

12R-147  
PH: 7/10/12

**CONTRACT DOCUMENTS  
STARTRAN**

**CITY OF LINCOLN  
NEBRASKA**

**ANNUAL SUPPLY AND SERVICE  
PARTS WASHING MACHINES  
QUOTE 3972**

**Safety-Kleen Systems, Inc.  
13915 A Plaza  
Omaha, NE 68144  
402.333.6321**

**CITY OF LINCOLN  
STARTRAN  
CONTRACT AGREEMENT**

THIS CONTRACT, made and entered into this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2012, by and between **Safety-Kleen Systems, Inc., 13915 A Plaza, Omaha, NE 68144**, hereinafter called "Contractor", and the City of Lincoln, Nebraska, a municipal corporation, hereinafter called "City".

WHEREAS, the City has caused to be prepared, in accordance with law, Specifications, Plans, and other Contract Documents for the Work herein described, and has approved and adopted said documents and has caused to be published an advertisement for and in connection with said Work, to-wit:

For providing **Annual Supply and Service - Parts Washing Machines, Quote 3972** and,

WHEREAS, the Contractor, in response to such advertisement, has submitted to the City, in the manner and at the time specified, a sealed Proposal/Supplier Response in accordance with the terms of said advertisement; and,

WHEREAS, the City, in the manner prescribed by law has publicly opened, read aloud, examined, and canvassed the Proposals/Supplier Responses submitted in response to such advertisement, and as a result of such canvass has determined and declared the Contractor to be the lowest responsible bidder for the said Work for the sum or sums named in the Contractor's Proposal/Supplier Responses, a copy thereof being attached to and made a part of this Contract;

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the sums to be paid to the Contractor and the mutual covenants herein contained, the Contractor and the City has agreed and hereby agree as follows:

1. The Contractor agrees to (a) furnish all tools, equipment, supplies, superintendence, transportation, and other accessories, services, and facilities; (b) furnish all materials, supplies, and equipment specified to be incorporated into and form a permanent part of the complete work; (c) provide and perform all necessary labor in a substantial and workmanlike manner and in accordance with the provisions of the Contract Documents; and (d) execute and complete all Work included in and covered by the City's award of this Contract to the Contractor, such award being based on the acceptance by the City of the Contractor's Proposal, or part thereof, as follows:

**Agreement to full proposal**

2. The City agrees to pay to the Contractor for the performance of the Work embraced in this Contract, the Contractor agrees to accept as full compensation therefore, the following sums and prices for all Work covered by and included in the Contract award and designated above, payment thereof to be made in the manner provided by the City:

**City will pay for products/service, according to the Line Item pricing as listed in Contractors Proposal/Supplier Response, a copy thereof being attached to and made a part of this Contract. The City shall order on an as needed basis for the duration of the contract.**

3. Equal Employment Opportunity. In connection with the carrying out of this project, the contractor shall not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, ancestry, disability, age or marital status. The Contractor will take affirmative action to ensure that applicants are employed, and that employees are treated during employment, without regard to their race, color, religion, sex, national origin, ancestry, disability, age or marital status. 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 compensation; and selection for training, including apprenticeship.

4. E-Verify. In accordance with Neb. Rev. Stat. 4-108 through 4-114, the contractor agrees to register with and use a federal immigration verification system, to determine the work eligibility status of new employees performing services within the state of Nebraska. A federal immigration verification system means the electronic verification of the work authorization program of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996, 8 U.S.C. 1324 a, otherwise known as the E-Verify Program, or an equivalent federal program designated by the United States Department of Homeland Security or other federal agency authorized to verify the work eligibility status of a newly hired employee pursuant to the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986. The Contractor shall not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment to be employed in the performance of this section pursuant to the requirements of state law and 8 U.S.C.A 1324b. The contractor shall require any subcontractor to comply with the provisions of this section.
5. Termination. This Contract may be terminated by the following:
  - 5.1) Termination for Convenience. Either party may terminate this Contract upon thirty (30) days written notice to the other party for any reason without penalty.
  - 5.2) Termination for Cause. The City may terminate the Contract for cause if the Contractor:
    - 5.2.1) Refuses or fails to supply the proper labor, materials and equipment necessary to provide services and/or commodities.
    - 5.2.2) Disregards Federal, State or local laws, ordinances, regulations, resolutions or orders.
    - 5.2.3) Otherwise commits a substantial breach or default of any provision of the Contract Document. In the event of a substantial breach or default the City will provide the Contractor written notice of said breach or default and allow the Contractor ten (10) days from the date of the written notice to cure such breach or default. If said breach or default is not cured within ten (10) days from the date of notice, then the contract shall terminate.
6. Independent Contractor. It is the express intent of the parties that this contract shall not create an employer-employee relationship. Employees of the Contractor shall not be deemed to be employees of the City and employees of the City shall not be deemed to be employees of the Contractor. The Contractor and the City shall be responsible to their respective employees for all salary and benefits. Neither the Contractor's employees nor the City's employees shall be entitled to any salary, wages, or benefits from the other party, including but not limited to overtime, vacation, retirement benefits, workers' compensation, sick leave or injury leave. Contractor shall also be responsible for maintaining workers' compensation insurance, unemployment insurance for its employees, and for payment of all federal, state, local and any other payroll taxes with respect to its employees' compensation.
7. Contract Term. This Contract shall be effective upon execution by both parties. The term of the Contract shall be a two (2) year term with the option to renew for one (1) additional two (2) year term..
8. Non-Discrimination Clause. StarTran shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, or sex in the award and performance of any DOT assisted contract or in the administration of its DBE Program or the requirements of 49 CFR part 26. The recipient shall take all necessary and reasonable steps under 49 CFR part 26 to ensure nondiscrimination in the award and administration of DOT assisted contracts. The recipient's DBE Program, as required by 49 CFR part 26 and as approved by DOT, is incorporated by reference in this agreement. Implementation of this program is a legal obligation and failure to carry out its terms shall be treated as a violation of this agreement. Upon notification to the (Recipient) of its failure to carry out its approved program, the Department may impose sanction as provided for under part 26 and may, in appropriate cases, refer the matter for enforcement under 18 U.S.C. 1001 and/or the Program Fraud Civil Remedies Act of 1986 (31 U.S.C. 3801 et seq.).

The contractor, sub-recipient, or subcontractor shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, or sex in the performance of this contract. The contractor shall carry out applicable requirements of 49 CFR part 26 in the award and administration of DOT assisted contracts. Failure by the contractor to carry out these requirements is a material breach of this contract, which may result in the termination of this contract or such other remedy as the recipient deems appropriate.

9. The Contract Documents comprise the Contract, and consist of the following:
1. Contract Agreement
  2. Accepted Proposal/Response
  3. Attachment A
  4. Federal Documents
  5. Specifications
  6. Instructions to Bidders

These Contract Agreements, together with the other Contract Documents herein above mentioned, form this Contract, and they are as fully a part of the Contract as if hereto attached or herein repeated.

The Contractor and the City hereby agree that all the terms and conditions of this Contract shall be binding upon themselves, and their heirs, administrators, executors, legal and personal representatives, successors, and assigns.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Contractor and the City do hereby execute this contract.

**EXECUTION BY THE CITY OF LINCOLN, NEBRASKA**

ATTEST:

CITY OF LINCOLN, NEBRASKA

City Clerk \_\_\_\_\_

Mayor \_\_\_\_\_

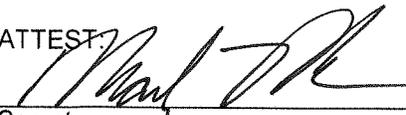
Approved by Resolution No. \_\_\_\_\_

dated \_\_\_\_\_

**EXECUTION BY CONTRACTOR**

IF A CORPORATION:

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary (SEAL)

Safety Kleen Systems, Inc  
Name of Corporation  
5360 Legacy Dr, Bldg 2 Ste 100, Plano TX 75024  
(Address)

By:   
\_\_\_\_\_  
Duly Authorized Official  
Director of National Accounts  
Legal Title of Official

IF OTHER TYPE OF ORGANIZATION:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Organization

\_\_\_\_\_  
Type of Organization

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Address)

