

STATE OF TEXAS §
 §
COUNTY OF FORT BEND §

AGREEMENT FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING SERVICES

THIS AGREEMENT is made and entered into by and between Fort Bend County, (hereinafter “County”), a body corporate and politic under the laws of the State of Texas, and Raba Kistner, Inc., (hereinafter “Contractor”), a company authorized to conduct business in the State of Texas.

WITNESSETH

WHEREAS, County desires that Contractor provide certain professional engineering services, including construction materials observation and testing on an “on-call” basis for the construction of paving and improvements to Needville-Fairchilds Road, under the Fort Bend County Project No. 20110 (hereinafter “Services”); and

WHEREAS, Contractor represents that it is qualified and desires to perform such services; and

WHEREAS, this Agreement is not subject to competitive bidding requirements under Section 262.023 of the Texas Local Government Code because this Agreement is for professional engineering services and may not be competitively bid pursuant to Chapter 2254 of the Texas Government Code.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual covenants and conditions set forth below, the parties agree as follows:

AGREEMENT

Section 1. Scope of Services

Contractor shall render professional engineering services for County, including construction materials observation and testing on an “on-call” basis for the construction of paving and improvements to Needville-Fairchilds Road, under the Fort Bend County Project No. 20110 (hereinafter “Services”), pursuant to the policy adopted by the Commissioner’s Court for selection of a firm for engineering services, and as defined in Contractor’s Proposal dated September 26, 2023, attached hereto as Exhibit A and incorporated herein for all purposes.

Section 2. Personnel

2.1 Contractor represents that it presently has, or is able to obtain, adequate qualified personnel in its employment for the timely performance of the Scope of Services required under this Agreement and that Contractor shall furnish and maintain, at its own expense, adequate and sufficient personnel, in the opinion of County, to perform the Scope of Services when and as required and without delays.

2.2 All employees of Contractor shall have such knowledge and experience as will enable them to perform the duties assigned to them. Any employee of Contractor who, in the opinion of County, is incompetent or by his conduct becomes detrimental to the project shall, upon request of County, immediately be removed from association with the project.

Section 3. Compensation and Payment

3.1 Contractor's fees shall be calculated at the rates set forth in the attached Exhibit A. The Maximum Compensation for the performance of Services within the Scope of Services described in the Proposal attached as Exhibit A, is nineteen thousand three hundred ninety-five dollars and no/100 (\$19,395.00). In no case shall the amount paid by County under this Agreement exceed the Maximum Compensation without written agreement executed by the parties.

3.2 Contractor understands and agrees that the Maximum Compensation state herein is an all-inclusive amount and no additional fee, cost or reimbursed expense shall be added whatsoever to the fees stated in the attached Exhibit(s).

3.3 Mutually approved travel and mileage expenses incurred in the performance of required services will be reimbursed to Contractor to the extent that those costs that do not exceed Fort Bend County travel reimbursement allowances. A copy of the County's Travel Policy with those reimbursement limits is attached and incorporated as Exhibit B to this Agreement. Contractor will not be reimbursed for costs in excess of those listed in Exhibit B.

3.4 All performance of the Scope of Services by Contractor including any changes in the Scope of Services and revision of work satisfactorily performed will be performed only when approved in advance and authorized by County.

3.5 County will pay Contractor based on the following procedures: Upon completion of the tasks identified in the Scope of Services, Contractor shall submit to County staff person designated by the County Engineer, one (1) electronic (pdf) copy of invoices showing the amounts due for services performed in a form acceptable to County. County shall review such invoices and approve them within 30 calendar days with such modifications as are consistent with this Agreement and forward same to the Auditor for processing. County shall pay each such approved invoice within thirty (30) calendar days. County reserves the right to withhold payment pending verification of satisfactory work performed.

Section 4. Limit of Appropriation

4.1 Contractor clearly understands and agrees, such understanding and agreement being of the absolute essence of this Agreement, that County shall have available the total maximum sum of nineteen thousand three hundred ninety-five dollars and no/100 (\$19,395.00), specifically allocated to fully discharge any and all liabilities County may incur.

4.2 Contractor does further understand and agree, said understanding and agreement also being of the absolute essence of this Agreement, that the total maximum compensation that Contractor may become entitled to and the total maximum sum that County may become liable to pay to Contractor shall not under any conditions, circumstances, or interpretations thereof exceed nineteen thousand three hundred ninety-five dollars and no/100 (\$19,395.00).

Section 5. Time of Performance

Time for performance of the Scope of Services under this Agreement shall begin with receipt of the Notice to Proceed and end no later than December 31, 2026. Contractor shall complete the tasks described in the Scope of Services, within this time or within such additional time as may be extended by the County.

Section 6. Modifications and Waivers

6.1 The parties may not amend or waive this Agreement, except by a written agreement executed by both parties.

6.2 No failure or delay in exercising any right or remedy or requiring the satisfaction of any condition under this Agreement, and no course of dealing between the parties, operates as a waiver or estoppel of any right, remedy, or condition.

6.3 The rights and remedies of the parties set forth in this Agreement are not exclusive of, but are cumulative to, any rights or remedies now or subsequently existing at law, in equity, or by statute.

Section 7. Termination

7.1 Termination for Convenience – County may terminate this Agreement at any time upon forty-eight (48) hours written notice.

7.2 Termination for Default

7.2.1 County may terminate the whole or any part of this Agreement for cause in the following circumstances:

7.2.1.1 If Contractor fails to perform services within the time specified in the Scope of Services or any extension thereof granted by the County in writing;

7.2.1.2 If Contractor materially breaches any of the covenants or terms and conditions set forth in this Agreement or fails to perform any of the other provisions of this Agreement or so fails to make progress as to endanger performance of this Agreement in accordance with its terms, and in any of these circumstances does not cure such breach or failure to County's reasonable satisfaction within a period of ten (10) calendar days after receipt of notice from County specifying such breach or failure.

7.2.2 If, after termination, it is determined for any reason whatsoever that Contractor was not in default, or that the default was excusable, the rights and obligations of the parties shall be the same as if the termination had been issued for the convenience of the County in accordance with Section 7.1 above.

7.3 Upon termination of this Agreement, County shall compensate Contractor in accordance with Section 3, above, for those services which were provided under this Agreement prior to its termination and which have not been previously invoiced to County. Contractor's final invoice for said services will be presented to and paid by County in the same manner set forth in Section 3 above.

7.4 If County terminates this Agreement as provided in this Section, no fees of any type, other than fees due and payable at the Termination Date, shall thereafter be paid to Contractor.

Section 8. Ownership and Reuse of Documents

All documents, data, reports, research, graphic presentation materials, etc., developed by Contractor as a part of its work under this Agreement, shall become the property of County upon completion of this Agreement, or in the event of termination or cancellation thereof, at the time of payment under Section 3 for work performed. Contractor shall promptly furnish all such data and material to County on request.

Section 9. Inspection of Books and Records

Contractor will permit County, or any duly authorized agent of County, to inspect and examine the books and records of Contractor for the purpose of verifying the amount of work performed under the Scope of Services. County's right to inspect survives the termination of this Agreement for a period of four years.

