

STATE OF TEXAS                   §  
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 COUNTY OF FORT BEND         §

**SECOND RENEWAL OF AGREEMENT FOR CONTINGENCY DEBRIS REMOVAL**

(Ceres Environmental Services, Inc. – RFP 19-040)

This Second Renewal of Agreement for Contingency Debris Removal (“Second Renewal”) is made and entered into by and between FORT BEND COUNTY, TEXAS (“County”), a political subdivision of the state of Texas, and CERES ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES, INC. (“Contractor”), a corporation authorized to conduct business in the state of Texas. County and Contractor may be referred to individually as a “Party” or collectively as the “Parties.”

WHEREAS, Contractor is a company which provides emergency management and disaster response services; and

WHEREAS, County and Contractor previously entered into that certain agreement on or about June 11, 2019 and as renewed and modified on November 22, 2022 (the “Agreement”) for contingency debris clearing, removal, and disposal services and operation of temporary debris staging and reduction sites pursuant to RFP 19-040; and

WHEREAS, by execution of this Second Renewal, the Parties desire to renew the Agreement for the continuation of such Services and to otherwise ratify and confirm all the terms and conditions as set forth therein.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the foregoing, the Parties do mutually agree as follows:

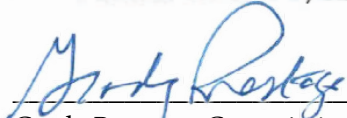
- (1) **Renewal Term.** Pursuant to Section 7 of the Agreement, the Parties mutually agree to renew the Agreement, under the same terms and conditions, for a term of 12 months beginning on December 1, 2023 and ending at 11:59 pm on November 30, 2024.
- (2) **Certain State Law Requirements for Contracts.** The contents of this Section are required by Texas law and are included by County regardless of content For purposes of Sections 2252.152, 2271.002, and 2274.002, Texas Government Code, as amended, Contractor hereby verifies that Contractor and any parent company, wholly owned subsidiary, majority-owned subsidiary, and affiliate:
  - A. Unless affirmatively declared by the United States government to be excluded from its federal sanctions regime relating to Sudan or Iran or any federal sanctions regime relating to a foreign terrorist organization, is not identified on a list prepared and maintained by the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts under Section 806.051, 807.051, or 2252.153 of the Texas Government Code.

- B. If employing ten (10) or more full-time employees and this Agreement has a value of \$100,000.00 or more, Contractor does not boycott Israel and is authorized to agree in such contracts not to boycott Israel during the term of such contracts. "Boycott Israel" has the meaning provided in § 808.001 of the Texas Government Code.
- C. If employing ten (10) or more full-time employees and this Agreement has a value of \$100,000.00 or more, Contractor does not boycott energy companies and is authorized to agree in such contracts not to boycott energy companies during the term of such contracts. "Boycott energy company" has the meaning provided in § 809.001 of the Texas Government Code.
- D. If employing ten (10) or more full-time employees and this Agreement has a value of \$100,000.00 or more, Contractor does not have a practice, policy, guidance, or directive that discriminates against a firearm entity or firearm trade association and is authorized to agree in such contracts not to discriminate against a firearm entity or firearm trade association during the term of such contracts. "Discriminate against a firearm entity or firearm trade association" has the meaning provided in § 2274.001(3) of the Texas Government Code. "Firearm entity" and "firearm trade association" have the meanings provided in § 2274.001(6) and (7) of the Texas Government Code.
- (3) **Human Trafficking.** BY ACCEPTANCE OF THIS AGREEMENT, CONTRACTOR ACKNOWLEDGES THAT FORT BEND COUNTY IS OPPOSED TO HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND THAT NO COUNTY FUNDS WILL BE USED IN SUPPORT OF SERVICES OR ACTIVITIES THAT VIOLATE HUMAN TRAFFICKING LAWS.
- (4) **Federal Clauses.** Contractor understands and acknowledges that this Agreement may be totally or partially funded with federal and or state funds. As a condition of receiving these funds, Contractor represents that it is and will remain in compliance with all requirements herein and in Exhibit A.
- (5) **Modifications.** Except as modified herein, all provisions, terms, conditions, pricing, and covenants contained in the Agreement shall remain in full force and effect in all other respects and shall continue to be binding on both Parties throughout the term of this Second Renewal.
- (6) **Conflict.** If there is a conflict among documents that make up the Agreement, the most recently executed document will prevail with regard to the conflict.

{Execution Page Follows}

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this Second Renewal is signed, accepted, and agreed to by all Parties by and through the Parties or their agents or authorized representatives. All Parties hereby acknowledge that they have read and understood this Second Renewal. All Parties further acknowledge that they have executed this legal document voluntarily and of their own free will.

**FORT BEND COUNTY, TEXAS**

  
Grady Prestage, Commissioner Precinct 2  
Presiding Officer of Commissioners Court  
on November 21, 2023

Date



**ATTEST:**

  
Laura Richard, County Clerk

**CERESE ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES, INC.**

  
Authorized Agent – Signature

Tia Laurie

Authorized Agent- Printed Name

Corporate Secretary

Title:

November 8, 2023

Date:

**AUDITOR'S CERTIFICATE**

I hereby certify that funds in the amount of \$ 10,000.00 are available to pay the obligation of Fort Bend County, Texas within the foregoing Agreement.