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Member

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Member

IF AN INDIVIDUAL:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

# City of Lincoln/Lancaster County (Lincoln Purchasing) Supplier Response

Bid Information		Contact Information		Ship to Information	
Bid Creator	Robert Walla Asst. Purchasing Agent	Address	Purchasing 440 S. 8th St. Lincoln, NE 68516	Address	StarTran 710 J St. Lincoln, NE 68508
Email	rwalla@lincoln.ne.gov	Contact	Robert Walla Asst. Purchasing Agent	Contact	
Phone	1 (402) 441-8309			Department	
Fax	1 (402) 441-6513			Building	
Bid Number	3972	Department		Floor/Room	
Title	Annual Supply and Service - Parts Washing Machines - REBID	Building	Suite 200	Telephone	
Bid Type	Quote	Floor/Room		Fax	
Issue Date	04/09/2012	Telephone	1 (402) 441-8309	Email	
Close Date	4/16/2012 3:00:00 PM CST	Fax	1 (402) 441-6513		
Need by Date		Email	rwalla@lincoln.ne.gov		

## Supplier Information

Company Safety-Kleen Sysyems, Inc.  
 Address 13915 A Plaza  
 Omaha, NE 68144  
 Contact Eddie Neil  
 Department  
 Building  
 Floor/Room  
 Telephone 402 (333) 6321  
 Fax 402 (333) 8649  
 Email eddie.neil@safety-kleen.com  
 Submitted 4/16/2012 11:17:11 AM CST  
 Total \$0.00

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

## Supplier Notes

Buyer to provide Safety-Kleen with tax exempt form upon award of contract

## Bid Notes

## Bid Activities

## Bid Messages

Please review the following and respond where necessary

#	Name	Note	Response
1	Electronic Signature	Please check here for your electronic signature.	Yes
2	Instructions to Bidders	I acknowledge reading and understanding the Instructions to Bidders.	Yes
3	Contact	Name of person submitting this bid:	Casey Sanders
4	FTA Forms	I have read and accept the terms as listed in the attached FTA Forms and agree to follow those requirements as part of this bid and any subsequent contracts.	Yes
5	Specifications	I acknowledge reading and understanding the specifications.	Yes
6	Protest Procedures	I acknowledge that I have read and understand the City of Lincoln Bid Protest procedures. I further recognize that in the event a protest is denied by the City, I may file a protest with the Federal Grant Provider after exhausting all administrative remedies with the City. For further information on a protest, a Vendor may contact the City Purchasing Agent.	
7	Term Clause with Escallation/De-Escalation	I acknowledge that the term of the contract will be a (2) two year term from the date of the executed contract with the option for (1) one additional (2) two year term. (a) Bid prices firm for the first full contract period. YES or NO (b) Bid prices subject to escallation/de-escalation  YES or NO  (c) If (b), state period for which prices will remain firm: through _____	Yes
8	Tax Exempt Certification Forms	Materials being purchased in this bid are tax exempt and unit prices are reflected as such. A Purchasing Agent Appointment form and a Exempt Sales Certificate form shall be issued with contract documents. (Note: State Tax Law does not provide for sales tax exemption for proprietary functions for government, thereby excluding the purchases of pipes to be installed in water lines and purchase of water meters.)	Yes
9	Small Business Participation	The City of Lincoln Transit Program(StarTran) wishes to foster small business participation in its bids for products and services purchased for StarTran. In order to do this, all bidders are asked to answer the following questions as part of their bid submittal.(If you are unsure of your status as a Small Business, please refer to the NAICS list attached to the Bid Attachment section.)  1) Are you a Small Business according to the NAICS size guidelines? YES or NO? If YES, what is the category you are listed under, the number of employees you have and the average annual receipts?  2) Will you be utilizing any Sub-Contractors in the performance of the contract awarded from this bid? YES or NO If YES, name the Sub-Contractors in the space provided.  3) If you are not a Small Business, are you willing to provide subcontracting opportunities of the type/size that small businesses, including DBE's, can reasonably perform? YES or NO 	no/no

If NO, why?

- 10 Assignability Conditions Yes  
I acknowledge and understand that the Vendor shall not assign any portion of the work to be performed under the terms of a contract or execute any contract, amendment or change order thereto, or obligate itself in any manner with any third party with respect to its rights and responsibilities hereunder without the prior written consent of the City of Lincoln.
- 11 DBE Information no  
The City of Lincoln Transit Program(StarTran) requests Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) information from each Vendor submitting a bid for products and services. In order to do this, all bidders are asked to answer the following questions as part of their bid submittal.<br>  
Are you a registered DBE with the State of Nebraska or any other State or Entity? YES or NO?<br>  
If YES, name the state or entity.<br>  
  
What is the age of your business?<br>  
  
What are the annual gross receipts of your business - List One:<br>  
\$0 - \$500,000.00<br>  
\$500,000.00 - \$1 Million<br>  
\$1 Million - \$5 Million<br>  
Over \$5 Million<br>
- 12 Service Frequency Yes  
I acknowledge and understand that Vendors may bid for Quarterly or Monthly service, or both. <br>  
Vendors must attach a list of the services that will be provided according to the Line Item pricing in the Response Attachment section of their ebid response.<br>  
The City shall choose the service that will best meet the needs of StarTran.

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## Line Items

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#	Qty	UOM	Description	Response
1	24	Months	Monthly Service: Self-Recycling Parts Washer and Solvent Unit 1 - List Monthly Rate Only	No Bid
Item Notes: Please list the brand and model of the washer and solvent in the Supplier Notes for this Line Item.				
Supplier Notes:				
Alt 1	1	Months	Alt Spec: No monthly rate	0.00
Alt Manufacturer: None Alt Manufacturer #: 0000				
Item Notes: Please list the brand and model of the washer and solvent in the Supplier Notes for this Line Item.				
Supplier Notes:				
Alt 2	1	Months	Alt Spec: no monthly rate	0.00
Alt Manufacturer: None Alt Manufacturer #: 0000				
Item Notes: Please list the brand and model of the washer and solvent in the Supplier Notes for this Line Item.				
Supplier Notes:				
2	24	Months	Monthly Service: Self-Recycling Parts Washer and Solvent Unit 2 - List Monthly Rate Only	No Bid
Item Notes: Please list the brand and model of the washer and solvent in the Supplier Notes for this Line Item.				
Supplier Notes:				
Alt 1	1	Months	Alt Spec: No monthly rate	0.00
Alt Manufacturer: none Alt Manufacturer #: 0000				
Item Notes: Please list the brand and model of the washer and solvent in the Supplier Notes for this Line Item.				
Supplier Notes:				
3	8	Service Visits	Quarterly Service: Self-Recycling Parts Washer and Solvent Unit 1 - List Quarterly Rate Only	
Item Notes: Please list the brand and model of the washer and solvent in the Supplier Notes for this Line Item.				
Supplier Notes:				

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Alt 1 6	Service Visits	Alt Spec: Price per service based on current agreement of 16 week service term	196.95
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Alt Manufacturer: Safety-Kleen      Alt Manufacturer #: 250150

Item Notes:      Please list the brand and model of the washer and solvent in the Supplier Notes for this Line Item.

Supplier Notes: Safety-Kleen model 250150 with premium gold solvent

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4 8	Service Visits	Quarterly Service: Self-Recycling Parts Washer and Solvent  Unit 2 - List Quarterly Rate Only
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Item Notes:      Please list the brand and model of the washer and solvent in the Supplier Notes for this Line Item.

Supplier Notes:

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Alt 1 6	Service Visits	Alt Spec: Price per service based on current agreement of 16 week service term	196.95
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Alt Manufacturer: Safety-Kleen      Alt Manufacturer #: 250150

Item Notes:      Please list the brand and model of the washer and solvent in the Supplier Notes for this Line Item.

Supplier Notes: Safety-Kleen model 250150 with premium gold solvent

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Response Total:	\$0.00
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March 12, 2012

Robert Walla  
Assistant Purchasing Agent  
Purchasing  
440 S. 8<sup>th</sup> Street  
Lincoln, NE 68516

Mr. Walla,

Safety-Kleen Systems, Inc. is providing a quote regarding bid number 3864, "Annual Supply and Service- Parts Washing Machines. Safety-Kleen currently has parts washers at your facility and provides services on a 16-week term. We propose to continue service at the same intervals where units will be serviced, waste removed and disposed of, and fluid levels topped off.

Not only do we have experience providing our services to StarTran, we also provide them to the following:

DUNCAN AVIATION INC  
Phone Number: 402-475-2611  
Customer Address: 3701 Aviation Rd  
Lincoln NE, 68524-2415  
ATTN KELLY BECKER

WERNER TRAILER SHOP  
Phone Number: 402-894-3847  
Customer Address: 14150 PRAIRIE CORNERS RD  
OMAHA NE, 68138  
ATTN LYNN HILLER

MOLEX INC - N PLANT  
Phone Number: 402-475-1700  
Customer Address: 700 King Bird Rd  
Lincoln NE, 68521-3000  
ATTN GENE BOECHTER

Corporate information has been provided by our headquarters in Plano, Texas. However, questions regarding specific services and associated pricing should be directed to:

Eddie Neil  
Branch General Manager  
402 333-6321 Office  
402 333-8649 Fax  
402 306-4226 Cell  
[eddie.neil@safety-kleen.com](mailto:eddie.neil@safety-kleen.com)  
[www.safety-kleen.com](http://www.safety-kleen.com)

Should you require any additional corporate information, please do not hesitate to contact me at 972-265-2540 or [casey.sanders@safety-kleen.com](mailto:casey.sanders@safety-kleen.com).

