

B240126KCW
Purchase and Supply of Mulch - Annual
Express Mulch Inc.

E1 Contract # N/A - PO

AGREEMENT FOR THE PURCHASE AND SUPPLY OF MULCH

THIS AGREEMENT ("Agreement") is made and entered into by and between Lee County, a political subdivision of the State of Florida, hereinafter referred to as the "County" and Express Mulch Inc., a Florida corporation whose address is 1342 Plumosa Drive, Fort Myers, FL 33901 and whose federal tax identification number is 45-4922396, hereinafter referred to as "Vendor."

WITNESSETH

WHEREAS, the County intends to purchase mulch and related materials from the Vendor in connection with "B240126KCW" (the "Purchase"); and,

WHEREAS, the County issued Solicitation No. B240126KCW on February 02, 2024 (the "Solicitation"); and,

WHEREAS, the County evaluated the responses received and found the Vendor qualified to provide the necessary products; and,

WHEREAS, the County posted a Notice of Intended Decision on March 19, 2024; and,

WHEREAS, the Vendor has reviewed the products and services to be supplied pursuant to this Agreement and is qualified, willing, and able to provide all such products and services in accordance with its terms.

NOW, THEREFORE, the County and the Vendor, in consideration of the mutual covenants contained herein, do agree as follows:

I. PRODUCTS AND SERVICES

The Vendor agrees to diligently provide all products for the Purchase, a more specific description of the Project Scope of Services is set forth in the Scope of Work And Specifications Section of B240126KCW, a photocopy of said sections being attached hereto and incorporated by reference as Exhibit A. Vendor shall comply strictly with all of the terms and conditions of Solicitation No. B240126KCW, as modified by its addenda, copies of which are on file with the County's Department of Procurement Management and are deemed incorporated into this Agreement.

II. TERM AND DELIVERY

A. This Agreement shall commence immediately upon the effective date and shall continue on an "as-needed basis" for one (1), three (3) year period. Upon mutual written agreement of both parties, the parties may renew the Agreement, in whole or in part, for a renewal term or terms not to exceed an additional term of two (2) years.

- B. The effective date shall be the date the Lee County Board of County Commissioners awarded the Solicitation to the Vendor.
- C. A purchase order must be issued by the County before commencement of any work or purchase of any goods related to this Agreement.

III. COMPENSATION AND PAYMENT

- A. The County shall pay the Vendor in accordance with the terms and conditions of this Agreement for providing all products and services as set forth in Exhibit A, and further described in Exhibit B, Fee Schedule, attached hereto and incorporated herein. Said total amount to be all-inclusive of costs necessary to provide all products and services as outlined in this Agreement, and as supported by the Vendor's submittal in response to the Solicitation, a copy of which is on file with the County's Department of Procurement Management and is deemed incorporated into this Agreement.
- B. Notwithstanding the preceding, Vendor shall not make any deliveries or perform any services under this Agreement until receipt of written authorization from the County. Vendor acknowledges and agrees that no minimum order or amount of product or service is guaranteed under this Agreement and County may elect to request no products or services. If the County authorizes delivery of products or performance of services, the County reserves the right to amend, reduce, or cancel the authorization in its sole discretion.
- C. All funds for payment by the County under this Agreement are subject to the availability of an annual appropriation for this purpose by the County. In the event of non-appropriation of funds by the County for the services provided under this Agreement, the County will terminate the contract, without termination charge or other liability, on the last day of the then current fiscal year or when the appropriation made for the then-current year for the services covered by this Agreement is spent, whichever event occurs first. If at any time funds are not appropriated for the continuance of this Agreement, cancellation shall be accepted by the Vendor on thirty (30) days' prior written notice, but failure to give such notice shall be of no effect and the County shall not be obligated under this Agreement beyond the date of termination.

IV. METHOD OF PAYMENT

- A. The County shall pay the Vendor in accordance with the Local Government Prompt Payment Act, Section 218.70, Florida Statutes, upon receipt of the Vendor's invoice and written approval of same by the County indicating that the products and services have been provided in conformity with this Agreement.

- B. The Vendor shall submit an invoice for payment to the County on a monthly basis for those specific products and services as described in Exhibit A and the corresponding fees as described in Exhibit B that were provided during that invoicing period.
- C. For partial shipments or deliveries, progress payments shall be paid monthly in proportion to the percentage of products and services delivered on those specific line items as approved in writing by the County.