  
Robert Ed Sturdivant, County Auditor

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# Exhibit A

## **FEDERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS:**

Contractor understands and acknowledges that this Agreement may be totally or partially funded with federal and or state funds. As a condition of receiving these funds, Contractor represents that it is and will remain in compliance with all federal terms as stated below. These terms flow down to all third party contractors and their subcontracts at every tier, unless a particular award term or condition specifically indicates otherwise. The Contractor shall require that these clauses shall be included in each covered transaction at any tier, unless a particular award term or condition specifically indicates otherwise.

### **1. Access for Individuals with Disabilities (ADA Access).**

The Contractor agrees to comply with 49 U.S.C. § 5301(d), which states the Federal policy that elderly individuals and individuals with disabilities have the same right as other individuals to use public transportation services and facilities, and that special efforts shall be made in planning and designing those services and facilities to implement transportation accessibility rights for elderly individuals and individuals with disabilities. The Contractor also agrees to comply with all applicable provisions of section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, with 29 U.S.C. § 794, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability; with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), as amended, 42 U.S.C. §§ 12101 et seq., which requires that accessible facilities and services be made available to individuals with disabilities; and with the Architectural Barriers Act of 1968, as amended, 42 U.S.C. §§ 4151 et seq., which requires that buildings and public accommodations be accessible to individuals with disabilities, and any subsequent amendments to these laws. In addition, the Contractor agrees to comply with applicable implementing Federal regulations and directives and any subsequent amendments thereto, as follows:

- (1) U.S. DOT regulations, "Transportation Services for Individuals with Disabilities (ADA), 49 C.F.R. Part 37;
- (2) U.S. DOT regulations, "Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Handicap in programs and Activities Receiving or Benefiting from Federal Financial Assistance, 49 C.F.R. Part 27;
- (3) Joint U.S. Architectural and Transportation Barriers Compliance board (U.S. ATBCB)/U.S. DOT regulations, "Americans With Disabilities (ADA) Accessibility Specifications for Transportation Vehicles," 36 C.F.R. Part 1192 and 49 C.F.R. Part 38;
- (4) U.S. DOJ regulations, "Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Disability in State and Local Government Services," 28 C.F.R. Part 35;
- (5) U.S. DOJ regulations, "Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Disability by Public Accommodations and in Commercial Facilities," 28 C.F.R. Part 36;
- (6) U.S. General Services Administration (U.S. GSA) regulations, "Accommodations for the Physically Handicapped," 41 C.F.R. Subpart 101-19;
- (7) U.S. EEOC, "Regulations to Implement the Equal Employment Provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act," 29 C.F.R. Part 1630;

- (8) U.S. Federal Communications Commission regulations, "Telecommunications Relay Services and Related Customer Premises Equipment for the Hearing and Speech Disabled," 47 C.F.R. Part 64, Subpart F; and
- (9) U.S. ATBCB regulations, "Electronic and Information Technology Accessibility Standards," 36 C.F.R. Part 1194; FTA regulations, "Transportation for Elderly and Handicapped Persons", 49 C.F.R. Part 609; and
- (10) U.S. DOT regulations, "Transportation for Individuals with Disabilities: Passenger Vessels," 49 C.F.R. Part 39;
- (11) FTA Circular 4710.1, "Americans with Disabilities Act: Guidance"; and
- (12) Federal civil rights and nondiscrimination directives implementing the foregoing regulations, except to the extent the Federal Government determines otherwise in writing.

## **2. Access to Records and Reports.**

The Contractor agrees to provide County, the FTA Administrator, the Comptroller General of the United States or any of their authorized representatives access to any books, documents, papers and records of the Contractor which are directly pertinent to the Agreement for the purposes of making audits, examinations, excerpts and transcriptions. Contractor also agrees, pursuant to 49 C.F.R. 633.17 to provide the FTA Administrator or his authorized representatives including any PMO Contractor access to Contractor's records and construction sites pertaining to a major capital project, defined at 49 U.S.C. 5302(a)1, which is receiving federal financial assistance through the programs described at 49 U.S.C. 5307, 5309 or 5311. The Contractor agrees to permit any of the foregoing parties to reproduce by any means whatsoever or to copy excerpts and transcriptions as reasonably needed.

The Contractor agrees to comply and will require all subcontractors of any tier to comply with the record retention requirements in accordance with 2 C.F.R. 200.333. The Contractor agrees to retain, and will require its subcontractors of all tiers to retain, complete and readily accessible records related in whole or in part to the contract, including, but not limited to, all books, records, accounts, statistics, leases, subcontracts, arrangements other third party arrangements of any type, reports, and supporting materials related to those records required under the Agreement for a period of not less than three years after the date of termination or expiration of the Agreement, except in the event of litigation or settlement of claims arising from the performance of the Agreement, in which case Contractor agrees to maintain same until County, the FTA Administrator, the Comptroller General, or any of their duly authorized representatives, have disposed of all such litigation, appeals, claims or exceptions related thereto.