Sincerely,

Casey Sanders  
Government Accounts Specialist

# REBID - SPECIFICATIONS

## PARTS WASHER SERVICES/RECYCLABLE SOLVENT STARTRAN

### 1. SCOPE OF WORK

- 1.1 The intent of this specification is to describe basic requirements for parts washer services and recyclable solvents for the City of Lincoln Transit Service (StarTran).
- 1.2 The solvents shall be compatible with the parts washers being proposed and of premium grade.
- 1.3 Bidder shall submit bid documents and all supporting material via e-bid.
- 1.4 All inquiries regarding these specifications shall be directed via e-mail or faxed written request to Bob Walla, Asst. Purchasing Agent (rwalla@lincoln.ne.gov) or fax: (402) 441-6513.
  - 1.4.1 These inquiries and/or responses shall be distributed to prospective bidders electronically as an addenda.
  - 1.4.2 No direct contact is allowed between Vendor and other City staff besides Purchasing throughout the bid process.
    - 1.4.2.1 Failure to comply with this directive may result in Vendor bid being rejected.
- 1.5 The City receives funding from the Federal Government for the operation of their program.
  - 1.5.1 Vendors must read, acknowledge and follow the requirements of the Federal guidelines attached to the bid.
  - 1.5.2 Failure to agree to the Federal Requirements or return certifications as required will result in the rejection of bid.
- 1.6 The City has the option to purchase additional products on this bid in an amount that does not exceed 10% of the quantities listed in the Line Item section of the bid at the current contract price through the term of the contract.
  - 1.6.1 If this optional amount will be exceeded during the contract term, a new bid may be solicited according to FTA Procurement Guidelines.
  - 1.6.2 In the event the City reduces the amount of service provided by StarTran, or other circumstances develop, the City may order in a quantity less than the amount listed in the Line Items without any penalty to the City.
- 1.7 Prices submitted must include delivery, FOB destination, to:

StarTran Garage  
710 J Street  
Lincoln, Ne 68508
- 1.8 Service and supply of solvent shall be provided as-needed upon contract execution by both parties for a period of two (2) years with the option to renew for one (1) additional two (2) year period.
  - 1.8.1 Solvent replacement may be completed on a Quarterly or Monthly schedule.
- 1.9 **Due to the fact that this contract uses Federal Grant money from FTA, only StarTran may purchase from this contract.**
- 1.10 The Vendor shall provide to the Purchasing Department and StarTran a quarterly report and a final report, showing all purchases made under the terms and conditions of the contract.
  - 1.10.1 Such reports shall itemize the following information:
    - 1.10.1.1 Product type(s) and quantities purchased.
    - 1.10.1.2 Total dollar amount of purchases.

2. **SERVICE SCHEDULE**

- 2.1 Vendor must include a description of the service that will be offered during the term of a contract.
  - 2.1.1 This information shall be attached to the Response Attachment section of the ebid response.
- 2.2 Proof of delivery and service shall require a signature by an employee from the StarTran shop.
  - 2.2.1 Failure to receive a signature from StarTran will result in loss of payment to Vendor.
- 2.3 Additional work required beyond normal service schedule which involves a fee must be approved by StarTran Maintenance Supervisor or his designee.
  - 2.3.1 A Service Tech must be available to respond to a service request within 24 hours or notification by StarTran staff.
  - 2.3.2 There shall be no charge for service calls to the City.

3. **EQUIPMENT AND SERVICE REQUIREMENTS**

- 3.1 Vendor shall provide two (2) self-recycling parts washer units with a minimum basin size of 30"x24"x7".
  - 3.1.1 Units shall have a Supply Tank with a minimum of 25 gallons of cleaning solution.
  - 3.1.2 Units shall be capable of handling parts weighing a minimum of 200 pounds.
  - 3.1.3 Units shall have a flexible spigot and flow-through brush and a lid that automatically closes in case of a fire.
- 3.2 Parts Cleaner Solution shall be recyclable and meet EPA's Conditionally Exempt Small Quantity Generators requirements.
- 3.3 Equipment shall serviced monthly or quarterly and waste removed and disposed of and the fluid level topped off.
- 3.4 Vendor shall provide the exact brand and model of parts washer being bid and the solvent to be used.
  - 3.4.1 This information will be listed in the Supplier Notes section of the ebid response.
  - 3.4.2 Vendor may attach brochures or other product information to the Response Attachment section for the product being bid.

4. **AWARD OF BID**

- 4.1 Bid will be awarded based on:
  - 4.1.1 The prices indicated in the Line Items for each unit per month or per quarter.
  - 4.1.2 Previous and current contract performance for similar type services.
    - 4.1.2.1 Please provide references from at least 3 sites where you are currently providing similar services as listed in these specs.
    - 4.1.2.2 Include Company Name, Address, Contact Name, Contact Phone Number and size/scope of contract on company letterhead and include it in the Response Attachment section of your ebid response.
  - 4.1.3 Financial stability of company.
  - 4.1.4 Compliance with requirements as outlined in these specifications.

**CITY OF LINCOLN/STARTRAN  
RECYCLED PRODUCTS  
42 U.S.C. 6962  
40 CFR Part 247  
Executive Order 12873**

**Recovered Materials** - The contractor agrees to comply with all the requirements of Section 6002 of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), as amended (42 U.S.C. 6962), including but not limited to the regulatory provisions of 40 CFR Part 247, and Executive Order 12873, as they apply to the procurement of the items designated in Subpart B of 40 CFR Part 247.

**CITY OF LINCOLN/STARTRAN**  
**ACCESS TO RECORDS AND REPORTS**

49 U.S.C. 5325

18 CFR 18.36 (i)

49 CFR 633.17

**Access to Records** - The following access to records requirements apply to this Contract:

1. Where the Purchaser is not a State but a local government and is the FTA Recipient or a subgrantee of the FTA Recipient in accordance with 49 C. F. R. 18.36(i), the Contractor agrees to provide the Purchaser, 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 this contract 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.
2. Where the Purchaser is a State and is the FTA Recipient or a subgrantee of the FTA Recipient in accordance with 49 C.F.R. 633.17, Contractor agrees to provide the Purchaser, the FTA Administrator or his authorized representatives, including any PMO Contractor, access to the 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. By definition, a major capital project excludes contracts of less than the simplified acquisition threshold currently set at \$100,000.
3. Where the Purchaser enters into a negotiated contract for other than a small purchase or under the simplified acquisition threshold and is an institution of higher education, a hospital or other non-profit organization and is the FTA Recipient or a subgrantee of the FTA Recipient in accordance with 49 C.F.R. 19.48, Contractor agrees to provide the Purchaser, FTA Administrator, the Comptroller General of the United States or any of their duly authorized representatives with access to any books, documents, papers and record of the Contractor which are directly pertinent to this contract for the purposes of making audits, examinations, excerpts and transcriptions.
4. Where any Purchaser which is the FTA Recipient or a subgrantee of the FTA Recipient in accordance with 49 U.S.C. 5325(a) enters into a contract for a capital project or improvement (defined at 49 U.S.C. 5302(a)1) through other than competitive bidding, the Contractor shall make available records related to the contract to the Purchaser, the Secretary of Transportation and the Comptroller General or any authorized officer or employee of any of them for the purposes of conducting an audit and inspection.

5. 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.

6. The Contractor agrees to maintain all books, records, accounts and reports required under this contract for a period of not less than three years after the date of termination or expiration of this contract, except in the event of litigation or settlement of claims arising from the performance of this contract, in which case Contractor agrees to maintain same until the Purchaser, 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. Reference 49 CFR 18.39(i)(11).

