



## *City of Miami Gardens* INVITATION TO BID

The City of Miami Gardens is requesting sealed bids from qualified contractors for lot clearing/lot mowing services on an as needed basis for the Building and Code Compliance Department and other various City departments in Miami Gardens, Florida.

**BID SUBMISSION** Bids will be received by sealed envelope in the Procurement Department, City of Miami Gardens. **If Delivered by mail send to:** Procurement Department, 1515 N.W. 167<sup>th</sup> Street; Bldg. 5, Suite 200, Miami Gardens, Florida 33169. **If Delivered in person:** Procurement Department location, 1515 NW 167<sup>th</sup> Street; Bldg. 7, Suite 440 until 2:00 P.M. on Thursday, **December 19, 2013**, at which time they will be opened and read in the Council Chambers by the Procurement Manager. Bids received after this time will not be considered and no time extensions will be permitted. Please clearly mark bids:

### **“ITB# 13-14-013– LOT CLEARING/LOT MOWING SERVICES”**

**COPIES OF PROPOSAL** May be obtained by contacting DemandStar by Onvia at [www.demandstar.com](http://www.demandstar.com) or call toll free 1-800-711-1712 and request Document #1314013 or may be found on the City's web site at [www.miamigardens-fl.gov](http://www.miamigardens-fl.gov). Vendors who obtain specifications and plans from other sources other than DemandStar.com are cautioned that the bid package may be incomplete. All addendums, tabulations, evaluation meetings, award will be posted and disseminated by DemandStar.

**FOR INFORMATION** For information on this Invitation to Bid, contact the Procurement Department, (305) 622-8000 or [procurement@miamigardens-fl.gov](mailto:procurement@miamigardens-fl.gov). Deadline for submittal of questions is Thursday, December 12, 2013 @ 3:00p.m.

**ACCEPTANCE AND REJECTIONS** The City of Miami Gardens reserves the right to reject any or all Proposals with or without cause; to waive any or all irregularities with regard to the specifications and to make the award to the Consultant offering the greatest advantage to the City.

Please be advised that Pursuant to City Ordinance 2008-03-139 “Cone of Silence”, public notice is hereby given that a Cone of Silence is imposed concerning this City's competitive purchasing process, which generally prohibits communications concerning the ITB until such time as the City Manager makes a written communications concerning the competitive purchase transaction. Please see the detailed specifications for the public solicitation for services for a statement fully disclosing the requirements of the “Cone of Silence”.

**LOT CLEARING/LOT MOWING SERVICES**  
**ITB#13-14-013**  
**December 19, 2013**

**1.0 GENERAL CONDITIONS**

**1.1 SEALED BIDS:**

Original copy of Bid Form as well as any other pertinent documents must be returned in order for the Bid to be considered for award. All Bids are subject to the conditions specified herein and on the attached Special Conditions, Specifications and Bid Form.

The completed Bid must be submitted in a sealed envelope clearly marked with the Bid Title to the Procurement Department, City of Miami Gardens, 1515 N W 167<sup>th</sup> Street; Bldg 5 Suite 200, if by mail, and Bldg 7, Suite 440, if in person, Miami Gardens, Florida 33169 until 2:00 p.m., local time on date due.

**1.2 EXECUTION OF BID:**

The Bid must contain a manual signature of an authorized representative in the space provided on the Bid Form. Failure to properly sign Bid shall invalidate same and it shall NOT be considered for award. All Bids must be completed in pen or be typewritten. No erasures are permitted. If a correction is necessary draw a single line through the entered figure and enter the corrected figure above it. Corrections must be initialed by the person signing the Bid. Any illegible entries, pencil Bids or corrections not initialed will not be tabulated. The original Bid conditions and specifications together with bidder's response CANNOT be changed or altered in any way after submitted to the City.

**1.3 PRICES QUOTED:**

Deduct trade discounts and quote firm net prices. Give both unit price and extended total, when requested. Prices must be stated in units of quantity specified in the Bid specifications. In case of discrepancy in computing the amount of the Bid, the UNIT PRICE quoted will govern. All prices must be F.O.B. destination, freight prepaid (unless otherwise stated in special conditions). Bidders are to list discounts to be given the City for prompt payment. Award, if made, will be in accordance with terms and conditions stated herein. Each item must be proposed separately and no attempt is to be made to tie any item or items in with any other item or items. Cash or quantity discounts offered will not be a consideration in determination of award of Bid(s). All prices quoted shall be guaranteed for 90 days from Bid date unless otherwise specified in Special Conditions.

**1.3.1 TAXES:**

The City of Miami Gardens is exempt from all Federal Excise and State taxes. The applicable tax exemption number is shown on the Purchase Order.

**1.3.2 MISTAKES:**

Bidders are expected to examine the specifications, delivery schedules, Bid prices and extensions and all instructions pertaining to supplies and services. Failure to do so will be at the bidder's risk.

**1.3.3 UNDERWRITERS' LABORATORIES:**

Unless otherwise stipulated in the Bid, all manufactured items and fabricated assemblies shall be U.L. listed or re-examination listing where such has been established by U.L. for the item(s) offered and furnished.

**1.3.4 BID'S CONDITIONS:**

The City reserves the right to waive irregularities in Bids or to reject all Bids or any part of any Bid deemed necessary for the best interest of the City of Miami Gardens, Florida.

**1.4 EQUIVALENTS:**

If bidder offers makes of equipment or brands of supplies other than those specified, it must be indicated in the Bid. Specific article(s) of equipment/supplies shall conform in quality, design and construction with all published claims of the manufacturer.

Brand Names: Catalog numbers, manufacturers' and brand names, when listed, are informational guides as to a standard of acceptable product quality level only and should not be construed as an endorsement or a product limitation of recognized and legitimate manufacturers. Bidders shall formally substantiate and verify that product(s) offered conform with or exceed quality as listed in the specifications.

Bidder shall indicate on the Bid form the manufacturers' name and number if proposing other than the specified brands, and shall indicate ANY deviation from the specifications as listed. Other than specified items offered requires complete descriptive technical literature marked to indicate detail(s) conformance with specifications and **MUST BE INCLUDED WITH THE BID. NO BIDS WILL BE CONSIDERED WITHOUT THIS DATA.**

Lacking any written indication of intent to quote an alternate brand or model number, the Bid will be considered as a Bid in complete compliance with the specifications as listed on the attached form.

**1.5 NON-CONFORMANCE TO CONTRACT CONDITIONS:**

Items may be tested for compliance with specifications. Any item delivered, not conforming to specifications, may be rejected and returned at bidder's expense. These items and items not delivered as per delivery date in Bid and/or purchase order may be purchased on the open market. Any increase in cost may be charged against the bidder. Any violation of these stipulations may also result in Bidder's Name being removed from the vendor list.

**1.6 SAMPLES:**

Samples of items, when required, must be furnished free of expense and, if not destroyed, will, upon request, be returned at the bidder's expense. Bidders will be responsible for the removal of all samples furnished within (30) days after Bid opening. All samples will be disposed of after thirty (30) days. Each individual sample must be labeled with bidder's name. Failure of bidder to either deliver required samples or to clearly identify samples may be reason for rejection of the Bid. Unless otherwise indicated, samples should be delivered to the Procurement Department, 1515 N W 167<sup>th</sup> Street; Bldg. 5 Suite 200, if by mail and Bldg 7, Suite 440 if in person, Miami Gardens, Florida 33169.

**1.7 DELIVERY:**

Unless actual date of delivery is specified (or if specified delivery cannot be met), show number of days (in calendar days) required to make delivery after receipt of purchase order, in space provided. Delivery time may become a basis for making an award. Delivery shall be within the normal working hours of the City, Monday through Friday, excluding holidays.

**1.8 INTERPRETATIONS:**

Unless otherwise stated in the Bid, any questions concerning conditions and specifications should be submitted in writing to the Procurement Manager, 1515 N W 167<sup>th</sup> Street; Bldg. 5 Suite 200, Miami Gardens, Florida 33169 Facsimile (305) 474-1285.

**1.9 AWARDS:**

The City of Miami Gardens reserves the right to reject any and all Bids or any portion of any Bid deemed necessary in the best interest of the City; to accept any item or group of items; to acquire additional quantities at prices quoted on the Bid Form unless additional quantities are not acceptable, in which case the Bid Form must be noted "BID IS FOR SPECIFIED QUANTITY ONLY". The City also reserves the right to award the contract on a split order basis, lump sum basis, individual item basis, or such combination as shall best serve the interest of the City. All awards made as a result of this Bid shall conform to applicable Florida Statutes.

No bid will be accepted from, nor will any contract be awarded to any person or firm which is in arrears to the City upon any debt or contract or which is a defaulter as surety or otherwise upon any obligation to the City or who has failed to perform faithfully any previous contract with the City.

**1.10 BID OPENING:**

Bids shall be opened and publicly read in the Council Chamber, 1515 N W 167<sup>th</sup> Street; Bldg. 5 Suite 200, Miami Gardens, Florida 33169 on the date and at the time specified on the Bid Form. All Bids received after that time shall be returned, unopened.

**1.11 INSPECTION, ACCEPTANCE & TITLE:**

Inspection and acceptance will be destination unless otherwise provided. Title to/or risk of loss or damage to all items shall be the responsibility of the successful bidder until acceptance by the City unless loss or damage result from negligence by the City. If the materials or services supplied to the City are found to be defective or not conform to specifications, the City reserves the right to cancel the order upon written notice to the seller and return product at bidder's expense.