Section 10. Insurance

10.1 Prior to commencement of the Services, Contractor shall furnish County with properly executed certificates of insurance which shall evidence all insurance required and provide that such insurance shall not be canceled, except on 30 days' prior written notice to County. Contractor shall provide certified copies of insurance endorsements and/or policies if requested by County. Contractor shall maintain such insurance coverage from the time Services

commence until Services are completed and provide replacement certificates, policies and/or endorsements for any such insurance expiring prior to completion of Services. Contractor shall obtain such insurance written on an Occurrence form (or a Claims Made form for Professional Liability insurance) from such companies having Best's rating of A/VII or better, licensed or approved to transact business in the State of Texas, and shall obtain such insurance of the following types and minimum limits:

10.1.1 Workers' Compensation insurance. Substitutes to genuine Workers' Compensation Insurance will not be allowed. Employers' Liability insurance with limits of not less than \$1,000,000 per injury by accident, \$1,000,000 per injury by disease, and \$1,000,000 per bodily injury by disease.

10.1.2 Commercial general liability insurance with a limit of not less than \$1,000,000 each occurrence and \$2,000,000 in the annual aggregate. Policy shall cover liability for bodily injury, personal injury, and property damage and products/completed operations arising out of the business operations of the policyholder.

10.1.3 Business Automobile Liability insurance with a combined Bodily Injury/Property Damage limit of not less than \$1,000,000 each accident. The policy shall cover liability arising from the operation of licensed vehicles by policyholder.

10.1.4 Professional Liability insurance may be made on a Claims Made form with limits not less than \$1,000,000.

10.2 County and the members of Commissioners Court shall be named as additional insured to all required coverage except for Workers' Compensation and Professional Liability. All Liability policies including Workers' Compensation written on behalf of Contractor, excluding Professional Liability, shall contain a waiver of subrogation in favor of County and members of Commissioners Court.

10.3 If required coverage is written on a claims-made basis, Contractor warrants that any retroactive date applicable to coverage under the policy precedes the effective date of the contract; and that continuous coverage will be maintained or an extended discovery period will be exercised for a period of 2 years beginning from the time that work under the Agreement is completed.

Section 11. Indemnity

CONTRACTOR SHALL INDEMNIFY, HOLD HARMLESS AND DEFEND COUNTY AGAINST ALL LOSSES, LIABILITIES, CLAIMS, CAUSES OF ACTION, AND OTHER EXPENSES, INCLUDING REASONABLE ATTORNEYS FEES, ARISING FROM ACTIVITIES OF CONTRACTOR, ITS AGENTS, SERVANTS OR EMPLOYEES, PERFORMED UNDER THIS AGREEMENT THAT RESULT FROM THE NEGLIGENT ACT, ERROR, OR OMISSION OF CONTRACTOR OR ANY OF CONTRACTOR'S AGENTS, SERVANTS OR EMPLOYEES.

Section 12. Confidential and Proprietary Information

12.1 Contractor acknowledges that it and its employees or agents may, in the course of performing their responsibilities under this Agreement, be exposed to or acquire information that is confidential to County. Any and all information of any form obtained by Contractor or its employees or agents from County in the performance of this Agreement shall be deemed to be confidential information of County ("Confidential Information"). Any reports or other documents or items (including software) that result from the use of the Confidential Information by Contractor shall be treated with respect to confidentiality in the same manner as the Confidential Information. Confidential Information shall be deemed not to include information that (a) is or becomes (other than by disclosure by Contractor) publicly known or is contained in a publicly available document; (b) is rightfully in Contractor's possession without the obligation of nondisclosure prior to the time of its disclosure under this Agreement; or (c) is independently developed by employees or agents of Contractor who can be shown to have had no access to the Confidential Information.

12.2 Contractor agrees to hold Confidential Information in strict confidence, using at least the same degree of care that Contractor uses in maintaining the confidentiality of its own confidential information, and not to copy, reproduce, sell, assign, license, market, transfer or otherwise dispose of, give, or disclose Confidential Information to third parties or use Confidential Information for any purposes whatsoever other than the provision of Services to County hereunder, and to advise each of its employees and agents of their obligations to keep Confidential Information confidential. Contractor shall use its best efforts to assist County in identifying and preventing any unauthorized use or disclosure of any Confidential Information. Without limitation of the foregoing, Contractor shall advise County immediately in the event Contractor learns or has reason to believe that any person who has had access to Confidential Information has violated or intends to violate the terms of this Agreement and Contractor will at its expense cooperate with County in seeking injunctive or other equitable relief in the name of County or Contractor against any such person. Contractor agrees that, except as directed by County, Contractor will not at any time during or after the term of this Agreement disclose, directly or indirectly, any Confidential Information to any person, and that upon termination of this Agreement or at County's request, Contractor will promptly turn over to County all documents, papers, and other matter in Contractor's possession which embody Confidential Information.

12.3 Contractor acknowledges that a breach of this Section, including disclosure of any Confidential Information, or disclosure of other information that, at law or in equity, ought to remain confidential, will give rise to irreparable injury to County that is inadequately compensable in damages. Accordingly, County may seek and obtain injunctive relief against the breach or threatened breach of the foregoing undertakings, in addition to any other legal remedies that may be available. Contractor acknowledges and agrees that the covenants

contained herein are necessary for the protection of the legitimate business interest of County and are reasonable in scope and content.

12.4 Contractor in providing all services hereunder agrees to abide by the provisions of any applicable Federal or State Data Privacy Act.

12.5 Contractor expressly acknowledges that County is subject to the Texas Public Information Act, TEX. GOV'T CODE ANN. §§ 552.001 *et seq.*, as amended, and notwithstanding any provision in the Agreement to the contrary, County will make any information related to the Agreement, or otherwise, available to third parties in accordance with the Texas Public Information Act. Any proprietary or confidential information marked as such provided to County by Consultant shall not be disclosed to any third party, except as directed by the Texas Attorney General in response to a request for such under the Texas Public Information Act, which provides for notice to the owner of such marked information and the opportunity for the owner of such information to notify the Attorney General of the reasons why such information should not be disclosed.

Section 13. Independent Contractor

13.1 In the performance of work or services hereunder, Contractor shall be deemed an independent contractor, and any of its agents, employees, officers, or volunteers performing work required hereunder shall be deemed solely as employees of contractor or, where permitted, of its subcontractors.

13.2 Contractor and its agents, employees, officers, or volunteers shall not, by performing work pursuant to this Agreement, be deemed to be employees, agents, or servants of County and shall not be entitled to any of the privileges or benefits of County employment.

Section 14. Notices

14.1 Each party giving any notice or making any request, demand, or other communication (each, a "Notice") pursuant to this Agreement shall do so in writing and shall use one of the following methods of delivery, each of which, for purposes of this Agreement, is a writing: personal delivery, registered or certified mail (in each case, return receipt requested and postage prepaid), or nationally recognized overnight courier (with all fees prepaid).

14.2 Each party giving a Notice shall address the Notice to the receiving party at the address listed below or to another address designated by a party in a Notice pursuant to this Section:

County: Fort Bend County Engineering Department
Attn: County Engineer
301 Jackson Street
Richmond, Texas 77469

With a copy to: Fort Bend County
Attn: County Judge
401 Jackson Street, 1st Floor
Richmond, Texas 77469

Contractor: Raba Kistner, Inc.
Attn: President
3602 Westchase Drive, Suite 110
Houston, Texas 77042

14.3 A Notice is effective only if the party giving or making the Notice has complied with subsections 14.1 and 14.2 and if the addressee has received the Notice. A Notice is deemed received as follows:

14.3.1 If the Notice is delivered in person, or sent by registered or certified mail or a nationally recognized overnight courier, upon receipt as indicated by the date on the signed receipt.