7. FTA does not require the inclusion of these requirements in subcontracts.

**Requirements for Access to Records and Reports by Types of Contract**

Contract Characteristics	Operational Service Contract	Turnkey	Construction	Architectural Engineering	Acquisition of Rolling Stock	Professional Services
<u>I State Grantees</u>						
a. Contracts below SAT (\$100,000)	None	Those imposed on state pass thru to Contractor	None	None	None	None
b. Contracts above \$100,000/Capital Projects	None unless <sup>1</sup> non-competitive award		Yes, if non-competitive award or if funded thru <sup>2</sup> 5307/5309/5311	None unless non-competitive award	None unless non-competitive award	None unless non-competitive award
<u>I Non State Grantees</u>						
a. Contracts below SAT (\$100,000)	Yes <sup>3</sup>	Those imposed on state pass thru to Contractor	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
b. Contracts above \$100,000/Capital Projects	Yes <sup>3</sup>		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Sources of Authority:

<sup>1</sup> 49 USC 5325 (a)

<sup>2</sup> 49 CFR 633.17

<sup>3</sup> 18 CFR 18.36 (i)

**CITY OF LINCOLN/STAR TRAN**  
**CIVIL RIGHTS REQUIREMENTS**

29 U.S.C. § 623, 42 U.S.C. § 2000

42 U.S.C. § 6102, 42 U.S.C. § 12112

42 U.S.C. § 12132, 49 U.S.C. § 5332

29 CFR Part 1630, 41 CFR Parts 60 et seq.

**Civil Rights** - The following requirements apply to the underlying contract:

(1) Nondiscrimination - 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, creed, national origin, sex, age, or disability. In addition, the Contractor agrees to comply with applicable Federal implementing regulations and other implementing requirements FTA may issue.

(2) Equal Employment Opportunity - The following equal employment opportunity requirements apply to the underlying contract:

(a) Race, Color, Creed, National Origin, Sex - In accordance with Title VII of the Civil Rights Act, as amended, 42 U.S.C. § 2000e, and Federal transit laws at 49 U.S.C. § 5332, the Contractor agrees to comply with all applicable equal employment opportunity requirements of U.S. Department of Labor (U.S. DOL) regulations, "Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs, Equal Employment Opportunity, Department of Labor," 41 C.F.R. Parts 60 et seq., (which implement Executive Order No. 11246, "Equal Employment Opportunity," as amended by Executive Order No. 11375, "Amending Executive Order 11246 Relating to Equal Employment Opportunity," 42 U.S.C. § 2000e note), and with any applicable Federal statutes, executive orders, regulations, and Federal policies that may in the future affect construction activities undertaken in the course of the Project. 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, sex, or age. 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.

(b) 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.

(c) 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.

(3) 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.

**CITY OF LINCOLN/STAR TRAN**  
**ENERGY CONSERVATION REQUIREMENTS**

42 U.S.C. 6321 et seq.

49 CFR Part 18

**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.

**CITY OF LINCOLN/STAR TRAN**  
**FEDERAL CHANGES**  
**49 CFR Part 18**

**Federal Changes** - Contractor shall at all times comply with all applicable FTA regulations, policies, procedures and directives, including without limitation those listed directly or by reference in the Master Agreement between Purchaser and FTA, as they may be amended or promulgated from time to time during the term of this contract. Contractor's failure to so comply shall constitute a material breach of this contract.

**CITY OF LINCOLN/STARTRAN**  
**INCORPORATION OF FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION (FTA)**  
**TERMS**  
**FTA Circular 4220.1E**

**Incorporation of Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Terms** - The preceding provisions include, in part, certain Standard Terms and Conditions required by DOT, whether or not expressly set forth in the preceding contract provisions. All contractual provisions required by DOT, 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 this Agreement. The Contractor shall not perform any act, fail to perform any act, or refuse to comply with any (name of grantee) requests which would cause (name of grantee) to be in violation of the FTA terms and conditions.

**CITY OF LINCOLN/ STARTRAN**  
**NO GOVERNMENT OBLIGATION TO THIRD PARTIES**

**No Obligation by the Federal Government.**

(1) The Purchaser and Contractor acknowledge and agree that, notwithstanding any concurrence by the Federal Government in or approval of the solicitation or award of the underlying contract, absent the express written consent by the Federal Government, the Federal Government is not a party to this contract and shall not be subject to any obligations or liabilities to the Purchaser, Contractor, or any other party (whether or not a party to that contract) pertaining to any matter resulting from the underlying contract.

(2) The Contractor agrees to include the above 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.

**CITY OF LINCOLN/STARTRAN**  
**PROGRAM FRAUD AND FALSE OR FRAUDULENT STATEMENTS**  
**AND RELATED ACTS**

31 U.S.C. 3801 et seq.  
49 CFR Part 31 18 U.S.C. 1001  
49 U.S.C. 5307

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

(1) 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 underlying 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 underlying contract or the FTA assisted project for which this contract 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.

(2) 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.

(3) 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.

**CITY OF LINCOLN/STARTRAN**  
**Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards**

(1) **Overtime requirements** - No contractor or subcontractor contracting for any part of the contract work which may require or involve the employment of laborers or mechanics shall require or permit any such laborer or mechanic in any workweek in which he or she is employed on such work to work in excess of forty hours in such workweek unless such laborer or mechanic receives compensation at a rate not less than one and one-half times the basic rate of pay for all hours worked in excess of forty hours in such workweek.

(2) **Violation; liability for unpaid wages; liquidated damages** - In the event of any violation of the clause set forth in paragraph (1) of this section the contractor and any subcontractor responsible therefor shall be liable for the unpaid wages. In addition, such contractor and subcontractor shall be liable to the United States for liquidated damages. Such liquidated damages shall be computed with respect to each individual laborer or mechanic, including watchmen and guards, employed in violation of the clause set forth in paragraph (1) of this section, in the sum of \$10 for each calendar day on which such individual was required or permitted to work in excess of the standard workweek of forty hours without payment of the overtime wages required by the clause set forth in paragraph (1) of this section.

(3) **Withholding for unpaid wages and liquidated damages** - The (*write in the name of the grantee*) shall upon its own action or upon written request of an authorized representative of the Department of Labor withhold or cause to be withheld, from any moneys payable on account of work performed by the contractor or subcontractor under any such contract or any other Federal contract with the same prime contractor, or any other federally-assisted contract subject to the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act, which is held by the same prime contractor, such sums as may be determined to be necessary to satisfy any liabilities of such contractor or subcontractor for unpaid wages and liquidated damages as provided in the clause set forth in paragraph (2) of this section.

(4) **Subcontracts** - The contractor or subcontractor shall insert in any subcontracts the clauses set forth in paragraphs (1) through (4) of this section and also a clause requiring the subcontractors to include these clauses in any lower tier subcontracts. The prime contractor shall be responsible for compliance by any subcontractor or lower tier subcontractor with the clauses set forth in paragraphs (1) through (4) of this section

# City of Lincoln - Bid Protest Procedures

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(5) To those bidders who maintain a bona fide business office in the City of Lincoln, whose products may be made outside the confines of the County of Lancaster;

(6) To those bidders who maintain a bona fide business office in the County of Lancaster, whose products may be made outside the confines of the County of Lancaster;

(7) To those bidders whose commodities are manufactured, mined, produced or grown within the State of Nebraska and to all firms, corporations, or individuals doing business as Nebraska firms, corporations, or individuals when quality is equal or better and delivered price is the same or less than the other bids received; provided, however, the above preferences shall not be given where the purchase is made in whole or in part with federal funds and the applicable federal procurement regulations prohibit the giving of any local preference, in which case, in the event of more than one low tie bid, the tie shall be broken by the drawing of lots.

(8) To those bidders whose commodities are manufactured, mined, produced or grown within the United States of America and to all firms, corporations, or individuals doing business as firms registered in states other than Nebraska, when quality is equal or better and delivered price is the same or less than the other bids received; provided, however, the above preferences shall not be given where the purchase is made in whole or in part with federal funds and the applicable federal procurement regulations prohibit the giving of any local preference, in which case, in the event of more than one low tie bid, the tie shall be broken by the drawing of lots.

(l) In case of actual emergency, and with the consent of the Purchasing Agent, the head of any using agency may purchase directly any supplies whose immediate procurement is essential to prevent delays in the work of the using agency. The head of such using agency shall send to the Purchasing Agent a requisition and a copy of the delivery record, together with a full written report of the circumstances of the emergency.

(m) The Purchasing Agent shall prescribe by rules and regulations the procedure under which emergency purchases by heads of using agencies may be made.

(n) The Purchasing Agent shall have the authority with approval of the Mayor to declare vendors who default on their bids and contracts irresponsible bidders and to disqualify them from receiving any business from the municipality for a stated period of time.

(o) The Purchasing Agent shall have the authority to join with other units of government in cooperative purchasing when the best interests of the city would be served thereby; provided, however, such purchases shall be made to the extent possible by giving notice and preference to qualified local bidders in accordance with the rules and regulations established in this chapter and the policies of the Purchasing Division.