**1.12 PAYMENT:**

Payment will be made by the City after the items awarded to a bidder have been received, inspected, and found to comply with award specifications, free of damage or defect and properly invoiced.

**1.13 DISPUTES:**

Any actual or prospective Bidder, Proposer, Offeror or Contractor who is aggrieved in connection with a solicitation or award of a Bid or Contract may avail themselves of the procedures contained in Ordinance 2007-25-131 in order to resolve disputed matters or complaints.

The Procurement Manager shall post a tabulation of the Bid results with intended award recommendations. Posting shall be in the front office of City Hall or on the City's web site for public viewing.

Any actual or prospective bidder, proposer, offeror, or contractor who is aggrieved in connection with the solicitation or award of contract may file a written protest with the City Clerk and mailed by the protester to all responders to the bid proposal within seventy-two hours (72) hours of the City's recommendation for award or the City's actual award whichever comes first. The written protest shall state all the particular grounds on which it is based, shall include all pertinent documents and evidence. The protest letter to the City Clerk shall include proof of mailing/receipt to other responders to the bid and shall be accompanied by a cashier's check in the amount of \$500.00 representing the filing fee, plus a cost bond in the amount of \$2,500.00 to reimburse the City for all administrative costs associated with the appeal process. The \$2,500.00 bond shall be returned to the Protester if the Protester prevails in the hearing before the hearing examiner/special master. If the Protester does not prevail the City shall keep the bond. Any grounds not stated shall be deemed waived.

Failure to file a timely formal written protest within the time period specified shall constitute a waiver by the vendor of all rights of protest under this Bid/Proposal Protest Procedure.

In the event of a timely protest, the City Manager shall select a hearing examiner or special master, who shall be a member of the Florida Bar, who shall hold a hearing and submit written findings and recommendations within fifteen (15) days of the filing of the protest. The hearing examiner shall consider the written protests, supporting documents in evidence, the City's recommendations and supporting documentation and all evidence presented at the hearing. Such finding and recommendation shall be filed with the City Clerk.

The hearing examiner's findings and recommendations shall be final. Appeals of a decision by the hearing examiner shall be to the Miami-Dade County Circuit Court. The prevailing party in the appeal may be entitled to recover any and all attorneys' fees and costs incurred in the appeal.

**1.14 LEGAL REQUIREMENTS:**

Federal, State, county and City laws, ordinances, rules and regulations that in any manner affect the items covered herein apply. Lack of knowledge by the bidder will in no way be a cause for relief from responsibility.

The individual executing this proposal on behalf of the Company warrant to the City that the Company is a Florida corporation duly constituted and authorized to do business in the State of Florida, is in good standing and that Company possesses all of the required licenses and certificates of competency required by the State of Florida and the County of Miami-Dade to perform the work herein described.

**1.15 INDEMNIFICATION:**

To the fullest extent permitted by Laws and Regulations, Contractor shall indemnify and hold harmless the City and their consultants, agents and employees from and against all claims, damages, losses and expenses, direct, indirect or consequential (including but not limited to fees and charges of attorneys and other professionals and court costs) arising out of or resulting from the performance of the work, provided that any such claim, damage, loss or

expense (a) is attributable to bodily injury, sickness, disease or death, or to injury to or destruction of tangible property (other than the work itself) including the loss of use resulting there from and (b) is caused in whole or in part by any willful and wanton or negligent or gross negligent acts or omission of Contractor, any subcontractor, any person or organization directly or indirectly employed by any of them to perform or furnish any of the work or anyone for whose acts any of them may be liable, regardless of whether or not it is caused in part by a party indemnified hereunder or arises by or is imposed by Law and Regulations regardless of the negligence of any such party.

In any and all claims against the City or any of their consultants, agents or employees by any employee of Contractor, any Subcontractor, any person or organization directly or indirectly employed by any of them to perform or furnish any of the work or anyone for whose acts any of them may be liable, the indemnification obligation under the above paragraph shall not be limited in any way by any limitation on the amount or type of damages, compensation or benefits payable by or for Contractor or any such Subcontractor or other person or organization under workers or workman's compensation acts, disability benefit acts or other employee benefit acts.

It is the specific intent of the parties hereto that the foregoing indemnification complies with Florida Statute 725.06 (Chapter 725). It is further the specific intent and agreement of the parties that all of the Contract Documents on this project are hereby amended to include the foregoing indemnification and the "Specific Consideration" therefore.

The official title of the City is "City of Miami Gardens". This official title shall be used in all insurance, or other legal documentation. City of Miami Gardens is to be included as "Additional Insured" with respect to liability arising out of operations performed for City of Miami Gardens by or on behalf of Contractor or acts or omissions of Contractor in connection with such operation.

**1.16 PATENTS & ROYALTIES:**

The bidder, without exception, shall indemnify and save harmless the City of Miami Gardens, Florida and its employees from liability of any nature or kind, including cost and expenses for, or on account of, any copyrighted, patented, or unpatented invention, process, or article manufactured or used in the performance of the contract, including its use by The City of Miami Gardens, Florida. If the bidder uses any design, device or materials covered by letters, patent, or copyright, it is mutually understood and agreed, without exception, that the Bid prices shall include all royalties or cost arising from the use of such design, device, or materials in any way involved in the work.

**1.17 OSHA:**

The bidder warrants that the product and services supplied to the City of Miami Gardens, Florida shall conform in all respects to the standards set forth in the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970, as amended, and the failure to comply with this condition will be considered as a breach of contract. Any fines levied because of inadequacies to comply with these requirements shall be borne solely by the bidder responsible for same.

**1.17A SAFETY PRECAUTIONS:**

The bidder shall, if required, maintain suitable and sufficient guards and barriers and, at night, suitable and sufficient lighting for the prevention of accidents and

all minimum safety standards required by Municipal, County, State and Federal ordinances and laws shall be strictly met by the bidder

**1.18 SPECIAL CONDITIONS:**

Any and all Special Conditions that may vary from these General Conditions shall have precedence.

**1.19 ANTI-DISCRIMINATION:**

The bidder certifies compliance with the non-discrimination clause contained in Section 202, Executive Order 11246, as amended by Executive Order 11375, relative to equal employment opportunity for all persons without regard to race, color, religion, sex or national origin.

**1.20 QUALITY:**

All materials used for the manufacture or construction of any supplies, materials or equipment covered by this Bid shall be new. The items Bid must be new, unless recycled materials are certified by bidder, the latest model, of the best quality, and highest grade workmanship.

**1.21 LIABILITY, INSURANCE, LICENSES AND PERMITS:**

Where bidders are required to enter or go onto City of Miami Gardens property to deliver materials or perform work or services as a result of a Bid award, the successful bidder will assume the full duty, obligation and expense of obtaining all necessary licenses, permits and insurance and assure all work complies with all Miami-Dade County and City of Miami Gardens building requirements and the Florida Building Code. The bidder shall be liable for any damages or loss to the City occasioned by willful, wanton or gross negligence of the bidder (or agent) or any person the bidder has designated in the completion of the contract as a result of the Bid.

**1.22 BID BONDS, PERFORMANCE BONDS, CERTIFICATES OF INSURANCE:**

Bid Bonds, when required, shall be submitted with the Bid in the amount specified in Special Conditions. After acceptance of Bid, the City will notify the successful bidder to submit a performance bond and certificate of insurance in the amount specified in Special Conditions.

**1.23 DEFAULT/FAILURE TO PERFORM:**

The City shall be the sole judge of nonperformance, which shall include any failure on the part of the successful bidder to accept the award, to furnish required documents, and/or to fulfill any portion of this contract within the time stipulated.

Upon default by the successful bidder to meet any terms of this agreement, the City will notify the bidder three (3) days (weekends and holidays excluded) to remedy the default. Failure on the contractor's part to correct the default within the required three (3) days shall result in the contract being terminated and upon the City notifying in writing the contractor of its intentions and the effective date of the termination. The following shall constitute default:

- A) Failure to perform the work required under the contract and/or within the time required or failing to use the subcontractors, entities and personnel as identified and set forth, and to the degree specified in the contract.
- B) Failure to begin the work under this contract within the time specified.
- C) Failure to perform the work with sufficient workers and equipment or with sufficient materials to ensure timely completion.

- D) Neglecting or refusing to remove materials or perform new work where prior work has been rejected as non conforming with the terms of the contract.
- E) Becoming insolvent, being declared bankrupt, or committing act of bankruptcy or insolvency, or making an assignment renders the successful bidder incapable of performing the work in accordance with and as required by the contract.
- F) Failure to comply with any of the terms of the contract in any material respect.

In the event of default of a contract, the successful bidder shall pay all attorney's fees and court costs incurred in collecting any damages. The successful bidder shall pay the City for any and all costs incurred in ensuing the completion of the project.

**1.24 CANCELLATION:**

The City of Miami Gardens reserves the right to cancel this contract by written notice to the contractor effective the date specified in the notice should any of the following apply:

- A) The contractor is determined by the City to be in breach of any of the terms and conditions of the contract and/or to have failed to perform his/her services in a manner satisfactory to the City. In the event the contractor is found to be in default, the contractor will be paid for all labor and materials provided as of the termination date. No consideration will be given for anticipated loss of revenue or the canceled portions of the contract.
- B) The City has determined that such cancellation will be in the best interest of the City to cancel the contract for its own convenience.
- C) Funds are not available to cover the cost of the services. The City's obligation is contingent upon the availability of appropriate funds.