14.3.2 If the addressee rejects or otherwise refuses to accept the Notice, or if the Notice cannot be delivered because of a change in address for which no Notice was given, then upon the rejection, refusal, or inability to deliver.

Section 15. Compliance with Laws

Contractor shall comply with all federal, state, and local laws, statutes, ordinances, rules and regulations, and the orders and decrees of any courts or administrative bodies or tribunals in any matter affecting the performance of this Agreement, including, without limitation, Worker's Compensation laws, minimum and maximum salary and wage statutes and regulations, licensing laws and regulations. When required by County, Contractor shall furnish County with certification of compliance with said laws, statutes, ordinances, rules, regulations, orders, and decrees above specified.

Section 16. Performance Representation

16.1 Contractor represents to County that Contractor has the skill and knowledge ordinarily possessed by well-informed members of its trade or profession practicing in the greater Houston metropolitan area and Contractor will apply that skill and knowledge with care and diligence to ensure that the Services provided hereunder will be performed and delivered in accordance with the highest professional standards.

16.2 Contractor represents to County that the Services will materially conform to all requirements and specifications contained in the attached Exhibit A.

Section 17. Assignment

17.1 Neither party may assign any of its rights under this Agreement, except with the prior written consent of the other party. That party shall not unreasonably withhold its consent. All assignments of rights are prohibited under this subsection, whether they are voluntarily or involuntarily, by merger, consolidation, dissolution, operation of law, or any other manner.

17.2 Neither party may delegate any performance under this Agreement.

17.3 Any purported assignment of rights or delegation of performance in violation of this Section is void.

Section 18. Applicable Law

The laws of the State of Texas govern all disputes arising out of or relating to this Agreement. The parties hereto acknowledge that venue is proper in Fort Bend County, Texas, for all legal actions or proceedings arising out of or relating to this Agreement and waive the right to sue or be sued elsewhere. Nothing in the Agreement shall be construed to waive the County's sovereign immunity.

Section 19. Successors and Assigns

County and Contractor bind themselves and their successors, executors, administrators and assigns to the other party of this Agreement and to the successors, executors, administrators and assigns of the other party, in respect to all covenants of this Agreement.

Section 20. Third Party Beneficiaries

This Agreement does not confer any enforceable rights or remedies upon any person other than the parties.

Section 21. Severability

If any provision of this Agreement is determined to be invalid, illegal, or unenforceable, the remaining provisions remain in full force, if the essential terms and conditions of this Agreement for each party remain valid, binding, and enforceable.

Section 22. Publicity

Contact with citizens of Fort Bend County, media outlets, or governmental agencies shall be the sole responsibility of County. Under no circumstances whatsoever, shall Contractor release any material or information developed or received in the performance of the Services hereunder without the express written permission of County, except where required to do so by law.

Section 23. Captions

The section captions used in this Agreement are for convenience of reference only and do not affect the interpretation or construction of this Agreement.

Section 24. Conflict

In the event there is a conflict between this Agreement and the attached exhibit(s), this Agreement controls to the extent of the conflict.

{EXECUTION PAGE FOLLOWS}

{REMAINDER OF PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK}

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have signed or have caused their respective names to be signed to multiple counterparts to be effective on the date signed by the last party hereto.

FORT BEND COUNTY

KP George, County Judge

Date

ATTEST:

Laura Richard, County Clerk

APPROVED:

J. Stacy Slawinski, P.E., County Engineer

APPROVED AS TO LEGAL FORM:

LaNetra S. Lary, Assistant County Attorney
Chief, General Counsel Division

RABA KISTNER, INC.



Authorized Agent – Signature

Martin Vila

Authorized Agent – Printed Name

Senior Vice President

Title

01/10/2024

Date

AUDITOR'S CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that funds are available in the amount of \$_____ to accomplish and pay the obligation of Fort Bend County under this contract.

Robert Ed Sturdivant, County Auditor

I:\AGREEMENTS\2024 Agreements\Engineering\Raba Kistner, Inc. (24-Eng-100170)\Agreement - Needville Fairchilds.CMT (Isl 1.8.24).docx.

EXHIBIT A

Proposal No. PHD23-182-00
September 26, 2023

Stacy Slawinski, County Engineer
Fort Bend County
301 Jackson St – 4th Floor
Richmond, Texas 77469



Raba Kistner, Inc.
3602 Westchase Drive
Houston, TX. 77042
www.rkci.com

P 713.996.8990

TBPE Firm F-3257
TBPLS Firm 10193784

**RE: Construction Materials Observation and Testing Services
Fort Bend County 20110 Needsville Intersections
Fort Bend County, Texas**

Dear Mr. Slawinski:

Raba Kistner, Inc. (RK) is thankful and appreciates to be selected by Fort Bend County (CLIENT) to provide Construction Materials Observation and Testing Services on an “on-call” basis for the above-referenced project.

Our opinion of the probable cost of service for this project is **\$19,395.00**.

PROJECT UNDERSTANDING

It is **RK’s** understanding that the project will consist of **Intersection Paving**.

Our proposed scope of services and estimated item quantities are based upon our interpretation of the Permit Set drawings dated January 20, 2023. The scope and quantity of the “on-call” services provided will be dependent upon services actually required by CLIENT, CLIENT’S representatives, the design team, and/or the General Contractor and/or its Subcontractors. All services authorized or requested by you, your representatives, the design team, and/or the General Contractor and/or its subcontractors in excess of the quantities of observation and testing services shown herein will be charged at the appropriate unit rate for such services. Charges will be invoiced on a monthly basis and will show a computerized composite total of services rendered for each service category.

The scope of work includes the observation and testing of the following construction materials:

- Soil sampling of existing soils for Asphalt/Concrete Paving Subgrade/Fill Material and Storm Utility Trench Backfill
- Field compaction testing soils for Asphalt/Concrete Paving Subgrade/Fill Material and Storm Utility Trench Backfill
- Concrete sampling Cylinders for Concrete Ditches
- Asphalt Sampling and cores for Intersection Paving
- Laboratory testing of soil materials such as moisture-density relationships (Proctor), Atterberg Limits (PI), sieve analysis thru No. 200, lime determination and compressive strength testing of concrete, cement sand, mortar and grout test specimens, and
- Project management, data processing and report review services of laboratory and field test reports.

We appreciate the opportunity of submitting this proposal and look forward to working with you in the development of this project, which will be carried out accordance with this letter and the following attachments:

<u>Attachment</u>	<u>Description</u>
I	Standard Terms and Conditions
II	Cost Breakdown
III	Project Data Sheet

Please return one signed original of this contract to provide written authorization for our firm to commence work on the services outlined herein. Our invoices are due and payable upon receipt at P.O. Box 971037, Dallas, Dallas County, Texas 75397-1037. Charges will be invoiced on a monthly basis and will show a computerized composite total of services rendered for each service category.

RK considers the data and information contained in this proposal to be proprietary. This statement of qualifications and any information contained herein shall not be disclosed and shall not be duplicated or used in whole or in part for any purpose other than to evaluate this proposal.

Very truly yours,

RABA KISTNER, INC.