V. ADDITIONAL PURCHASES

- A. No changes to this Agreement or the performance contemplated hereunder shall be made unless the same are in writing and signed by both the Vendor and the County.
- B. If the County requires the Vendor to perform additional services or provide additional product(s) related to this Agreement, then the Vendor shall be entitled to additional compensation based on the Fee Schedule as amended to the extent necessary to accommodate such additional work or product(s). The additional compensation shall be agreed upon before commencement of any additional services or provision of additional product(s) and shall be incorporated into this Agreement by written amendment. The County shall not pay for any additional service, work performed or product provided before a written amendment to this Agreement.

Notwithstanding the preceding, in the event additional services are required as a result of error, omission or negligence of the Vendor, the Vendor shall not be entitled to additional compensation.

VI. LIABILITY OF VENDOR

- A. The Vendor shall save, defend, indemnify and hold harmless the County from and against any and all claims, actions, damages, fees, fines, penalties, defense costs, suits or liabilities which may arise out of any act, neglect, error, omission or default of the Vendor arising out of or in any way connected with the Vendor or subcontractor's performance or failure to perform under the terms of this Agreement.
- B. This section shall survive the termination or expiration of this Agreement.

VII. VENDOR'S INSURANCE

- A. Vendor shall procure and maintain insurance as specified in Exhibit C Insurance Requirements, attached hereto and made a part of this Agreement.

- B. Vendor shall, on a primary basis and at its sole expense, maintain in full force and effect, at all times during the life of this Agreement, insurance coverage (including endorsements) and limits as described in Exhibit C. These requirements, as well as the County's review or acceptance of insurance maintained by Vendor, are not intended to and shall not in any manner limit or qualify the liabilities or obligations assumed by Vendor under this Agreement. Insurance carriers providing coverage required herein must be licensed to conduct business in the State of Florida and must possess a current A.M. Best's Financial Strength Rating of "B or better." No changes are to be made to these specifications without prior written specific approval by County Risk Management. To the extent multiple insurance coverages and/or County's self-insured retention may apply, any and all insurance coverage purchased by Vendor and its subcontractors identifying the County as an additional named insured shall be primary.

VIII. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE VENDOR

- A. The Vendor shall be responsible for the quality and functionality of all products supplied and services performed by or at the behest of the Vendor under this Agreement. The Vendor shall, without additional compensation, correct any errors or deficiencies in its products, or if directed by County, supply a comparable replacement product or service.
- B. The Vendor warrants that it has not employed or retained any company or person (other than a bona fide employee working solely for the Vendor), to solicit or secure this Agreement and that it has not paid or agreed to pay any person, company, corporation, individual, or firm other than a bona fide employee working solely for the Vendor, any fee, commission, percentage, gift, or any other consideration, contingent upon or resulting from the award of this Agreement.
- C. The Vendor shall comply with all federal, state, and local laws, regulations and ordinances applicable to the work or payment for work thereof, and shall not discriminate on the grounds of race, color, religion, sex, or national origin in the performance of work under this Agreement.
- D. Vendor specifically acknowledges its obligations to comply with Section 119.0701, Florida Statutes, with regard to public records, and shall:
 - 1) keep and maintain public records that ordinarily and necessarily would be required by the County in order to perform the services required under this Agreement;
 - 2) upon request from the County, provide the County with a copy of the requested records or allow the records to be inspected or copied within a reasonable time at a cost that does not exceed the cost provided in Chapter 119, Florida Statutes, or as otherwise provided by law;

- 3) ensure that public records that are exempt or confidential and exempt from public records disclosure requirements are not disclosed, except as authorized by law; and
- 4) meet all requirements for retaining public records and transfer, at no cost to the County, all public records in possession of Vendor upon termination of this Agreement and destroy any duplicate public records that are exempt or confidential and exempt from public records disclosure requirements. All records stored electronically must be provided to the County in a format that is compatible with the information technology system of the County.

IF THE VENDOR HAS QUESTIONS REGARDING THE APPLICATION OF CHAPTER 119, FLORIDA STATUTES, TO THE VENDOR'S DUTY TO PROVIDE PUBLIC RECORDS RELATING TO THE CONTRACT, CONTACT THE CUSTODIAN OF PUBLIC RECORDS AT 239-533-2221, 2115 SECOND STREET, FORT MYERS, FL 33901, PRRCustodian@leegov.com; <http://www.leegov.com/publicrecords>.

- E. The Vendor is, and shall be, in the performance of all work, services and activities under this Agreement, an independent contractor. Vendor is not an employee, agent or servant of the County and shall not represent itself as such. All persons engaged in any work or services performed pursuant to this Agreement shall at all times, and in all places, be subject to the Vendor's sole direction, supervision and control. The Vendor shall exercise control over the means and manner in which it and its employees perform the work, and in all respects the Vendor's relationship and the relationship of its employees to the County shall be that of an independent contractor and not as employees of the County. The Vendor shall be solely responsible for providing benefits and insurance to its employees.
- F. The Vendor shall comply with the Vendor Background Screening Affidavit attached hereto and incorporated herein as Exhibit D.