**1.25 BILLING INSTRUCTIONS:**

Invoices, unless otherwise indicated, must show purchase order numbers; work order number and/or quotation number, if applicable; details of service(s) performed including service date, brief description, and shall be submitted in DUPLICATE to Accounts Payable, City of Miami Gardens, 1515 N W 167<sup>th</sup> Street; Bldg. 5 Suite 200, Miami Gardens, Florida 33169.

**1.26 SUBSTITUTIONS:**

The City of Miami Gardens, Florida WILL NOT accept substitute shipments of any kind. Bidder(s) is expected to furnish the brand quoted in their Bid once awarded. Any substitute shipments will be returned at the bidder's expense.

**1.27 FACILITIES:**

The City reserves the right to inspect the bidder's facilities at any time with prior notice.

**1.28 BID TABULATIONS:**

Bidders desiring a copy of the Bid tabulation may request same by enclosing a self-addressed stamped envelope with the Bid.

**1.29 APPLICABLE LAW AND VENUE:**

The law of the State of Florida shall govern the contract between the City of Miami Gardens and the successful bidder and any action shall be brought in Miami-Dade County, Florida. In the event of litigation to settle issues arising hereunder, the prevailing party in such litigation shall be entitled to recover against the other party its costs and expenses, including reasonable attorney

fees, which shall include any fees and costs attributable to appellate proceedings arising on and of such litigation.

**1.30 CLARIFICATION AND ADDENDA TO BID SPECIFICATIONS:**

If any person contemplating submitting a Bid under this Invitation for Bid is in doubt as to the true meaning of the specifications or other Bid documents or any part thereof, the Bidder must submit to the City of Miami Gardens Procurement Manager at least seven (7) calendar days prior to scheduled Bid opening, a request for clarification. All such requests for clarification must be made in writing and the person submitting the request will be responsible for its timely delivery.

Any interpretation of the Bid, if made, will be made only by Addendum duly issued by the City of Miami Gardens Procurement Manager. The City shall issue an Informational Addendum if clarification or minimal changes are required. The City shall issue a Formal Addendum if substantial changes which impact the technical submission of Bids is required. A copy of such Addendum will be sent to each Bidder receiving the Invitation for Bid. In the event of conflict with the original Contract Documents, Addendum shall govern all other Contract Documents to the extent specified. Subsequent addendum shall govern over prior addendum only to the extent specified.

**1.31 CONTRACT:**

A) A contract may be awarded to the lowest responsive, responsible Bidder(s) whose Bid(s), conforming to the Invitation for Bid, is most advantageous to the City of Miami Gardens. The lowest responsive, responsible Bidder(s) will be determined in conjunction with the method of award which is described in the Special Conditions. Tie Bids will be decided as described herein.

B) The City shall award a contract to a Bidder through action taken by the City Council or the City Manager of the City of Miami Gardens, Florida.

C) The General Terms and Conditions, the Special Conditions, the Technical Specification, and the Bidder's Bid are collectively and integral part of the contract between the City of Miami Gardens and the successful Bidder.

D) While the City of Miami Gardens may determine to award a contract to a Bidder(s) under this Invitation to Bid, said award may be conditional on the subsequent submission of other documents as specified in the Special Conditions. The Bidder shall be in default of any conditional award if any of these documents are not submitted in a timely manner and in the form required by the City. If the Bidder is in default, the City, through the Procurement Manager, will void its acceptance of the Bidder's offer and may determine to select the second lowest responsive, responsible Bidder or re-solicit Bids. The City may, at its sole option, seek monetary restitution from the defaulting Bidder as a result of damages or excess costs sustained and/or may prohibit the Bidder from submitting future Bids for a period of one year.

E) The City reserves the right to exercise the option to renew a term contract of any successful Bidder(s) to a subsequent optional period; provided that such option is stipulated in the Special Conditions and is contained in any contract ultimately awarded in regard to this Bid.

F) The City reserves the right to automatically extend any contract for a maximum period not to exceed ninety (90) calendar days in order to provide City departments with continual service and supplies while a new contract is being solicited, evaluated and/or awarded, in regard to this Bid.

G) The Bidder agrees and understands that the contract may not be construed as an exclusive arrangement and further agrees that the City may, at any time, secure similar or identical services at its sole option.

**1.32 ASSIGNMENT:**

The contractor shall not assign, transfer, convey, sublet or otherwise dispose of any contract, including any or all of its right, title, or interest therein, or his or its power to execute such contract to any person, company or corporation without prior written consent of the City of Miami Gardens, which consent may be withheld.

**1.33 LAWS, PERMITS AND REGULATIONS:**

The bidder shall obtain and pay for all licenses, permits and inspection fees required for this project; and shall comply with all laws, ordinances, regulation building code requirements applicable to the work contemplated herein.

**1.34 OPTIONAL CONTRACT USAGE:**

Other State agencies, and/or Governmental Entities in the State of Florida may purchase from the resulting contract. Contractors shall sell these commodities or services to the other State agencies and/or Governmental Entities in the State of Florida at the agencies' and/or entities option or as otherwise provided by law.

**1.35 SPOT MARKET PURCHASES:**

It is the intent of the City to purchase the items specifically listed in this Bid from the selected bidder. However, items that are to be "Spot Market Purchased" may be purchased by other methods, i.e. Federal, State or local contracts.

**1.36 WARRANTIES OF USAGE:**

Any estimated quantities listed are for information and tabulation purposes only. No warranty or guarantee of quantities needed is given or implied. It is understood that the Contractor will furnish the City's needs as they arise.

**1.37 PUBLIC ENTITY CRIMES:**

As provided in Section 287.133(2) (a), Florida Statutes, a person or affiliate who has been placed on the convicted vendor list following a conviction for a public entity crime may not submit a Bid on a contract to provide any goods or services to a public entity, may not submit a Bid on a contract with a public entity for the construction or repair of a public building or public work, may not submit Bids on leases of real property to a public entity, may not be awarded or perform work as a contractor, supplier, subcontractor or consultant under a contract with any public entity, and may not transact business with any public entity in excess of the threshold amount provided S.S. 287.017 for CATEGORY TWO for a period of 36 months from the date of being placed on the convicted vendor list.

**1.38 CODE OF ETHICS:**

As provided in Article 9 Ethics in Public Contracting of the City of Miami Gardens Ordinance No. 2005-10-28 and Ordinance 2008-03-139 "Cone of Silence", from the time of advertising until the City Council deliberates on the making of an award, there is a prohibition on communication with the City Manager and his staff and Mayor and City Council. The ordinance does not apply to oral communications at pre-bid/proposal conference, oral presentations before

selection committees, contract negotiations, public presentations made to the City Council during any duly noticed public meeting or communications in writing at any time with any City employee, official or member of the City Council unless specifically prohibited by the applicable RFP, RFQ or bid documents. A copy of all written communications must be filed with the City Clerk.

**1.39 NON-COLLUSION:**

By submitting this bid, Bidder certifies that this offer is made without prior understanding, agreement, or connection with any corporation, firm or person submitting an offer for the same materials, services, supplies, or equipment and is in all respects fair and without collusion or fraud.

No premiums, rebates or gratuities are permitted, either with, prior to or after any delivery of material or provision of services. Any violation of this provision may result in the Contract cancellation, return of materials or discontinuation of services and the possible removal from the vendor bid list(s).

**1.40 PROHIBITION OF INTEREST:**

No contract will be awarded to a bidding firm who has City elected officials, officers or employees affiliated with it, unless the bidding firm has fully complied with current Florida State Statutes and City Charter relating to this issue. Bidders must disclose any such affiliation. Failure to disclose any such affiliation will result in disqualification of the bidder and may result in removal from the vendor bid list(s).

**1.41 FLORIDA PUBLIC RECORDS ACT:**

All material submitted regarding this bid becomes the property of the City. Bids may be reviewed by any person ten (10) days after the public opening. Bidders should take special note of this as it relates to any proprietary information that might be included in their offer.

Any resulting contract may be reviewed by any person after the contract has been executed by the City. The City has the right to use any or all information/material submitted in response to this bid and/or any resulting contract from same. Disqualification of a bidder does not eliminate this right.

Compliance with Florida Public Records Laws. To the extent required by law, Contractor shall comply with the public records laws in accordance with Chapter 119, Florida Statutes. Specifically, Contractor agrees to comply with Section 119.0701, Florida Statutes. Public records shall mean all documents, papers, letters, maps, books, tapes, photographs, films, sound recordings, data processing software, or other material, regardless of the physical form, characteristics, or means of transmission, made or received pursuant to law or ordinance or in connection with the transaction of official business by any agency, as defined in Section 119.011, Florida Statutes, as amended. The City shall make the sole determination of which records, if any, are exempt from inspection.

**1.42 UNBALANCED BIDS:**

When a unit price bid has variable or estimated quantities, and the bid shows evidence of unbalanced bid pricing, such bid may be rejected

**1.43 TIED BIDS:**

In the event of an identical tied bid or proposal, preference will be given to local vendors. If none of the vendors are local, preference will be given to a vendor

with a Drug-Free Workplace Program in accordance with Section 287.087, Florida Statutes.