(p) The Purchasing Agent shall keep a commodity record showing commodities purchased, from whom purchased, and the price paid. (Ord. 17697 §2; July 17, 2000; prior Ord. 17044 §1; August 19, 1996; Ord. 15980 §2; September 30, 1991; Ord. 15384 §3; January 8, 1990; P.C. §2.44.030; Ord. 13561 §1; March 21, 1983; Ord. 12934 §1; June 9, 1980; Ord. 12472 §1; January 8, 1979; Ord. 12327 §1; June 19, 1978; Ord. 9036 §3; June 13, 1966).

## 2.18.035 Bid Protests; Definitions; Appeals Board; Fees.

### (a) Definitions.

(1) Interested party shall mean an actual or prospective bidder whose direct economic interest would be affected by the award of a contract by the City to another party, or by the failure of the City to award a contract to such actual or prospective bidder.

(2) Protest shall mean a written objection by an interested party on any phase of the bidding process, including specification preparation, bid solicitation, and intent to award, for the acquisition of supplies or services.

(3) Protester shall mean an interested party who has filed a protest pursuant to subsection (b).

(4) Procurement Appeals Board shall mean an independent panel of five disinterested individuals appointed by the Mayor, which individuals shall have a thorough knowledge of the purchasing process and practices, and laws applicable thereto. Members of such board shall be appointed for three-year, staggered terms; provided, however, two of the members first appointed shall serve for a period of one year, two shall serve for a period of two years, and one for a period of three years, with each appointee thereafter, except for appointees filling a vacancy, serving for a period of three years.

(b) Right to Protest. An interested party may protest to the City Purchasing Agent, which protest shall be submitted in writing on company letterhead. Protests based on alleged apparent improprieties in a solicitation or other request for proposals must be filed before bid opening. In all other cases, the protest must be filed within five working days following the

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Control bid protest

bid opening or if the protest is based on the selection of the lowest responsible bidder, not later than five working days following the selection of the lowest responsible bidder. To expedite handling of protests, the envelope containing the protest should be clearly labeled "Protest".

The written protest shall include as a minimum the following:

- (1) The name and address of the interested party;
- (2) Appropriate identification of the relevant solicitation, and if a bid has been opened, its number, and date of opening;
- (3) A statement of reasons for the protest;
- (4) Supporting exhibits, evidence, or documents to substantiate any claims unless not available within the filing time, in which case the expected availability date shall be indicated.

Upon timely receipt of a protest, the City shall not proceed further with the solicitation or with the award of the contract and shall suspend performance under the contract until the Mayor has made a decision on the protest.

(c) Authority to Resolve Protests. Prior to the commencement of an appeal to the Procurement Appeals Board concerning any protest, the Purchasing Agent shall attempt to resolve any protest filed by an interested party concerning any solicitation. If the protest is not resolved by mutual agreement, the Purchasing Agent shall issue a decision in writing within five working days. The decision shall (1) state the reasons for the action taken, and (2) inform the interested party of their right to the administrative review as provided by the Procurement Appeals Board. A copy of the decision shall be mailed or otherwise furnished immediately to the protester and all other bidders. If not satisfied with the decision of the Purchasing Agent, any protester may appeal to the Procurement Appeals Board, but the decision shall be final unless the protester files a timely appeal with the Procurement Appeals Board.

(d) Appeals Board Procedures. Any protester, within five working days of receipt of a decision of the Purchasing Agent, may file with the Finance Director a written notice of appeal for a hearing before the Procurement Appeals Board. The Notice of Appeal shall be accompanied by a deposit of \$500.00 to defray the cost of processing such appeal, which deposit shall be returned if the Mayor decides in favor of the protester filing the appeal. The Notice of Appeal must clearly state the action protested and the basis of appeal.

Upon receipt of an appeal from an protester, the Finance Director shall convene the Board within ten working days or as soon thereafter as reasonably possible to conduct an administrative review of the appeal. The Board shall decide whether the solicitation being appealed was in accordance with all applicable laws and regulations and the terms and conditions of all applicable specifications, and whether waiver of specifications, conditions or defects in a bid, if any, were justified and in the best interest of the City.

Within ten working days of hearing such appeal, the Board shall submit its findings and recommendations to the Mayor. If all five members are present, an affirmative vote of three shall be required to pass the recommendation on to the Mayor. If only three members are present, only an affirmative vote of two shall be required to pass the recommendation on to the Mayor. Should it become impossible to obtain a quorum of three members, the appeal shall proceed directly to the Mayor without Procurement Appeals Board action.

No determination by the Board concerning an issue of law or fact shall be final or binding on the City.

(e) Finality of Decision. The Mayor shall consider the recommendations of the Purchasing Agent, the Procurement Appeals Board, and the Department Head or agency for which the solicitation was made and shall make the final decision on the protest. The Mayor's decision shall be final and binding upon the City. (Ord. 18495 §1; January 31, 2005; prior Ord. 16442 §1; August 9, 1993).

**2.18.040 Surplus or Obsolete Stock.**

All using divisions shall submit to the Purchasing Agent reports showing stocks of supplies or equipment which are no longer used or which have become obsolete, worn out, or scrapped.

The Purchasing Agent shall have authority to sell all supplies or equipment which have become unsuitable for public use, or to exchange the same for, or trade in the same on new supplies or equipment. Sales under this section shall be made to the highest responsible bidder.

The Purchasing Agent shall have authority to transfer the declared surplus stock of one using division to another using division which may have need for its use. (Ord. 15384 §4; January 8, 1990: P.C. §2.44.040: Ord. 9036 §4; June 13, 1966).

**CITY OF LINCOLN/STAR TRAN**  
**DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS ENTERPRISE (DBE)**  
**WITHOUT CONTRACT GOAL**  
**49 CFR Part 26**

**Disadvantaged Business Enterprises**

a. This contract 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*. The national goal for participation of Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBE) is 10%. The agency's overall goal for DBE participation is **9.3 %**. A separate contract goal **has not** been established for this procurement.

b. The Contractor shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, or sex in the performance of this contract. The Contractor shall carry out applicable requirements of 49 CFR Part 26 in the award and administration of this DOT-assisted contract. Failure by the Contractor to carry out these requirements is a material breach of this contract, which may result in the termination of this contract or such other remedy as **City of Lincoln/StarTran** deems appropriate. Each Subcontract the Contractor signs with a Subcontractor must include the assurance in this paragraph (*see* 49 CFR 26.13(b)).

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

d. The contractor is required to pay its subcontractors performing work related to this contract for satisfactory performance of that work no later than 30 days after the contractor's receipt of payment for that work from the **City of Lincoln/StarTran**. In addition, the Contractor is required to return any retainage payments to those subcontractors within 30 days after incremental acceptance of the subcontractor's work by the City of Lincoln/StarTran and contractor's receipt of the partial retainage payment related to the subcontractor's work.

e. The contractor must promptly notify **City of Lincoln/StarTran**, whenever a DBE subcontractor performing work related to this contract 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 prior written consent of **City of Lincoln/StarTran**.

**TERMINATION**  
**49 U.S.C.Part 18**  
**FTA Circular 4220.1E**

**a. Termination for Convenience (General Provision)** The (Recipient) may terminate this contract, in whole or in part, at any time by written notice to the Contractor when it is in the Government's best interest. The Contractor shall be paid its costs, including contract close-out costs, and profit on work performed up to the time of termination. The Contractor shall promptly submit its termination claim to (Recipient) to be paid the Contractor. If the Contractor has any property in its possession belonging to the (Recipient), the Contractor will account for the same, and dispose of it in the manner the (Recipient) directs.

**b. Termination for Default [Breach or Cause] (General Provision)** If the Contractor does not deliver supplies in accordance with the contract delivery schedule, or, if the contract is for services, the Contractor fails to perform in the manner called for in the contract, or if the Contractor fails to comply with any other provisions of the contract, the (Recipient) may terminate this contract for default. Termination shall be effected by serving a notice of termination on the contractor setting forth the manner in which the Contractor is in default. The contractor will only be paid the contract price for supplies delivered and accepted, or services performed in accordance with the manner of performance set forth in the contract.

If it is later determined by the (Recipient) that the Contractor had an excusable reason for not performing, such as a strike, fire, or flood, events which are not the fault of or are beyond the control of the Contractor, the (Recipient), after setting up a new delivery of performance schedule, may allow the Contractor to continue work, or treat the termination as a termination for convenience.

