includes and imposes certain restrictions on communications between the Department of Agriculture and Markets and an offeror/bidder during the procurement process. (*See Submission Documents Attachment 6 -- "Guidelines Regarding Permissible Contacts During a Procurement and the Prohibition of Inappropriate Lobbying Influence"*). An offeror/bidder is restricted from making contacts from the earliest written notice, advertisement or solicitation of the IFB through final award and approval of the Procurement Contract by the Department, and, if applicable, Office of the State Comptroller ("restricted period") to other than designated staff unless it is a contact that is included among certain statutory exceptions set forth in State Finance Law Section 139-j (3)(a). Designated staff, as of the date hereof, are identified in this solicitation. Department employees are also required to obtain certain information when contacted during the restricted period and make a determination of the responsibility of the offeror/bidder pursuant to these two statutes. Certain findings of non-responsibility can result in rejection for contract award and in the event of two findings within a four-year period, the offeror/bidder is debarred from obtaining governmental Procurement Contracts. Further information about these requirements can be found in the Department's Guidelines, which are attached, and on the Office of General Services Website at <https://ogs.ny.gov/acpl/>

The Department has designated the following staff member(s) to receive contacts pertaining to this Bid:

Barbara Godfrey
New York State Department of Agriculture & Markets
Division of Fiscal Management
581 State Fair Boulevard
Syracuse, NY 13209
E-mail: Barbara.Godfrey@agriculture.ny.gov

6. REQUIRED ASSURANCES

6.1 SUBMISSION DOCUMENTS

The documents listed below are included in the **Submission Documents** section, which follows. All documents requiring signature must be signed by an authorized representative of the Bidding entity. Please review the terms and conditions. Certain documents will become part of the resulting contract that will be executed between the successful bidder and the New York State Department of Agriculture and

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Markets. Please refer to **Section 3.2**, “Submission Method” for more information on how to package your proposal:

- **Bid Form/Cost Proposal** (Signature Required - the form is included in the **Submission Documents as Attachment 1**)
- **Subcontracting Form** (the form is included in the **Submission Documents as Attachment 2**)
- **Mandatory Requirements Certification Form** (Signature Required - the form is included in the **Submission Documents as Attachment 3**)
- **Non-Collusive Bidding Certification** (Signature Required - the form is included in the **Submission Documents as Attachment 4**)
- **MacBride Certification** (Signature Required - the form is included in the **Submission Documents as Attachment 5**)
- **Offerer Disclosure of Prior Non-Responsibility Determinations (Procurement Lobby Law Forms)** (Signature Required - the form is included in the **Submission Documents as Attachment 6**)
- **Vendor Responsibility** (Signature Required - the form is included in the **Submission Documents as Attachment 7**)
- **Vendor Assurance No Conflict of Interest** (Signature Required – the form is included in the **Submission Documents as Attachment 8**)
- **Executive Order No. 177** (Signature Required – the form is included in the **Submission Documents as Attachment 9**)
- **Substitute W-9 Form to obtain SFS ID** (Signature Required - Return if SFS Vendor ID is requested – the form is included in the **Submission Documents as Attachment 10**)
- **Experience and References Form** (the form is included in the **Submission Documents as Attachment 11**)

7. RECOMMENDED SUBMISSIONS

The following forms are not required to be submitted with the bid response. Nevertheless, Bidders are encouraged to submit these forms in order to expedite contract execution if the bidder is awarded the contract.

Workers’ Compensation Coverage and Debarment

New York State Workers’ Compensation Law (WCL) has specific coverage requirements for businesses contracting with New York State and additional requirements which provide for the debarment of vendors that violate certain sections of WCL. The WCL requires, and has required since introduction of the law in 1922, the heads of all municipal and State entities to ensure that businesses have appropriate workers’ compensation and disability benefits insurance coverage prior to issuing any permits or licenses, or prior to entering into contracts.

Workers’ compensation requirements are covered by WCL Section 57, while disability benefits are covered by WCL Section 220(8). The Workers’ Compensation Benefits clause in Appendix A – “Standard Clauses for New York State Contracts” states that in accordance with Section 142 of the State Finance Law, a contract shall be void and of no force and effect unless the contractor provides and maintains coverage during the life of the contract for the benefit of such employees as are required to be covered by the provisions of the WCL.