IX. OWNERSHIP OF PRODUCTS

It is understood and agreed that all products provided under this Agreement shall become the property of the County upon acceptance by the County.

X. TIMELY DELIVERY OF PRODUCTS AND PERFORMANCE OF SERVICES

- A. The Vendor shall ensure that all of its staff, contractors and suppliers involved in the production or delivery of the products are fully qualified and capable to perform their assigned tasks.

- B. The personnel assigned by the Vendor to perform the services pursuant to this Agreement shall comply with the terms set forth in this Agreement. If the services provided require use of specific key personnel, the personnel shall be agreed to by the County and Vendor. If the Vendor's key personnel have been predetermined and approved, through the Solicitation process or otherwise, any subsequent change or substitution to the personnel must receive the County's written approval before said changes or substitution can become effective.
- C. The Vendor specifically agrees that all products shall be delivered within the time limits as set forth in this Agreement, subject only to delays caused by force majeure, or as otherwise defined herein. "Force majeure" shall be deemed to be any unforeseeable and unavoidable cause affecting the performance of this Agreement arising from or attributable to acts, events, omissions or accidents beyond the control of the parties.

XI. COMPLIANCE WITH APPLICABLE LAW

This Agreement shall be governed by the laws of the State of Florida. Vendor shall promptly comply with all applicable federal, state, county and municipal laws, ordinances, regulations, and rules relating to the services to be performed hereunder and in effect at the time of performance. Vendor shall conduct no activity or provide any service that is unlawful or offensive.

XII. TERMINATION

- A. The County shall have the right at any time upon thirty (30) days' written notice to the Vendor to terminate this Agreement in whole or in part for any reason whatsoever. In the event of such termination, the County shall be responsible to Vendor only for fees and compensation earned by the Vendor, in accordance with Section III, prior to the effective date of said termination. In no event shall the County be responsible for lost profits of Vendor or any other elements of breach of contract.
- B. After receipt of a notice of termination, except as otherwise directed, the Vendor shall stop work on the date of receipt of the notice of termination or other date specified in the notice; place no further orders or subcontracts for materials, services, or facilities except as necessary for completion of such portion of the work not terminated; terminate all vendors and subcontracts; and settle all outstanding liabilities and claims.
- C. The County's rights under this Agreement shall survive the termination or expiration of this Agreement and are not waived by final payment or acceptance and are in addition to the Vendor's obligations under this Agreement.

XIII. DISPUTE RESOLUTION

- A. In the event of a dispute or claim arising out of this Agreement, the parties agree first to try in good faith to settle the dispute by direct discussion. If this is unsuccessful, the parties may enter into mediation in Lee County, Florida, with the parties sharing equally in the cost of such mediation.
- B. In the event mediation, if attempted, is unsuccessful in resolving a dispute, the parties may proceed to litigation as set forth below.
- C. Any dispute, action or proceeding arising out of or related to this Agreement will be exclusively commenced in the state courts of Lee County, Florida, or where proper subject matter jurisdiction exists, in the United States District Court for the Middle District of Florida. Each party irrevocably submits and waives any objections to the exclusive personal jurisdiction and venue of such courts, including any objection based on forum non conveniens.
- D. This Agreement and the rights and obligations of the parties shall be governed by the laws of the State of Florida without regard to its conflict of laws principles.
- E. Unless otherwise agreed in writing, the Vendor shall be required to continue all obligations under this Agreement during the pendency of a claim or dispute including, but not limited to, actual periods of mediation or judicial proceedings.

XIV. VENDOR WARRANTY

- A. All products provided under this Agreement shall be new (unless specifically identified otherwise in Exhibit B) and of the most suitable grade for the purpose intended.
- B. If any product delivered does not meet performance representations or other quality assurance representations as published by manufacturers, producers, or distributors of the products or the specifications listed in this Agreement, the Vendor shall pick up the product from the County at no expense to the County. The County reserves the right to reject any or all materials if, in its judgment, the item reflects unsatisfactory workmanship or manufacturing or shipping damage. In such case, the Vendor shall refund to the County any money which has been paid for same.

XV. MISCELLANEOUS

- A. This Agreement constitutes the sole and complete understanding between the parties and supersedes all other contracts between them, whether oral or written, with respect to the subject matter. No amendment, change or addendum to this Agreement is enforceable unless agreed to in writing by both parties and incorporated into this Agreement.