Joseph Baldwin

For: Martin Vila, P.E. F., ASCE
Senior Vice President
MV/JB

(Accepted By)

(Type or Printed Name)

(Title)

(Date)

Copies Submitted: Above (1)

BASIC CHARGES

1. Vehicle and personnel hourly travel charges will be assessed for round trip travel from our office to the project site, material supplier, etc. and back to our office. The charges for travel from our office to the project site and return to our office will be as follows:

Personnel Travel Time (round trip) 1.0 to 1.5 hour(s)

Vehicle Trip Charge \$ 95.00/Day

2. Vehicle and personnel service charges are based on the hourly rates stated herein and will be assessed from the time the Engineer or Technician (and vehicle) leave our office until the person and vehicle return from the project site.
3. Any engineering and/or technical services provided on Saturday, Sunday and all work in excess of “normal” work hours, as stated herein, Monday through Friday, will be charged at an overtime rate of 1.5 times the appropriate hourly rate. Our total cost of services is based upon the assumption most services will be provided during “normal” work hours. Providing an excessive amount of services during days and/or hours requiring overtime rates may significantly increase the total cost of services shown herein.
4. “Normal” work hours are between 6:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m., including travel time to and from the site unless stated otherwise. Overtime charges will be assessed after eight (8) continuous hours of service rendered during “normal” work hours.
5. Minimum of 4 hours billing per visit to project site, except for concrete cylinder pick up.
6. A Fifteen (15) percent project management and administration cost will be added to all invoices.
7. Our opinion of probable cost is based upon an estimate of the construction materials observation and testing services required to meet the project requirements. Because the general contractor has control over the project and determines the means and methods used to build/construct the project, our proposed scope of services is an estimate. On the basis of the general contractor’s schedule, potential retesting of non-compliance items, weather related issues, the actual total services and fees may be higher or lower than the estimates in our proposal. **RK** will keep you CLIENT apprised of our billings in comparison to our opinion of probable cost (project budget) over the life of the project. All tests noted as retests of previously non-complaint areas will be billed to the CLIENT. **RK** will invoice these tests separately to allow CLIENT to segregate the charges from our normal charges. This will allow CLIENT to back charge the general contractor as necessary. CLIENT will be responsible for payment of all services rendered by **RK** for the project.
8. **RK** will utilize the on-site initial field curing facilities provided by the contractor. The cost of providing and maintaining these initial curing facilities is not included in our proposal.



STANDARD TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1. **DEFINITIONS.**

- 1.1 **RK.** Raba Kistner, Inc., and / or one of its subsidiaries (Project Control of Texas, Inc. or PC Sports, Inc.) that is being engaged to provide the services to CLIENT in connection with the delivery of the proposal to which these Standard Terms and Conditions relate.
- 1.2 **CLIENT.** Person, entity or organization for which RK is rendering services regarding the Project.
- 1.3 **PROJECT.** The activity, venture, plan, building, site or investigation for which CLIENT has engaged RK to provide professional services.
- 1.4 **CONTRACTOR.** Person, entity or organization providing construction services, including labor and material for the Project.
- 1.5 **SERVICES.** The professional services to be performed by RK as set forth in the proposal or Agreement to which the Standard Terms and Conditions are attached.
- 1.6 **AGREEMENT.** RK's proposal accepted by CLIENT and these Standard Terms and Conditions which are incorporated into and made a part of the Agreement.
2. **SERVICES.** RK is being engaged by the CLIENT to render professional services ("Services") involving only RK's advice, judgment and opinion. RK may subcontract all or a portion of the Services performed hereunder. RK shall apply professional judgment in determining the extent to which RK complies with any given standard identified in RK's instruments of professional services. CLIENT expressly acknowledges that RK makes no warranties or guarantees, expressed or implied, regarding the Services.
3. **INFORMATION PROVIDED BY CLIENT.** CLIENT may provide or direct RK to utilize or rely upon certain information ("CLIENT Information") in the performance of RK's services. RK shall be entitled to rely upon such CLIENT Information. RK will not conduct an independent evaluation of the accuracy or completeness of such CLIENT Information and shall not be responsible for any errors or omissions in such information. RK's report, as well as any recommendations, findings, and conclusions made by RK, are dependent on information received from CLIENT. Changes or modifications to the information provided by CLIENT can affect RK's evaluation, recommendations, findings and conclusions, and CLIENT agrees—as a material term of this Agreement—to notify RK immediately, in writing, if CLIENT becomes aware of any such changes or modifications, including changes to the size, scope, location, or other material characteristics of CLIENT's project. The CLIENT shall be responsible for providing

the location of all underground utilities and other structures in the vicinity of RK borings or excavations. RK will not accept responsibility and will not be liable for affecting or damaging any underground utility, underground storage tank, or other subsurface condition not previously identified and located, or improperly located, by the CLIENT, a utility, or a utility locating agency.

4. **SITE ACCESS AND SITE SAFETY.** CLIENT shall provide right-of-entry to the buildings and sites which are the subjects of RK's services. CLIENT represents that it possesses authority for such right-of-entry and that the building/site operator(s) possess the necessary permits and licenses for current activities at the site. RK shall be responsible for supervision and site safety measures of its own employees and subconsultants, but shall not be responsible for the supervision or health and safety precautions of any other parties, including CLIENT, CLIENT's contractors, subcontractors, or other parties present at the site.
5. **SUBSURFACE EXPLORATIONS.** Subsurface conditions throughout the site may vary from those depicted on logs of discrete borings, test pits, or other exploratory services. CLIENT understands RK's layout of boring and test locations is approximate and that RK may deviate a reasonable distance from those locations. RK will take reasonable precautions to reduce damage to the site when performing services; however, CLIENT accepts that invasive services such as drilling, or sampling may damage or alter the site. Site restoration is not provided unless specifically included in the scope of services.
6. **CHANGED CONDITIONS.** If, during the term of this Agreement, circumstances or conditions that were not originally contemplated by or known to RK are uncovered or revealed, to the extent that they affect the scope of services, compensation, schedule, allocation of risks or other material terms of this Agreement, RK may require renegotiation of appropriate portions of this Agreement. RK shall notify the CLIENT of the changed conditions necessitating renegotiation, and RK and the CLIENT shall promptly and in good faith attempt to renegotiate the terms of the agreement affected by the changed conditions. If changes cannot be agreed to with respect to the changed conditions, the parties shall utilize the Dispute Resolution/Litigation procedures in this Agreement.
7. **TESTING AND OBSERVATIONS.** CLIENT understands that testing and observation are discrete sampling procedures, and that such procedures indicate conditions only at the depths, locations, and times the procedures were performed. RK will provide test results and opinions based on tests and field observations only for the work tested. CLIENT understands that testing and observation are not continuous or exhaustive and are conducted to reduce – not eliminate – project risk. CLIENT agrees to the level or amount of testing performed and the associated risk. CLIENT is responsible (even if CLIENT delegates such responsibility to Contractor) for notifying and scheduling RK to perform these services. RK shall not be responsible for the quality and completeness of contractor's work or Contractor's adherence to the project plans, specifications and other related documents. RK's performance of testing and observation services shall not relieve Contractor in any way from responsibility for defects discovered in Contractor's work or create a

warranty or guarantee on the part of RK. CLIENT acknowledges that RK will not supervise or direct the work performed by Contractor or its subcontractors and is not responsible for their means and methods.