Under provisions of the 2007 Workers’ Compensation Reform Legislation (WCL Section 141-b), any person, or entity substantially owned by that person: subject to a final assessment of civil fines or penalties, subject to a stop-work order, or convicted of a misdemeanor for violation of Workers’ Compensation laws Section 52 or 131, is barred from bidding on, or being awarded, any public work

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contract or subcontract with the State, any municipal corporation or public body for one year for each violation. The ban is five years for each felony conviction.

Proof of Coverage Requirements

The Workers' Compensation Board has developed several forms to assist State contracting entities in ensuring that businesses have the appropriate workers' compensation and disability insurance coverage as required by Sections 57 and 220(8) of the WCL. *Please note – an ACORD form is not acceptable proof of New York State workers' compensation or disability benefits insurance coverage.*

Proof of Workers' Compensation Coverage

To comply with coverage provisions of the WCL, the Workers' Compensation Board requires that a business seeking to enter into a State contract submit appropriate proof of coverage to the State contracting entity issuing the contract. For each new contract or contract renewal, the contracting entity must obtain ONE of the following forms from the contractor and submit to OSC to prove the contractor has appropriate workers' compensation insurance coverage:

- **Form C-105.2** – Certificate of Workers' Compensation Insurance issued by private insurance carriers, or **Form U-26.3** issued by the State Insurance Fund; or
- **Form SI-12**– Certificate of Workers' Compensation Self-Insurance; or **Form GSI-105.2** Certificate of Participation in Workers' Compensation Group Self-Insurance; or
- **CE-200**– Certificate of Attestation of Exemption from NYS Workers' Compensation and/or Disability Benefits Coverage.

Proof of Disability Benefits Coverage

To comply with coverage provisions of the WCL regarding disability benefits, the Workers' Compensation Board requires that a business seeking to enter into a State contract must submit appropriate proof of coverage to the State contracting entity issuing the contract. For each new contract or contract renewal, the contracting entity must obtain ONE of the following forms from the contractor and submit to OSC to prove the contractor has appropriate disability benefits insurance coverage:

- **Form DB-120.1** - Certificate of Disability Benefits Insurance; or
- **Form DB-155**- Certificate of Disability Benefits Self-Insurance; or
- **CE-200**– Certificate of Attestation of Exemption from New York State Workers' Compensation and/or Disability Benefits Coverage.

ALL OF THE ABOVE REFERENCED FORMS, EXCEPT CE-200, SI-12 & DB-155 MUST NAME: New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets, Division of the New York State Fair, 581 State Fair Boulevard, Syracuse, NY 13209 as the Entity Requesting Proof of Coverage (Entity being listed as the Certificate Holder).

For additional information regarding workers' compensation and disability benefits requirements, please refer to the New York State Workers' Compensation Board website at: www.wcb.ny.gov. Alternatively, questions relating to either workers' compensation or disability benefits coverage should be directed to the NYS Workers' Compensation Board, Bureau of Compliance at (518) 486-6307.

Sales and Compensating Use Tax Certification (Tax Law § 5-a)

Tax Law § 5-a requires contractors awarded State contracts for commodities or services valued at more than \$100,000 over the full term of the contract to certify to the New York State Department of Taxation and Finance ("DTF") that they are registered to collect New York State and local sales and compensating use taxes, if they made sales delivered by any means to locations within New York State of tangible

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personal property or taxable services having a cumulative value in excess of \$300,000, measured over a specific period of time. The registration requirement applies if the contractor made a cumulative total of more than \$300,000 in sales during the four completed sales tax quarters which immediately precede the sales tax quarter in with the certification is made. Sales tax quarters are June – August, September – November, December – February, and March – May. In addition, contractors must certify to DTF that each affiliate and subcontractor of such contractor exceeding such sales threshold during a specified period is registered to collect New York State and local sales and compensating use taxes. Contractors must also certify to the procuring State entity that they filed the certification with the DTF and that it is correct and complete.

The selected bidder must file a properly completed Form ST-220-CA (with OSC as the Contracting Agency within 48 hours of notification of selection for award) and Form ST-220-TD (with the DTF). These requirements must be met before a contract may take effect. Further information can be found at the New York State Department of Taxation and Finance’s website, available through this link: www.tax.ny.gov/pdf/publications/sales/pub223.pdf. Forms are available through these links:

- ST-220 CA: http://www.tax.ny.gov/pdf/current_forms/st/st220ca_fill_in.pdf
- ST-220 TD: http://www.tax.ny.gov/pdf/current_forms/st/st220td_fill_in.pdf

Please note that although these forms are not required as part of the bid submissions, the Department encourages bidders to include them with their bid submissions to expedite contract execution if the bidder is awarded the contract.