## **3. Buy America.**

The following contract only applies to contracts of \$150,000 or more involving rolling stock, construction, materials and supplies.

The Contractor agrees to comply with 49 U.S.C. 5323(j) and 49 C.F.R. Part 661, which provide that Federal funds may not be obligated unless steel, iron, and manufactured products used in FTA-funded projects are produced in the United States, unless a waiver has been granted by FTA or the

product is subject to a general waiver. General waivers are listed in 49 C.F.R. 661.7, and include final assembly in the United States for 15 passenger vans and 15 passenger wagons produced by Chrysler Corporation, and microcomputer equipment and software. Separate requirements for rolling stock are set out at 49 U.S.C. 5323(j)(2)(C) and 49 C.F.R. 661.11. Rolling stock must be assembled in the United States and have a 60 percent domestic content, subject to the Amendment below.

The FAST Act, effective October 1, 2015 amended the Buy America waiver for rolling stock to provide for a phased increase in the domestic content requirement for rolling stock to more than 65 percent for FY2018 and FY2019 and to more than 70 percent in FY2020 and beyond. The new provisions apply based on the date of delivery of the rolling stock. Domestic content requirement over the phase of the contract period shall be the provision applicable to the year of delivery of rolling stock procured under this contract.

Unlike rolling stock, manufactured goods must be 100-percent produced in the U.S. A manufactured good is considered produced in the United States if: (1) All of the manufacturing processes for the product take place in the United States; and (2) All of the components of the product are of U.S. origin. A component is considered of U.S. origin if it is manufactured in the United States, regardless of the origin of its subcomponents. 49 CFR 661.5(d). FTA has issued a number of Buy America guidance letters discussing manufactured goods.

A bidder or offeror must submit to the FTA recipient the appropriate Buy America certification with all bids or offers on FTA-funded contracts, except those subject to a general waiver. Bids or offers that are not accompanied by a completed Buy America certification must be rejected as nonresponsive. This requirement does not apply to lower tier subcontractors.

#### **4. Breaches and Disputes.**

The parties shall attempt in good faith to resolve promptly any dispute arising out of or relating to the Agreement by negotiation between the parties. Disputes arising in the performance of this Agreement that are not resolved by agreement of the parties shall be decided in writing by the authorized representative of the County. This decision shall be final and conclusive unless within ten [10] days from the date of receipt of its copy, the Contractor mails or otherwise furnishes a written appeal to the County. In connection with any such appeal, the Contractor shall be afforded an opportunity to be heard and to offer evidence in support of its position. The decision of the County shall be binding upon the Contractor and the Contractor shall abide by the decision.

Performance During Dispute - Unless otherwise directed by County, Contractor shall continue performance under the Agreement while matters in dispute are being resolved.

The requirement to seek mediation may be a condition required before filing an action at law or in equity, unless to do so would prevent either party from seeking relief in a court of law or equity under any applicable statute of limitations.

Claims for Damages - Should either party to the Agreement suffer injury or damage to person or property because of any act or omission of the party or of any of his employees, agents or others

for whose acts he is legally liable, a claim for damages therefor shall be made in writing to such other party within a reasonable time after the first observance of such injury of damage.

**Rights and Remedies** - The duties and obligations imposed by the Agreement and the rights and remedies available thereunder shall be in addition to and not a limitation of any duties, obligations, rights and remedies otherwise imposed or available by law. No action or failure to act by the County or Contractor shall constitute a waiver of any right or duty afforded any of them under the Agreement, nor shall any such action or failure to act constitute an approval of or acquiescence in any breach thereunder, except as may be specifically agreed in writing.

Contractor shall place this clause in all subcontracts for more than the small purchase threshold currently set at \$50,000 by the County, to address administrative, contractual, or legal remedies in instances where contractors violate or breach contract terms, and provide for such sanctions and penalties as appropriate.

## **5. Civil Rights Requirements.**

Nondiscrimination in Federal Public Transportation Programs - In accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act, as amended, 42 U.S.C. § 2000d, section 303 of the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended, 42 U.S.C. § 6102, section 202 of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, 42 U.S.C. § 12132, and Federal transit law at 49 U.S.C. § 5332, the Contractor agrees that it will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, status as a parent or disability. In addition, the Contractor agrees to comply with applicable Federal implementing regulations and other implementing requirements FTA may issue.

Equal Employment Opportunity - The following equal employment opportunity requirements apply to the Agreement:

### Race, Color, Creed, National Origin, Sex

The Contractor agrees to take affirmative action to ensure that applicants are employed, and that employees are treated during employment, without regard to their race, color, creed, national origin, disability, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, or status as a parent. Such action shall include, but not be limited to, the following: employment, upgrading, demotion or transfer, recruitment or recruitment advertising, layoff or termination; rates of pay or other forms of compensation; and selection for training, including apprenticeship. In addition, the Contractor agrees to comply with any implementing requirements FTA may issue.

Age - In accordance with section 4 of the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967, as amended, 29 U.S.C. §§ 623 and Federal transit law at 49 U.S.C. § 5332, the Contractor agrees to refrain from discrimination against present and prospective employees for reason of age. In addition, the Contractor agrees to comply with any implementing requirements FTA may issue.