8. **ESTIMATE OF FEES FOR SERVICES.** If included as part of RK's proposal, RK will, to the best of its ability, perform the scope of services within the proposed fee estimate provided by RK. RK's proposal fees are based upon an estimate of the services required to meet the specifications for the project and following generally accepted engineering practices. The CLIENT recognizes that unforeseen circumstances along with changes in scope and project/contractor's schedules can influence the successful completion of the scope of services within the estimated proposed fees. Because Contractor has sole control over the project and determines the means and methods used to build/construct the project, RK's service fees are estimates and not lump sum or guaranteed maximum fees. The CLIENT is fully responsible for payment for all services provided, including retests of areas or samples that failed to meet Project specifications. The Estimate of Fees is valid for a period of 60 days after RK's proposal is submitted to CLIENT. If RK's proposal is not accepted by CLIENT within 60 days after it is submitted to CLIENT, RK may modify the Estimate of Fees.
9. **REPORTS.** RK may provide CLIENT with written reports in connection with the Services performed. Such reports will present such findings and conclusions as RK may reasonably make with the information gathered while performing its services and provided by CLIENT. The reports may be copied for inclusion in other documents related to the project provided they are reproduced in their entirety. Reports and other instruments of service are prepared for, and made available for, the sole use of the CLIENT, and the contents thereof may not be used or relied upon by others without the express written authorization of RK. Any unauthorized use or distribution of RK's reports shall be at the CLIENT's sole risk and without liability to RK.
10. **TOXIC AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS.** CLIENT shall provide RK with all information within CLIENT's possession or knowledge related to the potential or presence of toxic or hazardous materials or pollutants at the Project site. CLIENT agrees that RK neither created nor contributed to the creation or existence of any toxic or hazardous materials or pollutants. In no event shall RK be required to sign a hazardous waste manifest or take ownership of any toxic or hazardous materials or pollutants. If unanticipated toxic or hazardous materials or pollutants are encountered while RK is performing its services, RK reserves the right to stop field operations and notify CLIENT and CLIENT assumes responsibility to notify appropriate regulatory agencies. RK and CLIENT must mutually agree to remobilize.
11. **NO THIRD-PARTY BENEFICIARIES.** The services and any report(s) prepared under this Agreement are for the sole benefit and sole use of CLIENT and are not for the use of any other party or person. Only CLIENT may rely upon the services and any report or work product. Nothing in this Agreement, or any subsequent amendments or modifications, or in any report issued under this Agreement, shall create a contractual relationship with

or a cause of action in the favor of any third party against either RK or CLIENT. If CLIENT provides a copy of any report prepared by RK to others, it shall advise the recipient that the information contained in the report is provided for information only and is not to be relied upon by third parties.

12. **LEED PROJECTS.** Unless specifically addressed elsewhere in this agreement, RK has no responsibility or liability, including duty to defend or duty to indemnify, any party (including but not limited to CLIENT, owner, owner's agents, architects, engineers, contractors, construction managers, subcontractors) for the LEED certification process including: developing, producing, or retaining any documentation relating to the calculation of LEED points; and attainment of LEED certification points or LEED ratings.
13. **STANDARD OF CARE.** RK shall perform its professional services in accordance with the standard of care and diligence normally practiced by professional firms in performing services of a similar nature, in the same locality, under similar circumstances. CLIENT expressly acknowledges that RK makes no other warranties or guarantees, expressed or implied, regarding its professional services or its work product.
14. **RISK ALLOCATION.** RK will be responsible only for its own work, and that of its sub-consultants, and not for defects in the work designed or built by others.
15. **LIMITATION OF LIABILITY.** CLIENT AND RK HAVE EVALUATED THE RISKS AND REWARDS ASSOCIATED WITH THIS PROJECT, INCLUDING RK'S FEE RELATIVE TO THE RISKS ASSUMED, AND AGREE TO ALLOCATE CERTAIN OF THE RISKS SO, TO THE FULLEST EXTENT PERMITTED BY LAW, THE TOTAL AGGREGATE LIABILITY OF RK (AND ITS RELATED ENTITIES, EMPLOYEES, OWNERS, AGENTS, AND REPRESENTATIVES) TO CLIENT (AND THIRD PARTIES GRANTED RELIANCE ON RK'S WORK PRODUCT, OR OTHERWISE SEEKING RECOVERY UNDER THIS AGREEMENT) IS LIMITED TO THE GREATER OF \$100,000 OR THE FEE PAID RK UNDER THIS AGREEMENT, FOR ANY AND ALL INJURIES, DAMAGES, CLAIMS, LOSSES, OR EXPENSES (INCLUDING ATTORNEY AND EXPERT FEES) ARISING OUT OF RK'S SERVICES OR THIS AGREEMENT REGARDLESS OF CAUSE(S) OR THE THEORY OF LIABILITY.
16. **CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES.** Neither CLIENT nor RK will be liable to the other for any special, consequential, indirect, incidental or penal losses or damages of any kind, nor will CLIENT or RK be liable to the other for losses, damages, or claims, regardless of how defined, related to: lost profits; unavailability of property or facilities; shutdowns or service interruptions; loss of use, revenue, opportunity, or inventory; use charges, carrying costs, cost of substitute facilities, goods, or services; cost of capital, or claims of any other party and/or its customers.
17. **SUSPENSION OF SERVICES.** If CLIENT fails to make payments when due or otherwise is in breach of this Agreement, RK may suspend performance of services upon seven (7) calendar days' notice to CLIENT. RK shall have no liability whatsoever to CLIENT for any costs or damages as a result of such suspension. Upon payment in full by CLIENT, RK may resume services under this Agreement, and the time schedule and compensation shall be equitably adjusted to compensate for the period of suspension plus any other reasonable time and expense necessary for RK to resume performance. Payment of invoices shall not be subject to any discounts or set-offs by CLIENT unless agreed to in writing by RK. Payment to RK for services rendered and expenses incurred will be due and payable regardless of any subsequent suspension or termination of this Agreement by either party. CLIENT shall not make any changes to RK's banking and deposit information or payment instructions unless CLIENT

communicates the requested changes to RK orally and in writing and obtains written confirmation from an RK officer that the requested changes are legitimate and authorized by RK. If CLIENT makes a payment to a third party instead of to RK based on an unauthorized request to CLIENT for a change to RK's banking and deposit information or payment instructions and without obtaining written confirmation of the change from RK, CLIENT will remain liable to RK for payment of the amount of the unauthorized payment.

18. **WAIVER OF SUBROGATION.** To the extent damages are covered by property insurance, or any other available insurance coverage, CLIENT and RK waive all rights against each other and against the contractors, consultants, agents and employees of the other for damages. CLIENT agrees that CLIENT shall procure or cause to be procured builder's risk insurance or other property insurance for its project. RK and CLIENT waive all rights against each other and any of their consultants, contractors, subcontractors, sub-subcontractors, agents, and employees, for damages caused by fire, flood, or other causes of loss to the extent covered by CLIENT's or CLIENT's Contractor's builder's risk insurance, or other available insurance coverage. The policies shall provide waivers of subrogation by endorsement or otherwise. CLIENT shall require of its contractors, consultants, agents and employees similar waivers in favor of RK and its subconsultants. A waiver of subrogation shall be effective as to a person or entity even though that person or entity would otherwise have a duty of indemnification, contractual or otherwise, did not pay the insurance premium directly or indirectly, and whether or not the person or entity had an insurable interest in the property damaged.