**1.44 LOCAL PREFERENCE:**

In accordance with the City of Miami Gardens Code of Ordinances Sec. 16, regarding preference to local business, when evaluation percentages are used to evaluate, and when a non-local business is the highest ranked proposer, and the ranking of a local proposer is within 10% of the ranking, then the local proposer shall proceed to negotiate. When a local business's price is within 10% of the lowest non-local business, then the local business can offer a best and final bid, within five days of bid opening, equal to or lower than the amount of the low bid submitted by the non-local business.

**1.45 PREFERENCE MONETARY CONTRIBUTIONS TO LOCAL SCHOOLS:**

In accordance with the City of Miami Gardens Code of Ordinance regarding preference to businesses that make monetary contributions to local public schools, when evaluation percentages are used to evaluate, and when a non-contributing business is the highest ranked proposer, and the ranking of a contributing proposer is within 5% of the ranking, then the contributing proposer shall proceed to negotiate. When a contributing business's price is within 5% of the non-contributing business, then the contributing business can offer a best and final bid within five days of bid opening, equal to or lower than the amount of the low bid submitted by the non-contributing business. Lists of local schools and complete ordinance can be viewed on the City's web page [www.miamigardens-fl.gov](http://www.miamigardens-fl.gov).

**1.46 DRUG FREE WORKPLACE AFFIDAVIT:**

Pursuant to Section 893.02(4), Florida Statutes, each bidder shall complete the form on Drug Free Workplace Affidavit and submit same with any bid response.

**1.47 MINORITY BUSINESSES:**

The City of Miami Gardens encourages Minority Business Enterprises to participate in this solicitation.

Ordinance 2011-01-243, establishes a program enabling the City to collect relevant data to determine if MBE's that are eligible and qualified to perform services on behalf of the City, are being given the opportunity to provide these services.

The City of Miami Gardens encourages prime contractor, if subcontractors are to be let, when economically feasible, to take affirmative steps to assure that Minority Businesses are used when possible. Affirmative steps shall include:

- Placing qualified minority businesses on solicitation lists;
- Assuring that minority businesses are solicited whenever they are potential sources;
- Dividing total requirements, when economically feasible, into smaller tasks or quantities to permit maximum participation by minority businesses;
- Establishing delivery schedules, where the requirement permits, which encourage participation of minority businesses;
- Using the services and assistance of the Minority Business Development Agency of the Department of Commerce.

**LOT CLEARING/LOT MOWING SERVICES**  
**ITB#13-14-013**  
**December 19, 2013**

**2.0 SPECIAL CONDITIONS**

**2.1 PURPOSE:**

The purpose of this bid is to establish a term contract for lot clearing services on an as-needed, when-needed basis as specified herein, from a source(s) of supply that will give prompt and efficient service.

An average residential lot size is 75'x100'. The City has residential; improved and vacant property and commercial property.

**2.2 TERM OF CONTRACT:**

It is requested that bidders quote fixed prices that will be guaranteed to the City of Miami Gardens for an initial period of one (1) year. The City of Miami Gardens reserves the right to exercise the option to renew annually (subject to the appropriation of funds), not to exceed a maximum of two (2) years. Contract renewal shall be the City's prerogative; not a right of the bidder. This prerogative will be exercised only when such continuation is clearly in the best interest of the City. This contract may not be an exclusive contract.

No price increase will be accepted during the initial 1-year contract period. Renewal terms allow for a request for an increase at the time of renewal based on bidder's cost increase not to exceed three percent (3%). A written notice sent to the City for approval of any increase prior to renewal accompanied by bidder's documentation to substantiate need for price increase. No more than one price increase will be accepted during the renewal period. City must be notified in writing not later than September 1, 2014, of any price increases that may incur for the first renewal period.

The bidder may make application for price adjustment to the renewal contract if the Consumer Price Index; U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics; All Urban Consumers; U.S. City Average; that occurred between the newest C.P.I. index publication available at time of request increases 3% or more during this period of the contract.

If during the contract period, the total C.P.I. decreases 3% or more, the bidder is required to extend to the City a price decrease equal in percentage to the percentage of the index.

In the event the Contractor is unable to extend the contract for any subsequent period under the above conditions, or for whatever cause, advance written notice and explanation must be submitted to the Procurement Director, no later than ninety (90) days prior to the annual expiration date. Such notification is subject to the acceptance of the City, or the Contractor may be found to be in default.

The City may, after review, refuse to accept the adjusted costs if they are not properly documented, increases are considered to be excessive, or decreases are considered to be insufficient. In the event the City does not wish to accept the adjusted costs, and the matter cannot be resolved to the satisfaction of the City, the City reserves the right to cancel the contract upon giving (30) days notice to the Contractor.

**2.3 METHOD OF AWARD:**

Award of this contract may be made to the lowest responsive, responsible bidder whose bid will be the most advantageous to the City of Miami Gardens. The City reserves the right to award to more than one contractor.

Lot Clearing Services and On-going Maintenance Lot Mowing services will be awarded to the lowest responsive, responsible bidder by flat fee, whose bid will be most advantageous to the City of Miami Gardens

Successful bidder awarded shall ensure that sufficient number of staff, equipment, organization, etc. will be provided for this contract to meet the specifications denoted herein at a paramount level.

**2.4 HIRING OF CITY RESIDENTS:**

The City of Miami Gardens is seeking to use this service as a means to provide employment opportunities to city residents that are currently unemployed. Therefore, the City is asking that each vendor submit a list of the number of staffing needed to fulfill this contract along with their bid.

While this is not a mandatory requirement, it should be noted that vendors that submit staffing needs and a commitment to hiring unemployed city residents will receive preferred rating of their bid.

**2.5 PAYMENT:**

Invoices for payment will be submitted for each property individually, as services are completed, and shall be accompanied with a "Code Compliance Lot Clearing Verification" checklist, a minimum of two (2) before and after pictures, and must specify the date of service. Invoices will be subject to verification and approval by the requesting department.

**PURCHASING CARD PROGRAM:**

The City has implemented a purchasing card program through Bank of America, using the VISA network. Contractors will receive payment from the purchasing card in the same manner as other Visa purchases. Accordingly, respondents shall presently have the ability to accept VISA or take whatever steps necessary to implement the ability before the start of the agreement term. The City can only accept VISA, however, the purchasing card is not the exclusive method of payment. Please indicate your ability to accept Visa purchasing card on Bid Form.

**2.6 RESPONSE TIME – LOT CLEARING SERVICES:**

A two (2) business day response time is required for services. Failure to respond to a service call within the specified time will result in the successful bidder paying any and all costs associated with the lot clearing services performed by a secondary contractor.

The City will prepare a list(s) of sites and instructions for clearing, tractor mowing, trimming, pick-up/loading and hauling. The Contractor will be given at least two days notice prior to the call for his services, at which time he will commence his operations and continue in a workmanlike manner during normal working hours, until all work authorized on said list(s) is completed.

It is understood that the City reserves the right to issue more than one list of sites at the same time, or issue additional lists of sites, prior to the Contractor's completion of a previous list.

The Contractor shall provide daily notices to the City's representative to report the locations where he is working; status of work being performed, including jobs terminated; requests for guidance and special problems; and to receive special instructions.

**2.6 A COMPLETION TIME – ON GOING MAINTENANCE LOT MOWING**

Bidder shall complete each property(s) within one (1) work day, including Saturday. Bidder shall supply the necessary personnel to complete said work within the one (1) day period. Bidder shall provide lot mowing services two (2) times per month; once every fifteen (15) days or as needed when needed.

**2.7 FAILURE TO PERFORM:**

If, in the opinion of the City's representative, the Contractor refuses to begin work, improperly perform said work, or shall neglect or refuse to take out or rebuild such work, as shall have been rejected or as being defective or unsuitable, then City's representative may notify the Contractor to repair and replace work immediately or discontinue all work under this Contract.

If at any time the City's representative shall be of the opinion that the said work is being unnecessarily delayed and will not be finished within the prescribed time then City's representative may notify the Contractor to discontinue all work under this Contract. The Contractor shall immediately respect said notice and stop said work and cease to have any rights in the possession of the ground and shall forfeit this contract.

The City may thereupon look to the next lowest and responsive and responsible contractor to complete the work or advertise for bids and let a contract for the uncompleted work in the same manner as was followed in the letting of this Contract and charge the cost thereof to the original Contractor upon his contract. **Any excess cost arising therefrom over and above the original contract price shall be charged to the Contractor.**

**2.8 PRICES SHALL BE FIXED AND FIRM FOR TERM OF CONTRACT:**

If the bidder is awarded a contract under this solicitation, the prices quoted by the bidder on the Bid Form shall remain fixed and firm during the term of this contract; provided, however, that the Bidder may offer incentive discounts from this fixed price to the City at any time during the contractual term.