**c. Opportunity to Cure (General Provision)** The (Recipient) in its sole discretion may, in the case of a termination for breach or default, allow the Contractor [an appropriately short period of time] in which to cure the defect. In such case, the notice of termination will state the time period in which cure is permitted and other appropriate conditions

If Contractor fails to remedy to (Recipient)'s satisfaction the breach or default of any of the terms, covenants, or conditions of this Contract within [ten (10) days] after receipt by Contractor of written notice from (Recipient) setting forth the nature of said breach or default, (Recipient) shall have the right to terminate the Contract without any further obligation to Contractor. Any such termination for default shall not in any way operate to preclude (Recipient) from also pursuing all available remedies against Contractor and its sureties for said breach or default.

**d. Waiver of Remedies for any Breach** In the event that (Recipient) elects to waive its remedies for any breach by Contractor of any covenant, term or condition of this Contract, such waiver by (Recipient) shall not limit (Recipient)'s remedies for any succeeding breach of that or of any other term, covenant, or condition of this Contract.

**e. Termination for Convenience (Professional or Transit Service Contracts)** The (Recipient), by written notice, may terminate this contract, in whole or in part, when it is in the Government's interest. If this contract is terminated, the Recipient shall be liable only for payment under the payment provisions of this contract for services rendered before the effective date of termination.

**f. Termination for Default (Supplies and Service)** If the Contractor fails to deliver supplies or to perform the services within the time specified in this contract or any extension or if the Contractor fails to comply with any other provisions of this contract, the (Recipient) may terminate this contract for default. The (Recipient) shall terminate by delivering to the Contractor a Notice of Termination specifying the nature of the default. The Contractor will only be paid the contract price for supplies delivered and accepted, or services performed in accordance with the manner or performance set forth in this contract.

If, after termination for failure to fulfill contract obligations, it is determined that the Contractor was not in default, the rights and obligations of the parties shall be the same as if the termination had been issued for the convenience of the Recipient.

**g. Termination for Default (Transportation Services)** If the Contractor fails to pick up the commodities or to perform the services, including delivery services, within the time specified in this contract or any extension or if the Contractor fails to comply with any other provisions of this contract, the (Recipient) may terminate this contract for default. The (Recipient) shall terminate by delivering to the Contractor a Notice of Termination specifying the nature of default. The Contractor will only be paid the contract price for services performed in accordance with the manner of performance set forth in this contract.

If this contract is terminated while the Contractor has possession of Recipient goods, the Contractor shall, upon direction of the (Recipient), protect and preserve the goods until surrendered to the Recipient or its agent. The Contractor and (Recipient) shall agree on payment for the preservation and protection of goods. Failure to agree on an amount will be resolved under the Dispute clause.

If, after termination for failure to fulfill contract obligations, it is determined that the Contractor was not in default, the rights and obligations of the parties shall be the same as if the termination had been issued for the convenience of the (Recipient).

**h. Termination for Default (Construction)** If the Contractor refuses or fails to prosecute the work or any separable part, with the diligence that will insure its completion within the time specified in this contract or any extension or fails to complete the work within this time, or if the Contractor fails to comply with any other provisions of this contract, the (Recipient) may terminate this contract for default. The (Recipient) shall terminate by delivering to the Contractor a Notice of Termination specifying the nature of the default. In this event, the Recipient may take over the work and complete it by contract or otherwise, and may take possession of and use any materials, appliances, and plant on the work site necessary for completing the work. The Contractor and its sureties shall be liable for any damage to the Recipient resulting from the Contractor's refusal or failure to complete the work within specified time, whether or not the Contractor's right to proceed with the work is terminated. This liability includes any increased costs incurred by the Recipient in completing the work.

The Contractor's right to proceed shall not be terminated nor the Contractor charged with damages under this clause if –

1. the delay in completing the work arises from unforeseeable causes beyond the control and without the fault or negligence of the Contractor. Examples of such causes include: acts of God, acts of the Recipient, acts of another Contractor in the performance of a contract with the Recipient, epidemics, quarantine restrictions, strikes, freight embargoes; and
2. the contractor, within [10] days from the beginning of any delay, notifies the (Recipient) in writing of the causes of delay. If in the judgment of the (Recipient), the delay is excusable, the time for completing the work shall be extended. The judgment of the (Recipient) shall be final and conclusive on the parties, but subject to appeal under the Disputes clauses.

If, after termination of the Contractor's right to proceed, it is determined that the Contractor was not in default, or that the delay was excusable, the rights and obligations of the parties will be the same as if the termination had been issued for the convenience of the Recipient.

**i. Termination for Convenience or Default (Architect and Engineering)** The (Recipient) may terminate this contract in whole or in part, for the Recipient's convenience or because of the failure of the Contractor to fulfill the contract obligations. The (Recipient) shall terminate by delivering to the Contractor a Notice of Termination specifying the nature, extent, and effective date of the termination. Upon receipt of the notice, the Contractor shall (1) immediately discontinue all services affected (unless the notice directs otherwise), and (2) deliver to the Contracting Officer all data, drawings, specifications, reports, estimates, summaries, and other information and materials accumulated in performing this contract, whether completed or in process.

If the termination is for the convenience of the Recipient, the Contracting Officer shall make an equitable adjustment in the contract price but shall allow no anticipated profit on unperformed services. If the termination is for failure of the Contractor to fulfill the contract obligations, the Recipient may complete the work by contract or otherwise and the Contractor shall be liable for any additional cost incurred by the Recipient.

If, after termination for failure to fulfill contract obligations, it is determined that the Contractor was not in default, the rights and obligations of the parties shall be the same as if the termination had been issued for the convenience of the Recipient.

**j. Termination for Convenience of Default (Cost-Type Contracts)** The (Recipient) may terminate this contract, or any portion of it, by serving a notice or termination on the Contractor. The notice shall state whether the termination is for convenience of the (Recipient) or for the default of the Contractor. If the termination is for default, the notice shall state the manner in which the contractor has failed to perform the requirements of the contract. The Contractor shall account for any property in its possession paid for from funds received from the (Recipient), or property supplied to the Contractor by the (Recipient). If the termination is for default, the (Recipient) may fix the fee, if the contract provides for a fee, to be paid the contractor in proportion to the value, if any, of work performed up to the time of termination. The Contractor shall promptly submit its termination claim to the (Recipient) and the parties shall negotiate the termination settlement to be paid the Contractor.

If the termination is for the convenience of the (Recipient), the Contractor shall be paid its contract close-out costs, and a fee, if the contract provided for payment of a fee, in proportion to the work performed up to the time of termination.

If, after serving a notice of termination for default, the (Recipient) determines that the Contractor has an excusable reason for not performing, such as strike, fire, flood, events which are not the fault of and are beyond the control of the contractor, the (Recipient), after setting up a new work schedule, may allow the Contractor to continue work, or treat the termination as a termination for convenience.

**CITY OF LINCOLN/STARTRAN**  
**GOVERNMENT-WIDE DEBARMENT AND SUSPENSION**  
**(NONPROCUREMENT)**

**Suspension and Debarment**

This contract is a covered transaction for purposes of 49 CFR Part 29. As such, the contractor is required to verify that none of the contractor, its principals, as defined at 49 CFR 29.995, or affiliates, as defined at 49 CFR 29.905, are excluded or disqualified as defined at 49 CFR 29.940 and 29.945.

The contractor is required to comply with 49 CFR 29, Subpart C and must include the requirement to comply with 49 CFR 29, Subpart C in any lower tier covered transaction it enters into.

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 **City of Lincoln/StarTran**. If it is later determined that the bidder or proposer knowingly rendered an erroneous certification, in addition to remedies available to **City of Lincoln/StarTran**, 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 49 CFR 29, Subpart C 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.

**CITY OF LINCOLN/STARTRAN**  
**BREACHES AND DISPUTE RESOLUTION**

49 CFR Part 18  
FTA Circular 4220.1E

**Disputes** - Disputes arising in the performance of this Contract which are not resolved by agreement of the parties shall be decided in writing by the authorized representative of Star Tran's Manager. 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 Manager. 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 Manager shall be binding upon the Contractor and the Contractor shall abide by the decision.

**Performance During Dispute** - Unless otherwise directed by Star Tran, Contractor shall continue performance under this Contract while matters in dispute are being resolved.

**Claims for Damages** - Should either party to the Contract 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 therefore shall be made in writing to such other party within a reasonable time after the first observance of such injury or damage.

**Remedies** - Unless this contract provides otherwise, all claims, counterclaims, disputes and other matters in question between the Star Tran and the Contractor arising out of or relating to this agreement or its breach will be decided by arbitration if the parties mutually agree, or in a court of competent jurisdiction within the State in which Star Tran is located.