19. **OWNERSHIP OF DOCUMENTS.** RK's reports, drawings, plans, specifications, and other documents and deliverables are instruments of professional service ("Instruments of Service") developed by RK in contemplation of a wide array of project-specific variables, including how the documents will be used and by whom. RK shall be the author, owner and custodian of the Instruments of Service, and shall retain all common law, statutory, and other reserved rights, including copyright. By execution of this Agreement, RK grants to CLIENT a limited, nonexclusive license to use the Instruments of Service for purposes of constructing, using, and maintaining the project for which the services are performed, provided CLIENT substantially performs its obligations, including prompt payment of all sums when due, under this agreement.

Upon completion of the services, and payment in full of all monies due RK, CLIENT may retain copies of all such documents. **THE INSTRUMENTS OF SERVICE ARE NOT INTENDED NOR REPRESENTED TO BE SUITABLE FOR REUSE ON EXTENSIONS, MODIFICATIONS, OR ADAPTATIONS OF THE PROJECT, OR ANY OTHER PROJECT. ANY REUSE OF SUCH DOCUMENTS, WITHOUT WRITTEN VERIFICATION OR ADAPTATION BY RK FOR THE SPECIFIC PURPOSE INTENDED, WILL BE AT CLIENT'S SOLE RISK WITHOUT LIABILITY OR LEGAL EXPOSURE TO RK. CLIENT AGREES, TO THE FULLEST EXTENT PERMITTED BY LAW, TO INDEMNIFY, DEFEND, AND HOLD HARMLESS RK, ITS OFFICERS, DIRECTORS, EMPLOYEES, AND CONSULTANTS AGAINST ALL CLAIMS,**

DAMAGES, LOSSES, AND EXPENSES (INCLUDING REASONABLE ATTORNEYS' FEES, DEFENSE COSTS, AND COURT COSTS) ARISING FROM, OR ALLEGEDLY ARISING FROM, OR IN ANY WAY CONNECTED WITH, THE UNAUTHORIZED REUSE OR MODIFICATION OF THE DOCUMENTS BY CLIENT OR ANY PERSON OR ENTITY THAT ACQUIRES OR OBTAINS THE DOCUMENTS FROM OR THROUGH CLIENT WITHOUT THE WRITTEN AUTHORIZATION OF RK REGARDLESS OF WHETHER SUCH CLAIMS, DEMANDS, OR ACTIONS ARE FOUNDED IN WHOLE OR IN PART UPON ALLEGED NEGLIGENCE OF RK, ITS OFFICERS, DIRECTORS, EMPLOYEES, OR CONSULTANTS.

Parties other than CLIENT and RK may apply to use an instrument, using a form prepared by RK for that purpose. Others' use of an instrument shall be permitted only when CLIENT and RK both so agree; either shall have the right to forbid use by others. In addition, RK shall make its permission contingent upon the satisfaction of certain conditions when, in RK's professional judgment, such a contingency is necessary.

20. **DISPUTE RESOLUTION/LITIGATION.** All claims, disputes, and other controversies between RK and CLIENT arising out of, or in any way related to, the services provided by RK shall be submitted to mediation, before and as a condition precedent to, other remedies provided by law. Any litigation related to the Agreement or RK's performance of its professional services shall be commenced in a court in Bexar County, Texas. CLIENT consents to personal jurisdiction in the State of Texas and agrees that venue of any litigation shall be in Bexar County, the county where RK's principal place of business is located. CLIENT waives any objection to personal jurisdiction in Texas or to venue in Bexar County. The prevailing party in such litigation will be entitled to recover all court costs, attorneys' fees, and other legally recoverable claim-related expenses. As a condition precedent to mediation and / or litigation related to any claim arising out of the services provided under this Agreement, CLIENT shall obtain a written affidavit from a registered, independent, and reputable professional engineer describing any error, omission or other act by RK that allegedly failed to comply with the professional standard of care applicable to RK's performance of services and provide such affidavit to RK. The affidavit shall comply with the requirements of Texas Civil Practice & Remedies Code Chapter 150.

21. **TERMINATION OF CONTRACT.** CLIENT and RK may terminate RK's services at any time upon ten (10) calendar days' written notice. In the event of termination, CLIENT agrees to fully compensate RK for services performed including reimbursable expenses through the termination date, as well as reasonable demobilization expenses. RK will terminate its services without waiving any claims against or incurring any liability to CLIENT.

22. **STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS.** Any applicable statute of limitations will commence to run and any cause of action shall be deemed to have accrued not later than the earlier of the following: (1) the date of the report issued by RK giving rise to the cause of action; (2) the date on which RK issues its last report under this Agreement; or (3) if RK is retained to perform construction observation, the date of substantial completion of the project.

23. **FORCE MAJEURE.** Neither party shall be liable in damages or have the right to terminate this Agreement for any delay or default in performing hereunder if such delay or default is caused by conditions beyond its control ("Force Majeure") including, but not limited to Acts of God, Government restrictions (including the denial or cancellation of any export or other necessary license), wars, insurrections and/or any other cause beyond the reasonable control of the party whose performance is affected. Force Majeure may not be claimed as a cause for delay in payment of money due and payable hereunder.

24. **NO ASSIGNMENT.** Neither RK nor CLIENT shall assign or transfer its interest in this Agreement without the express written consent of the other.
25. **SEVERABILITY.** Each provision of this Agreement is intended to be severable. If any terms or provisions of this agreement shall be held to be invalid, illegal, or unenforceable for any reason whatsoever, the validity, legality, and enforceability of the remaining provisions hereof shall remain in full force and effect and shall not in any way be affected or impaired thereby. Moreover, to the maximum extent allowed by law, the Parties hereto stipulate that any offending provisions will be modified or altered, as necessary, so as to give such provisions the maximum permissible effect and application intended.
26. **ENTIRE AGREEMENT.** This Agreement, and all of its attachments, constitutes the entire, integrated Agreement between the Parties to it, and this Agreement supersedes all other Agreements, oral or written between the Parties, concerning the subject set forth in this Agreement. This Agreement may not be amended except in writing, with that amendment being signed by both Parties.

Attachment II
Cost Breakdown for
Fort Bend County
Fort Bend County 20110 Needsville Intersections
Proposal No. PHD23-182-00