**2.9 PRE-BID CONFERENCE: (NOT USED)**

**2.10 INSURANCE:**

**Bidders must submit with their bid**, proof of insurance meeting or exceeding the following requirements or a letter of intent to provide the following requirements if awarded the contract:

- 2.9.1 Worker's Compensation Insurance – as required by law  
The City of Miami Gardens will not accept filed certificates of exemption forms for Worker's Compensation Insurance.
- 2.9.2 Employer's Liability Insurance - \$1,000,000 per occurrence
- 2.9.3 General Liability Insurance - \$1,000,000 per person and \$1,000,000 per accident for bodily injury

2.9.4 Automobile Liability Insurance - \$500,000 per occurrence, \$500,000 per accident for bodily injury and \$500,000 per accident for property damage

The required insurance coverage shall be issued by an insurance company authorized and licensed to do business in the State of Florida, with the minimum rating of B+ or better, in accordance with the latest edition of A.M. Best's Insurance Guide.

The successful bidder must submit, no later than ten (10) days after award and prior to commencement of any work, a Certificate of Insurance naming the City of Miami Gardens as additional insured.

Contractor shall require all of its subcontractors to provide the aforementioned coverage as well as any other coverage that the contractor may consider necessary, and any deficiency in the coverage or policy limits of said subcontractors will be the sole responsibility of the contractor.

**2.11 CONTACT PERSON:**

For any additional information regarding the specifications and requirement of this proposal, contact: Pam Thompson, CPPO, fax: (305) 474-1285 or pthompson@miamigardens-fl.gov

**2.12 SAMPLES: (NOT USED)**

**2.13 BID CLARIFICATION:**

Any questions or clarifications concerning this Proposal shall be submitted in writing by mail or facsimile to the Procurement Department, 1515 NW 167<sup>th</sup> Street; Bldg. 5 Suite 200, Miami Gardens, Florida 33169, FAX: (305) 474-1285, e-mail: wgarviso@miamigardens-fl.gov The proposal title/number shall be referenced on all correspondence. All questions must be received no later than **December 12, 2013, @ 3:00 p.m.** All responses to questions/clarifications will be sent to all prospective bidders in the form of an addendum. **NO QUESTIONS WILL BE RECEIVED VERBALLY OR AFTER SAID DEADLINE.**

**2.14 LIQUIDATED DAMAGES (NOT USED)**

**2.15 WARRANTY:**

The successful bidder will be required to warranty all work performed. Bidder shall warrant its products and/or service against faulty labor and/or defective workmanship.

The bidder shall promptly correct any deficiency, at no charge to the City, within five (5) calendar days after the bidder is notified of such deficiency in writing. If the bidder fails to honor the warranty and/or fails to correct or replace the defective work or items within the period specified, the City may, at its discretion, procure the services from another vendor and charge the bidder for any additional costs that are incurred by the City for this work or items.

**2.16 REFERENCES/CONTRACT EXPERIENCE:**

Each bid submittal must be accompanied by a list of five (5) references, of similar lot clearing services, and a list of five (5) similar contract experiences, which shall include contact person, telephone number, facsimile number and e-mail address. It is the responsibility of the bidder to ascertain that the contact person will be responsive.

**2.17 COMPLETE PROJECT REQUIRED:**

These specifications describe the various items or classes of work required, enumerating or defining the extent of same necessary, but failure to list any items or classes under scope of the several sections shall not relieve the contractor from furnishing, installing or performing such work where required by any part of these specifications, or necessary to the satisfactory completion of the project.

**2.18 BID SUBMITTAL:**

All bids submitted shall include the completed Bid Form and all required product information and any other items as indicated on the Bid Form. Bids will be considered "Non-Responsive" if the required information is not submitted by the date and time specified.

Before submitting bid, each bidder shall make all investigations and examinations necessary to ascertain if any addendums were issued by the Procurement Department.

**2.19 BIDDER QUALIFICATIONS:**

In order for bid submittals to be considered, bidders must submit with their bid, evidence that they are qualified to satisfactorily perform the specified work. Evidence shall include all information necessary to certify that the bidder: maintains a permanent place of business; possess the required licenses; has technical knowledge and practical experience in the type of equipment included in this scope of work; has available the organization and qualified manpower to the work and has adequate financial status to meet the financial obligations incident to the work.

**2.20 EXCEPTIONS TO SPECIFICATIONS:**

Exceptions to the specifications shall be listed on the Bid Form and shall reference the section. Any exceptions to the General or Special Conditions shall be cause for the proposal to be considered non-responsive.

**2.21 LATE PROPOSALS:**

The City of Miami Gardens cannot accept proposals received after opening time and encourages early submittal.

**2.22 COMPLETE INFORMATION REQUIRED ON BID FORM:**

All bids must be submitted on the attached Bid Form and all blanks filled in. To be considered a valid proposal, the ORIGINAL AND TWO COPIES of the Invitation to Bid and Bid Form pages must be returned, properly completed, in a sealed envelope as outlined in the first paragraph of General Conditions.

**2.23 SOUTHEAST FLORIDA GOVERNMENTAL CO-OPERATIVE PURCHASING GROUP:**

The bidder understands and agrees if any of the governmental entities or municipalities who are members of the Southeast Florida Co-Op Purchasing Group may participate in the resulting contract with the same terms and conditions through the renewal periods.

Each governmental entity will be responsible for awarding the contract, issuing its own purchase orders, and for order placement. Each entity will require separate billings, be responsible for payment to the successful bidder and issue its own tax exemption certificate as required by the bidder.

**LOT CLEARING/LOT MOWING SERVICES**  
**ITB#13-14-013**  
**December 19, 2013**

**3.0 PERFORMANCE SPECIFICATIONS:**

**3.1 PURPOSE:**

The purpose of this proposal is to establish an annual contract, to furnish all materials, labor, supervision, and transportation, permits, licenses, equipment and any incidentals necessary for lot clearing and all related services on an as-needed, when-needed basis and lot mowing/maintenance per the specifications herein for the City's Building and Code Compliance Department and other various City departments for locations within the City of Miami Gardens.

**3.2 GENERAL LOCATION OF WORK:**

3.2.1 If property (public or private) is damaged while contractor is performing work specified or is removed for the convenience of the work, it shall be repaired or replaced at the expense of the contractor in a manner acceptable to the City of Miami Gardens prior to the final acceptance of the work. Such property shall include but not be limited to: structures, parkways, sidewalks, curbs and gutters, driveways, walls, fences, water features, footings, underground utilities, sod, shrubs, and trees.

3.2.2 Contractor shall notify the requesting department in writing of the site having pre-existing damage to structures, parkways, sidewalks, curbs, roadways, swales, adjacent improvements, etc., before beginning work. Failure to do so shall obligate the contractor to make repairs per section 3.2.1.

**3.3 PROTECTION:**

3.3.1 The contractor shall be solely responsible for pedestrian and vehicular safety and control within the work site and shall provide the necessary warning devices, barricades and ground personnel needed to give safety, protection, and warning to persons and vehicular traffic within the area. All minimum safety standards required by Municipal, County, State and Federal ordinances and laws shall be strictly met by the contractor.

3.3.2 Contractor shall make all necessary arrangements with the utility companies concerned for protection of their lines during the work period. Contractor shall exercise extreme caution to eliminate any possibility of damage to any utilities. Prior to commencing of any work at each site the contractor shall locate and mark any existing gas lines, water lines, sprinkler heads, fire hydrants, sewers, septic tanks, drain fields, wells, drainage structures, telephone and power cables, buried markers and other utilities that may be endangered by or be a hazard to the clearing operations. Inspection of the site shall include seeking any downed power or telephone lines which may be hidden in the undergrowth. If any are found; report to the City for notification of the proper authority immediately. No work shall be performed at the site until after such utility damage has been repaired.

3.3.3 Contractor shall note the location of all valuable trees, shrubs, hedges and similar cultivated plants as defined in County Ordinance 24-49, and shall mark each as necessary and take particular care to avoid damaging them by his operations. Subject to approval by the City Inspector, contractor may be permitted to trim shrubs or trees or remove their lower branches to facilitate the land clearing work.

3.3.4 Restore any damage to property to its original condition, at contractor's expense, as acceptable to the City of Miami Gardens.

**3.4 EMPLOYEES:**

3.4.1 Contractor shall be responsible for the appearance of all working personnel assigned to the project (clean and appropriately dressed at all times). Personnel must be able to supply proper identification at all times.

3.4.2 All employees of the contractor shall be considered to be at all times the sole employees of the contractor, under the contractor's sole direction, and not an employee or agent of the City of Miami Gardens. The contractor shall supply competent and physically capable employees and the City may require the contractor to remove any employee it deems careless, incompetent, insubordinate or otherwise objectionable and whose presence on work site is not in the best interest of the City. City shall not have any duty to implement or enforce such requirements.

3.4.3 Contractor shall assign an "On Duty" supervisor who speaks and reads English.

**3.5 STORAGE OF MATERIALS:**

3.5.2 The contractor must provide for own storage of material and equipment, if needed. No on-site storage is permitted at the work area or other public areas.

**3.6 REMOVAL OF DEBRIS AND CLEANING UP:**

3.6.1 Prior to acceptance of the work by the City, the contractor shall at its own expense, remove from site all trash and debris and shall dispose of such materials at approved dump sites. Contractor is required to gather and remove all debris found on the area to be cleared, including paper, cans, scrap metal, scrap lumber, abandoned equipment such as refrigerators, stoves, auto parts, bicycles and similar materials, and any and all vegetations, such as small brush, weed and overgrown grass, that may be left on the site after cutting, provided it is crushed, chipped or otherwise ground up into small particles and spread evenly over the site so that no piles of debris remain.