- B. The provisions of this Agreement shall inure to the benefit of and be binding upon the respective successors and assignees of the parties hereto. A party to this Agreement shall not sell, transfer, assign, license, franchise, restructure, alter, or change its corporate structure or otherwise part with possession or mortgage, charge or encumber any right or obligation under this Agreement without the proposed assignee and/or party restructuring, altering or changing its corporate structure agreeing in writing with the non-assigning party to observe and perform the terms, conditions and restrictions on the part of the assigning party to this Agreement, whether express or implied, as if the proposed assignee and/or party restructuring, altering or changing its corporate structure was an original contracting party to this Agreement. Notwithstanding the foregoing provision, the Vendor may assign its rights if given written authorization by the County and claims for the money due or to become due to the Vendor from the County under this Agreement may be assigned to a financial institution or to a trustee in bankruptcy without such approval from the County. Notice of any such transfer or assignment due to bankruptcy shall be promptly given to the County.
- C. The exercise by either party of any rights or remedies provided herein shall not constitute a waiver of any other rights or remedies available under this Agreement or any applicable law.
- D. The failure of the County to enforce one or more of the provisions of the Agreement shall not be construed to be and shall not be a waiver of any such provision or provisions or of its right thereafter to enforce each and every such provision.
- E. The parties covenant and agree that each is duly authorized to enter into and perform this Agreement and those executing this Agreement have all requisite power and authority to bind the parties.
- F. Neither the County's review, approval, or acceptance of nor payment for, the products and services required under this Agreement shall be construed to operate as a waiver of any rights under this Agreement or of any cause of action arising out of the performance of this Agreement.
- G. If the Vendor is comprised of more than one legal entity, each entity shall be jointly and severally liable hereunder.
- H. When any period of time is referred to by days herein, it shall be computed to exclude the first day and include the last day of such period. When the period of time is fewer than three (3) days, it shall mean business days as defined by Lee County. If the period of time is greater than three (3) days, then it shall mean calendar days. For any period of time greater than seven (7) days, where the deadline falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or Lee County recognized holiday, the deadline will then fall to the next Monday or non-Lee County recognized holiday

- I. Any notices of default or termination shall be sufficient if sent by the parties via email, United States certified mail, postage paid, or via a nationally recognized delivery service, to the addresses listed below:

Vendor's Representative

Name: Evan Gorny
Title: President
Address: 1342 Plumosa Drive
Fort Myers, FL 33901
Telephone: 239-633-2951
Facsimile: _____
Email: info@expressmulch.com

County's Representative

Name: Mary Tucker
Title: Procurement
Management Director
Address: P.O. Box 398
Fort Myers, FL 33902
Telephone: (239) 533-8881
Facsimile: (239) 485-8383
Email: mtucker@leegov.com

- J. Any change in the County's or the Vendor's Representative will be promptly communicated by the party making the change.
- K. Paragraph headings are for the convenience of the parties and for reference purposes only and shall be given no legal effect.
- L. In the event of conflicts or inconsistencies, the documents shall be given precedence in the following order:
1. Agreement
 2. County's Purchase Order
 3. Solicitation
 4. Vendor's Submittal in Response to the Solicitation

[The remainder of this page intentionally left blank.]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this Agreement as of the date last below written.

WITNESS:

EXPRESS MULCH INC.

Signed By: *Debra Cook*

Signed By: *[Signature]*

Print Name: *Debra Cook*

Print Name: *Evan Corley*

Title: *President*

Date: *03/25/24*

LEE COUNTY

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF LEE COUNTY, FLORIDA

DocuSigned by:
 Kevin Ruane
22EDD5E15C7E43A...

Print Name: *Kevin Ruane*

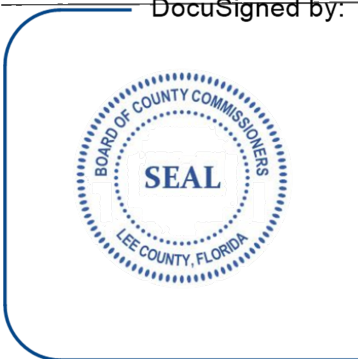
Title: *vice-Chair*

Date: *4/18/2024 | 11:01 AM EDT*

DocuSigned by:

ATTEST:
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT

DocuSigned by:
 Chris Jagodzinski
DEEAC59E178B449
DEPUTY CLERK



APPROVED AS TO FORM FOR THE
RELIANCE OF LEE COUNTY ONLY:

DocuSigned by:
 Robert Holborn
0709AE6D28494C8
OFFICE OF THE COUNTY ATTORNEY

EXHIBIT A

SCOPE OF WORK AND SPECIFICATIONS

1. GENERAL SCOPE OF WORK

- 1.1. The Lee County Board of County Commissioners seeks to contract with a qualified Vendor(s) to purchase various types of mulch, pine straw, decorative shell, etc. for landscaping, throughout the County, on an "as-needed" basis.
- 1.2. Vendor shall provide various types of mulch by way of bags, bulk, or blowing, both delivered and picked up by County personnel, for the items specified on the Bid Proposal form included in this solicitation.
 - 1.2.1. Mulch blowing service shall consist of the Vendor installing the mulch utilizing a hose attached to a blower truck.