	<u>Qty</u>		<u>Rate</u>	<u>Unit</u>		<u>Amount</u>
Task 1: Soils - Site Grading, Paving Subgrade and Utility Trench Backfill						
(Assume 6 Site Vists and 4 Sample Pickups)						
Labor:						
109000 Technician	60	x	\$65.00	/ Hr	=	\$3,900.00
109010 Technician OT	10	x	\$97.50	/ Hr	=	\$975.00
150000 Vehicle Charge	11	x	\$95.00	/ Day	=	\$1,045.00
90000 Soils Tests						
90100 Liquid and Plastic Limits	2	x	\$71.00	/ Ea	=	\$142.00
90600 Percent Passing #200 Sieve (ASTM D-1120)	2	x	\$55.00	/ Ea	=	\$110.00
92300 OMD Standard Compaction (ASTM D-698)	2	x	\$231.00	/ Ea	=	\$462.00
941000 Compressive Strength of C.S.S.	1	x	\$81.00	/ Ea	=	\$81.00
94500 OMD Lime or Cement Stabilized Soil	3	x	\$256.00	/ Ea	=	\$768.00
95100 Nuclear Density Equipment Rental	11	x	\$95.00	/ Day	=	\$1,045.00
Task 1 Total						\$8,528.00
Task 2: Concrete - Ditches						
(Assume 2 Site Vists and 2 Sample Pickups)						
Labor:						
109000 Technician	10	x	\$65.00	/ Hr	=	\$650.00
109010 Technician OT	2	x	\$97.50	/ Hr	=	\$195.00
150000 Vehicle Charge	2	x	\$95.00	/ Day	=	\$190.00
30000 Concrete Mix Design Inspection and Testing: (spec. frequency: 4 cylinders per 100 CY)						
30100 Cylinders Test (ASTM C-39) incl. Hold	14	x	\$20.00	/ Ea	=	\$280.00
Task 2 Total						\$1,315.00
Task 3: Asphalt Paving						
(Assume 5 Site Vists and 5 Sample Pickups)						
Labor:						
109000 Technician	50	x	\$65.00	/ Hr	=	\$3,250.00
109010 Technician OT	10	x	\$97.50	/ Hr	=	\$975.00
150000 Vehicle Charge	11	x	\$95.00	/ Day	=	\$1,045.00
40000 HMAC						
405000 Extraction/Gradation	3	x	\$230.00	/ Ea	=	\$690.00
406000 Specific Gravity	3	x	\$82.00	/ Ea	=	\$246.00
407000 HVEEM Stability	3	x	\$108.00	/ Set	=	\$324.00
408000 Bulk Density - Lab Molded or Cores	3	x	\$61.00	/ Set	=	\$183.00
410000 Maximum Theoretical Specific Gravity	3	x	\$103.00	/ Ea	=	\$309.00
Task 3 Total						\$7,022.00
Task 4: Professional Services (project management: report review, admin/clerical, meetings, etc.)						
Project Administration Fee (15% Basic Charge)					=	\$2,501.00
Task 4 Total						\$2,501.00
TOTAL						\$19,395.00

Remarks: A minimum of 4 hours is applicable for all field services. An overtime rate of 1.5 times

the hourly rate will be charged for any hours worked over 8 per day or any hour worked on Saturday, Sunday or Holidays.

Unless specifically requested, min/max temperatures will not be recorded (ASTM 31 10.1.2)

PROJECT DATA SHEET

Phone No.: _____ Fax No.: _____

EXHIBIT B



Annex B

Fort Bend County Travel Policy

Approved in Commissioners' Court on November 3, 2009

Effective November 4, 2009

Revised September 7, 2010

Revised June 2, 2015, Effective August 1, 2015

Revised July 28, 2015, Effective August 1, 2015

Revised July 26, 2016, Effective August 1, 2016

Revised December 12, 2017, Effective January 1, 2018

Revised September 26, 2023, Effective October 1, 2023

The Commissioners' Court allocates funds annually for the payment of travel expenditures for county employees and officials within the individual departmental budgets. Travel expenditures paid from these budgets must serve a public purpose for Fort Bend County. These expenditures may be paid directly to the vendor or provided as a reimbursement to the employee/official upon completion of their travel. Advance payments to vendors may be accommodated by issuance of a check or use of a County procurement card. Eligible expenditure categories under this policy include: Lodging, meals, transportation, registration fees, and other fees (with justification). Each category is further defined below.

CONTRACT RATES:

Fort Bend County is a 'Cooperative Purchasing Participating Entity' with the State of Texas. This program is also known as TPASS (Texas Procurement and Support Services) State Travel Management Program (STMP). This gives County employees and officials access to the contract rates negotiated by the State for hotels and rental cars. Procurement procedures for these contract services are explained within the categories below.

OUT OF STATE TRAVEL:

Authorization: The traveler must obtain Commissioners' Court approval for out-of-state travel before departure. The duration must include travel days along with the event scheduled days. To prevent delays in processing travel reimbursement, ensure that the travel duration is accurately defined when submitting the agenda request.

Documentation: The traveler must provide an excerpt from the Commissioners' Court minutes (<http://www.fortbendcountytexas.gov/index.aspx?page=55>) with the travel reimbursement form.

LODGING (In and Out of State):

Hotel:

Hotel reimbursements are limited to the Federal Travel Regulations set forth by US General Services Administration (GSA) by location not including taxes. The rates are set annually and vary by month and location. The maximum rates for lodging per day can be found at:

http://www.gsa.gov/portal/content/104877?utm_source=OGP&utm_medium=print-radio&utm_term=perdiem&utm_campaign=shortcuts based on travelers destination.

Fort Bend County is a 'Cooperative Purchasing Participating Entity' with the State of Texas. This gives County employees and officials access to the contract rates negotiated by the State for hotels. Participating hotels can be found at: https://portal.cpa.state.tx.us/hotel/hotel_directory/index.cfm (be sure to check the correct fiscal year). **When making a reservation the traveler must ask for the State of Texas**

Contract rate (not the government rate) and be prepared to provide the County's agency #: C0790. Traveler must verify confirmed rate matches the negotiated contract rates found on the State's website listed above and does not exceed the GSA daily allowance.

If the organizer of a conference/seminar has negotiated discount rates with a hotel(s), the traveler may choose these lodging services without penalty but the traveler must reserve the room at the group rate and provide documentation of the group rate with the reimbursement request.

If all rooms are booked at the host hotel and no accommodation is available at or below the GSA rate, you may book a room at another hotel at a rate equal to or lower than the conference/seminar rate.

If all rooms are booked at the host hotel and no accommodation is available at or below the GSA rate or at the conference/seminar rate, you may provide three (3) comps to support the higher rate. This will serve as the justification for the higher rate. The comparable hotels should be within five miles of the host event and should be of similar hotel class.

The traveler will be responsible for the excess charge over the GSA per diem rate for the city/county even if using the State rate. The Auditor's Office will deduct from the travelers' reimbursement any excess charges over the GSA per diem rate.

If a traveler cannot find a traditional hotel, a direct rental (Airbnb, VRBO, etc.) is allowable. All previous maximum daily rates still apply. Any fees incurred through a direct rental must also be included in the daily rate calculation and remain below the limits. Fees may include, but are not limited to, cleaning fees, extra guest fees, or service fees. (Taxes are not included in this calculation, as they are charged to hotel stays as well).

Travel websites including but not limited to Expedia and Travelocity shall not be used to book lodging.

In order to qualify for any of the above-mentioned exceptions, a lodging reservation must be made 14 days prior to travel. If travel is required without 14-day notice, the traveler must provide back-up which explains why the 14-day advance booking was not possible.

Travel Days: If the traveler must leave before 7:00AM to arrive at the start of the event and/or return to the County after 6:00PM after the event concludes, an additional night's lodging is allowable before and/or after the event.

Additional fees allowable: Self-parking

Additional fees allowable with justification: Valet parking is allowable if an extreme hardship exists due to physical disability of the traveler or if no self-parking is available.

Fees not allowable: Internet, phone charges, laundry, safe fees

Gratuities: Gratuities are not reimbursable for any lodging services.

Overpayments by County: Any lodging overpayment by the County must be reimbursed by the hotel before processing a reimbursement to the traveler for any of the categories addressed in this policy. Prepaid lodging services should be accurately calculated or underestimated by excluding the taxes to prevent delays in processing travel reimbursements.

Procurement Card: The traveler may use the procurement card to make lodging reservations. Contact Purchasing to arrange or use the procurement card assigned to the department or traveler.