Disabilities - In accordance with section 102 of the Americans with Disabilities Act, as amended, 42 U.S.C. § 12112, the Contractor agrees that it will comply with the requirements of U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, "Regulations to Implement the Equal Employment

Provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act," 29 C.F.R. Part 1630, pertaining to employment of persons with disabilities. In addition, the Contractor agrees to comply with any implementing requirements FTA may issue.

The Contractor also agrees to include these requirements in each subcontract financed in whole or in part with Federal assistance provided by FTA, modified only if necessary to identify the affected parties.

## **6. Clean Air.**

The following clause only applies to contracts of \$150,000 or more.

The Contractor agrees to comply with all applicable standards, orders or regulations issued pursuant to the Clean Air Act, as amended, 42 U.S.C. §§ 7401 et seq. The Contractor agrees to report each violation to the County and understands and agrees that the County will, in turn, report each violation as required to assure notification to FTA and the appropriate EPA Regional Office. The Contractor agrees it will not use any violating facilities. It will report the use of facilities placed on or likely to be placed on the U.S. EPA "List of Violating Facilities". It will report violations of use of prohibited facilities to FTA.

The Contractor also agrees to include these requirements in each subcontract exceeding \$150,000 financed in whole or in part with Federal assistance provided by FTA.

## **7. Clean Water.**

The following clause only applies to contracts of \$150,000 or more.

The Contractor agrees to comply with all applicable standards, orders or regulations issued pursuant to the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, as amended, 33 U.S.C. 1251 et seq. The Contractor agrees to report each violation to the County and understands and agrees that the County will, in turn, report each violation as required to assure notification to FTA and the appropriate EPA Regional Office. The Contractor agrees it will not use any violating facilities. It will report the use of facilities placed on or likely to be placed on the U.S. EPA "List of Violating Facilities". It will report violations of use of prohibited facilities to FTA.

The Contractor also agrees to include these requirements in each subcontract exceeding \$150,000 financed in whole or in part with Federal assistance provided by FTA.

## **8. Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards.**

The following clause only applies to contracts at or exceeding the County's simplified acquisition threshold currently set at \$50,000.

The Contractor shall comply with all federal laws, regulations, and requirements providing wage and hour protections for non-construction employees, in accordance with 40 U.S.C. § 3702, Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act, and other relevant parts of that Act, 40 U.S.C. § 3701 et seq., and U.S. DOL regulations, "Labor Standards Provisions Applicable to Contracts Covering Federally Financed and Assisted Construction (also Labor Standards Provisions

Applicable to Non-construction Contracts Subject to the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act),” 29 C.F.R. part 5.

The Contractor shall maintain payrolls and basic payroll records during the course of the work and shall preserve them for a period of three (3) years from the completion of the contract for all laborers and mechanics, including guards and watchmen, working on the contract. Such records shall contain the name and address of each such employee, social security number, correct classifications, hourly rates of wages paid, daily and weekly number of hours worked, deductions made, and actual wages paid.

Such records maintained under this paragraph shall be made available by the Contractor for inspection, copying, or transcription by authorized representatives of the FTA and the Department of Labor, and the Contractor will permit such representatives to interview employees during working hours on the job.

The Contractor shall require the inclusion of the language of this clause within subcontracts of all tiers.

#### **9. Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE).**

The Agreement is subject to the requirements of Title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 26, Participation by Disadvantaged Business Enterprises in Department of Transportation Financial Assistance Programs including 49 C.F.R. Part 26, Section 1101(b) of the FAST Act (23 U.S.C. § 101 note). The national goal for participation of Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBE) is 10%. **A separate contract goal has not been established for this procurement.** Contractor will facilitate, participation by small business concerns owned and controlled by socially and economically disadvantaged individuals, also referred to as “Disadvantaged Business Enterprises” (DBEs).

The Contractor, and each Third Party Subcontractor must not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, or sex in the award and performance of any FTA or U.S. DOT-assisted subagreement, third party contract, and third party subcontract, as applicable, and the administration of its DBE program or the requirements of 49 C.F.R. part 26.

The Contractor and each Third Party Subcontractor must take all necessary and reasonable steps under 49 C.F.R. part 26 to ensure nondiscrimination in the award and administration of U.S.FTA-assisted subagreements, third party contracts, and third party subcontracts, as applicable.

Failure by the Subrecipient and any of its Third Party Contractors or Third Party Subcontractors to carry out the requirements of this subparagraph 12.e(4)(b) is a material breach of this subagreement, third party contract, or third party subcontract, as applicable which may result in the termination of the Agreement or such other remedy as County deems appropriate, which may include, but is not limited to: (1) withholding monthly progress payments; (2) assessing sanctions; (3) liquidated damages; and/or (4) disqualifying the Contractor from future bidding as non-responsible. Each subcontract the Contractor signs with a subcontractor must include the assurance in this paragraph (see 49 C.F.R. 26.13(b)).

The successful bidder/offeror will be required to report its DBE participation obtained through race-neutral means throughout the period of performance.