2. GENERAL MULCH SPECIFICATIONS

- 2.1. All mulch shall be uniform in size, quality, and overall appearance.
- 2.2. All mulch shall be free of material injurious to plant growth and non-toxic to animals and humans.
- 2.3. All mulch shall be free of weeds, invasive plant parts or seeds, and other organic or inorganic material including but not limited to:
 - 2.3.1. Sawdust, grass clippings, excessive green leaves, thorny plant parts, rocks, soil, dirt, food scraps, glass, plastic, metal, and other garbage, or debris.

3. PRODUCT DETAILS

SECTION A: MULCH PRODUCTS – Shall comply with the following specifications:

A-1. FLORI MULCH

- Made entirely from the above-ground portion of wood and bark of the *Melaleuca Quinquenervia* tree.
- Contain no more than 10% (by volume) bark and shall not contain roots or root pieces.
- Be no larger than ¾" in diameter and 1-1/2" in length.
- Inspected and certified by the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Division of Plant Industry, as free of Burrowing Nematodes.
- Must have proof of an inspection and a certification bearing the official State of Florida stamp.

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A-2. VITA MULCH

- Provided from horticultural land clearing consisting of wood fiber, soil, sand, humus, and organic minerals to enhance base soil conditions.
- Completely free of any Cypress mulch.

Note: Lee County Administrative Code 11-11 Roadway Landscaping Policy (item 15) prohibits the use of Cypress Mulch.

A-3. SPECIALTY RED MULCH

- Made entirely from 100% pure pine log.
- Color-enhanced with a nontoxic, biodegradable pigment.
- Its ionized colorant shall adhere to the wood fiber, resisting bleeding, and staining, and then locking together to stay in place and act as a natural weed barrier.
- Fade-resistant for long-lasting appeal

A-4. SPECIALTY GOLD MULCH

- Made entirely from 100% pure pine log.
- Color-enhanced with a nontoxic, biodegradable pigment.
- Its ionized colorant shall adhere to the wood fiber, resisting bleeding, and staining, and then locking together to stay in place and act as a natural weed barrier.
- Fade-resistant for long-lasting appeal

A-5. BROWN MULCH

- Premium mulch, manufactured exclusively from a natural wood fiber.
- Contain no reconstituted dimensional or pressure-treated lumber.
- Be less than 3-1/2" shredded wood and free from any contamination.
- Harvested from local South Florida sources.
- Manufactured through a "cures" process and prohibits seed germination of weeds and invasive plant species.
- A minimum of four pounds of pure environmentally safe pigment (dry weight) incorporated into each cubic yard of mulch.
- Have an ionized colorant of "Cocoa Brown".

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SECTION B: BLOWN MULCH – Mulch blowing service shall consist of the Vendor installing the mulch utilizing a hose attached to a blower truck:

B. BLOWN MULCH VARIETIES	
B-1	FLORA MULCH
B-2	VITA MULCH
B-3	BROWN MULCH
B-4	SPECIALTY RED MULCH
B-5	SPECIALTY GOLD MULCH
B-6	MEDIUM RUSTIC PINE BARK NUGGETS

SECTION C: ENGINEERED WOOD FIBER (EWF) - Designed for playground areas to provide proper impact attenuation and wheelchair-accessible surfacing.

C. ENGINEERED WOOD FIBER (EWF) - The Vendor shall adhere to the following American Standard Test Method (ASTM) International Standards and shall provide laboratory testing and a Certificate of Authenticity and/or compliance letters to County staff upon request:	
•	ASTM F1292-22/ Standard Specification for Impact Attenuation of Surfacing Materials within the Use Zone of Playground Equipment - This specification specifies impact attenuation performance requirements for playground surfaces and surfacing materials and provides a means of determining impact attenuation performance using a test method that simulates the impact of a child's head with the surface.
•	ASTM F1951-21 / Standard Specification for Determination of Accessibility of Surface Systems Under and Around Playground Equipment - This specification establishes minimum characteristics for those factors that determine accessibility. This specification applies to all types of materials that can be used under and around playground equipment.
•	ASTM F2075-20 / Standard Specification for Engineered Wood Fiber for Use as a Playground Safety Surface Under and Around Playground Equipment - This specification covers engineered wood fiber for use as a playground safety surface under and around playground equipment. This specification establishes minimum requirements for the factors that determine particle size, consistency, purity, ability to drain, and heavy metal concentrations considered hazardous to children.