**Rights and Remedies** - The duties and obligations imposed by the Contract Documents 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 Star Tran or Contractor shall constitute a waiver of any right or duty afforded any of them under the Contract, 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.

# INSTRUCTIONS TO BIDDERS

## CITY OF LINCOLN, NEBRASKA

E-Bid

### 1. BIDDING PROCEDURE

- 1.1 Sealed bid, formal and informal, subject to Instructions and General Conditions and any special conditions set forth herein, will be received in the office of the Purchasing Division, 440 So. 8<sup>th</sup> St., Lincoln, NE 68508, until the bid closing date and time indicated for furnishing the City of Lincoln, hereinafter referred to as "City", the materials, supplies, equipment or services shown in the electronic bid request.
- 1.2 Bidders shall use the electronic bid system for submitting bids and must complete all required fields.
- 1.3 Identify the item you will furnish by brand or manufacturer's name and catalog numbers. Also furnish specifications and descriptive literature if not bidding the specific manufacturer or model as listed in the specifications.
- 1.4 Any person submitting a bid for a firm, corporation, or other organization must show evidence of his authority so as to bind such firm, corporation, or organization.
- 1.5 Bids received after the time and date established for receiving bids will be rejected.
- 1.6 The Bidders and public are invited, but not required, to attend the opening of bids. At the opening, prices will be displayed electronically and/or read aloud to the public. The pricing is also available for immediate viewing on-line. No decisions related to an award of a contract or purchase order will be made at the opening.
- 1.7 If bidding on a construction contract, the City's most current Standard Specifications for Municipal Construction shall apply.
  - 1.7.1 Bidders may obtain this document from the City's Design Engineering Division of the Public Works & Utilities Department for a small fee.
  - 1.7.2 Said document can be reviewed at Design Engineering or at the office of the Purchasing Division.
  - 1.7.3 Said document is available on the web site.  
<http://www.lincoln.ne.gov/city/pworks/engine/dconst/standard/stnds-spec/index.htm>

### 2. BID SECURITY

- 2.1 Bid security, as a guarantee of good faith, in the form of a certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond, may be required to be submitted with this bidding document, as indicated on the bid.
  - 2.1.1 Bid security, if required, shall be in the amount specified on the bid. The bid security must be scanned and attached to the "Response Attachments" section of your response or it can be faxed to the Purchasing Division at 402-441-6513. The original bid security should then be sent or delivered to the office of the Purchasing Division, 440 S. 8<sup>th</sup> St., Ste. 200, Lincoln, NE 68508 within three (3) days of bid closing.
  - 2.1.2 If bid security is not received in the office of the Purchasing Division as stated above, the vendor may be determined to be non-responsive.
- 2.2 If alternates are submitted, only one bid security will be required, provided the bid security is based on the amount of the highest gross bid.
- 2.3 Such bid security will be returned to the unsuccessful Bidders when the award of bid is made.
- 2.4 Bid security will be returned to the successful Bidder(s) as follows:
  - 2.4.1 For single order bids with specified quantities: upon the delivery of all equipment or merchandise, and upon final acceptance by the City.
  - 2.4.2 For all other contracts: upon approval by the City of the executed contract and bonds.
- 2.5 City shall have the right to retain the bid security of Bidders to whom an award is being considered until either:
  - 2.5.1 A contract has been executed and bonds have been furnished.
  - 2.5.2 The specified time has elapsed so that the bids may be withdrawn.
  - 2.5.3 All bids have been rejected.
- 2.6 Bid security will be forfeited to the City as full liquidated damages, but not as a penalty, for any of the following reasons, as pertains to this bidding document:
  - 2.6.1 If the Bidder fails or refuses to enter into a contract on forms provided by the City, and/or if the Bidder fails to provide sufficient bonds or insurance within the time period as established in this bidding document.

### 3. BIDDER'S REPRESENTATION

- 3.1 Each Bidder by electronic signature and submitting a bid, represents that the Bidder has read and understands the bidding documents, and the bid has been made in accordance therewith.
- 3.2 Each Bidder for services further represents that the Bidder has examined and is familiar with the local conditions under which the work is to be done and has correlated the observations with the requirements of the bidding documents.

**4. CLARIFICATION OF BIDDING DOCUMENTS**

- 4.1 Bidders shall promptly notify the Purchasing Agent of any ambiguity, inconsistency or error which they may discover upon examination of the bidding documents.
- 4.2 Bidders desiring clarification or interpretation of the bidding documents for formal bids shall make a written request which must reach the Purchasing Agent at least five (5) calendar days prior to the date and time for receipt of formal bids.
- 4.3 Changes made to the bidding documents will be issued electronically via addendum. All vendors registered for that bid prior to bid issuance will be notified of the addendum. Bidders registering after the bid is issued will receive the bid with the addendum included.
- 4.4 Oral interpretations or changes to the bidding documents made in any manner other than written form will not be binding on the City; and Bidders shall not rely upon such interpretations or changes.

**5. ADDENDA**

- 5.1 Addenda are instruments issued by the City prior to the date for receipt of bids which modify or interpret the bidding document by addition, deletion, clarification or correction.
- 5.2 Addenda notification will be made available to all registered vendors immediately via e-mail for inspection on-line.
- 5.3 No addendums will be issued later than forty-eight (48) hours prior to the date and time for receipt of bids, except an addendum withdrawing the invitation to bid, or an addendum which includes postponement of the bid.

**6. INDEPENDENT PRICE DETERMINATION**

- 6.1 By signing and submitting this bid, the Bidder certifies that the prices in this bid have been arrived at independently, without consultation, communication or agreement, for the purpose of restricting competition, as to any matter relating to such prices with any other Bidder or with any competitor; unless otherwise required by law, the prices which have been quoted in this bid have not been knowingly disclosed by the Bidder prior to bid opening directly or indirectly to any other Bidder or to any competitor; no attempt has been made, or will be made, by the Bidder to induce any person or firm to submit, or not to submit, a bid for the purpose of restricting competition.

**7. ANTI-LOBBYING PROVISION**

- 7.1 During the period between the bid advertisement date and the contract award, Bidders, including their agents and representatives, shall not lobby or promote their bid with the Mayor, any member of the City Council, or City staff except in the course of City sponsored inquiries, briefings, interviews, or presentations, unless requested by the City.

**8. BRAND NAMES**

- 8.1 Wherever in the specifications or bid that brand names, manufacturer, trade name, or catalog numbers are specified, it is for the purpose of establishing a grade or quality of material only; and the term "or equal" is deemed to follow.
- 8.2 It is the Bidder's responsibility to identify any alternate items offered in the bid, and prove to the satisfaction of the City that said item is equal to, or better than, the product specified.
- 8.3 Bids for alternate items shall be stated in the appropriate space on the e-bid form, or if the proposal form does not contain blanks for alternates, Bidder MUST attach to its bid document on Company letterhead a statement identifying the manufacturer and brand name of each proposed alternate, plus a complete description of the alternate items including illustrations, performance test data and any other information necessary for an evaluation.
- 8.4 The Bidder must indicate any variances by item number from the bidding document no matter how slight.
- 8.5 If variations are not stated in the bid, it will be assumed that the item being bid fully complies with the City's bidding documents.

**9. DEMONSTRATIONS/SAMPLES**

- 9.1 Bidders shall demonstrate the exact item(s) proposed within seven (7) calendar days from receipt of such request from the City.
- 9.2 Such demonstration can be at the City delivery location or a surrounding community.
- 9.3 If items are small and malleable, the Bidder is proposing an alternate product, the Bidder shall supply a sample of the exact item. Samples will be returned at Bidder's expense after receipt by the City of acceptable goods. The Bidder must indicate how samples are to be returned.

**10. DELIVERY (Non-Construction)**

- 10.1 Each Bidder shall state on the bid the date upon which it can make delivery of all equipment or merchandise.
- 10.2 The City reserves the right to cancel orders, or any part thereof, without obligation, if delivery is not made within the time(s) specified on the bid.
- 10.3 All bids shall be based upon **inside** delivery of the equipment/ merchandise F.O.B. to the City at the location specified by the City, with all transportation charges paid.
- 10.4 At the time of delivery, a designated City of Lincoln employee will sign the invoice/packing slip. The signature will only indicate that the order has been received and the items actually delivered agree with the delivery invoice. This signature does not indicate all items met specifications, were received in good condition and/or that there is not possible hidden damage or shortages.