NOTE: Contractor will be required to present along with invoices, disposal receipts substantiating proof of the legal disposal of the aforesaid waste. **These costs are to be included as part of the successful bidder's fixed flat fee as requested. The City will not pay disposal fees.**

**3.7 WORK TO BE PERFORMED:**

The City shall be the sole judge as to whether the property is considered Light, Medium, or Heavy.

The City may require the contractor to perform tractor mowing on public rights-of-way from time to time.

The City may require the contractor to perform Bull Dozing services from time to time.

All work defined below shall include that portion of the street right of way in front of the property between the edge of the pavement and the property line.

For the purpose of this contract **LIGHT** is defined as grass/vegetation with a height of less than 24" which shall include mowing, trimming, pick-up/loading,

hauling, and disposal, of any and all vegetation, paper, cardboard, cans, bottles and similar light debris.

For the purpose of this contract **MEDIUM** is defined as grass/vegetation with a height of more than 24" which shall include mowing, trimming, pick-up/loading, hauling, and disposal, of any and all vegetation, paper, cardboard, cans, bottles and similar light debris, scrap metal and scrap lumber.

For the purpose of this contract **HEAVY** is defined as grass/vegetation with a height of more than 24" which shall include mowing, trimming, pick-up/loading and hauling, and disposal, of any and all vegetation, paper, cardboard, cans, bottles and similar light debris, scrap metal and scrap lumber, abandoned equipment such as refrigerators, stoves, auto parts, bicycles and similar materials.

For the purpose of this contract LOT MOWING/MAINTENANCE is defined as grass/vegetation (once initial lot clearing is performed) shall be mowed, edged, raked and properly dispose of all debris.

The work involves the following items:

3.7.1 CLEARING:

Clearing (Bulldozing) for the purpose of this contract is defined as the clearing of land by mechanical means through a device which scrapes the surface of the land, whether it be even or have mounds of dry fill, and frees it from weeds, brush and debris.

It involves the trimming and/or clearing of all vegetative growth except valuable trees and cultivated plants as defined in City Land Development Regulations Chapter 16 Article III section 16-57.

By whichever means the work is to be accomplished, it is understood that a certain degree of manual effort with hand tools may be required in the removal of growth and other debris of a nature foreign to the land.

3.7.2 TRACTOR MOWING:

Tractor mowing for the purpose of this contract is defined as the clearing of land by mechanical means through a device which mows or cuts, by blades, the weeds and brush to the height of not more than three inches (3") from the surface of the ground (except valuable trees and plants). In this contract, tractor mowing will be used as the means to clear lots where the terrain is level but containing high weeds and/or brush.

Vegetation such as small brush, weeds, and grass, may be left on the site after cutting, providing that it is crushed, chipped or otherwise ground into small particles, and spread evenly over the site so that no piles of debris remain. This will only be allowed with vegetation materials that will decay or decompose and blend into the soil in approximately thirty days or less.

3.7.3 PICK-UP/LOADING:

Pick-up/loading, which comprises clearing of land through mechanical or hand means, (including but not limited to raking, pitch-forking, or shoveling, to pick-up paper, cardboard, cans, bottles and similar light debris), will be loaded into dump trucks properly equipped for over-the

roadway hauling and dumping. Occasional heavy pickups will also be required.

**3.7.4 TRIMMING:**

Trimming and/or clearing of all vegetative growth and cultivated plants shall be as defined in City Ordinance, Chapter 16 Article III Section 16-57 & 16-63.

By whatever means the work is to be accomplished, it is understood that a certain degree of manual effort with hand tools may be required in the removal of growth and other debris of a nature foreign to the land.

**3.7.5 HAULING:**

Contractor shall remove from the property all trimmings and debris found thereon, and haul and dispose of trash, brush and refuse from the lot clearing site.

**3.7.6 DISPOSAL:**

Contractor shall properly dispose of any and all vegetation, paper, cardboard, cans, bottles and similar light debris, scrap metal and scrap lumber, abandoned equipment such as refrigerators, stoves, auto parts, bicycles and similar materials at its own expense.

**3.7.7 LOT MOWING/MAINTENANCE:**

Contractor shall mow, edge, rake, and properly dispose of all debris to maintain the properties in a neat and clean condition. Contractor shall remove all litter, trash and all other debris accumulated and dispose at own expense.

**3.8 SUPERVISION:**

3.8.1 The City's authorized representative is to have free access to the site and the work being performed at all times for inspecting or directing the same, the contractor is to afford him necessary facilities and assistance for so doing.

**3.9 PHOTOGRAPHS:**

3.9.1 A minimum four (4) photographs shall be taken of each location requiring clearing. Two (2) before and two (2) after clearing.

3.9.2 Photographs shall be required of any debris as delineated in section 3.6.1.

3.9.3 Photographs shall be developed and submitted with invoice for payment.

3.9.4 Photographs must be digital.

3.9.5 All photographs must have the property address imprinted, must be signed, dated and display the printed name of the person who took and signed the picture.

### **3.10 BID CHECK LIST**

- YES\_\_\_ NO\_\_\_ 1. Copy of appropriate Permits/License**
- YES\_\_\_ NO\_\_\_ 2. Proof of ability to obtain insurance**
- YES\_\_\_ NO\_\_\_ 3. Bid Submittal Price**
- YES\_\_\_ NO\_\_\_ 4. Bid signed by authorized representative**
- YES\_\_\_ NO\_\_\_ 5. Vendor Representative Contact information**
- YES\_\_\_ NO\_\_\_ 6. References with Phone & Fax Numbers, E-mail Address**
- YES\_\_\_ NO\_\_\_ 7. List of Similar Contracts**
- YES\_\_\_ NO\_\_\_ 8. Bid prepared in duplicate**
- YES\_\_\_ NO\_\_\_ 9. City Business Tax Receipt (if applicable)**
- YES\_\_\_ NO\_\_\_ 10. MBE Certification**
- YES\_\_\_ NO\_\_\_ 11. Hiring Local Residents Affidavit**
- YES\_\_\_ NO\_\_\_ 12. Accept VISA Credit Card for payment**
- YES\_\_\_ NO\_\_\_ 13. Equipment List**

**The blank spaces in the Bid submittal form must be filled in, and no change shall be made either in the phraseology of or in the items mentioned in the Bid form. A vendor must bid on complete sections of this bid. Sections will not be subdivided for award. Any bid containing a “NO BID” in any portion of a section will not be considered for that section award.**

## BID SUBMITTAL

Submit Proposal to:

**CITY OF MIAMI GARDENS  
PROCUREMENT DEPARTMENT  
1515 N W 167<sup>th</sup> Street  
Mail to: Bldg. 5 Suite 200  
Deliver to: Bldg. 7 suite 440  
Miami Gardens, Florida 33169**

**BID #13-14-013  
Title: Lot Clearing/ Mowing  
Services**

**Date: December 19, 2013**

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(Vendor)

agrees to supply labor, equipment, supplies required for Lot Clearing/Mowing Services as defined in this Bid in accordance with the requirements of the Specifications, Drawing and Bid Documents.

Gentlemen:

The undersigned Bidder has carefully examined the Specification requirements, Bid/Contract Documents and is familiar with the nature and extent of the Work and any local conditions that may in any manner affect the Work to be done.

The undersigned agrees to provide the services called for by the Specifications, and Bid Documents, in the manner prescribed therein and to the standards of quality and performance established by the City for the unit Bid price stated in the spaces herein provided.

The undersigned agrees the right of the City to hold all Bids and Bid guarantees for a period not to exceed ninety (90) days after the date of Bid opening stated in the Invitation to Bid.

The undersigned accepts the invoicing and payment policies.

Upon award of this Bid the City and Contractor each binds himself, his partners, successors, assigns and legal representatives to the other party hereto in respect to all covenants, agreements and obligations contained in the Bid Documents.

The Contractor, by signing the Bid Submittal pages, acknowledges and agrees to abide by all the terms, conditions and specifications contained in this Bid Document. If this bid is accepted, the undersigned bidder agrees to enter into and execute the contract and accept the bid rates as full compensation for Lot Clearing/Mowing Services under this contract.

All costs for materials, equipment, labor, maintenance, etc. required to provide lot clearing/mowing services shall be included in this price.

**SERVICE REQUIREMENTS OF THE CONTRACT VENDOR:**

Vendor shall insure adequate personnel and equipment to provide specified levels of service. YES  NO

Vendor shall work with City of Miami Gardens personnel to insure satisfactory service. YES  NO

Vendor Name: Terms: Proposer see Paragraph 1.2

Vendor Mailing Address: F.E.I.D. No:

City, State, Zip Code: Cashier's Check/Proposal Bond is attached, when required, in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ N/A \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone :( ) Fax:( ) E-Mail:

Proposal Contact Person (Please print clearly):  
 =====

Proposer declares that there has been an examination of the specifications of the work and is informed fully in regard to all conditions pertaining to the scope of services to be provided in accordance with the proposal documents.