SECTION D: PINE BARK – Rustic Pine Bark Nuggets shall comply with the following specifications:

D. MEDIUM RUSTIC PINE BARK NUGGETS	
•	Considered medium in size and between 1-1/2" to 2" in size with less than 10% fines.
•	Free from debris, noxious weeds, seeds, and spores

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SECTION E: PINE STRAW – Pine Straw shall comply with the following specifications:

E. PINE STRAW
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bale size shall be uniform, a minimum of 30" L x 16" W x 16" D, 4 cubic feet volume, and cover a 25 square feet area.• Less than 10% volume debris such as pine sticks and weeds.• Free of noxious weeds, seeds, and spores such as Sour Apple and Lygodium Japonicum.

SECTION F: SHELL – Shell shall comply with the following specifications:

F-1. WASHED SHELL
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Natural in its form and consists of local shells.• Made available in two sizes:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• ½" size; and• 1" to 1 ½" size

F-2. CRUSHED SHELL
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Natural in its form and consists of local shells.• Made available in less than 1/2 inch size:

SECTION G: ROCK – Rock shall comply with the following specifications:

G. BROWN RIVER ROCK - (A.K.A. - Egg Rock)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Naturally round or oval stone with a smooth surface.• Made available in two sizes:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• ½" to 1" size; and• 1 ½" to 2" size

4. PRICING

4.1. Vendor shall include delivery (F.O.B.) to any locations within the County as directed.



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- 4.2. The County shall be eligible for any additional discounts, specials, and/or promotions offered by the Vendor during the term of the contract should those discounts, specials, and/or promotions offer a lower cost to the County.
- 4.3. A price increase may be requested at any time during the term of this agreement only if substantial justification can be provided to the County.

5. DELIVERY REQUIREMENTS

- 5.1. All products shall be delivered between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. (eastern time), Monday through Friday or as requested by the County, within three (3) calendar days after verbal, electronic, or fax receipt of an order placed by an authorized member of the County.
- 5.2. The County reserves the right to determine, by adding or deleting, actual delivery sites at its discretion at any time throughout the term of the Agreement.
- 5.3. The County reserves the right to refuse delivery if:
- The delivery is not within the proper timeframe.
 - The Vendor has improper equipment to offload the delivery.
 - The Vendor is taking improper safety precautions.
 - The Vendor has malfunctioning equipment.
- 5.4. The Vendor's delivery driver shall present a photo I.D. upon delivery. The I.D. shall show that the driver is an employee of either the Vendor or the delivering company. All personnel making deliveries shall wear the appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) required to perform their duties. All deliveries are subject to inspection prior to acceptance by an authorized member of the County.

6. MINIMUM DELIVERY AMOUNTS

- 6.1. Minimum delivery amounts are established in the table below. A Surcharge for orders (found in the optional pricing section of the Bid Schedule Form) shall be in place to be charged by the Vendor only for orders placed by the County that are less than the minimum delivery order amounts identified below.
- 6.2. A partial load shall be defined as any order placed by the County for an amount less than the minimum delivery of products as outlined in the table below.

Minimum Delivery of Products	
Mulch Bags (2 cubic feet/bag)	18 pallets or 1,260 bags
Mulch Loose Bulk	80 cubic yards
Blow In Mulch	30 cubic yards
Engineered Wood Fiber (EWF)	20 cubic yards
Rustic Pine Bark Nugget	100 cubic yards
Pine Straw	150 Bales
Washed Shell	20 cubic yards
Crushed Shell	20 cubic yards
Brown River Rock	20 cubic yards

End of Scope of Work and Specifications Section

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SPECIAL CONDITIONS

These are conditions related to this solicitation only and have not been included in the County's Standard Terms and Conditions or the Scope of Work.

1. TERM

- 1.1. The Vendor shall be responsible for furnishing and delivering to the Lee County requesting Department(s) the commodity or services on an "as-needed basis" for one (1) three-year (3) period. Upon mutual written agreement of both parties, the parties may renew the Agreement, in whole or in part, for a renewal term or terms not to exceed an additional term of two (2) years. The increments of renewal shall be at the sole discretion of the County as deemed in its best interest.