The Contractor is required to pay its subcontractors performing work related to the Agreement for satisfactory performance of that work no later than 30 days after the Contractor's receipt of payment for that work from County. In addition, the Contractor is required to return any retainage payments to those subcontractors within 30 days after the subcontractor's work related to the Agreement is satisfactorily completed.

The Contractor must promptly notify County whenever a DBE subcontractor performing work related to the Agreement is terminated or fails to complete its work, and must make good faith efforts to engage another DBE subcontractor to perform at least the same amount of work. The Contractor may not terminate any DBE subcontractor and perform that work through its own forces or those of an affiliate without the prior written consent of County.

#### **10. Distracted Driving.**

The Contractor agrees to adopt and enforce workplace safety policies to decrease crashes caused by distracted drivers, including policies to ban text messaging while using an electronic device supplied by an employer, and driving a vehicle the driver owns or rents, a vehicle Contractor owns, leases, or rents, or a privately-owned vehicle when on official business in connection with the Award, or when performing any work for or behalf of the County.

#### **11. Energy Conservation.**

The Contractor agrees to comply with mandatory standards and policies relating to energy efficiency which are contained in the state energy conservation plan issued in compliance with the Energy Policy and Conservation Act. The State of Texas does not have an energy conservation plan.

#### **12. Environmental Justice.**

The Contractor agrees to, and assures that it will, promote environmental justice by following: (1) Executive Order No. 12898, "Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations," February 11, 1994, 42 U.S.C. § 4321 note, as well as facilitating compliance with that Executive Order, (2) U.S. DOT Order 5610.2, "Department of Transportation Actions To Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations," 62 Fed. Reg. 18377, April 15, 1997, and (3) the most recent edition of FTA Circular 4703.1, "Environmental Justice Policy Guidance for Federal Transit Administration Recipients," August 15, 2012, to the extent consistent with applicable federal laws, regulations, requirements, and guidance.

#### **13. Environmental Protections.**

The Contractor agrees to, and assures that it will, comply with all applicable environmental and resource use laws, regulations, and requirements, and follow applicable guidance, now in effect or

that may become effective in the future, including state and local laws, ordinances, regulations, and requirements and follow applicable guidance.

#### **14. Notice to Third Party Participants.**

Federal requirements that apply to the County or the Award, the accompanying Award Agreement or any Amendments thereto may change due to changes in federal law, regulation, other requirements, or guidance, or changes in the Recipient's Award Agreement including any information incorporated by reference and made part of that Award Agreement will apply to the Contractor and any other Third-Party Agreements.

#### **15. Fly America.**

The following clause only applies to contracts involving foreign air transportation or travel. The Contractor agrees to comply with 49 U.S.C. 40118 (the "Fly America" Act) in accordance with the General Services Administration's regulations at 41 C.F.R. Part 301-10, which provide that recipients and sub-recipients of Federal funds and their contractors are required to use U.S. Flag air carriers for U.S Government-financed international air travel and transportation of their personal effects or property, to the extent such service is available, unless travel by foreign air carrier is a matter of necessity, as defined by the Fly America Act. The Contractor shall submit, if a foreign air carrier was used, an appropriate certification or memorandum adequately explaining why service by a U.S. flag air carrier was not available or why it was necessary to use a foreign air carrier and shall, in any event, provide a certificate of compliance with the Fly America requirements. The Contractor agrees to include the requirements of this section in all subcontracts that may involve international air transportation.

#### **16. FTA Interest.**

This clause does not flow-down to subcontractors.

Contractor understands and agrees that FTA has a vested interest in the settlement of any violation of federal law, regulation, or disagreement involving federal funds used towards this Agreement, including, but not limited to, a default, breach, major dispute, or litigation, and FTA reserves the right to concur in any settlement or compromise."

#### **17. Government-wide Debarment and Suspension.**

This clause applies to contracts for \$25,000 or more.

The Contractor shall comply and facilitate compliance with U.S. FTA regulations, Nonprocurement Suspension and Debarment," 2 C.F.R. part 1200, which adopts and supplements the U.S. Office of Management and Budget (U.S. OMB) "Guidelines to Agencies on Governmentwide Debarment and Suspension (Nonprocurement)," 2 C.F.R. part 180. These provisions apply to each contract at any tier of \$25,000 or more, and to each contract at any tier for a federally required audit (irrespective of the contract amount), and to each contract at any tier that must be approved by an FTA official irrespective of the contract amount. As such, the

Contractor shall verify that its principals, affiliates, and subcontractors are eligible to participate in this federally funded contract and are not presently declared by any Federal department or agency to be:

- (1) Debarred from participation in any federally assisted Award;
- (2) Suspended from participation in any federally assisted Award;
- (3) Proposed for debarment from participation in any federally assisted Award;
- (4) Declared ineligible to participate in any federally assisted Award;
- (5) Voluntarily excluded from participation in any federally assisted Award; or
- (6) Disqualified from participation in any federally assisted Award.