**LOT CLEARING GROUP 1**

Item #	DESCRIPTION	Estimated Quantities	Flat Fee	Estimated Totals
#1	Light tractor mowing, trimming, pick-up, loading, hauling and disposal <b>Lot Size 75X100 or smaller</b>	65	\$ /lot	
#2	Medium tractor mowing, trimming, pick-up, loading, hauling and disposal <b>Lot Size 75X100 or smaller</b>	20	\$ /lot	
#3	Heavy tractor mowing, trimming, pick-up, Loading, hauling and disposal <b>Lot Size 75X100 or smaller</b>	3	\$ /lot	
#4	Light tractor mowing, trimming, pick-up, loading, hauling and disposal <b>Lot Size Larger than 75X100</b>	10	\$ /lot	

Pg. 2 Item #	DESCRIPTION	Estimated Quantities	Flat Fee	Estimated Totals
#5	Medium tractor mowing, trimming, pick-up, loading, hauling and disposal <b>Lot Size Larger than 75X100</b>	5	\$ /lot	
#6	Heavy tractor mowing, trimming, pick-up, Loading, hauling and disposal <b>Lot Size Larger than 75X100</b>	7	\$ /lot	
			Price per Hour	
	<b>Clearing – Bulldozing w/operator</b>	2	\$ /hr.	

**LOT MOWING MAINTENANCE GROUP 2**

Item #	DESCRIPTION	Estimated Quantities	Flat Fee	Estimated Totals
#7	Lot Size 75x100 or smaller – include swale area	98	\$ /cut	
#8	Lot Size larger than 75 x 100 – include swale area	87	\$ /cut	

Will accept VISA purchase card as payment \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

Dated this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_  
(Month) (Year)

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Print \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

The Contractor, certifies that the Bid Submittal is made without prior understanding, agreement, or connection with any corporation, firm, or person submitting a Bid for the same materials, supplies or equipment, or services and is in all respects fair and without collusion or fraud. I agree to abide by all conditions of this Bid Submittal and certify that I am authorized to sign this Bid for the bidder and that the bidder is in compliance with all requirements of the Bid, including but not limited to, certification requirements. I certify that I have read and agree to all General Conditions:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Authorized Signature(Manual)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Authorized Signature (Printed)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Corporate Seal

Bidder acknowledges the receipt of Addenda No.'s: (please list the date received in the square below)

<input type="checkbox"/>									
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

**VENDOR SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE INFORMATION**

The following individuals are the designated contacts assigned to the City:

**REGULAR WORK HOURS:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

**AFTER WORK HOURS, WEEKEND & HOLIDAYS:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

**INDIVIDUAL, FIRM OR PARTNERSHIP**

By: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature) (Print name)

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_  
Social Security Number (OR) Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN): \_\_\_\_\_

**CORPORATION**

**By:** \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature) (Print name)

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Telephone:** (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ **Fax:** (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

**E-Mail:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN/EIN):** \_\_\_\_\_

**State Under Which Corporation Was Chartered:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Corporate President:** \_\_\_\_\_  
(Print Name)

**Corporate Secretary:** \_\_\_\_\_  
(Print Name)

**Corporate Treasurer:** \_\_\_\_\_  
(Print Name)

**CORPORATE SEAL**

**Attest By:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary

## **DRUG FREE WORKPLACE**

Preference shall be given to businesses with drug-free workplace programs. Whenever two or more Bids which are equal with respect to price, quality, and service from businesses that are not located within the City of Miami Gardens are received by the City for the procurement of commodities or contractual services, a Bid received from a business that certifies that it has implemented a drug-free workplace program shall be given preference in the award process. In order to have a drug-free workplace program, a business shall:

- 1. Publish a statement notifying employees that the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession, or use of a controlled substance is prohibited in the workplace and specifying the actions that will be taken against employees for violations of such prohibition.**
- 2. Inform employees about the dangers of drug abuse in the workplace, the business's policy of maintaining a drug-free workplace, any available drug counseling, rehabilitation, and employee assistance programs, and the penalties that may be imposed upon employees for drug abuse violations.**
- 3. Give each employee engaged in providing the commodities or contractual services that are under Bid a copy of the statement specified in subsection (1).**
- 4. In the statement specified in subsection (1), notify the employees that, as a condition of working on the commodities or contractual services that are under Bid, the employee will abide by the terms of the statement and will notify the employer of any conviction of, or plea of guilty or nolo contendere to, any violation of chapter 893 or of any controlled substance law of the United States or any state, for a violation occurring in the workplace no later than five (5) days after such conviction.**
- 5. Impose a sanction on, or require the satisfactory participation in a drug abuse assistance or rehabilitation program if such is available in the employee's community, by any employee who is so convicted.**
- 6. Make a good faith effort to continue to maintain a drug-free workplace through implementation of this section.**

**As the person authorized to sign the statement, I certify that this firm complies fully with the above requirements.**

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**Vendor's Signature**

PROJECT: LOT CLEARING/ MOWING SERVICES

OWNER: CITY OF MIAMI GARDENS

CONSULTANT:

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INSTRUCTIONS

- A. All questions are to be answered in full, without exception. If copies of other documents will answer the question completely, they may be attached and clearly labeled. If additional space is needed, additional pages may be attached and clearly labeled.
- B. The City of Miami Gardens shall be entitled to contact each and every person/company listed in response to this questionnaire. The proposer, by completing this questionnaire, expressly agrees that any information concerning the proposer in possession of said entities may be made available to the City.
- C. Only complete and accurate information shall be provided by the proposer. The proposer hereby warrants that, to the best of its knowledge and belief, the responses contained herein are true, accurate, and complete. The proposer also acknowledges that the City is relying on the truth and accuracy of the responses contained herein. If it is later discovered that any material information given in response to a questions was provided by the proposer, knowing it was false, it shall constitute grounds for immediate disqualification, termination, or rescission by the City of any subsequent agreement between the City and the proposer.
- D. If there are any questions concerning the completion of this form, the proposer is encouraged to contact Pam Thompson, CPPO, Procurement Director, facsimile: (305) 474-1285.

## QUESTIONNAIRE

Proposer's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Principal Office Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Official Representative: \_\_\_\_\_

Individual

Partnership (Circle One)

Corporation

If a Corporation, answer this:

**When Incorporated:**

\_\_\_\_\_

In what State: \_\_\_\_\_

If Foreign Corporation:

**Date of Registration with**

Florida Secretary of State: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Resident Agent: \_\_\_\_\_

Address of Resident Agent: \_\_\_\_\_

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President's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Vice President's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Treasurer's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Members of Board of Directors:

If a Partnership:

Date of Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

General or Limited Partnership\*: \_\_\_\_\_

Name and Address of Each Partner:

Name

Address

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

\*Designate general partners in Limited Partnership

1. Number of years of relevant experience in operating similar business: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Have any similar agreements held by proposer for a similar project to the proposed project ever been canceled?

Yes ( )

No ( )

If yes, give details on a separate sheet.

3. Has the proposer or any principals of the applicant organization failed to qualify as a responsible proposer, refused to enter into a contract after an award has been made, failed to complete a contract during the past five (5) years, or been declared to be in default in any contract in the last five (5) years?

If yes, please explain:

4. Has the proposer or any of its principals ever been declared bankrupt or reorganized under Chapter 11 or put into receivership?

If yes, give date, court jurisdiction, action taken, and any other explanation deemed necessary.

5. Person or persons interested in the proposal and Questionnaire Form \_\_\_\_\_ (have) \_\_\_\_\_ (have not) been convicted by a Federal, State, County or Municipal Court of any violation of law, other than traffic violations. To include stockholders over ten percent (10%). (Strike out inappropriate words).

Explain any convictions on a separate sheet.

6. Lawsuits (any) pending or completed involving the corporation, partnership or individuals with more than ten percent (10%) interest:

- A. List all pending lawsuits:
  - B. List all completed lawsuits:
  - C. List all judgments from lawsuits in the last five years:
  - D. List any criminal violations and/or convictions of the proposer and/or any of its principals:
7. Conflicts of Interest. The following relationships are the only potential, actual or perceived conflicts of interest in connection with this proposal: (If none, so state).
8. List the work you will perform with your own forces on this project: List any Sub-Contractors for this project:

The proposer understands that information contained in this Questionnaire will be relied upon by the City of Miami Gardens in awarding the proposed Agreement and such information is warranted by the proposer to be true. The undersigned proposer agrees to furnish such additional information, prior to acceptance of any proposal relating to the qualifications of the proposer, as may be required by the City Manager.

*The proposer further understands that the information contained in this questionnaire may be confirmed through a background investigation conducted by the Miami Gardens Police Department. By submitting this questionnaire, the proposer agrees to cooperate with this investigation, including but not necessarily limited to fingerprinting and providing information for credit check.*

I certify that the information and responses provided on this Questionnaire are true, accurate and complete. The Owner of the Project or its representatives may contact any entity or reference listed in this Questionnaire. Each entity or reference may make any information concerning the Contractor available to the Owner.