Documentation: A final settled hotel bill with a zero balance from the front desk is required even if lodging is paid by the procurement card. The hotel bill left under the door is not acceptable. The hotel bill should be scrutinized before traveler departs to make sure all charges are valid and notify hotel of any invalid charges and resolve issues before departing. Make sure all parking has been added to your bill and all personal incidentals have been paid by traveler. Any invalid charges will be the responsibility of the traveler. A copy of the itemized hotel statement must be submitted with the travel reimbursement claim if the traveler used a County procurement card to purchase lodging services or prepaid by County check. Event agenda/documentation or a letter from the traveler describing the event/meeting is required. If utilizing conference negotiated hotel rates, documentation of rates is required.

Changes/Modifications to Reservation – Any modifications including cancellation of reservation, the traveler must obtain a confirmation number and note the name of the person they spoke with in case the hotel charges the traveler. If the traveler does not obtain a confirmation number then any expenses incurred will be the responsibility of the traveler. Expenses resulting from changes or modifications to travel reservations will be paid by the County if the traveler produces documentation that a family emergency exists.

County Exemption Status – Fort Bend County Employees traveling on County Business are not exempt from State and local hotel taxes, state taxes, etc. with the exception of District Judges and the District Attorney.

MEALS:

Meals including in-state and out-of-state will be reimbursed to the traveler at a flat rate of \$70 (full day). The travelers per diem on the departure day and final day will be at 75% of the per diem, which is \$52.50. The amount reimbursed will be paid through payroll and is subject to federal taxation.

Late Night Arrival – If a traveler arrives in Fort Bend County between midnight and 6am the traveler will receive a full day per diem for the previous day.

Day trips: Prior to 01/01/2024 – Meals will not be reimbursed for trips that do not require an overnight stay. Effective 01/01/2024 - The traveler is subject to per diem reimbursement. Day trip includes a trip outside the County that requires a traveler to leave Fort Bend before 7:00 AM and/or return to the County after 6:00 PM will be eligible for reimbursement at 75% of the per diem, which is \$52.50. Amount reimbursed for day trips will be paid through payroll and are subject to federal taxation.

Procurement Card: No meal purchases are allowed on any County procurement card.

Documentation: No meal receipts are required for reimbursement. Event agenda/documentation or a letter from the traveler describing the event/meeting is required.

TRANSPORTATION:

Personal Vehicle: Use of personal vehicle will be reimbursed at the current rate/mile set by Commissioners' Court. Mileage should be calculated using the County office location of the traveler and the event location. Mileage may not be calculated using the traveler's home. Mileage should be calculated using an employees vehicle odometer reading or by

a readily available online mapping service for travel out of Fort Bend County. If using the mileage of an online mapping service, state which mapping service was used or provide a printout of your route detailing the mileage. For local travel, odometer readings or mapping service details are not required. Departments should develop a mileage guide for employees for local travel points, if a department does not have a mileage guide, the Auditor's Office will determine if the mileage listed is reasonable.

Allowable expenses: Parking and tolls with documentation.

County Vehicle: Fuel purchases when using a County vehicle should be made with the County Procurement card if available. Original receipts will accompany the Procurement Card statement but a copy must be provided with the travel reimbursement request.

Allowable expenses: Parking and tolls with documentation required.

Airfare: The County will only reimburse direct travel to and from a location where County-related business is being conducted. Airfare is reimbursable at the lowest available rate based on 14 day advance purchase of a discounted coach/economy full-service seat based on the required arrival time for the event. The payment confirmation and itinerary must be presented with the travel reimbursement form. The traveler will be responsible for the excess charges of an airline ticket purchase other than a coach/economy seat. When using Southwest Airlines a traveler should choose the "wanna get away" flight category.

Allowable Expenses: Bag fees. Fare changes are allowable if business related or due to family emergency.

Unallowable Expenses/Fees: Trip insurance, Early Bird Check In, Front of the line, Leg Room, Fare changes for personal reasons.

Rental Car: Rental cars are limited to the negotiated TPASS rates listed at: <http://www.window.state.tx.us/procurement/prog/stmp/stmp-rental-car-contract/vendor-comparison/>. The contact information for Enterprise for the State Travel Management Program is listed here: <https://comptroller.texas.gov/purchasing/programs/travel-management/rental/enterprise.php>

When making a reservation traveler should provide the County's agency # [REDACTED]. The traveler will not be reimbursed for any amount over the negotiated contract rates if a non-contract company is used at a higher rate. The traveler should select a vehicle size comparable to the number of County travelers. The traveler may use a non-contract vendor at an overall rate lower than the contract rates with no penalty. The original contract/receipt must be presented with the travel reimbursement form or a copy if a County procurement card is used. . The traveler will be responsible for any excess charges not included in the TPASS rates or for choosing a vehicle size not comparable with the number of travelers on the trip. Insurance is included in the negotiated TPASS rates, if a traveler chooses to take out additional insurance the cost is on the traveler.

Enterprise:

- Optional Customer, Coupon or Corporate number is [REDACTED]
- Please enter the first 3 characters of your company's name or PIN number **FOR**
- Enterprise will automatically bill FBC when you reserve your vehicle so you need to have a purchase order before your departure.

Unallowable Fees/Charges: GPS, prepaid fuel, premium radio, child safety seats, additional insurance, one way rentals.

Allowable expenses: Parking and tolls allowed with documentation.

Other Transportation: Other forms of transit (bus, taxi, train) are reimbursable with an original receipt.

Gratuities: Gratuities are permitted if original receipt includes gratuity (20% maximum allowed) for any transportation services.

Procurement Card: The traveler may use a County procurement card to make transportation reservations for air travel and rental car services. Contact Purchasing to arrange or use the procurement card assigned to the department or traveler.

Documentation: Original receipts are required for all transportation reimbursements paid by the traveler. Transportation services obtained with a County procurement card require a copy of the receipt. Additional requirements are noted within each category above. Event agenda/documentation or a letter from the traveler describing the event/meeting is required.

REGISTRATION:

Registration fees: Registration fees are reimbursable for events that serve a Fort Bend County purpose. Registration fees for golf tournaments, tours, guest fees and other recreational events are not reimbursable.

Procurement Card: The traveler may use a County procurement card to register for an event. Contact Purchasing to arrange or use the procurement card assigned to the department or traveler.

Documentation: An original receipt must be obtained upon registration and submitted with the reimbursement request if paid by the traveler. A copy of the receipt must be provided if registration is paid on a County procurement card. Event agenda/documentation or a letter from the traveler describing the event/meeting is required.

GRANTS:

Travel expenditures from Federal and State grants must also conform to the granting agency's funding requirements.

TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT FORM:

The traveler must use the current travel reimbursement form <https://econnect.fortbendcountytexas.gov/documents-forms/auditors-office-forms> for all travel related services addressed in this policy. No other expenditures may be submitted for reimbursement on the travel reimbursement form. After completing all required information, the travel form must be signed/dated by the traveler and the department head/elected official. Travel reimbursement request should be submitted within 30 days from when traveler returns from trip. Mileage reimbursement request should be submitted no less frequently than quarterly. Mileage reimbursement request for the fourth quarter should be submitted no later than October 30th for yearend processing.

EXCLUSIONS:

If the traveler has custody of a person pursuant to statute or court order or if the traveler is required by court or legal entity to appear at a particular time and place the traveler will not be penalized for accommodations that require a 14 day advance purchase ticket if travel is required with less than 14 days' notice.

If the traveler has custody of a person pursuant to statute or court order the traveler will not be held to the 75% per diem on the departure and final day of travel.