By signing and submitting its bid or proposal, the bidder or proposer certifies as follows:

"The Certification in this clause is a material representation of fact relied upon by the County. If it is later determined by the County that the bidder or proposer knowingly rendered an erroneous certification, in addition to remedies available to County, the Federal Government may pursue available remedies, including but not limited to suspension and/or debarment. The bidder or proposer agrees to comply with the requirements of 2 C.F.R. part 180, subpart C, as supplemented by 2 C.F.R. part 1200, while this offer is valid and throughout the period of any contract that may arise from this offer. The bidder or proposer further agrees to include a provision requiring such compliance in its lower tier covered transactions."

#### **18. Incorporation of FTA Terms.**

The provisions in this Section include, in part, certain Standard Terms and Conditions required by FTA, whether or not expressly set forth in the preceding contract provisions. All contractual provisions required by FTA, as set forth in FTA Circular 4220.1E, are hereby incorporated by reference. Anything to the contrary herein notwithstanding, all FTA mandated terms shall be deemed to control in the event of a conflict with other provisions contained in the Agreement. The Contractor shall not perform any act, fail to perform any act, or refuse to comply with any County requests which would cause County to be in violation of the FTA terms and conditions.

#### **19. Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) Architecture and Standards.**

Contractor ensures that they will conform to the National Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) Architecture requirements of 23 U.S.C. § 517(d), unless it obtains an exemption from those requirements, and follow FTA Notice, "FTA National ITS Architecture Policy on Transit Projects," 66 Fed. Reg. 1455, January 8, 2001, and all other applicable federal guidance.

#### **20. Lobbying.**

The following clause must be included in all subcontracts for \$100,000 or more.

Contractors who apply or bid for an award of \$100,000 or more shall file the certification required by 49 C.F.R. Part 20, "New Restrictions on Lobbying." Each tier certifies to the tier above that it will not and has not used Federal appropriated funds to pay any person or organization for

influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a member of Congress, officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a member of Congress in connection with obtaining any Federal contract, grant or any other award covered by 31 U.S.C. 1352. Each tier shall also disclose the name of any registrant under the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 who has made lobbying contacts on its behalf with non-Federal funds with respect to that Federal contract, grant or award covered by 31 U.S.C. 1352. Such disclosures are forwarded from tier to tier up to the County.

#### **21. No Government Obligation to Third Parties.**

County and Contractor acknowledge and agree that, notwithstanding any concurrence by the Federal Government in or approval of the solicitation or award of the contract, absent the express written consent by the Federal Government, the Federal Government is not a party to the Agreement and shall not be subject to any obligations or liabilities to County, the Contractor, or any other party (whether or not a party to that contract) pertaining to any matter resulting from the contract. The Contractor agrees to include this clause in each subcontract financed in whole or in part with Federal assistance provided by FTA. It is further agreed that the clause shall not be modified, except to identify the subcontractor who will be subject to its provisions.

#### **22. Notification to FTA.**

Contractor understands that if a current or prospective legal matter that may affect the Federal Government emerges, the County must promptly notify the FTA Chief Counsel, or FTA Regional Counsel for the Region in which the County is located. (1) The types of legal matters that require notification include, but are not limited to, a major dispute, breach, default, litigation, or naming the Federal Government as a party to litigation or a legal disagreement in any forum for any reason. (2) Matters that may affect the Federal Government include, but are not limited to, the Federal Government's interests in the federal funds used towards this Agreement, or the Federal Government's administration or enforcement of federal laws, regulations, and requirements.

#### **23. Duty to Report False Claims.**

If the County has credible evidence that Contractor or other person has submitted a false claim under the False Claims Act, 31 U.S.C. § 3729 et seq., or has committed a criminal or civil violation of law pertaining to such matters as fraud, conflict of interest, bribery, gratuity, or similar misconduct involving federal assistance, the County must promptly notify the U.S. FTA Inspector General, in addition to the FTA Chief Counsel or Regional Counsel for the Region in which the County is located.

#### **24. Privacy Act.**

The Contractor agrees to comply with, and assures the compliance of its employees with, the information restrictions and other applicable requirements of the Privacy Act of 1974, 5 U.S.C. § 552a. Among other things, the Contractor agrees to obtain the express consent of the Federal Government before the Contractor or its employees operate a system of records on behalf of the Federal Government. The Contractor understands that the requirements of the Privacy Act,

including the civil and criminal penalties for violation of that Act, apply to those individuals involved, and that failure to comply with the terms of the Privacy Act may result in termination of the Agreement. The Contractor also agrees to include these requirements in each subcontract to administer any system of records on behalf of the Federal Government financed in whole or in part with Federal assistance provided by FTA.

## **25. Program Fraud and False or Fraudulent Statements and Related Acts.**

The Contractor acknowledges that the provisions of the Program Fraud Civil Remedies Act of 1986, as amended, 31 U.S.C. § 3801 et seq. and U.S. DOT regulations, "Program Fraud Civil Remedies," 49 C.F.R. Part 31, apply to its actions pertaining to this Project. Upon execution of the contract, the Contractor certifies or affirms the truthfulness and accuracy of any statement it has made, it makes, it may make, or causes to be made, pertaining to the Agreement or the FTA assisted project for which the Agreement work is being performed. In addition to other penalties that may be applicable, the Contractor further acknowledges that if it makes, or causes to be made, a false, fictitious, or fraudulent claim, statement, submission, or certification, the Federal Government reserves the right to impose the penalties of the Program Fraud Civil Remedies Act of 1986 on the Contractor to the extent the Federal Government deems appropriate.