2. BASIS OF AWARD

- 2.1. The basis of award shall be determined by the lowest Total per section of the most responsive, responsible, and qualified Vendor meeting all bid specifications. The County intends to award to a primary and secondary Vendor for each section. Although the County intends to award to a primary and secondary Vendor, the County reserves the right to award as deemed in its best interest, at its sole discretion.
 - 2.1.1. If any subsections are present, a primary and secondary Vendor shall be awarded based on the lowest Total per each subsection and shall be considered as independent sections to follow the guidance above.
- 2.2. Vendors shall bid on all line items within each section and or subsection or may deemed as non-responsive and ineligible for award. Vendors are not required to bid on all sections. Should a Vendor decide not to bid on a section, respond with "No Bid" or N.A on the Bid Form for that section.
- 2.3. Optional pricing for partial load surcharge, although not part of the basis of award, shall be bid by all Vendors and shall become part of contract pricing.
- 2.4. The County reserves the right to make award(s) by individual item, group of items, all or none, or a combination thereof. The County reserves the right to reject any and all bids or to waive any minor irregularity or technicality in the bids received.

3. LOCAL PREFERENCE

- 3.1. The Lee County Local Vendor Preference shall be included as part of the award process for this project. As such, Lee County at its sole discretion may choose to award a preference to any qualified Local Vendor.

End Special Conditions Section



Procurement Management Department
2115 Second Street, 1st Floor
Fort Myers, FL 33901
Main Line: (239) 533-8881
Fax Line: (239) 485-8383
www.leegov.com/procurement

Posted Date: February 7, 2024

Solicitation No.: B240126KCW

Solicitation Name: Purchase and Supply of Mulch

Subject: Addendum Number 1

The following represents clarification, additions, deletions, and/or modifications to the above-referenced bid. This addendum shall hereafter be regarded as part of the solicitation. Items not referenced herein remain unchanged, including the response date. Words, phrases or sentences with a strikethrough represent deletions to the original solicitation. Underlined words and bolded, phrases or sentences represent additions to the original solicitation.

1. QUESTIONS/ANSWERS

Question 1.	Could you provide the annual amount of EWF Lee County have used for the last 3-5 years?
Answer	Parks has purchased 6,800 cu yd of play-safe mulch over the immediate 5-year period.
Question 2.	“Our company” operates a collection site in Lee County but our certified EWF is produced in another Florida County. Will that disqualify us to bid for the contract?
Answer	There is no restriction on where the EWF mulch is produced as long as the Vendor can provide the Certificate of Authenticity and/or compliance letters to County staff upon request.

BIDDER/PROPOSER IS ADVISED, YOU ARE REQUIRED TO ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF THIS ADDENDUM WHEN SUBMITTING A BID/PROPOSAL. FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THIS REQUIREMENT MAY RESULT IN THE BIDDER/PROPOSER BEING CONSIDERED NON-RESPONSIVE.

ALL OTHER TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE SOLICITATION DOCUMENTS ARE AND SHALL REMAIN THE SAME.

Kevin C Walker

Kevin Walker
Procurement Analyst Direct Line: 239-533-8807
Lee County Procurement Management



Procurement Management Department
 2115 Second Street, 1st Floor
 Fort Myers, FL 33901
 Main Line: (239) 533-8881
 Fax Line: (239) 485-8383
www.lee.gov/procurement

Posted Date: February 20, 2024

Solicitation No.: B240126KCW

Solicitation Name: Purchase and Supply of Mulch

Subject: Addendum Number 2

The following represents clarification, additions, deletions, and/or modifications to the above-referenced bid. This addendum shall hereafter be regarded as part of the solicitation. Items not referenced herein remain unchanged, including the response date. Words, phrases or sentences with a strikethrough represent deletions to the original solicitation. Underlined words and bolded, phrases or sentences represent additions to the original solicitation.

1. QUESTIONS/ANSWERS

1.	Please provide the size of each Engineered Wood Fiber load delivered, and total volume each year over the past 3 years.
Answer	<p>Lee County Parks & Recreation has purchased 6800 yards of engineered wood fiber playground mulch in the immediate past 5 years. When pick-up and delivery is completed by the County, loads may range between 10 or 15 yards, as that is the capability of the trucks used by the County.</p> <p>Lee County Parks & Recreation may order 20-30 yards per site for replenishment and up to 40-50 yards depending on the size and need of the playground.</p>

BIDDER/PROPOSER IS ADVISED, YOU ARE REQUIRED TO ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF THIS ADDENDUM WHEN SUBMITTING A BID/PROPOSAL. FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THIS REQUIREMENT MAY RESULT IN THE BIDDER/PROPOSER BEING CONSIDERED NON-RESPONSIVE.

ALL OTHER TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE SOLICITATION DOCUMENTS ARE AND SHALL REMAIN THE SAME.