**Dated** \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_

## REFERENCES

As specified in the Special Conditions of this Bid Document, Bidders are to present the details of a minimum of five (5) references of similar work. (Additional references may be submitted on a separate sheet)

<b>COMPANY NAME, ADDRESS, CITY, STATE, ZIP PHONE &amp; FAX NUMBER</b>	
<b>Company Name:</b>	
<b>Address:</b>	
<b>Contact Name:</b>	
<b>Phone:</b>	<b>Fax:</b>
<b>E-mail:</b>	
<b>Company Name:</b>	
<b>Address:</b>	
<b>Contact Name:</b>	
<b>Phone:</b>	<b>Fax:</b>
<b>E-mail:</b>	
<b>Company Name:</b>	
<b>Address:</b>	
<b>Contact Name:</b>	
<b>Phone:</b>	<b>Fax:</b>
<b>E-mail:</b>	
<b>Company Name:</b>	
<b>Address:</b>	
<b>Contact Name:</b>	
<b>Phone:</b>	<b>Fax:</b>
<b>E-mail:</b>	

**LIST OF EQUIPMENT AVAILABLE  
FOR THIS CONTRACT**

List all equipment which will be dedicated to the Lot Clearing Services as listed in this bid document. (Additional equipment may be submitted on a separate sheet in this format)

<b>EQUIPMENT</b>	<b>NUMBER AVAILABLE</b>	<b>EMPLOYEES &amp; EXPERIENCE ASSIGNED TO OPERATE THIS EQUIPMENT</b>
<b>1.</b>		
<b>2.</b>		
<b>3.</b>		
<b>4.</b>		
<b>5.</b>		
<b>6.</b>		
<b>7.</b>		
<b>8.</b>		
<b>9.</b>		
<b>10.</b>		

**SERVICE CONTRACTS EXPERIENCE**

As specified in the Special Conditions of this Bid Document, Bidders are to present the details of service contract experience. It is mandatory that all service contracts for governmental entities be included (Additional contracts may be submitted on a separate sheet in this format)

CONTRACTING COMPANY NAME, ADDRESS, CITY, STATE, ZIP PHONE & FAX NUMBER	DATE OF CONTRACT, LOCATION AND BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF WORK PERFORMED
<b>1. Company Name:</b>	<b>1.</b>
<b>Address:</b>	
<b>Contact Name:</b>	
<b>Phone:                      Fax:                      Email</b>	
<b>2. Company Name:</b>	<b>2.</b>
<b>Address:</b>	
<b>Contact Name:</b>	
<b>Phone:                      Fax:                      Email</b>	
<b>3. Company Name:</b>	<b>3.</b>
<b>Address:</b>	
<b>Contact Name:</b>	
<b>Phone:                      Fax:                      Email</b>	
<b>4. Company Name:</b>	<b>4.</b>
<b>Address:</b>	
<b>Contact Name:</b>	
<b>Phone:                      Fax:                      Email</b>	





*City of Miami Gardens*  
*Procurement Department*

The City of Miami Gardens is seeking to use this project as a means to provide employment opportunities to city residents that are currently unemployed.

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**BIDDERS AFFIDAVIT**

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**NOTE:** This Affidavit must be properly executed by the bidder.

Bid No. \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Bid Title

\_\_\_\_\_

Company \_\_\_\_\_ Name

Authorized \_\_\_\_\_ Representative

Certifies they will in good faith attempt to hire a total of \_\_\_\_\_ unemployed residents of the City of Miami Gardens to complete the project as specified herein.

Good faith efforts include but are not limited to the following:

- Advertisement in general circulation media
  
- Contact local agencies specializing in job placements, e.g. Workforce One, South Florida Workforce, Job Corp etc.

Job Corp Contact Information:  
Anthony Robinson, Program Director  
Miami Job Corps  
[Robinson.Anthony@jobcorp.org](mailto:Robinson.Anthony@jobcorp.org)  
(305) 620-3104

*City of Miami Gardens  
Procurement Department*

Ordinance 2011-01-243, establishes a program enabling the City to collect relevant data to determine if MBEs that are eligible and qualified to perform services on behalf of the City, are being given the opportunity to provide these services. **MBE Certification must be submitted with this form(s)**

A Good Faith Effort

A Good Faith Effort shall be shown on each project or purchase regardless of the dollar amount. Good Faith Effort to secure MBE participation shall be documented and shall include, but not necessarily be limited to, the following actions:

1. Advertisement in general circulation media, trade association publications and minority business enterprise media to provide notice of subcontracting opportunities;
2. Provide notice to a reasonable number of specific MBEs that their interest in the contract is being solicited. Notice shall be given in sufficient time to allow the MBEs to participate effectively;
3. Providing interested MBEs with adequate information about the plans, specifications and requirements of the contract in a timely manner;
4. Negotiating in good faith with qualified MBEs for specific sub-bids, including reasons for rejection of any such sub-bids offered.

Contractor Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Federal ID \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Minority Business Certified?     YES     NO

MBE Certification Attached?     YES     NO

Contractor Official a Minority     YES     NO

Black \_\_\_\_\_ Hispanic \_\_\_\_\_ Asian \_\_\_\_\_ Native American \_\_\_\_\_

( ) No Sub-Contracting Opportunities existed for this contract

( ) No Firms were contacted because:

**This schedule must be submitted with the bid or proposal**

Company Name, Address, Phone & Email	Type of Ownership BM – African Am HM – Hispanic AM – Asian NM – Native Am.	Trade or Services to be performed	Contact Method

Collusion

The City will not accept collusion among the prime bidders, an MBE or any other individual business or joint venture, or evidence of undue influence on an MBE to alter the committed quantities or its quotation.

Certification: It is hereby certified that the following information is true and accurate account of contacts and responses for sub-contracting opportunities on this contract

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Name/Title \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Request for Taxpayer  
Identification Number and Certification**

Give Form to the requester. Do not send to the IRS.

Print or type See Specific Instructions on page 2.	Name (as shown on your income tax return)	
	Business name/disregarded entity name, if different from above	
	Check appropriate box for federal tax classification (required): <input type="checkbox"/> Individual/sole proprietor <input type="checkbox"/> C Corporation <input type="checkbox"/> S Corporation <input type="checkbox"/> Partnership <input type="checkbox"/> Trust/estate  <input type="checkbox"/> Limited liability company. Enter the tax classification (C=C corporation, S=S corporation, P=partnership) ▶ _____  <input type="checkbox"/> Other (see instructions) ▶ _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Exempt payee
	Address (number, street, and apt. or suite no.)	Requester's name and address (optional)
	City, state, and ZIP code	
List account number(s) here (optional)		

**Part I Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN)**

Enter your TIN in the appropriate box. The TIN provided must match the name given on the "Name" line to avoid backup withholding. For individuals, this is your social security number (SSN). However, for a resident alien, sole proprietor, or disregarded entity, see the Part I instructions on page 3. For other entities, it is your employer identification number (EIN). If you do not have a number, see *How to get a TIN* on page 3.

**Note.** If the account is in more than one name, see the chart on page 4 for guidelines on whose number to enter.

Social security number								

Employer identification number								

**Part II Certification**

Under penalties of perjury, I certify that:

- The number shown on this form is my correct taxpayer identification number (or I am waiting for a number to be issued to me), and
- I am not subject to backup withholding because: (a) I am exempt from backup withholding, or (b) I have not been notified by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) that I am subject to backup withholding as a result of a failure to report all interest or dividends, or (c) the IRS has notified me that I am no longer subject to backup withholding, and
- I am a U.S. citizen or other U.S. person (defined below).

**Certification instructions.** You must cross out item 2 above if you have been notified by the IRS that you are currently subject to backup withholding because you have failed to report all interest and dividends on your tax return. For real estate transactions, item 2 does not apply. For mortgage interest paid, acquisition or abandonment of secured property, cancellation of debt, contributions to an individual retirement arrangement (IRA), and generally, payments other than interest and dividends, you are not required to sign the certification, but you must provide your correct TIN. See the instructions on page 4.

<b>Sign Here</b>	Signature of U.S. person ▶ _____	Date ▶ _____
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**General Instructions**

Section references are to the Internal Revenue Code unless otherwise noted.

**Purpose of Form**

A person who is required to file an information return with the IRS must obtain your correct taxpayer identification number (TIN) to report, for example, income paid to you, real estate transactions, mortgage interest you paid, acquisition or abandonment of secured property, cancellation of debt, or contributions you made to an IRA.

Use Form W-9 only if you are a U.S. person (including a resident alien), to provide your correct TIN to the person requesting it (the requester) and, when applicable, to:

- Certify that the TIN you are giving is correct (or you are waiting for a number to be issued),
- Certify that you are not subject to backup withholding, or
- Claim exemption from backup withholding if you are a U.S. exempt payee. If applicable, you are also certifying that as a U.S. person, your allocable share of any partnership income from a U.S. trade or business is not subject to the withholding tax on foreign partners' share of effectively connected income.

**Note.** If a requester gives you a form other than Form W-9 to request your TIN, you must use the requester's form if it is substantially similar to this Form W-9.

**Definition of a U.S. person.** For federal tax purposes, you are considered a U.S. person if you are:

- An individual who is a U.S. citizen or U.S. resident alien,
- A partnership, corporation, company, or association created or organized in the United States or under the laws of the United States,
- An estate (other than a foreign estate), or
- A domestic trust (as defined in Regulations section 301.7701-7).

**Special rules for partnerships.** Partnerships that conduct a trade or business in the United States are generally required to pay a withholding tax on any foreign partners' share of income from such business. Further, in certain cases where a Form W-9 has not been received, a partnership is required to presume that a partner is a foreign person, and pay the withholding tax. Therefore, if you are a U.S. person that is a partner in a partnership conducting a trade or business in the United States, provide Form W-9 to the partnership to establish your U.S. status and avoid withholding on your share of partnership income.