The Contractor also acknowledges that if it makes, or causes to be made, a false, fictitious, or fraudulent claim, statement, submission, or certification to the Federal Government under a contract connected with a project that is financed in whole or in part with Federal assistance originally awarded by FTA under the authority of 49 U.S.C. § 5307, the Government reserves the right to impose the penalties of 18 U.S.C. § 1001 and 49 U.S.C. § 5307(n)(1) on the Contractor, to the extent the Federal Government deems appropriate.

The Contractor agrees to include the above two clauses in each subcontract financed in whole or in part with Federal assistance provided by FTA. It is further agreed that the clauses shall not be modified, except to identify the subcontractor who will be subject to the provisions.

## **26. Prompt Payment.**

Under this contract, the prime contractor agrees to pay each subcontractor for satisfactory performance of its contract within 30 days from the receipt of each payment the prime contractor receives from the County. The prime contractor further agrees to full payment of retainage to each subcontractor within 30 days after the subcontractor's work is satisfactorily completed. Any delay or postponement of payment from the above referenced time frame may occur only for good cause following written approval of the County. This clause applies to both DBE and non-DBE subcontracts.

## **27. Resource Recovery.**

This clause only applies to procurements of \$10,000 or more.

The Contractor agrees to comply with Section 6002 of the Solid Waste Disposal Act, as amended by the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act. The requirements of Section 6002 include

procuring only items designated in guidelines of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) at 40 C.F.R. part 247 that contain the highest percentage of recovered materials practicable, consistent with maintaining a satisfactory level of competition, where the purchase price of the item exceeds \$10,000 or the value of the quantity acquired during the preceding fiscal year exceeded \$10,000; procuring solid waste management services in a manner that maximizes energy and resource recovery; and establishing an affirmative procurement program for procurement of recovered materials identified in the EPA guidelines.

### **28. Safe Operation of Motor Vehicles (Seat Belt).**

Contractor shall encourage their employees and other personnel that operate company-owned vehicles, company rented-vehicles, or personally operated vehicles to adopt on-the-job seat belt policies and programs.

The Contractor agrees to adopt and enforce workplace safety policies to decrease crashes caused by distracted drivers, including policies to ban text messaging while using an electronic device supplied by an employer, and driving a vehicle the driver owns or rents, a vehicle Contractor owns, leases, or rents, or a privately-owned vehicle when performing any work for this Agreement.

### **29. Sensitive Security Information.**

Each third party contractor must protect, and take measures to ensure that its subcontractors at each tier protect, "sensitive security information" made available during the administration of a third party contract or subcontract to ensure compliance with 49 U.S.C. Section 40119(b) and implementing FTA regulations, "Protection of Sensitive Security Information," 49 CFR Part 15, and with 49 U.S.C. Section 114(r) and implementing Department of Homeland Security regulations, "Protection of Sensitive Security Information," 49 CFR Part 1520.

### **30. Termination.**

Contractor understands that all contracts in excess of \$10,000, including subcontracts, must address termination for cause and for convenience by the Contractor including the manner by which it will be effected and the basis for settlement.

### **31. Change Orders.**

Verbal change orders to the Agreement are not permitted. No changes in the scope, specifications, character, or complexity of work shall be made by the Contractor without first receiving written approval by the Fort Bend County Public Transportation Director or their designee properly defining and limiting any such change. Contractor shall be liable for all costs resulting from and/or for satisfactorily correcting any specification change not properly ordered by written modification to the Contract and signed by the County.

Within 14 calendar days after Contractor's receipt of the written change order request for modification of the Contract, Contractor shall submit to County a detailed price schedule proposal for the work to be performed. This proposal shall be accepted or modified by negotiation between

Contractor and the County. At the time both parties shall execute a detailed Contract modification in writing. Disagreements that cannot be resolved within negotiations shall be resolved in accordance with the contract disputes clause.

It is distinctly understood and agreed that no claim for payment for work done or materials furnished by the Contractor outside of these parameters shall be paid by County. Any such services or materials furnished by Contractor without such written order shall be at the risk, cost and expense of the Contractor, and no claim for compensation for any such services or materials shall be made.

All such changes, which are mutually agreed upon by and between all parties, shall be incorporated in written amendments to the Contract. All such amendments shall state any increase or decrease in the amount of the compensation due to County for the change in the scope.