**11. WARRANTIES AND GUARANTEES**

- 11.1 Copies of the following documents shall accompany the bid proposal for all items being bid, if requested:
  - 11.1.1 Manufacturer's warranties and/or guarantees.
  - 11.1.2 Bidder's maintenance policies and associated costs.
- 11.2 Unless stated otherwise in the specifications, as a minimum requirement of the City, the Bidder will guarantee in writing that any defective components discovered within a one (1) year period after the date of acceptance shall be replaced at no expense to the City. Replacement parts of defective components shall be shipped at no cost to the City. Shipping costs for defective parts required to be returned to the Bidder shall be paid by the Bidder.

**12. ACCEPTANCE OF MATERIAL**

- 12.1 All components used in the manufacture or construction of materials, supplies and equipment, and all finished materials, shall be new, the latest make/model, of the best quality, and the highest grade workmanship.
- 12.2 Material delivered under this proposal shall remain the property of the Bidder until:
  - 12.2.1 A physical inspection and actual usage of the material is made and found to be acceptable to the City; and
  - 12.2.2 Material is determined to be in full compliance with the bidding documents and accepted bid.
- 12.3 In the event the delivered material is found to be defective or does not conform to the bidding documents and accepted bid, the City reserves the right to cancel the order upon written notice to the Bidder and return materials to the Bidder at Bidder's expense.
- 12.4 Awarded Bidder shall be required to furnish title to the material, free and clear of all liens and encumbrances, issued in the name of the City of Lincoln, Nebraska, as required by the bidding documents or purchase orders.
- 12.5 Awarded Bidder's advertising decals, stickers or other signs shall not be affixed to equipment. Vehicle mud flaps shall be installed blank side out with no advertisements. Manufacturer's standard production forgings, stampings, nameplates and logos are acceptable.

**13. BID EVALUATION AND AWARD**

- 13.1 The electronic signature shall be considered an offer on the part of the Bidder. Such offer shall be deemed accepted upon issuance by the City of purchase orders, contract award notifications, or other contract documents appropriate to the work.
- 13.2 No bid shall be modified or withdrawn for a period of ninety (90) calendar days after the time and date established for receiving bids, and each Bidder so agrees in submitting the bid.
- 13.3 In case of a discrepancy between the unit prices and their extensions, the unit prices shall govern.
- 13.4 The bid will be awarded to the lowest responsible, responsive Bidder whose bid will be most advantageous to the City, and as the City deems will best serve the requirements and interests of the City.
- 13.5 The City reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids; to request rebids; to award bids item-by-item, with or without alternates, by groups, or "lump sum"; to waive minor irregularities in bids; such as shall best serve the requirements and interests of the City.
- 13.6 In order to determine if the Bidder has the experience, qualifications, resources and necessary attributes to provide the quality workmanship, materials and management required by the plans and specifications, the Bidder may be required to complete and submit additional information as deemed necessary by the City. Failure to provide the information requested to make this determination may be grounds for a declaration of non-responsive with respect to the Bidder.
- 13.7 The City reserves the right to reject irregular bids that contain unauthorized additions, conditions, alternate bids, or irregularities that make the bid incomplete, indefinite or ambiguous.
- 13.8 Any governmental agency may piggyback on any contract entered into from this bid.

**14. INDEMNIFICATION**

- 14.1 The Bidder shall indemnify and hold harmless the City of Lincoln, Nebraska from and against all losses, claims, damages, and expenses, including, attorney's fees arising out of or resulting from the performance of the contract that results in bodily injury, sickness, disease, death, or to injury to or destruction of tangible property, including the loss of use resulting therefrom and is caused in whole or in part by the Bidder, any subcontractor, any directly or indirectly employed by any of them or anyone for whose acts any of them may be liable. This section will not require the Bidder to indemnify or hold harmless the City of Lincoln for any losses, claims damages, and expenses arising out of or resulting from the sole negligence of the City of Lincoln, Nebraska.
- 14.2 In any and all claims against the City or any of its members, officers or employees by an employee of the Bidder, any subcontractor, anyone directly or indirectly employed by any of them or by anyone for whose acts made by any of them may be liable, the indemnification obligation under paragraph 14.1 shall not be limited in any way by any limitation of the amount or type of damages, compensation or benefits payable by or for the Bidder or any subcontractor under workers' compensation acts, disability benefit acts or other employee benefit acts.

**15. TERMS OF PAYMENT**

15.1 Unless stated otherwise, the City will begin processing payment within thirty (30) calendar days after all labor has been performed and all equipment or other materials have been delivered, and all such labor and equipment and other materials have met all contract specifications.

**16. LAWS**

- 16.1 The laws of the State of Nebraska shall govern the rights, obligations, and remedies of the parties under this bid and any contract reached as a result of this process.
- 16.2 Bidder agrees to abide by all applicable local, state and federal laws and regulations, including those concerning the handling and disclosure of private and confidential information from individuals and corporations as to inventions, copyrights, patents and patent rights.
- 16.3 If there are any conflicts or inconsistencies between the Bidder's documents and the City's, the City's documents shall control.

**17. EQUIPMENT TAX ASSESSMENT**

17.1 Any bid for public improvement shall comply with Nebraska Revised Statute Sections 77-1323 and 77-1324. In that regard, every person, partnership, limited liability company, association or corporation furnishing labor or material in the repair, alteration, improvement, erection, or construction of any public improvement shall sign a certified statement which will accompany the contract. The certified statement shall state that all equipment to be used on the project, except that acquired since the assessment date, has been assessed for taxation for the current year, giving the county where assessed.

**18. AFFIRMATIVE ACTION**

18.1 The City of Lincoln provides equal opportunity for all Bidders and encourages minority businesses, women's businesses and locally owned business enterprises to participate in our bidding process.

**19. LIVING WAGE**

- 19.1 The Bidder shall be responsible for determining whether it is subject to the Living Wage ordinance in the event it is awarded the contract.
- 19.2 If the contract is subject to the City Living Wage pursuant to Section 2.81 of the Lincoln Municipal Code, the Bidder agrees to pay all employees employed in the performance of this contract, a base wage of not less than the City Living Wage. This wage is subject to change every July.

**20. INSURANCE**

20.1 All Bidders shall take special notice of the insurance provisions required for City contracts (see *Insurance Requirements for All City Contracts*).

**21. EXECUTION OF AGREEMENT**

21.1 Depending on the type of service or commodity provided, one of the following methods will be employed. The method applicable to this contract will be checked below:

- a. **PURCHASE ORDER**, unless otherwise noted.
1. This contract shall consist of a City of Lincoln Purchase Order.
  2. A copy of the Bidder's bid response (or referenced bid number) attached and that the same, in all particulars, becomes the contract between the parties hereto: that both parties thereby accept and agree to the terms and conditions of said bid documents.
- b. **CONTRACT**, unless otherwise noted.
1. City will furnish copies of a Contract to the successful Bidder who shall prepare attachments as required. Insurance as evidenced by a Certificate of Insurance (as required), surety bonds properly executed (as required), and Contract signed and dated.
  2. The prepared documents shall be returned to the Purchasing Office within 10 days (unless otherwise noted).
  3. The City will sign and date the Contract and prepare an Executive Order or Directorial Order for signature.
  4. Upon approval and signature, the City will return one copy to the successful Bidder.

**22. TAXES AND TAX EXEMPTION CERTIFICATE**

- 22.1 The City is generally exempt from any taxes imposed by the state or federal government. A Tax Exemption Certificate will be provided as applicable.
- 22.2 Materials, supplies, labor & service used for the Water Division of the City of Lincoln are taxable per Reg. 066.14A and no exemption certificate will be issued.

**23. CITY AUDIT ADVISORY BOARD**

23.1 All parties of any City agreement shall be subject to audit pursuant to Chapter 4.66 of the Lincoln Municipal Code and shall make Available to a contract auditor, as defined therein, copies of all financial and performance related records and materials germane to the contract/order, as allowed by law.

**24. E-VERIFY**

24.1 In accordance with Neb. Rev. Stat. 4-108 through 4-114, the winning bidder agrees to register with and use a federal immigration verification system, to determine the work eligibility status of new employees performing services within the state of Nebraska. A federal immigration verification system means the electronic verification of the work authorization program of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996, 8 U.S.C. 1324 a, otherwise known as the E-Verify Program, or an equivalent federal program designated by the United States Department of Homeland Security or other federal agency authorized to verify the work eligibility status of a newly hired employee pursuant to the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986. The winning bidder shall not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment to be employed in the performance of this section pursuant to the requirements of state law and 8 U.S.C.A 1324b. The winning bidder shall require any subcontractor to comply with the provisions of this section. For information on the E-Verify Program, go to [www.uscis.gov/everify](http://www.uscis.gov/everify).