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**EXHIBIT B
FEE SCHEDULE**

<i>Express Mulch Inc.</i>			
SECTION B: BLOWN MULCH			
Item	Description	Unit of Measure	Unit Price
B-1	Blown - Flora Mulch	Cubic Yard	\$38.00
B-3	Blown - Brown Mulch	Cubic Yard	\$42.00
B-4	Blown - Red Mulch	Cubic Yard	\$42.00
B-5	Blown - Gold Mulch	Cubic Yard	\$42.00
B-6	Blown -Medium Rustic Pine Bark Nuggets	Cubic Yard	\$48.00

EXHIBIT C INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS



Lee County Insurance Requirements

Minimum Insurance Requirements: *Risk Management in no way represents that the insurance required is sufficient or adequate to protect the vendors' interest or liabilities. The following are the required minimums the vendor must maintain throughout the duration of this contract. The County reserves the right to request additional documentation regarding insurance provided*

- a. **Commercial General Liability** - Coverage shall apply to premises and/or operations, products and completed operations, independent contractors, contractual liability exposures with minimum limits of:

\$1,000,000 per occurrence
\$2,000,000 general aggregate
\$1,000,000 products and completed operations
\$1,000,000 personal and advertising injury

- b. **Business Auto Liability** - The following Automobile Liability will be required and coverage shall apply to all owned, hired and non-owned vehicles use with minimum limits of:

\$1,000,000 combined single limit (CSL); or
\$500,000 bodily injury per person
\$1,000,000 bodily injury per accident
\$500,000 property damage per accident

- c. **Workers' Compensation** - Statutory benefits as defined by FS 440 encompassing all operations contemplated by this contract or agreement to apply to all owners, officers, and employees regardless of the number of employees. Workers Compensation exemptions may be accepted with written proof of the State of Florida's approval of such exemption. Employers' liability will have minimum limits of:

\$500,000 per accident
\$500,000 disease limit
\$500,000 disease – policy limit

****The required minimum limit of liability shown in a. and b. may be provided in the form of "Excess Insurance" or "Commercial Umbrella Policies." In which case, a "Following Form Endorsement" will be required on the "Excess Insurance Policy" or "Commercial Umbrella Policy."***



Lee County Insurance Requirements

Verification of Coverage:

1. Coverage shall be in place prior to the commencement of any work and throughout the duration of the contract. A certificate of insurance will be provided to the Risk Manager for review and approval. The certificate shall provide for the following:

- a. **Under the Description of Operations, the following must read as listed:**

"Lee County, a political subdivision and Charter County of the State of Florida, its agents, employees, and public officials are automatic additional insureds and includes an automatic waiver of subrogation with regard to general liability. The certificate holder is an additional insured on a primary and noncontributory basis with regards to general liability."

- b. **The certificate holder must read as follows:**

Lee County, a political subdivision and Charter County of the State of Florida
P.O. Box 398
Fort Myers, Florida 33902

Special Requirements:

1. An appropriate "Indemnification" clause shall be made a provision of the contract.
2. It is the responsibility of the general contractor to ensure that all subcontractors comply with all insurance requirements.

EXHIBIT D
VENDOR BACKGROUND SCREENING AFFIDAVIT




VENDOR BACKGROUND SCREENING AFFIDAVIT

Florida Statutes Chapter 435 governs required background screenings for any employees, contractors, subcontractors, or agents of the Vendor who will have contact with any vulnerable person, as defined by statute, or who otherwise are required to undergo a Level 1 or Level 2 background screening in accordance with Florida law.

The Vendor is responsible for ensuring that such required background screenings are conducted in accordance with Florida Statutes Chapter 435. Documentation of such completed background screenings must be maintained for a period of no less than five (5) years and are subject to audit by Lee County at any time during such five (5) year period.

Under penalty of perjury, I declare that I have read and understand the requirements stated above, and that all required background screenings shall be conducted in accordance with this affidavit. I further understand that there may be additional local, state, and federal regulations that may require background screening, and that the Vendor will be solely responsible for complying with such legal requirements. Furthermore, the Vendor shall indemnify and hold Lee County harmless from any and all claims or actions resulting from failure to comply with this affidavit.

Date: 03/25/24


Signature

STATE OF Florida
COUNTY OF Lee

Evun Gentry President
Name/Title

The foregoing instrument was sworn to (or affirmed) and subscribed before me by means of physical presence or online notarization, this 25 day of March, 2024, by the above-named person and in their stated capacity, and is either personally known to me or who has produced the following type of identification: _____
Type of Identification

[Stamp/seal required]

Debra K. Cook
Signature, Notary Public