### **32. Force Majeure**

Neither party shall be liable or responsible to the other party, nor be deemed to have defaulted under or breached this Agreement, for any failure or delay in fulfilling or performing any term of this Agreement when and to the extent such failure or delay is caused by or results from acts beyond the impacted party's ("Impacted Party") control, including, but not limited to, the following force majeure events ("Force Majeure Events"): (a) acts of God; (b) a natural disaster (fires, explosions, earthquakes, hurricane, flooding, storms, explosions, infestations), epidemic, or pandemic; (c) war, invasion, hostilities (whether war is declared or not), terrorist threats or acts, riot or other civil unrest; (d) government order or law; (e) actions, embargoes or blockades in effect on or after the date of this Agreement; (f) action by any governmental authority; (g) national or regional emergency; (h) strikes, labor stoppages or slowdowns or other industrial disturbances; and (i) shortage of adequate power or transportation facilities. The Impacted Party shall give notice in writing within three (3) business days of the Force Majeure Event to the other party disclosing the estimated length of the delay and the cause of the delay. The Impacted Party shall use diligent efforts to end the failure or delay and ensure the effects of such Force Majeure Event are minimized. The Impacted Party shall resume the performance of its obligations as soon as reasonably practicable after the removal of the cause. In the event that the Impacted Party's failure or delay remains uncured for a period of ten (10) days following Notice given by it, the other party may thereafter terminate this Agreement upon notice.

### **33. Prohibited Telecommunications and Video Surveillance Services and Equipment.**

Contractor understands and acknowledges that under 2 CFR 200.216, the County is prohibited from using federal funds to procure, obtain, extend or renew a contract to procure or obtain covered telecommunications equipment or services, including telecom equipment produced by Huawei Technologies Company or ZTE Corp. (or subsidiaries or affiliates of such entities). Contractor, therefore, certifies that they are in compliance with the [John S. McCain National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2019 \(FY 2019 NDAA\)](#), Pub. L. No. 115-232 (2018), and that in the performance of this agreement, it will not provide equipment, services, or systems that uses covered telecommunications equipment or services as a substantial or essential component of any system, or as critical technology as part of any system. As described in [Public Law 115-232](#), section 889, covered telecommunications equipment is telecommunications equipment produced

by Huawei Technologies Company or ZTE Corporation (or any subsidiary or affiliate of such entities). **(i)** For the purpose of public safety, security of government facilities, physical security surveillance of critical infrastructure, and other national security purposes, video surveillance and telecommunications equipment produced by Hytera Communications Corporation, Hangzhou Hikvision Digital Technology Company, or Dahua Technology Company (or any subsidiary or affiliate of such entities). **(ii)** Telecommunications or video surveillance services provided by such entities or using such equipment. **(iii)** Telecommunications or video surveillance equipment or services produced or provided by an entity that the Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Director of the National Intelligence or the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, reasonably believes to be an entity owned or controlled by, or otherwise connected to, the government of a covered foreign country.

#### **34. Federal Tax Liability**

Contractor certifies that they do not have any unpaid Federal tax liability that has been assessed, for which all judicial and administrative remedies have been exhausted or have lapsed, and that is not being paid in a timely manner pursuant to an agreement with the authority responsible for collecting the tax liability; and was not convicted of the felony criminal violation under any Federal law within the preceding 24 months.

#### **35. Domestic Preferences for Procurements.**

As appropriate and to the extent consistent with law, Contractor shall to the greatest extent practicable, provide a preference for the purchase, acquisition, or use of goods, products, or materials produced in the United States (including but not limited to iron, aluminum, steel, cement, and other manufactured products). The requirements of this section must be included in all subawards including all contracts and purchase orders for work or products procured with federal funds. For purposes of this clause, (1) "Produced in the United States" means, for iron and steel products, that all manufacturing processes, from the initial melting stage through the application of coatings, occurred in the United States. (2) "Manufactured products" means items and construction materials composed in whole or in part of non-ferrous metals such as aluminum; plastics and polymer-based products such as polyvinyl chloride pipe; aggregates such as concrete; glass, including optical fiber; and lumber.

# CERTIFICATE OF INTERESTED PARTIES

FORM 1295

1 of 1

Complete Nos. 1 - 4 and 6 if there are interested parties.  
Complete Nos. 1, 2, 3, 5, and 6 if there are no interested parties.

**OFFICE USE ONLY  
CERTIFICATION OF FILING**

**1 Name of business entity filing form, and the city, state and country of the business entity's place of business.**  
CERES ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES, INC.  
SARASOTA, FL United States

**Certificate Number:**  
2023-1092406

**Date Filed:**  
11/08/2023

**2 Name of governmental entity or state agency that is a party to the contract for which the form is being filed.**  
FORT BEND COUNTY TEXAS

**Date Acknowledged:**  
11/21/2023

**3 Provide the identification number used by the governmental entity or state agency to track or identify the contract, and provide a description of the services, goods, or other property to be provided under the contract.**  
RFP 19-040  
Debris Removal Services

4	Name of Interested Party	City, State, Country (place of business)	Nature of interest (check applicable)	
			Controlling	Intermediary
	LAURIE, Tia	SARASOTA, FL United States	X	
	ULSCHMID, John	SARASOTA, FL United States	X	
	MCINTYRE, David	SARASOTA, FL United States	X	

**5 Check only if there is NO Interested Party.**

**6 UNSWORN DECLARATION**

My name is \_\_\_\_\_, and my date of birth is \_\_\_\_\_.

My address is \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_.  
(street) (city) (state) (zip code) (country)

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed in \_\_\_\_\_ County, State of \_\_\_\_\_, on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_.  
(month) (year)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of authorized agent of contracting business entity  
(Declarant)